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CHICAGOPEX 91 - FIRST NOTICE

In last year's meeting at BALPEX, the Society's Board decided to hold its annual exhibition and convention at CHICAGOPEX 91 in Chicago, Illinois on November 1, 2 and 3. President Chesloe appointed himself as the S.C.P. exhibition chairman and has called for an all-out participation in this event by our Society. The show, hosted by the Chicago Philatelic Society, is the oldest continuing annual exhibition in the country. Being a W.S.P. accredited show, the grand award winner is eligible to compete in the annual World Series of Philately exhibition which is hosted by the American Philatelic Society at its annual convention.

What portends to make this show unique is that it will feature a pan-Slavic exhibition. Several fine exhibits from Czechoslovakia and other Slavic countries will be high-lighted. There are also expected to be some guests from Czechoslovakia whose exhibits won top awards at PRAGA 88. For most Society members this will be an unusual opportunity to exhibit philatelic material alongside the "greats", some of whom will be showing non-competitively.

As usual, our Society will have a lounge table with an array of philatelic material and literature on display and for sale. Over seventy stamp dealers from all over the country will be present. The event will take place at The Radisson Suite Hotel, O'Hare Airport, 5500 North River Road, across the street from the O'Hare Expo Center in Rosemont, Illinois. As soon as a Prospectus is ready, it will be included in the SPECIALIST, hopefully in the next issue. Deadline for exhibit entries is July 10, 1991.

So set aside the weekend of November 1-3 and plan on exhibiting and attending this event. You may discover this to be the high point of your many philatelic experiences. If you are a lover of Czech food, it could also turn out to be a singular gourmet experience. There is a dirth of excellent Czechoslovak restaurants in the Chicago area and the prices are very reasonable. A Society luncheon or early dinner will be planned at one of those restaurants.

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MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

In the last issue, we listed the benefits that are available to S.C.P. members. The Board believes these benefits are of such importance, they are being reprinted again in this issue for your information and guidance:

1. A sales and exchange circuit is operated by Jack Benchik. The circuit itself has been fully written up in the Aug/ Sept. 1989 SPECIALIST, page 8. For complete details, contact Jack Benchik, P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, Ind. 46556.
2. A book sales division is run by Edwin Lehecka. Ads listing philatelic books for sale appear regularly in the SPECIALIST. For further information, contact Ed Lehecka, 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.
3. A Society library is housed with Richard Palaschak, librarian. A complete write-up including contents of the library last appeared in the June 1989 SPECIALIST, page 10. For inquiries on borrowing books or making book donations, contact Dick Palaschak, 113 Joyes Lane, Dover, NJ 07801.
4. An expertization committee operates under the direction of Edwin Lehecka. Depending on the nature or substance of the item to be expertized, he will direct you to the appropriate source for expertization. Please contact Ed Lehecka at 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090.
5. Stamp auctions are currently conducted through Tribuna Stamp Co., in Chicago and ads announcing forthcoming auctions appear regularly in the SPECIALIST. For catalogs and bid forms or for information on submission of philatelic material for future auctions, contact Charles Chesloe, 8300 South Wolf Road, Willow Springs, Ill. 60480.
6. THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official bi-monthly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles of related significance, translating articles from Czech to English, advertising rates and bound copies, contact Mirko Vondra, editor, 1511 Clearview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601.

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THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST, 1511 Clearview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601

Editorial Staff

Managing Editor: Mirko L. Vondra, 1511 Clearview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601

Assistant Editor: Gerald van Zanten, P.O. Box 159, Napier, New Zealand

Technical Editor: Adolf Hujer, Polska3, Prague, Czechoslovakia

Publication Coordinator: Phillips Freer, Apartado Postal 646, Oaxaca, Oax, 68000, Mexico

Elected Officers

President: Charles Chesloe, 8300 South Wolf Rd., Willow Springs, IL 60480

Vice President: Jack Benchik, P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, IN 46556

Secretary: Jane Sterba, 6624 Windsor Ave., Berwyn, IL 60402

Treasurer: Ludvik Z. Svoboda, 4766 South Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015

Appointed Officers

Circuit Manager: Jack Benchik, P.O. Box 555, Notre Dame, IN 46556

Expertizing Chairman: Edwin W. Lehecka, 217 Hazel Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090

Librarian: Richard Palaschak, 113 Joyes Lane, Dover, NJ 07801-5001

APS Representative: Henry Hahn, 2936 Rosemoor Lane, Fairfax, VA 22031

PHILATELY AND HISTORY

by Dr. Walter J. Rauch

Translated from German by J.L. Klein and Gustav Rewwer

(This is the third in a series of articles devoted to judging. The first one appeared in the May 1989 SPECIALIST, page 19. Titled "Judging at F.I.P. International Shows", it was authored by Henry Hahn and introduced some new F.I.P. rules that, at the time, had not yet been applied in this country. They stimulated considerable discussion. The second was written by Paul H. Jensen under the heading "Judging Postal History Exhibits." It appeared in the May 1990 SPECIALIST on page 1. In the present article, Dr. Walter Rauch offers some divergent views from those previously expressed. Dr. Rauch is an economic editor with strong philatelic ties. His collections are highly specialized and definitive in their areas of concern. An example was his serialized article on "Czechoslovak Fieldpost in the Soviet Union" published in the Oct., Nov. and Dec. 1990 SPECIALISTS. Other collections include the Lusation Sorbs and his Philatelic Documentation of Historical and Administrative Breakdown in Czechoslovakia's Borders in 1938.)

The current rules governing postal history exhibits overlook certain fundamentals. Let us examine those fundamentals in the light of what the rules ought to be.

Philately as we know it is a child of communication—the transmitter of messages between people and between institutions. Philatelic collections that extend beyond the scope of a stamp catalog show us the techniques of forwarding messages along with their routing and destination. Very often they also show and document the historical development of official institutions as well as their political power over persons and territories. The messages themselves and the information exchanged between sender and recipient can vary dramatically.

Definition of the Problems

The important areas of endeavor for the serious collector are:

- a – Forms and ways of communication.
- b – Preconditions and possibilities for participating in this communication.
- c – Contents of the communication.

If we trace the technical side of postal service from the establishment of routes of delivery to the electronic distribution system, from the Citto Citto marking via pre-printed forms to perforation differences and various kinds of glues used on slips of paper called "postage stamps" to indicate payment of mailing fees, – we are examining the developmental phases of progression of postal services, ie. the postal system. In order to document the "history of postal service" in philatelic terms, it is necessary to trace the forms, changes and stages of postal service from posting to delivery of the message or reply and to categorize them according to specific criteria.

When philatelists speak of "postal history", they use the term in various ways. Most of us mean by that the development of the institution known as "Mail". But if we refer to the "Postwesen" as the nature, form and essence of transmitting messages, we have to look back to the 17th century and even to earlier times (eg. letters from Emperors or even exchange of letters between Egyptians and Hethiter Kings). The broader definition "Postwesen" also encompasses telephone code systems, picture transmissions, telegrams, telex, fax machines and future hi-tech advances applicable in communicating data.

At certain times, people in power representing a certain faith or governing authority wanted to be well-informed about events and they paid dearly for regular transmission of news (courier routes). The Von Taxis, by direction of their rulers and in their own lucrative self-interest, achieved an extraordinary organization level. Finally these communication networks were gradually taken over by State governments and the "Postal Institution" retreated into the shadows of history. We are concerned about the motivating forces behind these great historical events.

