



CZECHOUT

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Vol. 23/4	CONTENTS	December 2005
Notes, News and Notices		92
Book Reviews		94
Official Document of Interest		96
Austrian Issue of 1916/1919		97
Official Document of Interest		100
Liberation Newspaper Of Interest		101
Cover of Interest		101
Postcard of Interest		102
Valuable Items sent through the Post in Six Tariff Periods of the First Czechoslovak Republic		103
What? When? Where?		110
New Issues (Czech)		112
New Issues (Slovak)		114

NOTES

The next London meetings are on **Saturday 14 January** when **Tony Hickey** will give a display entitled *Munich – the Road to War*, and on **Saturday 11 March** when **Colin Tobitt** will show *Austrian Pot Pourri*.

We send congratulations and cordial greetings to our member **Hans Klein** who will celebrate his 90th birthday on 22 February.

A Note for your Diaries: The CPSGB Weekend for 2007 will be held at the White Hart Hotel, High Street, Lewes, East Sussex from 16-18 March. More details to follow during 2006.

With the March issue will be copies of the following: The up-dated CPSGB Handbook for which we thank Yvonne Gren who has prepared this, Dr Garth Taylor's Questionnaire re proposed Study Groups for members to participate in, and a List of Library books for disposal to members.

The Editorial team send best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year

Opinions expressed in articles in Czechout are the sole responsibility of the author(s), and are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or the Society.

NEWS & NOTICES

Meeting held Saturday 5 November 2005 at 2.30 pm

The Chairman, Richard Beith, welcomed some 30 members and one visitor, a better attendance, he noted, than when he gave his display to the previous meeting. Apologies had been received from 12 members.

The Secretary gave details of two prospective new members:

Mrs P R Gangji	from Indiranagar, India
Kulbinder Singh Dhaliwal	from Birmingham

whose applications were readily endorsed and formally accepted.

Richard introduced **David Holt** who first displayed *The Teplice area*, a 'Heimatsammlung' of the district centred on Teplice-Šanov, or Teplitz-Schönau in German. As the population had been mainly German speaking, David mostly used the German names. The first section used postcards to show the extent of the area, from Tetschen, Aussig and Leitmeritz in the east to Leutendorf and Brůx in the west; he also included Theresienstadt even though strictly it was beyond the limit. Teplitz was a spa town, which lost much of its attraction following the discovery of brown coal in the mid nineteenth century. The opencast mining had even caused the town of Brůx to be bodily moved westwards.

David showed a wide range of postal history from 1806 to the liberation period in 1945. After the declaration of Czech independence on 28 October 1918, the German-speaking area of Nordböhmen attempted to establish an independent, autonomous 'Deutschböhmen' with its capital at Reichenberg. Some covers and banknotes from this period were shown. David also showed a lot of ephemera, including newspapers, election posters and maps.

David then showed *Transition 1918-1919*. This showed the aftermath of the formation of the Czechoslovak State, with the gradual replacement of Austrian stamps, stationery and forms. For example, one sheet showed three parcel cards from the same place within two weeks of each other, one with Austrian parcel label and postmark, one hybrid and one with Czech parcel label and postmark.

In proposing a vote of thanks Colin Spong congratulated David for the display by one of the Society's own members that he [Colin] had been looking forward to. Colin remarked on many of the items, particularly noting the great variety of Austrian-period postmarks.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 4.10 pm.

Rex Dixon

Northern Meeting 19 November 2005 at Leeds

There was a low attendance at the meeting of the Society held during the annual Leeds Philatelic Society Stamp Fair on 19 November, however there was much interest in the material on display. In fact the staff at the venue were hovering in the background impatient for the meeting to finish so they could re-arrange the room for the next function.

Peter Cybaniak and Roman Dubyniak gave a comprehensive display of *Carpatho Ukraine unit handstamps and related material*.

Derek Baron showed *Olomouc during the First Republic* and Yvonne Wheatley *Usages of Postage Due Stamps*.

Bob Bradford was in attendance.

As with all our meetings we were able to share information and we left the meeting having learnt something new.

Yvonne Wheatley
>

Letters to the Editor

✉ **Richard Beith** writes: I received an inquiry from **Klara Idranyi** writing on behalf of Mr. Polacek of Czech Republic, who is a UK stamp collector, and is looking for someone in the UK, collecting Czech stamps to exchange stamps with. Can anyone help? Contact: klaraidranyi@gmail.com.

We suggest members answering any requests should not send any stamps until contact has been confirmed and a satisfactory form of exchange, etc, agreed upon. The Society cannot enter into any correspondence or take responsibility for any transactions entered into.

✉ E-mail received from **Ing. Robert Novosad**. He writes: We have started 5: mail auction of philatelic materials [text in Slovak/English]. <http://www.filatelia-novosad.sk>. The website is designed for Microsoft Internet Explorer, if using another internet browser there might occur problems with opening pictures of the items. Please e-mail if there are problems novosad.ob.sop@stoneline.sk and we will email scans you are interested in. Bids can be made either by email as above or by mail to Ing. Robert Novosad, Seredska 1541, 925 52 Soporna, Slovakia.

Congratulations

To **Douglas Baxter** on being elected a Life Member of the Czech PSGB. To **Robert Hill** and **Hans van Dooremalen** on being elected to membership of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. To **Barry J Horne** on being awarded at STAMPEX 2005 a Large Silver for his five frames exhibit of Belgian *State Seals* and a Silver for *Czechoslovakia 1953 Currency Reform*; and **Dr Garth Taylor** winning the Single-sheet competition at the British Aerophilatelic Federation Midlands Group Meeting on 16 October 2005 with his *Czechoslovak acceptance for the last Graf Zeppelin Flight to Brazil of 1934!*

To **Richard Beith** on being invited to give the Kay Goodman Lecture at the 2006 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, to be held at the Normandy Hotel in Renfrew, Scotland from Thursday 6 July to Sunday 9 July.

Publications

We have received the following journals, which will be available from the Society Library. Items of interest to members are:

- The Winter 2005 issue of *Austria*, No. 152:
 - ▶ Court Delivery Service (Berrisford); Postal History of the A-H Empire in the Far East 1898-1920 2nd instalment. [2] Postal Services on Board Station Ships in the Far East During Peace Time; [3] During the Boxer War (Pirotte).
- The November/December 2005 issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 67, Whole No.594 No. 6. The articles include:
 - ▶ Soviet Troops in Czechoslovakia in 1945 (Kunc); Romania during WWII and Romanian Troops in Czechoslovakia in 1945 (Kunc); Prisoners of War in Italy during World War I (Santangelo); American & British Field Post Offices in Western Bohemia in 1945-Addendum (Kunc).
- The October 2005 issue of *Dylizans*, No 39. The articles include:
 - ▶ Large Money Transfer Form Cancellers of the Austrian Empire (Berrisford); Usage(or Misusage) of London Issue Stamps (Ormerod).
- The 9, 10 & 11/2005 issues of *Filatelia*. Vol 55. The English translation of the Contents does not cover all the articles:
 - ▶ Czech Postal Agencies-Constant situation (Bejsta); Recollections of Airmail Post (Galuška); Origin of Plate Errors of Stamps printed by Typography (Vondřich).
 - ▶ 75 years of Founding of the Postal Savings Bank (Feldmann); Prisoners of War in Italy 1915-1919 [1] (Santangelo); Present situation on the Auctions Markets in the Czech Republic (Dražan).
 - ▶ Prisoners of War in Italy 1915-1919 [2] (Santangelo); Stamps – Folk Costumes of 1955 (Aksamit); Kosice Miniature Sheet [8] (Čtvrtečka & Aršík). >

- The 5/6 2005 issues of *Merkur Revue*: The articles include:
 - ▶ Ivan Schumann [artist] Known and Unknown (Fischer); Czechoslovak Preliminary and Parallel Franked Postal Forms [5] (Štefek, Kypast, Mezera & Schödelbauer); Supervision of the printing of Czechoslovak stamps ((Weissenstein); Field Post of the Tank Crews of Svoboda's army (Bernášek).
- The December 2005 issues of *Stamps of Hungary* No 163. The articles include:
 - ▶ Official Stamps (Williams); Disinfected Mail in the A-H Empire (Vandervelde & Williams).

THE CZECH STAMP OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

Jan Plachetka who organises the above Competition every year, has sent an invitation to members of our Society to take part. In return each member who submits a vote will receive a Czech Post Souvenir sheet. The official voting slip will be included in the January issue of *Filatelie* but Jan would be happy to receive votes on a slip of paper. You will need to quote Pofis nos. if you know them, or give a brief description, date of issue, title etc. Please enclose a self-addressed envelope, with no stamp, to **Magazin Prava, Slezska 13, 121 50 Praha 2, Czech Republic**, marking your outer envelope **ZNAMKA**; the closing date will be **28 January 2006**.

