



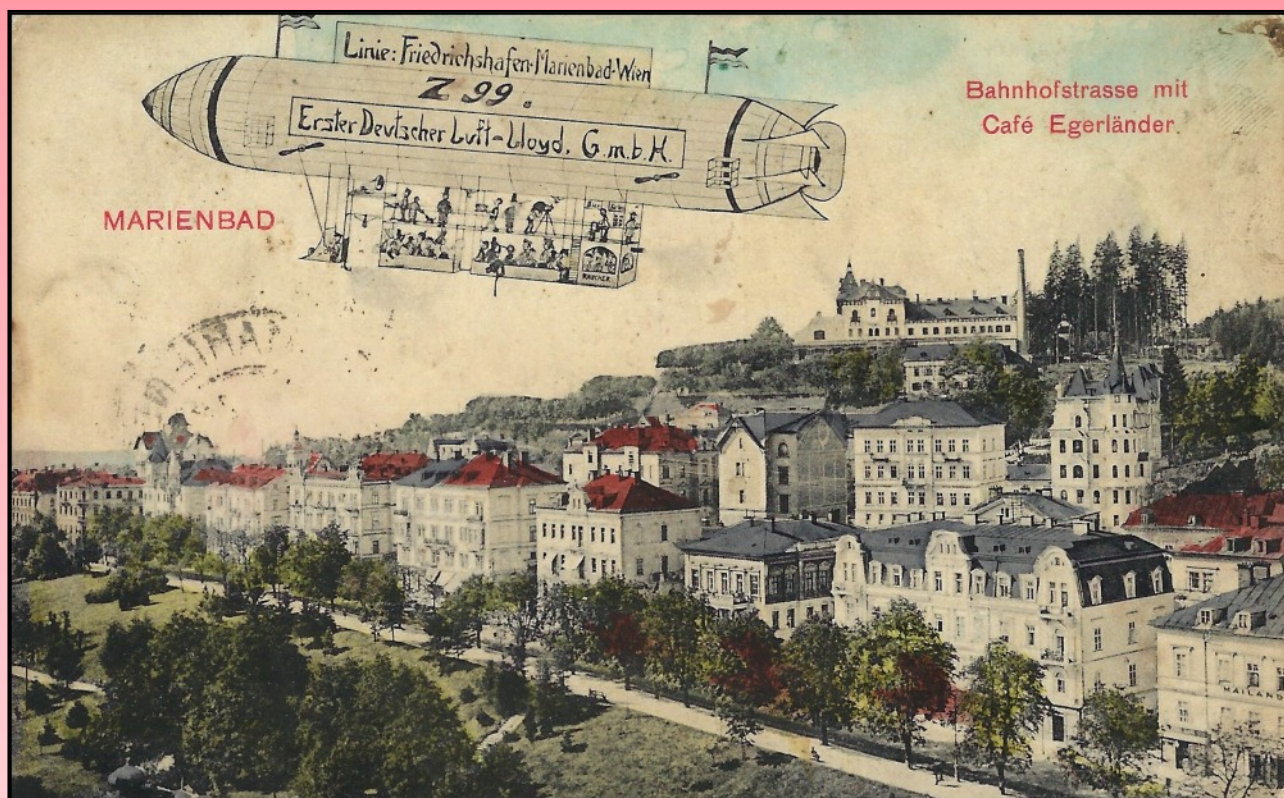
CZECHOUT

JOURNAL OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

VOLUME 40/4

DECEMBER 2022

WHOLE NUMBER 189



**Zeppelin over Marienbad – fact or fantasy?
Pioneering Czechoslovak Airmail**

Essays From the *Monografie*
Volume 1

Forerunners in the Initial Independence Period

Translated by Mark Wilson FRPSL



Essays From the *Monografie*
Volume 4

Newspaper Stamps: 1925-1926 Provisionals The 1937 Issue The Bratislava Sheet

Translated by Mark Wilson FRPSL



Agriculture and Science 1920

František Žampach
Jan Karásek Pavel Pittermann

Photographic support by Ferdinand Petřela
Jaroslav Jakubec and František Šramek, Editors

Translated by Mark Wilson FRPSL



Published on-demand by the
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain
www.cpsgb.org.uk

Essays From the *Monografie*
Volume 4: Special Purpose Stamps

Airmail Express Personal Delivery

Translated by Mark Wilson FRPSL



Published on-demand by the
Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain
www.cpsgb.org.uk

Translations from the *Monografie*

POFIS has granted CPSGB a licence to publish translations from the first four volumes of the *Monografie*. In addition, the publisher of a unique book about the 1920 Agriculture and Science issue has also permitted its publication. The books are Print-on-Demand and will be sold at cost which depends on the book's page count and the number of books ordered from the printer. The *Agriculture & Science 1920* book with 16 pages will cost no more than £11.25 and *1919-1920 The Lost Issues* with 62 pages, many in colour, will be no more than £21.00. As there is constant fluctuation on currency conversion only an indication of the UK price can be given. All the usual ways of payment, including US dollars and euros, will be available and invoices will be sent at the time of despatch. Example covers are shown above. A list of book titles appeared in the *Newsletter*. Send orders to the treasurer at treasurer@cpsgb.org.

CZECHOUT

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Editorial Note

This is not so much an opportunity to say ‘Hi!’ to everyone, and thank you for entrusting the editorship of this terrific journal to me, but to congratulate **Mark Wilson** on his award of Life Membership (see page 6) and to thank him for the service he has given to the Society as Editor of *Czechout*.

In 2019 Mark received an Award of Merit from the Association of British Philatelic Societies. As part of her news report on this occasion, Yvonne Wheatley wrote in *Czechout* number 175:



The CPSGB was like any other specialist society but with Mark’s input into the Committee we began to think in new directions. He made his website (www.czechout.org) available as a shop window for CPSGB. Mark then worked on an Interactive Index for Czechout. It won a gold medal at the National Exhibition in London in September 2013 . . . In 2018 we entered a nomination for a Federation of European Philatelic Associations Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding activities in the promotion of European philately. The certificate proclaiming CPSGB as the best European Philatelic Club of 2017 would not have been possible without Mark’s energy, innovative ideas and willingness to devote so much time to writing and producing monographs and print-on-demand titles for the Society.

His is a tough act to follow, but I will do my best and with the amazing support I have had and will, I’m sure, continue to receive, let’s hope *Czechout* goes from strength to strength.

I hope you enjoy this edition – my first attempt at ‘flying solo’ – and wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Tony Holdsworth

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News and Notes

New Members

The CPSGB extends a very warm welcome to our newest members, **Daniel J. Friedman** from Brookline, Massachusetts, **Ian Davis** from Cromer in Norfolk, and **Graham Burt** from Ramsgate in Kent.

Errata

Mark Wilson writes:

*In my final issue as Editor I made an unusual mistake. The article on page 12 of the September 2022 issue, 'Anton Cermak, Mayor of Chicago', was mistakenly attributed to the wrong author. The actual author was **Garth Taylor**. You may wish to correct this in your print copy of Czechout. I offer my sincere apology to Garth and to the readers of Czechout for not catching this error before the journal went to print. The error has been corrected in the digital copies of Czechout and the correct author will appear in the index to Czechout.*

Ludvik Svoboda has pointed out that his note to the effect that further information on the Eisenhower visit to Prague is available in *The Czechoslovak Specialist* (on page 6 of the September issue of *Czechout*) should have read 'is available on pages 14 and 15 of the January/February 2000 issue'.

August Zoom Meeting

Held at 15:00 BST on 27th August, the first of this season's Zoom meetings got off to a flying start! Chaired by Hans van Dooremalen, a meeting of 25 members, from the USA, New Zealand, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Finland and the UK, were treated to an in-depth look at Czechoslovak Airmails to 1939, presented by **Lindy Bosworth**.

Starting at the very beginning, with a brief look at balloon and pigeon post, airships, and the pioneering work of aviator Jan Kašpar (1883–1927), we heard about the first mail-carrying flight, from Prague to Paris and return, on 4 and 5 September 1919. The two companies involved in the earliest flights were Československé státní aerolinie (ČSA – founded in 1923, and the forerunner of today's Czech Airlines) and Československá letecká společnost (ČLS – Czechoslovak Aviation Company, founded in 1927). ČSA flights were mainly internal, while ČLS flew to European destinations.

The first airmail stamps were issued on 11 August 1920, with three values overprinted on Hradčany issues: 14k on the 200h blue for the Prague–Strasbourg route; 24k on the 500h lake-brown for Prague–Paris; and 28k on the 100h purple for Prague–London. The presentation included three flown covers with these stamps.

The second issue, on 15 June 1922, revealed that considerably more mail was being delivered by airmail, and the overprinted rates had been reduced to reflect that – 50h, 100h and 250h. The presentation included a wide range of covers illustrating different routes and destinations.

The third issue, from 1930, featured two of the aircraft used for the airmail service – a Smolik S19 and a Fokker F VIII. Two beautiful source artworks by Karl Seizinger were shown, along with a great many flown covers, both internal and international. By now the growth of tourism, especially to Czechoslovak spas like Karlovy Vary, led to a number of commemorative cancels and promotional cards.

The final collection of covers included destinations further afield – including South Africa and South America – and information on the 'catapult mail', designed to increase the range of aircraft flying from Europe to South America by carrying them for about 36 hours by ship and then 'catapulting' the aircraft into the sky for the remainder of the journey. One particularly intriguing photocard for mail carried via *Graf Zeppelin*, showed Dr Hugo Eckener, commander of the airship's first round the world flight in 1929.

An article using the material from Lindy's presentation, and covering the history of Czechoslovak airmails during the First Republic, appears on page 7 of this edition of *Czechout*.

Tony Holdsworth

It was especially good to see our member **Bruce Henderson** join in the Zoom meeting on 27 August (see above), as he lives in New Zealand and it was 03:00 on a winter's morning. He said 'I was surprised that there were only a couple of dozen of us attending; I assumed because it was Zoom online, we would have had 100% attendance from members from all over the world!'. The Zoom meetings are continuing in 2023 so it will be good to see more members attending.

Bruce joined the Society in September 2021 and does his best to promote the Society on the Postage Stamp Chat Board and Stamp Forum, www.Stampboards.com. He recommends the site which is free to join with no adverts! At the time of writing there are 137 posts under the heading *Why not Collect CZECHOSLOVAKIA the land with a golden foundation?* Bruce writes under the name of Panterra and you can access the site at:

<https://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?t=96436>

Yvonne Wheatley

September Zoom Meeting

On 21 September, **Wojciech Kierstan** presented *Praga 1968* to an audience of eighteen, who had logged in from the UK, France and the USA.

Taking place just six years after Praga 1962, this exhibition marked the 50th anniversary of Czechoslovakia. President Svoboda opened the events. Over 345,000 people attended, of which 60,000 came from abroad. The international nature was underlined by 23 countries being represented on the juries.

Most of us recognized the stamps that Wojciech started with. He pointed out the two varieties of the miniature sheet and then explored the stamps that were issued: a Rousseau self-portrait, five stamps from modern Prague, a picture by the Czech Kupka, five stamps of old Prague, Josef Manes' *Josefina*, and Durer's *Feast of the Rosary* for FIP Day. There were two airmail sets. The first showed the locations and emblems of the internationals after Praga 1962, the second three 'Heath Robinson' air machines. Wojciech explained the importance of each issue, including the engravings on each First Day Cover. Have you ever looked in detail at yours? The illustration often supplements the stamp issue itself.

Wojciech then explored the four balloon days which involved five different balloons: *Nimbus*, *Graf Zeppelin*, *D Bernina* (a sewing machine company!), *Praga 68*, and *Gazelle Austria*. He showed a number of covers with a Cinderella attached for the named balloon, current Czech stamps tied by the CDS for Praha at the start of the flight, and another CDS for the touch-down location. Some had additional cachets if a helicopter was used for part of the journey.

The Italian Post Office had a fine pavilion, of which Wojciech had a picture. The Italians also organized a mail coach and a CDS for that event. Again, a cover was shown.

The two sets of postal stationery cards were shown and explained. Wojciech said he had never seen them used. Have you?

Two black prints were issued: the 5 K air stamp with the exhibition catalogue and the Feast of the Rosary on the FIP Day.

Wojciech has shown this display as an open entry in a local competition. The judge asked why there was no catalogue, probably expecting a small A5 leaflet of a few pages. Wojciech showed the hardback book which was the catalogue. Over 400 pages, in five languages, it had details of all the events, colour plates of the main stamp exhibits and learned articles to mention only a part of its contents.

The display ended with a number of vignettes that were printed for the exhibition. Wojciech had all five colours of the bridge design and a full sheet of 25. He even had an Artia souvenir sheet only available at their stand. (A lucky find tucked in amongst a lot he had purchased.) The final item had been subject to a recent *Czechout* query: an Artia folder with a fine, colourful engraving promised 'Artia is giving a small present to philatelic friends'. Does anyone know what it was as the folder itself was empty.