This writer believes that it would be helpful if the present synonymously-used meaning of "postal history" would apply only to operational aspects inside the postal organization. An expla-



Fig. 1

establishment, existence and demise of an independent postal service as a communications network.² These documents provide answers to the question of why, during times of temporary upheaval, lines of communication were often set up or interrupted in very small territories, during relatively short transitional periods and to the exclusion of certain groups of people. Binding administrative actions do not provide such explanations. We are dealing with historical events and/or actions initiated by different ruling classes which effected the postal service.

3. Communication contents. What do we mean by "contents" and how do we categorize contents of postal documents regarding "Postwesen" versus "History in light of postal documents"? Under philatelic criteria, by using common sense, of course.

With reference to points 1 and 2 above, these examples might serve to clarify them:

A decree by the Emperor concerning relay courier express lines (Stafettenpost) or a tax table applicable to certain services printed and issued by Bohemia (Böhmisches Landesgubernium) belong to the "Postwesen" or "Postal Service" category. As for how to classify official postcards with imprinted stamps, the following rules for exhibiting should apply: If one collects them according to types or different kinds of paper, they belong to entires (postal stationary/Ganzsachen). Picture postcards, however, can find a legitimate place in historical documentations (propaganda cards) (see fig. 2) or in thematic exhibits (tourism series).

The first two special cancellation stamps of the Austrian Empire were used in the Kingdom of Bohemia for correspondence by the Reichstag that assembled at Kroměříž (Kremsier) in Moravia (see fig. 1). They can embellish a collection of classic Old Austria if shown on a prephilatelic

nation should be given for the setting-up, maintenance and termination of new specific postal services under various rulers. Surely it cannot be attributed to a language problem when Czechoslovak specialists who participated and contributed greatly in developing the F.I.P. rules speak of "postal-historical studies". The hyphen in "postal-historical" can be interpreted as a sign of displeasure in the referenced article.

The explanation referred to above includes such reasons as existing power struggles (prisoners of war and concentration camp mail), anticipation of new sovereignties (revolts, plebiscites, legion mail), territorial transition periods (change of borders and names of towns) as well as political decisions that changed governments (Free City of Danzig; autonomous territory of the National Council of Slovakia).

The author's belief is based on the following:

1. Postal Management History encompasses the management, operation, handling of message data transmission and describes how, in which manner and by what technical means the postal service has been carried out over the years.

2. History reflected by postal documents shows the preconditions for the



Fig. 2

cover, or they can be shown as stages in the development of cancellation postmarks, or they can document a phase of the 1848 constitutional revolution if shown as postal history.

This illustrates how necessary it is to revise many misconceptions stemming from a tradition followed by eager, meritorious collectors of old letters for a long time. As one authority recently wrote, "A collection of postal history is not a collection of stamp cancellations."³ This is a negative statement that could be compared with "no postal history exists without documenting the postal routes and the applicable rates". Does the development of cancellation types and the periods of their use in specific postal areas not belong to the "Postwesen" (postal history)? Or might it be possible that the above author's objection to the special status of "Marcophily" within the directives for judges of postal history (Article 4) can be considered obsolete or even void? This makes for a lively controversy to which a clear answer has been given pointing to serious corrections that should now occupy the F.I.P. expert committee's time.⁴

Postage stamps are like receipts which evidence that payment has been made for certain services rendered by postal institutions of independent territories (Post-Hoheitsgebiete). Stamps are not always issued based on postal necessity. Many local issues appeared on instructions of military authority (German overprints in the Soviet Union in 1941) or by party leaders (certain stamps of the Sudetenland). Stamps were even initiated by "interested" philatelists (as in March 1939 with the overprints of Moravská Ostrava which belonged to the Protectorate of Bohemia-Moravia. Of these, a scarce second issue appeared on military instructions). We can also classify the so-called "Liberation Overprints" of the Czechoslovak Republic that appeared in 1945 in this grouping.

To signify their country of origin, stamps with national emblems or coats of arms or with portraits of heads of state were used over a long period. Eventually postal authorities realized that graphic artistry vastly enhanced their beauty and appearance along with their propaganda effect. Consequently stamps began to reflect the sociopolitical status of a country and the historical importance of a certain period.

Some philatelists are interested in the postal-technical part of the receipt, i.e. the stamp's face value, paper quality, color or perforation. Others might be interested in its subject matter or the

symbolic force of its design and format. With the exception of permanent series of stamps with denominations based on postal rates valid at time of issue, stamps are often issued to celebrate or commemorate certain memorable events. They remind us of historical dates or show maps or landscapes with geographical or ecological themes. Often they are issued to publicize economic strength, art appreciation, status of education or technological achievements. They can also convey the pros and cons of pedagogical information, religious and social involvement and can promote campaigns against war, crime, alcohol and drug abuse. In that respect, they show a certain mental attitude, a program, a struggle for or against something. They contain motifs and deal with certain themes. They can illustrate, reject or promote and can be totally biased. This not only refers to postal services under a state's authority, but also concerns the investigative course that collectors follow in amassing their material. Just as the era of discovery spawned the birth of colonialism, just as the Napoleonic wars heralded the subjugation of Europe, just as the beginning of industrialization provoked the dawn of capitalism, - so the official character of postage stamps reflects the clash between communication politics and interpretation of history. And it is this clash that has stimulated collectors' curiosity and led to their interest in postal history and its background.

How and What to Show

The first problem is how to handle the above subjects within the chosen time frame and subject interpretation. The answer is either purely according to the subject or according to postal historical documentations. One might even follow both paths. After determining the differences between the postal service and its corresponding political authorities, there is a second problem to be solved; namely, how to organize or arrange historical and socio-political themes if one keeps in mind the regulations valid for philatelic exhibits and the existing categories for evaluating subjects.

To organize a postal history exhibit, historical events of long ago should be shown thematically. Only topical philatelists can cover themes and events concerning Slavs in Central Europe before the 17th century since there is no philatelic material per se of the Great Moravian Empire, the Wends or the Elb Slavs. Only symbols and images pictured on stamps, such as excavations (Cyril and Methodius allegory on hymn-blocks) can be shown. On the other hand, a problem for the judge to decide is whether a postal historical documentation of the Kingdom of Bohemia can be presented with a maximum card from Luxembourg showing King John the Blind (Jan Luxemburský) as a starting point. From a literal interpretation, this is an open question.

The examples I give refer to Czechoslovakia as part successor to the former Austro-Hungarian Empire. This can be explained by the fact that I base my article on my own exhibits of the Kingdom of Bohemia, Upper Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Similar comparisons can be made to quite a number of other philatelic subjects such as the colonization and independence of the U.S., the succession of rulers of Scandinavia or of Palestine/Israel, etc.

My special field of interest—the Carpatho-Ukraine—can be presented either as a territorial collection or in a postal-historical manner. If presented in latter form, you show the changing political scenes with the following sovereignties between 1918 and 1946: Kingdom/Republic of Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia. Č.S.S.R., Hungary and finally U.S.S.R. The Thirty-Years War can also be shown both thematically and postal-historically as a religious and political conflict of power. This can be done means of military documents of the Protestant Union and the Catholic League through the Imperial Spanish, Swedish and other Armies.

This brings me to the purpose of this article: The F.I.P. regulations give little attention to strict categorization. But we are still in the evaluation phase. From experience we know that to change a law takes much more time than to propose and pass that law. Since the F.I.P. rules are already there, we must now consider what simple improvements can be made on behalf of collectors and exhibitors. We can start out by mentioning F.I.P. rules and special regulations governing the evaluation of exhibits of postal history and thematic items.

The contents of postal history exhibits are heterogeneous. Based upon frequently-voiced opinions as well as my past experience, they can be separated into two difference groupings:

1. History of postal management, operation and service. Here philately deals with the technical

issues relating to postal routes, equipment and services. This includes

a-Pre-philatelic postal services in their broadest sense, and

b-Development of postal services including private or local town postal services and postal stationary/entires.

