



CZECHOUT

JOURNAL OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Volume 38:2

June 2020

Whole Number 179



The United Nations, 75 Years. See pages 23 and 26.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

CPSGB REGIONAL SUMMER MEETING – CANCELLED

The *CPSGB* Summer Meeting, which had been kindly and meticulously arranged by **Yvonne Gren** and scheduled for Saturday 27 June 2020 in the John Porter Room of the Southwick Community Centre, has been regrettably cancelled. Members who had been disposed to attend may contemplate the virtues of the Joint Specialist Societies Meeting, only six weeks later. See the announcement, *below*.

THE JOINT SPECIALIST SOCIETIES MEETING for 2020 (with a caveat)

The Joint Meeting of *CPSGB* with the [Austrian](#), [Hungarian](#), [Polish](#) and [Yugoslav](#) societies is still *planned* for Saturday **8 August** 2020 at a new venue, the Brown Cow pub, Selby Road, Whitkirk, Leeds, LS15 7AY (www.emberinns.co.uk/nationalsearch/yorkshireandthehumber/the-brown-cow-whitkirk#). Only a few steps away is a Premier Inn (www.premierinn.com/gb/en/hotels/england/west-yorkshire/leeds/leeds-east.html; tel 08715 278586) if attendees wish to stay overnight. Bring your sheets—for display! The Joint Specialist Societies Meeting is an all-day affair and advance booking is essential to arrange the catering efficiently. Please write to **Yvonne Wheatley**, treasurer@cpsgb.org, for complete details, registration and *especially updates*.

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

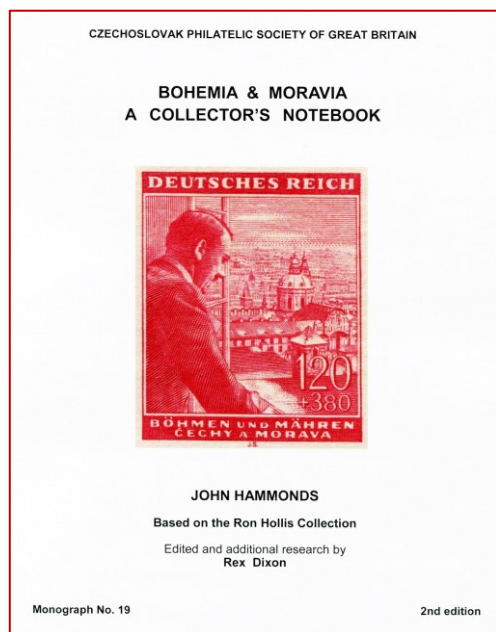
The 2020 AGM is scheduled to be held from 11.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. on Saturday **7 November** at the [Kings Head](#), 13 Westmoreland Street, Marylebone London W1G 8PJ. The agenda includes, among other matters, the awarding of the Kay Goodman trophy and an afternoon display by **Rex Dixon** FRPSL on ‘The Hultschin Area’. More details will be supplied in the next issue of *Czechout* (September, No. 180). The [Stuart Rossiter](#) lecture will be delivered on Thursday 5 November 2020 at the Royal Philatelic Society London (*RPSL*). Anyone wishing to attend both may possibly enjoy an extended philatelic stay in London. With masks, likely.

LONDON 2022 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

The [London 2020](#) International Exhibition is now scheduled to be held **19–26 February** 2022. The venue remains the [Business Design Centre](#), 52 Upper Street, London, Islington N1 0QH. For members who enjoy planning ahead, insert the following dates in (or on) your 2022 calendar. The *CPSGB* table will be organised and manned (volunteers very welcome!) on Wednesday 23 February; the *CPSGB* meeting is scheduled for 10.00 to 11.50 a.m. on the final day of the exhibition, Saturday 26 February 2022. We hope, no more masks.



New Edition of Monograph No. 19, *Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook*



CPSGB Monograph No. 19, 2nd edition, is now available: *Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook*, by **John Hammonds**, edited and additional research by **Rex Dixon**, based on the **Ron Hollis** Collection. The main trigger for a new edition is that Rex Dixon has recorded many more cachets for KLV camps since the first edition was published in 2009. **Gerhard Hanacek** updated the information on Theresienstadt and supplied new images; Petr Gebauer suggested further updates. Typographical improvements and corrections have been made. As in the 1st edition, there are 19 chapters on separate topics, with detailed tabulations including lists of Dienstpost offices and suboffices, railway TPOs, KLV camps and the ‘V’ for Victory campaign. Postmarks and souvenirs for the centenary of the Penny Black. Detailed listings of postage rates. Bilingual list (Czech/German) of all post offices. Illustrated, some colour. Better paper quality. A4, pp. v+78, 430 gm, price £12 + p&p. To order a copy, write to our [Publications Officer](#) Rex Dixon. For those who already possess the 1st edition, the entire new Chapter 11 on KLV camps (six pages, pp. 26–31) is available to read, print or download [here](#). Other than that, simply request a

copy from the Editor (editor@cpsgb.org) or Rex Dixon. The first two pages of the new chapter were reproduced in the March *Czechout* (No. 178), 1/2020, pp. 11–12. (A list of *CPSGB* Monographs is [here](#).)

The Closing Date for the September 2020 Issue (38:3, No. 180) is August 10.

CZECHOUT

Journal of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain

ISSN 0142-3525

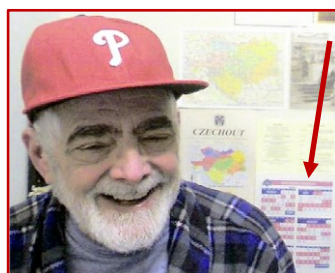
Volume 38:2

June 2020

Whole No. 179

CONTENTS

Upcoming Meetings	2
News and Notices	2, 4, 5, 6
Report on the February 2020 Meeting from Bob McLeod and Yvonne Wheatley	7
Original Research 'Polish Annexation of Teschen Silesia, 1938–1939: Zaolzie' by Rex Dixon	9
Original Research 'Hradčany Perforations' by Johan Sevenhuijsen	11
Original Research 'Appendix: Earliest Found Cancels' by Johan Sevenhuijsen	15
Original Research 'Cancelled Czech: The Re-Germanisation of Six Town Cancellers in Inter-War Czechoslovakia — Postscript' by Robert Lauer	16
Original Research 'Liberation Stamps and Their Usage' by Richard Wheatley	17
Queries, Letters and Afterthoughts	19
50 Years Ago — June 1970	23
New Issues Czech Republic & Slovak Republic	24
Abstracts of Publications by Colin W Spong	30
Officers and Committee	31



Editor's Note

One of the many social and economic casualties of the US attempt to contain the spread of COVID-19 is Major League Baseball. A large part of, maybe the entire, 2020 season of 2,430 regular (non-playoff) games has been cancelled. The average paying attendance at a game over the last decade was 28,317. For popular teams and those in larger cities it is higher; in 2019 the New York Yankees pulled in 40,740 per home game, the Los Angeles Dodgers 49,066. The schedule of 162 games for my local team, the Philadelphia Phillies (33,671) –

hence the 'P' on the baseball cap – is still uselessly attached to the wall. During the period of isolation, this suspension means more time for the Editor to tweak *Czechout* and, paradoxically, even more time to dwell on and lament the serious consequences of the world-historic pandemic and its dangers for our members.

This issue of *Czechout* contains an article on territorial conflicts between Czechoslovakia and Poland, a five-page article on Hradčany perforations and two pieces on cancellations (all First Republic), as well as two articles on Czechoslovak stamps released in 1945, 1946 and 1954 (Third Republic). The author of one article felt compelled to examine also a set of similar stamps released by the Hungarian People's Republic in 1955.

Please send comments on the [Queries](#), and more [Queries](#), to the Editor (editor@cpsgb.org).

© **CPSGB 2020**. Reproduction of contents prohibited without consent of the Editor and author(s).
 Founded 1953. Published quarterly. Free to members. Membership enquiries to [Membership Secretary](#).
 Online membership: UK £10 per year. Overseas £7, €10 or US \$11.
 Regular membership: UK £20 per year, Europe and rest of the world surface mail: £26, €31 or US \$36.
 Air mail to the rest of the world: £30 or US \$42, except Australasia £32 or US \$44.
 Single issue price: £3.50 + postage. Contact [Publications Officer](#).

Advertisers: Contact the [Advertising Manager](#) for details.

Authors, Contributors: Contact the [Editor](#) (articles, reviews, queries, news, gripes).

Society Website: www.cpsgb.org.uk

Czechout Index: www.czechout.org


Czechout Back Issues/Archive: www.czechout.org/pages/issue-list.htm


Opinions expressed in the articles are the sole responsibility of the author(s). They are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor, the Society, its Officers or Committee.


Printed by Leeds Graphic Press, 0113 248 9262, leedsgraphic.co.uk


News and Notices


CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

 **Dr. Helmut Kobelbauer** won a Grand Prix award in [Slovenia 2019](#), the Alps-Adriatic Philately Exhibition, with his ‘Nach dem Grossen Krieg’ (After the Great War), on the social and political history, 1918–1923, of the countries originating from the Habsburg Empire. The exhibition was held at the Mekinje Monastery, Kamnik, 28–30 March 2019.

 **Ron Gillard** was awarded the Bartrop Trophy for Thematics in the competitions organised by the Wiltshire and District Federation at SWINPEX 2019, St Joseph's School, Swindon, on 8 June 2019. His subject was ‘Operation Anthropoid: A Heroic Mission or Reckless Tragedy’. (See the [next](#) page for Tony Moseley's new book on Operation Anthropoid, and Ron's Query on [p. 19](#), below.)

 The [book](#) written by the late **Edward Klempka**, *Foreign Military Activity in the Russian Civil War 1917–1923*, was runner up for the Federation of European Philatelic Associations (FEPA) Medal for Exceptional Study and Research, 2019. (See *Czechout* [1/2020](#), p. 5.)

 **John Grabowski** has been invited to be a member of the Board of Directors of the *Society for Czechoslovak Philately*.

 The Society extends a warm welcome to our new member, **Peter Munk**, Vancouver, Canada.

Cooperation Agreement with the *Society for Czechoslovak Philately* (USA)

‘Check out’ our sister organization, the *Society for Czechoslovak Philately* (SCP), at its website, www.csphilately.org, and through SCP's Secretary, **Tom Cossaboom**, at KLFCK1@aol.com. The *Society for Czechoslovak Philately* publishes quarterly *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, edited by **Keith Hart** (kdhart46@icloud.co). This journal and *Czechout* have little duplication in content. In addition, the two societies have arranged for payment of your SCP subscription to our CPSGB Treasurer **Yvonne Wheatley**, treasurer@cpsgb.org, without having to worry about foreign currency or sending payment to the USA. You will certainly increase your enjoyment and understanding of all aspects of Czechoslovak philately by maintaining membership in both societies.

CPSGB TRADE ACCOUNT with STANLEY GIBBONS

The Society has a trade account with Stanley Gibbons for catalogues and accessories. Gibbons has informed us that its orders have not been sufficient for the Society to retain the top rate of discount. As a result, the rate will be reduced to 10%. Postage for orders under £100 will be charged at £5 for CPSGB members in the UK (over £100, post free). Postage and insurance are charged on all overseas orders. The range of products is also being reduced. Please specify the product numbers or stock codes when using the online [Product Guide](#) and supply the data to **Yvonne Wheatley**, treasurer@cpsgb.org, when requesting that an order be placed for you.

Richard Beith's ‘Czechoslovak Specialist’ Collection Still Available

We have received an invitation from Margaret Beith: ‘My late husband Richard Beith has a run of the *Czechoslovak Specialist* from 1939 onwards. I am willing to give the books to anyone who can come and collect them. I live midway between Perth and Stirling, at 7 Corum Place, Blackford, Auchterarder PH4 1PU.’ Please write or call Margaret (randmcorum@btinternet.com; tel 01764 682574) to make an appointment. In the Editor's humble opinion, a member of CPSGB would benefit greatly from possessing this historically important collection of valuable literature and urges grabbing it (but how?) while the grabbing is good.

The Bill Dawson Memorial Prize for 2017–2018

From Committee Member **Reg Hounsell**: In the voting by the five judges, only eight points distinguished 1st place and 4th place among the sixteen candidate articles and there was only one point difference between 1st place and 2nd. In 2nd place was ‘The Hradčany Tête-Bêche Enigma – Solved?’, published in December 2017 (35:4, [No. 169](#), pp. 19–25), written jointly by Johan Sevenhuijsen and Mark Wilson. In 1st place was ‘Removal of Czech Markings from Postal Cancellers in the Slovak State’, published in June 2018 (36:2, [No. 171](#), pp. 13–24), written by Alan Soble.

‘SKRÝ VACKY’ — Call for Author(s) — Rex Dixon and Tony Bosworth have made the Editor interested in secret marks on Czechoslovak stamps (not flaws but deliberate design elements). Antonín Gazda's fine essay, *Czechout* [1/2004](#), pp. 16–20, ‘Hidden Pictures (*Skrý Vacky*)’, translated by **Michael Chant**, is comprehensive but lacks images. I'd like to reprint it in *Czechout* filled with images of the miscreants. Volunteers? See, for ideas, [3/1981](#), p. 65; [3/1983](#), p. 32; [2/1994](#), p. 29; [1/2004](#), p. 24; and *Czechoslovak Specialist*, Dec. 1957, No. 178, [pp. 156–157](#). Try your skill by hunting for the secrets in a Czesław [Słania](#) Poland stamp (and a [close up](#)), the US Bernard [Revel](#) and a [Protectorate](#) set.

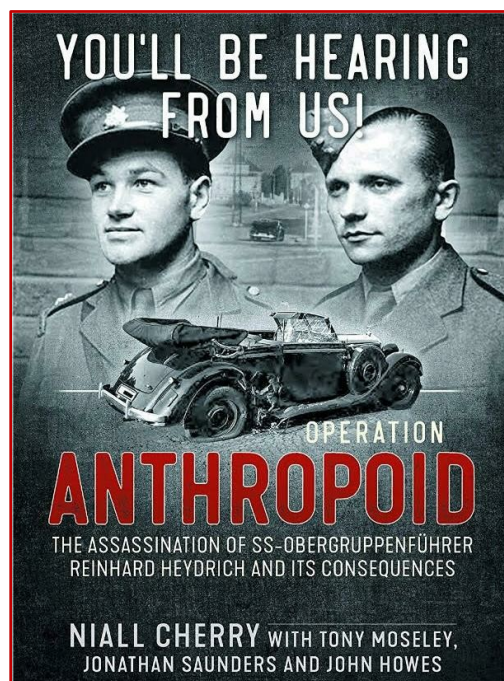
‘You’ll Be Hearing from Us!’ Operation Anthropoid. The Assassination of SS-Obergruppenführer Reinhard Heydrich and Its Consequences, by Niall Cherry with Tony Moseley, Jonathan Saunders and John Howes. Published by Helion & Company, www.helion.co.uk. ISBN 978-1-912866-22-9, Helion Book Code HEL1113. Pp. 290, 81 b/w photographs, 4 commissioned maps. Also available at [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com). The cover shows Jan Kubiš (left) and Jozef Gabčík (right).

