



# THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST



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Official Quarterly Journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately,  
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Winner of Numerous Philatelic Literature Awards

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## A GREAT DAY by Ludvik Svoboda

I cannot tell you how pleased I am to report that beginning with this issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, our member and Board Member, Keith Hart, is joining me in the editorship of this publication. We will be co-editors until such time as the decision is made for him to take over as editor.

For now, I will continue with those functions and actions of the editorship which require or are dependent upon a knowledge of the Czech and Slovak languages, while Keith will focus on all aspects requiring only English (American as well as British).

He and I have already been working together in the preparation of this issue. I am impressed with his knowledge of the philatelic realm and his willingness to work.

Since Keith lives in this area, I have also introduced him to our holdings and operations of our SCP Library in the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. Hopefully over time Keith will also take over as our Librarian.

I very much look forward to working with Keith and continuing to provide you with an interesting and informative publication.

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## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Here is a list of all benefits to which S.C.P. members in good standing are entitled.

1. A sales circuit is operated by H. Alan Hoover. However, the circuit is currently not operating because of a lack of materials from members. When this situation is remedied we will notify you in the *Specialist*.
2. A book sales division is run by James Buckner. A listing of philatelic books for sale appears regularly in the *Specialist*. For further information, contact James Buckner, 322 Woodhaven Drive, Athens, GA 30606, email wellseats@hotmail.com
3. A Society library is housed with Ludvik Svoboda, librarian. For inquiries on borrowing books, buying past *Specialist*'s or making book donations, contact Ludvik Svoboda, 4766 S. Helena Way, Aurora, CO 80015, or email: Lousvoboda@comcast.net
4. An expertization committee operates under the direction of Ludvik Z. Svoboda. Depending on the nature or substance of the item to be expertized, he will direct you to the appropriate source for expertization. Please contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda. (see address/email above).
5. THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST is the official quarterly publication of the Society. For inquiries on obtaining back issues, contributing original articles, advertising rates, and bound copies, contact Ludvik Z. Svoboda (see address/email above).
6. Our web site ([www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org)) on the Internet provides Society information on Membership, History, Education, Auctions, Exhibits, Book Reviews, Contacting other members via email, and more. The site is maintained by Marisa Galitz, P O Box 646, Owings Mills, MD 21117, email: [mmgalitz@gmail.com](mailto:mmgalitz@gmail.com).

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*All officers and board members serve the Society voluntarily and without compensation.*

## *President's Report*

Welcome to 2017! This year promises to be exciting for our members as new initiatives are currently in place or will be in place to better serve our members over the course of the coming year.

One of these initiatives is the new formal arrangement with the SČF (Union of Czech Philatelists) to allow our members to easily access the services of the numerous specialized experts of the SČF in order to authenticate the more scarce and rare holdings of our members. The process to access these services is comprehensively detailed in a separate article in this issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*.

The long search for an editor for *The Czechoslovak Specialist* to replace Lou Svoboda as the editor is finally over, and the transition is currently in progress. Many thanks are owed to Lou Svoboda for his 20+ years of dedication in this capacity and to Keith Hart who is and will continue to function as Co-Editor.

In order to help us better serve our members, please take the time to complete the enclosed member survey and return it to our Director James Buckner. Such a survey has not been conducted for many years, and given the continually changing face of our membership and the philatelic needs of our membership, it is important that our members take an active role in the direction of the SCP in terms of the range of services offered and the institution of new services where necessary. Please make an effort to help the betterment of our Society with your input. The first ten survey responders will receive a special gift folder from Česká Pošta that includes a recently issued miniature sheet and accompanying first day cover.

Please note that in this issue there is a call for nominations to the election for the Board of Directors with details about this process. Once again, the participation of our members in leadership roles is critical to the vitality of our organization.

Another notable development is that our long-time member and current Director Jaroslav Verner, in partnership with respected Czech philatelist and auctioneer Jiří Majer, has recently published a comprehensive monograph and catalog of the postal history and stamps of the Czechoslovak Legion in Siberia. This is a culmination of a life-long devotion to the study of this particularly fascinating area of Czechoslovak philately. Further details on the book can be found in the *Philatelic News and Views* column of this issue. Congratulations to Jerry and Jiří!

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize all of the hard work of our Board Members in 2016 and to our regular members that have volunteered to help with ongoing projects. Thank you to all on the Board of Directors and to our members William Capps, Jon Klemetsen, Hugh Galford, Joe Coulbourne, and Lawrence Cook for their offers of assistance.

In closing I would like to remind all of our members that the SCP will be holding its annual convention and meetings at NAPEX 2017, the President of which is our Board Member Richard Livingston. NAPEX will be held from June 9 through June 11, 2017 at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner in McLean, Virginia. Admission and parking is free, and there is a special show rate for attendees staying at the Hilton, if space is still available. For details please see [www.napex.org](http://www.napex.org). Further details for our participation and events will follow in the Spring *Specialist*.