There are restrictive elements which impede and, in some instances, prevent the transmission of communications. Purists tend to ignore these elements. The reasons for establishing routes of communication are stated here. These reasons must include the pre-history of the founding of "Post". In what other category could one possibly fit such documents as those from the Thurn and Taxis archives or correspondence from the postmaster general and secretary of state of the German Reich von Stephan? These date back to early times when attempts were made to form an international postal union. In order to explore its existence, one cannot ignore or neglect its origin. As for excluding entires (Ganzsachen) from the postal service section, that seems totally illogical. If the judging criteria is to be "used/unused" only, then entires belong in the "unused" section just as mint stamps belong to territorial philately and "used" stamps to postal history where only fully cancelled stamps could find a place (see Article 3.1.5, Rules of Evaluation).

c-Postal tariffs, including currency exchanges.

d-Means of postal delivery, including messenger mail, express mail, telegrams, consignments sent by coach (Fuhrmannsbrieife) as predecessors of parcel post, delivery by truck, car, railway, ship, air, telegraphy, radio messages, etc.

e-Cancellations (Marcophily) including precancellation and automation.

f-Official service mail. There is a question whether classifying this in the second grouping (see below) would not be desirable. Such mail can mostly be seen as a way of communicating between governmental departments (administrative offices, financial branches, police, etc.) (see fig. 3). It also comprises mail from cultural and religious offices which enjoy freedom from, or reduction of, postal charges.



Fig. 3

2. History as reflected in postal documents. It deals with the decline of older political powers and the rise of new ones as well as changes in sovereignties and interference with internal postal authority. It deals with the presentation—in light of postal documents—of the authoritative influence in the communication systems. These could be divided into:

a-History of state and country. As an example, Ireland as a stamp-issuing country exists only since 1922. It comprises the Republic and belongs to "territorial collections". The documentation of the island's partitioning through philatelic material of different developments in the two territories, of the respective political dependencies, etc. is a matter of historical interpretation. For instance, a cultural-historical study of the Gallic settlers, the influence of Irish monks and their missionary work in Western Europe, the impact of religious wars since the time of Cromwell and the English-landed nobility, the special attitude, the mindset and the cultural achievements of the island inhabitants and their reasons for emigrating,—all can only be presented in a thematic exhibit.

b-History of regions and towns. Examples of these are Helgoland, Malta, Upper Silesia as well as Danzig and Liechtenstein. What they have in common is that they belonged to and were ruled by various countries. Based on their size, they corresponded to the poorly-defined evaluation factor "significance" within the framework of a collector's exhibit. That is a separate subject that

cannot be treated here. It might be noted that the smaller the region, the more difficult it is to specialize and obtain the necessary philatelic material. This grouping includes the so-called "local collections" (Heimatsammlungen). It is an all-encompassing subject which is frequently treated in a step-motherly fashion. Professor Brühl does not believe they are a part of postal history, but adds that it depends on the definition of "local" and its significance as a capital city, world harbor, or whatever. The saying goes: "Hic Rhodus, hic salta", which means that its significance has to be proved.

c—Changes of borders and boundary lines. This is a symptom of a state's founding, its dissolution or disintegration (eg. the step-by-step separation of Upper Hungary and the incorporation of Slovakia and Carpatho-Ukraine into Czechoslovakia). The need for historical documentary presentation becomes even clearer when the name of Teschen (Těšín) is mentioned. In 1918 to 1920, there were at least seven armistice agreements and/or demarcation lines for this area. (If a collector concentrates upon types/perforation/color/overprint differences as in "S.O.", one speaks of a territorial collection though limited here to a rather small area). It was not until the Allied Ambassador conference at Spa that the final borderline was established.⁶ Old Austrian/Czechoslovak/Polish plebiscite frankings and cancellations can be found for that three-year period. Then from 1938 to 1945, the same "Teschen/Olsaland" territory changed hands from Czechoslovak to Polish to German and back to Czechoslovak.

d—Military and field mail (courier service). Often a distinction between these two is difficult since military campaigns and wars always mean turmoil. During such times, a lawfully installed, judicially based government does not exist. Victories are often fleeting moments; rules, directions, norms take on a rather temporary character. As far as admissible postal material is concerned, a problem common to all historical-documentary specialist fields must be mentioned. The efforts of some enthusiasts to require that factors such as place, location, time and person on specific exhibits match exactly those on corresponding exhibits is commendable but practically unacceptable. For example, should the following items be included in historical-regional collections:—Scarce exhibit



Fig. 4

material valid beyond national borders in custom-exempt enclaves such as the little Walser Valley in the German-Austrian Alpine border region, or exhibits from postoffices on foreign territory not just emanating from trade agreements (eg. Prussian postoffice in Venlo, the Netherlands, Thurn and Taxis, Postoffice "Asch. R. 4" in Western Bohemia, Gran Chaco exhibits)? Here the factor "place" (as well as "territory") hardly corresponds to the highly limited judging rules.

During World War I, a Czechoslovak Legion was formed under French command, recognized by the Allies, though lacking diplomatic acceptance as a political arm of a not-yet-existing Czech and Slovak Republic. Without this legal international prerequisite, correspondence from the Legion in France should belong to a category "France—Fieldpost of Volunteers in French Service", unless proper rules take into account the historical connotations. However, the required time factor mentioned in the rules has not been met as far as Czech military mail documents are concerned. Also to be reckoned

with are autographs from rulers, (see fig. 4) commanders-in-chief, politicians or captured soldiers (see fig. 5). Additionally, we are dealing with portraits on stamps like jubilee issues and etchings which not only promote interest in research, but also serve the pedagogic understanding of philately. This brings up a pragmatic question: Is a rule being violated if an exhibit contains a letter from the commander-in-chief, Archduke Charles fighting with the "Bohemian Legion" against Napoleon, and this letter is accompanied by a stamp showing his portrait and issued in 1935? (see

Michel, no. 619 in Austria).—Or if a collection of Czechoslovak fieldpost during World War II is shown together with ČSSR Svoboda-Block stamp showing the advances of his army and issued in 1975?—Or if a document from the Seven Year War, the battle of Kolin, is shown together with a stamp of the Prussian King Frederick the Great, issued in 1933? (see Michel, no. 481 under “Germany”, Scott no. 398 to 400). Of course, these illustrations should be exceptions.

Courier services in this group form a many-faceted spectrum. They include diplomatic mail, separated from public mail delivery, including circular letters sent by rulers and kings centuries ago; or orders and instructions given by military commanders; or even mail collected from ghettos in countries occupied by Germany to “self-governing Jewish communities” as, for example, between Theresienstadt and Prague/ de Montégasse or Berlin/Iranische Strasse.



Fig. 5

Under certain circumstances and especially in times of turmoil, postal services can be organized after the existing government allows mail deliveries. This grouping shows restrictions of communications not initiated by the postal service but rather on instructions from a ruler in power. Concepts like “de jure” (directive, instruction, decree, etc.) or “de facto” (factual, concerning the majority of exemptions) now become important. Admittedly, some unrealistic representatives of postal history are inclined to rely solely on postal instructions and proof of their correct execution. In this case there is no need to track down connections; one can learn about them from proper sources.

e—Sanitary mail. In cholera-infected areas, a government’s public welfare laws have to be complied with. “Disinfected” stamps cancelled on sanitary mail have been used even in this century. Here another institution is active, confirming permission for subsequent postal delivery.

f—Censored letters. This not only means that letters are examined, but that they are approved for forwarding or rejected and returned to the sender, often with dire consequences for the parties involved. Censoring can reveal an internal power struggle between controlling offices such as competition between the Wehrmacht and the Gestapo in the Third Reich. Secret postal routes can be reconstructed from the state of Slovakia with the help of Cook’s Travel Agency in Lisbon, Portugal, to members of the Czech Legion in England (POB 226, London).