BOOK REVIEWS

CPSGB Monograph No 15 The Postal History of the Free Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain, 1940-45 by Richard Beith

This monograph is the third on the Postal Activities of the Czechoslovak Forces in the Second World War. This monograph repeats some of the material already published in the previous Monographs on this subject, but this in no way detracts from its presentation of the subject matter and the inclusion of colour plates is an excellent addition. There is a great deal of new information and the section on Czechoslovak Air Force is of particular interest and is well worth reading.

The section on the Post cards produced in England during this period with examples from many contributors is also a much welcome addition to the published material on this subject. Unfortunately, as is often the case, as soon as a publication goes to press more examples of what at the time seemed to be the definitive list come to light. We look forward therefore to the Supplement to this work when all the new information currently being assembled by Richard has been collated.

Students of this particular subject will also find the bibliography produced at the end of the monograph an excellent reference point for further reading and study.

In conclusion, a well-written thesis on this subject, which should be in everybody's library of information.

Garth A Taylor

This monograph and all others from No 3 to 18 are available from our Publications Officer.

Fremdarbeiterpost: Der Fremdarbeitereinsatz im II. Weltkrieg und die Post der in der Kriegswirtschaft des Dritten Reiches eingesetzten Ausländer, by Rainer E. Lütgens.

218 pages softbound, A4 size, illustrated (120 colour + 12 b/w). In German. From the author: Rainer E. Lütgens, Jägerweg 13, 30855 Langenhagen, Germany. Price: €40.00, overseas airmail €57.00. CD-ROM €35.00, overseas airmail €40.00.

It is important to bear in mind the complete title: this study is well beyond a straightforward story of mail to and from these workers.

To start with, we are given an insight into the German labour organisation – its tasks, aims and leadership. This is followed by a short section for each of the fourteen countries which were involved in sending workers to Germany. The next section explains the methods of control, care and taxation; the different types of camp and confinement, including the degrading conditions for *Ostarbeiter* – the Poles,

Russians and Ukrainians. The author continues with detailed information on the employment by such bodies as the post and railways, the enormous spread of the Hermann Göring works and their employment by the NS Kraftfahr-Korps. This very concise and competent introduction to the historical and legal aspects to the subject covers eighty pages.

The next one hundred pages, covering the actual mail services, are an absolute gem, giving an unbelievable array of detail of the type of mail messages for despatch and receipt, including (Nazi) foreign language newspapers and money transfer. Specific regulations for individual countries are included. Tables deal with the estimated totals of workers, of which 8.4 million were foreign workers, 4.6 million were former POWs and 1.7 million were concentration camp inmates.

A minimum of ten workers living together constituted a camp. The author estimates a total of 22,000 camps in Germany proper, with half a million Germans to control, guard and supervise them. Figures from another source give 8 per cent of camp inmates as moles and informers.

A small but fascinating section is dedicated to the actual post office within a camp. The Todt Organisation and some of the major employers are estimated to have employed up to one third of former POWs or civilians serving punishment. It is incredible to learn that the NSKK, the transport fleet of the OT, were among the employers. Auxiliary postal services are described.

My own researches into this material pertaining to Dresden informs me of the great amount of research that has gone into this book. Much more detailed research into camps in individual districts needs to be done before the generation which has first-hand knowledge dies out. I wonder whether the will to do it exists. This book is the basis for further research on foreign workers in Germany during WWII.

Peter Rickenback

W A (Bill) Dawson 1916 – 2005

Bill was the Life President of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain and a member of the American Society for Czechoslovak Philately.

I have been asked by his wife, Audrey, to dispose of his philatelic estate which comprises over 170 albums and more than 120 books. Bill was a true collector and has amassed a great deal of items over the years although he once told me that his serious collecting had finished by the late 1960s.

The material covers all periods from Austro Hungary up to 2003 for the Czech, Slovak, Bohemian, Silesian, Moravian and Carpatho Ukraine.

I want to hear from anyone interested in buying parts of the collection. It is to be sold direct in sections, examples are: Air Mail; Hradčany; Currency Reform; Border Changes; 2nd Republic; Sudetenland; etc.

If you are interested e-mail me with the header line W A Dawson and I will send you a list of your specific interest.

This is a really comprehensive collection with many albums on just one topic, I doubt if a finer collection of Sudetenland exists with many smaller locations alphabetically filed by the German name of the location in many albums as well as overprints of Wir sind frei! both on stamps and cover.

The proceeds from every sale will go direct to the family with no money going through my hands. A small percentage (2½%) will go to the main Czechoslovak philatelic society to which the buyer is a member.

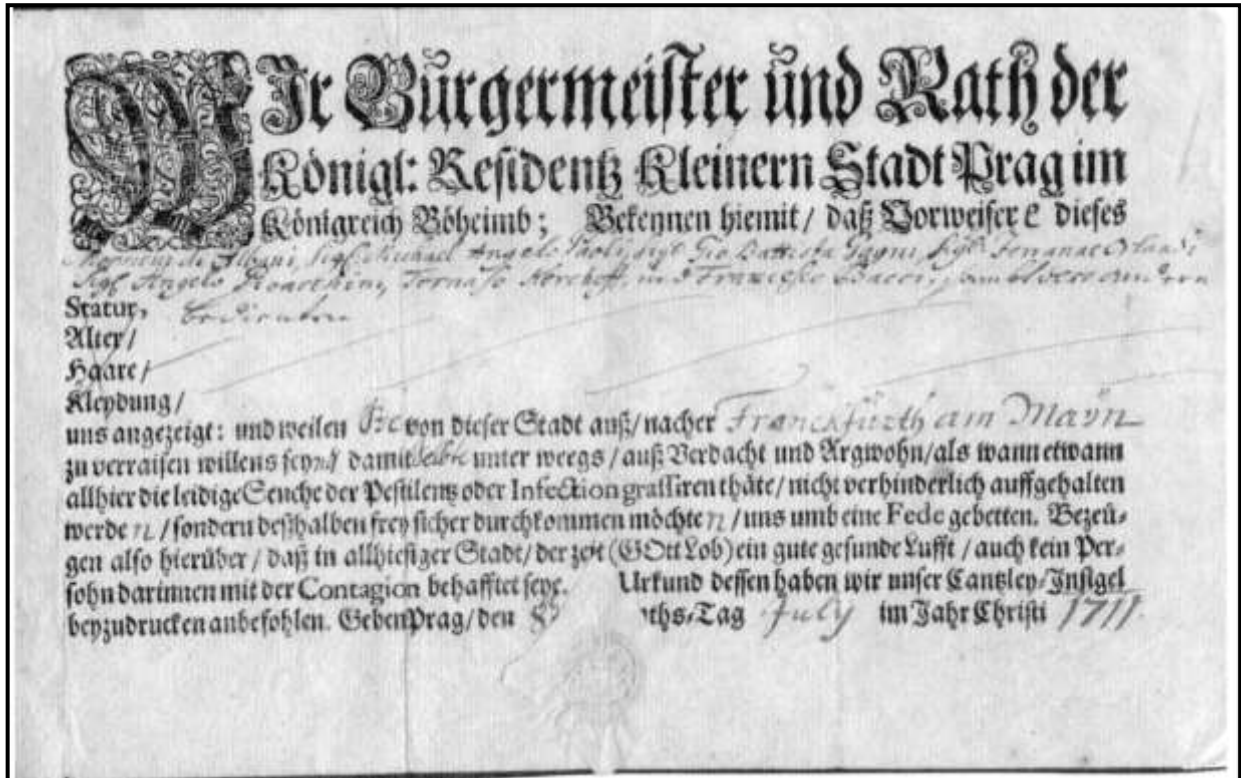
Robert J Hill
rjeltd@msn.com

OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

-Denis Vandervelde-

A Prague Health Passport

Denis Vandervelde, the Secretary of the Disinfected Mail Study Circle, gave a display to the Society on *Quarantine and the Disinfection of Mail in the Habsburg Empire* on 17th January 2004. He has very kindly sent us a photocopy of one of the documents he showed that day as he thought members who were unable to be present would be interested to see an early Prague Health Passport of 1711.

**QUERIES AWAITING ANSWERS**

The following queries are still outstanding; perhaps some of our overseas members can help as well?

- Czechout 1/02: Brian Parker's Austro-Czech Postcard
- Czechout 2/02: John Hammonds' American Aid for German POWs card
- Czechout 2/03: Richard Beith's 24Kčs 1946 Airmail Stamp
- Czechout 3/03: Barry Horne's 1919 1st Anniversary Sheet perforations
- Czechout 2/05: Maurice Tyler's French cover with Czech slogan
- Czechout 3/05: Ian McQueen's Shanghai Airmail via Czechoslovakia to Denmark
- Czechout 3/05: Vernon Brown's Bohemia & Moravia cover
- Czechout 3/05: Bob Hill's American Army 1st Olympic Games in Klatovy
- Czechout 3/05: Richard Beith's Undercover Letters?