In the discussion afterwards, Lindy Bosworth suggested that a specialized Czech catalogue may provide information on the locations and aeroplanes on the engravings shown on the first day covers of the first airmail set. Tony Holdsworth thanked Wojciech for clearly explaining what was on the balloon covers, as he had one and wanted to know more. Another satisfied member!

The meeting finished after an hour. This was a fascinating examination of an important event in Czechoslovak philately. Many items were issued. It was clear that Wojciech had spent many hours exploring each aspect in depth.*

Peter Williams

Joint Societies Meeting at the Brown Cow, Leeds, on 13 August 2022

On a very fine but very hot day, sixteen souls from the Austrian, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Polish and Yugoslav specialist societies braved the busy roads and the rail strike, some arriving in shorts and sandals, to enjoy a day of central European philatelic variety organized by Yvonne Wheatley. Unfortunately, compared with previous events, numbers were depleted by temperature, transport and domestic issues, but nonetheless an excellent time was had by all. Also, besides apologies for absence, Yvonne Wheatley had to announce that unfortunately Malcom Stockhill of the Polish Society, a long-standing attendee, had passed away earlier in the week.

Four rounds of short displays, compèred by Richard Wheatley, were held before lunch, and two more afterwards, the following eclectic mix of subject matter being shown.

Martin Brumby: Official free-post cards of Austria (including Bohemian and Moravian versions) from the 1870s to the 1920s, and a few from Hungary (in two parts), with identification of all the issue types, some of which appeared to be very scarce, or simply 'not seen'.

Roger Morrell: Troubled times in Ukraine – the philately of the various parts of Ukraine during and after both WWI (Western Ukraine, Romanian occupation, Polish and Bolshevik interventions) and WWII (German occupation, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Subcarpathian National Government, and Soviet interventions) and with historical scene-setting and some maps to help.

* *Wojciech's study of Praga 68 recently received yet further acclaim: see page 7 – Editor*

Joyce Boyer: The Innsbruck to Vienna TPO through the ages, in two parts – Vienna to Salzburg and Salzburg to Innsbruck, showing the postmarks.

Keith Brandon: Russia to western Europe pre-stamp mail from Ukrainian towns via various routes and identified by postmarks, commencing with the Danube route from the 1830s but changing with the development of the railways which provided faster connections.

Nick Coverdale: Mail from Serbia to Austria-Hungary 1867–1880. Post was initially handled via the Austrian Consulate in Belgrade, but from 1869 by the Serbs themselves through the Austria-Serbia Postal Union with reduced rates which changed again in 1875 following the UPU convention.

Yvonne Wheatley: Small, ‘thimble’ datestamps of Austria introduced from 1867, especially from places destined to become Czechoslovakia.

Wojciech Kierstan: East Prussia and the development of the Polish Corridor in 1920, including the stamp issues for plebiscite areas Marienwerder and Allenstein.

Garth Taylor: The Czechoslovak Grand Prix of the 1930s on the 29 km long circuit near Brno, with postmarks and commemorative cards, including some of the drivers and their successes.

Andy Taylor: Austrian composers and music as commemorated on stamps (with the accompaniment of the Austrian National Anthem played on his phone) shown in two parts.

Alan Berrisford: Warsaw local delivery post under German occupation, 1916–1918, including stamps and the six series of hand-stamped marks displayed on covers, with rate changes, shown in two parts.

Richard Jagielski: Polish Camp stamps during WWII, including Montecasino and the rapidly withdrawn Mountbatten issues, with covers collected by his father, supported by resettlement documents and other ephemera.



Garth Taylor and his US ‘Flags of Oppressed Nations’ issue.

Peter Chadwick: History of East Prussia including WWI plebiscites, the Polish corridor, WWII occupations and the eventual formation of the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad.

Wojciech Kierstan: The Prague Exhibition of 1968 with all the special issues for each day and covers with the appropriate postmarks.

Richard Wheatley: The Czech Airmen series of 1945 in complete sheets, noting only one ‘error’, a ‘feather in the cap’, which ironically he then couldn’t locate.

Garth Taylor: The US WWII stamp series showing the flags of oppressed nations and covers bearing the stamps sent to various envoys and military attachés.

Roger Morrell: The introduction in 1918/1919 of special Hungarian newspaper money orders for paying newspaper subscriptions and the confusion this caused among post office staff.

Richard Jagielski: The first post-WWII issue of Poland printed in Russia with overprints and postal history.

Before the thirsty audience rushed for the cakes and tea, Andy Taylor gave a vote of thanks to Yvonne for hosting the meeting and making all the arrangements (some of which sounded very frustrating). In response, Yvonne said she was considering the possibility of changing the next meeting to a weekday to improve the chances of more reliable public transport and lunchtime catering, which attendees welcomed (since we are all getting older!).

Roger Morrell, photo by Andy Taylor

CPSGB Annual General Meeting

This year the AGM was held via Zoom on Saturday 5 November 2022. Seventeen members were present. Reports were received from committee members and the text will be available to all members via a link to the minutes of the meeting that will be included in the next *Newsletter*.

Hans van Dooremalen stepped down as Chairman and was thanked for his four-year term in the post – he was replaced by **Peter Williams**. Hans has now taken up the post of Immediate Past Chairman, while **Roger Morrell** has now taken over as Competitions secretary. **Reg Hounsell** has stepped down from the committee and **Tony Holdsworth** has taken on the role of *Czechout* Editor. All other committee officers were unanimously reappointed. Items for discussion at the meeting included:

- A proposal to change the name of the society to the Czech and Slovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain. This was rejected by a majority, largely on the grounds of the additional expense it would involve.
- It was agreed to investigate purchasing a zip up banner for use at Midpex and other similar events.
- It was agreed that there should be a slight change to the rules for the Bill Dawson trophy – rather than appointing five judges as in the past, a list of eligible articles from *Czechout* over the past two years will be sent out to all members for them to vote on their favourite.

Finally, **Yvonne Wheatley**, our Life President, praised **Mark Wilson** for the many fresh ideas that he has brought to transforming the Society as Editor of *Czechout*, including its design and appearance and the interactive index. He took on the role only on a temporary basis, but quickly came to enjoy it. To reward Mark for his contribution, the Committee agreed to award him Honorary Life Membership. **Tony Holdsworth**

Congratulations

From November 2022 **Lubor Kunc**, one of our members based in Prague, was awarded Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society in London.

A number of our members exhibited in the FEPA European Exhibition held in Liberec, Czech Republic, in October 2022. The results were as follows:

Milan Černík	<i>Restoration of Postal Operation in Czechoslovakia, after WWII</i> – Gold and Special Prize for material
Jon Klemetsen	<i>Czechoslovakia 1918–1928</i> – Vermeil <i>Czechoslovakia 1929–1939</i> – Large Silver <i>Italy: the Reign of Vittorio Emanuele III</i> – Large Silver
Pavol Lazar	<i>Postal Administration in Slovakia 1850–1875: Tariffs & Franking</i> – Large Vermeil <i>Miniature Sheet Bratislava 1937: Globetrotter</i> – 1 frame 93 marks and Special Prize for material
György Lövei	<i>Interim use of Airmail Stamps during the Interim Period of Czechoslovakian Currency Reform (01.06.1953–18.06.1953)</i> – 1 frame 85 marks
Juan Enrique Page	<i>Phoenix: The Destruction and Reconstruction of Czechoslovakia.</i> <i>Part I: Destruction</i> – Silver Bronze <i>Part II: Reconstruction</i> – Silver Bronze
Garth Taylor	<i>A Study of the Third Issue of Czechoslovakian Airmail Stamps</i> – Large Vermeil
Yvonne Wheatley	<i>Czechoslovakia: The Masaryk 1920 & Allegory Issues 1920–1923</i> – Gold and Special Prize, National Class
Johan Sevenhuijsen & Mark Wilson	<i>The Hradčany – A Technical History Part 1 and Part 2 Appendix</i> – Large Vermeil
Mark Wilson	<i>Czechout 2021</i> – Large Silver

At the National Exhibition Autumn Stampex held in London in September 2022 **Peter Chadwick** had two entries: *Rexmarks in England & Scotland* was awarded a Gold Medal, and *From Bishop to Ballpoint* 1 frame received a Large Vermeil.

The Society's London Meeting, 12 November 2022

Eleven members met at the King's Head pub in Marylebone to carry out the important task of judging the competitions for the George Pearson Trophy and the Francis Pettitt Salver. Entries for the former should be sixteen sheets on Czechoslovakian philately prior to 1939, while the latter are twelve sheets on the same subject post-1945. There were two entries for the Pettitt Salver – one on *Praga 1968* and the other on *Operation Anthropoid*. The four entries for the Pearson Trophy covered *Scout and Revolutionary Issues 1918/1919*, *Money Order Usage in the new Czechoslovakian Republic*, *A Series of Postcards to Chotieschau*, and *The Birth, the Death and the Resurrection: Summarising the works of Alphonse Mucha*.

Congratulations are due to **Wojciech Kierstan** who won *both* of the competitions! His entries were on *Praga 1968* and the *Scout and Revolutionary issues*.

After lunch a brief committee meeting was held, at which Peter Williams was presented with his badge of office by Yvonne Wheatley and a few notices were given, including the dates for the next meetings: 21 January 2023 for the joint meeting with the Austrian philatelic society at York racecourse, and 18 February for the next London meeting, with a presentation by Roger Morrell on Postal Stationery.

In the afternoon we were entertained to a session by **Garth Taylor** on *Czech Forces*. Garth's extensive collection of covers and other items of postal history telling the story of the Czech forces fighting with the Allies in WWII ranged from postcards, Christmas and Easter cards, and concert programmes to a series of love letters to a very busy Captain serving in the Middle East, and correspondence from Buckingham Palace relating to a consignment of honey sent to a school for the children of Czech forces in Cheshire by Princess Elizabeth. The meeting was closed by Peter Williams with thanks for Garth and for all of those who entered the competitions.

Philatelic Exhibition in Bratislava 2 – 4 June 2023

This exhibition was announced in the September *Czechout* on page 4. We now have some more information supplied by the Chairman of the exhibition, Pavol Lazar (zsflazar@gmail.com).

Several world rarities as well as a cross-section of the history of Philately in Slovakia will be presented. It is hoped that there will be a number of exhibits covering Central Europe. The exhibition is being organized by the Union of Slovak Philatelists in cooperation with the Slovak Post. The date of the exhibition has been chosen to coincide with the Bratislava Collectors' Days, the largest Slovak Collectors Market.

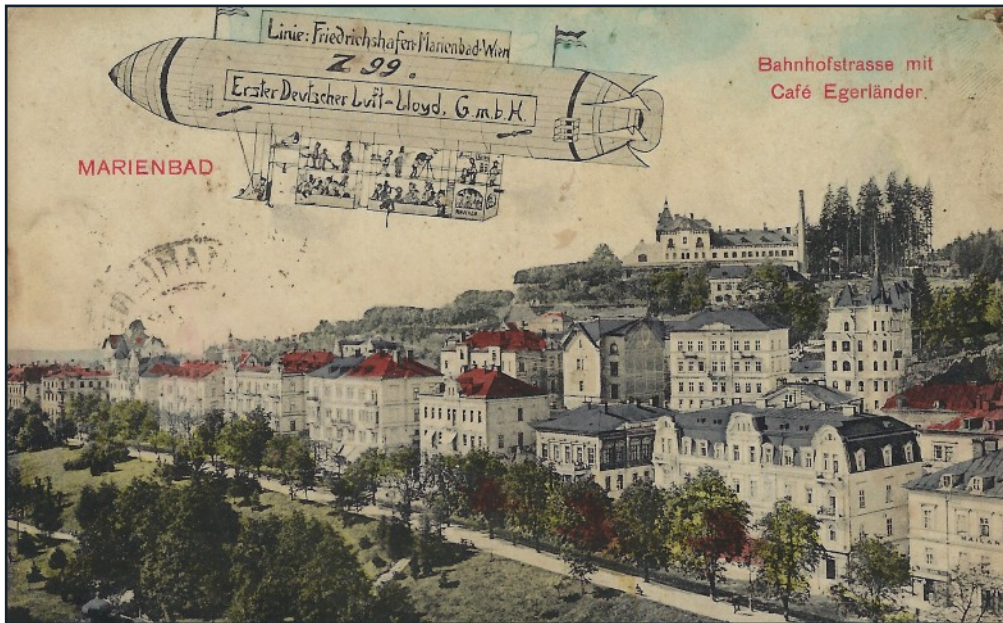
The name of the Exhibition is BRATISLAVAFILA 2023 and will take place at the Slovak National Museum. It is a National Exhibition with international participation and new exhibits without prior qualification, as well as established exhibits, are welcomed in all classes. FEPA and FIP regulations apply. The closing date for registration with the General Commissioner, Peter Osusky, is 31 January 2023 (peter.osusky@yahoo.com).

