

# CZECHOUT

Journal of The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain  
[Founded 1953]

JUNE 2007

ISSN 0142-3525

Whole No. 127 Vol.25 No.2

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## NOTES

The Joint Meeting with the Austrian, Hungarian & Polish societies on **Saturday 11 August** will be at a new venue, the Latvian Welfare Club, 5 Clifton Villas, off Manningham Lane, Bradford BD8 7BY; please contact Yvonne Wheatley (0113 2601978) for further details of this event.

The next Society meeting in London will be on **Saturday 18 August** when **Gerhard Hanacek** will give a display entitled *The First Republic*. On **Saturday 3 November** the Society's Annual General Meeting will be held at 12pm; after lunch **Rex Dixon** will give a display entitled *Czechoslovakia from 1938* at 2.30pm. On **Saturday 17 November** a Regional Meeting will be held at the Leeds Philatelic Society's Stamp Fair in Pudsey Civic Centre at 2.15pm; for full details please contact Yvonne Wheatley (0113 2601978).

We are including with this issue the Annual Index for 2006 and for non-e-mail members the Auction List.

We send best wishes to Bob Allard and Bob McLeod who have recently been in hospital.

***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

### Society Weekend held Friday 16 to Sunday 18 March 2007 at the White Hart Hotel, Lewes

Around 25 members together with their spouses attended a very successful and full weekend at the family-run White Hart Hotel in the centre of the historic county town of Lewes. It was exceptionally well organised by **Yvonne Gren**, assisted by David Holt, Colin Spong and Rex Dixon, in liaison with Mrs Sally Ayris of the hotel. The venue was a large oak-panelled meeting room on the first floor. The display frames were provided courtesy of Haywards Heath Philatelic Society and a local dealer attended on Saturday.

During the weekend the Secretary gave details of one prospective new member:

**Vosper Arthur** from Exeter

whose application was readily endorsed and formally accepted.

After dinner on Friday the Chairman, Richard Beith, welcomed the assembled crowd, especially a fellow member of the Dvořák Society and also **Mrs Audrey Dawson**, the widow of our late President. Audrey was very generous, buying the wine for Saturday dinner. The evening was devoted to some comparatively light-hearted displays.

**Richard Beith** *Czech & Slovak Music: musicians, theatres, opera houses and orchestras as well as composers (but excluding Dvořák and Smetana)*

**Tony Bosworth** *The establishing of Bohemia and Moravia*

**Brian Day** *'Gruss aus' cards*

**Norman Hudson** *The Tatra Mountains*

Saturday morning continued with the following displays before coffee.

**Lindy Bosworth** *The Danube flotilla of the Austro-Hungarian navy*

**Garth Taylor** *The second issue of Czechoslovak airmails*

**Tony Moseley** *Sudetenland postmarks*

**Derek Baron** *Military regiments and hospitals associated with Olomouc*

**Bob Bradford** *'Surprise!' – a philatelic quiz in 40 sheets led to much head-scratching as members tried to identify, for example, which countries had issued the partial stamps shown*

**Bob Hill** was then invited to give the first **Bill Dawson Lecture**, inaugurated in his memory. Bob launched his presentation with "Bill was a character – meet him and he left an impression". Bob's theme was characters that he had met, remarking that the older he got the less characters there are, an effect of age. He started with his Uncle Harry, a bus-driver who one day just walked away from his bus mid route, never to return. Reminiscences of other relatives, teachers and neighbours followed. Even among present members of the Society Bob cited a couple of characters. Bob then turned to Bill Dawson, noting that he was a centre of reference, non-political, a stickler for detail, dependable, possessed a wealth of jokes, a good servant of the Society, an individual, a character, a one-off. Bob finished with the inimitable throwaway line: "Don't know whether it's what you expected, but it's what you got."

Richard Beith thanked Bob for his instructional and amusing lecture. An emotional Audrey thanked the Society for her invitation, remarking that she always enjoyed visits to the Society. She thanked all those who had bought parts of Bill's collection: "Have pleasure in them."

As there was still time before lunch, an extra display was thrown in.

**Yvonne Gren** *East Silesia: Stonava, Fryštát, Karviná, Orlova*

After lunch, **Hans van Dooremalen** was invited to give a major display on **First Republic: Postal cards and their usage**. In the first part he showed forerunners and the overprinted issues with all the variants including the rare 10h on 10h double-card (less than 10 known). The second part was devoted to the Hradčany and Liberated Republic cards, where increasing postage rates led to a plethora of

issues. Inland and foreign cards, even when the rate was the same, can be distinguished by the former having a ČSR monogram, the latter having French text. The third part showed the Masaryk and Coat of Arms cards with pictorial cards to 1931, including the scarce 50h of 1927 in the grass-green shade. Richard Beith gave the vote of thanks for Hans' erudite presentation.

The **George Pearson Trophy and the Francis Pettitt Salver** competitions were held over the tea interval. The results were as follows:

1st	<b>Garth Taylor</b>	<i>A study of the routes and rates of the third issue of Czechoslovak airmails</i>
2nd	<b>Derek Baron</b>	<i>Olomouc: the early days of the First Republic</i>
3rd	<b>Tony Moseley</b>	<i>German Occupation for the Sudetenland in 1938</i>
1st	<b>Derek Baron</b>	<i>The liberation of Olomouc</i>
2nd	<b>Norman Hudson</b>	<i>Alfons Mucha</i>
3rd	<b>Tony Moseley</b>	<i>Liberation overprints of Nové Město na Moravě</i>

The competitions were followed by more short displays.

<b>Yvonne Wheatley</b>	<i>Allegories, including a Post Office notice with a 40h forgery intended to defraud the postal service</i>
<b>Richard Wheatley</b>	<i>His 'Surprise!' was a Česka Pošta mailbag; this was followed by PZ envelopes and B/P labels on parcel cards, in answer to recent queries in Czechout</i>
<b>Rex Dixon</b>	<i>1938 &amp; 1939 border changes between Slovakia and Poland</i>
<b>Colin Spong</b>	<i>Slovakia, including airmails and Slovakotour labels</i>
<b>Bill Hedley</b>	<i>Postal history of Pozsony (Preßburg, Bratislava) to early 1919</i>
<b>Barry Horne</b>	<i>'What might have been!' – early essays</i>

After dinner Richard welcomed **Bryan Hawkins** for the evening's main entertainment for members and spouses alike, a superb and highly entertaining two-session presentation entitled **Delectable Collectables**. Bryan had been a professional cartoonist, so the first part was devoted his own cartoons on envelopes, brilliantly observed and funny. The second part was a miscellany. Autographed items included Olympic covers signed by Jesse Owens and Emil Zatopek. There was a 1937 stamp album given away with *The Modern Boy*. There was a ½d newspaper rate on issue no.1 of the *Daily Mirror*. And much, much more. An enthusiastic vote of thanks was given by Colin Spong, who lives opposite Bryan.

The first session on Sunday was devoted to more short displays.

<b>David Holt</b>	<i>Carpatho-Ukraine 1939-1991, including some nice usages of the 1945 issues</i>
<b>Reg Hounsell</b>	<i>Masaryk 1920 (stamps!!)</i>
<b>Alan Berrisford</b>	<i>Czech postal agency markings</i>

After coffee, **Otto Hornung** took the floor and reminisced about his early days in Ostrava, under the general title of **Philately and War**. Born in 1920 Otto recounted that he had had to live up to his father, a solicitor who had been wounded in 1915 by a Russian bullet across the chin. His father had been interested in stamps but was inactive. He received a good philatelic training from an internationally known dealer in Ostrava, who had allowed him to sit in at the shop. He felt he had been fortunate to complete his exams in 1938 before the Germans walked in. He wanted to do something practical so he joined a mechanical workshop, where he learned, amongst other things, to drive. Otto became very emotional when he mentioned that the Germans entered Ostrava on 14 March 1939. With the aid of a Czech postal worker and of a Polish postal worker (and much good fortune), he managed to escape that night by mail train on the short cross-border line from Ostrava to Bohumín, which had been in Polish hands since the previous October. From there he reached an aunt in Poland.

The final event was a 100-lot auction, with **Peter Williams** conducting brisk business as the auctioneer, with **Bob Bradford** keeping the accounts.

>

The meetings were formally closed before Sunday lunch. On behalf of those who had enjoyed the weekend, Richard expressed all their thanks to the organisers, especially to Yvonne Gren, who was awarded a bouquet of flowers.

### National Exhibition of Postage Stamps 2007 in Hradec Králové



Our small group visited the Exhibition held 19-22 April and assembled in the České Korony Pension for B & B accommodation.

The local Museum was the venue and there were various displays and exhibits full of interest, which gained suitable prizes.

Petr Langer's Army in Exile WWII exhibit contained a unique bilingual cachet of ČS Provost Unit on cover, a rare cover from Addis Ababa to ČS Forces in February 1944, and Jan Masaryk's signature on a nice Wenceslas postcard dated 28.IX.40, all generating considerable interest among us;

he received a large vermeil medal. Lubor Kunc won a silver medal for his (kept secret) entry of covers delivered by the British Field Post system on the Western Front in 1914-1919, which included Polish and Portuguese soldiers' mail.

The Bourse had a good selection of dealers at an early hour enabling leisurely inspection and we mostly found good material at reasonable prices.

Some of us spent a day out at Poděbrady, a spa town which has been beautifully restored to its late 19th to early 20th century glory. Well worth a visit just 50km from Prague. We found that the cost of railway journeys, particularly for small groups, are still extremely good value.