AUSTRIAN ISSUE OF 1916/1919

-Lubor Kunc-

[Lubor.kunc@seznam.cz]

These stamps were issued during an interesting period of Austrian and Central European history marked by the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and establishment of new countries in Central Europe.

They were issued in 1916-1919 and consisted of four designs (*figures 1 – 4*) :

- Imperial Crown (lowest values 3 – 12 Heller)
- Emperor (values 15 – 30 Heller)
- Small Emblem (values 40 Heller – 1 Crown)
- Large Emblem (values 2 – 10 Crowns)



The second stamp called “Imperator” was issued twice: the original portrait of Emperor Franz Joseph I. (see figure 2) was replaced by a portrait of the new Emperor Charles I. (figure 5) after the death of Franz Joseph on 21 November 1916.

This issue is interesting also for collectors dealing with different papers, colours etc. The “Large Emblem” [coat of arms] set was issued in three printings in the period 1916 – 1918/9 with differences in colours and paper. This is noticeable in figure 6 showing the 2 Crown value in dark blue [1916], light blue [1917] and on granite paper [1918]. During the usual printing method the paper was made wet and whilst drying this created two sizes (narrow and wide, see figure 7).



Figure 6



Figure 7

In addition, the lower values of 3, 5, 10, 40 and 50 Heller were printed on a thick paper. Other different types of papers were caused by WWI and by shortage of paper, so the printing house had to use “second class” paper for printing of some part of this issue. Often one can find the “war paper” in 10 Heller value (brownish paper) and in “Large Emblem” stamps (greyish paper). For those of you interested in the different papers, I have prepared an overview as shown below in *figure 8*.



First line contains three “Large Emblem” stamps (2 – 10 Crowns). I mention the German paper names as well to enable you to use German / Austrian catalogues for checking the stamps:

- a) Normal paper (gewöhnliches Papier)
- b) Greyish paper (Graupapier, also “Kriegspapier” = War Paper)
- c) Granite paper (Faserpapier)

The second line deals with lower values of the Austrian set:

- d) Normal paper (gewöhnliches Papier)
- e) Thick paper (dickeres Papier)
- f) Yellowish paper (gelbliches Papier, 1 Crown value only)
- g) Brownish war paper (Kriegspapier) .

The different papers were not the only “contribution” of WWI to this stamp issue. The other contribution was made by Great Britain forging three stamps of this issue. There are two stories describing production of the forgeries. First – the romantic one – believes that the stamps were printed for British spies in the Monarchy, who would frank with them their secret messages. It is a big question, whether the spies would attract the attention of third parties to their “secret” messages by franking them with forged stamps. However though WWI was not easy for Great Britain, it always had enough money to pay the cost of postage to their spies.

Second – military – the story says the forged stamps should not initially be used as forgeries, but as substitution for valid postage stamps in times of their unavailability. The British Supreme Command believed that British troops would occupy Austrian territory and expected it would cause a collapse in supply of the areas with food, different products as well as with postage stamps. That is why they decided to produce own stamps, which should be used in occupied territories as normal postage stamps. This story is supported by the fact that the forged stamps were never found used, all catalogues record them as unused ones only.

After the end of WWI a limited quantity of forged stamps found by philatelists, who realized these stamps were forgeries, but the first description was “forgeries to defraud postal administration”. First the next research said that the stamps were not printed in an illegal printing house, but by official authorities, which was the last information recorded.



There are forgeries of the 5 and 10 Hellers of the Imperial Crown issue [1916] and the 25 Hellers value of Charles I. Value [1917], (*figure 9*). The last stamp is the most expensive one, its value amounts to hundreds of marks. The collectors trying to find these forgeries in their collection can look for following differences in the stamps:

- Size of the stamps (width + height) is slightly larger
- Forgeries have been printed on a thick yellowish paper
- Gum of the forged stamps has diagonal strips
- The forged stamps of 5 a 10 Hellers “Imperial Crown” has thicker marginal lines in picture
- letters “N” and “K” in name “Schirnböck” of forged stamps are shorter then on original stamps .

The development of WWI showed, that Austro-Hungarian Monarchy would no longer exist because of disagreements amongst the majority of the Slavic population with the Habsburg regime. In September 1918 the last stamp of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy was issued (see *figure 3*). One month later Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Slovenia and other areas declared independence of Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. The Monarchy was replaced by the new states of Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, Austrian Republic and Hungary. Small parts of Austro-Hungarian Monarchy were also integrated into Romania and Ukraine.

After establishment of the new countries, many of them used the 1916-1919 Austrian issue for the first of their new stamps. When we come to Austria as a new country, the new republican government overprinted the stamps with "Deutschösterreich" (= German Austria, new country name, (figure 10) overprint.



Figures 10-14

In 1919, in the Austrian republic, the last two values (4 and 10 crowns) of the 1916-1919 were issued without overprint on granite paper. The late date of issue of these stamps on granite paper caused a rarity amongst the values overprinted in Czechoslovakia in 1919 with "Pošta Československá 1919". The stamps could not be delivered to any post office in Czechoslovakia and they had to be transported into the country by a person, who arranged for them to be overprinted later. However the overprinted stamps are of private origin, and amongst the rarest Czechoslovak stamps of all time.

These stamps were also overprinted in Poland with POLSKA POCZTA overprint (figure 11), Romania used these stamps in the occupied Ukraine territory (figure 12) and Western Ukraine used them for the production of their own postage stamps (figure 13).

Eastern Europe was not the only territory using these stamps. Figure 14 shows a stamp overprinted in Italy for region "Venezia Giulia" in November 1918. The territory is situated close to Venice; its capital is famous port Trieste. The date of 3 November 1918 mentioned on the stamp is last day of fighting between Italy and Austro-Hungary on Italian line of battle and confirms the Venezia Giulia territory on that day was incorporated into Italian country. After WWII, the Trieste town was divided between Italy and Yugoslavia.

The design for this Austrian issue was used not only for postage stamps, but was also for postal stationary. Very often you can find a postcard showing Imperators Franz Joseph II or Charles I. with face value of 8 or 10 Heller. One of the postcards was sent during WWI and was censored, note the Austrian censorship cancel (Figure 15).

The new postal rate for postcards with effect from September 1, 1918 amounted to 10 Heller (as for picture postcards). The original postcards remaining unsold were franked with additional 2 Heller newspaper or express delivery postage stamps – an example is shown in figure 16.



Figure 15



Figure 16

The Austrian stamp issue of 1916-1919 was also used in Czechoslovak territory of Bohemia and Moravia (with exception of Slovakia, where the Hungarian stamps were still valid). Because of extent of their usage in our country, I have prepared a further article that you can read in the next issue of *Czechout*.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

Something different – an unusual post World War II document.

-William A Dawson-

Prior to the outbreak of World War II, there was a sizable Czechoslovak community living in Wien [Vienna] the Austrian State capital. The majority of that community stayed there for the duration of hostilities. After the Russians liberated Vienna, complete chaos reigned for a while with the very different languages adding to the confusion. Even the streets were renamed in the Cyrillic alphabet and everything had to be done in at least two languages. The logistics of supplying food to the population and repairing the infrastructure was a complete shambles. However, the Czechoslovak Government and certain charitable organisations assisted matters for their Nationals remaining in Vienna, by organising food and clothing parcels from friends and relations. These were despatched to the border towns of Znoimo and Mikulov, from whence they were transported by private car since there was no through postal service.

The Czechoslovak Government also offered repatriation to those Czechoslovaks. Illustrated here are two sides of an official document for such a repatriate. Figure one shows the obverse headed “(Czechoslovak) National Committee” and address. The title is [PRŮK] AZKA meaning ‘Confirmation of Identity’ with serial number 5517. The details are then translated to “Central Committee Vienna confirm that Mrs Dobešova, nee Michalíková born at Radvanov on 9.2.1887, whilst in Vienna a good citizen with nothing bad known”. This is certified with bilingual Czech/Russian/ circular handstamp of the Czechoslovak National Committee.