In December 2019 a new book about Operation Anthropoid and related missions was launched by Helion, the Warwick military publishing house. Three years ago, military author Niall Cherry approached CPSGB member **Tony Moseley** and long-time friend Jonathan Saunders to help him with this exciting new project. John Howes carried out additional research at the National Archives in Kew.

The book is a detailed investigation of Operation Anthropoid and its consequences. In addition to studying Anthropoid, the book examines the ‘Silver A’ and ‘Silver B’ missions involving soldiers who were dropped into the Bohemia & Moravia Protectorate from the same flight. Tony wrote the account of these two missions, which remain virtually unheard of by the general public in the United Kingdom. Until now, little has been printed in English about the two Silvers. This situation will change, particularly as the Larischova vila Zámeček reconstruction memorial [project](#) gathers pace in Pardubice, where Silver A operated.

Operation Anthropoid was a politically motivated plan devised by the Czech Government-in-Exile to assassinate a high-ranking German official, Reinhard Heydrich, the architect of the Final Solution. The book tells the story of the assassins, Jozef Gabčík and Jan Kubiš, covering their escape from occupied Czechoslovakia through their time in France before their successful arrival in the UK as part of the evacuated Czech Legion. The book describes their selection, training and return to Czechoslovakia as well as the preparations for the operation, its execution on 27 May 1942, the manhunt for the perpetrators and the aftermath of the attack, including the destruction of the villages of Lidice and Ležáky. A translation of the Gestapo report on the assassination appears in the book together with a number of the report’s photographs.

See Tony’s profusely illustrated article, ‘Heydrichiada 1942–2017 – 75th Anniversary’, *Czechout* 4/2017, pp. 11–18, which discusses Operation Anthropoid and the Silvers, and his review of John Martin’s 2009 book *The Mirror Caught the Sun – Operation Anthropoid 1942*, 2/2011, pp. 26–28.



Left: ‘Memorial to the Parachutists and Members of the Orthodox Church,’ Chrám svatého Cyrila a Metoděje (Cathedral of Saints Cyril and Methodius), Resslova Street, Praha. © Tony Moseley, 2018. This photograph and others by Tony are included in the book. The plaque pays tribute to the seven Czechoslovak soldiers and members of the church who are listed by name. The soldiers all died following the gun battle at the church. (German machine gun bullet holes can be seen in the wall.) The church members were tortured by the Gestapo and executed at *Kobylisy*.



Above: Jozef Gabčík in the 1945 War Heroes issue (SG 432 & 440; see below, pp. 17–18, and 3/2016, p. 23). Gabčík committed suicide in the church catacombs before he could be captured by the Nazis.

COVID-19 and Philately

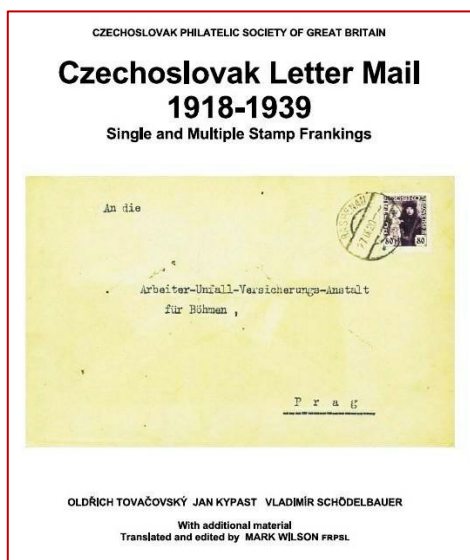
Of course, unfortunately, [meetings](#) have been postponed or cancelled. Richard Lehmann (‘Covid-19 Virus Affect on the Stamp Market’) wrote in *Forbes* magazine, online (24 March 2020), ‘The strong reaction of the US Government to the Covid pandemic has resulted in the self-isolation and self-quarantining of millions of Americans as well as people worldwide’. But he continued, optimistically, ‘While this is having a devastating effect on the economy, it has been a real boost to the stamp market. Stamp collectors around the world suddenly have many hours of time to fill since they can't go out, go to work or watch sporting events [such as baseball]. Hence, they spend time buying stamps. The dealers I spoke with all report a surge in orders, many from customers they have never had before’.

Both Royal Mail (www.royalmail.com/coronavirus) and the [United States Postal Service](#) have uploaded online documents about the effects of the pandemic on various aspects of their postal systems. The sites contain useful information for those who rely on the post. On 20 March 2020 *Linn's Stamp News* reported that international mail disruptions have occurred and describes the policies and practices of several dozen countries. Consult these restrictions before embellishing your stamp collections from dealers outside your homeland. Also estimate the date you next expect to receive a paycheck if your job has been suspended.

Some countries have already issued stamps with a COVID-19 theme. Here are illustrations, not to scale, of stamps (*left to right*) from Switzerland, Iran and Vietnam.



A New CPSGB Monograph, No. 33. This new monograph describes all the stamps issued during the First Republic, including the Austrian and Hungarian forerunners, and tabulates the relative scarcity of their correct usage in single and multiple frankings on postcards, letters and printed matter to local, domestic and foreign destinations, for each of ordinary, registered, express and registered express. This data was originally published 2000–2002 in a series of 19 articles in the Czech monthly *Filatelie*. **Mark Wilson** has translated, edited and assembled the separate articles into a coherent monograph and has been in regular contact with the authors so that their latest data are included. Furthermore, he has inserted additional information, such as the reasons for an issue, its period of validity and the numbers printed, thereby making these facts more available to English speakers. The book has been organised into five chapters, the first covering 1918–1919, the other four each covering a subsequent five-year period. It is richly illustrated with examples of both mundane and exotic usages from all six tariff periods.



CPSGB MONOGRAPH No. 33

Czechoslovak Letter Mail 1918–1939:

Single and Multiple Stamp Frankings

by **O. Tovačovský, J. Kypast,**
V. Schödelbauer and M. Wilson

ORDERING INFORMATION

Monograph 33 (2020), full colour, A4, pp. x+173, 890 gm.
Members' launch price is £30 (€36) until 31/12/2020,
then £33 (€39).

Launch price including p&p is £33.75 in UK;
to Europe £41 (€49); rest of world £46.

Order from CPSGB's **Rex Dixon**, publications-officer@cpsgb.org.

See the review, *Czechout* 1/2020, pp. 9–10.

REPORT on CPSGB MEETING, 1 FEBRUARY 2020

Contributed by **Bob McLeod**, *Press Officer* (also the photographer) and **Yvonne Wheatley**, *Treasurer*

This meeting was the first to occur at our new venue, the Kings Head public house in Marylebone. Members attending were Lindy and Tony Bosworth, Rex Dixon, Ken Dyke, Ron Gillard, James Hooper, Bob McLeod, Roger Morrell, Tony Moseley, Colin Smith, Garth Taylor, Yvonne Wheatley and Andreas Yennadiou.

Just before 11.00 a.m. on Saturday a group of members assembled outside the Kings Head. Because the establishment doesn't open until noon, we had been instructed to knock on the door. No response. A short time later the landlord, Mel, came out to clean the pavement tables and was surprised to see us. Yvonne had booked the room from 11.00, Mel from 11.30! We were let in and shown to the room upstairs. A few members then followed Mel through a labyrinth of stairs and corridors to the cellar, where the frames were kept. These were carried upstairs and can be inspected in the photographs. Tea, coffee and biscuits were available in abundant supply. As there was no committee meeting there was a buzz of conversation as we caught up with news.

The morning part of the day's meeting was informal, during which three members – Garth, Roger ([Figure 1](#)) and Rex ([below](#), [p. 9](#)) – occupied the 'show and tell' session. Auction secretary Ken brought lots for the successful bidders in the auction which had closed the previous evening at midnight. Publications officer Rex brought copies of the new CPSGB Monograph 33 ([p. 6](#), [above](#)), which were soon purchased. The morning passed all too quickly and lunch was served in the same room. The homemade meat pies were a favourite and sandwiches were also available. Mel had earlier given us an extensive menu and had taken our orders.

The afternoon session commenced with Roger welcoming everybody and announcing the result of the Society's Bill Dawson Memorial Award. ([Reg Hounsell's](#) announcement is on [p. 4](#), [above](#).) The main event of the day's meeting was James Hooper's display of his Bohemia & Moravia Protectorate material. His wife Felicity accompanied him but easy access to London's shopping centre proved a temptation she could understandably not resist. (Keep in mind!) The presentation covered almost every issue of the territory and included Sudetenland overprints, overprints on the stamps of Czechoslovakia and covers exhibiting postal rates. Also displayed were the Linden Leaf issue in various colours and the Hitler Head issue. Many printing flaws were shown as well as plate blocks. A vote of thanks was given by Tony Bosworth, who commented on the wide variety of items displayed, considering the relatively small number of issues emerging from Bohemia & Moravia.

The meeting closed at 4.00 p.m. and there was opportunity to socialise at the bar. The new venue was well received by our members. A decision was made to schedule another gathering here, the 2020 Annual General Meeting ([AGM](#)) on 7 November. The Kings Head is comfortably reached from London's main line stations.



Left to right: Ron Gillard, Roger Morrell, Ken Dyke, Yvonne Wheatley, Lindy Bosworth, Tony Moseley – behind him, Tony Bosworth – and Garth Taylor, standing.



James Hooper stands with a portion of his Bohemia & Moravia display.



Left: Rex Dixon examining Bohemia & Moravia. Right: Roger Morrell presenting some entires.

Fig. 1: This entire is on the bottom row, second from left, in Roger's display (above, right). He raised the question, 'When did the old Austrian practice of charging only simple postage on recipient pays official registered mail end in Czechoslovakia?' This cover was sent from Praha 18 to Kladno on 15.II.22, arriving 16.II.22 (the date line in the receiving strike is upside down). Postage due charge was 1.60 k; the registration fee of 2 k was not charged to the recipient. [Consult Roger's article on this topic in *Stamps of Hungary* No. 218 (September 2019), pp. 27–35.]



Polish Annexation of Teschen Silesia, 1938–1939: Zaolzie

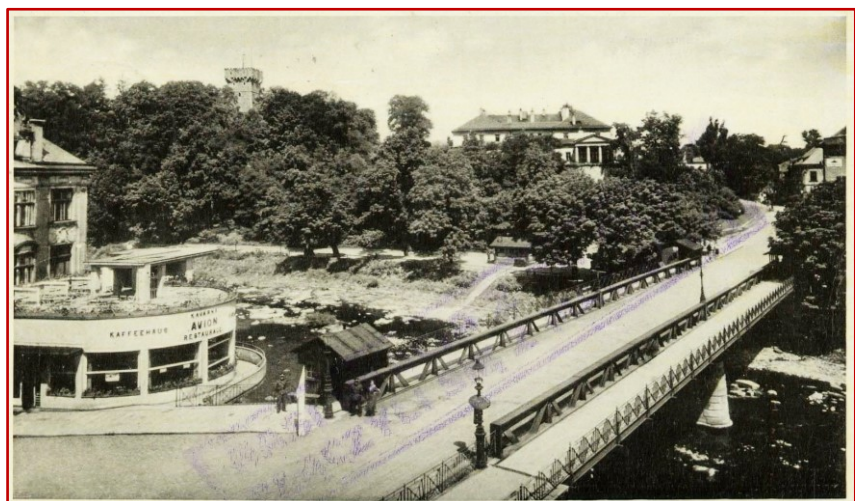
by Rex Dixon FRPSL

The coal-mining and steel area of eastern Austrian Silesia had a mixed population of Poles and Czechs, with some German speakers. After the First World War it was claimed by Poland and Czechoslovakia, both newly emergent states. After fighting erupted the western powers established a demarcation line. The intended plebiscite was never held and the final boundary, along the river Olza (German; Czech, *Olše*), imposed in July 1920. (See a small map and Figure 30 in *Czechout* 1/2020, p. 21.) The riverside town Teschen was divided into Cieszyn (Polish) and Český Těšín (Czech). The area remained a source of friction between the wars.

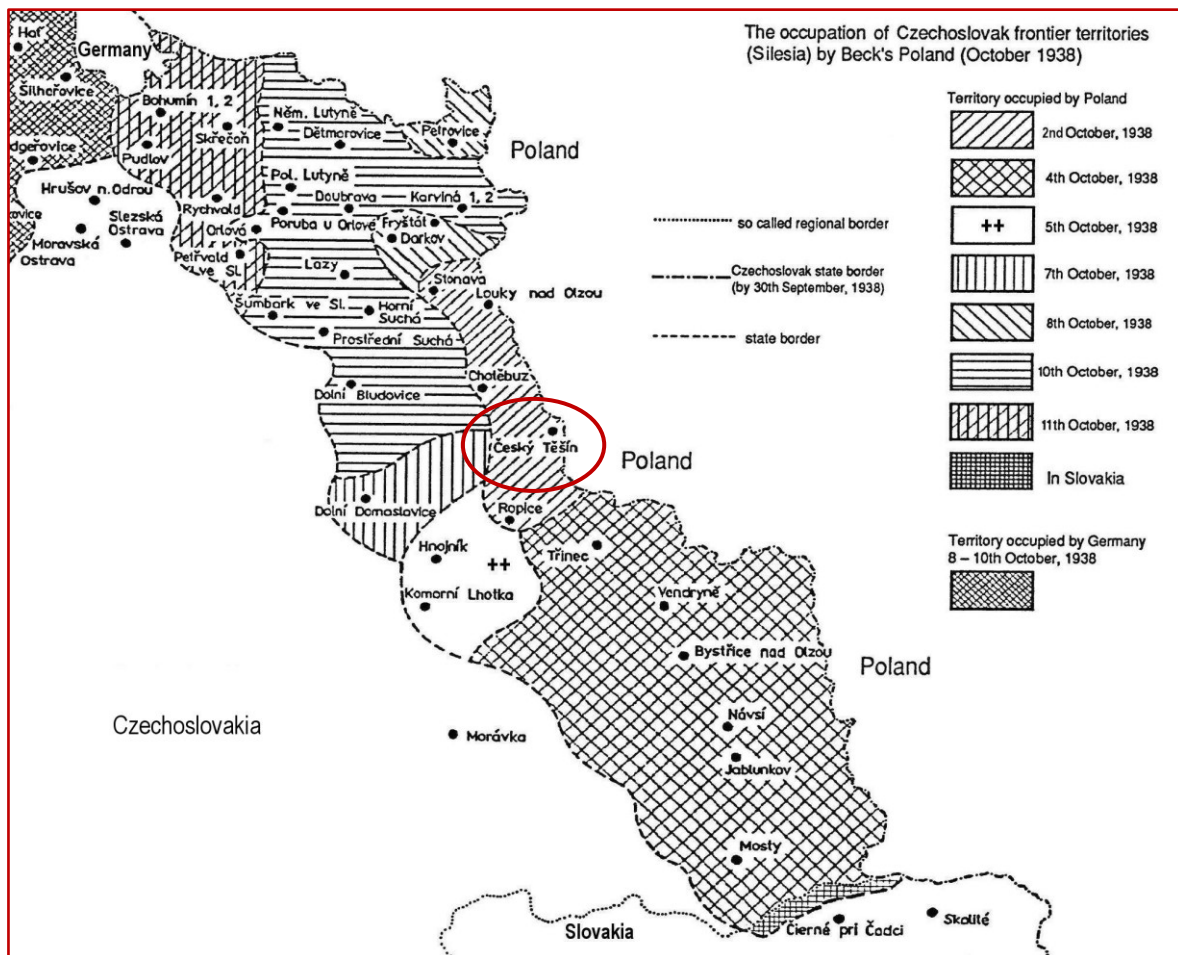


In 1938 Poland was apprised of Germany’s intentions as regards the German minority in Czechoslovakia and saw the opportunity of doing likewise with the Polish minority in the Teschen area. Within 12 hours of the signing of the Munich Agreement, which handed the Sudeten areas to Germany in stages between 1 and 10 October 1938, the Polish Foreign Minister, Colonel Josef Beck, gave Prague an ultimatum, to which Prague soon yielded—Czechoslovak forces, though strong, were no match for Polish forces already massed on the border. The Poles occupied the conceded area in stages between 2 and 11 October, an area they now called ‘Zaolzie’ (meaning ‘beyond the river Olza’, the Polish name for the Olsa). The Polish Post Office was ready: postal officials arrived with the army, furnished with postage stamps and date stamps for a smooth takeover. See both sides of the picture postcard shown on this page. On 11 November 1938 Poland issued a stamp celebrating the ‘Return of Zaolzie to the Motherland’; it is inscribed ‘2X1938’ as the date of annexation.