Brian C. Day

### Informal meeting held Saturday 12 May 2007 at Worpex 2007, Oldbury Park Primary School, Worcester

An informal meeting of the members of the Society was held in the afternoon of the Worpex stamp fair. They were joined by members of the Hungarian PS, which had decided to cancel their own meeting.

Over a period of about two hours, the following displays were given. Those who left the fair early missed some good material.

<b>David Worrollo</b>	<i>Modern Czechoslovak sheetlets</i>
<b>Charlotte Standing</b>	<i>Extract from an A to Z of Hungary</i>
<b>Roger Morrell</b>	<i>Transition from Hungary to Czechoslovakia, illustrated using money orders</i>
	<i>Hungarian postal stationery cards 1871-74</i>
<b>Rex Dixon</b>	<i>Carpatho-Ukraine from 1938</i>
<b>Charles Stirton</b>	<i>Karel Havlíček Borovský, journalist, writer, politician and patriot</i>
	<i>The death of Masaryk</i>
	<i>1919 revenues</i>
<b>Michael Furfie</b>	<i>Czechoslovak postage due mail: new material</i>
<b>David Holt</b>	<i>Carpatho-Ukraine 1938-39</i>

Roger Castle and Jane Stirton were also present but did not show.

Rex Dixon

>

## Letters to the Editor

☒ From **Norman Hudson**, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire: Please accept this brief but nonetheless sincere "thank you" to everyone who contributed to the arrangements for the Society's residential weekend in Lewes, East Sussex (16-18 March 2007). Any member who has any doubt about attending such an event should cast such doubt aside. I'm one of those members who, for various reasons, can't attend many of the Society's meetings and get-togethers. Yet I was made to feel most welcome at the Lewes weekend. "Friendly" and "informal" are certainly the two words I'd choose to describe both the event and everyone attending. I particularly enjoyed the "Members' Displays" sessions, featuring a (maximum) 40-sheet display and a brief (ten-minute) talk. It was an excellent way of showing a wide and interesting variety of Czech and Slovak material. Mindful of the fact that two of the displays showed material that, previously, I didn't even know existed, there was so much to learn. And when it came to my own display and talk, so many members were so very kind and generous with their comments. If it felt like being with a group of old friends, that's because it was precisely that.

☒ From **Dr Vernon K Brown to Yvonne Gren**: Please accept my sincere thanks, to you and your colleagues, for organizing such a magnificent and pleasant weekend at Lewes. In everyway I found that the Conference exceeded my expectations and this should spur me on to even greater efforts with our hobby. My first exposure to CPSGB was several years ago when the Society mounted a display at STAMPEX (i.e. upstairs in the then called "New Hall", of the RHS at Westminster). I am still a novice although I have benefited from the helpful advice of several Members, the library, *Czechout* etc. Long may our association continue!

☒ From **Barry Horne**: I have just taken delivery of 260 archival boxes [flatpack] and having sorted out costings can sell out at £6 each; internal measurements are height 12 1/8", width 9 3/8", depth 2 3/4". I have them packed in 25s but obviously will break that down. Please note new e-mail addresses: BUSINESS is [barry@stampinsurance.co.uk](mailto:barry@stampinsurance.co.uk), PRIVATE is [benroh@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:benroh@tiscali.co.uk)

☒ From **Andy Taylor** [Editor of *Austria*]: I write to add to Kunc's article on the Vienna Technical Museum. I too have visited it, and it's as good as he says! They also have a library, which contains a wealth of material for philatelic researchers. Entry is free (but check the opening hours), and a system checks that you don't then bypass the museum-visiting fee. Take your passport. The web site contains the on-line catalogue; there are card indexes too. The staff are extremely helpful, and fluent German is not necessary. The stacks are not open access; you fill in a book request and wait - and the fetcher often takes Mondays off. If you know what you want you can pre-order it. Photocopying is possible and cheap. Regarding stamp dealers in Vienna, those who are members of the Österreichischer Briefmarken- und Münzenhändlerverband are listed at [www.briefmarken.at/oebmhv/mitglied.htm#1](http://www.briefmarken.at/oebmhv/mitglied.htm#1) - there are many others, of course. For Austria & its philately, Lupus & much else, visit <URL:<http://www.kitzbuhel.demon.co.uk/>>

☒ From **Bob Hill**: Unable to travel abroad for the Hradec Kralove exhibition because of ill health we went to Ringwood for the Stanley Gibbons open day. This is the second time we have been to an open day and can recommend it to all members who want to buy heavily discounted stockbooks; catalogues; albums and so much more. It was a pleasant surprise on this visit to bump into fellow Society member Colin Fry, with his wife, who had driven down from Bath. A comfortable trip into rural Hampshire and a chance for some real bargains. Look in Gibbons Stamp Monthly for the next open day later in the year.

☒ The British Postal Museum & Archive programme currently contains Elizabeth, Queen & Icon [July]; The Airgraph Service; Post Office Rifles Collection at Mill Hill Barracks; etc. See [www.postalheritage.org.uk](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk) or phone +44 (0)20 7239 2570 for details of the Events Guide for 2007.

## Congratulations

To **Roger Morrell**, who is employed at the National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, on his appointment to a visiting professorship in Vienna; and to **Yvonne Wheatley** on her new appointment as Company Secretary of the Association of British Philatelic Societies.

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## Publications

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

- The Summer 2007 issue of *Austria* No 158.
  - ▶ Ferchenbauer – The Austrian telegraph system (Brunn & Taube); The 1947 Airmail issue (Taylor); “Austrian” stamps for Western Ukraine (Kuzych); The Beginners Guide to Decoding Austrian Pre-Philatelic Covers [Parts 1 & 2] (Brandon).
- The March 2007 issue of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol.38, Whole No. 151. Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us.
  - ▶ New tariffs for Foreign mail from the Czech Post Office (-); The Karlovy Vary automatic vending machine is now in Liberec (-); New Postal Agency of the Czech Post Office (-); The Political history of Czechoslovakia, Part 3 (Kuch); USA Masaryk stamps caught up in the “mail war” (Heijs); Coupons, labels, se-tenants and miniature sheets from the Czech Post Office, Part 2 (Ramisch).
- The March/April & May/June 2007 issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol.69, Whole No. 602/3. No. 2/3.
  - ▶ First work of Art by a Czech artist on a Postage stamp (Batz); Austria 1783 “Lesser” or “Clapper Post” from Prague (Černík); Czech Literary Treasures (Hrncirik & Cincebeaux); The Romantic Pedigree of the Dollar (Svoboda); The Tax Money Order (Kunc); Prague’s Postal History (Kaiser); National Stamp Show of the Czech Republic [Hradec Králové] (Horvath); Some thoughts on visiting ESPANA 2006 (Livingston).
- The April 2007 issue of *Dylžans*, No 45
  - ▶ Court Delivery Service [part 3] (Berrisford & Blunt); Polish Philatelic Literature for the English Speaking Collector (Kulpinski).
- Nos 3, 4 & 5, 2007 issues of *Filatellie*. Vol 57. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
  - ▶ Italian Military Missions abroad (Santangelo); Madonna for the Third Time, Bedřich Housa for the Fifth Time (Plachetka); Czech stamps in 2006 – opinion of a philatelist [1] (Strnad); 150 Years in the sign of a Lion (Polivka).
  - ▶ Czechoslovak Forerunners (Kunc); The Best Czech Commemorative postmarks of 2006 (-); Numismatics – Older sister of Philately (Beneš).
  - ▶ Stamps have to be in with the times (Haas); All that glitters is not Gold (Weissenstein); 15h stamp Hradčany with mixed perforation – unravelling (Beneš); 120 years of the organised philately in Czechia (Hanzlová).
- The 1 & 2/2007 issues of *Merkur Revue*. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
  - ▶ 50 years of the Jana Amos Komenský stamp (zřz); Postmarks of the Plebiscite area [4] (Tovačovský); Our interview with Karel Zemen (-); Almost forgotten Vladimír Kovářik (Fischer); The Scarcest Czechoslovak stamp 4K 1919 overprint (-); Czech postage stamps of the year 2006 (Fritz); The prepared banknotes 500Kčs B (Moravec); Austrian units from Trieste, Fiume and Pola (Kunc).
  - ▶ Scarce covers from Mikulova (Klim); Postmarks of the Plebiscite area [5] (Tovačovský); Not Admitted covers from the 1950s & 1960s (Šablatúra & Fritz); Plate Flaws of the Kosice minisheet (Čtvrtečka); The secret of the code “Jindras” (Fischer); Walter Rauch deceased

(Schmeer); International Reply Coupons (Příkazský); Extraordinary air mail cover (Fritz); Agriculture & Science 1923 [1] (-); Emil Pelikán – 70 years (Fritz).

- Nos. 8 of 2007 Issue of *NIEUWS* (Dutch Society for Czechoslovak Philately)
- ▶ T.G.Masaryk (Hemmes); Karlsbad – 30 Woelige Jaren [2] 1918-1948 (Tukker); De posttarieven van Tsjechoslowakieje [1 addenda en correcties] (van Dooremalen); De posttarieven van Tsjechoslowakieje [5] (van Dooremalen);
- The June 2007 issue of *Stamps of Hungary* No. 169.
- ▶ 1918 Airmail (Szilagyi); More on forged pre-stamp covers (Dénes)

### Important Changes to Credit Card Payments

As you know the high level of costs the Society incurs in maintaining the credit card facility is a cause of concern.