Before being expelled, Germans who still lived in Czechoslovakia after 1945 had to deliver their mail at the postoffice in an open and unsealed condition. A postal clerk was in charge as a censor. Mention should also be made of self-censoring at the autonomous postoffice in the Jewish settlements of Litzmannstadt. There if its contents were found in violation of some local statute, that piece of mail did not leave the ghetto. This method of sifting through mail was a form of currency control as between the states that came into existence after the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and Germany in 1920. This was a forerunner to the censoring that occurred after 1939 in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia.

g—Camp correspondence. Barriers that prevent free communication are many and diverse. Often people in power decided at will if, when, how and under what circumstances prisoners in labor and concentration camps could have contact with the outside world. This was common during the Boer Wars, the Spanish Civil War and subsequent wars. The International Red Cross, the Copenhagen Information Agency and other humanitarian institutions made it possible for prisoners-of-war and interned persons to send letters outside their camps.

Rules for Thematic Collections

In West Germany before reunification, exhibits based on history could be found under "Collections Arranged According to Specific Points of View" contrary to international custom. Examples of this are field post, camp mail, local collections as well as railway and boat mail, Venetian Doges and merchants' mail. In Czechoslovakia it was called "Sujet Philately" (subject or topical philately) subdivided into "motif philately" and "thematic philately". Unfortunately, the name "sujet philately" remained unknown internationally. I refer here to Czechoslovakia not only because it is the field of my specialization, but also because initial essential work to identify new classifications had been done there. The new F.I.P. rules eliminated "motif philately" and combined it with thematic collections. But this is a rather general term because butterflies, dog breeding, Dürer, Gothics, bridge construction, custom clothing, fairy tales, legends, expressionism, etc. show motifs even though the underlying collection plan is being developed on a higher level as "thematics".

I have no intention of scolding or reprimanding the judges and I respect their every specialty, as long as they accept the limits of their own judgment in recognizing and establishing criteria choices. This is not a matter of competence or capability. I wonder if the same experts can judge "Evolution of Vertebrates" and also form an opinion about "Consequences of the French Revolution"? Many postal authorities (not just those from the Third World) have followed the policy of issuing stamps that are of special interest to motif collectors. Often these stamps show historical subjects such as the steps leading to a country's sovereignty, issues to commemorate the discovery of America almost 500 years ago, etc. In those cases where historical topics are presented as thematic collections, I urge that the exhibitor might be obliged to give an explanation of his objective. Within the category "thematic collections", a place should be reserved for "historical thematic collections",—clearly different from motif exhibits of the classical kind. A serious drawback to any major stamp exhibition has been the failure to required participating exhibitors to give a detailed description of the subject matter of their collection either on the application for exhibit frames or on the introductory page of their exhibit. Consequently even at important stamp shows like PRAGE 88, there were many incorrectly classified exhibits and judges unjustly regrouped certain others. There have been sharp debates over determining the dividing line between motifs and thematic collections. This might have led to the unsatisfactory "solution" of establishing an all-encompassing "class for thematic philately". Here the same logic was followed as in the case where it was decided to give Entires a category of their own instead of classifying them where they belong: postal history or, more specifically, postal transport service history.

Classic collectors and territorial collectors all have an easy life, spoiled as they are with literature, special catalogs and handbooks. Their exhibits are judged by the scarcity of the items they show. Or they are judged by the currently unregistered research of stamp production deficiencies known as "flaws" or "faults".

Evaluating historical-documental collections is certainly a difficult task. Try to find a judge, who is not confused by the rare 1918 German-cancelled stamps of "Znaim 1" (Znojmo) or "Grusbach" (Hrušovany) or Czech-cancelled stamps of "Olomouc" (Olmütz). Or who can recognize that, few pieces of mail especially from concentration camps have traces of handling marks? As a collector with experience in exhibiting internationally, I know that an exhibitor who consistently adheres to the principle of "Philately and History" does not have an easy life at all.

How can that be explained? The answer lies in the recently-changed philosophy of exhibitors for whom the now existing regulatory categories which developed after much hard work do not allow enough elbow room. Nevertheless I am of the opinion that collections with historical documentation should still keep their place under the heading of "Postal History" because in the future, judges specializing in these type of exhibits will be recruited from the ranks of "postal historians". As a matter of fact, many postal historians acknowledge these problems.⁷ I am not suggesting fragmentation, but rather the promotion of new trends for which I seem to lack the proper comprehension. The new exhibitor and the old-line judge have not yet found a common ground. Besides, our

problem has little to do with modern philately which quickly found a friendly forum for discussion and experimentation. This obvious flexibility can only be of benefit to our train of thought.

Suggestions for a Better System

The problem seems quite clear: Power politics caused pre-postal development and limitations in communication. "Postal History", as it is now understood, is incapable of encompassing these backgrounds and developments. As a result, the special rules for evaluating and appreciating exhibits of postal history shown at F.I.P. exhibitions should be broken down as follows:

1. History as reflected by postal documents (Philately and History). We already have a leading precedent in that Marcophily has been specially reclassified in Article 4 of the "Rules for Postal History Exhibits".

2. History of the Post (Postal management history/delivery of messages, services and organization).

3. Historical-thematic collections. This would be the introduction of a third clearly-defined category. Since it takes much more time to change a law than to create one, rules cannot be treated as a catechism. They are based on practical experience and should be discussed.

I trust that our experienced F.I.P. experts who sometimes may be puzzled by substantive questions have the ability to tackle these complex issues. I refer to Article 4.10 of the F.I.P. General Rules for Exhibiting (GREX) stipulating that every exhibition class should be shown as a unit in one section of the exhibit hall. In order not to confuse the judges and the public, it should be mandatory that the objective of an exhibit be clearly set forth. My aims on principle could be realized with Article 4.2 of the "Rules of F.I.P. Philatelic Committees". This Article states that the committee board with concurrence of the F.I.P. Congress can form a chapter within every section to promote special fields of philately, for which it is not necessary to form a separate committee.

Thus from among the ten, there could be chapters of the F.I.P. committees for postal history or thematic philately. If it was possible to create a separate competitive class and even a committee for Maximaphily and for postal stationary/Entires, then it would stand to reason that in the foreseeable future similar measures can be taken on behalf of postal history and that thematic collection forms can be created.

History as we know it is an investigation into all areas of human activities and interaction. "Every historical event unfolds under certain prevailing economic, regional, political, ethnic and religious conditions".⁸ To avoid confusion, it would be advisable to continue differentiating between historical themes in the sense of social and political changes and historical developments in specific areas like the arts and sciences. This helps to exclude bias and favoritism much like the so-called "engaged philately", which has already found a place in modern philatelic exhibits. Furthermore, historical developments are the domain of motif philately with thematic overlays, such as history of the Olympics, history of Nobel prizes, history of the arts as well as history of the International Postal Union.

Footnote References

- 1) *Filatelie*, vol. 17 (1977), page 525
- 2) "Postal History in Documents" by W. Rauch, published in *Festschrift Briefmarken-sammlerverein Bayer (Deutscher Philatelistentag 1982 Lever Kusen)*, pages 15 to 32.
- 3) "Postal History Notes" by Prof. C. Brühl, published in *The American Philatelist*, August & September 1988.
- 4) Ernst M. Cohn's Analysis in *The American Philatelist*, December 1988.
- 5) "A postal history collection is not a local collection, called a 'Heimat' collection in German".—Prof. C. Brühl in *The American Philatelist*, August 1988, page 772.
- 6) "Teschen Territories 1918–1920" by P. Gebauer, published in *Filatelie*, Sept. 1985.
- 7) Miroslav Vostatek, a fieldpost expert, recently opened his presentation about censoring as follows: "First I will tell you some historical facts. Without these, it would be impossible to understand postal history." (Published in *Filatelie* vol. 11 of 1987, page 305).
- 8) Excerpt from a program of the Czechoslovak section "Historie" founded in 1982. (see also *Filatelie* vol. 24 of 1982, page 746).