First Republic Airmails – The Pioneering Years

Lindy Bosworth

The oldest methods of aerial post are pigeon and balloon post but these were both unreliable and unsuitable as a means of mass transportation of mail. Airmail services date from 1911 but were mostly trial flights. Regular airlines opened after the WWI. The first was on 28 March 1918 on the Austrian route Vienna–Cracow–Lemberg–Proskurow–Kiev.

In the early years of the 20th century there was great interest in developing flying machines, including airships. Pioneer aviators travelled to give flying displays – testing themselves and their machines. Several German airships had made commercial flights but it was only in 1912 that the first zeppelin, LZ 13 *Hansard*, made the first passenger flight outside Germany.



A zeppelin (Z 99) flies over the spa resort of Marienbad (Mariánské Lázně). Card sent to Kolín dated 18 August 1913. As in this case, zeppelin images were added to a number of scenic postcards before WWI. Z 99 is spurious as it was not launched until 14 July 1917. The route plaque above (Linie: Friedrichshafen – Marienbad – Wien) is also an invention, as the airport at Mariánské Lázně (with regular flights from May to September to/from Prague) was only open from 1 June 1925 to 15 September 1938.

Czech aviator Jan Kašpar (1883–1927) came from a wealthy Pardubice family. As a youngster he was interested in bicycles and automobiles. In 1907 he graduated from Prague Technical University with an engineering degree, and worked briefly for Laurin & Klement (later to become Škoda Auto). Funded by his



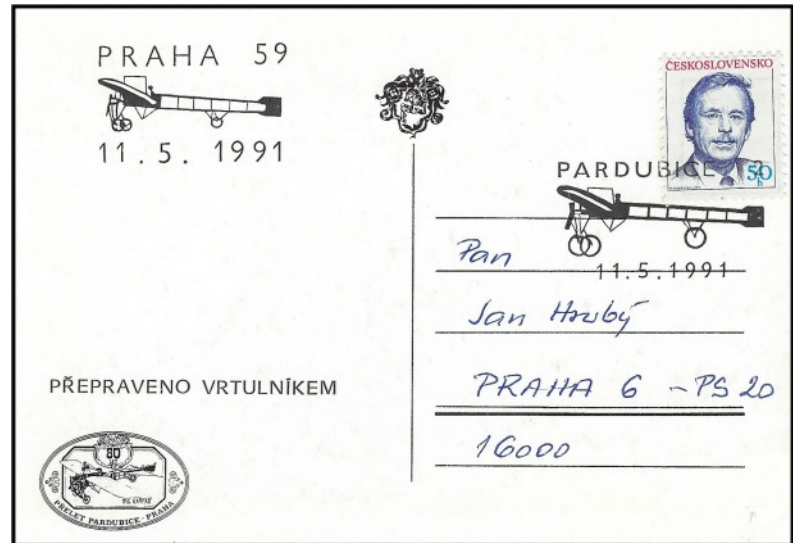
Above left: Jan Kašpar (top) and Evžan Čihák (bottom). Above right: Kašpar at the controls of his own machine, the JK.

father, and with the help of his cousin Evžen Čihák, he began building his own aircraft and by 1911 was giving frequent flying displays. On 13 May 1911 he flew from Pardubice to Velká Chuchle (121km) in 92 minutes – then the longest flight in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. He donated his aircraft (the JK) to the National Technical Museum in Prague, where it can still be seen.

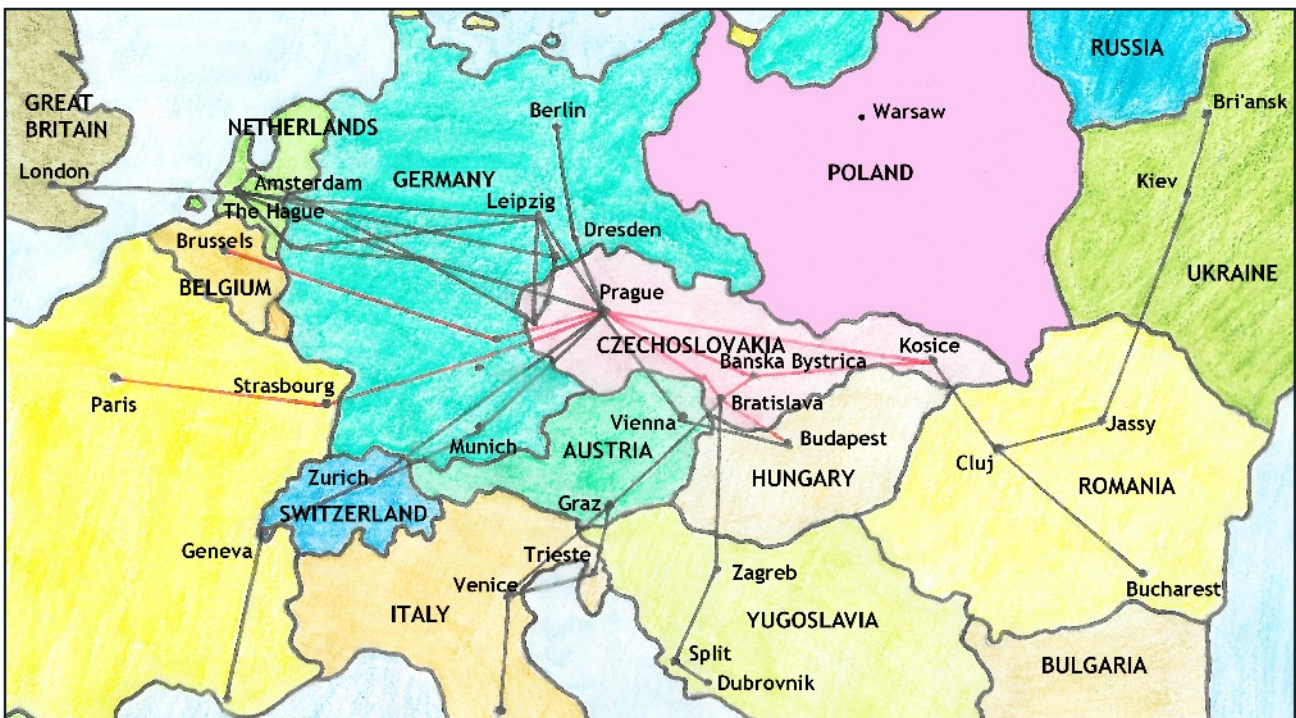


Above: a two-colour commemorative cancel for the Kašpar memorial flight on 12 September 1937.

Right: a postal stationery Card issued for a memorial flight on 11 May 1991.



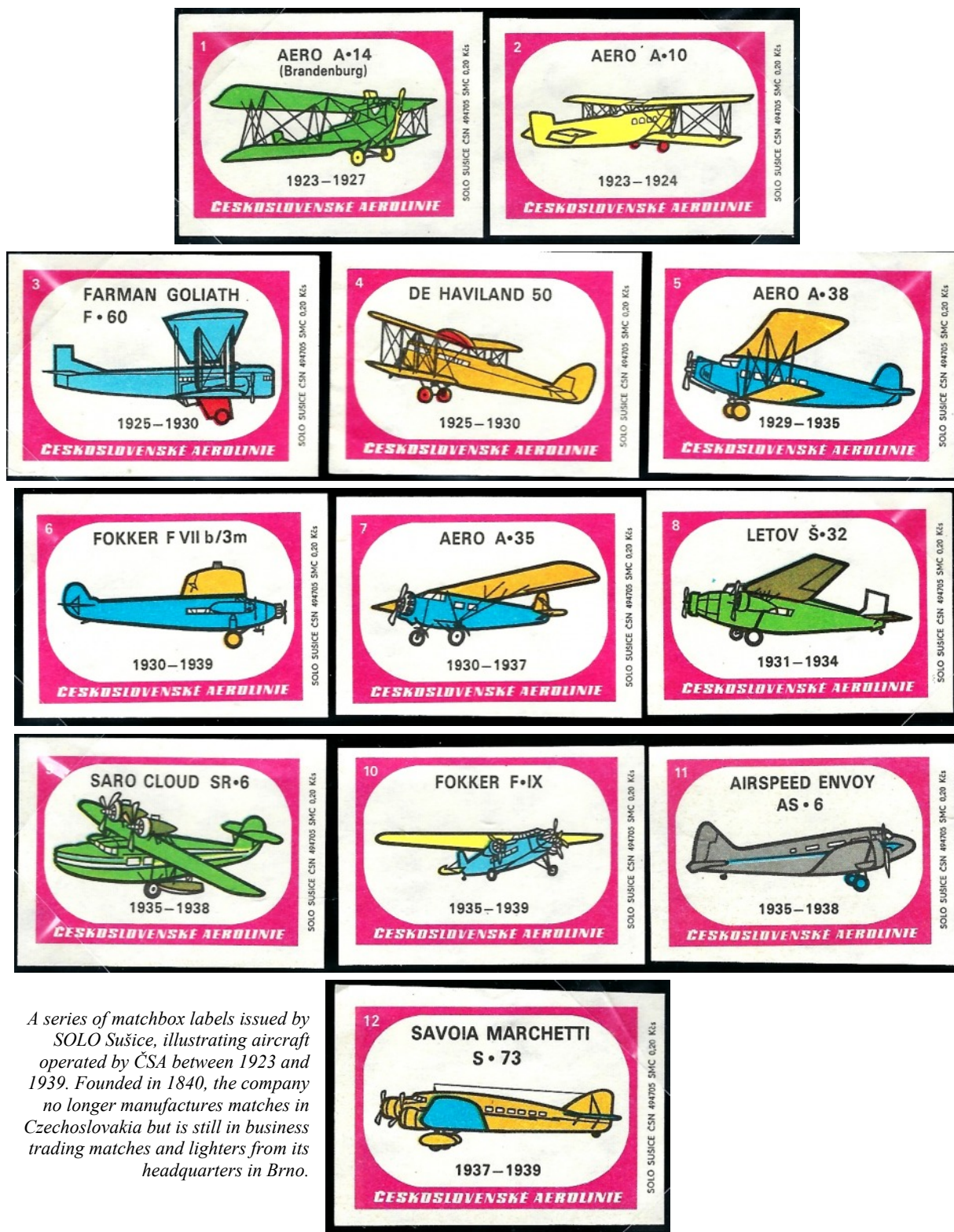
The first Czechoslovakian airmail flight took place on 4–5 September 1919, from Prague to Paris and return. Captain Blíženec and Lieutenant Starý flew a French Breguet aircraft from Prague to Paris via Mainz (some 600 miles) and back. They carried diplomatic mail. Many of these early flights within Czechoslovakia and beyond did carry mail but it was mainly military or diplomatic items with very little civilian mail. The aircraft were usually military machines flown by military personnel.



Flights during the First Republic: ČSA routes shown in red, ČLS shown in black.

During the First Republic, two airlines were in operation: Československé státní airolinie (ČSA) operated from 1923 to 1939, mainly on internal routes. It was founded on 6 October 1923 by the Czechoslovak government and based at a military airfield at Kbely, Prague. By the mid-1930s it had become too small so it was moved to Ruzyně (now Václav Havel Airport, Prague), which opened on 5 April 1937. Kbely is now a Czech Air Force base, used by VIPs.

Československá letecká společnost (ČLS) operated from 1927 to 1939, mainly on foreign (European) routes. It was founded by Škoda Engineering Works, which had become interested in aircraft and took over a number of small air companies to gain a monopoly. ČLS had funding from the Czechoslovak government and others and was also based at Kbely, Prague.



A series of matchbox labels issued by SOLO Sušice, illustrating aircraft operated by ČSA between 1923 and 1939. Founded in 1840, the company no longer manufactures matches in Czechoslovakia but is still in business trading matches and lighters from its headquarters in Brno.

1. Aero A.14 (Brandenburg) – built by Aero Vodochody for military reconnaissance (1922)
 2. Aero A.10 Letňany – operated on the Prague – Bratislava route (1922 to 1925)
 3. Farman Goliath F.60 – carried up to twelve passengers
 4. de Havilland 50 – carried up to four passengers or freight/mail
 5. Aero A.38 – carried up to eight passengers
 6. Fokker F VII b/3m – carried six to twelve passengers
 7. Aero A.35 – In June 1933, ČSA flew the A35 from Sušak (part of the city of Rijeka in Croatia). The aircraft was named the Adriatic Express (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aero_A.35).
 8. Letov Š-32 – used on the Prague – Bratislava – Užhorod – Bucharest route, and proved successful on night flights
 9. Saro Cloud SR.6 – a twin-engined passenger flying boat made in the UK
 10. Fokker F.IX – carried up to twenty passengers
 11. Airspeed Envoy AS.6 – manufactured in the UK
 12. Savoia Marchetti S.73 – manufactured in Italy
- The Aero and Letov aircraft were built by Czechoslovak companies, while the Farman, de Havilland and Fokker aircraft were made under licence in Czechoslovakia.