Our member Barry Horne has kindly offered to collect our credit card payments at no cost to the Society. Members will be charged 3% of the payment as at present. Security is of the utmost importance to the Society and therefore you will be required to fill in an authority and send it direct to Barry every time you wish to use the facility. This is because the forms will be destroyed once the transaction has been processed. No record of your card numbers will be held and I will be destroying my records. The transaction will appear on your statement as CGI Services Ltd (Stamp Insurance Services).

I am sure you will appreciate that the small inconvenience of filling in a form will be worthwhile considering the greatly enhanced security and the saving by the Society in the region of £500 per annum.

I would like to thank Barry Horne for providing this service, which will be of benefit to both our members and the Society.

Yvonne Wheatley, Hon Treasurer

### FORTHOMING EVENTS

**Midpex Saturday 30 June 2007** at the Midland Sports Centre for the Disabled, Cromwell Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry, from 10am to 4pm. The Society will have a table and display and would welcome members to assist. Please contact the Hon. Secretary. Your help will be much appreciated. 01628 628628 or cpsgb.secretary@btinternet.com.

The **ABPS** AGM will be held at Midpex starting a 12 noon. The new handbook and directory has been published and all societies should have received copies. If any member would like a personal one they are available at half price (£7.50) from Geoff Longbottom, Mill Close, Hickling, Norwich NR12 0YC [Source ABPS E-Bulletin]

**STAMPEX 2007** 19-20 September at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London.



**Eleventh Residential Philatelic weekend, Queen's Hotel, Dundee 26-28 October 2007**

Speakers include Richard Beith (Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia: their music and musicians), Susan Oliver, Robin Sherman and Christopher Oliver.

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**CROYDON 2007:** The ABPS Exhibition and National Competitions will take place at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon on Friday & Saturday, 23-24 November. The prospectus will be available shortly. The 2007 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain will be incorporated as part of the Croydon event, with signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, lectures by leading philatelists, a dinner and an opportunity to mingle and meet other UK philatelists. Dealers will be there to tempt you. Youth philately will be featured in the adjoining Sun Terrace. [Source ABPS E-Bulletin]



### 8th National Philatelic Exhibition at Harrogate

2-3 May 2008 Harrogate International Centre, Hal Q, Kings Road. Website: [www.harrogate2008.org.uk](http://www.harrogate2008.org.uk)

The 2008 Congress of Great Britain will now take place at Stratford-on-Avon 24-26 July 2008.

## Obituary

Our former member **Roy A Dehn FRPSL** died on 6 March 2007. He had a long association with the Society joining in 1964; in 2004 failing health meant he could no longer enjoy his membership so he resigned. Roy was a resident of Norwich and following military service in Italy worked at the famous Colman's Mustard Company.

I first met Roy at the Society's exhibition held in Worthing in 1974 where he gave a presentation (Yvonne, Roy & George Pearson at St Paul's Hall Worthing looking at Roy's sheets). He was meticulous in his philatelic research and produced our excellent monograph no. 3 on *The Pošta Československá Overprints*. I well remember the display Colin Spong presented on his behalf on that subject a few years ago.



Roy contributed learned articles to a number of publications including *Czechout*.

His main collecting interest was Italy and he wrote a number of philatelic books relating to that country, his latest contribution being reviews of Italian books for *The London Philatelist*. His vast philatelic knowledge was appreciated as a member of the Expert Committee of the RPSL.

The philatelic world has lost an acknowledged expert who was always willing to share his knowledge.

Yvonne Wheatley

Our member **F. Ray Miller** passed away on 26 March 2007; he is survived by his wife of 37 years and his son Steven. He greatly enjoyed his hobby, particularly as he suffered greatly over the last few years with painful health conditions. Throughout it all he maintained his humorous demeanour and gentle personality. He delighted telling those with whom he interested stories of his family.

Steven Miller

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## THE FIRST MULTICOLOUR CANCELLATIONS

-W. Van Riet-

*We thank the author and Mr. Eddy Van Vaeck, President of the Royal Belgian Federation of Philatelic Associations & Editor of 'Belgaphil' for permission to reproduce this paper.*

Multicolour cancellations first saw day in Czechoslovakia. It was in Prague, on 28 October 1935, that befitting 'red – blue' cancellations were applied to postal souvenirs on the occasion of Independence Day. Three-colour cancellations were used from 25 to 27 September 1936 at Pardubice and on twelve other occasions by different post offices.

During the Second World War, manual date-stamps in 'red – blue' or other combinations of colour were used by the German army of occupation as well as by the Czechoslovak forces in exile in Britain.

A self-inking roller made up of three parts was tried out at the Wiltshire Philatelic Convention in April 1946 for the application of special cancellations in 'black – red – green'.

Later, at the International Philypia Exhibition in 1970, other three-colour cancellations were used. On each day of the exhibition a different cancellation was used, but always in three colours. As the Wiltshire experiment had unfortunately been forgotten about, the Philypia cancellations were presented as a 'first'.

But these examples had no follow-up and nobody thinks about multicolour cancellations any more today.



### Conclusion

For the time being we can talk about only the three short experiments in 1935/36, 1964 and 1970.

And the following questions present themselves:

- Why did these fine multicolour cancellations have no follow-up?
- How does the system for applying manual multicolour cancellations work?
- Is a sort of automatic date-stamp involved?

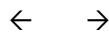
(Taken from: James Mackay. *Groot Guinness Postzegelboek*, [Guinness Book of Stamps] Uitgeverij Luitingh. Utrecht (1984) p. 63.)

Additional Bibliography: see Dawson, W.A. 'The Evolvement of Three-Colour Cancellations in Czechoslovakia', *Czechout* 1/1990. Editor

### FURTHER ILLUSTRATIONS OF COLOUR POSTMARKS

We thank Roy Reader for letting us have these illustrations from his collection.





## MORE THAN JUST A FLOWER

-Dai Pring-

To commemorate the Provincial Economic Council Meeting, Plzeň in June 1938 a stamp was issued depicting the Plzeň armaments factories with a train in the foreground. The stamp was issued in sheets of 150 stamps with 10 labels and it is the label with which this article is concerned.

Stanley Gibbons loosely suggests the label depicts a flower but this is an injustice to the design of the label itself and Plzeň's great gift to beer lovers – the world's first pilsner beer, Pilsner Urquell (Plzeňský Prazdój). A closer examination of the label will make clear this link. The 'flower' is in fact hop leaves surmounted by hop blossom and flanked by heads of barley. Both are essential ingredients for making beer. A gear wheel that is used to drive machinery surrounds the whole. When making beer the barley must first be malted by soaking it in water then drying it and allowing it to sprout (germinate). The enzymes produced during the germination process will eventually produce the sugars that feed the yeast to make alcohol in the beer.

The hops used to make beer are the blossom of the hop vine and they give beer its bitterness and some of its flavour and aroma. Bohemia and Moravia are home to the justly famous Saaz hops, which have been protected since medieval times when anyone smuggling hop root cuttings could be put to death! Finally, we have the local soft waters and the bottom fermenting yeast, which was smuggled from Munich into Bohemia by Bavarian monks in the first half of the 19th century. This last piece of the jigsaw led to the building of the famous Bürgerliches Bauhaus and formation of a guild to ensure continuous quality. The style has been copied across the world while the addition to the generic name pilsner of the suffix Prazdój (Urquell), which means original, serves to remind us which is the first and arguably the best.



The "flower label"  
Line perforation 12 1/2  
Blue-green  
Designer: V.Silovský  
Engraver: K.Seizinger

## FRANTIŠEK (FRANS) KŘIŽÍK

*We thank Trevor Fray President of the Masonic Philatelic Club for this article which appeared in The Philatelic Freemason Journal of the Masonic Unit of the American Topical Association and originated from a Dutch Masonic Unit Newsletter.*

Born 25 June 1847, Frans Křížík became an electronic engineer and received an honorary doctorate. Together with the Austrian Engineer, Ludwig Piette, he invented the automatic regulator for the Arc-lamp, the so-called "Plzeň lamp". In 1881 this lamp earned a gold medal at the Electric Exhibit in Paris. In 1891 in Prague he designed the first electric automobile. Further, his design of the electric tram was shown at the Second Jubilee Exposition at Prague in 1891. There he introduced eight trams, driving from the Letná Hill to the Exhibition within 5 minutes. Unfortunately, the authorities refused to allow the trams to operate on the streets of Prague. In the small town of Libeň, later a part of Prague, the layout was practicable for the trams and they became operational in 1892. The bureaucracy resulted in this system being discontinued in 1896. In 1899 he built the town power station of Plzeň and introduced the electric tram from Bory to Lochotín. He died in 1941 but can be remembered by a Křížík Fountain which had been erected during an early Exhibition, a memorial slate located in Plzeň near where he worked, the Křížík Gardens in Plzeň and many of his creations which are in the National Technical Museum of Prague.

František Křížík was a member of the Lodge "Sibi et Posteris" in Prague. He was honoured by the Czech Republic on 25 June 1997, by the issuance of a stamp to commemorate his 150th birthday (SG 162).