Below (right): Picture postcard of the Olsa bridge, Teschen. *Above:* Same card. The cachet says ‘Heroic Zaolzie returns to Poland’. The Polish stamp paid the fee; the Czechoslovak stamp was not valid in Polish occupied Český Těšín, the location of the Cieszyn 2 post office. Cancelled 6.X.38. *Below (left):* The Polish celebratory stamp, SG 349.



Below: The same bridge blown up by retreating Poles, September 1939. Germany was in the process of annexing Zaolzie.



Map from [Monograph No. 8, Occupation of Czechoslovak Frontier Territories by Beck's Poland from the Postal History View-Point](#), by Jiří Neumann. The Monograph contains historical background to the events of 1938–1939, postmarks of the ceded post offices and railway post routes. Postmark illustrations. 1989, reprinted 1999. (See also the *CPSGB Monograph list* in [1/2019](#), p. 2.) For those who possess Monograph No. 8, notice that this map has been modified and corrected in several ways, most importantly in the legend: ‘1st October 1938’ has been changed to ‘2nd October’.

After his presentation at CPSGB's 1 February 2020 meeting (above, p. 7), the author displayed this material at the afternoon meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society London on 6 February. The President of the RPSL had invited the fellows and members of the Thames Valley region to show extracts from their collections.

Hradčany Perforations

by Johan Sevenhuijsen

Many early Czechoslovak Hradčany stamps were issued in imperforate format because the printing firm, the Czech Graphic Union, lacked perforating capacity. The absence of perforations was eliminated in stages during 1919. Only from 1920 onward were most stamps issued with perforations.

The Introduction of Perforating Machines

The *Monografie* lists various perforating machines acquired by the company to enhance its capacity:

<i>Perforating machine</i>	<i>Date purchased (Monografie)</i>	<i>Denominations (haler) perforated with each machine</i>	<i>First date of perforation (Monografie)</i>	<i>Earliest date of use found so far</i>
11½ line Hogenforst	Before 12/1918	D: 5 I, 10 I, 20 I, 25 I, 5 V, 15, 25 V, 120;	18.XII.18 (5 I, 10 I D)	6.I.19 (10 I D)
11½ line Anger & Son	Date? (2 nd machine)	E: 5 I, 5 V, 15, 25 V; F: 5 V, 15, 25 V; G: 15		
13¾ line	1/1919	C: 20 I, 1, 5 V, 10 V, 15, 20 V; F: 5 V, 15, 25 V; G: 15; H: 15, 25 V	28.VII.19 (15 C)	6.IX.19 (25 V F)
10¾ line	6/1919	E: 5 I, 5 V, 15, 25 V; H: 15, 25 V	20.VII.19 (25 E)	17.VIII.19 (15 E)
13¾ × 13½ comb	5/1919	A: 20 I, 25 I, 200, 60, 5 V, 10 V, 15, 20 V, 25 V	15.V.19 (20 I, 25 I)	15.V.19 (20 I)
11¾ comb	End of 1919	B: 60, 5 V, 10 V, 15, 25 V, 30 V	1/1920 (5 V, 15, 25 V)	30.XII.19 (25 V)

Uppercase letters, A–H, stand for perforation types. Roman numerals, I and V, stand for two Hradčany design types, the first ('captioned') and the fifth ('abstract') designs.

The 13¾ perforating machine has a remarkably suspicious record. According to the *Monografie* it was bought in January 1919 and trials were made with it on 8 January, but according to the book (p. 168) not until July 1919 were stamps (the 15 *h*) actually perforated with it. This is highly improbable, so I conclude that the record of acquiring the machine and trials in January is erroneous. As the first actually recorded date of use of stamps perforated with this machine is 6 September 1919, the true date of purchase must be closer to that.

Earliest dates found for line perforation combinations:

<i>Perforation</i>	<i>Denominations</i>	<i>Earliest date found</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
C: 13¾ × 13¾	20 I, 1, 5 V, 10 V, 15, 20 V	22.I.20 (10 V)	8.XI.19 (1, CTO pane)
D: 11½ × 11½	5 I, 10 I, 20 I, 25 I, 5 V, 15, 25 V, 120	6.I.19 (10 I)	
E: 11½ × 10¾	5 I, 5 V, 15, 25 V	[?] 6.VIII.19 (5 I)	17.VIII.19 (15)
F: 13¾ × 11½	5 V, 15, 25 V	6.IX.19 (25 V)	
G: 11½ × 13¾	15		Very rare
H: 13¾ × 10¾	15, 25 V	28.IX.19 (25 V)	Very rare

For line perforations the horizontal and vertical are independent of each other. The machine needs to be set to perforate at a specific distance, for Hradčany stamps either 26.5 mm for the horizontal strikes or 30 mm for the vertical strikes. The 10¾ machine was used only for vertical strikes.

To sum up: from the start of 1919 until May of that year only one line perforation machine, with a 11½ gauge, was available (possibly two). In this period it was used for the official perforations of the 5 *h*, 10 *h* and 20 *h* stamps of the first ('captioned') Hradčany design (perforation **D**). It, or they, were also used for on-demand unofficial perforations of other denominations (see my article, listed among 'References', on private perforations). The vast majority of the stamps printed in this period were issued imperforate.

From May 1919 the 13¾ × 13½ comb perforation machine came into use. It was first used to perforate the 20 *h* and 25 *h* stamps (the first, captioned Hradčany design) which were printed in that period (perforation **A**). It remained in use into 1920 for a broad range of denominations.

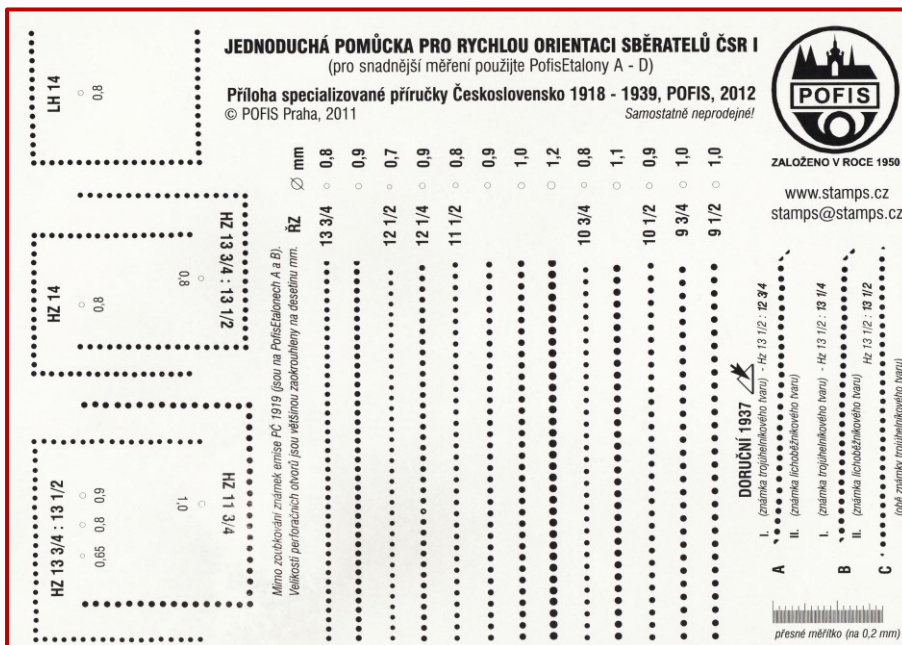
When in July or August 1919 the 10¼ line perforator was introduced it was used to perforate the 5 h (first design and fifth, ‘abstract’ Hradčany design) and the 15 h and 25 h (fifth design) vertically in combination with a 11½ perforator for the horizontal strikes (perforation E).

As far as we can determine, the use of the 13¾ line perforator began in August or September 1919 and was first used to perforate the 5 h, 15 h and 25 h (the fifth, abstract design) horizontally in combination with a 11½ perforator, now used for the vertical strikes (perforation F). The same combination was used on the Legionnaire stamps in October 1919. Later, probably from the start of 1920, it was used to produce both the horizontal and vertical perforations for the 1 h, 5 h (fifth design), 10 h (fifth), 15 h, 20 h (first and fifth) and 25 h (fifth) denominations (perforation C).

Then the 11¼ comb perforator came into use at the end of December 1919. It was first employed for the 5 h, 15 h and 25 h (fifth design) values, later also for the 10 h (fifth design), the 60 h and finally for the 30 h violet (perforation B).

Identifying Perforations

Identifying the different perforations is relatively easy, especially if you use the *POFIS* card provided with its catalogues, which shows the actual perforations used on the stamps. This method works much better than employing a standard gauge. (The actual size of the *POFIS* gauge, below, is 99 × 139 mm.)

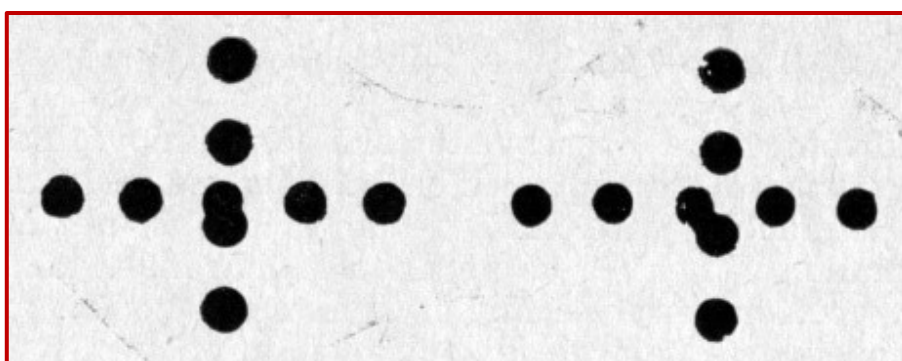


The main pitfalls are confusing the 11½ (D-line) with the 11¼ (B-comb) perforation and the 13¾ (C-line) perforation with the 13¾ × 13½ (A-comb) perforation. These are the features to watch out for:

The width of the stamp is completely standard with comb perforations, due to the construction of the comb. In line perforations it can and does vary. If the stamp does not have the exact width of the comb perforation, it must be line perforated.

The upper corners in comb perforated stamps are completely regular. In line perforated stamps, by contrast, the horizontal and vertical combs can interfere with each other to produce overlapping perforation holes, leading to irregularly formed upper corners. (See left.)

In the lower corners of comb perforated stamps there



are sometimes ‘bridge teeth’, when the strike of the comb forming the lower perforation is a bit too low. This is due to the fixed number of vertical pins of the comb. This effect can never happen in line perforation. In line perforation, the number of perforation holes in the vertical direction can vary with the height of the stamp.

The following four figures show corners of panes with line perforation (F-I), comb perforation A 13¾ × 13½ (F-II), comb perforation B 11¼ (F-III) and bridge teeth, which always come in pairs, left and right (F-IV). All exhibit the fifth Hradčany design except (F-IV), which exhibits the fourth, ‘circles’ Hradčany design.



(F-I)






(F-II)

(F-III)

(F-IV)

What Can Go Wrong

A number of different perforating faults can be found:

-  Misplaced line perforations, leading to wide/narrow or high/low stamps
-  Missing strikes in line perforations, which leads to missing horizontal or vertical perforations between stamps
-  Extra strikes, leading to double perforations or perforations through the stamps
-  Skewed perforations, which result when the sheets are misfed into the perforator
-  Comb perforations applied from bottom to top, which can be seen by bridge teeth at the top corners of stamps or by imperforate bottom selvages and perforated top selvages in comb perforation $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ (perforation A)

Problems with the $11\frac{3}{4}$ comb perforating machine arose during its continued use. At some time during the perforation of the 30 h violet stamp the second pin from the bottom in the 10th vertical row broke off, leading to a missing perforation hole, which is found only in some of the stamps from the 10th column of the panes. The machine also became ineffective in performing the final strike below the 10th row of the panes, which led to panes imperforate at the bottom. This defect was remedied by placing one strike of line perforation with the $11\frac{1}{2}$ or $13\frac{3}{4}$ machine, thereby producing (very rare) combined perforations.

The following eight figures, F-V through F-XII, display perforation varieties.



(F-V)



(F-VI)



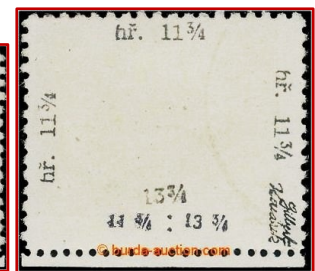
(F-VII)



(F-VIII)



Recto



Verso

(F-IX)



(F-X)



(F-XI)



(F-XII)

(F-V): Extra and shifted perforation strikes (vertical) and missing perforation (horizontal); first design

(F-VI): High stamp due to shifted line perf; third, circles design

(F-VII): Broad stamp due to shifted line perf; third, circles design

(F-VIII): Strongly displaced lower perforation B; fifth design

(F-IX): Additional perforation strike $13\frac{3}{4}$ at bottom row of the 30 h violet; fifth design

(F-X): Additional perforation strikes of comb perforation B; fifth design

(F-XI): Missing perforation pin bottom right at 10th column of the 30 h violet; fifth design

(F-XII): Comb perforation A done from bottom to top; selvage not perforated; fifth design

This article may inspire readers to examine their collections. I would be pleased to hear about and see examples of earlier dates of use of these perforating machines (johan7h@gmail.com).

