



CZECHOUT

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VOLUME 32/3

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WHOLE NUMBER 156



Cats on Stamps

CPSGB Publications

Detailed catalogue and postal charges available from the Publications Manager.

Monographs

- No. 3: *The Pošta Československo Overprints*, by Roy A. Dehn. 47p. 1985, reprinted 2000. £6.50.
- No. 4: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal Markings, 1938-1945*, by Juan E. Page. 42p. 1985, reprinted 2000 with improved maps. £7.50.
- No. 6: *The German Occupation of the Sudetenland, 1938*, by W. A. Dawson. 71p. 1988, reprinted 1994. £9.00.
- No. 7: *Index to articles on Czechoslovak philately, 1950-1979*, by J Negus. 15p. 1989, reprinted 2000. £1.50.
- No. 8: *Occupation of Czechoslovak Frontier Territories by Beck's Poland from the Postal History View-Point*, by Jiří Neumann. 43p. 1989, reprinted 1999. £7.50.
- No. 9: *The Field Post of the Czechoslovak & Allied Forces in Russia 1918-1920*, compiled by W. A. Page. 55p. 1991, reprinted 1994. £8.50.
- No. 10: *The 25th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Independence: The 1943 London Exhibitions*, by V. J. Kralicek and W. A. Page. 50p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £10.00
- No. 11: *The Sokols in Philately: Postal, commemorative postmarks & postcards*, by Brian C. Day. 69p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £12.50,
- No. 12: *Military Cards of the Exiled Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain, 1939-1945*, by V. J. Kraliček and W. A. Page. 30p. 1999. £7.50.
- No. 13: *The Hradčany Issue, 1918-1920*, by Robert Bradford. 34p. 2000. £7.50.
- No. 14: *The Liberation of Olomouc May 1945: Postal arrangements including local and revolutionary overprint issues*, by Robert J. Hill. 42p. 2004. £10.00.
- No. 15: *The postal history of the Free Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain, 1940-1945*, by Richard Beith. 90p. 2002. £12.50.
- No. 16: *The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and in Russia, 1939-1941, and, Czechoslovaks in the Middle East, 1940-1943*, by Dr Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung. 46p. 2003. £12.50.
- No. 17: *Czechoslovak Field Post, 1918-1921: A study of postal activities*, by Brian C. Day. 135p. 2002. £22.50.
- No. 18: *Postal Arrangements Following the Liberation of Prague in May 1945*, by R J. Hill. 92p. 2005. £16.50.
- No. 19: *Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook*, by John Hammonds, edited and additional research by Rex Dixon, based on the Ron Hollis Collection. 76p. 2009. £9.00.
- No. 20: *The Early Postal History of Carpatho-Ukraine, with particular reference to the Usage of the First Postage Stamps of Austria*, by Otto Hornung. 34p. 2007. £12.50
- No. 21: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal History and Stamps 1786-2000*, by Ing. J. Verlag. 230p. 2007, 2nd enlarged edition 2008. Ask whether in stock before ordering.
- No. 22: *Postmarks of the SO 1920 Plebiscite*, by Oldřich Tovačovský et al, translation by Robert Kingsley 66p. 2010. £15.00.
- No. 23: *The 1923 Agriculture and Science Issue (Hospodářství a věda)*, by Mark Wilson. 29p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 24: *Travelling Post Offices in German-occupied Sudetenland: An anthology*, by Dr Anthony M. Goodbody and Cyril Kidd. 30p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 25: *Compendium of 1944-1945 Liberation Overprints*, by Karel Holoubek, additional material and translation by Robert J. Hill. 314p, plus a CD with colour illustrations throughout. 2012. Large Vermeil Medal, Autumn 2013 STAMPEX. £17.50.
- No. 26: *Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939-1940*, by Richard Beith. 66p. 2013. £18.00.
- No. 27: *Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade, 1944-1945*, by Richard Beith. 54p. 2014. £18.00.

Other Publications

Bulletin No. 9: English translation of the text of *Monografie* No. 13 *Czech Postmarks from the Beginnings to 1918*, edited by C. Wackett. An essential companion to the *Monografie*. 39p. 1977, format revised 1985, reprinted 1996. £4.00.

Fundamental Philatelic Terminology: A vocabulary in Czech/ German/ English, by Vladimír Bernašek. Translations of almost 500 Czech philatelic terms, 15p. 1989, re-mastered with minor corrections 2001. £1.50.

DVD

Czechout Interactive Indexes: 1975-June 2013. Gold Medal, Autumn 2013 STAMPEX. £10 including postage worldwide.

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CONTENTS

Summer Meeting at Maidstone – Roger Morrell	8
Cats on Czechoslovak Stamps – Valerie Jean Kramer	11
From the Kingdom of Bohemia to the Czechoslovak Republic – Hartmut Liebermann	16
A Rare Backwater – Johan Sevenhuijsen	18
Children’s Evacuation Camps in Bohemia & Moravia – Rex Dixon	20
Three Parcels to or from Frývaldov – Richard Wheatley	22
News & Notices	4
Book Review – Richard Beith	5
Abstracts of Publications – Colin W Spong	6
Correspondence	7
New Issues: Czech Republic – Lindy Bosworth	24
New Issues: Slovak Republic – Lindy Bosworth	29

Guest Editorial – 50 Years of Membership

A chance meeting with clarinet player Charles Galloway brought me into the CPSGB years ago. Charles and I enjoyed many hours of music making in various amateur orchestras in south London and eventually I met his wife Irene – who was a member of the CPSGB. Through relatives living in Karlovy Vary I had some FDCs and other material. I wanted to know more about the subjects of the stamps so I joined the Society.

For many years my collecting was on hold, accumulating in stock books and boxes. There are still boxes and stock books but in the next 50 years or so I hope to reduce that to writing up each item as it is acquired!

Informal meetings, always informative and friendly, were held in London so it was a chance to have an afternoon ‘with stamps’ away from the cares of a home and small family. It is due to the dedication and work of so many members that the Society is thriving today with a stock of original research publications to its name and an informative quarterly journal. Sadly many of those members from the early days are no longer with us but their influence and expertise remains as a tribute to their contribution to the Society. The Society still continues to attract new members reflecting the wide range of collecting interests available for such a small area – the Czech and Slovak lands. Long may this continue. *Here’s to the next 50 years!*

Lindy Bosworth

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

Members are advised to refer to the inside back cover for the Committee’s most recent contact information.

News & Notices

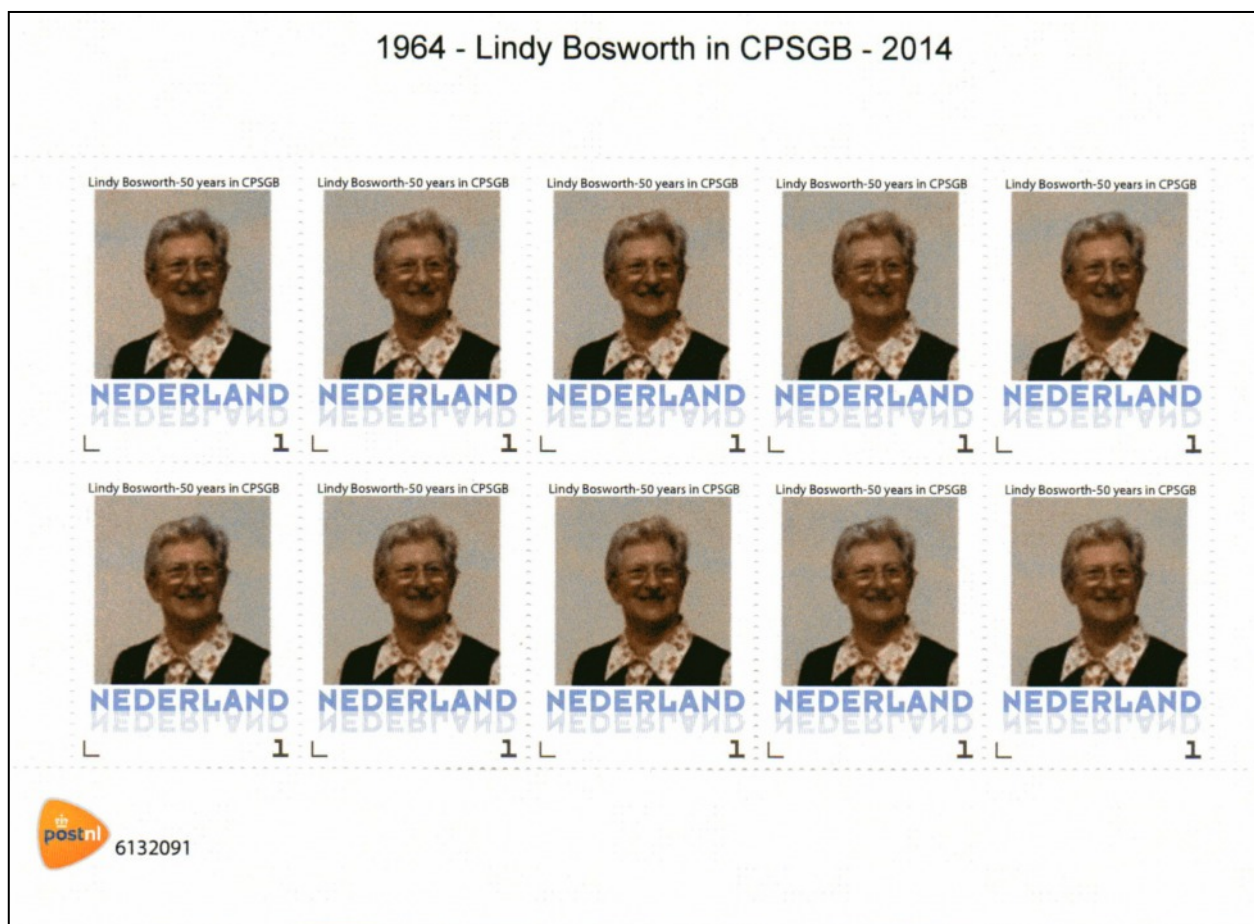
New Members

The Society extends a warm welcome to the following new members: **John Lechtanski**, Jackson, New Jersey, **Valerie Kramer**, Port Orford, Oregon, **Albert Edward (Ted) Kemp**, Woodham, Surrey, and **Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins**, Rainham, Kent. The Society most enthusiastically welcomes back returning members **John Mason**, Solihul and **Mark Corrinet**, Waldport, Oregon.

Congratulations

The Committee is pleased to report the 2013 issues of *Czechout* received a Silver Medal at NAPEX 2014 held in Virginia USA in June. The very thorough judging commented upon the diversity of the articles, their appeal to the membership, and complemented *Czechout* for its value and usability. The judges recommended that colour be used throughout, something already addressed in the 2014 issues, so it is hoped that a good award will be achieved at Europhilex Stamp Exhibition London 2015 in May of next year.