Article extracted from De Verlichte Loep, Newsletter of "De Getande Rand", The Netherlands



## LIBERATION OF PRAHA BŘEVNOV (PRAHA 51) IN MAY 1945

-Bob Hill-

In common with other locations, stamps of Bohemia and Moravia were overprinted to mark the return of the territory to Czechoslovakian control following liberation from the German occupiers during the first half of May 1945. This overprint also achieved the task of defacing the despised head of Adolf Hitler on an item that still had monetary value.

At Praha Břevnov only three values were overprinted in black using Hitler head stamps (first issued in 1942). These stamps were in stock in sheets of 100 at the local Praha 5 post office; they were:

- 60 h violet
- 80 h orange red
- 1.20 k carmine

The overprint is in two lines and takes the form:

Pošta  
Československá

It could not have been put horizontally across the stamp as it would have been too long, if the type was any smaller the print would not have been legible and the printer was constrained by the material that was readily to hand.

In his authoritative work Karel Holoubek states that these were a local issue authorised by the Postmaster and sold in the local post office; he goes on to add that the issue was feasible because a postal secretary by the name of Novotný arranged the overprints. The stamps were put on sale in the local post office on 10 May 1945.

Juan Grau adds the intriguing footnote to his listing of the three stamps that the overprint occurs in three different positions. This statement has baffled me for some time as I have at least ten different positions of these stamps. Recent acquisition of complete sheets for all three values (split into top and bottom halves) has solved the problem.

Using the Stuart's Surcanrule given to me by fellow member, Barry Horne, I patiently waded through each half sheet and aligned the left hand vertical line of the letter P (in Pošta) with the letters of the word Československá that appear on the line beneath it. Imagine my surprise as consistently there are not three but 11 different positions. These are as follows:

<b>Alignment</b>	<b>Stamp place in sheets of 100</b>
P between Č & e of Čes	42 92
P thru e of Čes	24 41 74 91
P between e & s of Čes	33 43 44 49 83 93 94 90
P thru s of Čes	14 15 19 32 34 45 48 64 65 69 82 84 95 98
P between s & k of sko	11 21 61 71
P thru k of sko	5 6 23 31 35 36 37 39 40 46 47 55 56 73 81 85 86 87 89 90 96 97
P between k & o of sko	2 10 12 25 52 60 62 75
P thru o of sko	7 16 22 26 38 50 57 66 72 76 88 100
P between o & s of osl	17 30 67 80
P thru s of osl	3 4 8 13 18 20 27 28 29 53 54 58 63 68 70 77 78 79
P between s & l of osl	1 9 51 59

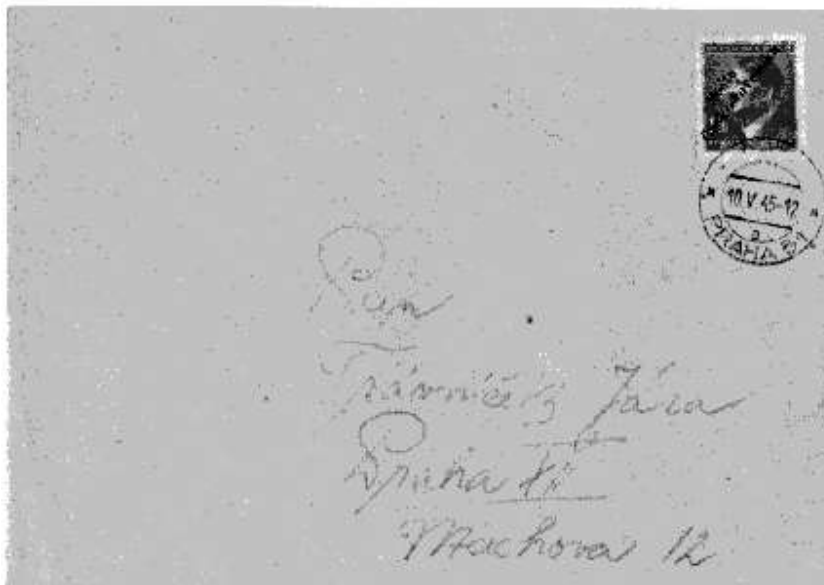
Now I could have gone further as I make it 21 sub types – for example P thru left of o; P thru centre of o; and P thru right of o. This seemed a little overkill for this first attempt to understand what happened all those years ago.

One thing is certain: the reason I have these in half sheets is because that is how they were overprinted as the overprint mirrors the stamp position in the top and bottom half.

>



Lower part of a complete sheet of the 1.20 k value showing positions 51-100. Defaced canceller with the German language **PRAG 51** excised from the top arc **PRAHA 51 10.V.45 -12 a**. This is the first day that the stamps were put on sale.



Reduced size cover  
 1.20 k stamp "P thru (right of) k of sko", this overprint occurs at 22 different positions on the sheet  
 Defaced canceller with the German language **PRAG 51** excised from the top arc  
**PRAHA 51 10.V.45 -12 a**. This is the first day that the stamps were put on sale.

In discussion with the retired printer Paul Horton MIOP it became obvious to me what a torrid time they had setting the plate for these overprints. The text had to be set individually by hand in a composing stick. In the old-fashioned hot metal world, everything had to be square, thus no provision was made for anything not horizontal or vertical. Anything out of the norm required a level of skill and dexterity.

Paul is of the opinion that either a linotype slug or lines of type were secured at an angle by metal furniture running vertically and horizontally or by wet paper (maché).

>

They had to place the overprint at an angle and achieve the required accuracy with what was available to them. This is in the political climate of early May 1945 within such a short space of time at a small local jobbing printers lacking sophisticated equipment was approaching impossible – hence the varieties.

#### References

Holoubek, Karel. *Česká Republika "Revoluční" Vydání (Květen 1945)*. Geophila, Praha 11/1996  
ISBN 80 – 901803 – 5 – 3

Grau, Juan Santauegenia. *Sellos u Sobrecargas Revolucionarias, 1944/1945 Emisiones Locales – VI edición*. Barcelona 1998

## DID THE CZECHOSLOVAKS HAVE A NAVY DURING WWII?

-Vladimir Králíček-

Sometime ago I was asked that question. At that time I was sure the answer was "No", but after reading the following article in the 2 May 1942 issue of the Czechoslovak daily *Naše Noviny* ('Our Newspaper') I am not so sure. Anyway, the article and its translation follow and the reader can make up his/her own conclusions.

# NAŠE NOVINY

Čís. 120/663/III. roč. Deník čs. vojská ve V. Británii Sobota, 2. V. 1942

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Čechoslovák v Royal Navy</b></p> <p>Loď El Farag, plující pod egyptskou vlajkou, byla poslední lodí, která z Francie odvezla větší čs. vojenský transport. Byli jsme na ní namalováni jako hermyci, ale přece jen rádi, že ujíždíme z Francie. Jednoho dne, už na širém moři, odmítla arabská posádka pracovat. Chtěla vyšší mzdy, nebo nazpět do Egypta. Tehdy se u strojí objevili naši vojáci, neměli chůt se vracet ani zůstat někde na moři. Arabové se brzy umoudřili, ve strojí ovšem však trvale zůstal jeden náš kluk jako strojník.</p> <p>Dnes přišel k nám na návštěvu. V uniformě Petty Officer Royal Navy. Je to hodnost asi našeho rotmistra a u námorníků se tóhle šarží už říká c h i e f.</p>	<p>Jak se dostal tento rocaš z Turčenského Sv. Martina k anglické Navy? Když jsme přistáli v Anglii, požádala admirálita, aby jí byl půjčen na dobu války. Naši vyhověli. Nešlo o nováčka mezi námorníky. U nás sloužil v obchodním loďstvu na Dunaji, na lodích v Černém a Středozemním moři. Když obsazoval Hitler republiku, odešel i se svojí rodinou do ciziny. Došel se do Palestiny a odtud narukoval do čs. armády v Agdu. Sloužil u osmé rotě druhého pluku, s nímž byl na frontě. Na lodi El Farag sešel se tenkrát s prvním strojníkem, s nímž se kdysi plavil po Středozemním moři.</p> <p>U Royal Navy slouží na malé korvetě, která patroluje a ničí ponorky. Ve svém povolání je apokojen. Ovšem, kamarádi od roty mu schází. Chtěl by najít partu kluků jako posádku pro první čs. válečné plavidlo a říká, že taková kocábka by byla bezpochyby štikou anglické Navy, jíž by neuklouzla jediná ponorka.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ZA</p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

### Translation – A Czechoslovak in the Royal Navy

“The ship El Farag sailing under the Egyptian flag was the last ship that carried a substantial number of Czechoslovak personnel from France. We were packed aboard like herrings, but for all of that we were glad to be leaving France. One day, already in the open ocean the Egyptian crew refused to work. They demanded higher wages, or go back to Egypt. Then, in the engine room appeared our soldiers. They had no wish to return to France or to remain somewhere at sea. The Arabs soon came to see reason, but in the engine room one of our boys remained permanently as an engineer.

“Today he came to visit us wearing the uniform of a Petty Officer in the British Royal Navy. It is equivalent to perhaps our Sergeant Major and the sailors address this rank as ‘Chief’.

“How did this native of Turčanský Sv. Martin come to be in the English Navy? When we landed in England the Admiralty made a request to our people for the loan of him for the duration of the war. Our people agreed. It did not concern a beginner to the seafaring profession. At home he served in the Merchant Navy on the Danube River, as well as in ships on the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. When Hitler occupied the Czechoslovak Republic, he left for abroad together with his family. He got as far as Palestine and from there he joined the Czechoslovak Army units in Agde. There he served with 2nd Regiment, 8 Company with which he was at the battlefield in France. On the ship El Farag he happened to meet the Chief Engineer, with whom he had sailed previously in the Mediterranean Sea.