REFERENCES

Burda Auction (Prague) catalogues. (Pointed out by orange-yellow fine print in a handful of images.)

Karásek, Jan. *Zoubkování Čs. Poštovních Známeč* (1918–1939), Brno, 1984.

Kubát, František. *The Hradčany. Monografie Československých Známeč*, Díl I (1968), trans. Mark Wilson (SCP, 2006; CPSGB On-Demand, 2016, especially pp. 163–169). [Reviewed in *Czechout* 1/2016, p. 8. On-Demand books may be ordered and purchased by writing to Yvonne Wheatley, treasurer@cpsgb.org.]

Sevenhuijsen, Johan. 'Hradčany Private Perforations', *The Czechoslovak Specialist* 81:4 (Fall 2019, No. 658), pp. 20–24.

This article is reprinted, edited and corrected, from *Pošta Česko-Slovenská*, the journal of *Vereniging voor Tsjechoslowakije-filatelie* (www.cs-filatelie.nl/), No. 33, March 2020, pp. 9–12. Thanks to the author/editor, who prepared this English version. The following 'Appendix' is new.

Appendix: Earliest Found Cancels

by Johan Sevenhuijsen

In my article ‘Hradčany Perforations’, ‘earliest dates found’ are given for the different perforating machines and for the different combined line perforations. All the dated cancels are in my personal collection. Although I have about 100,000 stamps through which I searched to find them, earlier dates probably exist in other collections. It is improbable, on the other hand, that my dates are substantially far from the real dates. In the table I present the perforations in their order of appearance.

Perf	Details	Stamp	Enhanced scan
D	Line perforation 11½ × 11½ -6.I.19 – Praha 1 Found on Hradčany 10 h, design I <i>Monografie</i> date: 18.XII.18		
A	Comb perforation 13¾ × 13½ 15.V.19 – Praha Found on Hradčany 20 h, design I <i>Monografie</i> date: 15.V.19 (My date matches the <i>Monografie</i> .)		
E	Line perforation 11½ × 10¾ 17.8.19 – Brux Found on Hradčany 15 h <i>Monografie</i> date: 20.VII.19		
F	Line perforation 13¾ × 11½ -6.IX.19 – Praha 1 Found on Hradčany 25 h, design V <i>Monografie</i> date: July 1919		
H	Line perforation 13¾ × 10¾ 28.IX.19 – Tetschen a.d. Elbe Found on Hradčany 25 h, design V <i>Monografie</i> date: November 1919 (My date is earlier.)		
B	Comb perforation 11¾ 30.XII.19 – Liberec/Reichenberg Found on Hradčany 25 h, design V <i>Monografie</i> date: January 1920 (My date is earlier.)		
C	Line perforation 13¾ × 13¾ 24.I.20 – Varnsdorf 1/Warnsdorf 1 Found on Hradčany 20 h, design V <i>Monografie</i> date: 28.VII.19		

I'm showing these stamps with early dates, first of all to substantiate my claims, but also to provoke collectors to find even earlier dates. Finding them will provide the satisfaction that a genuinely important item is possessed and it will extend our collective knowledge. Of course, chances are that new dates will turn up from larger accumulations of used stamps, but even a small collection may harbour a surprise. The stamps exhibited here do not all look particularly attractive at first sight and some have defects, but – if newly found stamps have readable date lines – imperfections do not detract from their importance as evidence!

There is no need to be confined to the sort of date information discussed here. Also worth investigating are: (1) the earliest date for a certain perforation for each denomination; (2) earliest dates of use for the imperforate stamps of each denomination; (3) stamps showing late use (up to 30 April 1921) for each denomination; (4) stamps showing late use of a certain type of cancel from the Austrian/Hungarian period or early use of a Czechoslovak cancel. Whatever the focus, looking again, closely, through piles of stamps will provide hours of quiet enjoyment. I'd love to hear your results – with scans! Write to me (johan7h@gmail.com) or the [Editor](#).

Cancelled Czech: The Re-Germanisation of Six Town Cancellers in Inter-War Czechoslovakia — Postscript

by Robert Lauer

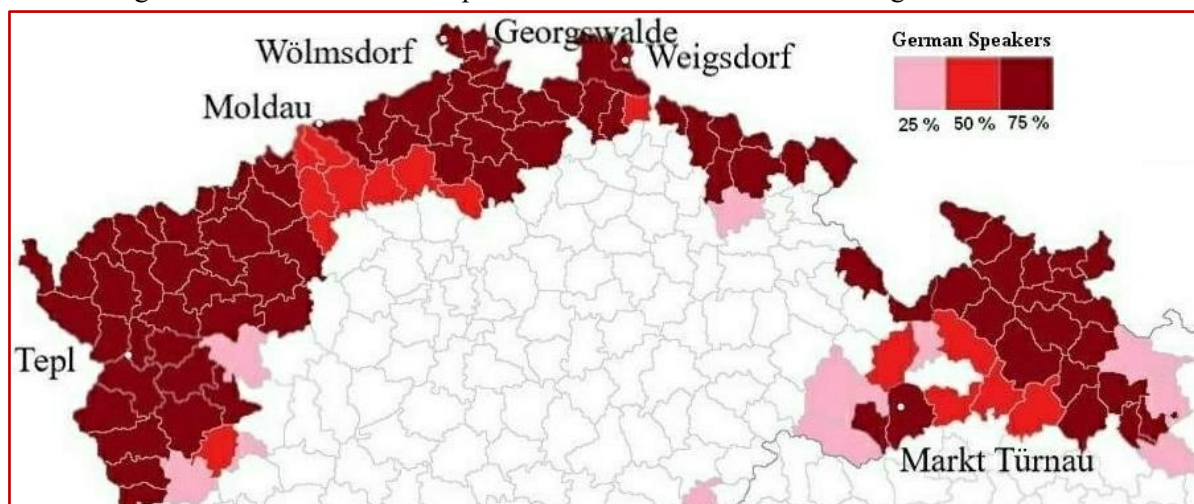
The original article was published in *Czechout* 37:4 (No. 177, December, 4/2019), pp. 16–19.

After I submitted my article to *Czechout*, I became increasingly uncomfortable with my assumptions that the populations of these six towns were small and predominantly German. In my subsequent searching of the internet, I stumbled across a page on the Czech Statistical Office (*Český statistický úřad*) [website](#) about the first Czechoslovak census in 1921. Being unable to find the sought-after data on the website, I thought I would try the general email address (infoservis@czso.cz) on the off-chance someone could supply me with information about the 1921 populations of Georgswalde, Weigsdorf, Wölmsdorf, Moldau, Tepl and Markt Türnau and the linguistic composition of these towns. Two days later, Michal Wagner at the Czech Statistical Office sent me an Excel spreadsheet with data extracted from the 1921 census—a level of public service which is commendable for any government organization in any country. The table provides the population in 1921 of each of these six towns along with the percentages of the population which was Czech/German. In five towns, the population was overwhelmingly German. However, the population of Markt Türnau turned out to have been mixed, with a Czech majority, and not ‘predominantly’ German, as I had assumed.

Town Name 1918: German	Current Town Name	1921		
		Population	% Czech	% German
Bilingual → Unilingual German				
Georgswalde	Jiříkov (Děčín District)	7,482	2%	95%
Weigsdorf	Višňová (Liberec District)	912	1%	94%
Wölmsdorf	Vilémov (Děčín District)	1,242	2%	94%
Unilingual Czech → Bilingual				
Markt Türnau	Městečko Trnávka (Svitavy District)	914	72%	27%
Tepl	Teplá (Cheb District)	2,597	1%	98%
Moldau	Moldava (Teplice District)	930	5%	93%

So, five out of these six towns had almost completely German populations, were in overwhelmingly German-speaking areas, were small or very small communities and were close to the German border, but these factors do not distinguish them from hundreds of other German-speaking communities in inter-war Czechoslovakia. So, why these five towns? Why did Moldau and Tepl get unilingual Czech cancellers in the first place?

Markt Türnau is the anomaly among the anomalies, a minute town with a majority Czech population in a German-speaking area. Its having a bilingual Czech-German canceller makes sense until one looks at the prevailing trends in the rest of the country. [Markt Türnau](#) was the only town in the country with a Czech majority where a unilingual Czech canceller was replaced between the wars with a bilingual Czech-German canceller.



Liberation Stamps and Their Usage

by Richard Wheatley FRPSL

At the end of the Second World War, Czechoslovakia was liberated from German occupation by the Soviet Red Army which swept in from the east. The first major town to be retaken was Košice in Slovakia, on 13 January 1945. This was followed on 4 April when Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, was taken. In due course the Red Army approached Prague in Bohemia, but the German resistance was fanatical. Eventually it buckled during 6–11 May. Then the huge task of restarting life without war began in the reconstituted Czechoslovakia.

Shortly after the various territories had been liberated, new stamps began to appear in each location. Eventually these stamps were circulated throughout the whole country and were postally valid. Some denominations were too low, others too high, but at the time of their design and production it was not known what the currency situation would be like post-occupation. Illustrated in this article are some remarkable covers franked by five ‘Third Republic’ issues, presented chronologically. The covers are a fascinating collection of mixed frankings.

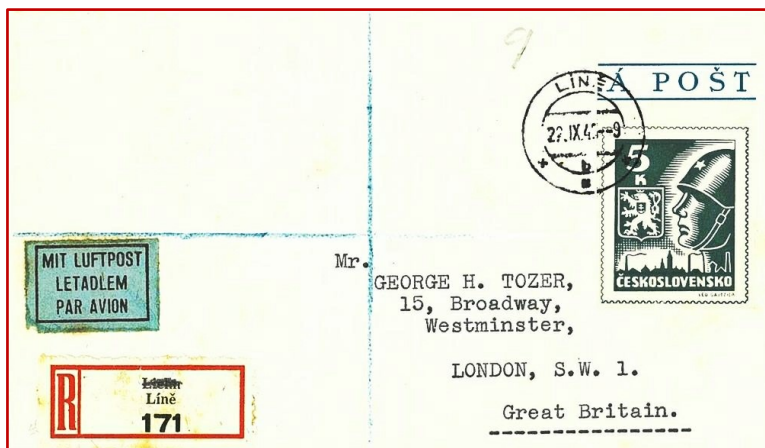
Košice Issue. As the name suggests, these stamps were printed in Košice and consisted of two designs, seven values and a miniature sheet, issued between 26 March and 25 June 1945. The two symbolic designs depict Clasped Hands and Coat of Arms with a Soldier’s Head (SG 396–402 and MS 402a; Figures 1 and 3).

Bratislava Issue. These nine stamps were printed locally in Bratislava between 30 April and 1 December 1945. There was just one emblem design featuring the Czech Lion together with a Linden Leaf and on this occasion all the stamps were issued imperforate (SG 403–411; Figures 4 and 5).

Prague Issue. A set of nine stamps was printed in Prague which feature the symbolic Linden Leaf. On the lower values the Leaf bears buds while on the higher values the buds have burst into a flower! The unusual case is the 60 h, which was released both ways, the earlier stamp with buds, the later one with flowers (*right*). The set was issued between 23 May and 8 October 1945 (SG 412–420; Figure 2).

Moscow Issue. The State Printing Works in Moscow produced these six values with an unmistakable portrait of President Masaryk. These large format stamps were issued in two tranches on 5 July 1945 and 5 March 1946. Strangely, the initial tranche was not released in Slovakia until 16 July 1945 (SG 421–426; Figures 6 and 7).

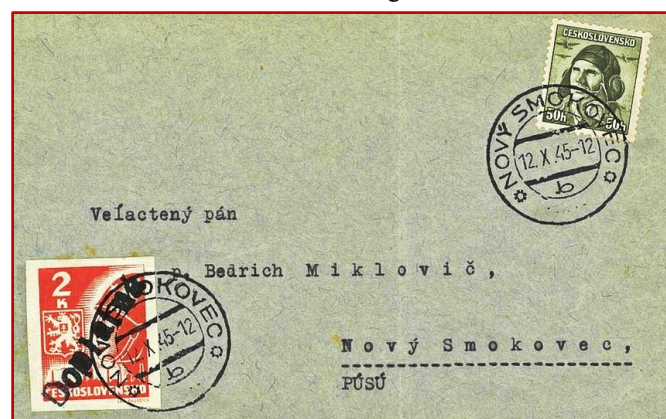
London Issue. De La Rue printed this set of sixteen stamps which portray eight War Heroes, who had all died fighting for Czechoslovakia. Each Hero appears on two denominations. The stamps were released in Czech Bohemia on 18 August and in Slovakia on 5 September 1945 (SG 427–442; Figures 3, 4, 6 and 7).



Figs. 1 and 2 (above, left and right): An imperforate 5 K Košice stamp cut from the miniature sheet! Registered airmail letter from

the village of Líně, near Plzeň, SW of Prague, on 22 September 1945 to London. When the letter reached Prague it was realised that the 5 K stamp was not sufficient to pay the postage – basic UPU letter 2 K 50 h, foreign registration 3 K 50 h and airmail fee 50 h, making 6 K 50 h. To cover the deficiency a kind, generous person attached, *verso* (**Fig. 2**), three 50 h stamps from the Prague Issue, all tied by a Praha 7 ‘Letecká Pošta’ CDS on 26 September! *Letecká* means ‘airmail’. In the registration label, the German town name ‘Liehn’ has been crossed out.

Fig. 3 (right): A local letter from the village Nový Smokovec in Slovakia’s Tatra region, 12 October 1945, to the sanatorium ‘PŮSŮ’, franked with a 50 h War Heroes



stamp. The rate was 1 K 50 h, so 1 K was underpaid; as a penalty this was doubled to a postage due fee of 2 K. Postage due stamps were not issued until 1 May 1946, in lieu of which a 2 K Košice stamp has been overprinted *Doplatné* ('postage due').

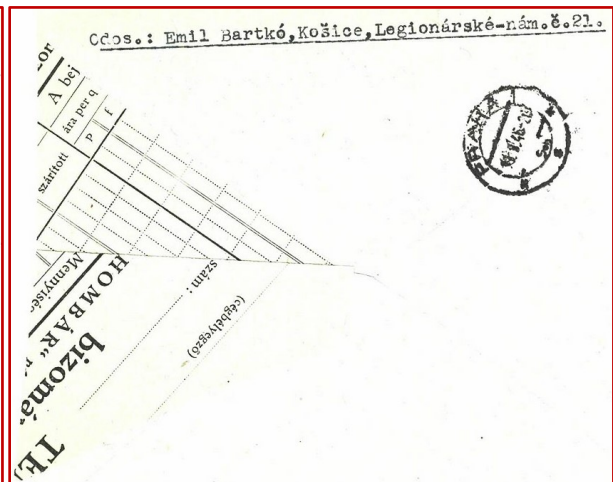


Fig. 4 and 5 (above, left and right): Registered letter from Košice 18 January 1946, mixed franking of a War Hero and three Bratislava stamps, making up the 7 K 40 h

inland registered letter rate. Purple temporary Košice registration handstamp. Addressed to the Post Office Savings in Prague. This envelope is *homemade*, assembled from an unused printed form! See *verso* (Fig. 5) for a flap folded back to reveal the printing. Visible also are the sender's details, according to which he was a legionnaire in the marine. (Please correct me by [email](mailto:) if my assumption is wrong.)