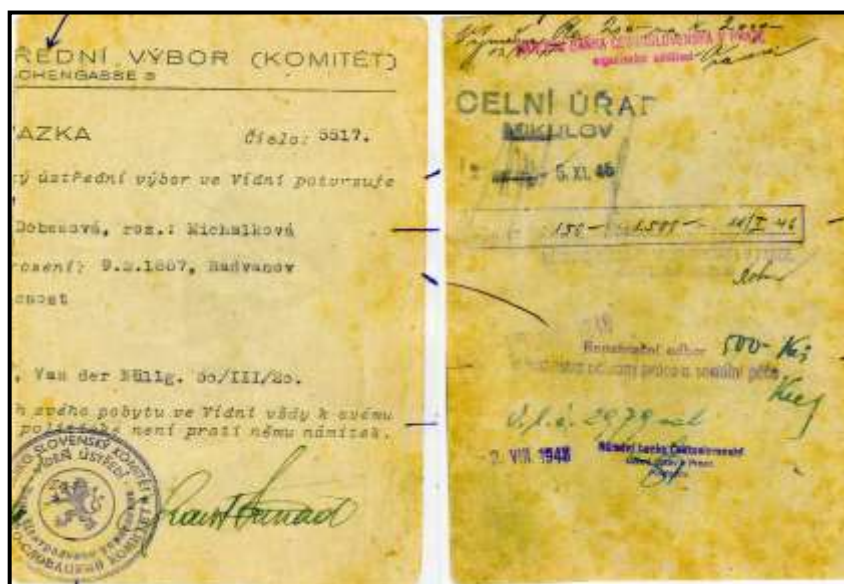


Figure two illustrates the reverse of the document which records currency conversion transactions and repatriation fund payments. The first entry with two-line handstamps of the National Bank in Praha records the exchange Ra(kusko) 200 Austrian currency for 2,000 Czechoslovak Crowns. The second entry is that of the cross border Customs Monetary Control office at Mikulov dated 5 November 1945. Then follows a boxed entry recording the exchange of Ra 150 for 1,500 Czechoslovak Crowns transacted through the National Bank in Praha. The next entry shows a two-line handstamp “Repatriation Fund 500 Kč, payment from Ministry of Work and National Welfare”. Finally there is recorded for 2 August 1946 a further and final payment from the Repatriation Fund through the National Bank Head Office in Praha.

Now I must mention that this ‘curiosity’ has been in my possession for something like four years. This brief article is a result of the encouragement and enthusiasm of Bob Hill and the factual help of Dr Jan Drobovolný and Dr Miroslav Vostatek of the Czech Republic.

It gives us pleasure to publish the last article given to us by our late President Bill Dawson and we shall miss our conversations and the fascinating articles he could produce. Many thanks Bill for your kindness, friendship and help over a number of years. The Editor.

LIBERATION NEWSPAPER OF INTEREST

-Bob Hill-



Read all about it!! In 2003 I acquired a complete newspaper *Chebsko* for 16th May 1945. It was the first issue after World War II had ended. It is a broadsheet slightly larger than A3 in size.

A COVER OF INTEREST

-Clyde Ziegler



A registered sample rate cover: This is in the form of a small bag, which I assume was used to forward samples. I believe the "sample rate " covers are very scarce, probably scarcer than the 'blind post'.

POSTCARD OF INTEREST
Commemorating the Liberation of Cheb
 -Bob Hill & Savoy Horvath-



Just less than a year after this souvenir postcard was issued, the Iron Curtain fell.

From contacts in Cheb it is known that the area communist leadership planted a double row of large evergreens around the monument then around this an eight foot high fence with a large mound of earth making a berm on the approach. They then built a petrol service station in front of this.

The site is located at an intersection north of Cheb, where the highway forms a "Y" junction, one leading to Karlovy Vary, the second toward Plzeň.

Once a year a military delegation arrived from Prague to lay a wreath; under communist rule as soon as the delegation had left the police would remove the wreath and close the site up again, no one else was allowed near. The Czech media was always present taking photographs, but none were ever published in domestic papers.

During General Ludvík Svoboda's Presidency, he always placed the wreath. The monument is a marble pyramid about one metre at the base and 8 metres tall, it has names of the 46 fallen American soldiers.

Savoy Horvath was there in 1990 when it became open to the public again.

VALUABLE ITEMS SENT THROUGH THE POST IN SIX TARIFF PERIODS OF THE FIRST CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC

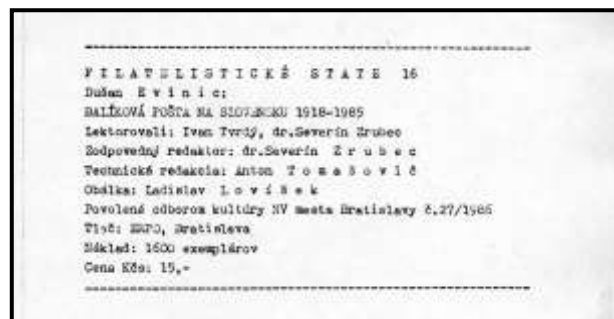
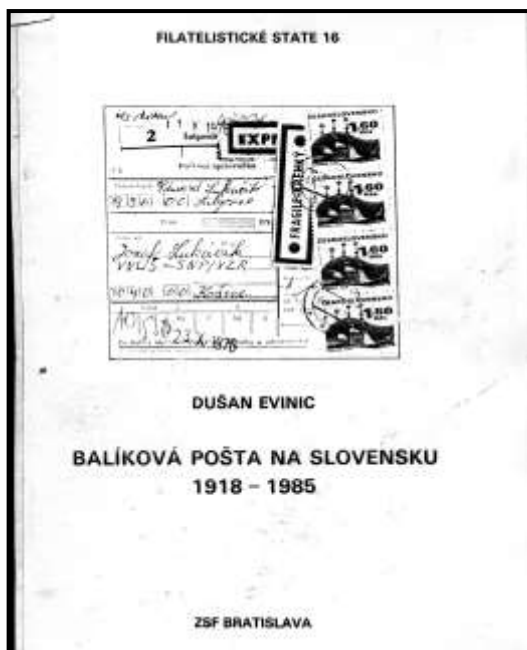
-Ing Pavel Šveinar-
A Critique by
-John L. Whiteside FRPSL, FSPH-

We would like to thank Ing Pavel Šveinar for giving us permission to publish his article that appeared in Czechout 3/2005 and was originally published in Filatelie No 8/2004 and translated by Robert Kingsley.

With regard to Ing Pavel Šveinar's article, I would like to make a number of points. This relates to the charges of Value Declared items for internal letter and parcel mail and for foreign items also. They are interesting, but not, I think, always accurate. Two points concern me, of which the first is the explanation given for the items in illustrations 3 and 4. I am extremely dubious about the postulation of a fractional insurance figure, i.e. 3.5 x 20h. For illustration 4 I have never met with this before, either in Czechoslovakia or any other country as the wording is always something like 20h for each 300Kč, or part thereof. I have never seen a fractional charge and I find it very difficult indeed to credit. Where would it stop, e.g. what would be charged on a Value of 400Kč? I think both are either errors of charge or there is another explanation and I would need to see several further examples before I accepted this.

The second and more serious reservation is the data on foreign parcel post rates after 1.1.1922. I am sure that at least up to the end of 1929, this is totally incorrect. To demonstrate my point I am including a number of illustrations from my parcel post collection. To make it follow I have numbered these.

Before these are considered, my *bible* is the book by Dusan Evinec on *Parcel Post in Slovakia* and I have copied the front and back pages of this 154-page tome, together with the section on rates for Value Declared [udanej ceny] for 1918-1939. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to translate it from the Slovak language.



Reduced front cover and portion of the back page.

2: Poplatky podľa udanej ceny

Pri balíkoch s udanou cenou sa okrem poplatku podľa hmotnosti /výplatného/ vyberal i zvláštny poplatok za udanú cenu, tzv. Poistné. Znemy výšky tohto poplatku uvádza nasledujúci prehľad:

Do 15.5.1919 sa za každých 300 K udanej ceny alebo ich časť platilo 10 halierov.

>

Od 15.5.1919 sa platilo za každých 300 K alebo ich časť 20 h. Okrem toho za každý balík s cenou nad 300 K, ktorý sa musel pri doprave jednotlivo vykazovať, sa vyberal ešte jednotný poplatok tzv. Preukazné vo výške 50 h za každý takýto balík.

Od 15.3.1920 bolo základné poistné 50 h a okrem toho za každých 300 K alebo ich časť sa platilo o 30 h viac.

Od 1.8.1920 sa vyberalo základné poistné vo výške 2 K a ďalej za každých 1 000 K, alebo ich časť o 1 K viac.

Od 1.1.1922 bolo poistné za každých 1 000 Kč, alebo ich časť 2 Kč. Za každý balík s udanou cenou sa platilo ešte tzv. Výpravné vo výške 2,50 Kč za kus.

Od 1.5.1923 poistné za každých 1 000 Kč, alebo ich časť bolo 1 Kč, Výpravné bolo znížené na 1,20 Kč za každý balík s udanou cenou.

Od 1.10.1925 poistné bolo upravené tak, že za každý balík s cenou do 500 Kč sa platilo poistné 50 h. Do ceny balíka 1 000 Kč bolo poistné 1 Kč. Za každých ďalších 1 000 Kčs alebo ich časť sa poistné zvýšilo o 1 Kč. Výpravné sa vyberalo iba za balíky s udanou cenou nad 500 Kč a to vo výške 1,20 Kč.

Od 1.3.1937 sa zmenila iba výška výpravného za každý balík s udanou cenou nad 500 Kč, a to na 1 Kč.