First Airmail Stamps – 11 August 1920

The first airmail stamps were three values of the first Czechoslovak stamp issue – the Hradčany design – overprinted with the value and an image of an aircraft. As there were only three air destinations from Prague only three stamps were required:

14 K printed in brown red on 200 haler for the Prague – Strasbourg route;

24 K printed in steel-blue on 500 haler for the Prague – Paris – Warsaw route;

28 K printed in black-green on 1000 haler for the Prague – London route.

300,000 of each value were issued; they were valid until 30 April 1921.



The overprints were on both imperforate and perforated stamps (both $13\frac{3}{4}\times 13\frac{3}{4}$ and $13\frac{3}{4}\times 13\frac{1}{2}$).

Each route had its own airmail etiquette, charged at 5 haler. Much of the mail is 'philatelic'. Postage rates were:

Internal postage to 20g – 20 haler (25 haler from 15 May 1919 to 31 July 1920);

Registered fee – 25 haler (50 haler from 15 May 1919);

Express fee – 60 haler;

Foreign letter to 20g – 25 haler (50 haler from 15 May 1919).



Above: to Strasbourg dated 13 January 1921. Letter probably went by rail as the earliest recorded flight carrying experimental mail to Strasbourg was 25 January 1921. If it did go by air it was with CFRNA (the Compagnie Franco-Roumanie de Navigation Aérienne) which later became Air France. Correctly franked: air fee – 14 K; foreign letter – 1 K 25; registered fee – 1 K 25.



Airmail etiquettes indicated the route and cost 5 haler: Prague – Strasbourg (top); Prague – Paris (centre); and Prague – London (bottom).



Above: to Paris dated 31 March 1921; flight recorded 31.3.21. Correctly franked: air fee 24 K; foreign letter 1 K 25; registered fee 1 K 25. Flown CFRNA – faint handstamp across sender's name. (Sender: export/import of postage stamps.)



Left: to London dated 31 March 1921 – flight with mail recorded. Flown CFRNA. Correctly franked: air fee 28 K; foreign letter 1 K 25; registered fee 1 K 25. Praha 1, Paris & London marks on reverse.

Second Airmail Issue – 15 June 1922

During the 1920s interest in transporting people, cargo and mail by air for commercial gain grew. As aircraft became more reliable regular mail/cargo services both within Czechoslovakia and abroad were set up. The Czechoslovak government set up ČSA in October 1923 with a first transport flight from Prague to Bratislava later that month. Operations were mainly internal flights until 1930. ČLS (Škoda) operated from 1927 on European routes. Both air lines operated from Kbely Airfield, originally a military facility outside Prague.

Because of this increase in traffic, airmail rates were reduced and a second airmail issue was released in 1922, this time as overprints on three stamps of the Agriculture and Science issue. Airmail rates were reduced on 1 April 1921 and again on 1 March 1922. Ordinary surface mail stamps were used until the new overprints became available in June.



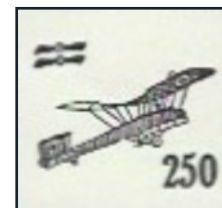
50 haler overprint in black on 100 haler



100 haler overprint in black on 200 haler



250 haler overprint in blue on 400 haler



During the early 1920s competition between rail and air was fierce. From Prague to Paris by rail took thirty-two hours but, as the poster below states, it was only six hours by air. However, only two passengers could be accommodated in the Potez VII aircraft advertised. This was a daily service for passengers, letters and packages.

The letter below is from the Czechoslovak Union of Field Athletics in Prague, and is addressed to the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee in Paris (as shown by a handstamp on the reverse) – the 1924 Olympic Games were held in Paris. It was flown via CFRNA on 1 July 1924 and carries the appropriate Prague – Paris airmail etiquette. It appears to have been overfranked by 25 haler. The franking should have been: inland postage (letter to 20g) – 2 K 50; registered fee 2 K 50; air fee – 25 haler (from 1 March 1924); total 5 K 25. The sender was either not aware of the air fee reduction or was perhaps using up stamps.



Above: poster (copy) produced by CFRNA c.1920 in Czech to advertise their air service from Prague.

Airmail items originating outside Prague were cancelled at the airport. Starting 1 April 1921 a circular cancel marked 'a' was used (*right*) until 1934. Items from within Prague often had no airport cancel.



Left: from Karlovy Vary (Karlbad) on 2 October 1924 to Interlaken, Switzerland, arriving 4 October (below). It was carried by CFRNA to Strasbourg then by rail to Interlaken. There is no airmail etiquette but it was flown and has the correct franking.



Below: an item originating in Prague on 14 July 1923 to Berne, Switzerland (arrived 16 July – datestamp on reverse). Flown by CFRNA via Strasbourg and correctly franked.

During the 1920s foreign airlines made scheduled regular services to and from Prague for passengers, freight and mail. It was becoming cheaper, quicker, safer and more convenient by air. The first flight from Prague to Vienna was on 14 August 1922, operated by CFRNA.

On 1 June 1925 the Compagnie Internationale de Navigation Aérienne (CIDNA – later Air France) inaugurated a regular service following the route Prague – Vienna – Belgrade – Bucharest – Istanbul – Ankara.



Left: first flight for the Prague – Vienna leg of the CIDNA regular flight from Prague to Ankara via Vienna. Correct franking: foreign letter (reduced rate for Austria) – 2 K; registered fee – 2 K 50; air fee – 20 haler.

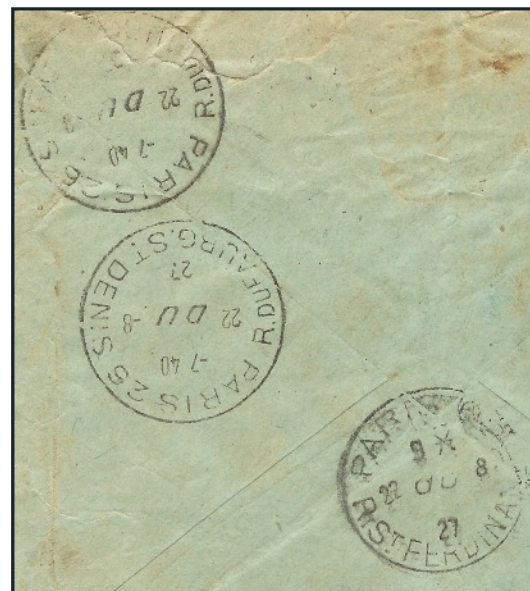
Note the use of a boxed rubber stamp in red for airmail on both this cover and the one below.

Right: cover sent to Italy from the Jubilee Exhibition of Postage Stamps held by the Klub Českých Filatelistů (KČF) in Prague in 1927. Correct franking: foreign letter – 2 K 50; registered fee – 2 K 50; airmail fee – 1 K. Prague airport cancel dated 3 October 1927; Vienna airport transit dated 3 October 1927. The registration label was specially created for the exhibition.



The cover below was sent from Mariánské Lazně (Marienbad) to Paris on 19 August 1927 and is perhaps marked up for postage due, though there is no indication that this was collected. This was an express letter to Paris and should have been franked as follows: postage for a foreign letter to 20 g – 2 K 50; express fee – 5 K; airmail fee – 2 K 50; Total – 10 K. But it has been franked 8 K 50. The air fee to France from 1 April to 7 August 1927 was 1 K, but from 8 August 1927 it increased to 2 K 50 per 20g. The ‘62’ in blue crayon is perhaps an indication of postage due?

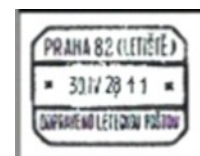
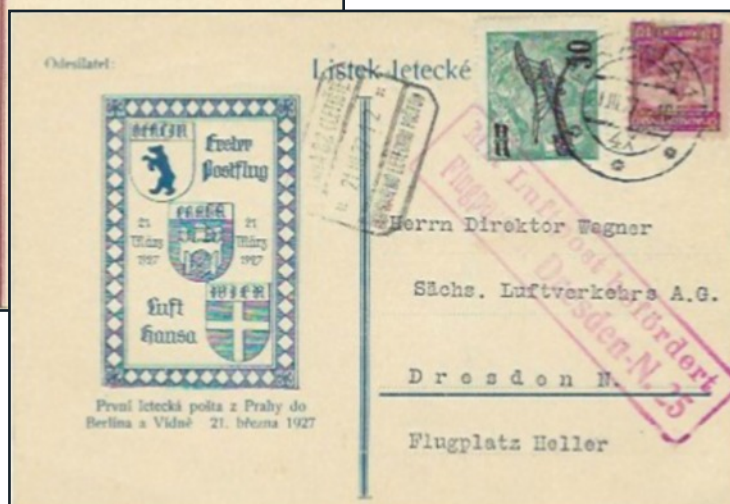
The cover carries a wealth of cancels: the lozenge-shaped Mariánské Lazně Letiště dated 19 August 1927; the circular Praha 8 Letiště b dated 20 August 1927; two strikes of the single circle Paris 25 – R du Faubg. St Denis with date 22, DU – 8.27 and time 7 40; and a single circle Paris ? St Ferdinand with date 22 DU – 8.27 and time 9 X.



The first flight from Berlin to Vienna via Dresden and Prague took place on 21 March 1927. The service was operated by DLH (Deutsche Luft Hansa), ÖLAG (Österreichische Luftverkehr AG) and ČLS (Československá letecká společnost). Flights continued on this route until August 1939. Commemorative postcards were issued with a cachet carrying the arms of the three capital cities (*below*). The brown printing has the Vienna arms at the top, while the blue printing has the Berlin arms at the top: both have the arms for Prague at the centre. The text on both cards is in Czech.



Below: flown from Prague to Dresden. Postage for a reduced rate foreign postcard – 1 K 20; air fee (card) – 50 haler (correct franking). Cancels: circular Praha 1 dated 21 March 1927; lozenge Praha 82 airport dated 21 March 1927; and boxed magenta receiving mark, Dresden-N.25.



Above: the lozenge Praha 82 dated airport cancel was in use from 1927 to 1929.

The first internal flight by ČSA (Československé státní aerolinie) in 1923 linked Prague to Bratislava (capital of Slovakia) then later to Košice. There were flights on 15 and 16 March 1927 from Prague stopping at Brno, Bratislava and Košice, and returning to Prague.



Above: postage, internal letter to 20 g – 1 K; registered fee – 2 K; express fee – 1 K; airmail fee – 30 haler; total – 4 K 30, as franked. Registered label Praha, Letiště (Airport) 2. Cancels: double circle Praha 82 Letiště with date 16 March 1927. Lozenge-shaped Praha 82 (Letiště – first in use 16 March 1927). Note the homemade airmail marking.



Above: Brno to Prague 16 March 1927. Overfranked by 2 K – perhaps the intention was to register the letter? Arrival mark (on reverse) Praha Telegraph Office dated 16 March 1927. ‘7501’ indicates item went through the Prague pneumatic system. Both these items were philatelic and sent or received by F. Šašek, a Prague stamp dealer.

During the 1920s an increasing number of tourists started visiting Czechoslovakia, especially to spa resorts such as Karlovy Vary (Karlovsbad) and Mariánské Lázně (Marienbad). Both ČSA and ČLS operated services to cater for this business. ČSA ran a regular service from Prague to Mariánské Lázně from 1927 to 1938, extending the service to Karlovy Vary from 1930, between May and September. ČLS operated a similar service from 1928 but linked it to Kassel – Rotterdam – London (the Mariánské Lázně service) or Chemnitz – Leipzig (from Karlovy Vary).



Left: first flight cover from Prague to Mariánské Lázně. Postage: internal letter to 20g – 1 K; airmail fee – 30 haler; total 1 K 30, as franked. Cancels: double circle Praha 82 Letiště with date 4 July 1927 (two strikes); lozenge-shaped Praha 82 (Letiště) with date 4 July 1927; receiving cancel on reverse. Mariánské Lázně 1 – Marienbad 1, dated 4 July 1927.



In 1929 the regular return service from Prague to Bratislava and Košice, which had started in 1924, was now extended to Užhorod.

Karlovy Vary airport held an air show on 7 June 1930. The airport is about 5 km from the town on land acquired in 1927 with government funding. The buildings opened in 1930.



Above and left: postal stationery card with view of the Geyser Colonnade, Karlovy Vary sent to Užhorod. Postage: internal postcard – 50 haler; air fee 30 haler; total 80 haler, as franked. Note the airmail label in Czech and French.

During WWII the German Luftwaffe used the facility to train pilots. There are still limited flights connecting Russia and Germany from the airport.