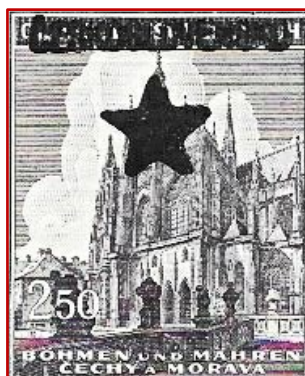
Fig. 6 (right): At the end of the war there were shortages of many everyday things and as a result this cover has an emergency dumb black registration label lacking a town name. Furthermore, the stamps are cancelled by another emergency or provisional measure, a circular town handstamp for the town Paseky nad Jizerou, which has only '1945' in the centre – no other date. Above it, a rubber dater, 8.IX.1945. This town was in the former Sudetenland and here its name has the Czech spelling. The Moscow and London stamps pay exactly the 1 K 20 h inland letter rate plus 3 K for registration.



Fig. 7 (left): After the war it took some time before airmail service recommenced and when it did, at first the airmail fee was inexpensive. In this case, again, the exact amount of postage has been paid by a mixture of Moscow and London issues. UPU letter rate 2 K 50 h plus airmail fee 1 K, from Prague, 27 October 1945, to Switzerland. On the reverse there is a straight-line cachet in blue, *Prezkoušeno*, 'examined'. *POFIS* identifies the hero shown on the 20 h and 2 Kč values on this entire as Otakar Jaroš, a Czech who became a 'Soviet Union Captain'. (For more on the War Heroes issue, see [2/2016](#), pp. 9–14; [3/2016](#), pp. 21–23; [4/2016](#), pp. 18–22.)

Queries, Letters and Afterthoughts

NEW QUERY 1. From **Ron Gillard**: ‘Using *CPSGB*’s Monograph No. 25, *Compendium of 1944–1945 Liberation Overprints* by Karel Holoubek (*Seznam revolučních přetisků*, 2006; trans. Robert J. Hill, 2012), I have managed to identify many Bohemia & Moravia liberation stamp overprints. I’m left with four overprinted stamps which I have not yet been able to locate in the *Compendium*, neither as an image nor by description, and I have not been able to discover the town or area in which they originated. I have also consulted **Robert Hill**’s earlier Monographs No. 14, 2004 and No. 18, 2005.’ [A list of *CPSGB* Monographs is [here](#).]



#1



#2



#3



#4

I offer some observations about my four stamps:

#1. This overprint is similar to the ‘Choceň’ example on page 9-4 in the ‘Other Known Overprints’ section at the back of the *Compendium*, although ‘ČESKOSLOVENSKO’ seems to be at a different height. The inscription obscured across the top is ‘Grossdeutsches Reich’. The basic stamp is SG 121, issued 21 November 1944, St. Vitus Cathedral, Prague.

#2. The diagonal ‘ČESKOSLOVENSKO’ is similar to that of the ‘Vinařice’ issue on page 9-11 of the *Compendium*, but that stamp does not have the shield. The vertical line background in the shield is similar to the ‘Kutná Hora’ on page 5-K-12. On stamp #2 the overprint is black; there are also red ink versions. The basic stamp is SG 83 (1942).

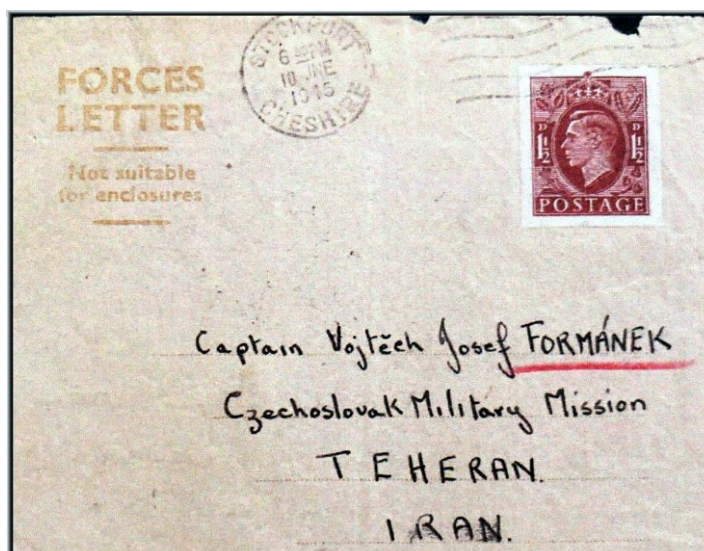
#3. The arced ‘Č.S.R.’ upper part of the overprint is not like any other I have come across. The basic stamp is the 2 h newspaper SG N106, issued 15 February 1943.

#4. The lettering of the overprint on this official stamp is, I think, too similar to that of the ‘Svatý Kopeček’ (see #4a) to be a coincidence, but the year ‘1945’ is missing. There are also red ink versions of this overprint. The basic stamp is SG O110, issued on 15 February 1943. The ‘Svatý Kopeček’ overprint, #4a, is from page 5-S-21 of the *Compendium*. Its basic stamp is the 7 h newspaper SG N108 (same release date).

I would be grateful for help.’ (Please send replies about these stamps to the Editor, editor@cpsgb.org. For an overview, readers may want to browse the entries on ‘Provisional and Revolutionary Overprints, 1945’ in the Index of *Czechout*, www.czechout.org/pages/p.htm#A856-20, and in the Index of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, index.csphilately.org/pages/p.htm.)

NEW QUERY 2. From Nigel Gooch: ‘I attach a front addressed to the Czechoslovak Military Mission in Teheran during WW2. Can readers help with any background? I am aware of Brits, Americans, Indians, Poles and Italians but not Czechs!’ Reply to editor@cpsgb.org.

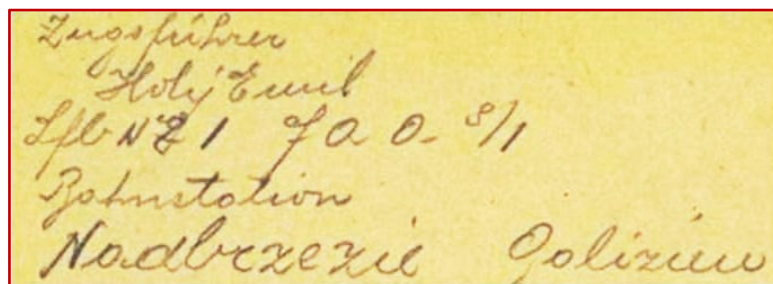
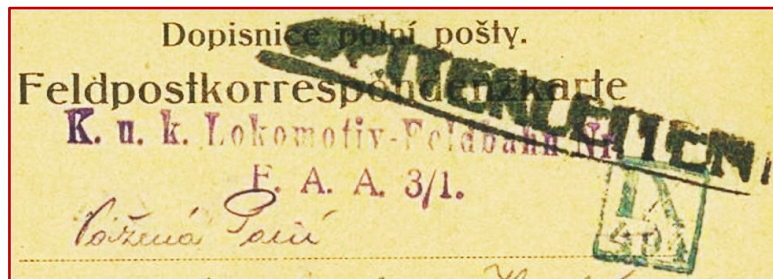
Right: Nigel Gooch’s item of military stationery (‘Forces Letter’) with a King George VI 1½ d indicium and dotted (not solid) address lines. Sent to Captain Vojtěch Josef Formánek in Tehran, Iran. Cancelled Stockport (Cheshire) on 10 June 1945. The handwritten message, a birthday greeting, was dated 6.6.45 in Bromhall (sic).



AFTERTHOUGHT 1: In [1/2020](#), p. 29, it was discussed whether an *SNP* stamp was issued in 1949 and whether the Zvolen stamp released on 28 August was it. I hoped the FDC for the Zvolen would give an answer—but there was no FDC for the Zvolen stamp! After searching a few websites, I found only a FD sheet cancelled ‘Pražha 1’ (*right*), which does not mention *SNP* at all. I am still doubtful that the Zvolen stamp was meant to honour *SNP*. I humbly submit that, in this respect, *SG* may be more candid than *POFIS*. See also [3/2019](#), p. 25 and [4/2019](#), p. 24.




AFTERTHOUGHT 2: At the joint meeting in January with the *Austrian Philatelic Society*, Yvonne Wheatley displayed a *Feldpostkarte* ([1/2020](#), Figure 4, p. 8) which has various puzzling marks. A handful of kind people—Rex Dixon, Lubor Kunc, Roger Morrell, Octavian Tabacaru, Andy Taylor, as well as Yvonne—helped decipher them. The diagonal black postmark is ‘Weiterleiten’, a censor’s cachet which means ‘Cleared for onward transmission’ or ‘May be forwarded’. (The date of the card, handwritten on the back, is the wartime 17/7/1915.) The abbreviation ‘F. A. A.’ in ‘K. u. k. Lokomotiv-Feldbahn Nr. [?]/F. A. A. 3/1’ stands for ‘Feldbahn Arbeiter Abteilung’ (field railway worker unit). On similar cards, unearthed by Roger, the numeral after ‘Nr.’ is ‘1’—even if ‘1’ is missing on this card or has been obscured (*left, top*). Confirmation: ‘Lfb [Lokomotivfeldbahn] No 1’ is included in the return address (*left, bottom*), which also includes ‘Faa 3/1’. (Octavian and Rex suggest that the handwriting makes it appear to be ‘8/1’.) The green, boxed ‘IX 494’, we learn from Octavian, is a civilian postmark originally used in Galicia on money order forms and later as a provisional. According to Andy, the box cancel was used during the war as a ‘tarnstempel’, intended to disguise the place of origin of a letter or card and associated military units. (See also Keith Tranmer’s book, *Austro-Hungarian A.P.O.s 1914–1918* [1973].) Alan Berrisford, in *Austria* No. 153 (Spring 2006), lists ‘IX 494’ as the box cancel for Nadbrzezic. The return address on Yvonne’s card made the *tarnstempel* otiose. Finally, the circular red cachet on the card (*below, left*), made by a metallic seal (Octavian) and which to my eyes seems filled with the spokes of a wheel, is—as discovered by Roger and modified by Rex—‘FeldbahnArbeiterAbteilung No 3/1’. The colour-modified negative devised by the Editor (*below, right*), which exposes the individual letters, is perhaps proof enough.



associated military units. (See also Keith Tranmer’s book, *Austro-Hungarian A.P.O.s 1914–1918* [1973].) Alan Berrisford, in *Austria* No. 153 (Spring 2006), lists ‘IX 494’ as the box cancel for Nadbrzezic. The return address on Yvonne’s card made the *tarnstempel* otiose. Finally, the circular red cachet on the card (*below, left*), made by a metallic seal (Octavian) and which to my eyes seems filled with the spokes of a wheel, is—as discovered by Roger and modified by Rex—‘FeldbahnArbeiterAbteilung No 3/1’. The colour-modified negative devised by the Editor (*below, right*), which exposes the individual letters, is perhaps proof enough.



 **LETTER.** The Editor received this letter from **Hartmut Liebermann:**

Czechout No. 177, 4/2019, included Robert Lauer's interesting article, 'Cancelled Czech: The Re-Germanisation of Six Town Cancellers in Inter-War Czechoslovakia', in which the author wrote, 'There were three towns—Georgswalde, Weigsdorf, Wölmsdorf—where unilingual German devices replaced initial bilingual cancellers issued by the new Czech postal authorities, as well as three towns—Moldau, Tepl, Markt Türnau—where the initial unilingual Czech cancellers were replaced by bilingual Czech/German devices.' The author concluded, 'The particular reasons why the cancellers from these half dozen towns are an aberration to the prevailing process of removing German and adding Czech to the postal cancelling devices during this period are almost certainly lost in the sands of time. All six had predominantly German populations and were in overwhelmingly German-speaking areas; most were close to the German border. But these factors do not distinguish them from hundreds of similar communities in inter-war Czechoslovakia.'

I agree with Lauer's description of the development of cancellers in these places, but I disagree that the reasons are obscure, at least for the first group of towns—Georgswalde, Weigsdorf, Wölmsdorf—which had only monolingual German cancellers during the Austrian Empire. Let's have a look at the so-called 'bilingual' cancellers which were introduced in 1920. In each of the cancellers, the purportedly Czech name incorporated a 'V' instead of the German 'W': Georgsvalde, Veigsdorf, Völmsdorf. But these were not really the Czech names of these towns; they were merely the manner of writing German names employing Czech orthography. There had never been any Czech names for these towns. That's why these 'bilingual' cancellers were abolished after a short time and replaced by monolingual German cancellers. By the way, even after the end of WWII these towns kept their German names for some period of time, before new Czech names were *invented*. Georgswalde officially received a Czech name on 1 March 1946; it was now called 'Jiříkov' ('Jiří' is the Czech version of the German 'Georg'). Wölmsdorf became 'Vilemov u Šluknova' on 1 September 1946. Weigsdorf became 'Višnová u Frýdlantu' only on 1 April 1948! None of these Czech names existed before 1945 and definitely not in 1920. There are other post offices which had only monolingual German cancellers even after May 1945. Glöckelberg, for example, was renamed only on 1 September 1947 to 'Zvonková'. See Figures A–E for examples of monolingual German postmarks which were still in use after the liberation of May 1945.

The situation was different for the other three places (Moldava/Moldau, Teplá/Tepl, Městečko Trnavka/Markt Türnau). These towns already had both German and Czech names before an independent Czechoslovakia was founded. So it was obvious that they would have cancellers which employed their Czech names in 1920. But it is also obvious why the postal administration very soon replaced monolingual Czech cancellers with bilinguals—these towns were situated in regions with more than 75 per cent German population, as Lauer pointed out. In these regions bilingual cancellers were normal in Czechoslovakia between the wars.

Figure A. Georgswalde: Postmark of Czechoslovak origin (1925), without any correction. The date is 21.XI.45.

Figure B. Georgswalde: The Czechoslovak postal administration even issued a new monolingual canceller (3rd type) on 11 December 1945 with the old name 'Georgswalde'. It was used until the end of February 1946, when new cancellers with the name 'Jiříkov' were issued. The date on this cancel is an unclear end-of-February 2?.II.1946.

Figure C. Wölmsdorf: Postmark of German origin, original German administrative data (KR SCHLUCKENAU) replaced by the Czech version 'OKRES ŠLUKNOV'. The German name 'Wölmsdorf' is retained on this cancel dated 10.1.46.

Figure D. Glöckelberg: Postmark of Austrian type, introduced 1938 after the Sudetenland occupation of post offices which were relocated into Reichsgau Oberdonau. This cancel is dated 1.X.45, without any corrections.