As is noted in the June meeting report (*see page 8*), Chairman **Rex Dixon** presented the Kay Goodman Award to **Lubor Kunc** at the Maidstone meeting. And a special congratulations (and thanks for all her contributions to the Society) to **Lindy Bosworth** who in June celebrated 50 years as a member of CPSGB.



Committee member Hans van Dooremalen presented Society Librarian Lindy Bosworth with a minisheet of Dutch stamps commemorating her fifty years as a member of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain.

Richard Wheatley's entry in the Yorkshire Philatelic Association's competitions was judged *Best in Show*. His subject was *Leeds Duplex Marks* in the Postal History Class.

The Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain celebrated its fiftieth anniversary by mounting a display at the Royal Philatelic Society London on 22 May 2014. The event was a great success and the Society is to be congratulated on assembling a fine display – organized by our members **Bill Hedley** and **Roger Morrell**. Together with **Rex Dixon**, those two gentlemen also participated in

the displays. A particular highlight was a display of Hungarian hyperinflation presented by Rex consisting of sheets written up in his own inimitable style by **John Whiteside**.

In other news, the Society's Display to the Fellows and Membership of the Royal Philatelic Society London lives on in the hall of The Royal's premises. The group photograph of our members who attended is on display with three other photographs of recent meetings.

Future Events

At the CPSGB meeting on 13 September 2014 **Hartmut Lieberman** will give a display on the first part of his exhibit *From the Kingdom of Bohemia to the Czechoslovak Republic 1198-1939*. A preview of his display appears in this issue on page 16.

Of Interest

Tony Moseley, a frequent visitor to Pardubice, reports that on a recent trip to the Czech Republic he learned the well-known Pardubice stamp shop *Filatelie Trojan* has now moved to Prague. The firm's new address is:

Zvabovřská 154
156 000 Praha-Zbraslav
Czech Republic

Tony noted that Zbraslav is a section some distance southwest of the city centre and provided this photo of the former Pardubice shop with a large *To Let* sign in its window.



Review

Miloslav Bitton, *Narrow Escapes!* (Keele, Melandrum Books, 2013), 190 pages, A5, well illustrated. ISBN 0-9537853-5-1. (Enquiries to j.m.kolbert@keele.ac.uk.)

Miloslav Bitton (originally Miloslav Kratochvíl, but he took the surname of his English wife) has written a serious contribution to English language reminiscences by members of the Free Czechoslovak forces. Born in 1919 into a farming community in the Ukraine, the family moved to Czechoslovakia and settled near Bratislava. From 1939 onwards he assisted in escape routes to the west via Hungary and Yugoslavia. He soon had to leave himself and by late June had passed through Turkey and The Lebanon, reaching the safety of Palestine.

In June 1942 the Czechoslovak Air Ministry sought volunteers to join the RAF. Miloslav was one of the 400 who applied. He was accepted, arriving at Liverpool on New Year's Day 1943. After passing the three month Initial Training Wing course in two months, more detailed training followed in Canada. Miloslav trained at DeWinton and Medicine Hat. The return trip to the UK was with 'wings' and sergeant's stripes.

Miloslav received his first operational posting to 310 Squadron. By the end of February 1945 all Czechoslovak Fighter Squadrons were based at RAF Manston. Escorting bombers on raids was a regular duty. The author returned to Prague and the Czechoslovak Air Force on 23 September. By 1948 escape was again necessary. The book ends with his return to civilian life in the north of England. This volume is strongly recommended.

Richard Beith

Cooperation Agreement with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately

Check out our sister organization, the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, at their website: www.csphilately.org and through their Secretary, Tom Cossaboom at KLFCK@aol.com. Their publication the *Specialist* and our *Czechout* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your SCP subscription to our CPSGB Treasurer without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the US. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies!

Abstracts of Publications

Colin W Spong

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

The Summer 2014 issue of *Austria* No 186.

Newspaper wrappers of Austria: an analysis of usage demographics and buyer behaviour (Courtis); Some Austrian postage due questions (Taylor *et al*); LEMBERG: Cosmopolitan Crownland capital of the Austrian Empire (Kuzych, review by Taylor); Private printed stationery II: landscape series 1947 & traditional costumes series 1948 (Heinzel); Post World War II local issues (Taylor); Austrian 1935 postage dues during the German occupation (Tobitt).

The *British Postal Museum & Archive Newsletter* June 2014.

Heritage lottery fund grants received for the postal museum and mail rail (Steel); Planning permission granted for the old PO underground railway (-); "LAST POST" Remembering the PO in the First World War (Tafta); Moving the mail: mail rail, submarine mail, rocket mail and railplane (-); Human letters of two suffragettes: Miss Soloman & Miss McLellan [early 20th century PO regulations allowed individuals to be "posted" by express messenger] (Jenkins).

The April 2014 issue of *Dylizans*, No 73.

Historical towns [Part 2] (Stockhill); General Maeczek's armoured units in World War II (Niebrzydowski).

Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 2014 of *Filatelie*, 64. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

The first stamps used on CZ territory (Kopřiva); Postal means of transportation in common issue EUROPA 2013 [1] (Horák); 1914-2014: a hundred years since the beginning of the Great War (-); Czechs in Italy 1918-20 [1] (Šreňar); New suggested types of 1.50 K airmail PČ 1919 (Krejny); Perfins are not only documents of companies history (Münzbeger & Havel).

Change at the head of the Postal Museum (Beneš); Postal telegram from the archive of Franz Ferdinand (Kramář); Perforation variations of Hungarian stamps PČ 1919 (Krejny); Postal means of transportation in common issue EUROPA 2013 [2] (Horák).

Contract partners of Czech Post 2013 (Bejsta & Gebauer); Czechoslovak territorial army battalions from Italy 1918-20 [2] (Špreňar); Overprints plate for the Porto PČ 1919 (Krejny); Postal means of transportation in common issue EUROPA 2013 [3] (Horák); Three versions of the 1943 London Exhibition miniature sheet (Weiss).

Czechoslovak territorial army battalions from Italy 1918-20 [3] (Špreňar); Postal means of transportation in common issue EUROPA 2013 [4] (Horák); Postal usage of the Slovak parliament stamp of 18.1.1939 (Chudoba); VIII Olympic Congress and 24th Meeting of IOC in Prague (Bergman).

The No. 3, 2014 issue of *Merkur Revue*. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

10 Kč Stamps in Czechoslovakia [1922-1939] (Květon); Usage of the 10 h Hradčany red-plate flaw: tower Clock (Květon); Collecting the first issue of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia 1850 (Květon); Hungarian telegrams (Štefek & Kypast); Austria 1815-rarest colours of the 1 kr stamp (Pelikán); Postal stationery [unofficial imprints] 2013 overview (Špaček).

Correspondence

Lubor Kunc answered **Mark Wilson**'s query about two stamps unlisted by POFIS.

I refer to the query published in the June issue of *Czechout* about new stamps that remain unnumbered in Czech stamp catalogues. The reason for their not being recognized is easy to understand – such issues are private stamps. The Czech Post Office allows two types of personalized stamps:

Personalizované známky (personalized stamps) where only the coupons are personalized. See filatelie.ceskaposta.cz/cz/filatelie/postfila/znamky-s-kupony-pro-pritisky-id40227/ for details on how to order these stamps. Remember to click the flag on the upper right to see this information in English. The website filatelie.ceskaposta.cz/cz/filatelie/postfila/prehled/default.php lists the stamp designs issued under this program and POFIS catalogues them.

Vlastní známky (my own stamps) where the stamp itself rather than the coupon is personalized. See filatelie.ceskaposta.cz/cz/filatelie/znamky/vlastni-znamky-id38053/ for details on how to order these stamps. filatelie.ceskaposta.cz/en/filatelie/znamky/my-own-stamps-id38962/#3 lists the types of stamps available; these are not catalogued by POFIS.

Prominent examples of *vlastní známky* are the very issues mentioned in the June issue of *Czechout*



No SG number.
VZ 0092.



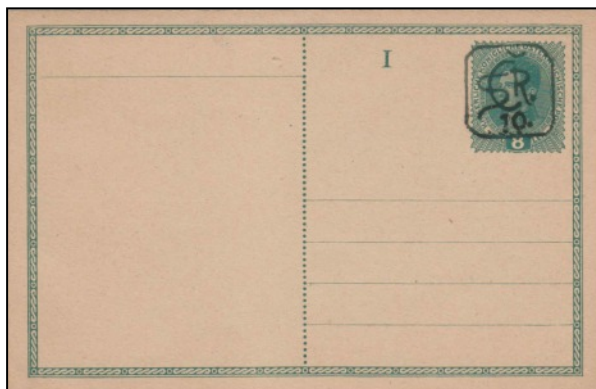
SG 729.
VZ 0099.

Examples of Private Issues

– VZ0092 *Česka pojišťovna (The Run Tour)*, VZ0099 *Primátorky (The Rowing Competition)*, as well as VZ0160 *Czech Tennis (see back cover)*. These three issues are popular among collectors because their private purchasers made an agreement with the post office to sell their private issues to the public at the post office's philatelic window. As far as I know other such private stamp issues are not sold there; they can be found only on private correspondence or as a gift from the purchaser. The PROFIL Philatelic Company ordered the first of *vlastní známky* and displayed them in March last year on the front page of *Filatelie* (3/2013).

New Queries

Yvonne Wheatley asks if anyone recognizes the peculiar overprint on this Austrian postcard?



Valerie Kramer writes to ask if anyone can identify this 1938 20 Kč item she recently acquired.



CPSGB Summer Meeting in Maidstone 14 June 2014

Roger Morrell

A break in the run of sunny weather gave 20 members plus guests a good excuse to spend the day indoors at our summer out-of-town meeting. Aply organised by **Lindy** and **Tony Bosworth** at the St Paul's Church Hall, the meeting started with a welcome late morning drink and a chat as we arrived.

Boxes of postcards from the **Robert Kingsley** estate were available for sifting through and buying. And then quickly it was lunchtime and an excellent buffet was laid on prepared by Tony Bosworth's bridge partner, we were told.



Coffee and biscuits at St Paul's Church Hall in Maidstone.

The meeting opened with notices, and the acceptance of and welcome to four new members and to welcome back two re-joiners.

Lindy Bosworth was congratulated on her 50th anniversary as a Society member and was presented with a Mucha design on a framed glass pane as a memento. **Hans van Dooremalen** followed by presenting her with her own Dutch stamps. Hans also presented Lindy, as Society Librarian, with two scarce items:

De Tsjecho-Slowaakse Veldpost in Siberie by J van der Kreke, published February 1988 (in Dutch; illustrated in b/w; many maps and cancels);

Tagesstempelverzeichnis (directory of datestamps) published by the *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren*.

