



CZECHOUT

JOURNAL OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 188



**Host Yvonne Gren (foreground) enjoying Rex Dixon's display
Summer Meeting, Southwick**

Library Additions

Lindy Bosworth

- The Story of the Austrian Post up to 1850* by K. Brandon, R. Morrell & A. Taylor.
- Slovensko 1938–1945: Postal History Volume 1* by M. Bachratý (in Slovak): Historical background 1918–38; 1939–1945; Postal Administration.
- Slovensko 1938–1945: Postal History Volume 2* by M. Bachratý (in Slovak): Postal History.
- Handbuch der Überdruckausgabe 1939 des Protektorates Böhmen und Mähren* by H. Lahr and F. Steinert (in German): Handbook of the 1939 Overprint Issue of Bohemian & Moravia.
- Monografie 24: Perfíny z území Československá* by V. Munzberger & O. Špreňar (in Czech): Perfins from the Territory of Czechoslovakia.
- Czechoslovakia: The Allegory Issues 1920–1926* by Yvonne Wheatley (notes to accompany a presentation given to RPSL members 2016).
- Alfons Mucha* by Norman Hudson (notes to accompany a presentation given at London 2022 CPSGB meeting, 26 February 2022).

On Demand Publications

Orders are grouped to make a viable print run. The price is calculated on the number of pages in the book plus postage and packing. All orders and enquiries should be sent to Yvonne Wheatley (details on page 31). Titles currently available are as follows:

- The Express Stamps: A History*, an original study by J. Sevenhuijsen and M. Wilson.
- The Express Stamps: Essays from Monografie 4 (pages 427–452)* translated by M. Wilson.
- Mucha Newspaper Issue: Essays from Monografie 4 (pages 64–195)* translated by M. Wilson.
- Newspaper Stamps 1925–1926: Essays from Monografie 4 (pages 196–198)* translated by M. Wilson.
- Corrections to Monografie 4: 1919 Postage Due Issue* by J. Sevenhuijsen.
- 1920 Postage Dues: Essays from Monografie 4 (pages 20–29)* translated by M. Wilson.
- Personal Delivery Stamps 1937: Essays from Monografie 4 (pages 453–465)* translated by M. Wilson.
- Legionárske Study Series: Plating Guide for the 15 Haler 1919 Jubilee* by Z. Ryvola. Edited, translated and newly illustrated by M. Wilson.
- Legionárske Study Series: Plating Guide for the 25 Haler 1919 Jubilee* by Z. Ryvola. Edited, translated and newly illustrated by M. Wilson.
- Legionárske Study Series: Plating Guide for the 50 Haler 1919 Jubilee* by Z. Ryvola. Edited, translated and newly illustrated by M. Wilson.
- 125 Haler TGM 1920 Part 1* by M. Wilson.
- 125 Haler TGM 1920 Part 2–Index (A4 format)* by M. Wilson.
- Agriculture and Science Issues of 1920 and 1923: translations from Monografie No 2 and Monografie 4.* Edited by J. Karásek; translated by M. Wilson.
- Czechoslovakian Postage Stamps of the First Republic: Essays from Monografie No. 7 – The Dove (Holubice) Monografie 2 (pages 185–266)* translated by V. Kraliček.
- The Holubice Study Series: The 10 Haler Green Dove* by J. Moravec and J. Kašpar. Edited, translated and newly illustrated by M. Wilson.
- The Holubice Study Series: The 10 Haler Dove: Persistent Flaws, Alleged Retouches and Plate Identifiers* by J. Kašpar and J. Moravec. Compiled, translated and newly illustrated by M. Wilson.
- Essays from Monografie 2: (Monografie No. 2, pages 267–350): The Liberated Republic* by M. Wilson.
- The Liberated Republic Series: The 50 Haler Red* by M. Wilson.
- The Liberated Republic Series: The 25 Haler (revised edition)* by M. Wilson.

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News & Notices

Congratulations

The Annual Convention of the Society of Czechoslovak Philatelists took place at the Garfield Perry March Party in Cleveland recently, one of the longest established shows in the US. **Alan Hanzl** gave two presentations during the show, *Czech and Slovak Art on Stamps – 1966 to the present day* and (during the Convention) *Slovakia's First Republic 1939–1945*. **James Buckner** was awarded a Large Vermeil Medal for his exhibit *Czechoslovakia's Newspaper Stamps 1918–1939*. **Alan Hanzl's** exhibit *Slovakia's First Republic 1939–1945* received a Vermeil Medal and he also received the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Gold Award of Honour Pin. **Ludvik Svoboda** received a Vermeil Medal for *Trials and Tribulations with Czechoslovakia's Hradčany 1918–1920*.

KOSMOS Award

The Federation of European Philatelic Associations' awards for 2021 have just been announced and KOSMOS, a specialist society in the Czech Republic, has been awarded a FEPA Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Services for the Promotion of Philately. Here are the details from the FEPA News publication.

The KOSMOS Specialised Society, founded January 1971, is one of the oldest specialised groups in Europe aiming at promoting and supporting collecting focused on astronautics and space research. It brings together philatelists and others interested in space matters, covering both thematic philately and astrophilately. The Society publishes KOSMOS, a quarterly full-colour bulletin, and over the years has organised several national competitive philatelic exhibitions. KOSMOS members have also appeared on radio and television and organised professional lectures and activities for the general public. Members of the Society have successfully exhibited at philatelic exhibitions both at home and abroad.

Bratislava 2023

As part of the celebrations to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the independent Slovak Republic, the Union of Slovak Philatelists, in cooperation with Slovak Post, is organizing a national philatelic exhibition to take place from 2 to 4 June 2023 in Bratislava. The exhibition, titled Bratislava 2023, will welcome international participation in all exhibition classes. Our member Pavol Lazar is the Chairman of the exhibition.

Boston 2026 World Expo

Boston 2026 World Expo takes place 23–30 May 2026, at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Centre. Full show details may be found at <https://boston2026.org/> and on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Polar Exploration Material recovered

I would like to inform you that the stolen exhibit about Dr. Vaclav Vojtech (reported in the March 2022 edition of *Czechout*) has luckily been found in early June 2022 and the exhibit is back in the hands of its owner, Jiří Kraus. Thank you for your support and let's hope that all similar cases end as happily!

Lubor Kunc

CPSGB Summer Meeting at Southwick, 21 May 2022

Finally – after two previous attempts and years of planning – **Yvonne Gren** was able to welcome fifteen members and visitors to the Society's Summer Meeting on the South Coast. Yvonne gave a special welcome to several 'first-timers' and members of the local Adur Stamp Club, and then handed over to **Yvonne Wheatley** to chair the meeting.

Ron Gillard took us through the story of Operation Anthropoid, posing the question 'was it a Heroic Mission or a Reckless Tragedy?' The mission by Josef Gabčík and Jan Kubiš was the only successful assassination of a high-ranking Nazi (Reinhard Heydrich) during the Second World War but led to terrible reprisals with the annihilation of two Czech villages, Lidice and Ležáky. Ron's PowerPoint presentation came with a warning – one image in particular might be distressing for some as it showed some graphic detail of the destruction of Lidice.

Colin Smith then shared some interesting material relating to the Scout Stamps of 1918 and the Field Post of the Czech Army in Siberia. The latter included some colour variations and alternative designs that were never officially issued. There was some discussion as to the status of these stamps, as trials or perhaps forgeries?

Richard Wheatley displayed a range of covers bearing stamps from the 1945 War Heroes series. All of them had been used for registered post and the covers were clearly marked with the relevant postal rates. In addition, some of them had pink stickers to indicate a further level of interest. Richard explained that when the Czechs returned to the Sudetenland after the war they set up an organization for the repatriation of Germans

and as part of this set up their own system of censorship. These covers carried marks showing that they had been subjected to this process.



One of Roger Morrell’s postcards showed Three Wise Men being grilled by Austrian customs officials on entry to ‘Čech’ - 28 December 1909.

The Polish occupation of East Silesia was the topic of a presentation by **Rex Dixon**. He explained that the city of Teschen/Cieszyn was divided in two by the Allies after WWI, as East Silesia was split along the line of the Olza river – a postcard showed the bridge connecting the two halves of the city. That part on the west bank was given to Czechoslovakia, while that on the east bank went to Poland. After the Munich Agreement in 1938, Poland asked to have the Czechoslovakian half returned to it. Rex’s presentation included a display of postcards showing Polish celebrations following this return. But Teschen only remained Polish for a year, after which the Germans took over.

Postcards also featured in **Roger Morrell’s** presentation – this time a selection of early lithographed postcards, printed in a range of colours. Many were from the late nineteenth century and most were from hand-painted originals. At this time one side of the card could only hold the address, so a space for messages was left on the same side as the illustration. The split address/message format was only allowed by the Universal Postal Union in 1906/7. One feature of the cards in this collection was that they represented a kind of ‘maximum card’ as the view illustrated was the same as the place name on the cancellation.

of view, with a selection of covers and stamps from Czechoslovakia with the S.O. 1920 overprint. These were introduced at the time of the peace-keeping group that tried to organize a plebiscite to decide on how the territory was to be divided – but finally just decided on a boundary in 1920. Several cancellations bore witness to the fact that the Poles had taken handstamps with them when they left and emergency handstamps had to be devised to replace them.

Finally, **Yvonne Wheatley** presented the East Silesia question from the Czechoslovakian point



Part of a telegram from Yvonne Wheatley’s presentation, bearing a 20 haler Scout Stamp. Dated 11 November 1918 (just three weeks after the creation of Czechoslovakia) the telegram is a request to the President of the Ministry in Prague that Silesia’s Provincial Government should be in Ostrava, as the centre of the region.