Joseph J. Janečka, Jr.
1913–1991

Our dear friend and devoted member of longstanding (Member 468) died at his home in Riverside, Illinois on February 25, 1991.

On behalf of the entire Society, the Board of Directors expresses its sorrow and sincere sympathy to the widow Erma Janečka, and to all his relations and close friends.

A more detailed obituary will appear in the next issue of the SPECIALIST.

Deliberate blank page.

PHILATELY OF THE GOOD SOLDIER ŠVEJK

By Miroslav Vostatek

Translated by Henry Hahn

I have previously¹ described some philatelic areas of interest which bear a relationship to the famous novel "The Good Soldier Švejk" by Jaroslav Hašek. Hašek (1883–1923) is featured on Czechoslovakia's UNESCO issue of Feb. 24, 1983, illustrated in Fig. 1. (see Scott no. 2444) Field Posts are mentioned in the novel; in one instance, a General mentions FP 72 while talking to the troops somewhere in Halič.²



Fig. 1

What more is there? It is a fact that the events described by Hašek are based on his personal experiences as he remembered them. Hašek lived in Lipnice, where he also wrote his book and where he is buried. In his novel he speaks not only of Lipnice, but also of the neighboring villages of Jedouchov and Kežlice, as well as the Humpolec and Pelhřimov regions.

He even makes mention of the presence of the Swedes at Lipnice Castle during the Thirty Years War.

Hašek himself served in the 91st Imperial and Royal Infantry Regiment in České Budějovice. This Regiment had its reserve headquarters in Prague. Hence the Regiment of the novel is not fictional, and we may easily find fieldpost cards with Švejk's regimental unit marking. A typical one showing the unit marking of the 91st Regiment is shown in Fig. 2. In those days, units of infantry were formed which in the novel the soldiers referred to as "marškumpačky" or "maršky" (i.e. marchcompanies or marches), though the official German term is "Marschkompanien". In one of them, having the number 11, served our Good Soldier Švejk. He served as an "Ordonan" which the dictionary defines as a soldier who delivers orders, hence an orderly. The commander of this unit, according to the novel, was First Lieutenant Jindřich Lukáš. Lt. Lukáš is also a real person who eventually became a Major, survived Hašek and died in 1938.

I have thus far not succeeded in finding a card bearing the unit marking of the 91st Regiment with a return address indicating the 11th Marschkompanie. However, I got close, owning one from the 12th and one from the 14th Company. One from the 12th is shown in Fig. 3. Many of these are mentioned in the novel. For example, we read that the 12th and 13th were encamped in Bruch above the river Litava. A telephone conversation between Ordonantz Švejk and his counterpart Braun—a masterly conversation—is described under the title "By Wire". We are even told that the commander of the 13th is First Lieutenant Zimmerman.

In the Austro-Hungarian Army several Companies constituted a Battalion. The particular Battalion mentioned in the novel is Battalion "N". However, contemporary correspondence originating from the region of České Budějovice only shows Battalions No. 4 and No. 8.

But let us return to the Companies. In Halič (Galicia) there dwelt the 14th Company. At the railroad station in Zóltanka it was found that all of the 14th was present except for the "nachhút" (rear guard), which got lost while by-passing Lvov.

According to the novel, the unit Švejk served in was supposed to have used FP 72. That fieldpost actually existed, though it appears on entirely different correspondence. Based on a card dated February 1916, it appears that this fieldpost was used by the 54th Regiment of Olomouc. A cancel

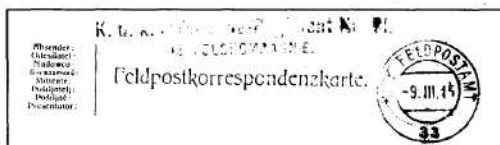


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

bearing this fieldpost number also was found on a card carrying the unit marking of the Homeguard Infantry located in Békés, Hungary at the time. However, in 1915, when the events described in the novel were to have taken place, we actually find something different. We find correspondence of the 91st Regiment with FP 33 cancels. V. Majetic³ notes that in 1914–1916 this fieldpost served the 1st Austro-Hungarian Brigade in the Balkans.



Fig. 4

However, from there the field post must have transferred to the Russian front. Major Ságner, who often appears in the novel, was at the start of the war with the 6th Company on the Serbian front, where he fared sadly. The 5th Company is also known to have used FP 33 during the first quarter of 1915, though later this Company was served by FP 53. But, if we go back to September 1914, we find the 14th Company to have used Hungarian FP 49, along with the 12th Company which in November 1914 also used this FP number. Field Posts as well as Field Post Headquarters (Etappenpostämte) changed frequently, as might be expected.

It is virtually certain that Švejk, or the real soldier who served as Hašek's inspiration,—as well as Hašek himself—all used FP 33. If one could find a genuine used FP card showing the FP 33 cancel and the unit marking or return address of the 91st Regiment, 11th Company (Marschkompanie), dated in the second half of 1915, the case would be proven. We are certain that such a card exists; we were even notified of its existence by a fellow collector. Unfortunately, this collector did not respond to our request for an illustration.

Thus, our earlier assumption that FP 72 was Švejk's FP is incorrect; it is FP 33, despite what the General said. In any event, we are sure that most of the story appearing in the Hašek novel is based on true facts as the author remembered them.

(Editor's Note: On the lighter side, our own good soldier, Joe Janečka, recently provided us with a cachet and special cancellation of his own creation honoring "The Good Soldier Schweik" (see fig. 4). It is interesting to note that the book's author, Jaroslav Hašek, followed neither the profession of his father (a mathematics teacher) nor the dictates of necessity which forced him into a clerkship in a bank. He wanted to write and before World War I actually broke out, he had published sixteen volumes of short stories. Taken prisoner on the Eastern Front, he spent several years in Russian prison camps. On his return, he began to write his satirical masterpiece which was to inflame an entire nation to resistance and sweep Europe with its trenchant wit. According to Hašek's original plan, the book was to comprise six volumes. However, at the time of his death in 1923, he had completed only four.)

Footnotes

1. Vostatek, M., *FILATELIE*, 1983 No. 12, p. 369
2. Galicia, a province of Austria-Hungary, now part of Poland.
3. Majetic, V., *SPECIAL-KATALOG DER FELD UND ETAPPENPOSTSTEMPEL VON OSTERREICH-UNGARN*, Vienna, 1965.

A TRIAL PRINT OF HRADČANY

by *Tomás Morovics and Zdenek Fáber*

Translated by Mirko Vondra

In the course of time, many collectors decide to break up their accumulations of specialized material. When they do, the philatelic market is sometimes enlivened by what can be found available. This happens when material which is known to exist surfaces after having been withheld from the public due to its limited quantity, most of which is in private hands. Occasionally something will appear which has not even been documented in philatelic literature or known to exist. (Trail prints are usually an exception). When that happens, there is no other reasonable alternative but to determine as quickly as possible whether the "discovery" is genuine or was forged to entice the specialized collector. It is also conceivable that the material is a stamp; it might be a contemporary trial print which would add something to the origin of that particular stamp".