Then followed the Kay Goodman competition, which had seven entries, judged by **Lindy Bosworth** and **Roger Morrell**, who admitted that they had a deal of difficulty in separating them because of the quality, and this resulted in a very tight scoring. By very narrow margins, the results were:

First	Lubor Kunc:	<i>Czechoslovak military units during and after WWI.</i>
Second	Mark Wilson:	<i>Hradčany plating guides</i> (literature entry).
Joint Third	Wojciech Kierstan:	<i>Perfins,</i>
	Hans van Dooremalen:	<i>Brno postal savings bank.</i>

Chairman **Rex Dixon** presented the Kay Goodman rose bowl to **Lubor** and certificates to all the above.



Lubor Kunc receives the Kay Goodman Rose Bowl from Rex Dixon.

The meeting continued with four rounds of displays including:

Marcus Sherwood-Jenkins: *Czech army during the Russian Civil War, including their return across Siberia.*

Heinz Vogel: *Mail to and from his father in the Czechoslovak expatriate army during WWII.*

Shirley Kemp: *Czech stamp artists: Hollar, Mucha, Svabinský, and Hercik.*

Colin Smith: *Multicoloured postmarks 1935-1940.*

Brian Day: *Early Gruss Aus postcards from Czech towns.*

Hans van Dooremalen: *WWI units from Brno, Hospitals, Censorship.*

Tony Hickey: *Sudetenland commemorative cards during Hitler's tour in 1938.*

Garth Taylor: *Czech fieldpost mail in GB and the propaganda labels used; and Fieldpost cards used by the Czech forces based in France during WWII.*

Roger Morrell: *Court letter return receipts; and Čeklís, March 1939, at the formation of the Slovak State.*

James Hooper: *Early Austrian postal cards, specifically the Bohemian language versions, with frame patterns and text spacing variations.*

Wojciech Kierstan: *Czech army in GB, correlating with important events; and Scout stamps and their forgeries.*

Rex Dixon: *Bohemia and Moravia postal rates during WWII, including concessionary rates.*

Yvonne Gren: *Privately overprinted miniature sheets for the New York exhibition in 1939 including those used on mail in the US.*

Closing the meeting, Chairman **Rex Dixon** gave a vote of thanks to Lindy and Tony for their hard work, and to **Maidstone Philatelic Society** for the use of their display boards. He thanked all those who entered the competition, and who later displayed, for making it a most enjoyable day.



Shirley Kemp describes her display.



James Hooper points out the design intricacies of early Austrian cards.



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Cats on Czechoslovak Stamps

Valerie Jean Kramer

Many countries portray cats on some of their stamps and there are many collectors who specialize in collecting these stamps. Some collect only domestic cats and some only wild cats. Some specialize in only a particular breed or species. Others may restrict their collection based on the kind of image – realistic, artistic, heraldic, or on some other basis. I collect any kind of cat, including lions, and this article will reflect that bias.

Getting an exact count of the number of cat stamps for a country is difficult. New stamps are always being issued. Most catalogues don't show images of every stamp, and it can be devilishly hard to find every tiny cat hidden somewhere in the design of some stamps. Nonetheless, it is possible to establish an approximate count. By my figures as of 2008 Belgium, with 649 cat stamps, was the world leader. Finland (294) and Bulgaria (250) were next with Czechoslovakia taking fourth place with 230 cat stamps or nearly six percent of its stamps! The rest of the top ten countries include Denmark (194), Netherlands (180), Luxembourg (177), Afghanistan (155), Tanzania (152), and Sierra Leone (138).

None of these figures include revenue stamps which often depict heraldic lions. I only recently discovered these stamps and have just begun researching this area but I expect that revenue stamps will contribute more than 200 additional face-different cat stamps to the Czechoslovakian total. The total for Belgium will also be greatly increased and it seems likely this will hold true for many other countries as well.

One reason that Czechoslovakia has issued so many cat stamps is that the country's coat of arms prominently features a lion. According to legends recorded in the *Chronicles of Dalimil*, the Czech Prince Vladislav II was promoted to King and granted the right to bear a silver lion on a field of red on his coat of arms by Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa as a reward for his military assistance at Milan, Italy. The same source also says that the second tail (double-queued) was added as a reward from Roman King Otto IV to Czech King Přemysl Otakar I for helping to defeat the Saxons in 1204. The first truly documented occurrence of this lion dates to about 1213 on an equestrian seal of the Moravian Margrave, Vladislav Jindřich. The tail is not clear on that seal and the first reliable image of the two-tailed Bohemian Lion dates from the seal of Prince Přemysl Otakar II in about 1247.

To discuss the derivation and variations of Czechoslovak-related coats of arms would require a lengthy article. For the purposes of this article, it is sufficient to know that the Bohemian Lion is a significant symbol to the Czechoslovak people and appears on many of their stamps.

Czechoslovak stamp history begins with cats. As early as 1905, thirteen years before the formation of Czechoslovakia, a set of seven stamps with denominations ranging from 2 haler to 1 krone appeared (*Figure 1*). The design included foliage, art nouveau plants, and three shields bearing images of a Bohemian Lion as well as the Moravian and Silesian eagles. In his *Czechoslovakia Revenues* catalogue, J Barefoot states that they were a semi-official stamp issued by the Czech National League used to raise revenue from trade. He says Czech businesses added them to their invoices. He further translates the inscription on the stamp, *NÁROD SOBE' I*, as *Nation awake!* Most of this information appears to have come from an earlier catalogue written by Severin Gottsmich and enhanced by M Erler.



Figure 1:
National League label.

This information is somewhat suspect. The stamps appear revolutionary but in 1905 the Austro-Hungarians were quite paranoid about any organization that supported secession as a separate nation. Spies were everywhere and one could not have a meeting without police permission. So, how could a group called the Czech National League get stamps printed and how would

businesses be able to put them on their invoices without getting into trouble?

Closer examination shows that the inscription is actually *NÁROD SOBĚ!* which may better be translated as *The Nation for Itself!* This same slogan is written above the curtain of the National Theatre on Národní třída (National Avenue) in Prague. According to Jaroslav Maleček of the Union of Czech Philatelists, the stamps in question are not stamps but labels which could be attached to a picture postcard and which helped raise money for the reconstruction of the National Theatre. His answer

raises still more questions. The National Theatre first opened on 11 June 1881 and on 12 August 1881 was damaged by fire. Reconstruction was soon begun and the theatre reopened on 18 November 1883 and served without any extensive modifications until 1 April 1977. This seems to mean that either the 1905 date for these labels is incorrect or that theatre reconstruction was not their purpose.

Further input from Assistant Professor Magdalena Pokorna of the Philosophical Faculty of Charles University in Prague says that the subject has been written about in a chapter titled, “Der Nationalstempel: Die Selbstfinanzierung der Nation am Rande der Gesetzlichkeit” (The National Stamp: the self-financing of the nation on the edge of legality) in a book titled *Collective and Individual Patronage and the Culture of Public Donation in Civil Society in the 19th and 20th Centuries in Central Europe*, edited by Milan Hlavačka. Unfortunately, I have not yet been able to find a copy of this chapter so this set of labels still remains something of a mystery. It would be very interesting to see examples of these labels on picture post cards or invoices. Perhaps such examples will provide more information about these early Czechoslovak cat stamps.



Figure 2: Czechoslovak Scout Post stamps.

The first official Czechoslovak mail service was the Scout Mail and the two stamps issued by this service, a 10 haler blue and a 20 haler red stamp, prominently featured a Bohemian Lion. These stamps were officially valid from 7 to 25 November 1918 but a few are known to have been used as early as 3 November (Figure 2).

Following closely on the heels of the Scout Stamps were the first Czechoslovakian revenue stamps. The first such stamps were either blue (1-80 haler values) or red (1-20 Kč values) and had the initials CR at the top and just underneath the word *KOLEK* – signifying duty or revenue stamp – in a curved banner. Below that is the stamp’s numeric value surrounded by horizontal lines and the words, *Československá Republika* in an oval with some ornamental chain link designs at the left and right edges. Another curved banner below this carried the currency unit. Centred below this was a double-tailed Bohemian Lion surrounded by the date 1919 and more chain link ornamentation. A set of nineteen of these revenue stamps were released in January 1919. However, a special Tobacco Supplement stamp was issued in December 1918 and was created by surcharging the 1 Kč stamp with a heavy black or blue figure 6 representing the 6 haler value – even though this denomination is not actually shown on the stamp. In 1925 this series was expanded to include a green 20 haler stamp and a red 180 haler stamp; on the latter the date was changed from 1919 to 1925 (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Early revenue stamps.

Next to appear were a set of three semi-postal stamps issued in 1919 (SG 61-63; POFIS 27-29). The 15 haler grey-green, 25 haler brown, and 50 haler dark blue stamps that make up this set depict the Bohemian Lion breaking its chains and commemorate the first anniversary of Czechoslovak independence. They were sold to benefit Legionnaires’ orphans. This same design in red on a 5 Kčs souvenir sheet was used in 1968 to commemorate the nation’s 50th anniversary (Figure 4).

The next cat stamp to be issued features another Lion of Bohemia. This 25 Kč blue and rose stamp was printed in 1919 for the Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia. The first shipment of stamps was damaged in transit and rendered useless. The remaining stamps were overprinted 1920 and this shipment was



Figure 4: Lion of Bohemia breaking its chains; charity stamps.

successful. However, limited use was made of these stamps as by then most of the troops were returning home (Figure 5). Later in 1920 a number of the stamps were again overprinted in dark green with values from 2-50 kopecks and 1 ruble (SG Czechoslovak Army in Siberia 7-17; POFIS PP6-15).

Finally in 1929 Czechoslovakia issued definitive postage stamps with cats on them. This was the Coat of Arms set issued between 1929 and 1937 (SG 287a-291; POFIS 248-253). The stamps have the word *ČESKOSLOVENSKO* at the top. At the bottom the numeric value is shown in the left and right corners with the denomination *HALÉŘŮ* in between. The bulk of the stamp's image consists of a coat of arms bordered on the left and right by linden leaves. The arms consist of a shield with four quarters, each containing the arms of one of the regions. Clockwise from the upper left are the arms of Slovakia, Carpatho-Ukraine, Silesia, and Moravia. Superimposed on the centre is the Bohemian Lion (Figure 6).



Figure 5: Czechoslovak Army In Siberia.



Figure 6: Coat of Arms.

The first Czechoslovak airmail stamps bearing cats were released on 16 December 1930. Two stamps, (SG 315-316; POFIS L13-L14) depict an aircraft over Prague. The upper left corner of the stamp has a shield with the Bohemian Lion and the arms of Slovakia on its chest. The 10 Kč value is violet blue and the 20 Kč is grey violet (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Airmail stamps.