“In the Royal Navy he served on a small corvette, patrolling for and destroying German submarines. With his navy service he was quite contented. Naturally he missed his Army friends from the Company. What he would like to do is to find a group of lads to crew the first Czechoslovak warship and he says that such a cockleshell [boat, trans. note] would be without doubt like a cat among the pigeons, from which not one German submarine would escape. ZA”

On further reflection I think the answer is still NO, but it is certainly interesting to read about a Czechoslovak soldier serving in the Royal Navy. At the time the British Merchant Navy was suffering huge losses due to the German U-boat activities and the Royal Navy was flat out trying to protect the shipping lanes with insufficient personnel. VJK

#### Advertising in *Czechout*

The Society has not permitted commercial advertising in *Czechout*. However, with printing costs and postage *Czechout* is our largest outlay and the cost continues to rise. Your Committee has therefore decided to allow commercial members to advertise in *Czechout*. This amendment to our policy extends our services to our members and has a beneficial financial aspect.

It is envisaged that the space allocated to the advertisements will be the back cover, which can be removed without destroying the contents of the journal, if you so wish.

The advertising revenue will be applied to the production of *Czechout* and will mean that we will be able to maintain the current frequency and number of pages and employ colour where it is merited. This move should ensure that any increase in the subscription is postponed for some time. The Society will maintain the scheme for private members advertising on an occasional basis in *Czechout* free of charge.

Be assured that our database of members’ personal details will not be released to any advertiser. You decide if you want to respond to an advertisement and you may be pleasantly surprised at the result.

Yvonne Wheatley, Hon Treasurer

### CZECHOSLOVAK WORKERS' GYMNASTIC ORGANISATIONS

-Brian Day-

Since 1870 when the first Workers' Physical Training Units were formed they existed for a brief period of history and in several forms, stopped with the outbreak of WWII and later, perhaps in 1948, disappearing either by winding up or 'merging' with the Communist Party's political or cultural institutions.

With physical training aspirations similar to the Sokol Organisation, ex-members believing themselves to be of a different social class became detached or formed new units under the sponsorship of the Czech Social Democratic Party. The main differences then from the Sokol, which was classless and had national aspirations, were working class and internationalism. No postage stamps were issued but postal stationery cards, picture postcards, postmarks and advertising labels can be found which trace their history.

1893 - New Workers' Training units were formed and began operations.

1902, 15 August to 8 September – 1. Dělnické Výstavy v Praze, i.e. 1st Workers' Festival in Prague.

Figure 1a and b depicts an undivided used postcard from Prague 14 to Borohradek/Borohrádek; its bi-lingual arrival is dated 15.9.02. Figure 2 is a copy of an unused postcard of an allegorical figure by the artist V. Vilim, painted for this festival.



Figure 1a

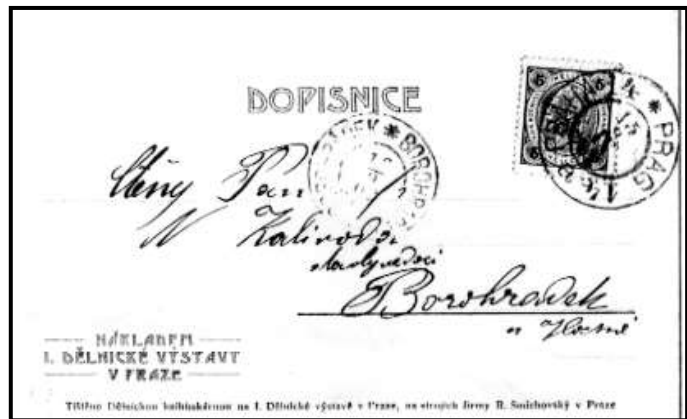


Figure 1b



Figure 2

>



1903

Dělnických Tělocvičných Jednot i.e. Association of Workers Physical Training, known as the "DTJ" was formed to incorporate these independent organisations.

1921, 25 to 26 June

The First Czechoslovak Workers' ("DTJ") Olympic Games were held at the Strahov Stadium in Prague. Figure 3 shows a postcard from an original painting by J. Rubeše, in the style of the period. Applied in black, Figure 4 shows a continuous roller postmark celebrating the event. Figure 5 shows the special double-circle-bridge a & b, postmarks also used at the stadium for the event.



Figure 3

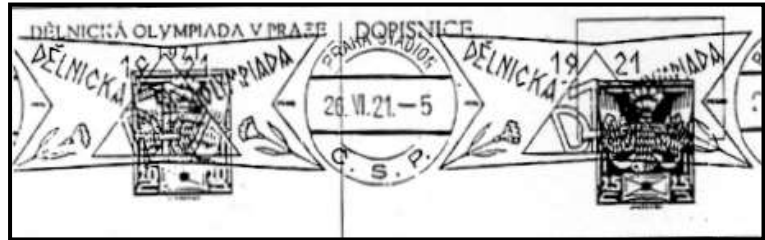


Figure 4

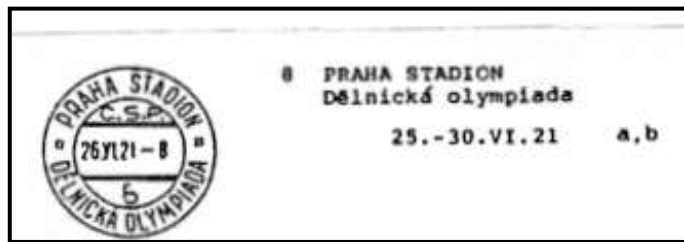


Figure 5

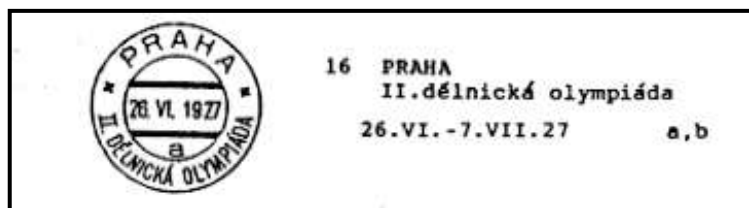
1927, 26 June to 6 July

A special continuous roller postmark for The Second Czechoslovak Workers Olympics was produced for the event and to advertise it, see figure 6. Figure 7 shows the special double-circle-bridge, a & b, postmarks also used at the stadium for the event.



Figure 6

Figure 7





1928  
Some members of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party having broken away and formed The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in 1921 established a new organisation which by 1926 became known as the 'Federace Proletářské Tělovýchovy' i.e. Federation of Proletarian Physical Training units ("FPT"). This organisation followed the dictates of the Soviet Union. The FPT held its own events and the second of these, the one held in Prague in 1928 is illustrated in figure 8. No special canceller was issued.

Figure 8

1934, 1 to 8 July  
The Third Workers Olympics saw a vast increase in philatelic coverage:

Figure 9 shows a card promoting the games with the wording on the reverse: III ROBOTNÍČKA OLYMPIADA (robotníčka translated as "serf" or "worker") a term uniquely used at these games. The Masaryk stamp is cancelled with the postmark \*PRAHA\* III ROBOTNÍČKA OLYMPIADA ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ, one commonly used. Figure 10 shows the special double-ring-bridge, a, b, c, d, postmarks applied in black or violet.

Figure 11 shows a publicity slogan roller cancel from Praha

25 with the unusual different inserts between the circular postmarks.

Figure 12 is a cover with the use of two different postmarks, as in figures 9 and 10, both dated 6.VII.34, 12 hrs or 19-20 hrs.

Figure 9



Figure 10

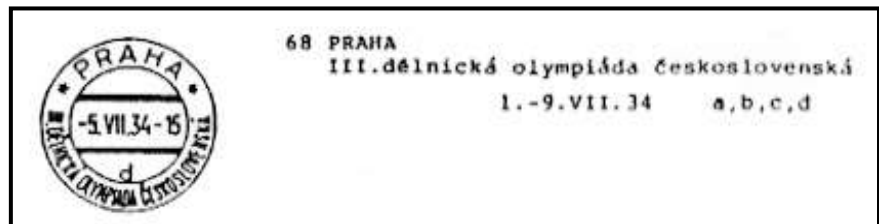
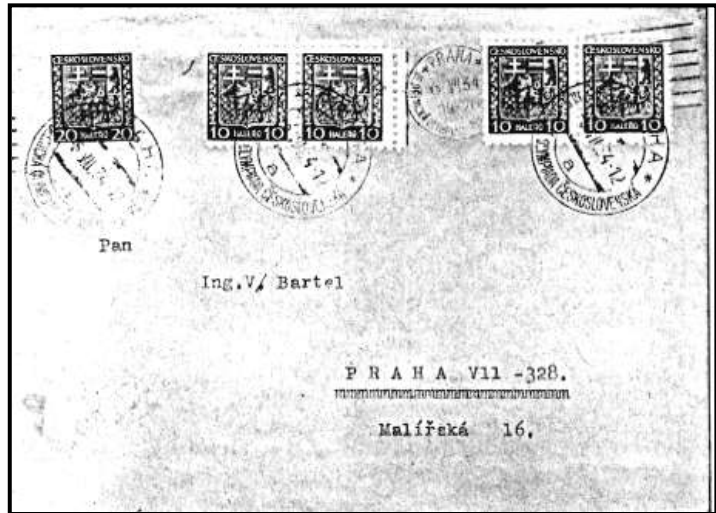


Figure 11



Figure 12



A set of seven cream-coloured postcards imprinted with Masaryk 50h. dark green stamps bearing varying vignettes were issued; two are illustrated here.