Národná banka československá mala zvláštne sadzobné úľavy na poistnom: Od 1.1.1935 zľava 82% , t.j. poistné za 5 000 Kčs 0,90 Kč. Minimálne poistné muselo byť 0,90 Kč. Vestník Ministerstva pôšt a telegrafov č. 18 z r. 1938 priniesol nové úľavy poistného pre SBCS a to do 500 Kč bolo poistné 0,40 Kč, od 500 do 5 000 Kč poistné 0,90 Kč, a za každých ďalších 5 000 Kč o 0,90 Kč viac.

Illustrations 1 to 14 are items of internal parcel post, both insured and uninsured, to give a flavour of such items, with, I hope full details.

↓ Card price

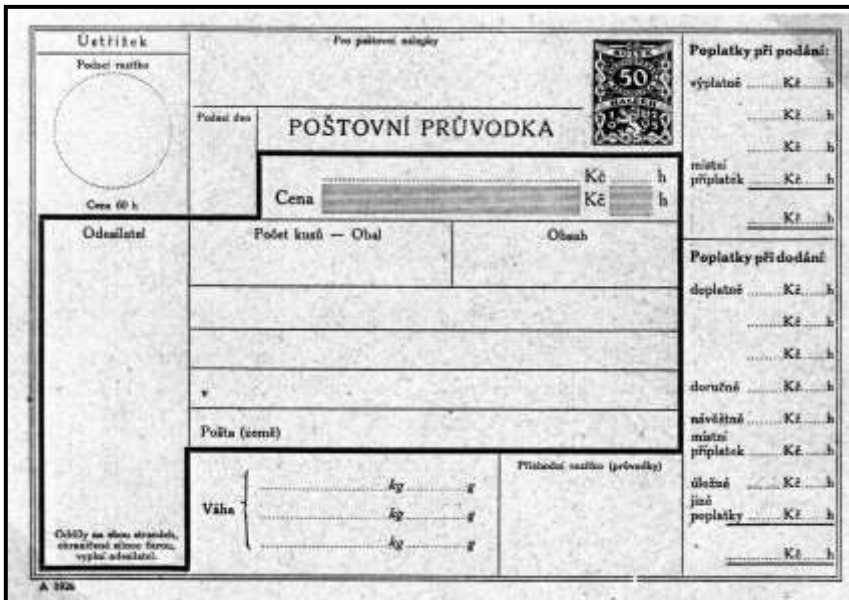


Illustration 1

Parcel Card 1926
50 heller fiscal stamp
impression. Card price 60h in
upper left box

↑ Printing code A 1926 A = Czech text

>

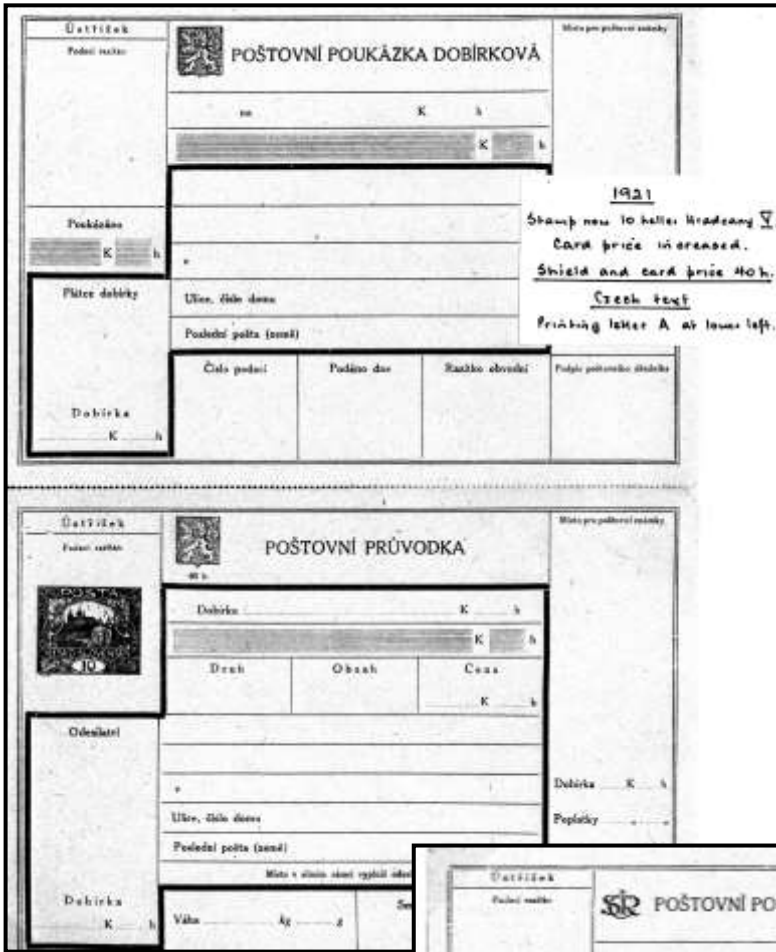


Illustration 2
Fifth Issue

Parcel Card for a cash on delivery item with money order card attached for reply

Illustration 3
Second Issue

Parcel Card for cash on delivery item with money order card attached for reply

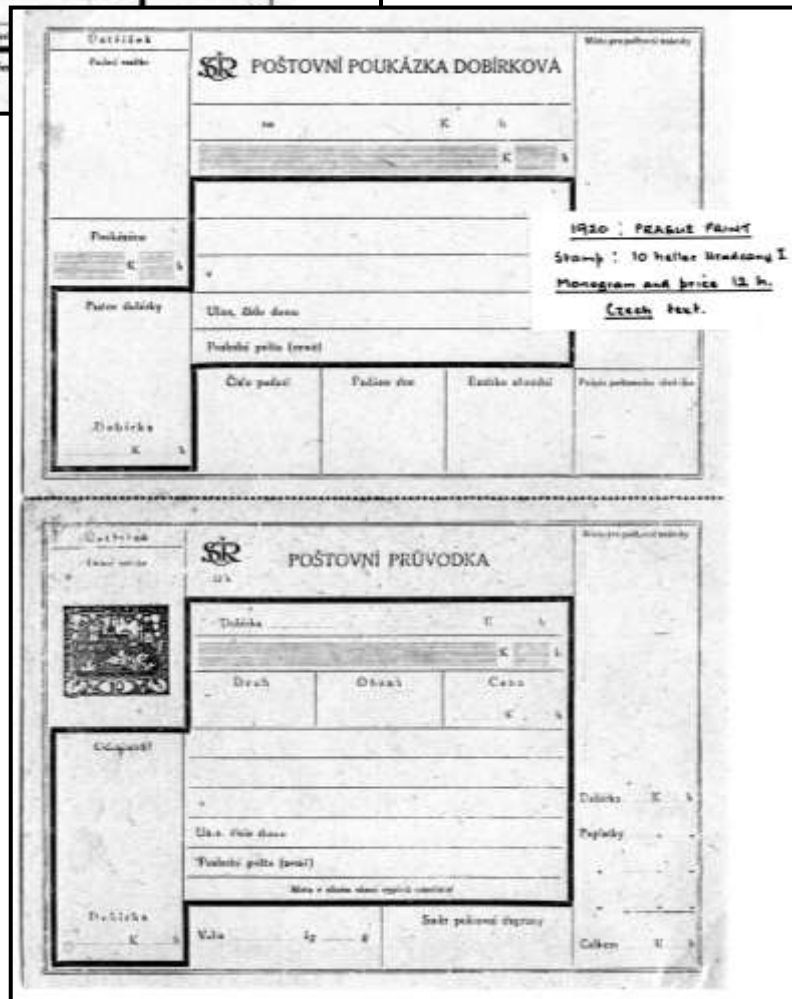


Illustration 4



Internal Parcel Post
15 March to 31 July 1920

Weight 5-10 kg. = 4Kčs

COD parcel, 300 kčs to collect, also insured for 300 kčs.
COD FEE = 20h. insurance fixed fee 50h + 30h per 300kčs = 80h. Total charge 5kčs

2nd April 1920
HRADEC KRALOVÉ to BRNO. Seedlings, weight 7.1kg. 500h Masaryk, single franking. COD parcel card, third issue, CSR monogram + 15h.

Illustration 5

Internal Parcel Post
15 March to 31 July 1920

Weight 10-15 kg. = 6kčs

Insured for 3,500kčs.
fixed fee 50h + 12 x 30h per 300kčs = 4.10kčs. Total charge = 10.10kčs

22th April 1920
RUMBERG to BRNO.
Cotton goods, weight 12.8kg.
10h line perf. 13¼; 1000h Masaryk
Card of third issue, CSR monogram + 15h.