The next "first" occurred on 24 October 1937 when SG number M377a/b (POFIS A329/330) was released. It is the first Czechoslovak souvenir sheet to depict a cat. It is another Lion of Bohemia with the Slovakian cross and Mt Kriváň on its chest and it appears in the top part of the souvenir sheet and is not actually in either of the two stamp images on the sheet. It was issued for the Bratislava Philatelic Exhibition (Figure 8). Some copies of this sheet were privately overprinted *Czecho-Slovak Participation New York World's Fair 1939 | Czecho-Slovak Pavilion* and sold to help finance Czechoslovak participation. Such overprints exist in various colours. It was also overprinted *Liberation de la Tchechoslovaquie | 28-X-1945* and sold at a philatelic exhibition in Brussels, Belgium.

On 15 July 1939 the Czechoslovak Coat of Arms stamps from 1929-1937 reappear overprinted in black *BÖHMEN u. MÄHREN | ČECHY a MORAVA* with three bars obliterating the name, *ČESKOSLOVENSKO*, at the top of the stamp. These five stamps were the lower values in a set of



Figure 8: 1937 Bratislava Souvenir Sheet.

nineteen stamps used in the German protectorate and are listed under SG Bohemia and Moravia numbers 1-5. POFIS lists them as Protektorát Čechy a Morava numbers 1-5 (Figure 9).



Figure 9: Bohemia & Moravia overprints.

In 1945 a set of seven Official Stamps were issued bearing an image of the Lion of Bohemia, again with the Slovakian cross and Mt Kriváň on its breast (SG O463-469; POFIS SL1-7) This design was redrawn and re-released (SG O490-497; POFIS SL8-15) in different values and colours in 1947 (Figure 10).

It was not until 25 September 1959 that we finally see the first non-heraldic cat on a Czechoslovak stamp. The 60 haler value shows a lynx in a set issued to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Tatra National Park (SG 1114; POFIS 1072). This seemed to break the ice and other wild cats followed. In 1962 a 1.40 Kčs carmine rose leopard (SG 1295; POFIS 1251); in 1966 another 60 haler lynx (SG 1614; POFIS 1569), and in 1967 (SG 1683; POFIS 1638), a 60 haler wildcat – *Felis sylvestris* (Figure 11).

It took nearly another ten years for the first domestic cat to appear on a Czechoslovak stamp. On 18 November 1968 a set of seven caricatures were issued to honour cultural personalities of the twentieth century and UNESCO. The 30 haler value (SG 1784; POFIS 1723) shows author Karel Čapek in his yard with a spade. He's evidently been planting flowers and perhaps working up a sweat judging by the red bandana in his left hand. His yard is graced with a pot of flowers, a watering can, a small white dog, and a black cat. The entire drawing is somewhat stylised and the cat is especially so, though at least it is clearly recognizable as a



Figure 10: Top: First Official stamps.
Bottom: Revised release.



Figure 11:
Lynx.



Figure 12:
First domestic cat.



Figure 13:
First realistic cat.

cat (Figure 12). All too often when collecting cat stamps one is left with some doubt as to whether the animal is a cat, a dog, or some other beast.

By this time cats of all sorts were appearing on Czechoslovak stamps. During the next seventeen years nearly 75 regular postage stamps would be issued with some form of cat on them. On 5 September 1985, a mere sixty-seven years after the creation of Czechoslovakia, the first Czechoslovak stamp was issued with a somewhat realistic depiction of a domestic cat. The 4 Kčs value, titled *Boy and Animals*, is by Erick Ingraham of the USA (SG 2798; POFIS 2712) and a member of a set of four children's book illustrations (Figure 13). A souvenir sheet of these four stamps was also issued.



Figure 14: Domestic Cats commemorative.

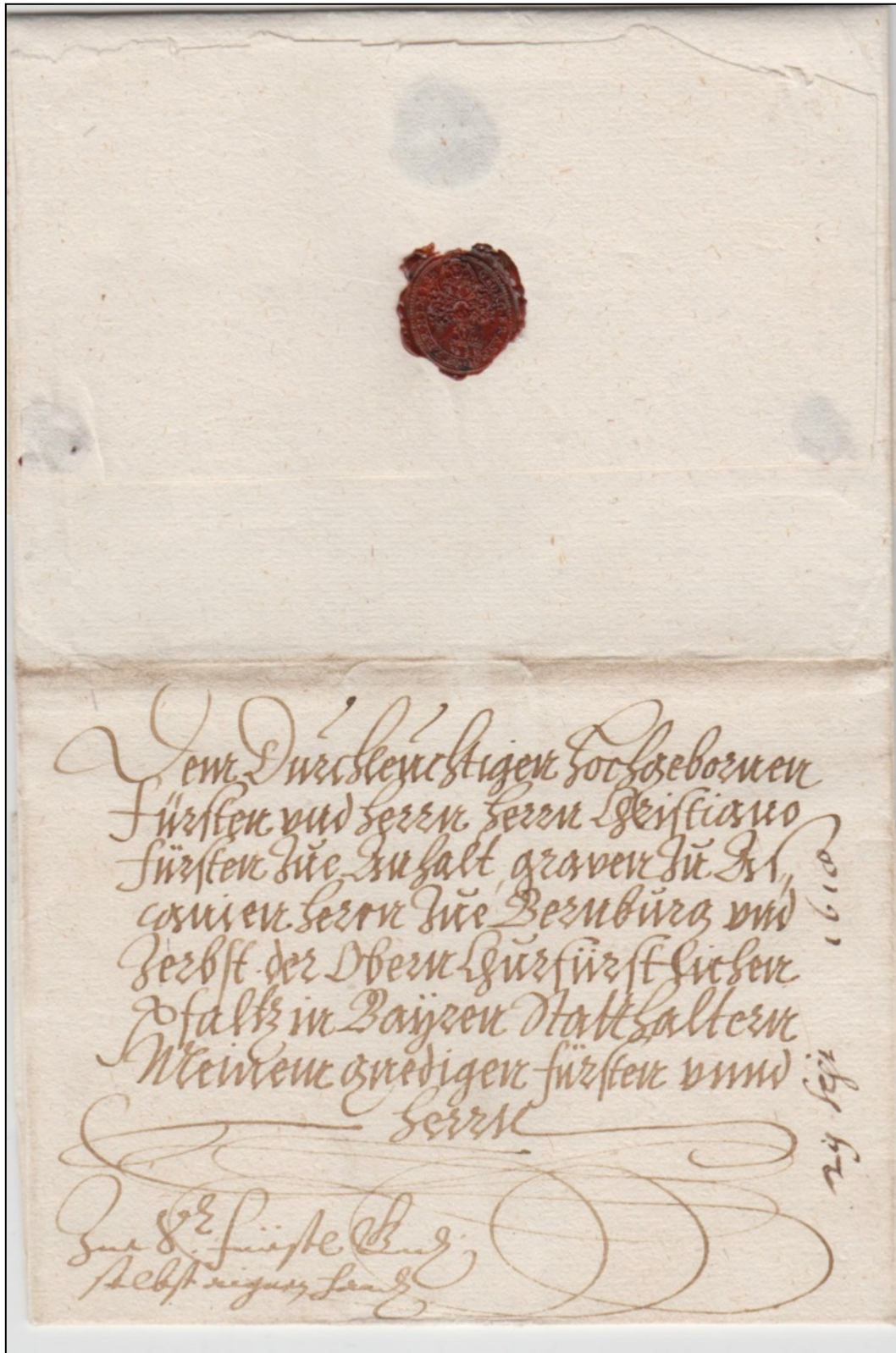
No list would be complete without mentioning the set of three stamps issued 17 February 1999 specifically to commemorate domestic cats! These stamps (SG 224-226; POFIS 205-207) show realistic-looking images of cats. The 4.60 Kč value has a cat washing its face, the 5 Kč value an adult cat (presumably the mother) with a kitten, and the 7 Kč value two adult cats (Figure 14).

Long as it is, this list of “firsts” has explored only a few of the many Czechoslovak cat stamps available. I have created a set of album pages for those Czechoslovak/Czech Republic cat stamps listed in the American *Scott* catalogue up to 2008. If anyone would like a free copy of the printable PDF file, please email me at Valerie@mydfz.com. Checklists of cat stamps from all countries may be obtained from the American Topical Association, americantopicalassn.org. You may also want to visit the website of the *Cats on Stamps Study Unit* at www.catsonstamps.org. Another site worthy of note is Patrick Roberts' *Feline Philately* pages at www.purr-n-fur.org.uk/philately.

From the Kingdom of Bohemia to the Czechoslovak Republic 1198-1920

Hartmut Liebermann

I offer here a brief preview of my upcoming presentation to the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain at its 13 September 2014 meeting at the Czech and Slovak National Club in London.



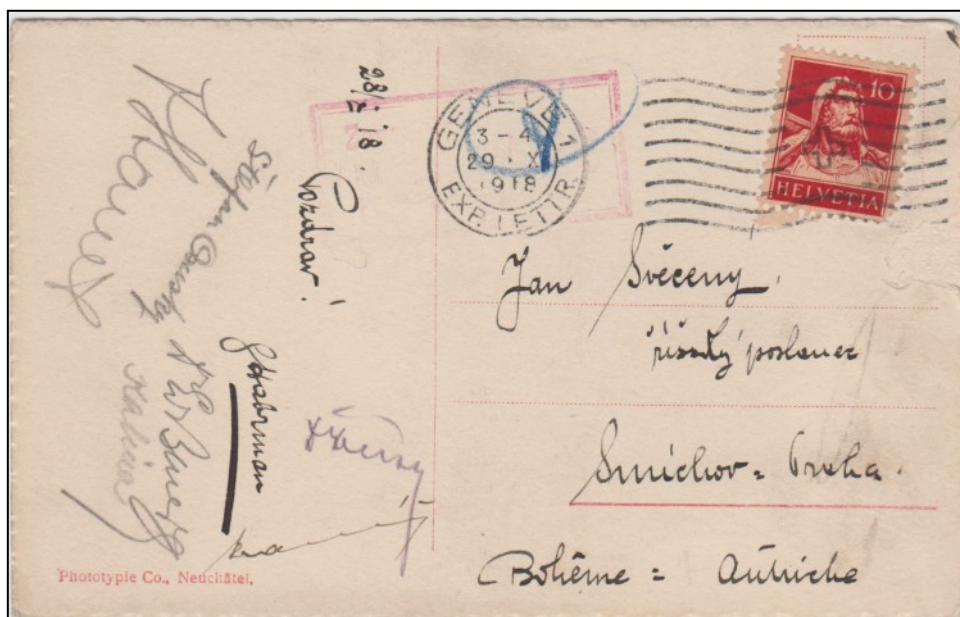
Document from the 30 Years War

Personal letter from Georg Erasmus, Baron of Tschernembl and protagonist of Protestantism in Austria, to prince Christian of Anhalt, governor of Upper Palatinate and one of the Protestant leaders during the battle of White Mountain in 1620. The letter is dated 2 October 1618 and is thus from the early phase of the Bohemian uprising.



Document from the Period of Rising Nationalism

Registered letter from Prague, sent 3 July 1861, to František Palacký, deputy of the Austrian House of Lords (Herrenhaus) in Vienna, date stamp of the K K Postamt im Herrenhaus. Palacký was one of the leaders of the Staročeši party and fought for the transformation of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy into a federal state.