We had that kind of a dilemma to deal with when confronted with what appeared to be a trial print of the 50h. Hradčany issue. The spacing of the inscription is similar to the Type I design. The lower dark space above the denomination shows the wavy line to be like the one in the Type I and Type II designs. On the other hand, the shading of the leaves and the doves seems more in line with the designs of Type III, IV or V. From this rather superficial comparison, one might argue that the trial print represents a transition from the Type II to the Type III design.

Unfortunately, the one sample we had was damaged due to a crease or fold at the edge. On the reverse side, we tested the paper with a needle and confirmed that it was chalky. Considering the somewhat poor quality of the sample and the fact that it was on chalky paper which is not used today, we are of the opinion that this is truly a rare trial print. It seems likely that the preparation of the design took place at about that period of time when the Hradčany stamps were issued. Meanwhile, it is obviously difficult to make a definitive conclusion on the basis of a single "stamp".

With that in mind, we are asking those collectors having any information bearing upon the validity of this particular item to communicate with us concerning their knowledge of it. To contact us, please write to: Tomáš Morovics, P.O. Box 94, 161 00 Praha 614, Czechoslovakia.

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*Member of the Month***MEET FREDERICK P. LAWRENCE**

Though he has been a member of the SCP since 1970, Frederick P. Lawrence had already been collecting stamps for ten years prior thereto. The beginning came in 1960 while as a Boy Scout working for the Stamp Collecting Merit Badge. He formed small collections of the U.S. and U.N. to meet the requirements of the badge. Through Boy's Life Magazine, he was introduced to Scouts on Stamps and joined the Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI). At that point, he was amassing an extensive international collection of Scout stamps.



One day, in response to a request he made, he received some information on the 1918 Czech Scout Post Issue in the form of Ivo Kvasnička's article "The Czech Scout Official Mail Delivery Service of 1918." This article appeared in the November 1969 SPECIALIST on page 125. Fred was impressed by the article as well as the general content of the publication. Through the American Philatelic Society (APS), he contacted our Society's officers and became a member.

In the early 1980's, he focused his collecting interests on the three earliest Scouts on Stamps issues: 1900 Cap of Good Hope Mafeking siege photographic "blueprint" stamps; 1918 Czechoslovakia Scout Post issue; and 1920-1921 Siam "Scout's Fund" overprint issues.

In 1989, he exhibited competitively for the first time. His gold medal exhibit, "Scouts on Stamps Classics" is one of the first to successfully present the classical period issues of a modern topical in a traditional philatelic exhibit. He has done extensive research on all three of the Scouts on Stamps "Classics" issues and has been a frequent contributor to journals of SOSSI, the Scout and Guide Collectors' Club (SGSC) and the Anglo-Boar War Philatelic Society (ABWPS). He is currently writing a monograph for the Society of Thai Philately (STP) on the Siam "Scout's Fund" overprints. He is a member of the APS, RPSL, AAPE, SOSSI, SGSC, ABWPS, STP and our own SCP.

In 1990, he served as an apprentice judge at NAPEX, BALPEX, AIRPEX and VAPEX. He expects to be accredited as an APS judge soon. He serves on the International Commission for Czechoslovak Philately as the specialist for the 1918 Czech Scout Post issue. He is an officer of the U.S. Air Force currently assigned to Air Force Headquarters, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Our Society is proud to have a man of Fred's calibre on our membership roster. His talk at our Society's general meeting at SEPAD 89 was one of the most comprehensive lectures on the subject of Scout Stamps to be heard. We all look forward to seeing more of Mr. Lawrence at SCP shows and meetings and watch as he captures further awards at future exhibits. And because of his past record as an ambitious Boy Scout, we hope that through his experience, he will guide other young Scouts to emulate his philatelic ventures so they too may eventually find interest in joining Societies like ours.

In the accompanying photo, Fred Lawrence is shown to the right of Pavel Pitterman at the SCP's reception at BALPEX 90 following Ing. Pitterman's talk on the 1918 Czech Scout Post.

Editorial Hinges

TIDBITS FROM HITHER AND YON

Now that the SPECIALIST has taken on a new format and has been changed from a monthly to a bi-monthly publication, we invite all our members to give us their views and opinions. Essentially this is YOUR publication because YOUR annual dues pay for its printing and mailing. All constructive criticism is therefore welcome and your editor will print as much of it as possible in the "Letters to the Editor" column.



Fig.1

Of course, no matter how well the editorial staff may think of this new format, there are bound to be some disadvantages. One of those drawbacks has already surfaced. Issuing a journal like this every two months occasionally means that a "hot" news item misses the printing deadline by a day or two. By the time it appears in the next subsequent issue, the news item is "stale". This we will have to reckon with.

And so it is that three such news items missed the Jan/Feb issue by a hair's breath. One is that

our mailing anchor man in Europe, the venerable Jaroslav Verner, has returned home to Bethesda, Maryland after serving the U.S. government in Afghanistan and, more recently, in Berlin. Welcome back, Jerry; we're glad to have you in our midst again!

The second bit of news is that on December 25, 1990, Zdenek Kvasnička



Fig.2

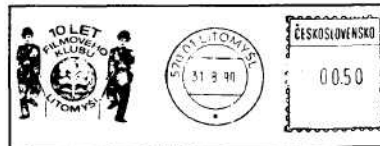


Fig.4

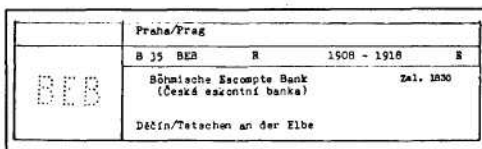


Fig.3

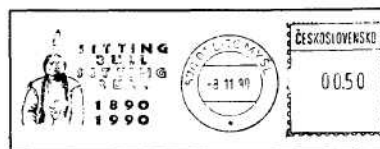


Fig.5

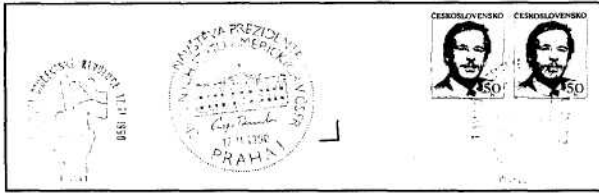


Fig.6

celebrated his 85th birthday. He is the co-author of "Padelky", co-author and editor of "Monografie", winner of the Grand Prix National at PRAGA 68 and a member of our Society since 1949. Belatedly we all wish him many more happy birthdays and acknowledge him as THE

senior statesman of Czechoslovak philately.

For our musical enthusiasts, Gerald van Zanten has, for the past three years at least, contributed many fine articles on the subject of "Art on Stamps". We are pleased to advise that THE BATON, the official journal of the Philatelic Music Circle based in Middlesex, England, has

reprinted his "Black Lady of Straz" in its November 1990 issue. This article originally appeared in our SPECIALIST, October 1988 on page 12.

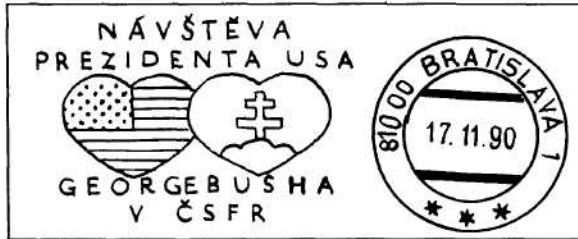


Fig.7

Recently member Karel Fischer of Ontario, Canada, wrote to Board member, Henry Hahn, calling attention to a plate flaw in the Košice Souvenir Sheet (Scott #310) on position 8 which was announced in

FILATELIE no. 5 of 1988. This fault was uncovered in due time and was retouched. On the other hand, the plate fault on position 2 known as the "broken leg" is a larger and more familiar printing flaw, but was not retouched.