At the end of the afternoon Dave Hilton, a visitor from the Adur Stamp Club, gave a vote of thanks. He thanked all who had made presentations, Yvonne Wheatley for welcoming him to the meeting, Yvonne Gren’s daughter-in-law and carer for plying us with tea and cakes and, most of all, thanked and congratulated Yvonne Gren for bringing us all together after such a long time, in spite of all the false starts.

Tony Holdsworth

A Query Resolved – General Dwight Eisenhower in Prague

In the June issue of *Czechout* **Jerry Starman** asked about a clipping with a special cancel accompanied by an autograph of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Lubor Kunc has written to say that many military leaders visited Czechoslovakia at the end of World War II, including Soviet marshalls, General George Patton, Field Marshall Montgomery and General Eisenhower. At the time of Eisenhower's visit to Prague on 11 October 1945 he was military governor of the American Occupation Zone in Germany, based at Frankfurt. In Prague he met the Mayor, Petr Zenkl, who presented him with an etched crystal vase, then met President Edvard Beneš, who decorated him with the *Order of the White Lion*.



A special commemorative postcard issued to mark Eisenhower's visit to Prague in October 1945 (left) and a registered cover franked using the commemorative cancellation.

Kunc writes that the commemorative postmark was used at the Prague Castle Post Office (Praha 10), as that was where Eisenhower met Beneš. Eisenhower's visit was also accompanied by a commemorative postcard – shown above with a registered letter bearing the Eisenhower cancel, both supplied by Kunc.

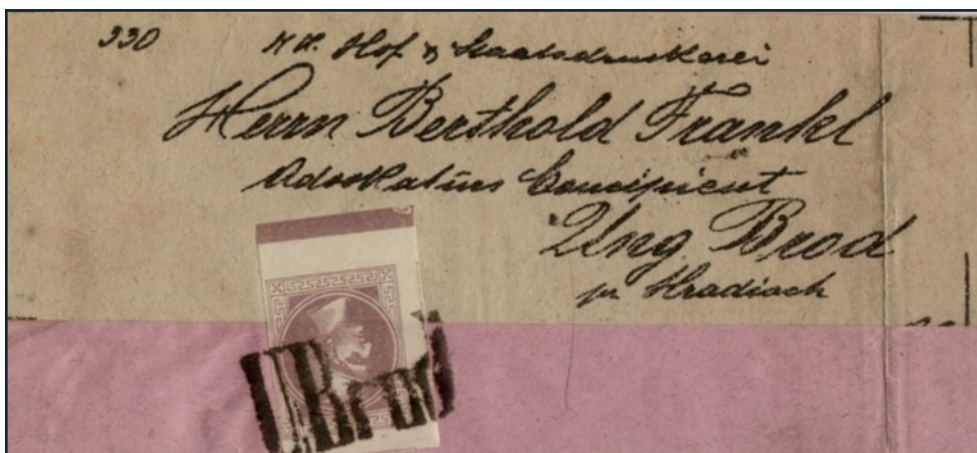
Whether the signature on the original clipping is genuine, however, is another matter – it may well be printed rather than hand-written.

Ludvik Svoboda has also written to point out that further information on General Eisenhower's visit to Prague is available on pages 14 and 15 of the January/February issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, the journal of our sister organization, the Society for Czechoslovak Philately.

Curious Czech Cancel Causes Collector Considerable Consternation

Andy Taylor

Sleeve with label sent to Ung. Brod near Hradisch in Moravia. 1867 type III Austrian newspaper postage stamp with type A marginal rule. The handwritten address label is pasted on a mid-red wrapper, and says: *KK. Hof u Staatsdruckerei/Herrn Berthold Frankl/Advokatus Concipient/Ung. Brod/zu Hradisch.*



Herr Frankel is a trainee barrister (in Latin!). Note the 330 at top left; this suggests that the contents were a newspaper within the meaning of the Act, and Frankel was number 330 on the circulation list. It seems plausible that the State Printing Works were registered as a publisher. The stamp was valid from 1867 to 1899.

The label is glued to a dark pink newspaper wrapper (*Schleife*), and these are prescribed by Law to be for

- *Verschleisserzeitungen*: newspapers for which the recipient (typically a newsagent) has arranged (possibly at extra cost) to be allowed to collect them direct from the station once they are cancelled; or
- *Eisenbahnerzeitungen*: something similar that I do not understand and have never seen in the flesh.

So, if a station accepts such items and they arrive uncanceled, the station needs an official canceller.

However, the same Law requires the items to have *Zeitungsverschleisser* or *Eisenbahnerzeitungen* to be on the label, but they aren't.

The undated straight-line cancel U:Brod (note the colon) is not recorded in any of the standard catalogues. Votoček vol 14 number 2502 has two U:Brod but with a dot, and with a date, and in script. None of the others under 2502 have lower-case 'rod'. Müller and Klein concur.

Could it be the telegraph office cancel? There seemed to be a bit of leeway as to when these cancels were used instead of post office ones, but if a bundle of newspapers came in by train and was handled by railway staff who also ran the telegraph office, they may well have cancelled any uncanceled stamp with the telegraph office canceller.

I wonder if it could be the railway station's official name-stamp for use on *Frachtbriefe*. Or did the local engraver knock it up to meet a need?

All comments welcomed by the author, especially if received before the end of 2022.

Two-Colour Postmark in Heidelberg in 1948

Rex Dixon



As far as I am aware, this 1948 postmark from Heidelberg is Germany's only two-colour postmark. Both the postmark and the picture on the reverse of the postcard (*overleaf*) depict the same sites: above is the Castle and Charles Bridge in Prague, Czechoslovakia; below is Heidelberg Castle high above the River Neckar. Both are inscribed 'IDAD: Festspiele des Ostdeutschtums', the Festival of Eastern Germans, held in Heidelberg 24–31 October 1948. IDAD stands for *Interessengemeinschaft der ausgesiedelten Deutschen*, the Interest Group for Resettled Germans. (The postmark is Bochmann number 30; Bochmann gives a false expansion of IDAD.)

In spring 1947 the American occupation authorities gave one **Karl Bartunek**, who had been expelled from Czechoslovakia in June 1946, licence to found a self-help group at local district level for displaced persons, with the first local group of IDAD set up in Eutingen, near Pforzheim, on 3 May. By the summer of 1948 there was a group in every local district in northern Baden, with some 20,000 members. By October 1948 he had obtained permission to function at state level. Bartunek became the chairman of this first expellee organization in the Bizone, which immediately organized this festival in Heidelberg.

Karl Bartunek was born in 1906 in Prague to middle-class parents. After graduating from a German education in 1925 he studied chemistry at the German Technical High School in Prague until 1931. Then followed military service in the Czechoslovak army, after which he worked as a research assistant at the Technical High School, gaining his doctorate in 1936. From 1937 to 1941 he worked in the Ministry of Labour in Prague and, after the establishment of the Protectorate, in the Reich Ministry of Economics. He was doing well for himself and his family.

From 1941 to 1945 he was in the *Wehrmacht* and served in Stalingrad and in Italy. Severely wounded and disabled, he finished as captain in the reserve. After the end of the war he was interned and then expelled. By October 1946 he had got himself a secure position in the Trade Inspectorate in Karlsruhe in the American half of Baden, which he headed from 1961.



Postcard marking the Festival of Eastern Germans in Heidelberg 24–31 October 1948

After he and his family had settled in Eutingen he made his first attempts to set up an apolitical economic and cultural interest group to help his fellow expellees, a project that at the time was against American occupation law – any purely refugee organization was banned out of concern about the radicalization of the displaced. With persistence, and thanks to the growing understanding of the occupation authorities that they could not solve the displaced persons problem by excluding those affected, Bartunek obtained the licence mentioned above.

He advocated the merger of the various displaced persons associations and was instrumental in the formation in April 1949 of the *Zentralverband der vertriebenen Deutschen*, the Central Association of Expelled Germans, of which he was briefly chairman. With internal disputes therein, he now concentrated on his north Baden regional association.

He supported the unification of Baden-Württemberg into a single *Land* (state) and from 1953 to 1964 was a member of the state assembly. He was able to push through the settlement of displaced persons in economically prosperous areas; this plan, named after Bartunek, represents his greatest political achievement. He died in 1984.



The postmark's depiction of Prague almost certainly indicates that it was manufactured in Czechoslovakia rather than in Germany. Czechoslovakia had been producing two-colour, even three-colour, postmarks like this since 1935. The celebration of National Day, 28 October, gave the head post office in Prague the opportunity to trial this new-fangled idea with a simple two-colour design (*left*).

In 1935 an accountant in Prague, Jan Jaroslav Poslušný, took out patent number 61574 for an 'automatic postmarking device' as he called it. This allowed a hand-operated cancelling machine to be segmented in such a way that each segment was inked from separate reservoirs. The mechanism was similar to that used in a numerator, where each strike advanced a serial number. Thus, when the device was positioned on the item to be post-



Registered cover with a 'Heidelberg 1' provisional R-label.

The pencil squiggle, possibly 'So', could indicate that it was posted at a Sonderpostamt (special PO) at the festival.

marked each down-stroke brought the next segment into play. A two-colour postmark would require two down-strokes, a three-colour one three down-strokes and so on.

Poslušný demonstrated his device to the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs in Prague. They were impressed by the concept but concerned as to its cost and practicability. Nevertheless, they decided to try it out with the postmark shown opposite, the world's first two-colour postmark. Over the next few years they continued with ever more complex designs, with the first three-colour one being used in Pardubice in October 1936 for the 8th Golden Helmet Motorcycle Championships.

References

Dawson, W. A., *The evolution of three-colour cancellations in Czechoslovakia* (Czechout March 1990, pages 11–16).