Document from the Establishment of an Independent Czechoslovakia

Picture postcard, written 28 October 1918 (date of the Czechoslovak declaration of independence) by participants of the first meeting in Geneva between representatives of the provisional Czechoslovak government and the Czech domestic opposition, cancelled 29 October 1918 and sent to Jan Svečený in Prague. Svečený was a deputy of the Reichsrat in Vienna. The postcard has been signed by G Habrman, Edvard Beneš (first Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs, later President), Karel Kramář (first Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia), Štefan Osuský, Antonin Kalina, and František Staněk.

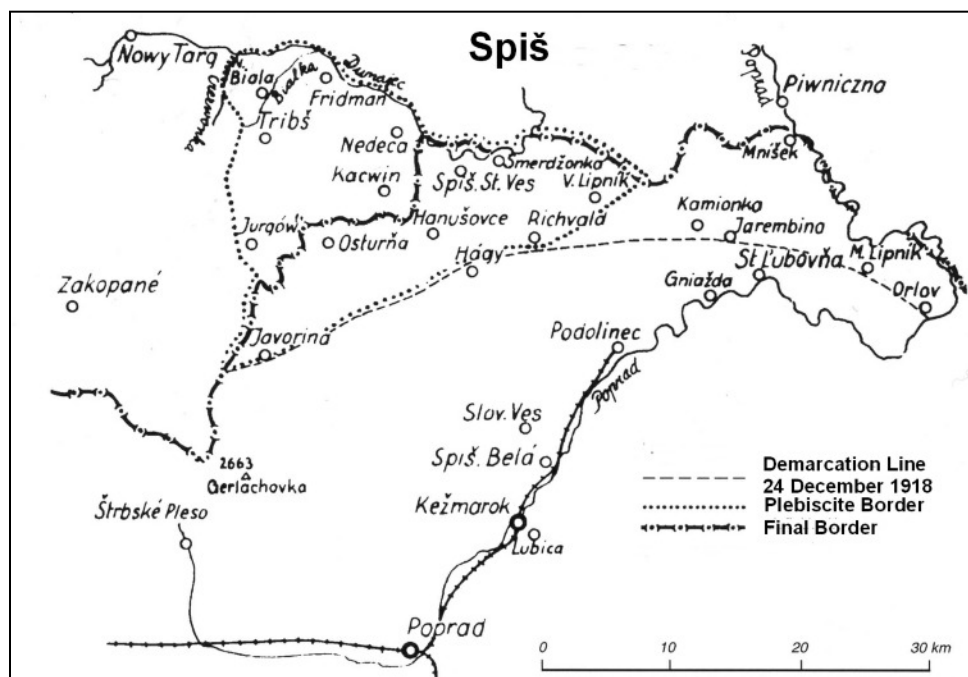
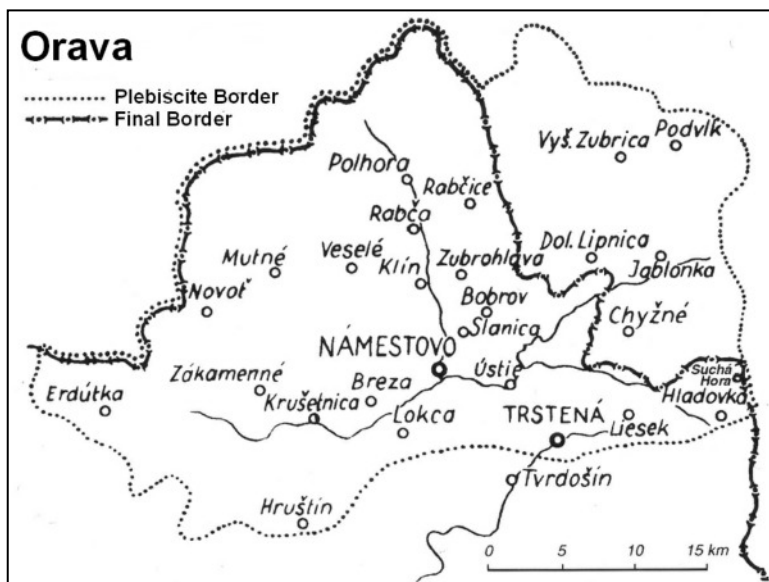
A Rare Backwater Johan Sevenhuijsen

It is a well known fact that after the end of World War One a large part of Hungary became the Slovak portion of the new nation of Czechoslovakia. Less well known is that a year later a few slivers of this former Hungarian land went to Poland. Two small border regions in Slovak area (Orava and Spiš) were included in the planned Eastern Silesia plebiscite. This referendum never took place, but the diplomats at the Peace Conference of Spa (Belgium) in July 1920 awarded 28 municipalities from these regions to Poland, including the places with post offices listed in the table below.

Orava Region

Spiš Region

Hungarian	Czech	Polish	Hungarian	Czech	Polish
Alsólipnicza	Dolná Lipnica	Lipnica Wielka	Frigyesvágása	Fridman	Frydman
Chizsne	Chyžné	Chyžne	Nedecz Szepes	Nedeca	Niedzica
Felsőzubricza	Vyšná Zubrica	Zubrzyca Dolne	Ujterebes	Tribš	Trybes
Jablonka	Jablonka	Jabłonka			
Podvilk	Podvlk	Podwilk			



So, all in all there are eight post offices that eventually went indirectly from Hungary to Poland. Finding cancels used in these offices can be a challenge. Here are four examples, two on Hungarian and two on Czechoslovak stamps:



Chizsne



Jablonka



Podvilk



Podvilk

Hungarian cancels on Czechoslovak and Hungarian stamps used in the Orava region.

Even more of a challenge is it to find a card or letter from these places. I was lucky enough to find a card that went between two of the three towns in the Spiš region in May 1919 during the short period both places belonged to Czechoslovakia:



Card from the Spiš region: Ujterebes 26 May 1919 to Nedecz Szepes cancelled 29 May 1919. Correct franking of 15 halér for the second tariff period 5/15/1919 to 3/15/1920.



Note date arrangement.



Both cancels from the card are extra-special in that they were nationalized for use in the Czechoslovak state. The typical Hungarian date order of *year | month | day* was altered to *day | month | year*. Moreover, in the Ujterebes cancel the space for the Hungarian *N* or *É* (for *day* or *night*) was left empty.

The Czechoslovak literature suggests that for all eight places the Hungarian cancel was replaced with a Czechoslovak cancel before the transfer of power to the Polish authorities. So, presumably, Hungarian cancels were never used on Polish stamps.

Children's Evacuation Camps in Bohemia & Moravia

Rex Dixon

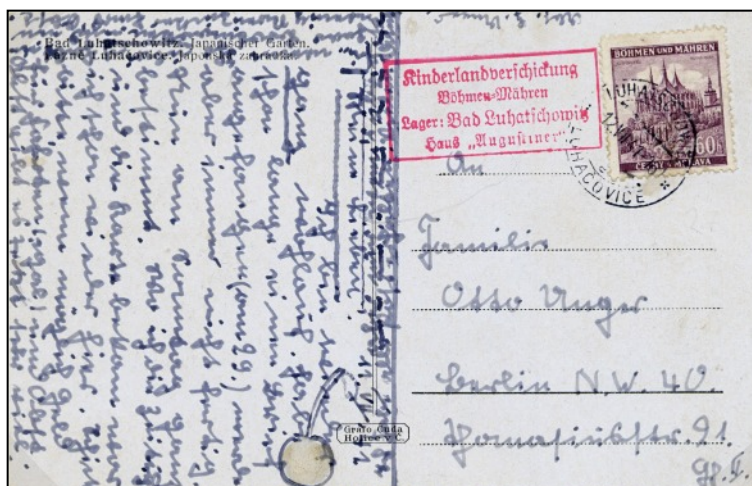
In September 1940 Germany decided to set up camps for children in areas that were safe from bombing by allied aircraft. According to the Hitler Youth press, the purpose of this measure was 'to protect young people from risks to their health that might arise from spending time in inadequate air-raid shelters because of frequent air-raid warnings, and also to ensure uninterrupted schooling and communal education.' With the start of the allied bombing of Germany in late 1940 the evacuation of children began from industrial areas.

Mothers with small children together with the student body of whole schools or classes, generally with their teachers, were evacuated from the cities to reception areas that became boarding institutions. Throughout the war several million children were moved to rural areas. The camps were initially located in Germany itself (including annexed Austria) but during the course of time they were introduced into Bohemia & Moravia, Slovakia, Hungary, the General Government (i.e. occupied Poland), Denmark, the Netherlands, and Bulgaria.

The camps were highly organised under trained leaders, often Hitler Youth leaders, with a full timetable of lessons, sports, and other activities. This *Kinderlandverschickung* (KLV, Despatch of Children to the Countryside) – the word *evacuation* was not to be used – in fact provided the regime with the chance to indoctrinate schoolchildren away from the influence of their parents. Although there was no censorship, mail was probably read by section leaders before despatch.

Mail from children or their leaders can only be distinguished from normal mail by the inclusion of the camp's name in the handwritten address or by the presence of a rubber cachet identifying the camp, normally in black, violet, or red. These cachets, exclusively in German, incorporated the phrase *KLV-Lager* (KLV camp) or the same in full, except for special establishments such as those for ill or convalescing children, which included *KLV-Krankenhaus* (KLV hospital) or similar.

KLV camps were allocated numeric codes in early 1943, each with a prefix identifying the area – the same system of areas as used by the Hitler Youth organisation – and these were incorporated into the cachets.

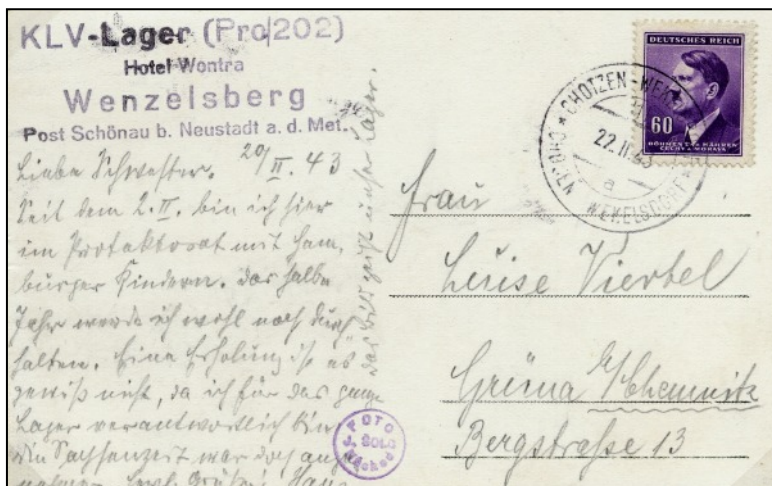


An early cachet for Haus Augustiner in Bad Luhatschowitz, a spa resort surrounded by forested hills which eventually hosted KLV camps in around 40 establishments, by far the most of any in the Protectorate. This design became standard throughout the resort.