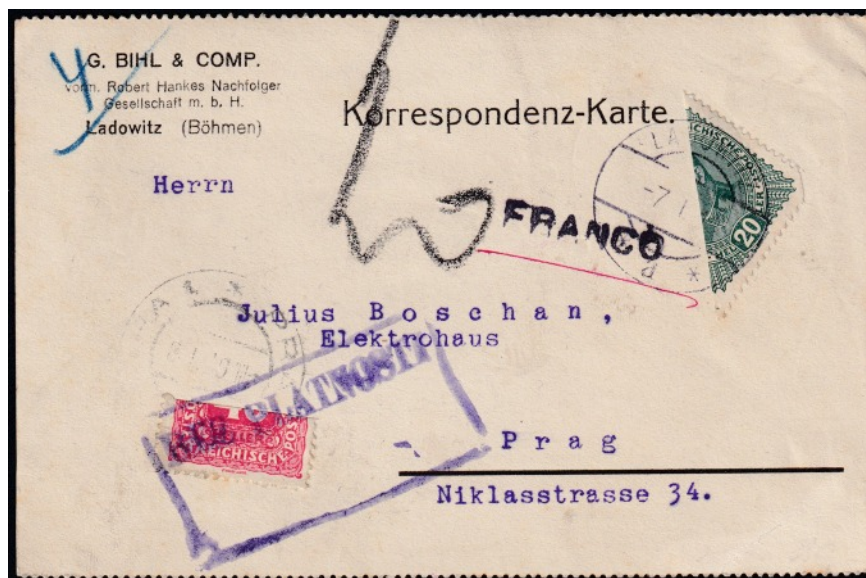
A photocard sent to Prague from Karlovy Vary airport, dated 18 August 1933.

Startup problems for the Czechoslovakian post in 1919

Part one - overall service, stamps and postage dues

Johan Sevenhuijsen

It took more than a year (after the foundation of Czechoslovakia on 28 October 1918) for the post office of the new state to create a full spectrum of its own products and to supply all post offices with them. In the meantime, an interesting series of emergency measures was taken to keep the postal service running. This article describes these measures concerning the lack of postage stamps, postal stationery, postage due stamps, labels and cancellers. The piece below illustrates many of those problems and the emergency measures taken to combat them.



Card from Ladowitz to Prague, franked with a halved Austrian stamp of 20 haler for the correct rate of 10 haler, cancelled with Austrian postmark Ladowitz – 7.1.19. The strike FRANCO confirms legitimacy of this franking in the absence of stamps of 10 haler. After arrival in Prague the bisected postage due stamp of 40 haler is applied to charge the addressee the 'surcharge' of 2 × 10 haler, cancelled with Austrian date stamp Praha 1/Prag 1 on 8.1.19.

On second thoughts, the original franking has been honoured after all, as shown by the stamp 'Bez Platnosti' (invalid), apparently the handstamp from the Austrian period, from which the German text 'Ungültig' in the bottom part has been removed.

The piece (which, incidentally, is genuine business correspondence without any philatelic influence) thus shows that emergency measures were being used at various points at that time:

- Use of Austrian stamps (in the absence of the new Czechoslovakian stamps)
- Halving stamps (if there is a shortage of stamps of the correct value)
- Use of Austrian postage due stamps (new Czechoslovakian stamps were only released in February)
- Halving postage due stamps (due to shortage of stamps of the right value)
- Use of Austrian postmarks (new cancellers not yet manufactured)
- Adaptation of bilingual handstamps by deleting the German language

It should be borne in mind that even in 1919 there were philatelists and dealers who saw the circumstances as an opportunity to create 'interesting' postal products (with or without the support of benevolent postal officials). Much of the material is philatelically inspired (aka 'made-up'), which can still be distinguished from later or contemporary forgeries. To make sense of this, a critical eye is needed, supported by sources from the period itself, especially the *Donaupost* (published by Dr. Victor Weinert in Bratislava) which kept track of what was happening in this field from month to month and tried to distinguish postal measures from fabrications. (Very nice to read – I was luckily allowed to borrow the 1918–1920 volumes from the Dutch Philatelic Library shortly before they were closed because of the coronavirus crisis.) Studying the *Český Filatelista* from the years 1918–20 also yielded much data and insight.

Problems in the functioning of the postal service as a whole

In the period around the proclamation of the new republic and the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian empire and its state apparatus, measures were taken in October–November 1918 by the National Committee to deal with the consequences, to secure matters, and to keep important functions running. Tasks were assigned to various Czech organizations, such as the Sokol, but also to the Czech Scouts (*skauten*). The latter were especially entrusted with postal services for the National Committee, which first had its seat in the Harrach Palace in the centre of Prague and from 10 November onwards in the Cadet School. A postal service was set up which was manned 24 hours a day in six-hour shifts. A regulation for the postal service was issued on 7 November. The post office was located at the National Committee and from 13 November in the building of the Chamber of Deputies. There the mail was franked with stamps made for it with the inscription 'Czech Scouts Mail in the service of the National Government' (*post českých skautů ve službách národní vlády*) and entered in a register. It was then taken to its destination by a uniformed scout. Each item received a dated cancel on the stamp and

a strike noting which scout was going to deliver it, and often another handstamped 'NV' (which stands for *Národní Výbor* – National Committee). In fact, it was a courier service within Prague for correspondence between various institutions of the new state and persons working for them. The couriers travelled on foot, by tram or on a bicycle to deliver the mail as quickly as possible. The service operated from 7 November 1918 and was closed on 25 November. The services were then transferred from volunteers back to paid officials*.



Letter carried via Scout Post, dated 14.XI.18 to Dr I. Zahradník, Minister in the Provisional Government (with expert mark Gilbert).

Great caution is advised when buying mail from this postal service. There are falsified stamps in circulation (which are quite easy to recognize), but also fantasy products have been made with the real stamps, sometimes even with the real cancels. It is said that these cancels were in private hands until the early thirties, then they were transferred to the state archives. The well-known expert Pavel Pittermann distinguished four 'classes' of postal items (the first of these, obviously, being the rarest):

- Real and authentic;
- Real, but not proven authentic;
- Created later (using authentic stamps and material); and
- Forgery.

This Scout Post can be seen as a first emergency measure of the new Czechoslovak government in the field of postal services. For the rest of the country, the postal services continued using the existing institutions of the Austro-Hungarian post. In the period from the end of 1918 to 1919 that whole apparatus came more and more under the control of the new state (in Slovakia especially it took several months before everything was under control). But already from the beginning of November the new government gave instructions on the operation of the Post Office and from 25 November 1918 the *Věstník*, the official postal service gazette, appeared regularly. It is clear that military action between the new neighbouring countries occasionally delayed or interrupted the flow of mail, but looking at postal items from this period it can be concluded that 'business as usual' was maintained in the postal services, even though the measures discussed below were necessary.

Shortage of postage stamps

With the proclamation of independence the delivery of stamps from Vienna to Prague stopped. The printing of new, Czechoslovakian stamps did not start before the end of December 1918 and it took several months before production was sufficient to cover demand. Supplies from Budapest to Slovakia and the Carpathian Ukraine continued in practice until the moment that the Czechoslovakian state actually took over power there, which occurred in the period between January and April 1919.

To begin with, the Austrian and Hungarian stamps kept their franking validity. On 8 February 1919 it was decreed that they would lose their validity on 28 February 1919. This measure can be illustrated by an abundance of postal items franked with Austrian or Hungarian stamps for the period from 28 October to 18 December 1918: from 18 December 1918 the new Czechoslovak stamps arrived at the counters. This means that mixed frankings are possible for the period from that date to 28 February 1919. In practice, however, a large number of offices experienced shortages during this period and various creative solutions were devised to resolve them.

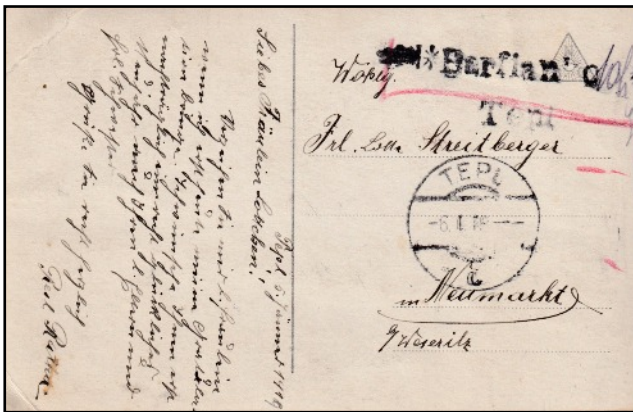
* It should be noted that the Scout Post was managed by Mr. J. Rössler-Ořovský, a well-known philatelist, who was at the same time engaged in making the 'revolution' issues discussed below. That will undoubtedly explain how the scout post came to have such nicely printed stamps so quickly. Unlike those revolution issues it can be said that the Scout Post played a real postal rôle for the new state.

First of all 'Postage Paid' was used: the sender paid at the post office for the postal service and that payment was noted on the item of mail. This happened in different places and in different ways. In the *Český Filatelista* of December 1918 two regulations of 19 November 1918 are published, which were used at the Prague 1 post office (the main post office). Franking stamps were used there which were made by modifying existing roller cancels. One of the dater cancels in that device was replaced by a stamp *Franko Hotové* (postage paid) with a value of 3, 5, 10 or 20 in it (right).



Card of 1 January 1919 from Nymburk via Prague (stamped Franko Hotové – 'postage paid' – 10 2.I.19) to Vienna. Apparently the postage was paid for in Nymburk and confirmed in Prague.

'Postage Paid' was also used in other places. In some places a stamp *Franko Hotové*, *Franco* or *Barfranko* was used, with the amount paid written on it. In other places 'Bf' (*Barfrankatur*) or 'F.h.' (*Franko hotové*) was written with the amount paid, often with a line in red pencil underneath. Elsewhere, stamps were still available but not of all necessary denominations. Austrian stamps of 20 haler, for example, were bisected to serve as a 10 haler stamp for sending postcards. The piece shown at the beginning of the article is an example of this, and has *Franco* stamped next to the halved stamp. In other cases *Franco* is stamped on the halved stamp, or no stamp is used.



Postcard from Tepl dated 6 January 1919 to Neumarkt with stamp Barfianko Tepl (sic) and handwritten 10 haler.



Registered letter from Vokovice-Veoslavin (19 January 1919) to Rumburg with stamp FRANCO and handwritten amount 45 haler.

Hungarian postal money order datestamp from Poprad (919 FEB 24) with 10 fillér Hungarian postage due stamp used as a postage stamp.



Sometimes the lack of stamps was solved by using postage due stamps, often after 'rechristening' them with a handstamped *Franco* (a different strike in each town). Items of this kind from regular postal activity are relatively scarce, compared to the huge amount of manufactured and fake items on the market (see below).



Card from Budejovice 3 (7 January 1919) to Tábor, franked with a bisected Austrian 20 haler stamp.

Card from Vysoké nad Jizerou (17 January 1919) to Král. Vinohrady, franked with two Austrian postage due stamps of 5 haler (correct rate 10 haler) overprinted with Franco; addressee is Mr. Šula, who at that time did research on the locally applied emergency measures.



In general, it can be said that the main problems with stamp shortages were solved from March 1919 on. The delivery of the new Hradčany stamps took care of that. There are postal items to be found from the Slovakian part of the country franked with Hungarian stamps after 1 March 1919, but that is mainly because on that date the place concerned was not yet under Czechoslovak administration. In some cases later on there was a local and temporary shortage of stamps – for example of 5 haler stamps, which was solved using bisected 10 haler stamps.



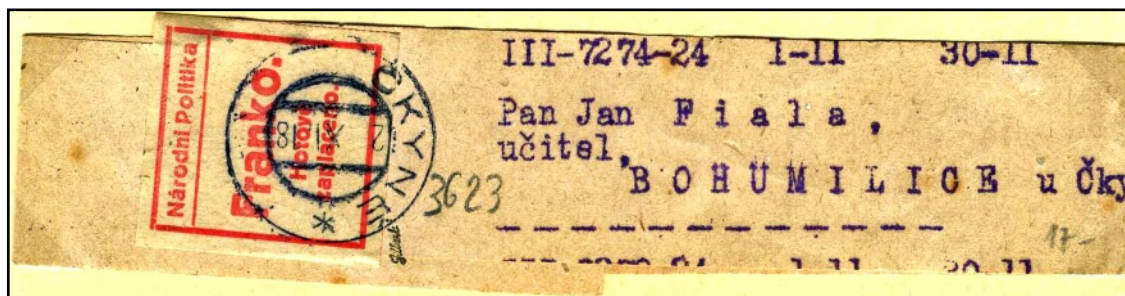
Letter from Laubendorf (19 May 1919) to Prague; letter rate 25 haler partly settled with bisected 10 haler stamp.