Illustration 6

Internal Parcel Post
15 March to 31 July 1920

Weight 10-15 kg. = 6kčs

Insured for 3,900kčs.
fixed fee 50h + 13 x 30h per 300kčs = 4.40kčs. Total charge = 10.40kčs

19th July 1920
PLZEŇ to SUŠICE
Cloth, weight 14.5kg.
40h, 1000h
Card of first issue, Vienna printing, Thick diamond border.

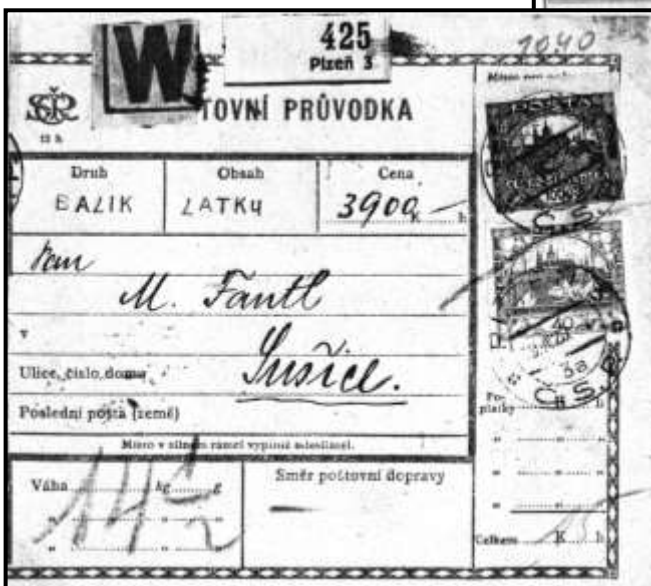


Illustration 7
Internal Parcel Post
15 March to 31 July 1920

Weight 15-20 kg. = 8kčs

Insured for 1,290kčs.
fixed fee 50h + 5 x 30h per 300kčs = 2kčs.
Total charge = 10kčs

Case containing 8kg of meat, shoes and clothes to a total weight of 15.8kg.
21st April 1920
VALAŠSKÉ KLOBOUKY To BRNO
1000h Masaryk, single franking
Card of second issue, Prague printing, CSR monogram + 12h



Illustration 8
Internal Parcel Post
1st Aug.1920 to 14th April 1921

Weight 5-10 kg. = 6kčs

C.O.D.parcel, 510.50 kčs to collect, insured for same. C.O.D. fee 50h. Insurance, fixed fee 2kčs + 1 kčs per 1000 kčs = 3kčs. Total charge = 9.50kčs

30th November 1920
PRAGUE to BRNO
Alarm Clocks, weight 8kg.
50h, 2 x 200h., 500h Masaryk.
C.O.D. parcel card, sixth issue, shield only, no card price.

Illustration 9
Internal Parcel Post
1st Aug.1920 to 14th April 1921

Weight 10-15 kg. = 9kčs

Insured for 401kčs. fixed fee 2kčs + 1 kč per 1000 kčs = 3kčs. Total charge = 12kčs

21st January 1921

PRAGUE to ČESKÝ BROD
Paper goods, weight 14.8kg.
200h, of 17th June 1920 + 1000h Masaryk.
Card of the first issue, Vienna print, thick diamond border.





Illustration 10
Internal Parcel Post
1st Aug.1920 to 14th April 1921

Weight 15-20 kg. = 12kčs

Insured for 2000kčs. fixed fee 2kčs + 1 kč per 1000 kčs = 4kčs. Total charge = 16kčs

9th October 1920
PRAGUE to SUŠICE
Cloth, weight 15.5kg.
2 x 300h, 2 x 500h.
Card of the first issue, Vienna printing, thick diamond border.

8 kčs postage 20h. local levy ↓

Illustration 11
Internal Parcel Post
From 15th April 1921 parcel post rates varied with distance. There were two zones. Their assessment was complex, but a rough guide is that places within 110 km of the sending office will fall within the first zone.

1st May 1923 to 31st December 1930

Second zone. Weight 5-10kg. = 8kčs

13th August 1924
PRAGUE to FRÝŠTÁT ve SLEZSKU
Metal goods, weight 8.7kg.
From 15th May 1921 postage stamps ceased to be used for parcel charges. The amounts paid were noted in manuscript on the cards.



Card of seventh issue, dove stamp design, shield + 20h



Illustration 12
←Czech text

Internal Parcel Post
1st January 1931 to 28th February 1937.

Weight up to 1kg: First distance zone = 2.5kčs (The first zone was for distance of roughly 110 km)

1st August 1934
BRATRÍKOV to JAROMĚŘ

Costume jewellery, weight 800g. 2.50kčs shown as paid. Sent Express - 1kč stamp paying the fee.

To a Private in the 2nd Company, 1st Cycling Battalion.

Illustration 13
Internal Parcel Post

1st January 1931 to 28th February 1937.

Weight up to 1kg: Second distance zone = 3.50kčs (Over approx. 110 km)

12th June 1931
VELKÉ RIPŇANY to JAROMĚŘ

weight 800g.

Card with text in Slovak



Illustration 14

←Postage 3.50, local levy 20h

Internal Parcel Post

1st January 1931 to 28th February 1937.

Weight 1-5kg: First distance zone = 3.50kčs

25th February 1933

Books, weight 1.2kg

DOLNIA STREDA nad VAHOM to VAHOVCE. This, 2km away, is a sub-office of D. Strada. Delivery was requested, charge 40h. 40h. due on back, DOLNIA STREDA, 27th February.

Card with Slovak text.

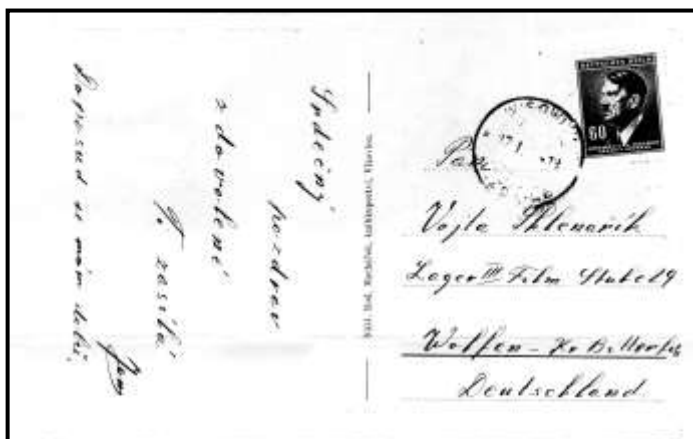
Illustrations 15 to 23 of parcels going outside Czechoslovakia, together with a handwritten sheet giving basic details of all my foreign parcels will be included in the March issue of *Czechout*.

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

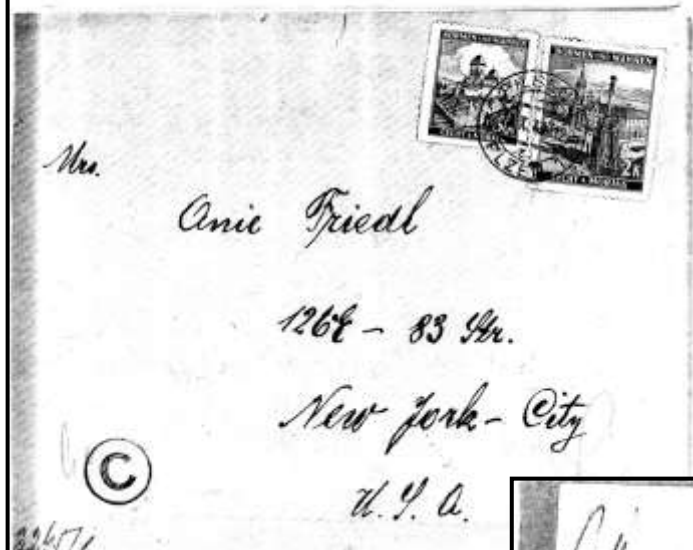
Members' Queries -

Another selection, at present we have a fair number outstanding awaiting answers. We would be grateful if members would see if they could reply to some of these queries, as it is a pity to write these off as unknown!

From Clyde Ziegler: I would be grateful if any member could come to my assistance with regard to these three covers:

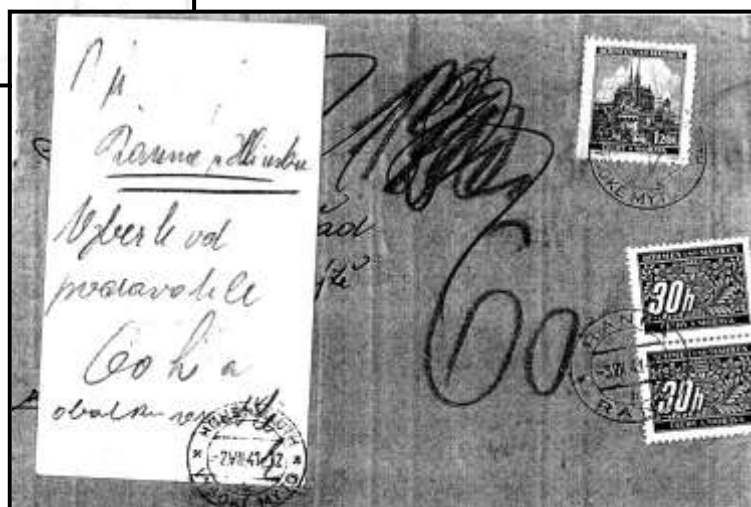


[1] Postcard addressed to Lager III Strube 29 - [17.1.43?] the last line of the message seems to translate "Until now I am well" What sort of Camp was this?