In April 1942 the initial transport of children to Bohemia began: 1,000 schoolchildren were transferred from Berlin to Radoschowitz. By the end of the war there were almost 600 camps in the Protectorate, housed in hotels, pensions, and schools. The spa towns were particularly rich in suitable accommodation.

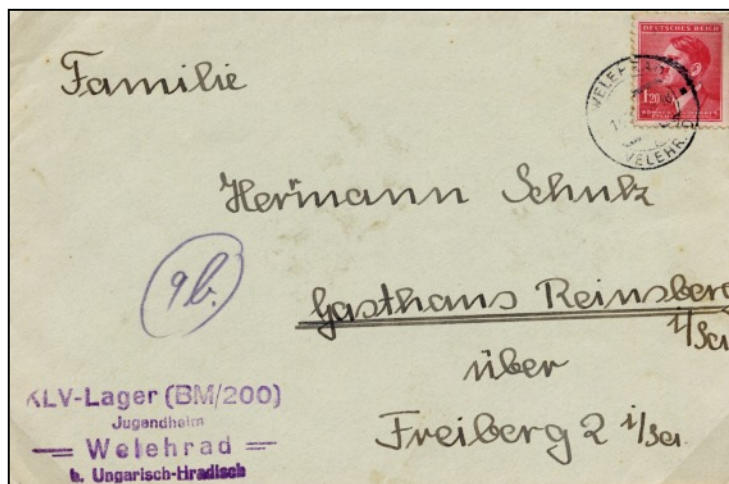
Initially there was no standard design for the cachets. They were made locally, which means that those for the various camps in a particular locality often display a degree of uniformity.

The prefix for KLV camps in the Protectorate was initially *Pro* (for *Protektorat*), later (in 1944?) *BM*. Cachets in a fairly standard four-line format were issued to replace the previous unnumbered cachets. Their format was specific to the Protectorate, indicating that the cachets were probably made centrally in Prague. The final group of cachets included *I/b*, the Postal Routing Number (*Postleitzahl*) allocated by the Reichspost to the Protectorate.



A standard-design cachet for KLV camp Pro/202, in Hotel Wontra in Wenzelsberg, reached by post via Schönau near Neustadt on the Mettau. The card has been postmarked on a TPO.

A standard-design cachet for KLV camp BM/200, in the Youth Home at Welehrad, near Ungarisch-Hradisch.



A new design of cachet introduced late in the war included the Postal Routing Number [11b]. This one is for KLV camp BM/550, in the High School at Chotieborsch in Bohemia.

Sources

- Hamann, Egbert, *Der Eilmachrichtendienst nach Luftangriffen im Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren* (Sammlergemeinschaft Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren, 1989). Part IV C concerns the KLV camps, with the first supplement (1990) containing an illustrated, but limited, list of camp cachets.
- Maylahn, Erich: *Dokumente und Berichte zur Erweiterten Kinderlandverschickung 1940-1945, Band 1: Auflistung der KLV-Lager* [Listing of KLV Camps] (Bochum/Freiburg: projekt verlag, 2004).

Three Parcels To or From Frývaldov

Richard Wheatley

At the end of World War Two all things were in short supply and it was very much a case of make do and mend. The postal service was no exception and the situation can be well illustrated by three parcels to or from Frývaldov.

The first item is not actually a parcel, but an envelope which had contained the money collected from a Cash on Delivery parcel. The parcel had been sent just after the Liberation and the money was posted from Javorník on 4 July 1945 and sent to the Post Office at Frývaldov. At the Javorník post office they had scumbled around for a suitable envelope to send the money in and the only one available was a prewar, bilingual, Czech PO envelope intended for transmitting banknotes (*Figure 1*). In this instance, just the amount in cash – 15 Kč 84 haler – has been entered on the front of the envelope.

The registration label is another pre-war relic, with the German spelling of the town crossed out and the envelope cancelled with a ‘dumb’ circular date stamp: 4 VII 45. When it was received, the post office applied to the reverse the temporary rubber straight line *FRYVALDOV* and 6 VII 1945. As this was on official post office business it had been sent free of postage.

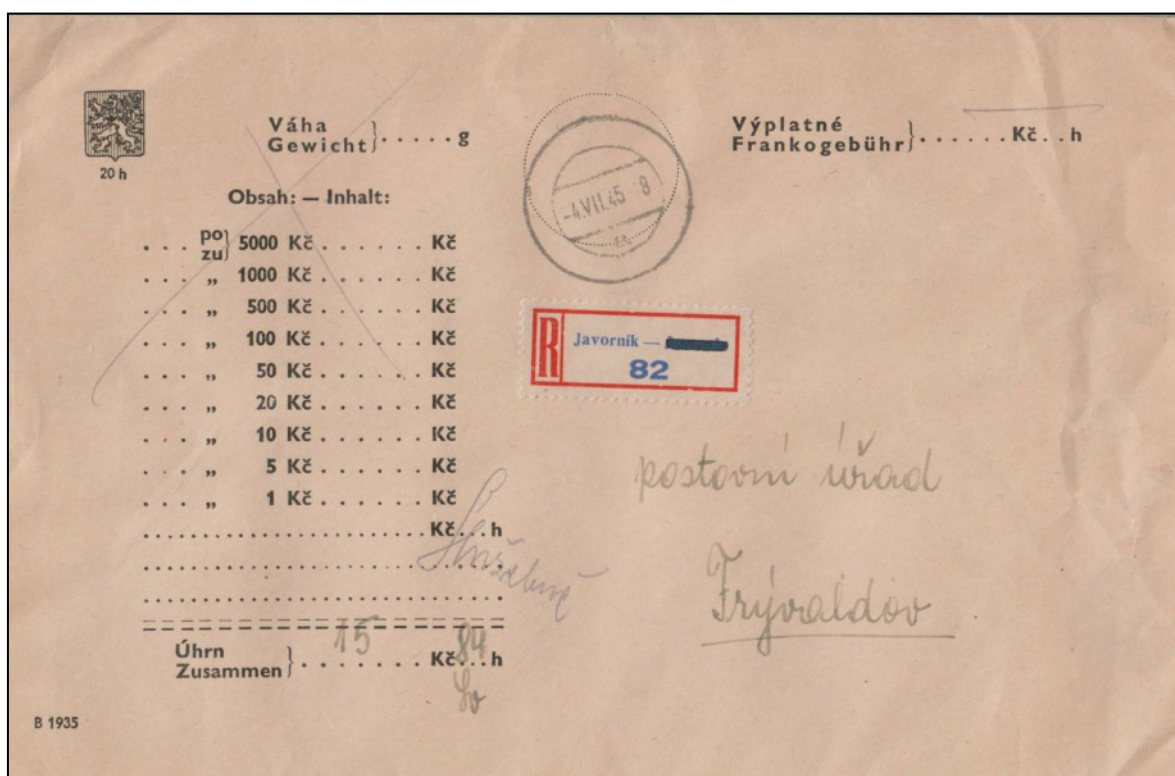


Figure 1: Pre-war banknote envelope used to send COD funds.

The position was not much better at the post office of Ústí nad Labem in the Sudetenland. However, for a parcel from a wholesale pharmaceutical company to a dispensing chemist in Frývaldov they used a parcel card issued in 1945 which had printed at the top *Československá Republika*, but that name has been covered up by a blank label (*Figure 2*).

This label received a temporary straight line town mark in violet, *ÚSTÍ N/L 2*, on the parcel identification label with number 858 inserted by hand. A rather special large circular date stamp has been made to cancel the stamps, again in purple: *ÚSTÍ n. L | 29.XI.1945 | 2*. The rate for parcels was still that of the Protectorate period which continued for only one more day after this parcel had been posted!

Rate as follows:

Parcel 5.20 kg, over 75 km	8.00 Kč
Delivery to address	0.50 Kč
Parcel card tax	1.00 Kč
Total paid in stamps	9.50 Kč



Figure 2: Temporary date stamp for Ústí nad Labem, 29 XI 45.



By June 1946 the supply situation should have improved, but there was still the need to make do. Here we see a COD parcel card used which was printed during the Protectorate period (Figure 3). The German spelling of the despatch town has been removed from the Prostějov circular date stamp and from the black numbered parcel label. The blue label with the letter P for *Pytlík* (bag) indicates to the postman that this is a small parcel and as such was inside a mail bag. The postage of 21 Kč has been made up as follows:

Parcel 400 g, 50 to 150 km	10 Kč
COD charge (<i>Dobírka</i>) 956 Kč, in the 500 to 1,000 Kč band	10 Kč
Parcel card tax	1 Kč
Total paid in stamps	21 Kč

Figure 3: Late use Protectorate period parcel card, 1 VI 46.

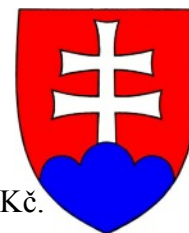
Printing Techniques

RD: rotary die stamping with multi-colour photogravure.
DS: die stamping from flat plates.



Czech NVI Stamps with Current Rates

A: ordinary internal letter to 50 g – 13 Kč.
E: ordinary standard letter to 20 g to European countries – 25 Kč.
Z: ordinary standard air letter to 20 g to non-European countries – 30 Kč.



New Issues – Czech Republic

Lindy Bosworth

28 March 2014

Personalities: Bohumil Hrabal



Designer: Marina Richterová. **Engraver:** (FDC only) Miloš Ondráček.

Printing: rotary recess in black with photogravure in sheets of 50.

Design: a portrait of Bohumil Hrabal with a thin string tethered to a soaring lark above. **FDC:** printed DS in black-grey with commemorative Brno cancel. The cachet drawing has a boy in a sailor suit holding a string which is symbolically connected to the stamp and the soaring lark. This refers to one of Hrabal's works *Skřivánci na niti* (Larks on a String) with the opening words reproduced on the cachet beside the boy.

Bohumil Hrabal was born in Brno 28 March 1918. His father was an Austrian Army officer who never acknowledged his child. His mother later married and he took his step-father's surname, Hrabal. After completing his secondary school studies, which he found difficult, he took a Latin course for a year and then entered the Faculty of Law at Charles University in Prague. He did not complete his studies until 1946 as all secondary and higher education facilities were closed by the Nazis during the war.

Hrabal worked as a railway labourer during the war, after the war as an insurance agent, then a travelling salesman, and from 1949 to 1952 as a labourer in the Kladno Steelworks. After a serious injury he was employed as a paper packer in a Prague recycling mill until 1959 and then for three years as a stage hand at the SK Neumann Theatre – now Divadlo pod Palmovkou.