Marquet, Andreas, *Bartunek, Karl* www.leo-bw.de/detail/-/Detail/details/PERSON/kgi_biographien/101270761X/Bartunek+Karl (accessed February 2021).

This article was previously published in the August 2022 edition of Germania, the journal of the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society.

Cooperation Agreement with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately

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

The Matrix Method of Producing Printing Plates

Johan Sevenhuijsen

The June 2021 issue of Czechout included an article entitled 'The Matrix Conundrum'. The following additional information on the subject was recently published in the Dutch Society journal Pošta Česko-Slovenská.

Tony Holdsworth, Assistant Editor

In a recent issue of *Czechout*, Mark Wilson gave an extensive account of his search for a clear and understandable explanation of the way printing plates were produced using the so-called matrix method. These were the plates that used to print stamps by letterpress (sometimes referred to as relief or typographic printing). Plates for most of the early Czechoslovak stamps, such as the *Hradčany*, the first newspaper, postage due, and the so-called *Express* stamps, as well as stamps from the *Allegory* series (the *Dove*, *Liberated Republic*, and *Agriculture and Science* issues) were produced using the matrix technique.

In the early years of the Republic printing plates were produced using a photographic technique by projecting a negative of a complete pane of a stamps onto a metal plate coated with a light-sensitive layer. The exposed parts of this layer formed a hard protective layer that was resistant to etching, while the light-sensitive layer could be removed from the non-exposed parts so that the metal could be acid-etched. In this way raised printing surfaces (lands) with the image of the stamps and lowered areas that remained white when printed were created. This process was common at the time and familiar to printers. However, it was a labour-intensive process. The printings from different plates of any denomination produced in this way could be distinguished from each other by small flaws in its stamp images.

At the beginning of the 1920s, when very long print runs became necessary for several stamp issues, a new method was introduced to produce printing plates quickly and efficiently. This method also had the advantage that in the production of plates hardly any errors occurred; the stamps from different plates, in most cases, could not be distinguished from one other. This new method involved the electrolytic forming of a metal plate. In the Czech philatelic literature the description of the process more or less stops with that information. At least, everything else in the literature about the description of this process is most confusing.

In an earlier issue of *Pošta Česko-Slovenská* I explained the electrolytic process on the basis of the first experiment carried out with it, namely in the course of printing the 1920 Hradčany 30 haler purple. This involved producing separate clichés which were then assembled into printing plates. The result was not very satisfactory, especially because the stamp images were skewed on the printed pane. In the years that followed, the Czech Graphics Union worked at perfecting the process of making plates using this method. As a result it became possible to produce complete plates in one go. As already mentioned, the panes printed from these plates are barely distinguishable from one another, but fortunately the Czech Graphics Union always added markings in the margins to distinguish the plates behind a pane. This was done by placing a two-digit year on one side of the plate and a serial number on the other side*. These appeared in small coloured squares at the lower corners of the printed pane. So the question now becomes: exactly how were these plates produced?



Serial Number and Two-Digit Date.

It was already known that, for any particular denomination, groups of plates existed that shared similar unique characteristics. Therefore, those plates must have had a common ancestor. That ancestor was called a *matrix*, but what such a matrix looked like remained unclear in the descriptions supplied by Czech philatelic literature. During my recent visit to the Prague Postal Museum, I discovered that the Museum has a number of matrices in their collection – they make it clear just how the process must have been accomplished.

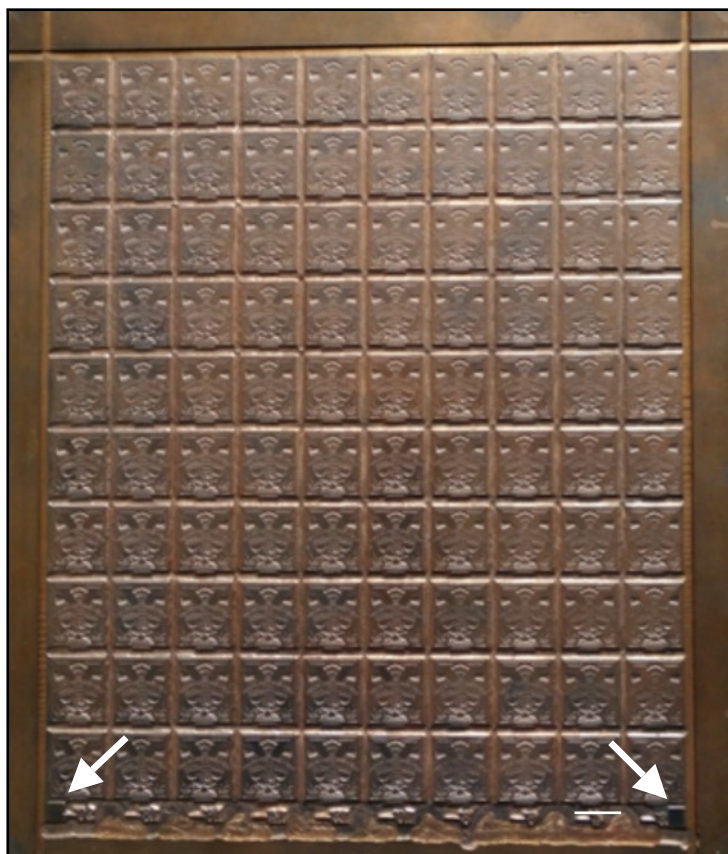
One of these matrices, and details from it, are shown overleaf. It is a solid copper plate in which clichés of the stamps are present in the same way as with any plate used for printing: the parts to be printed are high and the parts to be left white low. The fact that it is a thick plate in one piece makes it certain that it was made by etching, in the same way as a photographically produced plate. That this is a matrix and not a printing plate is clear from a number of things. Firstly, the plate has a wide rim at the same height as the printing surface. This would make it unsuitable for printing as this would cause inked areas to appear around the pane. For plates used to print stamps these edges were milled away. Secondly, the bottom corners of the plate have small raised squares, ready for engraving but no numbers have been engraved on them.

In order to make printing plates based on this matrix, it must therefore be reproduced: the high parts must also become high on the printing plate. How this was done in those days can be found in the textbooks for the printing industry from the beginning of the last century. In those days, it was a routine job for which printers were equipped with special equipment. The process (also described in John Easton's book *Postage Stamps in*

the Making) takes place in a few steps:

- A copy of the matrix was made in wax. This gave a reversed image: in the copy, the white parts not to be printed are raised and the coloured parts to be printed are depressed – a negative version of a printing plate.
- Next, the surface of this wax impression was made electrically conductive by spreading a thin layer of very fine graphite on it, perhaps mixed with some iron powder.
- The wax plate was then suspended in an electrolysis bath with copper sulphate solution, opposite a copper plate. Both were connected to a battery: the conducting surface of the wax became the (negative) cathode and the copper plate the (positive) anode. When voltage was applied, a current of copper ions flowed through the solution: the anode released positively charged copper ions which precipitated on the wax copy as a copper coating.
- After a few hours, a layer of copper several millimetres thick is formed on the surface of the wax. This layer was carefully separated from the wax and cleaned. This thin copper plate was a perfect copy of the matrix's surface.
- To make a printing plate, the thin copper plate was placed face down in a horizontal tray and filled in from behind with a special molten metal alloy with a low melting point and the property that it did not deform when cooled and solidified**. This resulted in a very sturdy printing plate, some of which are archived by the Museum. These clearly show both their copper front and their rear reinforcing lead layer.
- The final step was to engrave the correct serial number and two-digit date for the new plate (in mirror image) into the squares. The engraving was then printed as white numbers in a coloured square.

Finding a matrix in the Museum, of course, was very satisfying as it confirmed as valid the most likely process for producing the matrix plates puzzled out by Mark Wilson and me working together some time ago. By the way, the Museum had mistakenly inventoried every matrix in its possession as *ordinary printing plates*!



A Matrix.

The arrows indicate the blocks for the date (left) and serial number .



Two-Digit Date Block.



Serial Number Block Detail.

* *The date appeared on the right-hand bottom corner of the sheet, and the serial number on the left.*

***This alloy was presumably the same combination of metals as used for hot-metal typesetting: lead, tin and antimony. Printers varied the percentage of each to suit the application - further information can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_metal*

Tony Holdsworth, Assistant Editor

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John Easton, *Postage Stamps in the Making*. Faber and Faber, (London 1949).

Johan Sevenhuijsen, Hradčany 30h Violet - Plate Production and Type. *Pošta Česko-Slovenská*, March 2017.

Anton Cermak, Mayor of Chicago Garth Taylor



*Antonín Josef Čermák (From the Chicago Daily Journal, 1912:
<https://www.chipublib.org/mayor-anton-joseph-cermak-biography/>)*

Anton Cermak was born in Kladno, central Bohemia, on 9 May 1873. He emigrated to the United States with his parents in 1874, and grew up in Braidwood, Illinois. In his early years he worked as a coal miner and on moving to Chicago worked as a tow boy for the Horse Drawn Streetcar Company.

He started his political career as a Clerk in the City Police Court, then as a Democratic Party Precinct Captain and in 1902 was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives. Seven years later he became Alderman of the 12th Ward. He was elected President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners in 1922, Chairman of the Cook County Democratic Party in 1928 and Mayor of Chicago in 1931.

His victory in the Mayoral election came in the wake of the Great Depression, resentment of prohibition, and increasing violence from organized crime. All this resulted in a reduced rate of tax collection, especially real estate taxes, causing the City to find it difficult to pay teachers and maintain services.

Cermak decided he had to meet up with President-elect Roosevelt to obtain money from Central Government to fund essential city services. Roosevelt was returning from a fishing trip in the Caribbean and was stopping over in Miami to give a short speech. Cermak travelled to Miami to meet him.