Figure 13 shows an imprinted Masaryk 50 h. postcard with a vignette of President Masaryk viewing the games, bearing the cancel of Slapanice u Brna dated 10.VII.34, and a weak received/filing mark.

Figure 14 shows a postcard with a panoramic view of the Strathov Stadium and a listing of the events' programme which includes a scouting day on 5.VII.34 and bearing a regular Praha 25 plus obliterator lines postmark dated 24.VIII.34

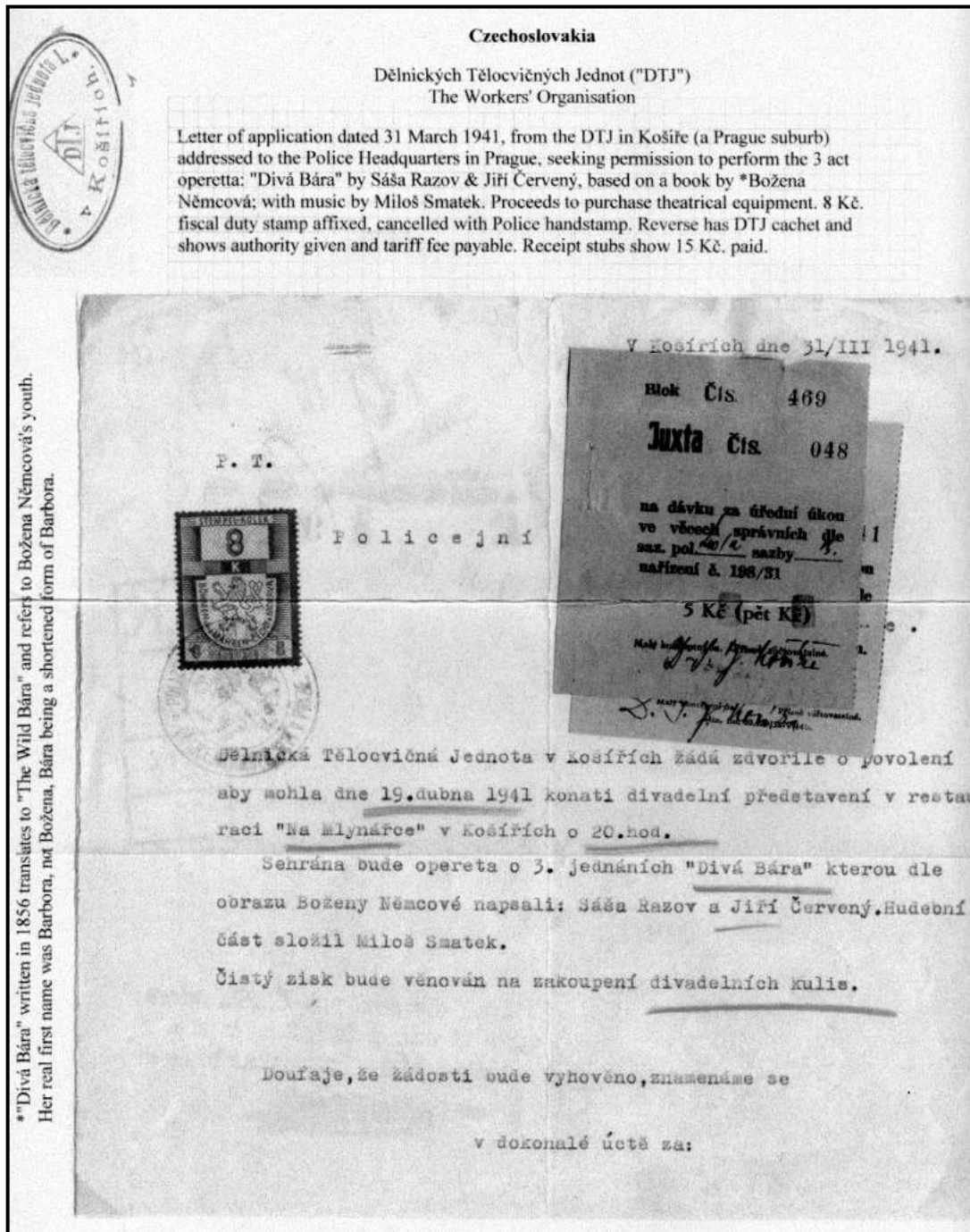


A fourth festival was arranged for July 1940 but the Nazi occupation caused cancellation. See postscript for further information.

Sources: Incorporation of some detail; from an original article by John Miskevich, published in *The Czechoslovak Specialist* of November/December 1997. The author's collection.

## POSTSCRIPT

Since submitting the above study when I referred to John Miskevich's article in the *Czechoslovak Specialist* of November/December 1997, where he mentioned that the workers were annihilated under the Nazi takeover beginning 15 March 1939, I have recently acquired two letters when the DTJ made application to and obtained from the Prague police permission to run theatrical functions in Košíře and Jinonice (Prague suburbs) on 31 March 1941 and January 1943 we now know that they must have suffered demise at a later date. In the case of Jinonice you will see that they were even endeavouring to raise money for their own gymnasium at that time. BCD



Dělnických Tělocvičných Jednot ("DTJ")  
The Workers' Organisation

Letter of application dated 10 January 1943, from the DTJ in Jinonice (a Prague suburb) addressed to the Police Headquarters in Prague II, seeking permission to put on two performances of the play: "Sirotek" by J. Kvapil, national fairy tales in 3 acts, on 14 April 1943, in the restaurant N. Kubra in Jinonice 230. Total proceeds will be used for the building of our own gymnasium. Personal details of the author: Born in 1868 in Uhrotěnice, Klatovy district, a director of the National Theatre and the Vinohrady Theatre. Signed by the Secretary and the Mayor of Jinonice and DTJ cachet applied on the fold. 8 Kč. fiscal duty stamp affixed and cancelled with Police handstamp. Reverse shows authority given and tariff fee payable. Receipt stub shows 30 Kč. paid.

\*The personal details of the author was needed by the police authority from anyone putting on a theatrical performance in the Protectorate to ascertain that the work met Nazi racial directives.

*N Jinonice dne 11. ledna 1943.*

*Policejm  
Phe*

Block-Nr.  
Blk č. 000427  
**Juxta** Nr. 000059  
**Juxta**  
Em. 1941.  
über die Angabe für Amtshandlung in Verwaltungssachen gemäß Nr. 11/a des Tariffes der Verordnung, Slg. Nr. 248/35 u. 269/49  
na dávku za sázení (kon ve věcech správních dle saz. pol. sazby ..... nařiz. č. 248/35 a 269/49 Sb.  
30 K (dreißig K)  
(floet K)  
*D. J. Jinonice*

*Vel. Kř. Jednota v Jinonice, kterou  
kam' dnov představení divokého hry  
"Sirotek" od J. Kvapila, národní pohádky  
v 3 j. č. na dne 14. dubna 1943, v rest.  
N. Kubra v Jinonice čp. 230. Všechné  
léh představení se 14 hod u 17 hod.  
Všich' zisk se prospěch dostavování dělníků  
kollektivně.  
Křovník data autora:*



Five nice 2h 'charity' fund-raising labels numbered 2, 26, 35, 41 and 50 which could relate to the booklets holding them or even to the Workers' branch numbers (which question perhaps some of our members may be able to answer) which I date c. 1903



Another 1st Workers' Meeting card bought by Lindy in Jihlava in 2004 sending greetings from Prague to Paris



#### QUERIES AWAITING ANSWERS

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 3/05: Ian McQueen's Shanghai Airmail via Czechoslovakia to Denmark

Czechout 3/05: Bob Hill's American Army 1st Olympic Games in Klatovy

Czechout 3/05: Richard Beith's Undercover Letters?

Czechout 1/06: Charles Stirton's two covers with unusual "Red" stamps

Czechout 2/06: Bob Hill's Death of the invaders overprints

Czechout 1/07: Dezejna's Nachod stamp

Czechout 1/07: Richard Spennock's B&M Souvenir sheet

## WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

-Members' Queries-

Another selection, together with some answers, for which we are sure our inquirers, will be most grateful. It would be helpful if inquirers having covers with further details on the reverse also photocopy that side to assist with any replies. First the Answers:

### Re Vernon Brown's Sudetenland Cover to Munich in *Czechout 1/2007* page 26

We are delighted to say that we have received nine replies to this query!

From Hartmut Liebermann, John Casanova, Lubor Kunc, Tony Moseley, & Alena Pascual: The name of the place is not "Rofitnik", but "Rokitnitz (Adlergebirge)", the Czech name is "Rokytnice (v Orlických hórach)". It is situated about 50km NW from Sumperk (Mährisch Schönberg); also north of Nachod about 15km east of to the route 14 towards Trutnov, and north of Usti nad Orlice.