Figure E (next page). Weigsdorf: Postmark of German origin (Deutsche Reichspost), administrative data (KR FRIEDLAND, ISERGEB) deleted but German name retained. There is an additional provisional rubber postmark of Czech origin ('Weigsdorf 1945') dated 20.9.45.



Figure A



Figure B

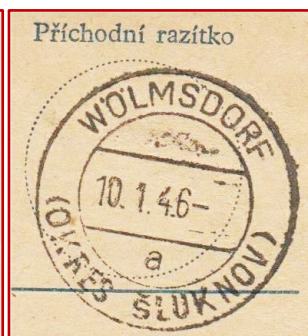


Figure C

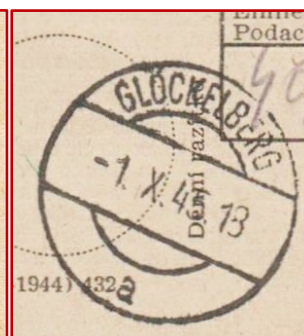


Figure D

[For more on these and related cancels, see articles by Hartmut in *Czechout* 2/2014, pp. 13–14, 1/2017, pp. 17–18.]

Figure E



Reply by Robert Lauer:

Hartmut, thank you for your comments on my article and for the information on the subsequent postal history of Georgswalde, Weigsdorf and Wölmsdorf, as well as Glöckelberg. Your efforts and contribution to this topic are much appreciated.

Your explanation—why bilingual cancellers for the first three towns mentioned were abandoned—makes perfect sense, but does not seem to be applicable beyond these three cases. When I went through Volume 17 of the *Monografie*, I found over 60 examples of towns which had unilingual German cancellers before 1918, went to Germany in 1938 and where the Czech version of the town name in cancellers issued in 1920 was, in your words, ‘merely the manner of writing the German names using Czech orthography’. This group does not include towns for which minor changes had been made to the name, such as appending ‘y’ to the German spelling or changing ‘au’ at the end of a German town name to the Czech ‘ov’, or when any part of the town name was translated. If we include these towns, the number is in the hundreds. Given the linguistic properties of the pre-1918 cancellers, and given where these towns ended up geographically and politically in 1938, I think it is safe to assume that almost all the towns had populations that were majority German-speaking. But all still had bilingual cancellers in 1938.

This group of towns includes larger centres having more than one post office, with cancellers such as Aš-Asch, Rumburk-Rumburg, Šmídeberk-Schmiedeberg, Šternberk-Sternberg and Varnsdorf-Warnsdorf. A plausible explanation for these towns is that larger German-speaking centres were going to have bilingual cancellers regardless of the linguistic composition of the municipality. None of the 50-odd towns which retained unilingual German cancellers in 1920 were large enough to warrant more than one post office. However, this group of over 60 towns also includes smaller centres with 1920 cancellers reading, for example, Buchberkstál-Buchbergstahl, Dasnice-Dassnitz, Drahovice-Drahowitz, Gräffenberk-Gräffenberg, Kraslice-Graslitz, Kutlberg-Kuttelberg, Melč-Meltsch, Ploškovice-Ploschkowitz, Sedlnice-Sedlnitz, Telnice-Tellnitz, Velemím-Welemin, Viesenberk-Weisenberg, and Viklice-Wiklitz. (‘Viklice’ became ‘Vykllice’ in 1924.) All these smaller towns still had the same ‘invented’ Czech names in their cancellers in 1938.

Hartmut’s explanation for Moldau and Tepl may very well be correct and the issuing of unilingual Czech cancellers to these towns initially in 1919–1920 was just administrative error. The haste with which the initial unilingual Czech cancellers were replaced by bilinguals in these two towns would support this line of thought. With respect to Markt Türrau, I suppose that Hartmut was not aware of the linguistic composition of the population from the 1921 census when he wrote his comments. This point brings me to the thought that one really does need to delve into the Czechoslovak Census numbers when examining the linguistic changes to cancellers during the inter-war period, which is why I wrote the Postscript to my original article (*above*, p. 16).

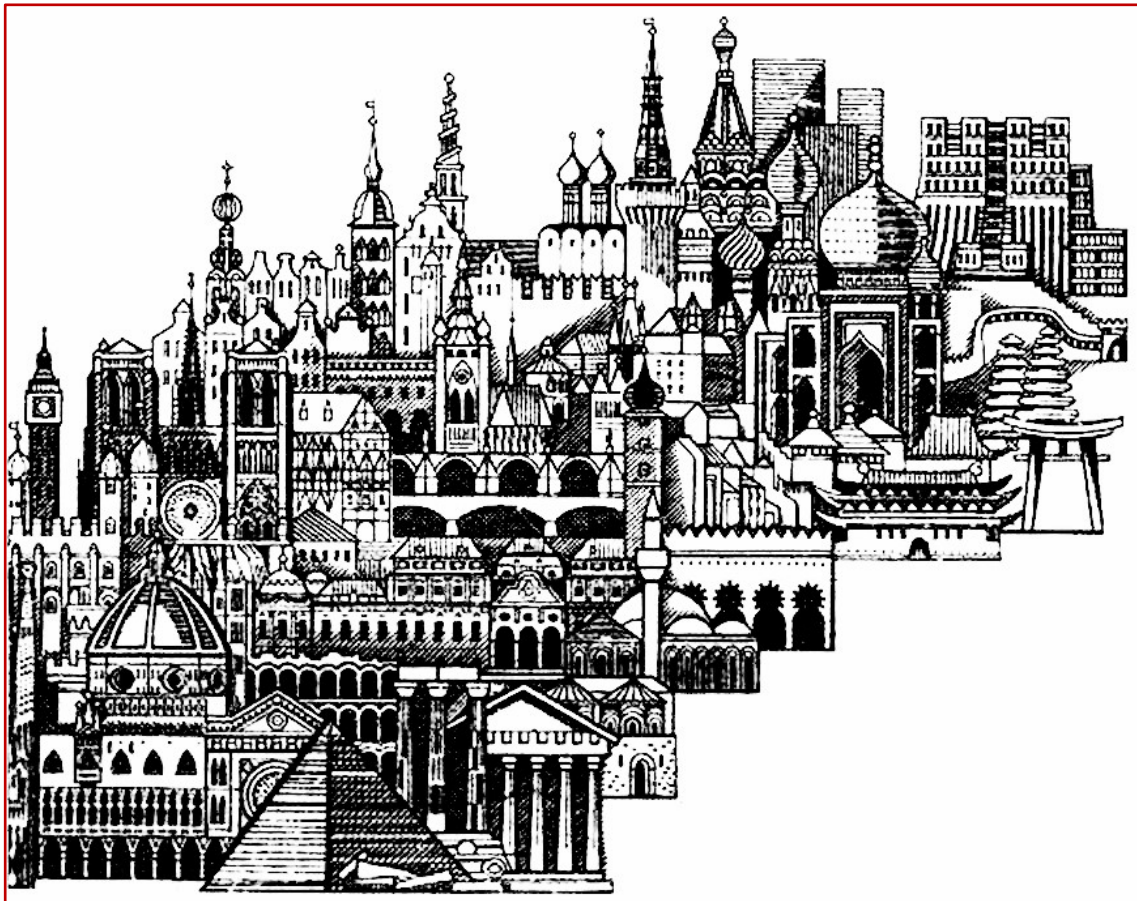
50 Years Ago — June 1970

Stamp Issued on 26 June 1970 for the 25th Anniversary of the United Nations

In 1945, the year in which the United Nations was formed, it had 51 members. It now has, at its 75th anniversary in 2020, 193 sovereign nations. The recent stamp issued for the occasion by Slovakia is displayed on the [cover](#) and in the New Issues section, *below*, [pp. 26–27](#). Czechoslovakia was one of the original members. On 19 January 1993, the Czech Republic and Slovakia became independent members.

In 1970 the United Nations, then composed of 127 members, had its 25th anniversary, in commemoration of which this 1 Kčs Czechoslovakia stamp was issued (*right*; Scott 1691, POFIS 1833, SG 1894). It is inscribed ‘United Nations’, in the lower right corner, in Czech, English, Russian, French, Chinese and Spanish. The ‘whole world’ emblem of the United Nations is included inside the compass in the Praha first day cancel. The primary design is a composition of views of the capital cities of member states, merged together in a collage (or montage?) of buildings, bridges and other icons. The headquarters of the United Nations in New York can be seen at the left side of the conglomeration and Westminster’s Big Ben in London is positioned directly to the right of the colourful compass. A leisurely task: identify the scenes and cities shown on the stamp. Write to the Editor (editor@cpsgb.org) with your ideas.

The stamp was engraved by Bedřich Housa (see New Issues, [next](#) page). It was the [winner](#) of several polls which judged it to be the ‘best’ 1970 Czechoslovakia stamp and the world’s ‘most beautiful’ stamp of 1970. Remarks on this stamp appear in *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, No. 310 (February 1971), pp. 21–22. **Ed.**



NEW ISSUES



Czech Republic

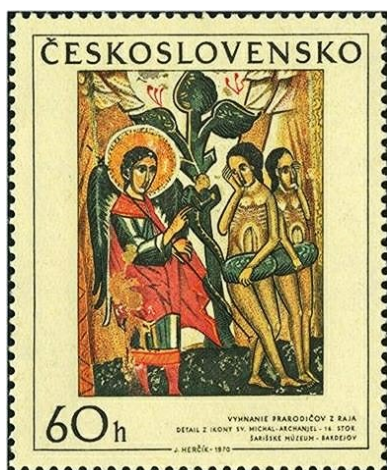
'The Tradition of Czech Stamp Design: Bedřich Housa' – 20 January 2020

Bedřich Housa (born Prague, 1926), a prominent Czech stamp engraver and designer, engraved the Czechoslovakia 1970 United Nations stamp shown *above*, p. 23. This 2020 issue is a grayscale portrait of Housa



holding an engraver's tool, designed by Eva Hašková and produced by offset printing. During WWII, Housa was trained as a steel engraver in the stamp department of the Czechoslovak Graphic Union. Afterwards he studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Prague. He began to focus on stamps in 1949 and his output for Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic over 60 years was prolific. (See, e.g., the 80 h and 160 Kčs denominations in the 1954 'Povolání' definitives discussed in this issue on pp. 30:I–30:VIII.) As did Czesław Słania and other designers and engravers, Housa worked on stamps for other countries. An informa-

tive blog about Housa's life and work can be accessed at stampengravers.blogspot.com/2018/10/biography-bedrich-housa.html. Many of his stamps may be inspected by searching 'Bedřich Housa' on Google; click on the 'Images' tab. There is a tribute to Housa in *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, No. 272 (1967), p. 60.



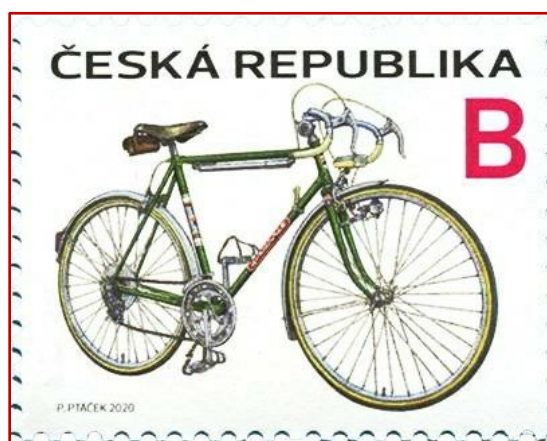
Left: Issued 17 December 1970, a depiction of Adam and Eve banished from Eden, with Archangel St. Michael. 16th century, Šariš Museum, Bardejov. Scott 1722, POFIS 1864, SG 1925. Designed by Bedřich Housa, engraved by Jozef Herčík.

'The Favorit Bicycle' – 1 February 2020

Splendid bicycles built in Rokycany (22 km east of Plzeň) by a sturdy company which was gobbled up but survived state ownership in the Communist era. The 'B' value stamp (*below*) shows one of its bicycles. The company's 'philosophy', says its website (<https://www.favorit.cz/philosophy>), is that 'Favorit has always cost approximately twice

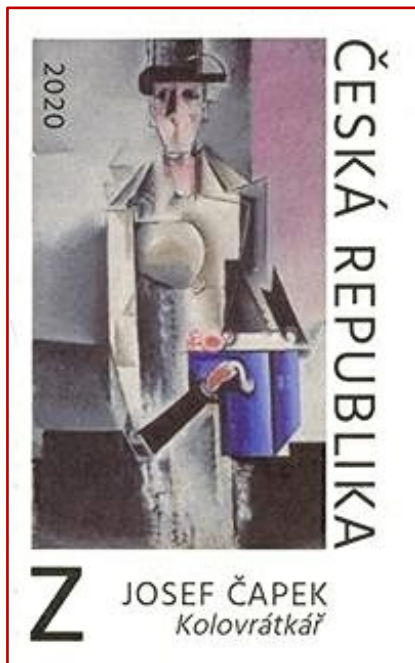
the average monthly wage. For these costs, it was possible to build a high-end bike in the past and, with optimization of production processes, to produce it in series. The price of our new Favorit bike is set at a similar level. The customer is thus sure that they will get a high-end, high-

value bike'. The bicycle displayed, *below*, next to the stamp is advertised on the company's website and its price 'starts' at €4290 (which is around £3798 or \$4636 US), enough reason why the *CPSGB* Honorary Editor will not be purchasing a Favorit, neither for sport nor to comply with the United Nations 'ActNow' programme (see *below*, p. 28). Besides, it doesn't have any pedals.