More recent references in FILATELIE indicate that in the last two years, three sheets have found containing the flaw noted on position 8. K. Fischer points out that he has been in possession of a fourth such sheet for the last 40 years. (see fig. 1).

Mr. Fischer has asked us to publish this information with a request that our members examine their copies of this sheet and inform us of their findings. It is likely that up to ten sheets containing this newly discovered flaw may lie buried in private collections. So far only four have been identified. Probably most general collectors have paid little attention to the possibility that their Košice Sheet might contain plate faults other than the "broken leg".

And even more recently, President Charles Chesloe came upon a cover sent by the Česka Eskontní Banka in Děčín. The postmark reads "Teschen a.d. Elbe 27 IX 16-7, 4d". It carries the Maxa (perfin catalog) number B35 and was in use from 1908 to 1918. (see fig. 2). Its point value is "E" which estimates that there are 5 to 19 pieces known. In the catalog (see fig. 3), "R" stands for "Rakousko" (Austria) "Zal. 1830" means "Založený v roce 1830" (Founded or established in 1830).

Special cancellations seem to be running ahead of New Issues in the race for high numbers. Henry Hahn has just sent us three recent cancellations of noteworthy and familiar events received from Dr. M. Vostatek. On Aug. 31, 1990, the town of Litomyšl introduced a "Charley Chaplin" cancellation honoring ten years of its Film Club (see fig. 4). On Nov. 8, 1990, Litomyšl also honored the 100th anniversary of the American Indian, Chief Sitting Bull (see fig. 5). And on Nov. 17, 1990, Prague issued a special cancellation honoring the "Visit of the President of the United States to Czechoslovakia" (see fig. 6). A somewhat similar cancellation was released at Bratislava to mark the "Visit of the U.S. President George Bush to The Czechoslovak Federal Republic." (see fig. 7). Your editor thanks these members for bringing this to our attention.

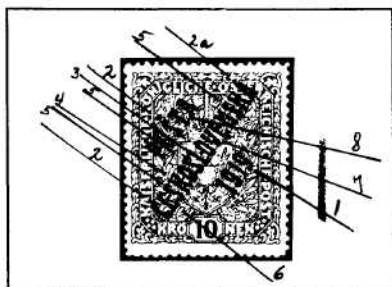


Fig. 1



Fig. 2a & 2b



Fig. 3

**THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER
 BID AT YOUR RISK**

A Harmer Auction conducted in New York City on May 23-25, 1990 saw a major Czechoslovak rarity go on the auction block. The 10 kronen "Pošta Československá 1919" on granite paper, formerly listed by Scott as B-25, was sold for \$17,600 which included the ten percent buyers premium.

There has been much controversy surrounding the 4 kronen and 10 kronen values on granite paper inasmuch as these varieties were not printed in Vienna until the Spring of 1919. Therefore these values could not have been remainders that were returned to Prague from the various postoffices in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia. At best, they are actually essays that were prepared by J. Lešetický using the original overprint plate for the sole purpose of capitalizing on sales to affluent collectors. But that is another story.

Let me refer back to the stamp that was sold in May 1990. After considerable study of the picture on the cover of the auction catalog where this stamp was illustrated in color, it is my belief that the overprint may be a forgery.

I will attempt to point out the numerous peculiarities which I find on the illustrated 10 kronen stamp. There is no disputing that it would be best to have the stamp itself examined and expertized. However, the cover photo and the photo reproduction show the overprint quite clearly. Fig. 1, showing the 10 kronen value, has numbered lines projecting from various points indicating the irregularities. Compare those various points with fig. 2a and 2b. 2a is the overprint on the face side and 2b is the overprint on the gummed side of the 6 h. (Scott B 4.) Fig. 3 is an inverted overprint on the 3 kronen granite paper (Scott B 23.) Fig. 2b shows the overprint as Type I. Fig 1, 2a and 3 show the Type II overprint.

To avoid repetition, I will point out the irregularities on Fig. 1 and the reader can compare it with figures 2a, 2b and 3.

Line 1 points to a rather flat and long bottom line on the second "9" of "1919". The others show a rather steeper and shorter angle downward and a somewhat abrupt sweep upward at the bottom end. Line 2 points to the two diacritical marks which are uneven, the left side being the heavier side. Note balance and symmetrical appearance on the other photos. Line 2a shows the accent mark as the triangle touching the upper right tip on the "A". Line 3 points to the top projection which is slightly higher than the letters of the "S" and "O" adjacent to it. The other "L"s are in perfect alignment. Line 4 points to a poorly formed "K" that does not even touch at the middle. The bottom and top of the left leg on the "K" are very poorly formed and the characteristics are

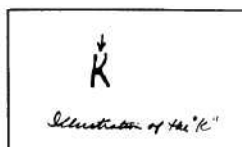


Fig. 4

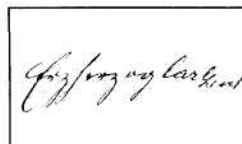


Fig. 5

vastly different. Note the sweep to the middle in the top leg is completely missing. Lines 5 show the "S"s in "Československá". They also lack the characteristics of the other three examples and are formed slightly different. Line 6 points to the "E" where the projection downward of the top leg at the far right is missing. The other photos show that projection abruptly downward and close to touching the middle bar of the "E". Line 7 points to a poorly formed "V" that lacks the curve to the center of the top of its left leg. Line 8 points to the "T". As far as the top bar of the "T" is concerned, the largest portion of that bar is on the right side of the stem. The left side has no projection downward, seems short and abruptly cut off. The letters in "Československá" are not aligned precisely at the top and bottom and the endings at the top and bottom are ragged and uneven.

The stamp, according to the Harmer catalog, has been expertized and came with a photo certificate. It seems to me that when one buys a stamp of such notorious rarity and magnitude, it should come with an assortment of documentary verification, including signatures. Experts have been known to be mistaken at times and even their signatures have on occasion been forged. Deception in philately has become an art in itself. When bidding a high price, the bidder should have every opportunity to examine the item itself to determine if it meets his particular criteria. And if, as in this case, a clear colored photo was available, that photo should be minutely scrutinized. Otherwise you bid at your own risk.

Charles Chesloe

(Editor's Note: Since submitting this article, Mr. Chesloe informed us that he has had an opportunity to see the 10-kronen stamp itself and the opinions he expressed in this article remain unchanged.)

NEW ISSUES - FOURTH QUARTER (1990)

1) On October 1, 1990, a set of four stamps devoted to the subject of "*Environmental Protection - Endangered Species*" was issued. Designs were by I. Schurmann and engraving by V. Fajt. All stamps are of horizontal format and contain the following values:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 - 50h. Mountain Marmot | 2 - 1 kčs. Wild Cat |
| 3 - 4 kčs. Beaver | 4 - 5 kčs. Long-eared Bat |

All four stamps have text in Czech and Latin. (see fig. 1).

2) On October 15, a single 3 kčs. stamp was issued to draw attention to the "*Helsinki Civic Gathering*". It shows a simple design of stars in a circle with random smaller stars. (see fig. 2). Design was by V. Kovařík; engraving by J. Herčík.