All these varied experiences were reflected in his satirical writings. He began writing lyrical poetry as early as 1949 but did not become a professional writer until 1963. As the authorities banned his works much was published in *samizdat* periodicals and by underground publishers. Although he was a member of the Union of Writers from 1965 and worked on the editorial board of *Literární novy* (Literary News) he was banned from publishing from 1970. His collected works were published in 19 volumes in 1997 by a Prague printing house, and many of his works were also published abroad in at least 27 languages. He received numerous foreign literary awards and several books were screen successes. He is regarded as one of the greatest and most original Czech writers of the late twentieth century. He died in Prague on 3 February 1997 after falling from the fifth floor window of an orthopaedic clinic whilst trying to feed pigeons.

28 March 2014

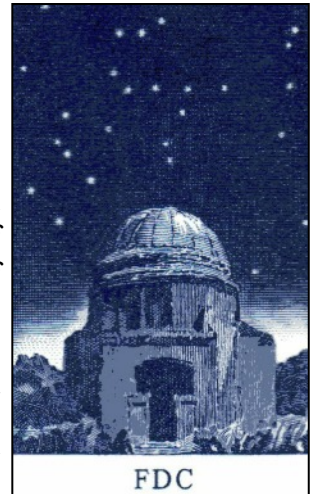
Personalities: Prof Zdeněk Kopal RN Dr



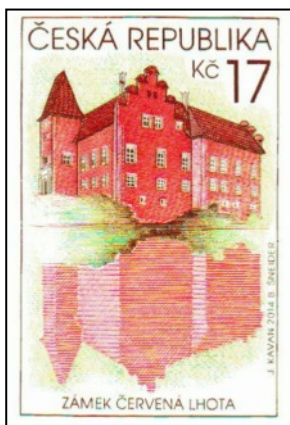
Designer: Vladimír Suchánek. **Engraver:** Jaroslava Tvrdoň.

Printing: multi-coloured off set in sheets of 50. **Design:** portrait of Prof Zdeněk Kopal against a night sky with planets. **FDC:** printed DS in dark blue with commemorative Litomyšl cancel. The cachet drawing depicts an observatory against a starry night sky.

Dr Zdeněk Kopal was born in Litomyšl on 4 April 1914 but the family moved to Prague in 1929. He immediately joined the Czech Astronomical Society to begin studying variable stars at the Štefánik Observatory and had several articles published in international scientific journals whilst still at secondary school. Although his parents wanted him to become a lawyer or doctor, he studied mathematics, physics, and astronomy at the Natural Sciences Faculty of Charles University in Prague (1933-1937), and then earned a scholarship for further studies at Cambridge. He left for England in 1938 and afterwards took a research trip to the Harvard Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts. During the voyage the news came of the Munich Agreement so he decided to remain in USA working on the light curves of binary stars. After the war he became head of the Astronomy Department of Manchester University. From the founding of the journal *Astrophysics and Space Science* in 1968 until his death he was the Editor-in-Chief. He was an external advisor during the NASA Apollo space programme. During his lifetime he was given many international awards and academic honours. He died in Wilmslow, Cheshire on 23 June 1993 and was buried in Vyšehrad, Prague. His scholarly works were bequeathed to the city archives, Litomyšl. Asteroid 2628 Kopal has been named in his honour.



26 March 2014 Beauties of our Country: The Červená Lhota Chateau



Designer: Jan Kavan. **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider. **Printing:** DS in sheets of 8. **Design:** a view of the chateau and its reflection in the lake. **FDC:** printed DS in red-brown with a commemorative Červená Lhota cancel. The cachet drawing is a decorative detail of the façade.

This is one of the finest water chateaus in Czech Republic and dates from the fourteenth century. It is located on a rock which became an island in a lake after the damming of the valley. Originally reached by a wooden bridge, this was later replaced by a stone bridge linked to the access road. The chateau is an enclosed four-winged building around a central square courtyard. Over the centuries it has had many owners with the last family, Schönbergs, interned in the crypt of the former chateau chapel in the surrounding park. The Gothic fortress was rebuilt in the Baroque style during the seventeenth century and it is from this period that it became known as Červená (*red*) Lhota from the red brick walls and red roof. The composer Karl Ditters von Dittersdorf died here in 1799. During the late twentieth century renovations in Neo-Gothic and Neo-Renaissance style were made. The chateau was confiscated in 1945 from the German family.

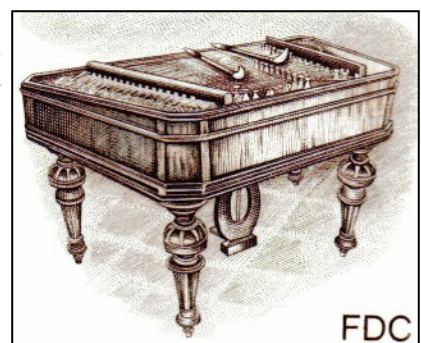


30 April 2014 Europa – National Musical Instruments – Chodsko Bagpipes



Designer: Vlasta Matoušová. **Engraver:** Václav Fajt. **Printing:** rotary recess in black combined with photogravure in sheets of 6. **Design:** a Chodsko bagpipe. **FDC:** printed DS in brown-red with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing is a *cimbalo* – a shallow closed box with strung wires struck by small hand held hammers – a type of dulcimer.

The bagpipe is one of the most ancient instruments still in use today. It is shown in Hittite carvings dated 1000 BC. At that time they were simple wind instruments used by herdsman but their use





gradually spread from the Middle East. By the Middle Ages there were references to the bagpipe in the literature of all European countries.

The bagpipe is a reed pipe wind instrument with a reservoir of air in a bag. The range of notes is usually limited. The wind bag is filled either by the mouth of the player or from a small bellows held under the arm. The Chodsko bagpipe is the bellows variety and produces eight notes, but there may be one or more rear pipes (*huk* or

bordun) which produce a continuous drone one or two octaves below the front pipe (*přednička*). There is a biennial International Bagpipe Festival held in Strakonice.

30 April 2014 200 Years of Musicology: Opava 1814 – The Silesian Land Museum



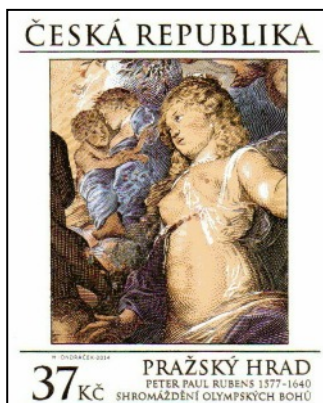
Designer: Eva Hašková. **Engraver:** Martin Srb. **Printing:** rotary recess in black with photogravure in sheets of 50. **Design:** the facade of the historical exhibition building of the Silesian Museum in Opava with the figure of Genius which decorates the dome in the foreground. **FDC:** printed DS in black with a commemorative Opava cancel. The cachet drawing shows the church of St Adalbert with cloisters.



The Silesian Land Museum is the oldest public museum in the Czech Republic and the third largest. Opava (formerly Troppau) dates back to the twelfth century and lay on an important trade route – the Amber Route – linking the Baltic countries with Vienna and Italy. It became the capital of Austrian (and later Czech) Silesia. The Silesian Diet met in the Jesuit Seminary from the sixteenth century. There were several good secondary schools in the town and it was the former Jesuit College in the Lower Town Square that became the Museum. The objectives of the museum were to collect and display the nature and culture of Austrian Silesia for the benefit of young students, natural scientists, economists, and artists. The Museum was destroyed during World War Two but has been rebuilt to reflect the evolution, natural features, and traditions of Silesia.



28 May 2014 Prague Castle – Peter Paul Rubens' *Assembly of the Olympian Gods*



Designer and Engraver: Miloš Ondráček. **Printing:** WAITE – a commemorative sheet of two stamps and art work. **Design:** stamps – a detail from Rubens' *Assembly of the Olympian Gods*. The upper part of the sheet depicts the whole work. **FDC:** printed Waite in black brown with a commemorative Praha cancel.

Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) was a Flemish master painter of the Baroque era. He was born in Siegen, Westphalia, after his parents were forced to settle there for five years after leaving Antwerp. When his father died in 1587, he returned to Antwerp with his mother in 1589 and converted to the Catholic faith. In 1600 he went to Italy where he



worked as a court painter for Duke Vincenzo Gonzaga of Mantua. During this period he travelled to Venice, Rome, and Genoa studying classical art and visiting other artists. Titian was an important influence from this time. On learning of his mother's illness he travelled back to Antwerp but she had already died. He remained in Antwerp, married his first wife and undertook many religious commissions. Rubens travelled extensively to France, Spain, and England during his life not only for art commissions but as a diplomat. For his diplomatic work he received knighthoods from the Spanish and English kings. He established a workshop in Antwerp



with many apprentices and students, some of whom became famous later. He is buried in the Church of St James, Antwerp.

The work *Assembly of the Olympian Gods* (1602) is an early work and probably depicts a dispute between Venus and Juno. From its large dimensions and elongated shape it is possible that it was placed on a ceiling in Prague Castle where it survived the looting of the Swedish Army in 1648.

28 May 2014 Technical Monuments: The Paper Mill in Velké Losiny



Designer: Adolf Absolon. **Engraver:** Martin Srb. **Printing:** WIFAG in sheets of 30. **Booklets** of 8 stamps and 4 labels (two different designs). The cover shows the *Hollander*, a new technical innovation, purchased in 1729 for the preparation of pulp from flax and cotton. The back cover gives details of the mill. **Design:** The Paper Mill in Velké Losiny. The labels feature: a) the gate and gateway to the mill; b) the stream's raceway when the mill was powered by water. **FDC:** printed

WAITE in brown-black with a commemorative Velké Losiny cancel. The cachet shows a hand press.

11 June 2014 Historical Vehicles: Automobile Z4 and Steamboat Franz Josef I



Designers: Václav Zapadlík (automobile) and Pavel Sivko (steamboat). **Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň (FDC only). **Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50 (25 *se-tenant* pairs). **Design:**

a) the automobile model Z4 by Zbrojovka in Brno; b) the paddle steamboat *Franz Josef I*. **FDCs:** printed Waite in black with commemorative: a) Brno; and b)



Praha cancels. The cachet drawings depict: a) a Z4 automobile with the administrative building of the Zbrojovka Brno Arms Factory in the background; b) a detail of the paddle steamer *Franz Josef I*. **Maximum cards** were issued for each stamp.

The Z4 automobile was first introduced in April 1933 at the Prague Motor Show. With its front wheel drive it soon became a popular model but it also had racing success. In 1934 it was the winner of the 1000 mile Prague-Brno-Bratislava race with an average speed of 92 kph. There was a Z Club for owners of these automobiles in Prague. One of the members – Vlasta Burian – formed a collection which has survived until the present. The subject of this stamp was taken from that collection. The convertible Z4 shown on the stamp was made in 1936 and has a wooden frame and floor. The two-stroke water-cooled four-cylinder engine had a maximum speed of 100 kph.