Roosevelt arrived on the evening of 15 February and was driven to Biscayne Bay Park to deliver his speech around 9.40 p.m. Cermak was sitting with other dignitaries just feet away from the car and moved to the running board to shake hands and speak to the President elect. After their conversation Cermak moved away from the car at the same time as Giuseppe Zangara fired five shots at Roosevelt in an attempt to assassinate him. Five individuals were hit. Cermak was taken to the Jackson Memorial Hospital where it was found that he had been shot in the chest and he died from his wounds and other complications on the morning of 6 March 1933. He was buried in the Bohemian National Cemetery, Cook County, Chicago, Illinois.

A special cancellation in blue (*below*) was issued to commemorate the unveiling of a plaque in Kladno to Anton Cermak, Mayor of Chicago from 1931 to 1933. It was only in use for one day and is shown here on a cover to Prague.



Some Unissued Czechoslovak Stamp Designs

Lindy Bosworth

After the release of the first two values of the Hradčany series on 18 December 1918 a contest was arranged for new stamp designs to commemorate the First Anniversary of Independence. Artists were invited to submit their designs and cash prizes were offered for the four winning designs. The board of judges included Professor Max Švabinský (presiding), eight artists, two postal officials and two philatelists. By 24 January 1919 when the winners were announced some 100 designs had been submitted.

The winners were:

1st prize (1,200K)	František Kysela: Mail-clad figure of St Wenceslas
2nd prize (1,000K)	Alfons Mucha: Girl in traditional costume
3rd prize (800K)	František Kysela: Coats of Arms of the Provinces
4th prize (500K)	Jaroslav Benda: Octagonal central design with a dove and linden twig
5th prize	František Kysela: Provincial coats of arms
6th prize	František Kysela: Diagonal lion
7th prize	František Kysela: Men with coats of arms headdresses
8th prize	Alois Mudruňka: Czech lion in post horn
Honourable mention:	Pravoslava Kotik: Hussite knight.

The selected drawings were reduced to stamp size and produced in a composite essay (size 23.5cms x 14.6cms) in red-orange. All the designs proved unsuitable for producing as stamps as they were too detailed. However, the knowledge gained from this exercise was useful for the future production of stamps*.



1st prize



2nd prize



3rd prize



4th prize



5th prize



6th prize



7th prize



8th prize



Hon. mention

The postal authorities still required stamps to celebrate the First Anniversary of the Republic so a second competition was held with the results announced on 18 June 1919. The three successful artists were: Vratislav Brunner (1st prize), Professor Jaroslav Benda (2nd prize), and Professor Jakub Obrovský (3rd prize).

Brunner's design of a symbolic kneeling figure of Czechoslovakia triumphantly holding aloft the broken chains of oppression was not used for the First Anniversary issue but appeared later, slightly modified, from 18 June 1920 as the *Chainbreaker* or *Liberated Republic* series**. The results of the competition were criticized by public and philatelists. The kneeling figure was thought to depict treason rather than the joy of liberation and resembled the French style.

Benda's design (*overleaf*) was a futuristic one of a Legionnaire with battle helmet surrounded by bursting shells. It was one of four designs with the theme *Passion of the Marne*. This was also not used for the anniversary issue, and none of the four designs ever appeared as an issued stamp. The designs were criticized for being too obscure and akin to Chinese calligraphy!

The third prize awarded to Obrovský shows a symbolic figure of 'Mother' Czechoslovakia embracing an orphaned child of a fallen Legionnaire with protective swords in the side panels. Three stamps were released on 27 October 1919 but were only valid for internal postage until 3 November 1919. Another of Obrovský's designs submitted for the January 1919 competition, the Czech lion breaking the chains of bondage, was printed in three denominations for this anniversary issue**.



Benda's Passion of the Marne

One artist who submitted two designs for the anniversary competition was František Kupka. Although born in Opočnice, eastern Bohemia, he had lived near Paris since 1906, joined the Foreign Legion to fight during the First World War and was a professor of the Prague Academy. His two designs were never issued as stamps.



Kupka's Legionnaire design (*above left*) was not chosen, but was modified (*above centre*) to honour the Legionnaires in 1920, and again (*above right*) for a suggested commemorative issue for the 10th anniversary of the Republic (with Roman numerals in the upper margin). The date 1914 refers to the beginning of the First World War and 1920 the date when Legionnaires returned home from Russia and hostilities ceased along the borders of the new Republic.



Kupka's Allegory of Freedom design (*above left*) was rejected, and again modified to honour the Legionnaires (*above centre*). It was also modified (*above right*) as a proposed design to mark the 20th anniversary of the Republic with the dates 1918 and 1938. Each of the four modified designs above are probably unofficial printings as *Československá Pošta* does not appear.



The Haase printers produced two designs by Jan Jáchym to commemorate the legionnaires. The example above of a single legionnaire with right arm raised can be found in at least two sizes, small as here and slightly larger. It also appears on a composite printing of four designs by different artists – a group of marching legionnaires by Jáchym, the Bohemian lion by B. Carmine and a portrait of Jeník and Mařenka, the main characters from Smetana's opera *The Bartered Bride*, by an unknown designer (*opposite*).



Designs submitted by the Haase Printers

Another designer Rijaček (Ryjáček) proposed an image of a mounted Prince Wenceslas which was not accepted and never issued as a stamp. The design was modified for the 10th anniversary of the Republic with the dates 1918–1928 in Roman numerals replacing ‘*Pošta RČS*’ and a spread eagle in the value tablet. It was again modified with the date in Roman numerals in May 1945.



Rijaček's Prince Wenceslas design - the official submission (left) and a modified unofficial version (right).

Many stamp-sized designs appeared in these early years of production and because it was illegal to use the official title ‘Czechoslovak Post’ there is either no name of a country or a title shown or sometimes a random set of letters to indicate a title. Official stamp designs show *Československá Pošta*, *Pošta Československá* or *Pošta R.Č.S.*



Official submission by Rijaček from a series of fourteen designs depicting important figures from the history of the Czech and Slovak nations over the centuries and two young people in traditional dress.



Unofficial stamps by an unknown designer – letters replace Pošta Československá

Other designers/artists also submitted works for consideration. These would give ideas for future definitive and commemorative stamps. A number of the designs submitted were in stamp format in different colours and sizes to give a clearer indication of their suitability. The two main printing works able to produce postage stamps in sufficient quantities at this time were Czech Graphics Union, Prague, and A. Haase Printing Works, Prague, who were rivals for postal authority contracts. The majority of these unofficial stamps were printed by A. Haase. Different methods of printing were used by these printers as well as different papers. Gummed and perforated examples were also produced, sometimes the same design in different sizes.

Several of the competition entries were based on the Bohemian lion. Although none of the following were adopted for a stamp issue a Bohemian lion motif by Obrovský was used for the commemorative issue of 28 October 1919 – a lion breaking its chains of bondage.



Lion motif designs submitted by (from the left): Mucha, Kysela (×2), unknown (×2), and B. Carmine (associated with Haase printers). The last of these was also produced as an unofficial printing (below) – again, letters replace Pošta Československá .



Mudruňka's design (*above*) has the Bohemian lion encircled by a post horn. This was submitted for the January 1919 competition and placed 8th overall. This was not the only design he submitted. The example below left shows the head of a young girl as an allegory of the new Republic with the Bohemian lion as part of her headdress. A further design of the young girl allegory (*below right*) shows her offering the traditional welcoming gifts of bread and salt. All the Mudruňka submissions were printed by Unie, Prague.



The second prize in the January 1919 competition was awarded to Alfons Mucha for his depiction of a young girl (*below*) but it was never used for a stamp. At least five of the other designs he submitted did appear as stamps (Hussite priest, special delivery, postage due, newspaper and modified Hradčany Castle).



Vratislav Brunner (1886–1928), an artist, lithographer, graphics designer and teacher, submitted a number of designs (*below*) executed by his students at the School of Applied Arts, Prague, on various themes including allegories of the republic and the Bohemian lion. Below each design is the name of the student.



Z. Guth

Dostálová



Kinský

Dušek

Winternicová

Honek



Novak

Matejovský

Pleva

Honek

Novak

The new Republic also required postage due, newspaper and express delivery stamps. Alfons Mucha submitted designs for the January 1919 competition which were accepted and issued for the purpose. Students of Professor Kysela at the School of Applied Arts produced several designs for postage due stamps in 1924. The designs are clear and simple but were never issued.



Postage due designs by Morávek, one of Kysela's students

Jan Jáchym, associated with the Haase Printing works, produced designs for postage due and newspaper stamp use. The postage due design of an eagle protecting the four provincial shields has *doplatit* between the upper numerals. The newspaper stamp design includes linden leaves and *noviny* to show its intended usage.



A portrait of President Masaryk did not appear on stamps until the commemorative issue for his 70th birthday on 7 March 1920 and then in a smaller format for the 5th anniversary of the Republic on 28 October 1923.