Hungarian 10 haler postcard, upgraded to new rate of 15 haler with 5 haler 'express' stamp, sent from Kistapolcsány (919 SEP 13) to Rožnava.

A period of enormous need for 5 haler stamps started shortly after 15 May 1919, when all important postal rates went up by 5 haler. According to postal regulations, all postcards of 10 haler in stock had to be surcharged with a 5 haler stamp on 14 May after working hours at all post offices, so that they could be sold for 15 haler from 15 May onwards. Because of the lack of sufficient Hradčany stamps, often 5 haler express stamps (more properly 'stamps for urgent printed matter') were used, which were much less needed for their original purpose. Another example of an emergency measure.

Newspaper stamps constitute a separate category. There was a tariff of 2 haler per newspaper for inland mail, which was often paid by attaching a newspaper stamp to the newspaper which was cancelled on arrival. On 19 November 1918, because of the shortage of stamps, an instruction was issued in Prague requiring publishers to keep records of the number of newspapers they offered for shipment and to pay the amount in cash upon delivery. Apparently, this was partly a confirmation of an earlier practice.



Newspaper wrapper with label from Národní Politika used 2 November 1918 to Čkyně (authenticated by Gilbert)

The newspapers had to be labelled 'Postage paid'. Every newspaper or magazine invented its own design for this. An overview of 33 used stamps and 24 kinds of labels is included in the POFIS 2015 Catalogue (pages 201–207).

‘Revolution Issues’

At the proclamation of the new state it was clear that its existence had to be confirmed quickly by issuing its own stamps. Almost immediately Mucha was commissioned to design those, but overprinting existing stocks of stamps was also discussed. In fact, several different overprints on Austrian and Hungarian stamps were made, which are catalogued as ‘revolution issues’. This could also be considered an emergency measure to bridge the gap before the appearance of the new stamps.



Eleven different ‘revolution issues’ on Austrian and Hungarian stamps.

However, from the contemporary literature on the subject it becomes clear that all these issues were made very soon after 28 October 1918 at the private initiative of several philatelists. Each of them franked a large number of postal items and took them to the post office, where they were cancelled and perhaps even delivered (with or without special help from sympathetic postal workers). Subsequently, those letters and series of stamps with overprints were sold for high prices. Messrs. J. Rössler-Ořovský (responsible for POFIS RV 1–42 and RV 119–32), V. Mareš (RV 43–84), J. Horner (RV 85–118), V. Šrobár (RV 133–162) as well as A. Levec and A. Fontána, who produced overprints not included in the POFIS catalogue, must have all earned quite a bit of money at that time, but their creations did not have any status. Already on 13 November 1918 the postal administration issued an unequivocal prohibition on the use of such stamps. According to the edict, items franked with these stamps should be considered as unfranked and could only be sent after valid stamps had been affixed. These issues can therefore in no way be considered an emergency measure by the postal services.

Similarly, an extensive article on the *POŠTA ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ 1919* overprints in *Czechout* 167 (June 2017, pages 11–18) makes it clear that this issue had nothing to do with shortages of stamps, had no postal function and no other purpose than to get philatelists to pay inflated amounts of money.

Shortage of postage due stamps

Postage due stamps were used to account for all amounts paid to the postal service by the recipient of mail. Surcharges (for receiving insufficiently franked mail) are probably the best known, but postage due stamps were in practice also used for the delivery of mail from courts of justice or government agencies for which the recipient had to pay the postal charges. The recipient also sometimes had to pay for the storage of postal packages and for the payment of postal money orders, which was accounted for with postage due stamps on the back of the forms concerned.

As with the postage stamps, it was centrally arranged that the existing stocks of Austrian and Hungarian postage due stamps remained valid until 28 February 1919. But here too the supply of new stamps stopped at the end of October, while the new Czechoslovak postage due stamps did not come into circulation until 1 February 1919. In many places shortages arose in the meantime, which had to be remedied by local measures. These measures were similar in some respects to those for shortages of stamps.

Shortages arose early on in a number of places. A well-documented case is Brno/Brünn 2, where in the period from 27 November 1918 until 8 December 1918 Austrian stamps of various denominations were changed into postage due stamps with a stamped ‘T’. In Kral. Vinohrady there was a shortage of 5 haler postage due stamps as early as September 1918, again met by overprinting postage stamps with a ‘T’. Later, 5 haler express stamps were overprinted in the same way, and in January 1919 further 5 haler Hradčany stamps received the same treatment. From January 1919 onwards similar measures were taken in a long list

of other places. Mr. Šula made a great effort to map the emergency postcards from the end of 1918 to the beginning of 1919, and his work can be found in the *Český Filatelista*. Somewhat later (1924) Hirsch included an overview in his catalogue.



Unstamped letter to Brno/Brünn 2 (29.XI.18) – surcharge settled with two Austrian 20 haler stamps, handstamped 'T' (the letter is probably philatelically inspired).

The use of postage stamps (including some without any overprint) to settle the recipient's charge for packages and money orders can be seen mainly in the period up to February 1919, but also later in the year. Postage due stamps of higher values were also bisected to create missing lower values. The postal item at the beginning of this article shows that.

Examples of the use of postage stamps on the back of parcel cards: from Setzdorf, 5 November 1918 (left); Szkolca, 13 January 1919 (centre); and Prague 14, 16 January 2019 (right).



In some places Austrian and Hungarian postage due stamps were still used after 28 February 1919. Many offices were apparently less well provided with postage due stamps than with postage stamps.

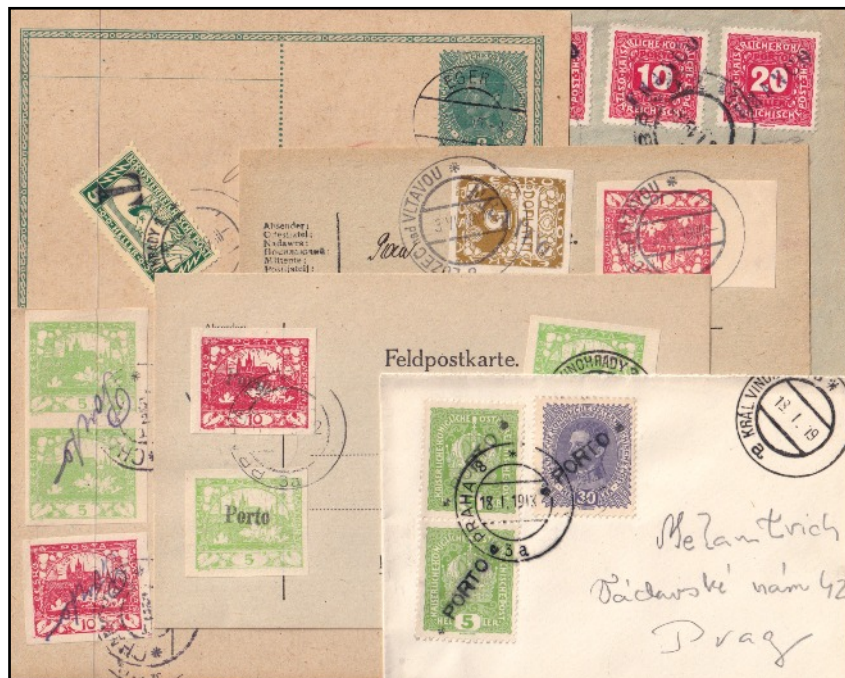


Late use of Austrian (12 April 1919) and Hungarian (9 July 1919) postage due stamps.

Beware! Manufactures and fakes

The emergency measures taken because of the shortage of stamps were also reported in the philatelic press of the time (*Donaupost*, *Český Filatelista*), but even then warnings were given that these emergency measures

were being massively used by collectors and traders to create interesting postal items. It is of course up to everyone to decide what they want to include in their collection, but the categories mentioned above, devised by Pittermann, are equally applicable here. You may assume that some items are regular or commercial correspondence affected by these emergency measures (*Bedarfspost*, or ‘commercial mail’, as the Germans call it). Then there is a ‘grey area’, in which it is not immediately clear that it is a philatelically inspired production, but where this cannot be ruled out either.



Manufactured items: postage stamps with FRANCO, stamps with Porto or T.

An exceptionally large proportion of what is on the market belongs to the category of manufactured products. In some cases it is easily recognizable as such. There are, for instance, many unmarked envelopes and cards with emergency frankings and emergency dues that have apparently been applied and cancelled on request. Also letters with stamped or hardly readable addresses and no further correspondence on the card belong to this category. In this area in particular there are not just manufactured, but also true fantasy products (or fakes). Anyone with an ink pad can stamp a ‘T’ on a postage stamp, anyone can bisect a stamp, and (unfortunately) all kinds of cancellers have fallen into private hands.

Just assume that pieces are philatelically inspired (or worse) until the contrary has been proven or made plausible. To judge pieces, you have to dive into the literature of the time itself to get an idea of what the emergency measures used in the various towns looked like and in what period they were used (see the bibliography below).

Bibliography

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- Novotný, Ladislav, ‘Speciální Příručka pro sběratele Československých známek’, (Praha 1970, pages 39 to 46). List of emergency measures for the various localities.

This article was previously published in Dutch in the Winter 2020/21 edition of Notities van de Nederlandse Academie voor Filatelie No. 62, pages 2–26, and also in the Autumn 2020 and Spring 2021 Journal of the Dutch society for Czechoslovak Philately Nos. 34 & 35, pages 5–16, and 4–12.

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!

Czech and Slovak Perfins Joe Colbourne

Many collectors rarely step outside of English-speaking groups to learn more about perfin collecting around the world due to the language barrier and the difficulties in translating. I would like to introduce the Czechoslovak Society of Perfin Collectors (Společnost sběratelů perfinů) and the Slovak Society of Perfin Collectors (Slovenská spoločnosť zberateľov perfinov). These two societies work together and share a website: <http://perfin.cz/cs/>.

These days, with the advantages that the internet brings, translating Czech or Slovak is relatively easy with Google Translate or another program I use, called DeepL. Each of these programs has its advantages and I would be glad to discuss them with any members looking to take advantage of their capabilities. These programs have enabled me to communicate effectively in many languages and have helped me to expand my philatelic knowledge, especially in the perfins field.

The Czech and Slovak Society of Perfin Collectors was established in 1974 in parallel with the publication of the newsletter *PERFINA* (or *PERFINY* depending on which language you use). The Society is affiliated with the Union of Czech Philatelists (Svaz českých filatelistů – SCF) and more information about the parent group can be found at: <http://informace-scf.cz/index.htm>. This arrangement is like the Canadian BNA Perfin Study Group affiliated under the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS). Unlike the Canadian group, one does not need to be a member of the SCF to join the Czech and Slovak perfins society.



The Society has a very active membership and leadership. I have found them to be welcoming to me as a foreigner and they have worked with me to help me participate in the Society's activities, like the perfin auctions (held four times a year). The Society publishes the newsletter in A5 format these days with the page count ranging from 16 to 32 pages. I get it electronically along with the auction listings four times a year. The e-newsletters are in full colour and make translating that much easier as I can 'cut and paste' into the translation programs. There is a bit of a trick to the newsletters and auctions: in the first and third quarters, the newsletter is in Czech, and the auction is based on the Czech koruna. Alternately, for the second and fourth quarters, the newsletter is in Slovak, and the auction is based on euros. The Society has in-person meetings twice a year as well and the most recent one was held in Vysoké Mýto in the Czech Republic.