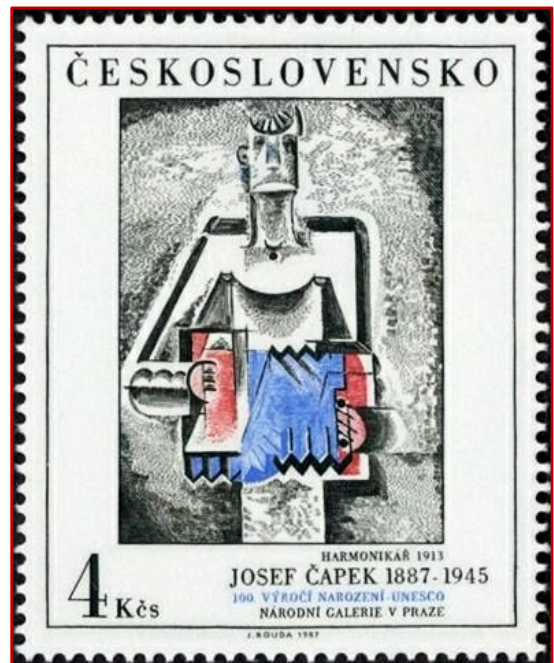


‘Josef Čapek’ – 20 January 2020

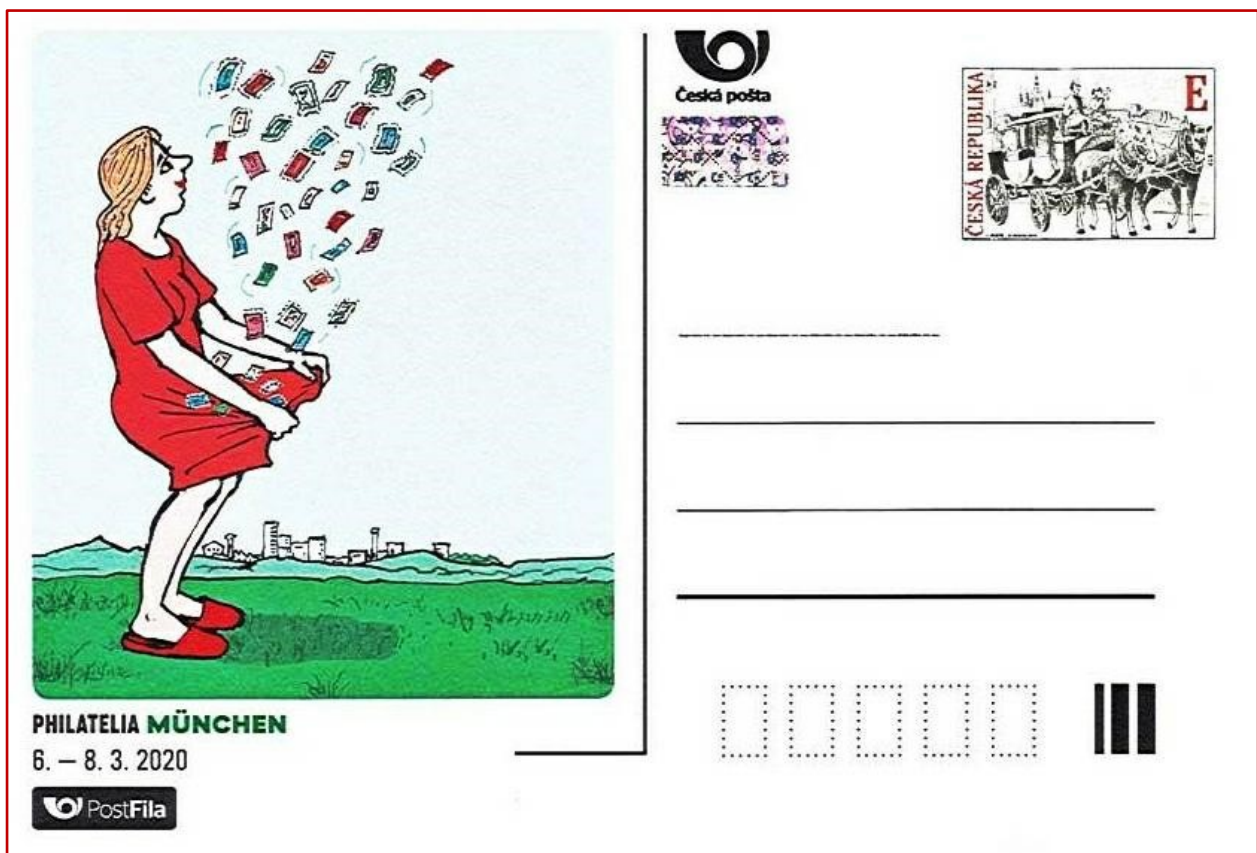
The artist Josef Čapek was born 23 March 1887 in Hronov, Bohemia (German, *Hronow*), 8 km north of Náchod, and died April 1945 in [Bergen-Belsen](#) concentration camp (also Anne Frank) in northern Germany, where he was sent for creating and publishing anti-Nazi illustrations. His Cubist painting *Kolovrátkář* (*Organ Grinder*) is shown on the stamp, which can be obtained only in a booklet of six self-adhesives. Czechoslovakia



had issued a stamp to honour him on 18 November 1987. It shows *Harmonikář* (*Accordion Player*, 1913), which is housed in Prague’s National Gallery (SG 2907, *POFIS* 2821, and *Scott* 2681). Josef’s ‘little’ brother Karel (born 1890 in the nearby town Malé Svatoňovice; died of pneumonia, 25 December 1938 in Prague) was equally an ‘[artistic genius](#)’, well known for his 1920 play *R.U.R.* (*Rossum’s Universal Robots*), an early piece of science fiction.



Česká pošta Stationery – 6 March 2020



The [website](#) for *Philatelia München* announced, in bold caps, ‘*Die Gesundheitsbehörde hat heute abend die Durchführung der Numismata und die weitere Durchführung der Philatelia untersagt. Bitte kommen Sie nicht zum MOC*’, i.e., ‘*The health authority has this evening [11 p.m.] banned the Numismata and Philatelia from continuing [beyond Friday, 6 March]. Please do not come to the MOC*’. The illustration on the card reminds me of an [episode](#) in Chapter XI of Mark Twain’s *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (London, 1884).



Slovak Republic

‘The 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the United Nations’ – 14.02.2020. Designed by Marcel Benčík. Offset printing. See the [cover](#) of this issue for an enlargement of the stamp and [p. 23](#), above.

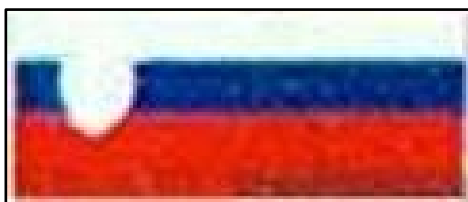
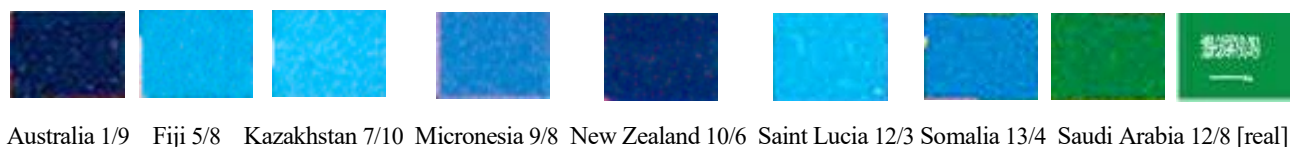
The country flags assembled on this new Slovakia stamp are presented almost always in the order of the English-language alphabetised list of the [United Nations](#), Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, from left to right on each row (15 horizontal rows x 13 vertical columns = 195). The last two spaces are taken by trivial white and blue boxes in the stamp’s lower right corner (row 15, columns 12&13), thereby artificially forming a full rectangle. The spaces could, even should, have been filled meaningfully with the flags of the Holy See (Vatican) and Palestine to arrive at [195 world](#) countries from the current 193 UN states plus those two entities, which are designated as ‘observers’. (Switzerland was an observer until 2002, when it was admitted as a UN member.) The Slovakia stamp is obviously strikingly colourful, but despite its *prima facie* detailed appearance it is wildly



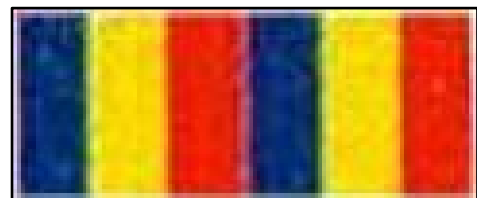
inaccurate as depictions of the flags of the 193 UN states. Some discrepancies are illustrated below. There is no questioning the good intentions behind the stamp’s release, but its execution could have been better. Perhaps the depictions of the flags were meant as caricatures or merely impressionistic or symbolic. But omitting the white cross from the Swiss flag, for example, was an unfortunate design decision; the depiction of the details of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) flag, for example, proves that the Swiss cross could have been inserted, regardless of the small, crowded stamp. (See the contrast, top of [next](#) page.) Superb stamp production over 180 years has demonstrated that tiny pieces of paper can contain exquisite details. Coming in 2020, the Slovakia UN stamp is disappointing.

Above: This image is approximately the stamp’s actual size, 42 × 42 mm.

All the images gathered below (except the [real] versions of the flags of Switzerland, Cyprus, Saudi Arabia and Slovenia) have been copied and pasted from an enlarged image of the stamp. The numbers are the row (1–15) and column (1–13) on the Slovakia stamp. (I almost feel like I’m plating a Hradčany and its flaws.)



Slovenia [real]



Above, left: Two flags, Slovakia and Slovenia, as they appear contiguously in the Slovakia UN flag stamp (row 13, columns 1&2). The Slovakia flag has a decorative shield, in outline at least, the kind of thing which is missing from more than 60 other flags including, as shown, Slovenia. It would have been as easy to put a shield surrogate into the Slovenia flag (*centre*) as it was for the Slovakia flag. Also missing, for example: a Maple Leaf (Canada); a Cedar (Lebanon); a Star of David (Israel); a [Union Jack](#) (Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Tuvalu—the UK’s Union Jack, at 15/1, is a mess). Other flags lack similar icons (stars, crescents, etc.) and are represented only by solid colored blocks or stripes. Czechia, at 4/6, is accurate. **Above, right:** The contiguously positioned flags of Romania and Moldova (row 11, columns 11&12), indistinguishable exactly because the Moldovan emblem (or a surrogate) has been omitted. Click [here](#) for a large image of the collected 193 UN flags with details.



Cyprus 4/5

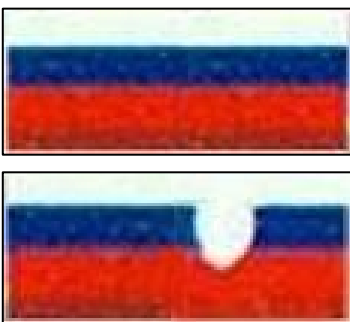


[real]



Two different small format sets of the 193 flags of the UN countries. On the left is the Slovakia stamp; on the right is an image of the flags in nearly the same English-language alphabetic order. Both have 15 rows and 13 columns. The image on the right shows details missing from the Slovakia stamp. In this image, Slovakia is at 12/13 and Slovenia is at 13/1; both flags contain their shields. The Switzerland flag is at location 13/12 in both sets; only one has a cross.

In defense of the design, it may be said that merely copying the details of the flags would have been artistically dull. To the contrary, it may have been a remarkable design achievement to show essential aspects of each of the 193 (or 195) flags on a single stamp. True, the decision to omit spaces between the flags on the stamp, to place them contiguously, *is* an inspired design feature which yields surprising emergent shapes, like a kaleidoscope. (See this [set of 195 flags](#), including the observers Palestine and the Vatican.) But it is not clear that the artistic merit of the stamp overrides other factors—which is suggested by the following comparison.



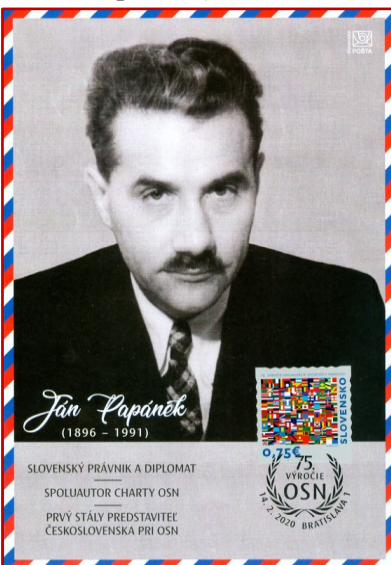
Top: What the stamp's contiguous images of the Slovakia and Slovenia flags look like without a *Slovak* emblem—they are as indistinguishable as the contiguous flags of Romania and Moldova. Would Slovaks be happy with this rendition of their flag? Why expect Moldovans to be happy with the way their flag was rendered, as if no different from the Romanian? The movement for Moldovan independence was just as significant for *them* as the movement for Slovak independence. The inclusion of the Slovakia emblem was possible, hence the inclusion of the Moldovan emblem was possible, yet was not done. This is artistic beauty? 'Beauty is truth, truth beauty' (John Keats, 'Ode on a Grecian Urn', 1819). The untruthful designs of the Slovenia and Moldova

flags are an affront to Slovenes and Moldovans. The charge of chauvinism stands, as it would have stood if a Ljubljanan stamp designer presented to the world the second (*bottom*) pair of flags as Slovak and Slovene (with the shield raised higher than the red stripe).

It may be replied that reproducing the details of the flags would have ignored that the UN is most importantly a whole composed of subservient parts; individual differences take a back seat to the unity in the idea of a *united* nations. True, the lack of spaces between the flags and the emergent shapes nicely inject the idea of unity. But think about the red flags devoid of their idiosyncrasies. These nearly identical flags exhibit homogenisation, the erasing of political, ethnic and cultural meanings and differences. It must be the goal of a unity of nations to join countries together in common world-beneficial causes (e.g., climate control) while recognising and supporting diversity. By painting the flags of Albania, China, Turkey and Vietnam the same colour and omitting their distinctive symbols, the Slovakia stamp destroys pluralism. The UN may be less like an orchestra's first violins than it is a healthy marriage, in which the individuality of each partner is respected.

Commemorative Sheet: Ján Papánek

Ján Papánek (born 24.10.1896, Brezová pod Bradlom in the Trenčín Region [*Berezó*, Upper Hungary]; died 30.11.1991, Scarsdale, New York) earned law degrees in 1923 at the Sorbonne (Paris) and in 1928 at Charles University (Prague). As a member of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs, his first foreign posting was in Budapest, 1924–1926. In October 1926 he joined the Czechoslovak Embassy in Washington, D.C. After returning to Prague, he worked in the early 1930s as a parliamentary correspondent for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1935 he went back to the US, where he served as a Czechoslovak consul in Pittsburgh. He joined the Czechoslovak resistance movement led by Edvard Beneš and became his personal US representative. He attended the San Francisco Conference of the United Nations (25 April–26 June 1945) as a Czechoslovak delegate and was involved in the formulation of the final text of the UN Charter. He then represented Czechoslovakia in the UN. After the coup of February 1948, Papánek initiated a complaint in the UN, accusing a foreign country, the USSR, of participating in the Communist takeover—interfering with the political process of a sovereign nation. The USSR's veto in Security Council deliberations squashed his protest. Later in 1948, the Communist government tried to remove him



from his UN position but failed, and Papánek remained in the UN until the end of his term in December 1950. The rest of his life was given to founding and sustaining the American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees. (Sources: The [Czech](#) and [Slovak Wikipedia](#) pages on Papánek, and Slavomír Michálek, 'The American Fund for Czechoslovak Refugees and Its Leader Ján Papánek', in Anna Mazurkiewicz, ed., *East Central Europe in Exile. Volume 1: Transatlantic Migrations* [2013].) Your Editor, a citizen of the United States, could not fail to see the parallel with the *Report on the Investigation into Russian Interference in the 2016 Presidential Election*, prepared and released in March 2019 by Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller and his colleagues (which can be accessed at www.justice.gov/storage/report.pdf and www.justice.gov/storage/report_volume2.pdf).

Environmentálna Udržateľnosť (Environmental Sustainability): ActNow – 27.03.2020

'ActNow' (www.un.org/en/actnow) is the name of a recent United Nations initiative on climate change. The goal of the campaign is to raise awareness and action for the control of climate change and to support the implementation of the [Paris Agreement](#) of 2015. For one thing, ActNow encourages changes in the behaviours of individuals in their patterns of consumption. By adopting environment-friendly habits (e.g., using less water while showering or taking a bath, riding a bicycle or walking for short distance trips instead of driving a car, turning off lamps and electronics when not in use), individuals can make an appreciable difference.