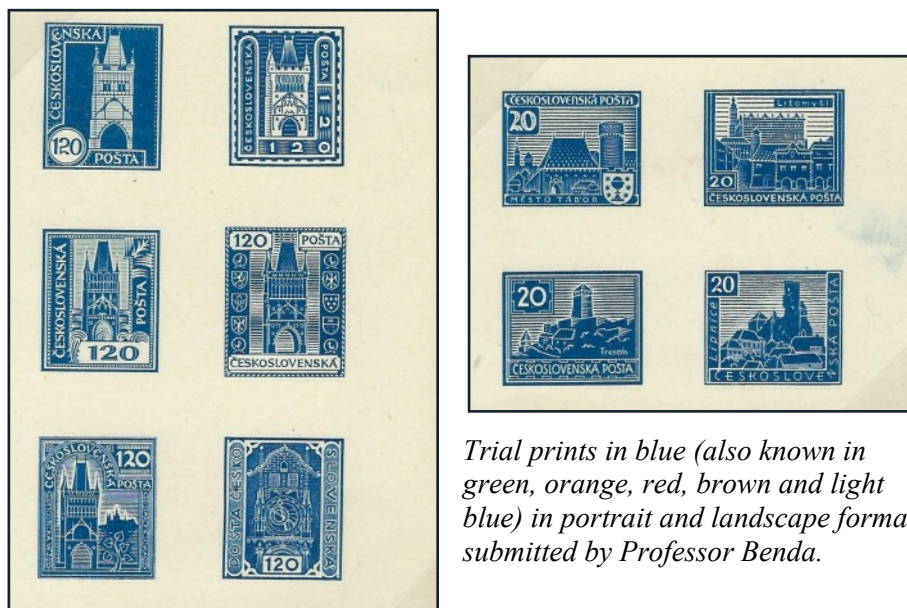


The designs above are by Rijaček, while those below have crude or silhouette portraits, the unknown designer being more interested to show the setting for the image rather than the image itself.



A series of unadopted designs in portrait and landscape format were presented with the title *Architectural Gems of the Republic* by Professor Jaroslav Benda but were never produced as stamps although they may have

influenced the idea for the Castles, Countryside and Towns series of 1926. The following examples are only some of his suggestions in blue. They were also printed in other colours.



Trial prints in blue (also known in green, orange, red, brown and light blue) in portrait and landscape format submitted by Professor Benda.

The two examples below indicate that other designers (unknown) had similar topics in mind – view of Hradčany from the Charles Bridge (*left*) and Karlštejn Castle (*right*). A similar view of Karlštejn by F. Šimona was used for four values in the Castles, Countryside and Towns series issued on 1 June 1926.



The Ministry of Posts received ideas for possible commemorative issues. One came from Professor J. Zveřina to commemorate the 500th death anniversary of the Hussite General Žižka (1360–1424), a Czech national hero. Twelve designs and a memorandum were submitted by the printer A. Haase in 1923 for the commemoration in 1924. The composite trial print includes: a portrait of Jan Žižka (80 haler – large and small formats) from original art work by J. Hlava; Jiří of Poděbrady from original art work by M. Aleš (200 haler); Jan Amos Komenský (500 haler) and President T. G. Masaryk (1000 haler). Both the 500 and 1000 haler are from original art works by Vincenc Brožík. The detailed designs and quality printing indicate the improvements in printing techniques since the first stamps were issued. The 500th death anniversary went unmarked by a stamp issue and the remaining designs were not used for postage stamps.



Another commemorative issue was suggested for 1924 to mark the 5th anniversary of the death of General Milan Ratislav Štefánik, the Minister for War in the first Czechoslovak Government. He died in a plane crash near Bratislava on 4 May 1919. A stamp with a portrait of Štefánik was not issued until 18 May 1935 to mark his 16th death anniversary.



The stamps above are by an unknown designer. Below are designs produced by Rijaček, which are similar in format to the designs he employed for the 1919 competition entries. Both examples have his name in the bottom right corner margin and the date 1928 (on the two stamps to the left) and 1929 with different portraits and ornamentation.



During these early years of stamp production Rijaček produced many designs but none were accepted by the postal authority for a stamp issue. The death millennium of St. Wenceslas was commemorated with an issue of five stamps on 14 May 1929. Rijaček submitted a design based on a painting of St. Wenceslas by Professor F. Ženíšek. The design was printed in various colours in two sizes: 24mm × 33mm (colour proofs below) and 51mm × 66mm, both perforate and imperforate.



This article illustrates just a selection of the many unadopted designs for the early issues of the new Republic of Czechoslovakia. Although most never saw life as postage stamps they are an interesting insight into the ideas and the various production techniques and limitations of those early years.

A most attractive and worthwhile area for collecting and study can be made of these official and unofficial unadopted designs. They certainly have a story to tell.

* The illustrations on page 13 were kindly provided by Yvonne Wheatley

** Further reading is available as follows:

On-demand Publications (<https://czechout.org/pages/on-demand.htm>)

No. 133: *Jubilee and Charity Issue of 1919*, by Zdeněk Molíř (2020)

No. 146: *The Chainbreaker*, by Josef Chvalovský and Jiří Kašpar (2006)

Presentation to The Royal Philatelic Society, London by Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL

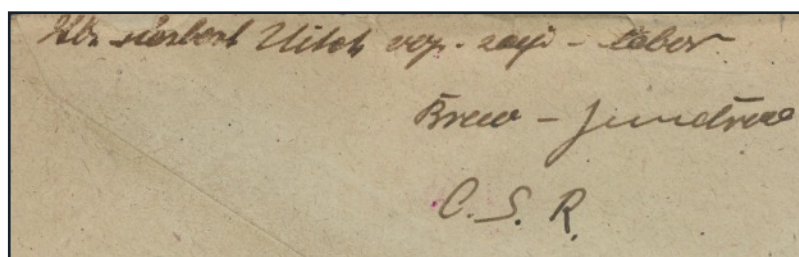
Czechoslovakia: The Allegory Issues 1920 – 26 (https://www.rpsl.org.uk/rpsl/Displays/Handouts/DISP_20161208_001.pdf)

The Prisoner of War Camp in Brno-Jundrov Hans van Dooremalen



Some time ago I was able to add the above cover to my collection. The stampless letter was sent on 11 April 1948 from Brno 23 post office to Warburg in the British occupation zone of Germany. The Brno 23 office was located in the village of Jundrov, which had been incorporated into the city of Brno in 1921. On that occasion the post office was allocated the serial number 23.

The letter also bears a round violet censorship marking of Brno, a red cachet with the text *ZAJATECKÁ POŠTA/PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE* (prisoner post/prisoner of war) in a box and a sender's stamp *Vojenský zajatecký tábor/Brno-Jundrov* (military prisoner of war camp/Brno-Jundrov). The return address on the back also mentions this camp ("voj-zaja-tabor").



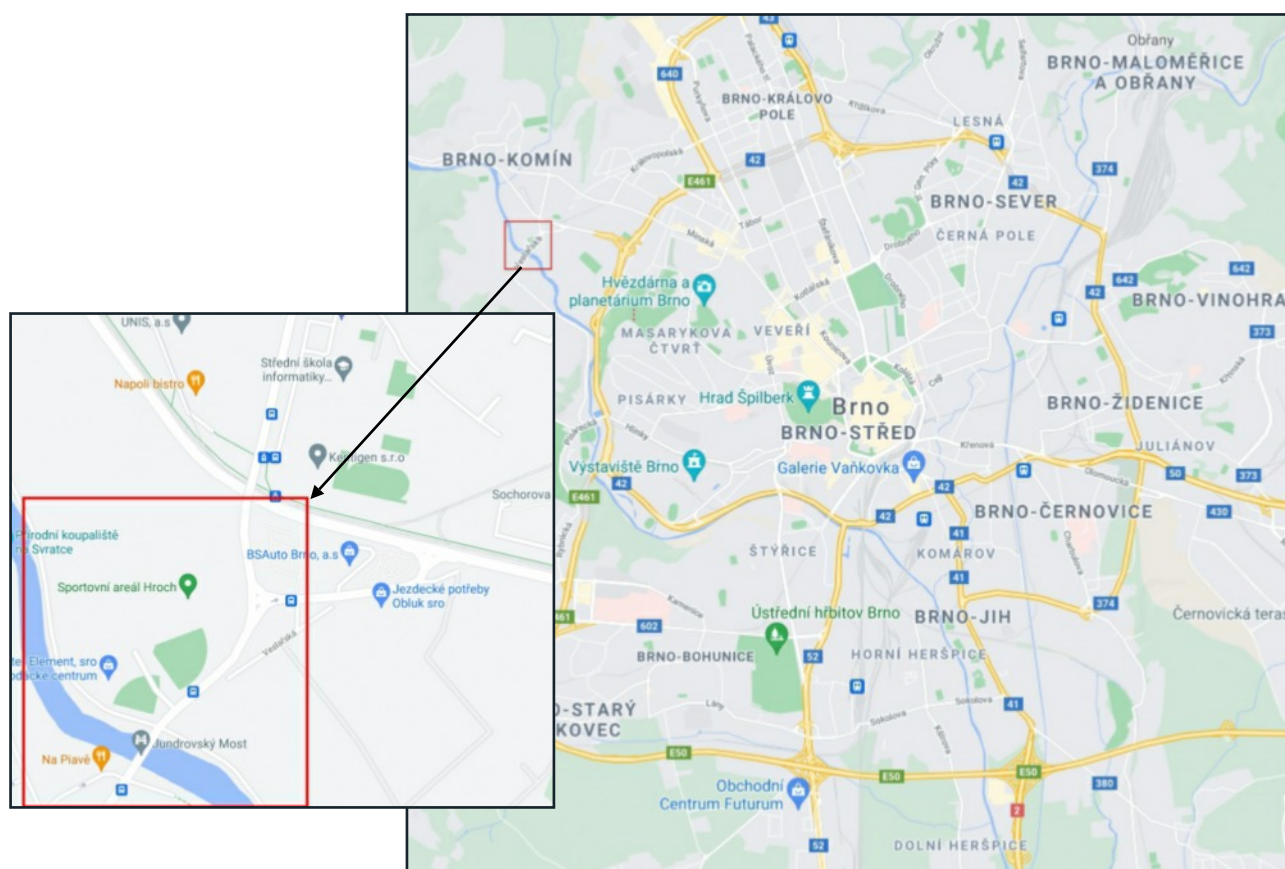
Bearing in mind the historical context, it is clear that this is a letter sent by a German prisoner of war to family or friends in Germany.