Collecting Czech perfins is not as easy as one might think and can really add interest to a main Czechoslovak collection or even a specialized collection of one or more issues. Due to the tumultuous history of the Czech Republic in the 19th and 20th centuries, this is a challenging perfin area. What attracts me to Czech perfins, I think, is just this point – the difficulty of piecing together the history of perfins in the Czechoslovak

territories, and of understanding their use. There are eleven distinct periods in Czech perfin collecting and many of them are further broken down by stamp issue(s):

1. Austrian Kreuzer currency perfins (1874–1898)
2. Austrian stamp issue perfins (1899–1918)
3. Hungarian Kreuzer currency perfins (1881–1899)
4. Hungarian stamp issue perfins (1900–1918)
5. Czechoslovak perfin stamps (1918–1938/1939)
6. Polish perfin stamps used in the Těšín (Teschen) region (1919–1920)
7. German perfin stamps used in the Sudetenland (1938–1945)
8. Hungarian perfin stamps used in the territory annexed to Hungary (1938–1945)
9. Perfin stamps of Slovakia (1939–1945)
10. Perfin stamps of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (1939–1945)
11. Czechoslovak perfin stamps (1945–1979)

As can be seen from the list above, a comprehensive Czechoslovak perfin collection will turn the average collector into a history buff with a 'minor' in Geography, as many of these areas can only be determined by a cancellation showing the town or post office of usage. If you were to collect only one example from perfins known in each of the eleven time periods above, that collection would have 1956 perfins as of today (and more will be found). Luckily for all of us, this perfin society collaborated to produce a new catalogue at the end of 2021. A new *Catalogue of Perfins from the Territory of Czechoslovakia* was published as the 24th volume

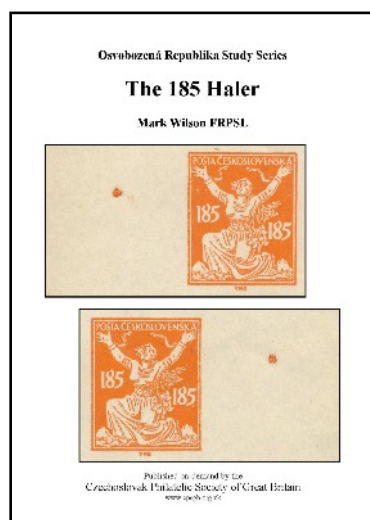
of the prestigious series of Monographs of Czechoslovak Stamps published by POFIS. It is not just a catalogue, but literally a manual for collecting perfins from the Czechoslovak Territory. There is a relatively extensive introduction explaining the circumstances of the origin and use of perfins in the Czechoslovak Territory, including their legislative foundations. A significant section is devoted to the valuation of perfins although the largest part, a total of 194 pages, is occupied by the actual catalogue of perfin patterns. This new publication builds on the previous edition (the Maxa catalogue) from 1987 and maintains the basic layout of perfins as much as possible. Collectors will not be forced to renumber everything, as was customary with older editions. The regular price of the catalogue is 1,000 K – for members of the SCF (subscribers of the *Filatelie* magazine) the reduced price is 798 K. Ordering information is available via email at stamps@stamps.cz or by mail at the address: Zásilkové služby PROFIL, Klimentská 6, 110 00 Prague 1, Czech Republic.

The catalogue is hardback with a separate dust jacket and there is even a philatelic treat inside (no hints from me). Any serious collector of perfins from the Czechoslovak territory must have this new edition. There is a pricing guide based on a point system that is explained within. The index and Chapter 7, ‘Description of the Catalogue’s Perfin Entries’, is trilingual (Czech, German and English).

If you want to work with a group of like-minded individuals who love Czech Territory perfins, why not consider joining the Society for Czechoslovak Philately (SCP) – <https://www.csphilately.net/> – and then our study group, the SCP Czech Perfins Study Group – <https://www.csphilately.net/perfins/?> The SCP covers all aspects of Czechoslovak philately, and the study group covers everything dealing with perfins. We are all drawn together by our love of Czechoslovak stamps with a passion for perfins, and we are very active. We have focused on the Hradčany series of stamps with perfins and have learned a lot together and will be passing that information on to the Czech Perfin Society of the SCF.

Book Review Johan Sevenhuijsen

The 185 Haler by Mark Wilson FRPSL. Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, On-Demand Publication. 24 pages, A4, coloured illustrations.

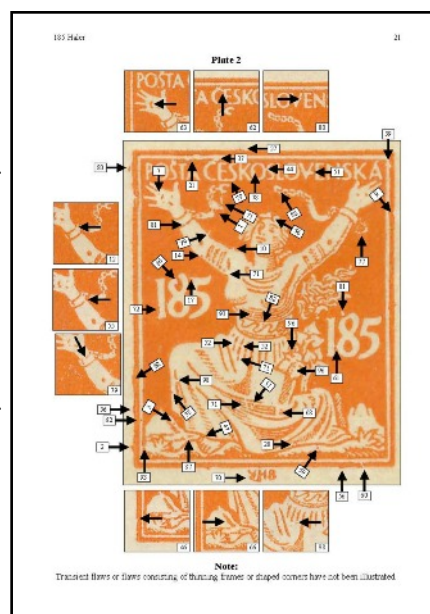


Mark Wilson is well known for his extensive work on the various early Czechoslovak stamps, printed by typography. A new plating study has now become available as a print-on-demand title from the CPSGB. It concerns the two plates of the 185 haler denomination of the Liberated Republic series.

Mark has done a lot of work in translating, editing and newly illustrating the work done by various Czech authors on this and other issues. In this case, the plating study has been fully done by Mark himself, making use of scans from printing sheets provided by the Prague Postal Museum. Comparing full panes (from different printing runs) is the best way to get good results identifying negative flaws (present in the same position in both plates) and

plate flaws (present in only one plate), while avoiding the inclusion of transient printing flaws.

The result is a very clear description of the flaws, illustrated by detailed scans of the original stamps. The book is an essential guide for those who have learned to enjoy the chasing of minute flaws in masses of ordinary stamps and the satisfaction when this results in a reconstruction of the original plates. They can tackle the 185 haler now! Mark has confirmed his position as the only one providing such guides for the English-speaking world.





New Issues – Slovak Republic Lindy Bosworth

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

5 August 2022

100th Anniversary of the National Firefighters' Union of Slovakia (POFIS 771)



The National Firefighters' Union of Slovakia was founded on 6 August 1922 at Trenčín with its headquarters in Turčiansky sv. Martin. The motto of the Union, which is still part of each fire brigade's flag today, is *In praise of God and to help our neighbours*. The principal task of the Union was the management of firefighting and embracing new technological developments. A headquarters and Fire Training Centre was opened in Martin in 1930. The successor to the Union is the Voluntary Fire Protection of the Slovak Republic (VFP SR) with 2189 units and nearly 80,000 active members today, organized into local districts, with eight regional committees, and a National Assembly. Education of young people and the training of the general population to protect against fire are important roles taken on by VFP SR.

9 September 2022

Nature Conservation – Important Slovak Fossils (POFIS 772–773)



Devinophoca claytoni (right) was a primitive seal living in shallow sub-tropical waters and sandy beaches beneath rocky cliffs. The rare fossil skull was found at one of the Mount Devinska Koblya paleontological sites which is filled with marine sediments from the Miocene Tertiary period dating back some 13 million years. This primitive seal, which lived on a diet of molluscs and crustaceans, is considered to be the ancestor of today's seals.

Vexillum svagrovskysi (left), named after eminent Slovak geologist Professor Jozef Svagrovský (1921–1985), is a marine gastropod living during the Miocene Tertiary era and thought to have adapted to changing adverse conditions because of unique structural change of the shell. The fossil gastropod was found at Konopiská pri Rohožníku, a paleontological site in a former clay mining pit near the border with Austria, which has been the source of many vertebrate and invertebrate fossil finds.

Right: commemorative postmark for the first day of issue.



16 September 2022

Solidarity with Ukraine (POFIS 774)

Since the beginning of the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation some 700,000 citizens, mainly women and children, have crossed the border into Slovakia, of whom more than 90,000 have remained. Local governments, voluntary organizations and many individual volunteers have supported the refugees by providing accommodation, food, medical care, and education for children. Spontaneous support for Ukraine has been demonstrated in many cities in Slovakia bringing hope to those who left Ukraine that in time they will return to a free, peaceful homeland.



23 September 2022

50th Anniversary of the Launch of International Gas Transit through Slovakia (POFIS 775)



The original network *Eustream* (formerly *Slovtransgas*) transported natural gas from east to west. Over time the network has developed with parallel bi-directional pipelines connecting Ukraine, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Austria and Poland. The last connecting link in the strategic north-south European corridor with Poland was completed this year. This connects LNG terminals in the Baltic Sea (Baltic Pipeline) to Norwegian natural gas supplies and the Adriatic terminal at Krk in Croatia, making a new common transport supply artery for Europe. The Slovak network

has supplied natural gas to Ukraine since 2014. Slovakia is committed to being a stable partner to secure European energy in times of crisis and to building a hydrogen-based economy.

20 October 2022

100th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Technical Standardization (POFIS 776)

The Czechoslovak Standardization Society was formed in Prague in 1922 as a non-profit making company funded by member companies. In 1932 a book – *Normalization* – was published which became a key work in this field. Work on technical standardization was interrupted by World War II and later political events, although an independent Office for Standardization was set up in 1951. A branch of the State Office for Inventions and Standardization (SUVN) was established in Bratislava in 1956. A new body – the Slovak Office of Metrology and Testing – was formed in Bratislava on 16 December 1992 but this was dissolved on 31 December 2013 and became the Technical Standardization Division within the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing. Its main aim is to communicate, inform and educate industrial and professional bodies regarding European and Slovak technical standards.



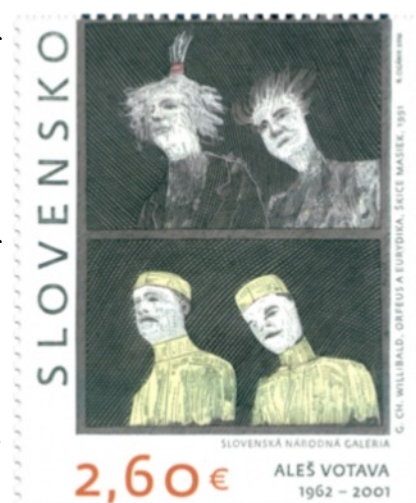
21 October 2022

Art – Ján Rombauer and Aleš Votava (POFIS 777–778)



Ján Rombauer (1782–1849) was the son of a carpenter from Levoča. He lived in Prešov for a while before travelling and visiting St Petersburg. In 1824 he returned to live permanently in Prešov. Although he had no formal art education it is thought that he learned the basics from a Danish painter, Jakub Stunder, who lived in the town. Rombauer gained recognition as a portrait painter and was inspired by the Biedermeier style and the old Dutch masters. He also worked on a number of religious paintings for both Catholic and Evangelical churches. The painting of *St Martin on a Horse with a Beggar* (1836) was probably intended for the Church of St Martin Kapušany as he also produced art work for its two side chapels. It is now part of the Slovak National Gallery collection in the Museum of Spiš, Levoča.

Aleš Votava (1962–2001) graduated from the Bratislava Academy of Performing Arts in the mid-1980s, where he was influenced by the Bratislava Action Scenography movement. Stage designs and sets were his main work but he was also a graphic artist and jewellery designer. The basis of his work was black with neutral colours, so brighter colours came from the interplay of light and shadow. The stamp depicts his sketches from 1991 for costume masks used in the opera performance of *Orfeo ed Euridice* by Christoph Willibald Gluck.





New Issues – Czech Republic Lindy Bosworth

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

7 September 2022

Nature Protection – Mácha Region (POFIS 1167–1170)

Mácha Lake and its surroundings, in the Doksy area of the Liberec region, has for some 100 years been a recreational area. It lies within the Kokořínsko protected landscape area, as displayed on the commemorative souvenir sheet, with the four individual stamps depicting the varied wildlife to be seen around the lake. There is a wetland and peat bog nature reserve surrounding the lake which is the home of rare and endangered flora and fauna. At the end of the last Ice Age water gradually drained from the lake leaving a large bog area.



In 1367 Charles IV ordered a large pond to be established, originally called Velký Rybník (Large Pond): it has been known as Mácha Lake since 1961 in memory of the Romantic poet Karel Hynek Mácha (1810–1836). In the surroundings of this man-made lake many rare species are protected and monitored, including a pack of wolves. Four maximum cards were issued.

Emil Zátopek and Dana Zátopková (POFIS 1171–1172)

Emil and Dana Zátopek were successful Czechoslovak Olympic athletes, both gaining gold medals in the 1952 Helsinki Games. They were also born on the same day – 19 September 1922. Emil began working at the Baťa shoe factory, aged sixteen, where he was encouraged to join the athletics club. Initially, his efforts were not rewarded with success until he developed his own methods of training. This led to some spectacular victories in long distance events. He became the first person to run 10 km in less than 29 minutes, and 20 km in under

an hour. He won the marathon event at the Helsinki Olympics which was the first time he had competed in the event. He died in Prague on 21 November 2000.

Dana participated in athletics whilst still at school. She represented Czechoslovakia at the 1948 London Olympics, and again in Helsinki four years later where she gained a gold medal in the javelin event on the



same day that Emil won a gold medal for the 5 km run. After the end of her athletic career, she continued working as a coach. She died in Prague on 13 March 2020. The two stamps are issued as part of a commemorative souvenir sheet depicting the two athletes on a running track.

Personalities – Jindřich Fügner 1822–1865 (POFIS 1173)

This commemorative stamp is issued for Fügner's 200th birth anniversary. After leaving school he travelled widely in Europe for some years and learned several foreign languages. He returned to Prague to run a successful trade insurance business but was more interested in music, sports, social issues, and promoting Czech nationalism. He met Bedřich Tyrš (1832–1884) in 1858 and they formed a lasting friendship. They attended a gymnasium in Prague where some of the ideas for an organized movement for gymnastics was formed. In 1864, Fügner financed the acquisition of premises for a fledgling movement which was given the name *Sokol* (falcon) and became its first President. Unfortunately, Fügner died at a young age, probably from blood poisoning, so did not live to see the success of *Sokol*, not only in his homeland but also abroad. His organizational skills, financial support, democratic ideas and enthusiasm were invaluable to the early beginnings of *Sokol*.