The passenger steamboat *Franz Josef I* was the largest of the six paddle steamers built in Prague and was owned by the Prague Steamboat Company (PPS). During the 1880s there was an increase in passengers using the Prague-Zbraslav-Štěchovice line. A Prague company won the competition held for the building of a new paddle steamer. It delivered the steamboat, which could carry some 800 passengers, at a cost of 55,000 gulden. The vessel had to have a shallow draft and could not be



too long because of the turning basin of the Vltava River in Prague, so the 120 hp horizontal steam engine was more powerful than in previous vessels. The interior lounges were richly furnished and there was a small upper deck in the space between the paddle wheels. After 1918 she changed her name to *Zbraslav* and in 1929 she was re-named *Praha*.

Postal Stationery Commemorative Postcards

30 April 2014 Railway Post

Designer: Jiří Bouda. **Printing:** full coloured offset. **Design:** imprinted 'A' stamp shows a postal railway carriage. To the left is the logo of the Czech post and a security hologram. The left portion of the card shows a moving vintage train and a railway post carriage. The postcard commemorates a cycle of Postal Museum exhibits for the Great War 1914-1918 and Railway Post. On 27 June 2014 a vintage train with the saloon carriage of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria-Este, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, left Prague-Dejvice station to mark the occasion and arrived at the Brno main rail station on 28 June, where the assassination of the heir and his wife Sophie was reenacted. A special cancel was available for mail carried on the train.

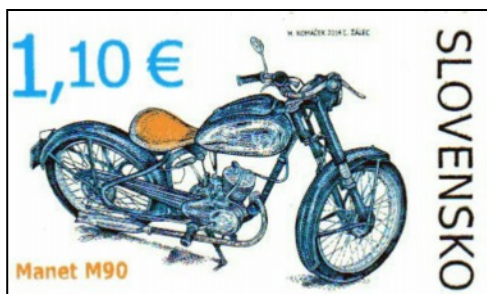


11 June 2014 Motorcycle Post

Designer: Václav Zapadlík. **Printing:** full colour offset. **Design:** imprinted 'A' stamp shows a postal motorcycle and rider. To the left is the logo of the Czech Post and a security hologram. The first line for the address is the continuous microprint *Czech Post, PTC, 2014*. The left portion of the card depicts a postal motorcycle produced by Laurin and Klement with uniformed post rider as does the imprinted stamp. The postcard commemorates the exhibition *Single Track Post* held at the Postal Museum in Vyšší Brod 21 June to 14 September 2014. On 5 September a vintage postal motorcycle carrying mail will travel from the Museum to the Exhibition Grounds in Prague-Letňany. The mail will be cancelled with the Museum's date stamp and the special cachet *Transported by the Vyšší Brod-Prague Motorcycle Post*, and then on arrival at Letňany will receive an incoming cancel.

New Issues – Slovak Republic Lindy Bosworth

17 April 2014 Technical Monuments: Historic Motorcycles – *Manet 90*.



Designer: Marián Komáček. **Engraver:** Ľubomír Žálek. **Printing:** rotary recess. **Design:** a 1947 *Manet 90* motorcycle. **FDC:** printed DS in blue by Post Printing House, Prague with a commemorative Povážská Bystrica cancel. The cachet drawing is a view from above of the front steering bar in various positions.

In 1936 car production at Zbrojovka (Brno) ceased and the company considered producing a small motorised bicycle. In 1939 Josef Ullman completed his first prototype - the Z2 – a small motorcycle. The Occupation halted further work although Ullman secretly carried on with the project. In 1946 ten prototypes successfully passed tests and the following year mass production began at Povážská Bystrica. The *Manet 90* was named after *Manín* hill and was the first post war motorcycle and the first mass produced motor vehicle in Slovakia. It had a simple but attractive design: a three stage gearbox, double piston single engine, and front wheel telescopic fork. The machine could carry 80 kg with a maximum speed of 65 kph. In total 37,630 machines had been made by the time production ceased in 1951. They have since become sought after by collectors.

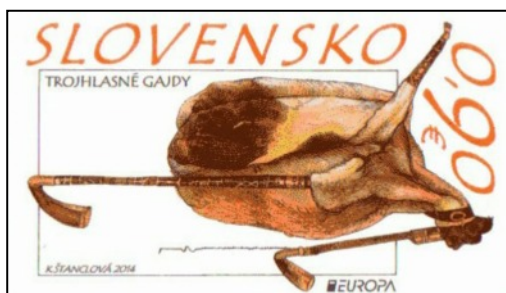
17 April 2014 Technical Monuments: Historic Motorcycles – *Jawa 50/550 Pionier*



Designer: Robert Makar **Engraver:** Ľubomír Žálek. **Printing:** rotary recess. **Design:** a Jawa 50/550 *Pionier* model. **FDC:** printed DS in red-brown by Post Printing House, Prague with a commemorative Povážská Bystrica cancel. The cachet is a detailed drawing of the engine and kick-start mechanism.

The Jawa Motokov motorcycle company was founded in Prague in 1929 by František Janaček who purchased the German motorcycle division *Wanderer*. He named the company *Jawa* after the first two letters of his name and the first two letters of *Wanderer*. The *Wanderer*, a 500 cc motorcycle, had ceased production in 1929. The early company was successful in producing motorcycles. Smaller motorcycles were required after World War Two and in 1947 the technical director and design engineer from Jawa, together with a motorcycle rider, started this project. The plans lay in a drawer for some years until the project was revived in the early 1950s. The first prototype - called 359 – was produced in 1954. Production was moved to the plant at Povážská Bystrica where mass production began in April 1955 of the Jawa 50/550 *Pionier*. It had a two-stroke air-cooled flat engine, could carry 130 kg, a maximum speed of 45 kph, and had an open frame for the comfort of female riders in skirts. It was affectionately known as *Pařez* (the stump). The model was very successful with further updated models produced until the early 1980s.

5 May 2014 Europa 2014: National Musical Instruments



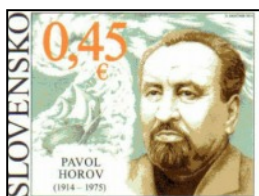
Designer: Kamila Štančlová. **Engraver:** František Horniak. (FDC only). **Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster in sheets of eight. **Design:** a three drone bagpipe. **FDC:** printed Waite in brown with a commemorative Dolná Krupá cancel. The cachet drawing depicts a craftsman whittling the mouth piece of a bagpipe. **Booklets:** booklets of six self adhesive stamps were issued. The back cover gives details of the Slovak Post against a wood-grained background. The front cover shows an ornamental detail of the head of a bourdon pipe.

In Slovakia bagpipes are a typical musical instrument of shepherds and most popular in Orava, Pohronie, and Gemer regions. The three drone bellows bagpipe is the most popular variety but four or five drone instruments are known in the Orava region. The air supply to the pipes is stored in a bag of animal skin tied to the upper arm with the air supply to the pipes regulated by pressure from the elbow.



FDC

23 May 2014 Personalities: Pavol Horov



Designer: Dušan Grečner. **Engraver:** Jozef Česla (FDC only). **Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster. **Design:** portrait of Pavol Horov with birth and death dates. **FDC:** printed Waite in blue-green with a commemorative Michalovce cancel. The cachet is a drawing of a bird of prey with smaller creatures in a flat landscape.

Pavol Horov (1914-1975) was a poet and author. His poems were inspired by Symbolism, Poetism, and Surrealism with the key motif of many of his works as his homeland around the Zemplin area and the plains of East Slovakia. His work is divided into three periods: the first being defined by the 1940s with the horrors of war and human suffering; the second or sunny period when his collections were given titles such as *The Sun Above Us* and *High Summer Sky*; and the final period when he was inspired by a journey to Italy to write books on self-reflection and evaluation of life. His writing is characterized by the use of the Eastern Slovak dialect as well as antique and biblical expressions.

2 June 2014 In Memory of the Victims of World War One



Designer: Peter Augustovič. **Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster. **Design:** The Art Nouveau memorial at Regietów in Poland. **FDC:** printed offset by Kasico, a. s., Bratislava, in black with a commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design is the memorial at Przełęcz Malastowska in Poland designed by Jurkovič.

World War One was the first great war of the industrial age and was fought on three continents, in the Mediterranean, and on the oceans. The war not only involved armies, navies, and for the first time forces in the air, but also civilian populations. It is estimated that about 10 million soldiers and 7 million civilians died in the war. From Slovak territory some 400,000 soldiers were enlisted and almost 70,000 were killed. During the war the Austro-Hungarian authorities designed memorials for battlefields and the fallen. One of the architects was the Slovak Dušan Jurkovič (1886-1947). He was mobilised and became a member of a War Graves Unit, designing about 35 war cemeteries near Nowy Żmigród in Galicia and others in the Carpathians. He combined folk art with the modern Art Nouveau style in his designs. After the war he returned to Czechoslovakia as a practising architect. He designed the mausoleum of General Milan Štefánik at Bradlom. One of his creations is shown on the stamp: the Rotunda at Regietów in Poland.

6 June 1914 Stamp with a Personalised Coupon: Medicinal Plants



Designer: Katarina Macurová. **Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster in sheets of eight stamps and labels. The size of sheet can vary according to the customers' requirements. **Design:** a dandelion flower with a ladybird against a mottled blue background and legend: T2 50g (NVI indicator to pay basic inland postage). **FDC:** printed offset by Kasico, a. s., Bratislava, with a commemorative Bratislava cancel. The multi-coloured cachet shows a

dandelion flower with a ladybird in flight.

Slovakia's first stamps with coupons were issued on 4 July 2002. The motif on the label can be any subject which is not against legal, ethical, or moral standards.

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All officers and Committee members serve the Society voluntarily and without compensation.

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1893-2013



Founder Colonel
Josef Cifka
1867-1948



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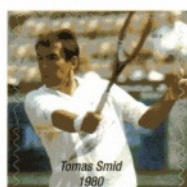
Radek Stepanek
2012
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



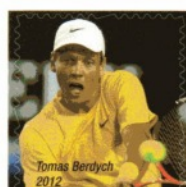
Ivan Lendl
1967
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Jiri Javorak
1967
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



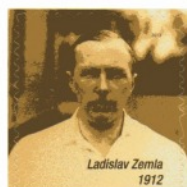
Tomas Smid
1980
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Tomas Berdych
2012
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Helena Sukova
1986
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Ladislav Zemla
1912
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Martina Navratilova
1985
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Karel Kozeluh
1925
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Hana Mandlikova
1987
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Renata Tomanova
1976
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Jan Kodes
1973
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Janslav Drobny
1984
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Ivan Lendl
1965
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Janslav Drobny
1952
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Miloslav Mecir
1988
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Roderich Manzel
1938
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Hana Mandlikova
1985
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Jan Kozeluh
1926
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Jiri Korda
1983
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Jan Kodes
1975
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Petra Kvitova
2011
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Vera Sukova
1962
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Jana Novotna
1999
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



Martina Navratilova
1986
A ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA



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