As a collector of the postal history of the city of Brno, I was curious to find out more about this POW camp and its location. At first, the only thing I could find on the internet was that the camp was established on a former site of the Reichsarbeitsdienst (Reich Labour Service). An address book of Brno from 1942 did contain an entry for this camp, but without an exact address. Once I came across this extract from a book about the history of this village in a magazine published by Jundrov borough, however, everything became clear.

The camp of the Reichsarbeitsdienst (RAD) in Jundrov was established in 1940 in the area below Hájíček above the Veslařská – a place which was known among the local population as “the camp” long after the war. After liberation, the camp was turned into an internment camp

for the German population. From September 1945, Germans from Sudetenland who had been captured in Russia between 1942 and 1943 were transferred to the camp. In spring 1946, the former barracks was the second largest camp in the Brno region, with more than 2,000 prisoners, 700 of whom lived in the camp itself. They were used for all kinds of heavy work in the town, and also repaired the damaged facilities in the orphanage. Gradually, they were deported from Czechoslovakia (the so-called *Vertreibung*). At the end of 1948, the Jundrov camp was considered a forced labour camp for Brno. At that time the complex, fenced off with barbed wire, consisted of 11 barracks divided by a fence. It had a capacity of 800 people. However, the government did not reach an agreement with the military administration, which refused to hand over the camp's inventory. For this reason, the former military prison camp was not converted into a communist forced labour camp. The remaining internees were repatriated. The POW camp was razed to the ground and in its place the Jundrov sports complex was gradually built.

With this data it was possible to find the exact location of the camp on the map.



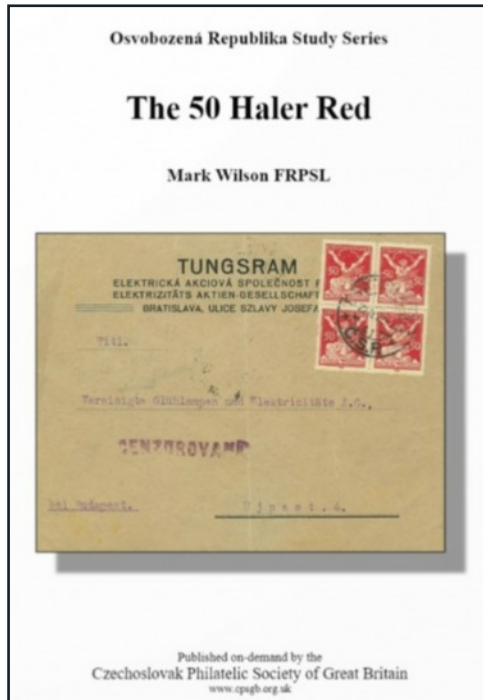
Bibliography

Votoček, Ing. Emil, Monografie československých známek 17. Díl, Praha 1988.
Fajnorová, Ivana & Vyskočil, Aleš, *Starý Jundrov*, Brno 2017.

Book Review Joe Coulbourne

The 50 Haler Red by Mark Wilson FRPSL. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, On-Demand Publication. 24 pages, A4, coloured illustrations (occasionally black and white for clarity).

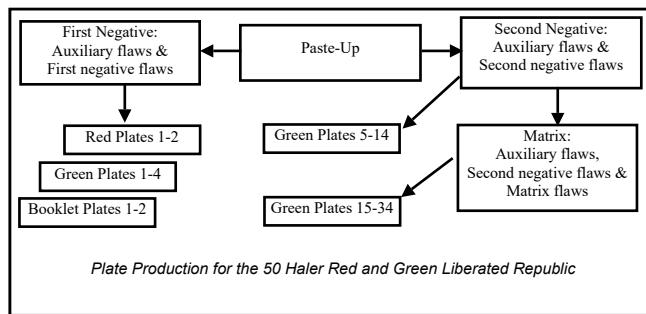
This addition to the works published on-demand by the CPSGB, continues Mark’s journey to translate, edit and fully illustrate books and studies related to plating of early Czechoslovak stamps. This new work is part of the Osvobozená Republika Study Series. Send orders and enquiries to the Treasurer, Yvonne Wheatley (contact details on page 31).



Unfortunately, I have become addicted to what is called ‘fly speck philately’ in the United States and have taken to plating publications such as this like a duck to water. This exhaustive work on the 50 haler red of the Liberated Republic series is a tribute to the dedication and devotion of the author to collect, translate, validate and verify plating data from past studies, adding his own findings and thoughts while presenting the data in such a way that even a novice like myself can make sense of it, enabling me to plate my own stamps. The front cover shows a stunning postal history item with a block of four of the 50 haler red, the upper left stamp bearing the Headless Liberty printing flaw (cover owned by Yvonne Wheatley).



The book begins with an introduction, which includes an illustration of the two known printing formes, together with the printing quantities, dates of issue and the rates that the stamp paid during the different tariff periods.

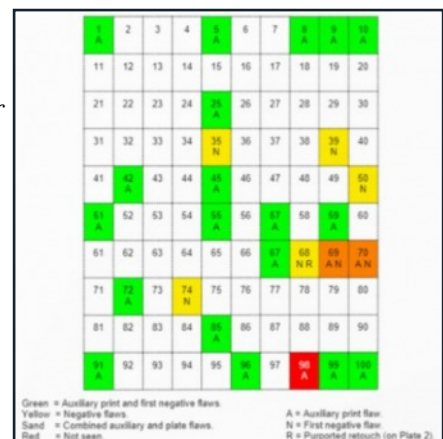


This data is very difficult to find in one place and in this collector’s view it is much appreciated. The book covers the earlier studies and works and discusses how each contributed to the knowledge base. The author has developed a simple flow diagram (*left*) showing the evolution of the 50 haler red and green Liberated Republic stamps. This simple flow diagram simplifies the reader’s understanding of first and second negative flaws, auxiliary and matrix flaws and discusses a noted retouch. A 10 × 10 plate diagram is

included (*right*), showing the positions of the various flaws for the reader to reference when plating stamps.

As noted on the flow diagram, the 50 haler red has only two plates but the author warns ‘*Plate wear and similarity between a number of flaws makes the 50 haler red a difficult plating exercise*’. Pages 4-18 describe the various flaws for each of the two plates with illustrations for every flaw. Page 19 has some unidentified flaws that were mentioned in earlier publications. Pages 20-22 are the *pièce de résistance* and show composite drawings of the 50 haler red with Plate 1 flaws, Plate 2 flaws and the Auxiliary Print and First Negative flaws.

If you collect the Liberated Republic series, this work is a ‘must have’ for you. It will certainly add a new dimension to your collection if you have never plated stamps. Overall, I found this publication easy to understand, well-illustrated and clearly laid out for even novice readers to be able to use.



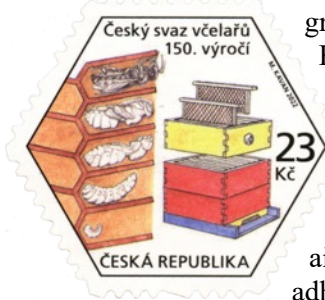


New Issues – Czech Republic

Images and text adapted from
www.postaonline.cz/eshopfilatelie/listProducts.html?request_locale=en

18 May 2022

150 Years of the Czech Beekeepers' Association (POFIS 1161)



Beekeeping has a long tradition in the Czech lands with small local and regional groups formed during the 19th and 20th centuries. The Beekeeping Association for Bohemia was founded on 22 March 1872 with similar associations formed in Silesia in 1893 and Moravia in 1898. These were the forerunners to the Union of Provincial Central Beekeeping Associations in Czechoslovakia, founded in 1921. After the Second World War it was re-formed as the Czechoslovak Beekeepers' Union with a founding Congress held in 1971. Today there are separate associations for the Czech and Slovak Republics but both have similar aims of education, research and the promotion of beekeeping. Five of the self-adhesive hexagonal stamps are available on an illustrated miniature sheet (*below*).



Tereza Maxová – NVI ‘B’ ‘Own’ Postage Stamps of Czech Post (POFIS VZ ČP TL 0001)