3) On November 27, another set of four art stamps which seem to dominate the continuing flow of new issues was released with values of 2, 3, 4 and 5 kčs. in the customary previous format. (see fig. 3). The 2 kčs. has a horizontal design, whereas the remaining three values are of the vertical variety. Particulars regarding each stamp are as follows:

- 2 kčs. Engraved by B. Housa, it shows the village of Krucemburk as painted by Jan Zrzavý (1890–1977) in 1923. This is the third of his paintings shown in the Art series, the first being the 60h. of 1968 which featured Kleopatra II, an oil painting measuring 18 x 21 cm. and dating from 1945/46. His second stamp was entitled "Haldy", showing one of his landscapes completed in 1933.
- 3 kčs. Engraved by J. Herčík, it depicts St. Agnes of Bohemia (the St. Wenceslaus monument in Prague by the well-known sculptor J.V. Myslbek (1848–1922), many of whose works may be admired on a visit to Prague. Myslbek himself was portrayed on two identical stamps in 1952, thirty years after his death (see Pofis no. 658/9; Scott no. 526/8).
- 4 kčs. This is an engraving by V. Fajt of a work by Alfons Mucha (1860–1939) in his series "The Slav Epic". Shown is a detail of the work which in its totality measure 610 x 810 cm. It was painted in 1911 in tempera and oil. The title of this particular panel is "Between the Touranian Knout and the Swords of the Goths".

A WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

The S.C.P. is pleased to welcome the following new members and hopes they will avail themselves of our Society benefits listed on page 2:

<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
1564	Henry A. Bordwell	Box 446, Rochester, N.Y. 14602
1565	Dennis A Iworsky	18 Maple St., Amesbury, Iowa 01913
1566	Petr Reiniš	28 Řijna 1622, Turnov, Czechoslovakia
1567	Zdenek Kaplan	1420 Little Meadow Road, Guilford, Conn. 06437
1568	Ted Hallock	2445 NW Irving St., Portland, Oregon 97210
1569	Mogens Norbjerg	Ingenior, Laeskovvej 227, 4632 Bjaeverskov, Denmark
1570	John Grabowski	Box 10916, White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110
1571	Michael P. Mesaros, M.D.	222 No. Saginaw, Suite 2, Midland, Michigan 48640
1572	Hugo J. Laube, Jr.	5158 So. Rutherford Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60638
1573	Myron S. Kavalgian	140 West 86th St., Apt. PHB, New York, NY 10024-4034
1574	Ivan Hajdu	166 B. Fairgreen Drive, Amherst, NY 14228
1575	Michael Bailey	340 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21218
1576	Roger Henebry	24115 Clarksburg Road, Clarksburg, MD 20871
1577	Jerry A. Kotek	424 Corbin Road, York, PA 17403
1578	Robert Shoemaker	612 Hollen Road, Baltimore, MD 21212
1579	Captain James I. Carone	P.O. Box 681541, Schaumburg, IL 60168
1580	Ladislava Ondrackova	P.O. Box 7, Prerov 4 Predmesti 75124 Czechoslovakia
1581	Dr. Milan Lebl	U Smaltovny 7, Prague 17000, Czechoslovakia
1582	Jura Richter	Trida Rijnove Revolnce 5a, Brno 60200, Czechoslovakia
1583	Paul G. Eckman	620 No. Hoover, Los Angeles, Ca 90004
1584	Edward E. Radanovich	2516 Chandler Road East, Bellevue NE 68005
1585	Wayne L. Fox	195 St. George Lane, Williston VT 05495
1586	David Crawford	3859 de Bullion, Montreal H2W 232 Canada
1587	Bruce A. Sebek	3255 Glencairn Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44122
1588	Joseph Malec	3370 West 128 St., Cleveland, OH 44111
1589	Bernard E. Kingsley	257 Vivian Lane, Vestal, NY 13850
1590	Edwin M. Norse	42 East Street, Bristol, VT 05443
1591	Dr. James I. Konkl	5013 North Drive, Tyler, TX 75703

Our Society has almost 60 patron members at the present time. These patron members are currently being supplied with bound copies of the 1989-1990 SPECIALISTS. Because of increased mailing costs, members whose bound copies are returned to the editor due to a change of address of which the editor was not notified will be billed for the remailing. To avoid this and other similar situations, all members—patron as well as regular—are requested to notify the editor promptly of any address change.

In addition, regular members are urged to become patron members. Not only will this provide you with a permanent buckram-bound record of our first winning publications, but will give you an opportunity to assist our Society financially at a time when run-away inflation is causing serious curtailment of valuable services in many areas of philately. Even if you have already sent in your \$18 dues, you can still change to patron membership by sending an additional \$12 check to our treasurer with a notation that it is a supplemental payment to upgrade your membership status.

ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD

The Society membership has cooperated this year in furnishing a slate of twelve candidates to the Board of Directors in response to the announcement in the December 1990 SPECIALIST, pages 2, 3 and 15. However, in the May 1989 SPECIALIST, the Board members whose terms of office expire in 1991 were correctly listed as: Charles Chelsoe, Jack Benchik, Edwin Lehecka, Robert Koshaik and Jane Sterba. That means the five Board members are eligible for reelection and have been renominated. The five Board members whose terms do not expire until 1993 are: Vladimír Bubák, Henry Hahn, Frank Julsen, Ludvik Svoboda and Mirko Vondra.

In addition, the Board is being expanded from ten to fifteen members, so that a total of ten must be elected to the Board for the coming term. The following candidates have been nominated and are listed in alphabetical order:

1. Edward (Jack) Benchik, member number 427. For full details, see February 1988 SPECIALIST, page 8.
2. Charles (Chuck) Collins, number 1018. For full details, see Jan/Feb. 1991 SPECIALIST, page 21.
3. Robert (Tom) Cossaboom, number 936. For details, see Feb. 1989 SPECIALIST, page 11. Since then, he has been reassigned and is presently residing at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois.
4. Charles Chesloe, number 509. currently the President of our Society, he has been a member since 1952 and a vice-president in the 70's. He has collected Czechoslovakia for over 40 years and has won gold medals at AMERIPEX 76 and PRAGA 78.
5. Phillips Freer, number 1515. For details, see Aug/Sept 1989 SPECIALIST, page 11/12. Recently he was appointed to the editorial staff of this publication.
6. Robert Koschalk, number 1461. His collection of the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate won him the INDPEX silver award in 1989. A member of the S.C.P. for 8 years as well as a member of the German Philatelic Society, he was appointed to the Board of Directors last year to fill the unexpired term of Dominick Riccio.
7. Frederick P. Lawrence, number 1180. For details, see page of this issue.
8. Edwin Lehecka, number 1115. As auditor, book sales manager and chairman of the expertization committee, he has worked hard in maintaining the financial stability of our Society.
9. Richard (Dick) Major, number 1111. He is a former S.C.P. Director, Specialist Editor and philatelic writer. As a frequent exhibitor, he holds several gold awards for his Austrian Navy Mail and his World War I fieldpost.
10. Richard Palaschak, number 138. Has been the Society's archivist and librarian for the past three years.
11. Jane Sterba, number 993. Currently the Secretary of our Society. Formerly served as President and Editor. Winner of numerous national and international philatelic awards.
12. Jaroslav (Jerry) Verner, number 609. As a former C.S.P. Director and prolific philatelic writer, he is a frequent gold award winner at international F.I.P. shows and serves on our expertization committee.

Voting for membership on the Board of Directors is one of the privileges all Society members have. Without the votes to elect a Board, there would be no Board. Without a Board, the Society could not function. So please exercise your voting privilege. Consider it more than a privilege. It is your DUTY to vote. That is one of the benefits you get by belonging to the Society and paying your membership dues.

Therefore all S.C.P. members are urged to cast their ballots and vote for any ten of the above twelve candidates. The revised Bylaws which will be published shortly require all votes to be cast no later than May 30. Please fill out the ballot on the next page, tear or cut it and mail it to our Secretary on or before May 30.

VOTING BALLOT

I vote for the following ten candidates to serve on the Board of Directors of the S.C.P. beginning with the Fall term of 1991:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Signed _____ Member Number _____

Date _____

Mail to:

Mrs. Jane Sterba, Secretary
 6624 Windsor Avenue
 Berwyn, Il. 60402

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