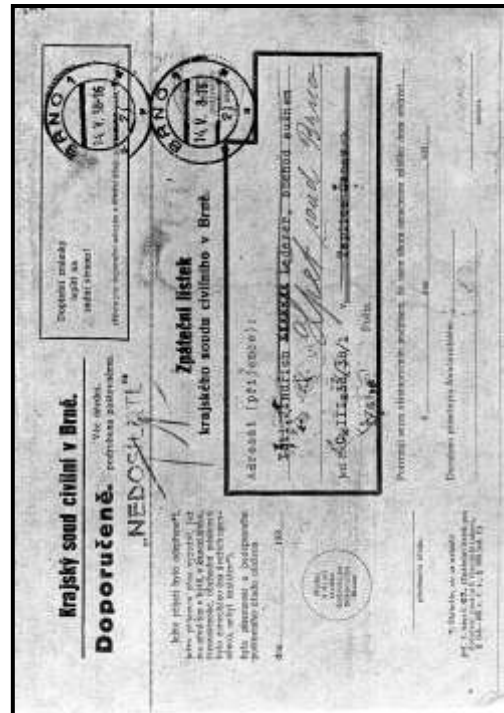
[2] Surface mail to USA. [23.10.43] bought this over the internet, supposedly as a cover forwarded via Russia. My questions – was it sent via Russia (it was censored in Berlin), and if so, what was the route; and what was the route of other surface mail to USA.

[3] Could someone please translate the slip attached to this cover for me dated 2.7.41 – it is obviously refers to the 60h postage due, but why? The letter is addressed to HOHENMAUTH/VYSOKÉ MYTO – All I can come up with is that it was a local letter (under 250g rate) which should have been charged 1.60k; therefore 40h short in postage. Postage due at 1.5 times the deficiency = 60h – is this right? (postage dues cds 3.7.41)



>

From Chris Cordes: I have a couple of "silly" queries:



[1] SG65c: 27.10.1919 1st Anniversary of Independence and Czechoslovak Legion issue. 100h value but imperforated x Perf.11½. I can't find a listing of it in for example, Pofis. What is it? Apart from the imperf it is perfectly normal

[2] I bought this cover in a "job lot" of postage due covers [photocopies reduced] and I also enclose the original description in which mention is made of it being an "official use" cover, but there must be more to it than that. Any ideas fellow members?

"CZECHOSLOVAKIA –POSTAGE DUE: Official use cover posted at Brno on May 14, 1938 with no apparent postage affixed. Blue crayon "T1" mark on front with one Koruna postage due issue applied at Teplice-Sanov on May 16 (Scott #J65 from 1928 series.)



NEW ISSUES

-Lindy Bosworth-

Unless otherwise stated, Post Printing House, Prague prints the stamps and stationery for the Czech Republic.

From 2004, many of the stamps of the Slovak Republic are printed by Walsall Security Printers WSP – CATOR, France, indicated below as WSP.

Printing

R.D.	= rotary die stamping combined with multicolour photogravure
D.S.	= die stamping from flat plates
R.D. + D.S.	= combination of both techniques

Czech Republic

21 September 2005

Historical Tractors

Designer and Engraver:

Bedřich Housa

Printing: DS in sheets of 50 stamps

Designs: tractors from the 20th century used on Czech territory and now on display at the Čáslav Museum. The National Agriculture and Agricultural Technology Museum at Čáslav has one of the largest European collections of tractors and motor ploughs used in the Czech lands since the beginning of the 20th century.

7.50Kč – a 1923 John Deere 15/27 tractor of 37 hp with two forward and one reverse gear. The **FDC** cachet in red is a 1926 Lanz Bulldog tractor.

9Kč – 1921 Lanz Bulldog HL-12, a two stroke, 12hp single engine with one forward and one reverse gears. The **FDC** cachet drawing in brown shows a 1934 Svoboda machine.

18Kč – 1937 Škoda HT-40, a four stroke, 44hp. twin engine with three forward and one reverse gears. The **FDC** cachet drawing in blue is a 1930 Wicov machine.

The **FDC** cachet drawing in blue is a 1930 Wicov machine.

All 3 FDCs were printed DS and have commemorative Čáslav cancels.



21 September 2005

World Summit on Information Society



Designer: Jan Solpera **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider **Printing:** RD in sheets of 35 stamps. **Design:** a symbolic design to represent the transmission of information with relevant text in Czech and logo of WSIS.

WSIS (World Summit on Information Society) is an organisation of the United Nations. The first meeting took place in Geneva on 10 December 2003 and the second was held in Tunisia 16-18 November 2005. The aims of WSIS are to use information technology and communications to connect all communities, rural centres, universities, colleges, schools, research centres, libraries, museums and archives, hospitals and central/local governments etc. for economic development.

FDC printed DS in grey has a commemorative Praha cancel and cachet drawing based on the stamp design.

12 October 2005

Curling



Designer: Zdeněk Netopil **Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček
Printing: DS in sheets of 50 stamps.

Design: a player watching the stone he has thrown.
 The game has been known in Scotland and Holland since the 16th century. The Royal Scottish Curling Club was set up in Edinburgh in 1838 but was first included as an Olympic sport in 1924. Several clubs were formed in Prague but the Czech Curling Association was only established in 1990 and then clubs spread to areas outside Prague. A special curling hall was recently completed in Prague 4

district, which conforms to international standards.

FDC printed DS in violet with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows two team members clearing the path for the stone with the team skipper in the background.

9 October 2005

Works of Art on Stamps



Designs: from original works of art. **Engravers:** Václav Fajt (22Kč), Martin Srb (25Kč) Miloš Ondráček (26Kč) **Printing:** DS in sheets of four stamps.

Designs: 22Kč – Summer Landscape (detail) 1859 by Adolf Kosárek (1830-1859). The painting is in the Prague Castle collections. Kosárek was a landscape painter, initially with ideal romantic themes but later he turned to realism. **FDC** cachet printed in dark brown is a pen and ink drawing by Kosárek of A Trunk of an Old Tree.

25Kč – Deinotherium (1940) by Zdeněk Burian (1905-1981). The painting is in the archives of Charles University, Prague. Burian was an illustrator of books for young people when he met J. Augusta in 1935, the Professor of palaeontology at Charles University. They co-operated in the reconstructions of primeval life. The **FDC** cachet printed in black-brown is from a drawing of Neanderthal man by Burian with his facsimile signature.

26Kč – Aspens near Velké Němčice (1897) by Alois Kalvoda (1874-1934). The painting is in the Moravian Gallery, Brno. Kalvoda was a painter, graphic designer, illustrator and editor of Dilo magazine. The **FDC** cachet in brown-black is a design drawing (1915) of scenery for a production of The Bartered Bride.

The three FDCs have commemorative cancels and were printed DS.

9 November 2005

Christmas



Designer: Karel Franta **Engraver:** Bedřich Housa
Printing: RD in sheets of 50 stamps

Designs: 7.50Kč – the crib with the Holy Family. **FDC** cachet in brown is a drawing of three Czech musicians following the star of Bethlehem.

9Kč – three children representing the three magi in white robes, riding on the tail of a comet. **FDC** cachet in brown is a more traditional drawing of the magi on horseback holding their gifts. The FDCs were printed DS and have commemorative Praha cancels. >

Postal Stationery

Official Postcards

10 June 2005 – Czech Historical Buildings. This is the 12th issue in the series and numbered from A145/2005 to A152/2005. Each card has a 7.50Kč imprinted stamp of the modified Great State Arms of the Republic. The designs are from Foto Studios Skala and printed by Victoria Security Printing. The second line for recipient's address is a continuous micro printing of Česká Pošta. The left side of the card has a coloured picture of the building and explanatory text in Czech. Each card is issued in two formats: a) a commemorative cachet of the building in black below the text and b) without cachet. This series shows buildings at Prague, Broumov, Doksany, Třeboň, Cheb, Rajhrad, Prostějov and Litomyšl.

1 December 2005 – Protected Flora and Fauna of the Krkonoše Mountains. Designers: Libuše and Jaromír Knotek **Printing:** coloured offset **Design:** imprinted 7.50K stamp based on the original 12 Kč stamp from the commemorative souvenir sheet issued 22 June 2005 (see *Czechout 3/2005* page 87). The logo of the Czech Post and a security hologram are to the left of the stamp. The reverse of the postcard is a reproduction in colour of the complete souvenir sheet. The card retails for 9.50Kč and with a first day of issue cancel 10Kč.