From Rex Dixon: As Vernon states, the postmark is clear, but he has misinterpreted the German Gothic (or Fraktur) script. The town is Rokitnitz, the German name for Rokytnice v Orl. horách according to Bill Dawson's monograph (*The German Occupation of Sudetenland 1938*). The fully qualified German name for this post office in the Sudetenland was Rokitnitz (Adlergeb[irge]), as can be seen from the 1944 postmark shown below. The qualifiers to both the German and Czech names indicate that the town lies in the Eagle Mountains. Vernon has failed to realise two things in the Fraktur script. Firstly, the 'business' part of the letter 'k' is top right, whereas in other scripts it is bottom right. Secondly, the final symbol is a ligature; two letters joined together, here 'tz'. This was normal practice in Fraktur. The following table shows the alphabet in one Fraktur script. The one I've chosen is the font known as Humboldt Fraktur, which can be readily found by searching the web. The third row shows some ligatures ('ch', 'ck', 'tz' and 'ss' ('sz' or 'ß'), but not 'sch' – I can't find it), as well as an alternative form of the letter 's'.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
<	>	‡	ß																						

In this Humboldt font, the postmark would look something like the following. But as can be seen, different Fraktur fonts have different shapes for some letters; noticeable here in the capital 'S'.

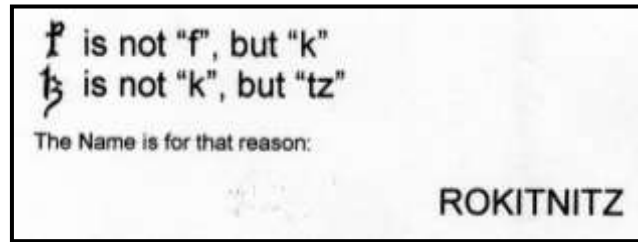
Rokitni‡  
Sudetengau

Rokitnitz was the chief town of the Eagle Mountains. The way that the borders of the Sudetenland were drawn made something of a geographical anomaly here: this part of the Sudetenland was connected to the rest of the Sudetenland only by a narrow neck just 1.5 km wide. Administratively it was attached to Kreis Grulich. But postally it was served by superior offices in Germany proper, in Lower Silesia. One interesting effect of this is that the Rokitnitz area was added to Postal Routing Area (*Postleitgebiet*) 8, the number for Lower Silesia, and not 9b, the number for the East Sudetenland including Grulich. According to Schnellbacher, there are no known postal markings showing the allocation of PLZ 8 to the Rokitnitz area.



From Werner Müller & Hans Hocke: I can help Vernon Brown to find the village Rofitnik.

It is observe - →



From Juan E Page: The city name is ROKITNITZ [as above] a little village east of Rýchnov, very near the Polish frontier. In 1930 the population was nearly thousand, and sixty per cent were Germans, so the city transferred to the Reich as part of zone V (October 7-10, 1938). The spelling problem with gothic letters can be solved using a good alphabet and taking into account that many times letters are very similar as f and s, or are joined, making identification difficult, as the last t and z in the mark.

Caracteres:	Nombres:	Caracteres:	Nombres:
a = a a	a	i = i i	i
A = A A	"	I = I I	"
b = b b	be	j = j i	yot
B = B B	"	J = J I	"
c = c c	tse	k = k k	ka
C = C C	"	H = H K	"
d = d d	de	l = l l	el
D = D D	"	L = L L	"
e = e e	e	m = m m	em
E = E E	"	M = M M	"
f = f f	ef	n = n n	en
F = F F	"	N = N N	"
g = g g	gue	o = o o	o
G = G G	"	O = O O	"
h = h h	ha	p = p p	pe
H = H H	(suprad)	P = P P	"

Caracteres:	Nombres:	Caracteres:	Nombres:
q = q q	cu	v = v v	fan
Q = Q Q	"	V = V V	"
r = r r	er	w = w w	ve
R = R R	"	W = W W	"
s = s s, s, s, s, s, s	es	x = x x	ix
S = S S	"	X = X X	"
t = t t	te	y = y y	ipsilon
T = T T	"	Y = Y Y	"
u = u u	u	z = z z	tset
U = U U	"	Z = Z Z	"

From Colin Spong: I can recommend *Alphabets of the World* by F. Ballhorn and Dr Legrand, published by HH Sales Ltd & Kemble Press. 1997. The Barn, Heaton Royds, Shay Lane, Bradford, BD9 6SH

From Hans Hocke: In the last paragraph of Vernon's letter he mentions the "Region Tetschen". Tetschen is a town in Northern Bohemia and Region Tetschen is probably a spelling mistake and should be Teschen [Czech Těšín; Polish Cieszyn] in a well known disputed area. It is now a town in two parts, one half in the Czech Republic, the other in Poland.

Tetschen on the other hand, is a town on the river Elbe, and sister-town to Bodenbach on the other side of the river, in Northern Bohemia. The latter town does not exist any more because it has been incorporated into Tetschen a.d. Elbe (Děčín nad Labem). I know both towns well, as I was born in Bodenbach (Podmoklý) and went to school in Tetschen. I hope this helps a little and I would be most interested to hear or see other versions, or a positive solution to Dr Vernon Brown's query.

**Re Bob Hill's Hradec Králové cover in Czechout 1/2007 page 27**

From Lubor Kunc: Bob Hill's cancel of 1947 commemorates a common Czech-Slovak celebration at Javorina. This hill on Czech-Slovak border (with height of 968 m over sea level) is situated near Uherské Hradiště (place of the special postal cancel) directly on Czecho-Slovak border. It was used for a "manifestation of Czech and Slovak brotherhood." Might be this was an action overcoming the difference between two nations caused by different roles of the nations during WWII.



**Re Vernon Brown’s Auswanderungsfonds für Böhmen und Mähren in Czechout 3/2005 page 85**

From Colin Spong: The translation is “Emigrants Fund for Bohemia & Moravia” – see web page under that title. The official Jewish emigration was organized by the Centre for Jewish Emigration [Zentralstelle für jüdische Auswanderung] which was founded by Hitler-appointed German Reichsprotector Konstantin von Neurath on 15 July 1939. The chief of Sicherheitsdienst Walter Stahlecker supervised this institution, and it closely cooperated with Adolf Eichmann in Berlin Gestapo Headquarters. In order to manage the Centre’s property; The “Emigrants Fund for Bohemia & Moravia” (Auswanderungsfond) was established on 5 March 1940. Vernon’s cover is from that office addressed to a Tax office or official “Steueramt”.



**Re John Hammonds 1941 American Aid for German War prisoners in Czechout 4/2002 page 114**

From Colin Spong: An American Red Cross involvement in World War II preceded the entrance of the United States into the conflict. When hostilities began in Europe in 1939, the Red Cross became the chief provider of relief supplies for the civilian victims of conflict distributed by the Geneva-based International Red Cross Committee. Is this the answer to John’s card that bears the Bohemia & Moravia 60h Red Cross Relief Fund stamp and the wording *State Department Washington Permit No. 374*? Perhaps our American colleagues could confirm whether this is correct.

**Re Maurice Tyler’s French Cover with Czech Markings in Czechout 2/2005 page 52**

From Alena Pascual: Further to my recent e-mail, I have looked at the cover in question more carefully and have determined the following:



1) The flag at the right-hand side of the cachet is that of Croatia. The blue stripe found at the bottom of the flag can be seen to the right of the shield (marked in the attached black and white photocopy with the number 1.

2) The shield [marked as number 2] is that of Slavonia and is part of the current Croatian coat-of-arms. Top right of shield.

3) The text above the flags,



“Pozdrav z Ameriky” [Greetings from America] would therefore appear to be in Croatian and not Czech. I have looked up pozdrav in a couple of Croatian dictionaries and indeed it means greetings.

Those are the points, which I could confirm. I am no historian, and I am not going to attempt to go into the complicated history of the Balkans in 1914 [or any other period for that matter]. Suffice to say that there was a considerable Croatian and Serbian Diaspora in the USA at the time. According to one

history book I consulted, some 400,000 Croats and 200,000 Serbs had emigrated to the USA by the early part of the 20th century. Also in 1914 there were members of the Croatian government in exile in various European countries. I was unable to identify the crown at the top of the shield in the cachet.

I speculate that the word Krvatius might be the Latin equivalent of Croatia. With regard to what might be the name of the city in Switzerland in the address, I wonder whether there should be a letter in the space between "Rus" and "Kneva". Perhaps it has faded or does not reproduce well in a photocopy? Another idea: could this be the name of the President, who presumably might have been so well-known that a letter sent only to his name, with no city included, would have been delivered? This would not be impossible. As for the squiggle, which appears to the right of "Suisse", could it be a stylized drawing of the marten that appears on the shield.

### Re Bob Hill's Registered Cover to Hradec Králové in Czechout 1/2007 page 27

From John Casanova: I can suggest the following explanation as my wife finds the word "VÁJEMNOSTI" difficult to translate, as it is not in modern usage. This Mutual Manifesto is something that could identify the Czechoslovak people [Czech & Slovaks] as the true people and inhabitants in these regions of the country after the war. Simply a manifesto of Englishness [in case we were talking about English people]. In this situation we would be talking about Czechoslovaks? This is the best I can explain with my poor English.

### New Query

From Frederik Backeljauw D.A.: I would to ask your help in the following matter. My good friend Jan Kypast from Ostrava and I are looking into the cancellation of Hrušov nad Odrou. The cancellation published hereafter is on 2 Hradčany stamps with S.O. 1920 overprints but our question goes also for normal Hradčany stamps. Does anyone have the same cancellation in his possession?

**Hrušov ve Slezku Č.S.P.** We have some doubt about this cancellation because this cancel isn't mentioned in Monografie 16/I page 199 or Monografie 17/I page 241 or J. Vacek page 91.