Nature Protection – The Chudobin Pine (POFIS 1174)

The Chudobin Pine is a solitary Scots pine defiantly rooted on the rocky headland of the Vír Dam, created in the 1950s to supply water to Brno. The village of Chudobin was flooded and lies beneath the water so the tree also has the nickname of *Guardian of the Flooded Village*. The pine, now 350 years old, was a well-known landmark even before the dam construction and a subject for artists and photographers. It has withstood the vagaries of climate change and human activity. At present the tree is healthy and stable, protected by an entry ban to the reservoir, although it can be viewed from the road on the right bank of the dam. It was voted European Tree of the Year in 2020.

Bridal Stamp – Definitive NVI 'B' (POFIS 1175)

A wedding ceremony takes various forms in most cultures. People are joined in marriage by exchanging a promise of fidelity and devotion, with the giving of tokens to seal the vow. The issue is printed in a sheet consisting of seven stamps, eight labels for customer printing, and six labels – these surround a large bouquet of roses with a small cushion, on which rest two intertwined rings.



21 September 2022

St Wenceslas Rotunda in Prague (POFIS 1176–1177)



Two of the seventy-four preserved tiles of the Rotunda decorated with a lion (above) and a griffin (right).

A rotunda is a simply constructed early medieval ecclesiastic building with a circular nave. The St Wenceslas Rotunda dates to the early 11th century. It is associated with a legend of the journey of the body of the assassinated King Wenceslas on the way for burial in St Vitus Cathedral in 938 AD. Shortly before reaching their destination the animals pulling the wagon refused to move until some incarcerated prisoners were unshackled and released. Some 150 years later the Rotunda was built on that site. It was used as the original parish church for the city of Prague until the larger St Nicholas Church was built in 1257. The Rotunda became an adjacent funeral chapel. After the Battle of the White Mountain (1620) both buildings were donated to the Jesuits who reconstructed the site completely in the second half of the 17th century, with the Rotunda hidden under the Baroque buildings. When the Jesuits were expelled from Prague the property eventually became part of Charles University. In 2003, during reconstruction at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics under the former Jesuit Professional House, remains of the Rotunda were found, including masonry and part of the original Romanesque floor. Conservation and preservation work has been undertaken to make this important site and its relics into a public museum.

12 October 2022

European Stamp Exhibition – Liberec 2022 (POFIS 1178–1179)

The exhibition, under the patronage of FEPA and recognized by FIP, took place from 13–16 October 2022 in Liberec and included a specialized Polar Salon event – the theme for one of the two issued stamps. The other shows birds in bird boxes, carrying letters in their beaks. There were several categories of competitive exhibits at the event, including one-frame, postcards and literature. A range of privately produced philatelic products were also issued, including a booklet of eight stamps (B value) with a polar theme, and a souvenir block of seven (E value) stamps, eight coupons, and a central block of six coupons showing the venue, the Wellness Hotel Babylon, Liberec (for further details see <https://www.liberec2022.eu/en/aktuality-en/>).

**The Landscape for Breeding and Training of Ceremonial Carriage Horses at Kladruby nad Labem (POFIS 1180–1183)**

Kladruby, in the Pardubice region, has been included in the Unesco World Heritage List from 2019 as a site of international importance. The area was first mentioned in historical records in 1295 as the property of a monastery but in 1491 it was purchased by the Pernštejn family who enlarged it, adding a game reserve and later a stud. The original horses of the area were crossed with a Spanish breed. Ferdinand I of Austria acquired the property in 1560 with his successor, Rudolf II, granting it imperial court stud status. He decreed the stud supply his court with horses for ceremonial occasions but strong enough for ploughing or pulling guns and supporting troops. In the 17th century the black-coat-

ed Italian Sacramosa horse was crossed with the Kladruby to produce either a white or grey variety to be used for ceremonial duties, or a black-coated variety for religious occasions. Throughout the centuries the area round Kladruby has been landscaped and adapted to breed and train these ceremonial draft horses. Today it is the Republic's national stud for the Kladruby white horse.

The four stamps are issued in a souvenir sheet depicting the Kladruby horses with the farm and stud buildings within the managed countryside.

60 Years of Olympic – NVI 'B' sheet (POFIS VZ ČP TL0002)

The sheet of 25 stamps in 12 different designs commemorates the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the Czech rock band 'Olympic' in 1962. Although the members of the band have changed over the years, winning numerous awards, the group still performs with long term frontman Petr Janda. They produced a debut album *Želva* considered one of the breakthrough albums of Czech Big Beat. Other well-known albums include items from the hard rock, pop rock, and rock & roll genres. The stamps depict the covers of some of their released albums and portraits of the present group members.



Articles Elsewhere

Roger Morrell

Austria (Austrian Philatelic Society of GB)

No. 220, Autumn 2022

- Moser, H. Carrier pigeons in the Imperial and Royal Army and Navy.
 Anon. 'Crippled Children' charity labels.
 Anon. How many Austrian stamps are there?
 Anon. About a new species of correspondence by post.
 Taylor, A. Vienna's *Strahlenstempel* (the ones with radiating lines).
 Kuzych, I. The valiant heroine of Rawa Ruska (Austrian Galicia, now in Ukraine).
 Anon. WIPA 1933 mystery.
 Brandon, K. Oscar Pongratz-Lippitt and Austria's auxiliary postal services.
 Anon. The centenary of the fall of the hapless emperor (Karl, of course).

Stamps of Hungary (Hungarian Philatelic Society of GB)

No. 230, September 2022

- Furfie, M. The Portorozh Agreement for reduced postage rates in Europe 1922–1939, Part I: Postage due mail 1919–1921.
 Hockett, D.E. The anatomy of a cover – from UK to Hungary.
 Williams, P. Imprints of the 1963 Transport and Communication issue – How many are there?

Forschungsberichte aus der Tschechoslowakei-Philatelie (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei, Germany)

No. 213, September 2022 (in German)

- Norbjerg, v M. Plate flaws of Czechoslovakia 1945-1992, Part 25. Year 1968 – POFIS-Nr. 1655-1740.
 Bauer, K. (edited by Klemm, G.) The Sudetenland-corner Part 23.
 Osthuus, W. The prettiest Slovak stamps 1993-2022.
 Osthuus, W. The adoration of the holy three kings.

Filatelie

No. 7/2022 (July)

- Ježek, J. Philately and Postcards (part 2).
 Beneš, F. Collecting picture postcards – printing techniques.
 Beneš, F. Modern forgeries of commemorative sheets of the Protectorate (part 2).
 Chudoba, J. Liberated Republic (Chain Breaker) – 185 h.
 Kratochvíl J. Hitherto unknown postal stations (part 2).
 Kunc, L. Czechoslovak soldiers in 1939–1945 (part 10).
 Holy, M. The most beautiful postage stamp 2021 – Tomcat 'Mikeš'.

No. 8/2022 (August)

- Ježek, J. Philately and Postcards (part 3).
 Beneš, F. Not every expert mark is good – and the certificate need not solve it too!
 Kratochvíl, J. Hitherto unknown postal stations (part 3).
 Choduba, J. Liberated Republic (Chain Breaker) – 250 h.
 Beneš, F. Vaclav Fajt at 70 years – a half century of good work!
 Kunc, L. Czechoslovak Soldiers in 1939–1945 (part 11).

No. 9/2022 (September)

- Beneš, F. 1 Kč stamp Masaryk type VI with perpendicular watermark.
 Kraus, J. The first German Antarctic expedition.
 Šorejs, R. 10 h & 20 h Hradčany design V with suspicious 'ministerial' perforation.
 Kunc, L. Czechoslovak soldiers in 1939–1945 (part 12).
 Šilhán, T. POFIS 2021: Cz Automat machine stamps (pull out supplement pages 37–44).
 Anon. European Stamp Exhibition and Polar Salon *Liberec 2022*.

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 Monographs and Print-On-Demand titles on wide-ranging topics containing original research.
Library	The Society maintains a comprehensive library of books, journals, and reference materials available to UK members only. Postage both ways paid by the borrower.
Auctions	Regular auctions with a varied range of reasonably priced items. Prospective vendors should contact the Auctioneer.
Circulating Packets	Stamp and postal history packets available to members in the UK only. Apply to the Packet Manager.
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. 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> for address label printing.

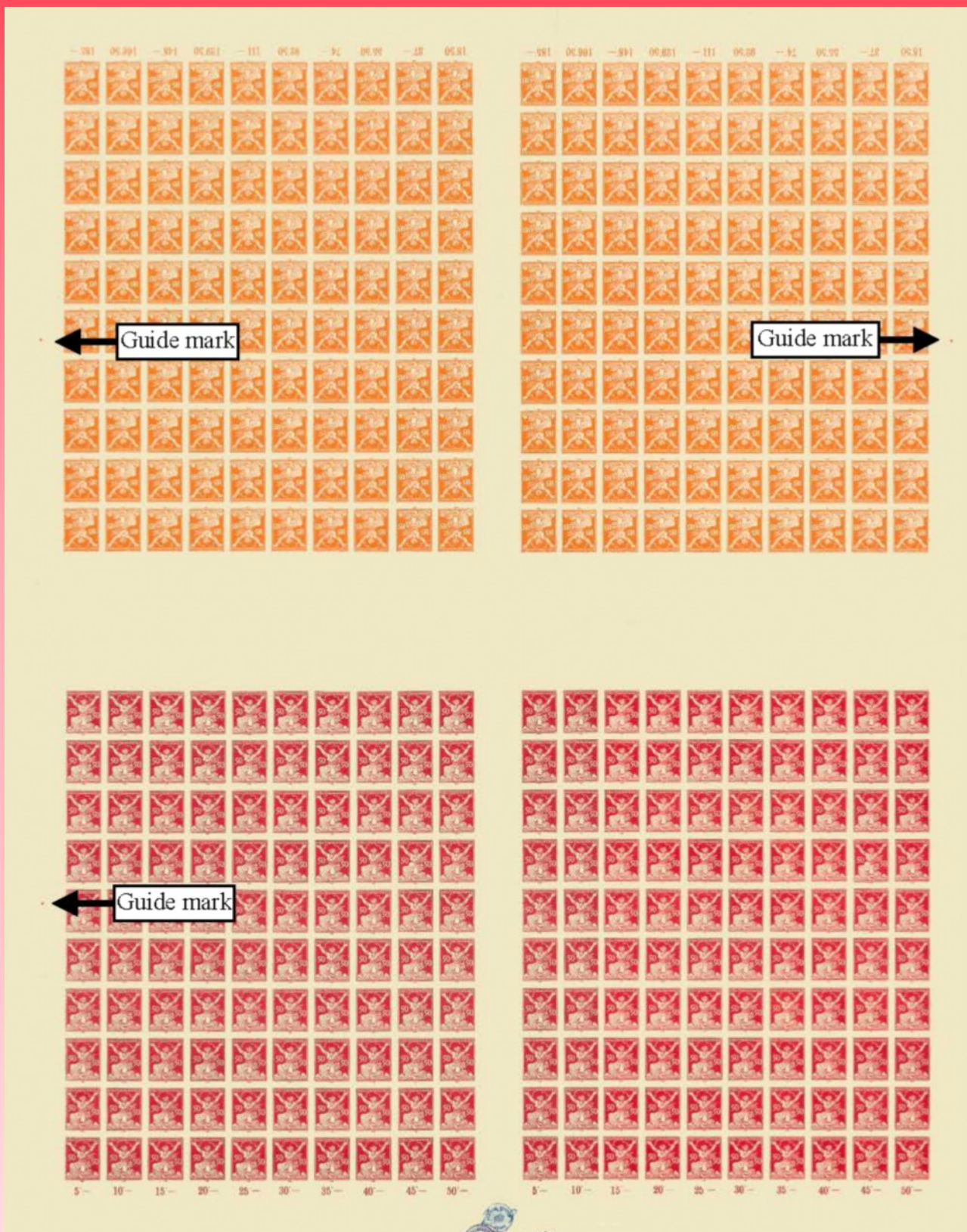
Payments

Sterling cheques drawn on a UK bank payable to the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (CPSGB); current bank notes 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.

Officers and Committee

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

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**Illustration from *The 185 Haler* by Mark Wilson (see page 23).
Mockup of MPZ 184, the source of the images in the book.**

Plate 1 for both denominations is on the left, Plate 2 on the right.
For early printings such as this, guillotining marks were not yet placed on sheets.
While the image is to scale, irregularities found in its nine component scans have been normalized.
Some guide marks were never scanned thus do not appear on the mockup.
Postage stamps from the collections of the Postal Museum, Prague.