1 December 2005 – The Linden Leaf – A National Symbol. Designer: Václav Kučera **Printing:** coloured offset **Design:** a stylised linden leaf framed in red and blue. The logo of the Czech Post and a security hologram are to the left of the imprinted stamp.

Four cards with imprinted 7.50Kč stamp in red and blue (basic inland rate) retail at 9.50Kč and 10Kč with first day of issue cancel. The reverse of the cards have the following coloured reproductions:-

- a) Castle Hluboká nad Vltavou (photo by Milan Flemr).
- b) Český Krumlov (photo Jiří Suttner, design Miroslav Prokop).
- c) The Battle of Slavkov (design C Naudet, P A Le Beau) from an etching-engraving in the collection of the Military Historical Institute of the Academy of the Czech Republic, Prague.
- d) area of the former cloister with the church of St. Gabriel in Holečkova where the Czech Post is situated (photo Jiří Peca).

A card with imprinted 9Kč stylised linden leaf in yellow and brown (basic rate for abroad) retails at 11Kč and 11.50Kč with first day of issue cancel. The reverse of the card shows two views of Prague Castle from a photo by Jiří Suttner and designed by Miroslav Prokop.

14 December 2005 – 130th Anniversary of the First Issue of the Book “The Lightning Bugs” by Jan Karafiát. Designer: Oldřich Pošmurný **Printing:** coloured offset **Design:** imprinted 7.50Kč stamp is a portrait of Jan Karafiát and dates 1846-1929 with the logo of the Czech Post and a security hologram to the left. The promotional part of the card has a drawing of two lightning bugs with lanterns taken from the original artwork by Marie Fischerová-Kvéchová (1892-1984) who illustrated the later issues of the books, with her name and initials and text in Czech.

Jan Karafiát (1846-1929) studied theology and became a parish priest in 1895 in Velká Lhota but in 1895 he went to Prague and from 1896-1905 published the magazine *Reformované listy*. He also wrote books but he is mainly remembered for his children's book “Broučci” – The Lightning Bugs which first appeared in 1876.

Slovakia

3 June 2005 **Definitive – Holíč**



Designer and Printing details not known

Design: a church building with the town coat of arms. Holíč is a small town on the border with the Czech Republic, not far from Hodonín.

22 September 2005 Technical Monuments: Forest Railways



Designer: Marián Čapka **Engravers:** František Horniak (24Sk) Arnold Feke (33Sk) **Printing:** RD with offset by Post Printing House, Prague in sheets of 8 – (2x 4) stamps with decorative central gutter .

Designs: 24Sk – one of the original steam engines pulling a load of felled timber, used on the Čierny Hron forest railway. The railway was built to exploit the forest resources of the area more productively throughout the year. The first 11km section was completed in 1908 with other branch lines gradually added in the majority of valleys in the Čierny Hron Basin with the help of First World War prisoners. Sometimes as many as seven engines a day were in operation, with a passenger service available. In the second half of the 20th century the gradual growth of automobile transport led to the decline of the railway with the last 36km track closing in 1982. It was the last such operational railway in Slovakia and was listed as a Cultural Monument in 1982. The

sheet gutter shows three railway lines with engines. The **FDC** cachet drawing in black shows another type of steam engine crossing a wooden viaduct over a river.

33Sk - a 1909 U34.901 steam engine pulling timber carriers loaded with lumber. This was one of the oldest narrow gauge steam engines in Slovakia. The sheet gutter shows an engine with carriers of timber crossing a ravine. The **FDC** cachet drawing in black shows another type of engine pulling a load of timber.

In the first part of the 20th century the narrow gauge forest railway was the typical forest transport in Slovakia replacing the obsolete and inefficient transportation of lumber by water. The Kysuce-Orava forest railway was one of the largest in Slovakia and was built in 1926 to connect two independent systems. The track gauge was 760mm and 110km in length and used engines made by MAV, Henschel, Krauss and ČVD. The railway was closed in 1972 but was listed as a technical monument the same year. Today it operates over a 3.6km section as part of the Kysuce Village Museum exhibits. **FDCs** have commemorative cancels and were printed DS by TAB, s.r.o., Bratislava.

20 October 2005

Art



Designer and Engraver: Arnold Feke (from original artwork)

Printing: DS in two-colour recess by Post Printing House, Prague in sheets of 4.

Design: 28SK - Supper at Emmaus by Rembrandt von Rijn (1606-1669). The original work is in the Slovak National Gallery.

FDC: printed DS by TAB s.r.o., Bratislava. The cachet drawing is taken from another of Rembrandt's works – Christ and the Woman of Samaria at the Well.



Designer and Engraver: František Horniak (from original artwork)

Printing: five colour recess – DS in sheets of four by Post Printing House, Prague. **Design:** 33Sk – Magic of Still Life Paintings V – 1972 by Karol Baron (1939-2004). He was one of the most significant Slovak artists of the second half of the 20th century focusing on surrealism. After an initial official acceptance and success in the 1970s he was banned from exhibiting his free artwork. He then produced tapestries for various official premises. Towards the end of the 1980s his work was again officially acceptable with exhibitions in Slovakia and abroad. He was appointed professor at Nitra University. **FDC:** printed DS by TAB s.r.o., Bratislava. The cachet is from a line drawing with the title Swimming Muscle and the commemorative cancel shows the letter A of the series Bizarre World of Letters and Homunculi. >

Postal Stationery

Postcards for Promotional Use

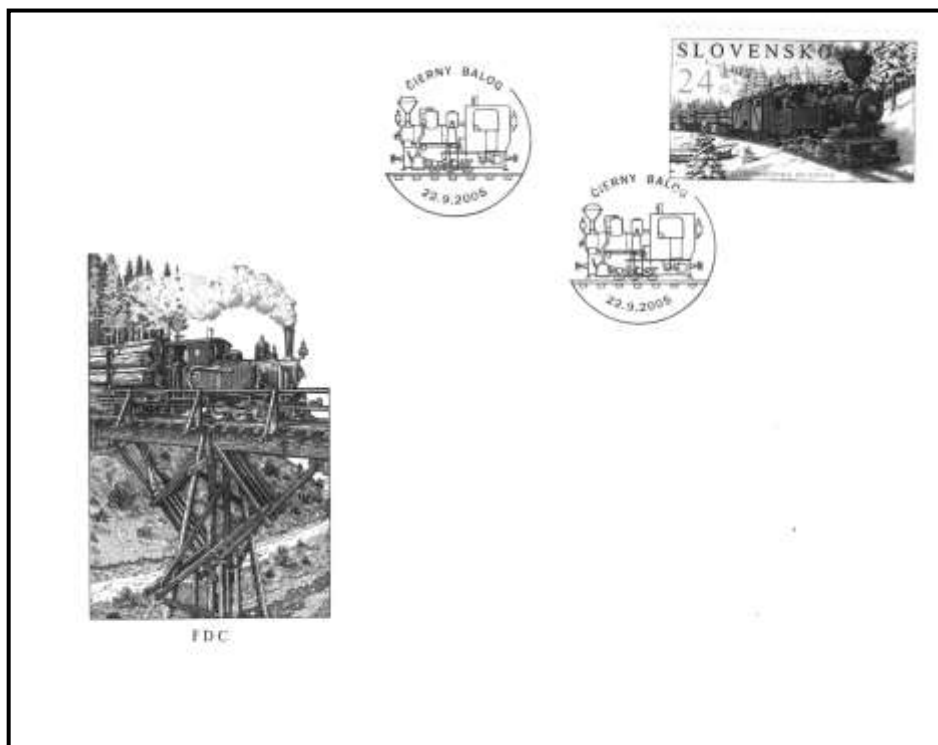
The following cards have an imprinted 9Sk stamp as for CDV 118 (see *Czechout 2/2005* page 58) and retail for 12Sk.

? **May 2005 CDV 120 (118/05) Brno 2005** – promotional portion has the logo and dates of the European Postal Exhibition in yellow and blue.

? **May 2005 CDV 121 (118/05) Nordia 2005** – promotional portion has symbolic sketch in blue and yellow with text Nordia 2005 – Göteborg 26-29 May 2005.

? **August 2005 CDV 122 (118/05) Riccione 2005** - 57th International Stamp Fair held 26-28 August 2005.

24 September 2005 CDV 123 (118/05) First Day of Issue of Stamp Čierny Balog Railway. Two stamps were issued in the Technical Monuments series (see above). Cachet shows one of the engines with shed and relevant texts in Slovak.



?**September 2005?** **CDV 124 (118/05) 100th Anniversary of the Founding of the Skalice Museum.** Cachet has a sketch of the building with the Slovak State Arms.