In my collection I have following cancels of *Hrušov nad Odrou* :

Hrušov, Slez.	Hrušov, ČSP	Hrušov, Slez. S.O. 1920
22.XII.19 VIII6	21.II.21 -8-	15.VII.20 VI
30.V.19 VII7	16.III.21 VII-	2.IV.20 - -
19.IX.20 VII-		26.V.20 VIII6
17.V.19 VIII0		23.IV.20 - -
10.IV.19 VIII7		10.VIII.20 VII6
		10.IX.20 6
		19.VII.20 VIII6

So we are looking for the confirmation of the existence of the **Hrušov ve Slezku Č.S.P.** cancel and if anyone has such an cancellation on Hradčany in his possession please let me now. We are grateful for your co-operation.

## NEW ISSUES

- Lindy Bosworth -

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

From 2006, many of the stamps of the Slovak Republic are printed by Állami Nyomda Nyrt., Hungary indicated in the text as ANN.

**Printing** RD = rotary die stamping with multicolour photogravure  
 DS = die stamping from flat plates  
 RD + DS = combination of both techniques

### Czech Republic

#### 26 March 2007 Stoclet Palace, Brussels – Joint issue with Belgium



**Designers:** Leen Depooter (20Kč), Zdeněk Netopil  
**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdouš **Printing:** RD in sheets of 50.  
**Designs:** 20K - J Hoffman's design of the hall of the Stoclet Palace. FDC: printed RD in red-brown with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design shows part of the palace with the tower.

**35K** – part of the building with the tower and the cupola with four figures. FDC: printed DS in red-brown with commemorative Praha cancel. The cancel design is a detail of the tower and cupola with the four figures.

Josef Hoffmann (1870-1956) was born in Brtnice na Moravě, studied in Jihlava and Brno then in Vienna. For forty years he was a professor of architecture at the Industrial Art College, Vienna. He designed many private villas and palaces but was also involved with creating interior designs and furnishings for his buildings.

#### 26 March 2007 Definitive – Congratulations – Bunch of Flowers



**Designers:** Libuše and Jaromír Knotek  
**Printing:** multicoloured offset in sheets of 9 stamps and 12 labels by Victoria Security Printing a.s. **Design:** a bunch of flowers (stamp). Right upper label has a tulip bloom with butterfly, the remaining labels have flower motifs or left blank for customizing.

There was no official FDC. The identical stamp was issued with face value 10Kč on 1 February 2006.

#### 4 April 2007 Definitive – Logo of the International Postage Stamp Exhibition – Praga 2008



**Designer:** Jan Solpera

**Printing:** multicoloured offset in sheets of 100. **Design:** logo of the Exhibition. An identical stamp with face value of 7.50Kč was issued on 1 December 2006.

There was no official FDC.

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#### 4 April 2007 Beauties of Our Country – Spa Resorts



**Designer:** Antonín Odehnal **Engraver:** Vaclav Fajt **Printing:** DS in sheets of 8. FDCs – DS.

**Designs:** 12Kč – Jurkovič House at Luhačovice Spa. The Spa is in the protected White Carpathian Mountain area of Southern Moravia and has 17 springs with the spa buildings in the Art Nouveau style. The house, which is a national cultural monument, was originally a residential mill but rebuilt in 1902 by Dušan Jurkovič with accommodation and treatment rooms. **FDC:** printed in grey-green with a commemorative Luhačovice cancel. The cachet design shows a stone swan from the banister decoration to the house entrance.

**27Kč** – Gočár Pavilion at Bohdaneč Spa. The Spa is in the Polabská Lowlands near Pardubice and was established in 1897. The Pavilion was opened in 1913 and was built in the Cubist style to the designs of Josef Gočár with the ground floor having treatment rooms and the upper floor as accommodation and an open-air terrace. In 1926 another floor was added to the building. **FDC:** printed in grey-green with a commemorative Lázně Bohdaneč cancel. The cachet drawing is of a corridor window from the Pavilion.

9 May 2007

#### Definitives – The Beauty of Flowers



**Designer:** Anna Khunová **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider

**Printing:** RD in sheets of 100 with iridescent underprinting.

**Designs:** 1Kč – Cyclamen flower and bud.

**23Kč** – Geranium flower head with buds.

There were no official FDCs. The two stamps are from a series depicting flowers.

9 May 2007

#### Europa – Scouting



**Designers:** Jiří Petráček (stamp & FDC) Oldřich Pošmurný (cancel) **Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň **Printing:** RD in sheets of 6.

**Design:** a scout camp on the bank of a river with two scouts and the logo of the Czech Scout Movement. The Scout Movement was founded in 1907 by Lord Robert Baden-Powell, with the first Czech club established in 1911 and the first Czech club for girls in 1915. Both were extremely popular youth movements until the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. In 1948 they were forcibly integrated into the Czech Youth Association under the Communist regime.

**FDC:** printed DS in brown with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows a girl and boy in Scout uniforms with rucksacks and below text in Czech '100 Years of Scouting'.

30 May 2007

#### For Children



**Designer:** Oldřich Pošmurný **Engraver:** Miloš Ondráček **Printing:** RD in sheets of 30. **Design:** the heroes 'Fast Arrows' with a puzzler (spiked roller in a cage). The issue commemorates the 100th birth anniversary of Jaroslav Foglar (1907-1999), the author of the adventure books of the heroes. Folgar was a writer, editor of youth magazines, tutor and member of the Scout Movement. The 'Fast Arrows' were published as a series of cartoons from December 1938 until June 1971, apart from enforced political breaks. The

collected series was finally published in 1999. The five boys of the 'Fast Arrows' were involved in adventures, solved problems but stood up for fair, honourable conduct.

**FDC:** printed DS in brown with commemorative Praha cancel with Folgar's facsimile signature. The cachet drawing shows the five friends with their dog Bublina. **Booklet:** of 8 stamps and 4 labels. The labels (half stamp size) have a portrait of Jaroslav Folgar with his name and birth/death dates.

## Postal Stationery

### Official Commemorative Postcards

**4 April 2007 – National Postage Stamp Exhibition, Hradec Králove. Designer:** Oldřich Pošmurný **Printing:** multicoloured offset **Design:** a) imprinted 7.50Kč stamp – a magnifying glass, tweezers and stamps with the text 'Filatelie'. This is a modification of the design issued for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the philatelic press used on several postcards previously. To the left is the logo of the Czech Post Office and a security hologram. b) The left hand part of the card shows the Congress Centrum and its logo, which was one of the venues for the event, with relevant text above, in Czech. The card retails for 12.50Kč.

**4 April 2007 – The International Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – The Palace of Industry. Designer:** Václav Kučera **Printing:** coloured offset **Design:** a) imprinted 7.50Kč stamp in red shows a silhouette of Prague Castle – a modification of the Mucha design for the first 'Hradčany' issue of Czechoslovakia. To the left is the Czech Post logo and a security hologram. b) The left part of the card has a view of the Industrial Palace at the Exhibition Grounds, Prague with the logo for Praga 2008 and relevant text in Czech. The card retails for 12.50Kč.

**4 April 2007 – The International Stamp Exhibition Praga 2008 – The Postal Museum. Designer:** Václav Kučera **Printing and Stamp Design:** as for card above. The stamp denomination is 11Kč in blue. **Design:** The left portion shows the Alpine Lounge of the Postal Museum, Prague with the wall paintings by Josef Navrátil (1798-1865) and below the logo for the Exhibition and relevant text in Czech. The card retails for 16Kč.

## Slovakia

### 7 February 2007 Personalities – Terézia Vansová



**Designer:** Zdeno Brázdil **Engraver:** Vierošlav Ondrejčíčka **Printing:** offset by ANN **Design:** portrait of Terézia Vansová (1857- 1942). She was the daughter of a protestant priest and married a protestant priest. The experiences of village schools and life in vicarages provided material for her novels, short stories and dramas. She translated works into Slovak, published a cookbook and was the founder and editor of 'Dennica' (Daily) the first magazine published in Slovakia for women. She was also vice-chairwoman of 'Živena' – the Society of Slovak Women. **FDC:** printed DS by TAB Ltd, Bratislava in grey black with a commemorative Zvolenská Slatina cancel. The cachet drawing is a symbolic design of a flowering branch and the face of a young woman.

### 7 February 2007

### Definitive – Modra



**Designer:** Martin Mettenberger **Printing:** offset in sheets of 100 by ANN

**Design:** the Pezinok Gate (1612) and typical single storey houses with the town coat of arms. The town has been a settlement since the 12 century and is a centre for viticulture. Ľudovít Štúr (1815-1856) lived here and is buried in the local cemetery. He was a key figure in the national revival of the Slovak people and their language in the 19th century.

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14 February 2007

Definitive – Greetings – Bunch of Flowers

**Designer:** Soňa Patúcová**Printing:** offset in sheets of 100 by ANN**Design:** a group of dark blue flowers. **NB:** no face value is shown only the text 'T2 – 50g'. This indicates the stamp is valid for 2nd class inland mail up to 50g weight.

15 March 2007

Easter

**Designer:** Ľubomír Krátky**Printing:** offset in sheets of 50 by ANN**Design:** The Crucifixion with Mary taken from the original 1976 artwork by V Hložník – 'Crucifixion'.

A maximum card was issued showing Christ in the arms of a disciple after He was taken down from the Cross. The original artwork of 1976 was by Zuzana Hložníková.

Booklets of 10 stamps were issued.