The Slovakia ActNow stamp was originally planned as a joint issue with Italy, to be released along with the exhibition Milanofil 2020 (27–28 March). This meeting did not occur as a result of the severe COVID-19 outbreak in Italy and elsewhere. The Slovakia ActNow stamp pictures a person riding a bicycle, suggesting that alternatives to the use of fossil fuels in transportation and elsewhere buttress the protection of the environment. The widespread use of bicycles also decreases automobile congestion in cities. As long as your heart, lungs, back, neck, hands, legs and belly are up to it, riding a bike improves your health and reduces medical expenses, which saves personal and social resources. The stamp reminds bicycle riders to install reflectors on their equipment to assist drivers of cars to see the riders and avoid collisions. (Considerably modified from the account by Peter Klučka of [POFIS](#), to whom 'Thank you'.)

On the [Poštové známka](#) website, Vojtech Jankovič [reports](#) that even though Slovakia issued its contribution to the ActNow/Milanofil 2020 joint issue, Italy did not, so that both the issuing of its stamp and the Milan exhibition were postponed. However, Croatia (on 27 March) and the United Nations (19 March) issued ActNow stamps (while all three countries were also issuing sheets styled differently). San Marino plans to issue an ActNow stamp later in the year when Italy issues its stamp. Jankovič's opinion is that the San Marino stamp will depict the same bicycle.

The Slovakia and UN sheets are shown on the [next](#) page. The Croatia sheet contains 10 bicycle stamps; the UN sheet contains 10 stamps each having its own design; the Slovakia sheet contains only one stamp; it includes 9 labels which reproduce the designs from the UN stamps. Only the Slovakia sheet acknowledges Milanofil 2020.



Above: Sheet from Croatia, 10 stamps of one design, the bicycle. Left: A single from the sheet with its label.

ActNow Sheets Issued by Slovakia (1 Stamp) and the UN (10 Stamps)

www.un.org/en/actnow/

ACT NOW

1. OSPRCHOVAŤ SA ZA 5 MINÚT
2. OBMEDZIŤ POUŽÍVANIE AUTA
3. ZNÍŽIŤ SPOTREBU MÄSA
4. POUŽÍVAŤ LOKÁLNE VÝROBKY
5. TRIEDIŤ ODPAD
6. ZHASÍNAŤ SVETLO
7. VYBERAŤ ZÁSTRČKU ZO ZÁSUVKY
8. NABIJAŤ A OPÄŤ POUŽÍVAŤ
9. MÓDA BEZ PLYTVANIA
10. NOSIŤ SI NA NÁKUP VLASTNÉ VRECKÁ

SPOLOČNÉ VYDANIE S TALIANSKOM MILANOFIL 2020 | EMISSIONE CONGIUNTA CON ITALIA MILANOFIL 2020

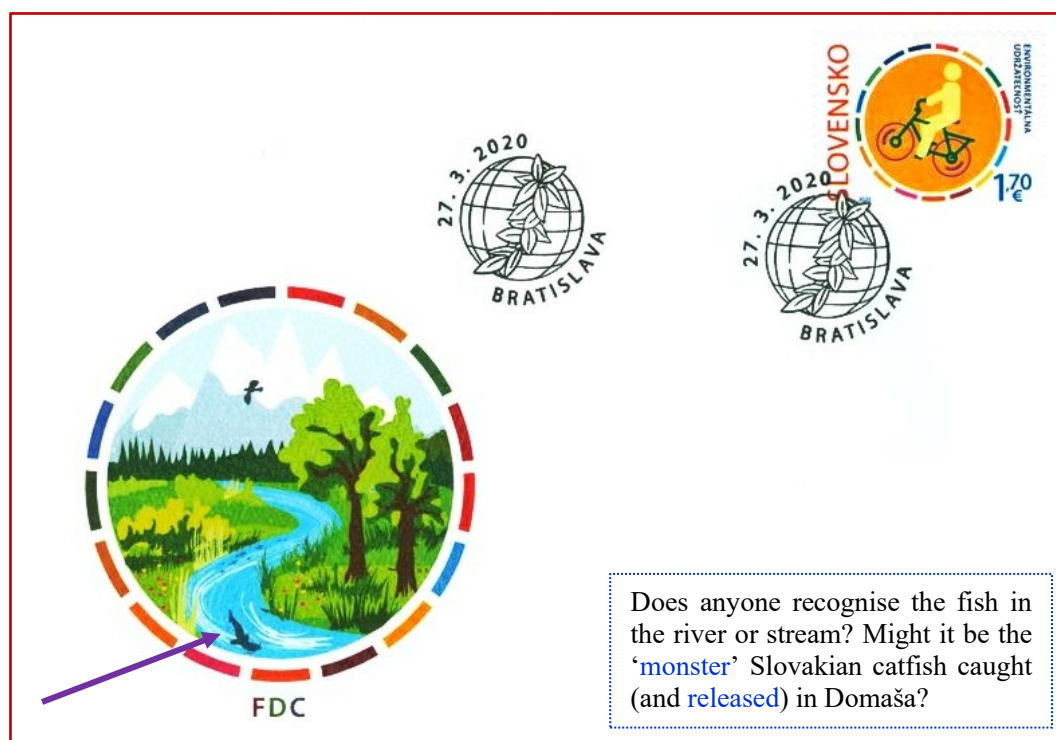
A single stamp costs €1.70, as does the mint sheet. A 'Bratislava' cancelled sheet sells for €0.85.
 The FDC, shown on the next page, is €2.60.
 The UN mint sheet, below, costs \$12.00 ≈ €11 or £9.6.

ACT NOW

1. 5 MINUTE SHOWERS
2. DRIVE LESS
3. MEAT-FREE MEALS
4. LOCAL PRODUCE
5. RECYCLE
6. LIGHTS OFF
7. UNPLUG
8. REFILL & REUSE
9. ZERO WASTE FASHION
10. BRING YOUR OWN BAG

The United Nations ActNow campaign aims to inspire global citizens to take ten daily actions to confront the climate crisis. Act now for people and planet.

un.org/actnow • #ActNow



Does anyone recognise the fish in the river or stream? Might it be the 'monster' Slovakian catfish caught (and released) in Domaša?

STAMPS and STATIONERY

All new 2020 issues and 1993–2019 issues may be viewed and purchased at:


 **Czech Republic** <https://www.ceskaposta.cz/en/sluzby/filatelie-a-postfila/znamky/prehled-znamek>

 **Slovak Republic** <https://www.pofis.sk/en/catalog/products>

Information about formats, production and designers can also be found on these sites.

Abstracts of Publications

by Colin W Spong FRPSL

 **Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei** [Titles translated by Douglas Baxter] (Wilfried Osthuus, editor, redaktion@arge-tschechoslowakei.de. Website, www.arge-tschechoslowakei.de/index.php)

No. 200, June 2019: Peculiarities in the Stamp Issues of Czechoslovakia, 1943–1983, from the collection of Georg Wilhelms [Part 2]; Censorship and Foreign Exchange Controls in Czechoslovakia (Specht); Plate Faults in Czechoslovak Stamps, 1945–1992. Part 17 (1976), *POFIS* 2182-2231 (Norbjerg).

No. 201, Sept. 2019: Plate Faults in Czechoslovak Stamps, 1945–1992. Pt. 18 (1975), *POFIS* 2120–2181 (Norbjerg); Plate Faults in Czechoslovak Stamps, 1945–1992. Pt. 17 (1976), *POFIS* 2182-2231 [Part 2] (Norbjerg); Sudeten Corner, Pts. 19 & 20 (Bauer); Special Cancels from the Czech Republic in 2017 (Kokta).

 **Pošta Česko-Slovenská** (Johan Sevenhuijsen, editor, redactie@cs-filatelie.nl. Website, www.cs-filatelie.nl/)

No. 32, Nov. 2019: Hradčany Private Perforations (Sevenhuijsen); Currency Reform: the Events of 25 February–9 March 1919 (Wheatley); Printing Plate Layout for Hradčany Stamps and Postal Stationery (Sevenhuijsen); Rates of the Czechoslovak Post to Iraq via Overland Mail Haifa-Bagdad (Fuchs); Classical Music in Czecho-Slovakia (Stoop); My Collection of Czecho-Slovakia (Hemmes); Hradčany 120 Haler Green (Jonkergouw).

No. 33, March 2020: The 'German Question' in South Moravia (Sevenhuijsen); Hradčany Perforations (Sevenhuijsen); Changes in the Date Order in Hungarian Cancels (Sevenhuijsen); Hradčany 200 Haler Blue (Jonkergouw).

 **The Czechoslovak Specialist** (Keith Hart, editor, kdhart46@icloud.co. Website, www.csphilately.org)

No. 659, Winter 2020, Vol. 82, No. 1: Origin of the Holubice Types (Wilson); The 1942 Slovenský Štát Postal Congress Stamps (Soble); Miniature Sheets 'KDE DOMOV MŮJ' (Jindra); Vincent Hložník (Hart); The Shanghai Cover – An Update (Hart); Updates to the Classics Corner, No. 113. Delivery of Telegrams by the 1918 Czech Scout Post (Lawrence).

 **Stamps of Hungary** (Roger Morrell, editor, editor@hpsgb.com. Website, <http://www.hpsgb.com/index.html>)

No. 220, March 2020: Timeline to Trianon, Part 5: 1 January 1920 to 31 March 1920 (Morrell).

 **Austria** (Andy Taylor, editor, editor@austrianphilately.com. Website, www.austrianphilately.com)

No. 210, Spring 2020: Classic Editions (Taylor).

Officers and Committee

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

Life President	Colin W Spong FRPSL, 3 Balmoral Court, Grand Avenue, Worthing, BN11 5AX 01903 709404 president@cpsgb.org
Chairman	Hans van Dooremalen FRPSL, Hoofdstraat 101, 5121 JC Rijen, The Netherlands 0031 161 226507 chairman@cpsgb.org
Vice Chairman & Immediate Past Chairman	Roger Morrell , 39 Claremont Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 8DH 020 8287 0828 vice-chairman@cpsgb.org
Membership Secretary & European Representative Secretary	Hans van Dooremalen FRPSL, Hoofdstraat 101, 5121 JC Rijen, The Netherlands 0031 161 226507 membership@cpsgb.org [temporarily vacant] secretary@cpsgb.org
Auction Secretary	Ken Dyke , 38 Bristol Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 4LP 01473 711019 auction-secretary@cpsgb.org
Treasurer	Mrs Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL, Weltevreden, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds, LS15 9BW 0113 260 1978 treasurer@cpsgb.org
Packet Secretary	Bob J Allard , 10 Riverside, Alcester, B49 6RD 01789 763007
Editor	Dr Alan Soble , 2301 Tremont Street, Apt. F-7, Philadelphia, PA 19115-5038, USA +1-267-343-4203 editor@cpsgb.org
Assistant Editor	Roger Morrell , 39 Claremont Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 8DH 020 8287 0828
Press Officer & Webmaster	Bob McLeod , 11 Southwold Close, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7EZ 01296 432905 press-officer@cpsgb.org
Librarian	Mrs D Lindy Bosworth FRPSL, 18 Raymer Road, Penenden Heath, Maidstone, ME14 2JQ 01622 762577 librarian@cpsgb.org
Publications Officer	Rex Dixon FRPSL, 39 Braybank, Bray, Maidenhead, SL6 2BH 01628 628 628 publications-officer@cpsgb.org
Committee Members	Reg Hounsell , 3 Parklands, Royston, SG8 9HL 01763 241805 committee-1@cpsgb.org Dr Garth Taylor , 2 Penfold Close, Hathern, Loughborough, LE12 5LS 01509 843575 committee-2@cpsgb.org
North American Representative	Dr Mark Wilson FRPSL, 370 Lofgrin Road, Sequim, WA 98382-3458, USA +1-540-550-1940 na-rep@cpsgb.org
Advertising Manager	Richard Wheatley FRPSL, Weltevreden, 7 Manor Croft, Leeds, LS15 9BW 0113 260 1978 advertising-manager@cpsgb.org

Membership Benefits

Meetings	Four meetings in 2020, two in London and two in Yorkshire.
Publications	Members receive quarterly the journal <i>Czechout</i> (print and digital editions are available), which includes essays on Czechoslovak, Czech and Slovak philately and informs members about Society affairs. <i>CPSGB</i> also publishes Monographs of original research.
Library	<i>CPSGB</i> maintains a comprehensive library of books, journals and reference items. Postage both ways is paid by borrowers (UK members only). Write to the Librarian .
Auctions	Regular auctions with a varied range of reasonably priced items. Prospective vendors and buyers should contact the Auction Secretary .
New Issue Service	Service has been discontinued. Links/URLs for Czech and Slovak posts are on page 30 .
Circulating Packets	Stamp and postal history packets are available to members, in the UK only. Apply to the Packet Secretary.
Free Small Adverts	Members are permitted free small adverts in <i>Czechout</i> . Contact Advertising Manager .
Accessories at Trade Prices	Members may order accessories, album leaves and philatelic books at a substantial saving. See <i>above</i> , page 4 , or here . Delivered direct. Contact the Treasurer .
Data Protection Act	Members are advised that their details are stored electronically for use on Society business only, <i>e.g.</i> address label printing.

Payments

Sterling cheques drawn on a UK bank payable to the *Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain* (*CPSGB*); current banknotes in pounds sterling, US dollars or Euros. Payments may also be made by US dollar cheques or paid to a Euro bank account, by credit card or PayPal. Please contact the [Treasurer](#) for details.



Czechoslovakia 'Povolání' definitive, 1 Kčs, 3 March 1954: *SG 822*, 'Girl and Sheaf of Corn'; *POFIS 782*, 'zemědělská pracovnice' (agricultural worker); *Scott 652*, 'Farm woman'. Block of 10, 24 IV 54, Praha 2.



Hungary 'Munka' definitives: 8 fillér (3 September 1955), 'truck farmer' (*Scott 1116*), 'kertész' (gardener, *Magyar Posta- és Illetékbélyeg Katalógus*, 1485); 10 f (3 Sept.), 'fisherman' (*Scott 1117*), 'halász' (*MK*, 1486); 12 f (25 November 1955), 'bricklayer' (*Scott 1118*), 'kőműves' (*MK* 1487); 30 f (25 Nov.), 'woman potter' (*Scott 1120*), 'iparművész' (woman industrial or craft artist, *MK* 1489). Budapest 72, [19]57 XII 29, to Spencer, Iowa, USA. The crown of St Stephen in the canceller, a remnant of the Monarchy/Kingdom, has been damaged, the way town names in bilingual cancellers had been excised for political and 'nationalisation of the post' reasons. See *The News of Hungarian Philately*, 42:1 (2016), pp. 11–13 and Figures 127–133.

See 'Povolání and Munka', pp. 30:I–30:VIII