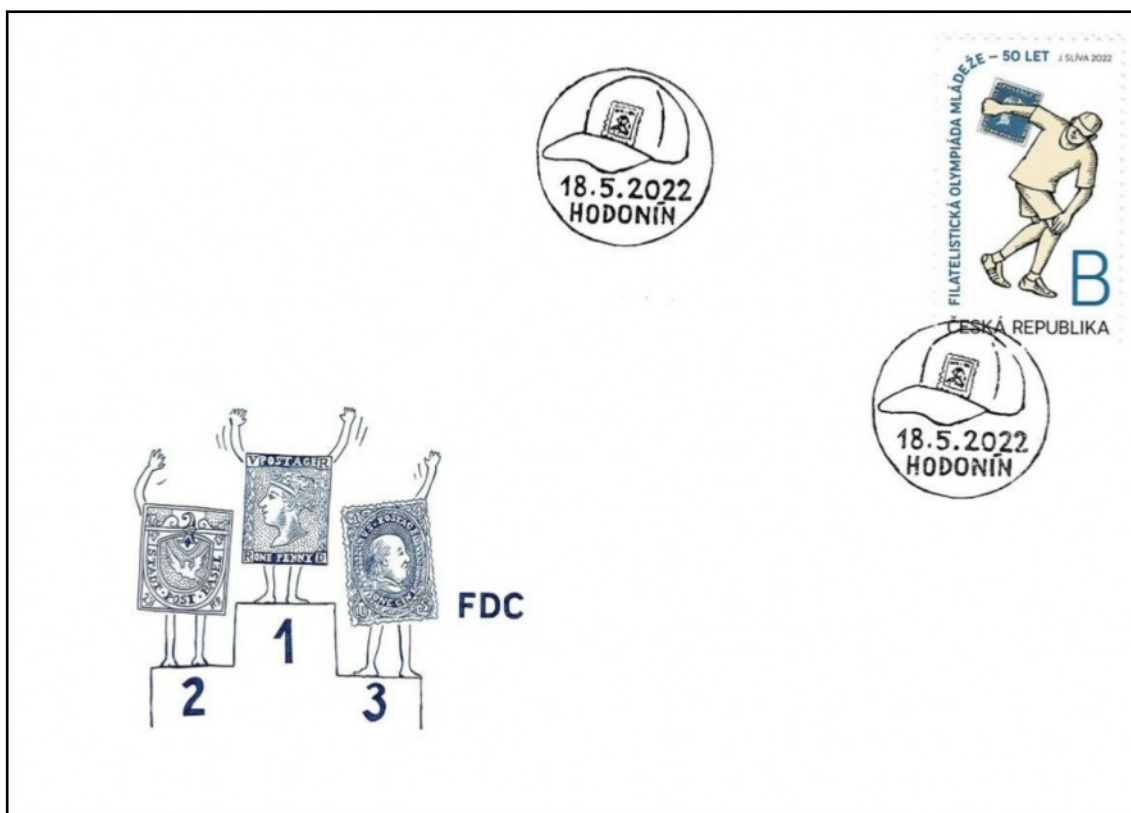
Tereza Maxová was born in Pardubice on 31 August 1971 and became a student of Charles University Law Faculty in 1989. She left Prague for Paris two years later to pursue a career as a model. Her career was a success, working with several international fashion and beauty houses. After a visit to Prague in 1996 the idea of helping disadvantaged children was formed. The Tereza Maxová Foundation was established in 1997 to help these Czech children through education, projects or financial assistance until they have completed their education.

The stamp sheet has 25 different images of Tereza Maxova, representing the 25 years of the Foundation (see back cover).

50 Years of the Philatelic Youth Olympiad – NVI B (POFIS 1160)



A Philatelic Youth Olympiad was first announced in the magazine *Filatelie* during 1970 with the first annual event held in the 1971/72 school year. The finals of the first annual competition were organized by a young stamp collectors club in Hodonín, with competitors coming from five clubs. Today this event is organised by the Youth Committee of the Union of Czech Philatelists and Union of Slovak Philatelists. The competition topics are varied and announced annually. For 2022 the theme of ‘Sport’ is linked to the Summer European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) to be held for the first time in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Additionally, a booklet of eight stamps and four labels was issued (*below*).



The First Day Cover carries the stamp with a commemorative cancellation and an illustration marking the sports theme for this year with a representation of world stamps on a ‘winners’ podium’.

15 June 2022

Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union – NVI E (POFIS 1162)

The Council of the EU comprises the heads of state or government of EU member states, the EU Commission President, and the Council President. They have met, since 2017, in the purpose-built Europa Building, Brussels to discuss, amend and adapt laws and co-ordinate policies of the EU. The presidency rotates between each member state every six months in a predetermined order but to ensure continuity each three successive presidencies combine for 18 months on a common agenda of policy. From 1 July 2022 it will be the Czech Republic's turn to be President, with France and Sweden as the two successor states. During its presidency the Czech Republic plans to focus on issues of the internal market, and the green recovery of the EU economy including green energy.

**International Council of Museums (ICOM) General Conference Prague 2022 (POFIS 1163)**

The International Committee of Museums was founded in 1946, holding its first General Conference in Paris during 1948. The General Conference held every three years brings together from both public and private sectors directors, executives and experts from all over the world. The aims of the non-governmental organization are the conservation, continuation and communication to society of the world's natural and cultural heritage. It has formal relations with UNESCO and links with the World Customs Organization and other bodies to fight illicit trafficking of cultural goods and protect heritage in the event of disasters. The 26th General Conference in Prague was held 20–28 August 2022 with the main theme 'Power of Museums'. ICOM has also, since 1977, co-ordinated the annual International Museum Day held on 18 May in some 150 countries.

Young Animals: Kittens – NVI B (POFIS 1164 & 1165)

These stamps, from a series depicting Young Animals, are issued in booklet format (*see back cover*) of 10 self-adhesive NVI stamps (5 of each design) featuring a Bengal kitten and a Persian kitten. The Bengal is a modern breed developed during the 1990s from crossing the Asian leopard cat with various



shorthaired domestic breeds. They are friendly, easily trained but require a lot of attention and exercise. Their hind legs are longer than the front pair and they are powerfully built, often with striking fur markings. They have a life span of 9–15 years. The Persian cat is one of the oldest breeds in the world reaching Europe during the 17th century with breeding records from about 1870. Today there are many varieties of this breed which has a round face, short muzzle and long-haired fur, which requires regular grooming to prevent matting. Persians have a placid, affectionate nature with a life span of 12–17 years. It is one of the most common breeds in the Czech Republic.

**Tram: Brožík and Křižík – NVI B (POFIS 1166)**

The hexagonal stamp shows Tram number 18 which is the oldest electric tram still in use in Central Europe. It was built in Pilsen by Václav Brožík and the electrotechnical inventor František Křižík. It was the first tram to run on the newly opened Pilsen tramway on 29 June 1899. The tram seats 16 passengers. Today the tram can only operate during daylight hours and in favourable weather conditions. Křižík (1847–1941), an inventor who promoted the use of electric power, perfected the arc lamp and produced the first electric tram line between Letná and the 1891 Jubilee Exhibition Site, Prague.



New Issues – Slovak Republic

Images and text adapted from
www.pofis.sk/en/catalog/products

8 April 2022

Personalities: Ľudmila Podjavorinská (POFIS 763)



Ľudmila Podjavorinská (1872–1951) was the first Slovak woman to publish a collection of poems although she is more widely remembered for her children's books of poetry and prose. An uncle encouraged her to submit her early writings for publication in newspapers and periodicals. She used several pen names and not her birth name, Ľudmila Riznerová. *Spring of Life (Z vesny života)* (1895) is a collection of poems about the emotional life of a young girl. The first Slovak magazine for women, *Dennica*, was published in 1898 with Podjavorinská becoming one of the core contributors. Although a member of *Zivená*, the first women's organization in Slovakia, her opinions on women's emancipation were rather traditional.

28 April 2022

Personalities: Klára Jarunková (POFIS 764)



Klára Jarunková (1922–2005) received several major international and domestic literary awards during her lifetime for her works of fiction for children and young adults. Some of her ninety-six books have appeared in translation in some thirty-nine languages and are on the required reading lists in schools of several countries. Her books cover many topics relevant to young people's lives in modern society. As a young woman she taught primary-age children for three years and wrote fairy stories for the pre-school age group. For many years until retiring in 1984 she worked in Bratislava for the humorous-satirical weekly *Roháč*, and then concentrated on her own writing until her death.

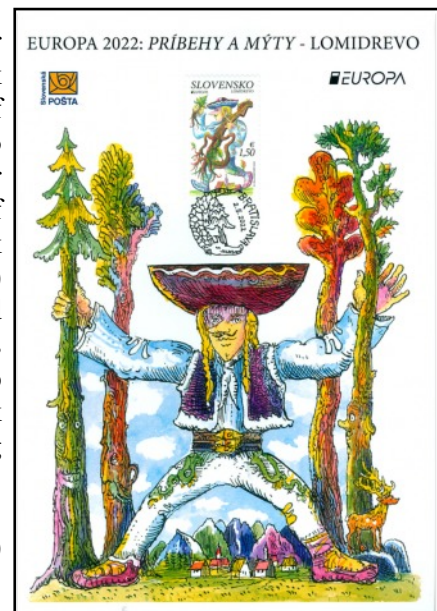
2 May 2002

EUROPA 2022: Myths and Legends – Lomidrevo (POFIS 765)



The Slovak Post has used the character *Lomidrevo* to illustrate one of many Slovak folk tales for the common Europa issue of Myths and Legends. This superhuman hero with great strength triumphing at last after numerous adventures is a common theme of folk lore from many countries. In the Slovak version, Lomidrevo (also known as Valibuk) is represented as a poor highlander or shepherd travelling the countryside with a shepherd's axe and a gnarled battle staff. The stamp depicts this unusual giant in typical folk costume with his two strange weapons striding through the countryside.

A stamp booklet (POFIS ZZ 765) of six stamps and a maxi-card (right) were also issued.



27 May 2022

150 years of Scientific Observations of the Earth (POFIS 766)

The desire to learn about the earth is as old as humanity with observations recorded by many ancient peoples. In Slovakia scientific knowledge of the Earth developed during the 18th century in relation to the mining, extracting and processing of raw mineral materials. In 1871 one of the first astrophysical observatories in Europe was built by the Hungarian nobleman, Dr. Miklós Konkoly-Thege (1842–1916) on his estate near Nitra. He had studied astronomy and physics at Budapest and Berlin Universities, completing his studies by visiting several European observatories. Between 1890 and 1911 he was Director at the Hungarian Institute of Meteorology and Geomagnetism. The Hurbanovo (formerly Stará Ďala or Ógyalla) Observatory has collected meteorological information for more than 150 years – an important tool to monitor climate change.

After 1890 the Observatory began observations of the Earth's magnetic field and in 1902 a seismic pavilion was added to study earthquakes with contemporary mechanical seismographs in almost constant operation since 1912. In 1899 the whole estate with observatory was donated to the state. Today Hurbanovo Observatory is open to the public.



10 June 2022

Beauties of Our Homeland – The Manor House of Maria Theresa at Holíč (POFIS 767)

The property was bought in 1736 by Franz Stephan of Lorraine, the consort of Empress Maria Theresa, for use as one of their summer residences. Reconstruction was carried out in several stages until the 1760s. It remained the property of the House of Habsburg-Lorraine until 1921 when it was handed over to Czechoslovakia, but today it is owned by the town of Holíč. During the latter part of the 20th century it had several uses or fell into disuse, but now with the surrounding land it is being gradually restored to its former grandeur. First written mention of a building on the site dates to 1205 when it was a stronghold to protect the western border of Hungary. The stone castle had several owners who rebuilt or fortified the property as necessary until its purchase by Franz Stephan in 1736.



A special post box was set up at the launch of the stamp and a commemorative postmark (right) was available, inscribed HOLÍČ 1 post office.

22 June 2022

150th Anniversary of the Establishment of ŽOS Zvolen a.s. (POFIS 768)



The stamp depicts a class 757 diesel-electric locomotive developed by ŽOS Zvolen a.s. from an earlier 2010–2015 model of the diesel class 750. The company (full name Železničné opravovne a strojárne Zvolen a.s.) became a joint stock company in 1994 focusing on the repair, inspection, servicing, and maintenance of rolling stock: it provides a reconstruction and modernizing service; produces and repairs chassis; and repairs various types of combustion engine, braking systems, wheels and wiring. In 1872 a section of railway was constructed from Pest to Salgótarján, Lučenec, Zvolen, Kremnica, and Vrútky, with a

workshop established at Zvolen as part of the construction. This is the origin of today's workshop which has seen many changes of ownership in its history. During World War II the Zvolen workshops built three armoured trains used in the fight against the German occupation.

1 July 2022

200th Birth Anniversary of Important figures of the Štúr Generation (POFIS 769)

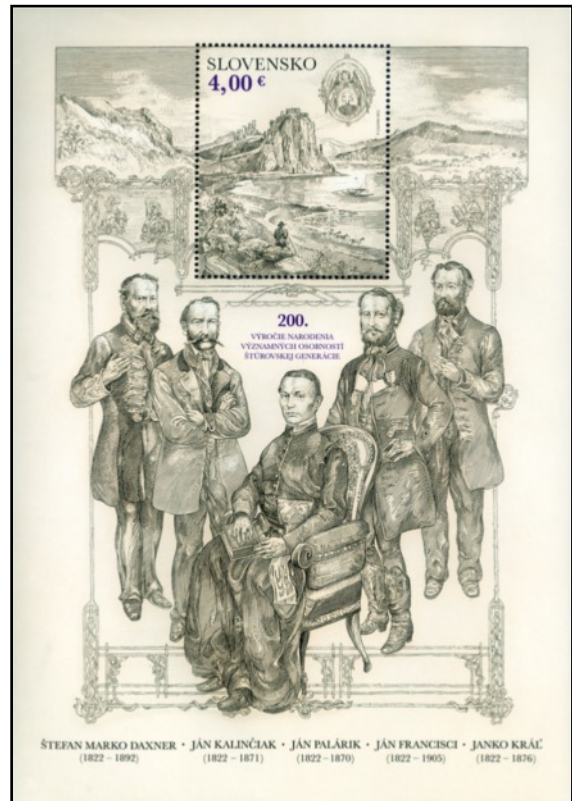


The period 1815–1825 is generally referred to as the ‘Ludovít Štúr Generation’ as several important people were born whose ideas affected the use of Slovak as a written language, Slovak culture, and Slovak political life. Ludovít Štúr (1815–1856) was the leader of the Slovak national revival, author of the standard written Slovak language used today, a

linguist, journalist, teacher, philosopher, poet and publisher.

The stamp is issued in sheet format (*right*) with five figures in the lower part of the sheet: Štefan Marko Daxner (1822–1892), a lawyer and author of the *Slovak Memorandum* 1848; Ján Kalinčiak (1822–1871), writer; Ján Palárik (1822–1870), Catholic priest; Ján Francisci (1822–1905), organizer of the Slovak Assembly 1848; and Janko Kráľ (1822–1876) poet, rebel and revolutionary. They were all born in 1822 and were active in the national revival movement.

The stamp was inspired by the essential motif which all these figures held close to their hearts, Devín Castle. They considered it to be a national sanctuary, the birthplace of Slovak national statehood.



28 July 2022

Sport: European Youth Olympic Festival (EYOF) (POFIS 770)



The XVI Summer Youth Olympic Festival held 24–30 July at Banská Bystrica was postponed from 2019 due to the Covid pandemic. About half the events take place in the Štiavničky Stadium in the town with the remaining events in five other Slovak venues. It is the first time Slovakia has hosted the summer event although in 1999 Poprad was the centre for the Winter Festival. Some 3,000 sports people are expected from 48 European countries to compete in a variety of athletic, gymnastic, swimming, ball and cycling events.

Articles Elsewhere

Roger Morrell

Forschungsberichte aus der Tschechoslowakei-Philatelie (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei, Germany) No.212, June 2022.

Anon. The interesting cover; 5. Mukačevo 1944 (Hungarian postal stationery card.); 6. Kosice postal stationery card March 1945.

Osthues, W., Sobotka, C. The first postal stationery card issue of Czechoslovakia with the ‘large monogram 10’ overprint. (Review of errors and usages, plus images of the overprint on earlier and Hungarian cards.)

Norbjerg, M. The plate flaws of Czechoslovakia 1945–1992, Part 24, 1969, POFIS 1741-1803.

Müller, W. The tariffs of the Slovakian Post from 1992 onwards.

Anon. Interesting covers: 1 Printed matter from Brno to Trutnov on 27 October 1938; 2 A Protectorate mixed franking with a short validity. (Newspaper stamps of two versions.)

Röhn, D. Czechoslovakian airmail 1920–1938, continuation 4, covers 69 and 70.

Austria (Austrian Philatelic Society of GB)**No. 219, Summer 2022.**

Brandon, K. The postal espionage of Prince Metternich. (1820s routing of mail so it could be covertly examined.)

Muir, D. The earliest Austrian Return-to-sender label? (On an 1887 bilingual German/Czech postal stationery card sent from Hlinská to Albrechtich, redirected to Olbersdorf in Silesia and all round Bohemia before being returned as addressee not known.)

Taylor, A. Cover story. (1939 Czech cover to Vienna, discussed in March 2022 Czechout, made clear.)

Brooks, A. Austro-Hungarian Military Medical Services. (Field and base hospitals in WW1.)

Stamps of Hungary (Hungarian Philatelic Society of GB)**No. 229, June 2022.**

Morrell, R. Paying for newspaper subscriptions – the newspaper money order.

Furfie, M. The Portorozh agreement for reduced postal rates in Europe, 1922–1939. (Examples of postage due mail stemming from the complexity of rates.)

Williams, D. M. More on Millennium cards. (Errors on the 1896 postal stationery printing.)

Rundbrief (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Feldpost Österreich-Ungarn, Austria)**No. 145, 2022/2.**

Ehfrank R. Enemy Propaganda Defence Office of the *kuk* Army High Command. (Description of the tasks of this office in manipulating or censoring propaganda during WW1.)

Blieersbach, A. The Japanese intervention in Eastern Siberia 1918–1920 and their POW camps in the region.

Wirtl, W. The enemy armed forces in WW1 – Russia (Eastern Front postal markings, fieldpost, etc.)

Filatelie**No. 4/2022 (April).**

Príkazský, M. The beginnings of mail routing in the Protectorate (post codes).

Beneš, F. & Vrba, M. Expert Watch.

Hauptman, M. Unjustly neglected sheet for 20th Anniversary of Czechoslovakia.

Anon. The Most Beautiful Commemorative Postmark and FDC of 2021.

Pofis. Catalogue of Deed Fiscal Stamps in the Czech Lands of Austria 1854–1918 (25-page pull out supplement).

No. 5/2022 (May).

Bachraty, M. Printing sheets of internal service stamps *Premiový řád J2 & Závada*.

Choduba, J. Liberated Republic (Chain Breaker) – 150h.

Kunc, L. Czechoslovak Soldiers in 1939–1945 (part 8).

Anon. Compassion and Defiance – and the Evil Empire after 40 years.

Pofis. Catalogue of Deed Fiscal Stamps of Czechoslovakia 1918–2022 (20-page pull out supplement).

No. 6/2022 (June).

Ježek, J. Philately and picture postcards.

Křížek, V. Postal stationery card 10/8h – Charles without nominal value?

Gebauer, P. Unusual cross-border TPOs.

Jahoda, M. Letter about the destruction of Lidice.

Kratochvíl, J. Hitherto unknown postal stations.

Kunc, L. Czechoslovak soldiers in 1939–1945 (part 9).

Šilhán, T. Pofis 2021. Cz. Automat Machine Stamps (pull out supplement pages 3–36).

(Note: the March issue of Czechout included a reference to the previous listing of these machine stamps – in *Filatelie* No. 12/2021 – as ‘pull out supplement pages 25–132’. This was incorrect and should have read ‘25–32’.)

Czechoslovak Specialist (Society for Czechoslovak Philately, USA)

Spring 2022 Vol. 84, No. 2, Whole Number 668.

Beneš, F. Endless charm of century-old *makulature* (Part 1).

Coulbourne, J. Czechoslovak perfins.

Lawrence, F. Czechoslovak provisional newspaper stamps 1918–1919.

Membership Benefits

Meetings	Three London meetings in 2022, another in Yorkshire, and one elsewhere.
Publications	Members receive the quarterly journal <i>Czechout</i> which includes articles of interest on Czech and Slovak philately and helps members to keep in touch with Society affairs. The Society publishes <i>Monographs</i> and Print-On-Demand titles on wide-ranging topics containing original research.
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