Happy New Year!  
Chris Jackson

## EXPERTIZING ARRANGEMENT WITH THE UNION OF CZECH PHILATELISTS

by Chris Jackson

As had been announced in previous issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, the Union of Czech Philatelists (SČF) has agreed to a simplified and streamlined process to allow SCP members to send philatelic items to any of the Czech experts who are accredited and who function to serve the needs of the members of the SČF. Given that these experts offer their services as a benefit to members of the SČF, our members who wish to engage their services must first obtain membership in the SČF. The annual cost of membership is a very reasonable approximate cost of \$10. In order to facilitate this process, I will act as a conduit for any of our members who are interested in joining the SČF.

Once membership in the SČF is gained, the following process has been established for our members to engage expert services:

(1) As a preliminary step, a scan of the face and reverse of any item intended to be expertized must be sent to Dr. František Beneš who is the Director of the Expertizing Committee of the SČF. SCP members may send the scan or scans to me at [cjstamps72@gmail.com](mailto:cjstamps72@gmail.com), and I will forward them to Dr. Beneš. Scans must be a minimum quality of 300dpi.

(2) Dr. Beneš will then assess whether or not the item appears to be genuine. When this initial assessment is positive, Dr. Beneš will advise regarding the appropriate expert to whom the philatelic item or items should be sent.

(3) The terms and the cost of engaging any particular expert are to be established between the particular expert and the member seeking an expert opinion. In cases where the potential language barrier may pose a problem, Dr. Beneš and myself will facilitate this stage of the process on behalf of the member seeking an expert opinion.

(4) Once the terms are established, the member seeking the opinion may send the item or items to the appropriate expert, with the appropriate fee.

(5) The item or items will then be assessed and returned to the member seeking the opinion. Any discrepancies or issues following the provision of an expert opinion or guarantee will be settled between the member seeking the opinion and the particular expert. Where necessary, this can also be facilitated by Dr. Beneš and myself.

The intent of this arrangement is to properly advise our members and to facilitate the process of contacting the appropriate expert, which might otherwise be problematic in terms of the Czech-English language barrier, and even with respect to identifying the appropriate expert for any particular item. Furthermore, there are very few individuals outside of the Czech Republic who are qualified to render a reliable philatelic opinion and offer a guarantee with respect to Czechoslovak and Czech philatelic material.

Please direct any enquiries to Chris Jackson at the email address noted above or via the post to the address noted inside the front cover of this issue. Members who are interested in SČF membership and access to experts in the Czech Republic will be sent an information sheet and an application for membership in the SČF.

The information sheet and application will also be available on-line in the near future at [www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org).

Many thanks are owed to Lubor Kunc, Vít Vaníček, and František Beneš for engaging the SCP to make this arrangement possible.



## A NEW SERVICE

### Czechoslovak Philately DVDs

by Ludvik Svoboda

Your Society has a new tool for you and others to learn about the breadth and depth of Czechoslovak philately.

We have a series of three DVDs and text that tell the story of all aspects of our philately:

-- This first version has the complete story ready to go on the DVD. You simply insert it into your computer with projector connected and push the start button. It automatically runs through the images on the DVD while playing my narration of the text. You do not have to do anything; it runs for about 42 minutes. You can stop it, reverse it, continue it, etc. This one is ideal for a group such as a local stamp club, or you can watch it yourself on your computer (no projector needed). This is essentially a PowerPoint presentation.

-- The second version has the images and the text right on the slide with the image, so there is no narration. It does not run automatically, you need to push the advance to get the next image and read the text yourself. This is specifically designed for the individual to watch the story at their own speed. Once again, you can move forward or back. This is also like a PowerPoint presentation.

-- The third version has the images on the DVD but also contains the text as a separate file that you print out (or you can ask for the text to be sent along with the DVD). You then move through the images on your computer while you read the text (to yourself or to others that are there looking at the images on your computer). This one is designed for those members who may have an older computer that cannot accommodate the other versions.

You can borrow any of these three versions from our Library. Just contact our librarian, me. My contact info is on page 2 of any Specialist. Make sure that you say exactly which version you are interested in, 1, 2 or 3. You will need to pay for the postage going both ways.

If you are interested in finding out what-all is involved in Czechoslovak philately, check out one of these DVDs.

### NEW MEMBERS WANTED

*HELP your society to grow! Enlist a fellow collector of Czechoslovak stamps for membership. Talk up the Society at your local stamp club or exhibition. Membership benefits are listed periodically on page two of issues.*

*Application forms and Society information are available from our Secretary,  
Tom Cossaboom, Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302,  
or from our web site: [www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org)*

**EXCEPTIONAL COVERS**

by Lubor Kunc  
(lubor.kunc@seznam.cz)

(Continued from the Fall 2016 issue)



Figure 9: Registered letter sent from Vizovice to Holešov being franked with a mixed franking of Czechoslovak and Austrian stamps; mailed on Feb. 24, 1919, therefore the postage



Figure 10: Postcard mailed on Apr. 2, 1919, sent from Turnov to Jablonec/Nisou; the original Austrian stamps not accepted anymore, therefore a new Hradčany stamp of the same value (10 Heller) affixed

The newly born Czechoslovakia was very shortly using the postage stamps of three countries: Austria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia. This situation lasted only from Dec. 18, 1918 to Feb. 28, 1919, with the milestones of the issuance of the first Czechoslovak stamps (Dec. 18, 1918), and the monetary reform where the original Austrian/Hungarian currency was replaced by the new Czechoslovak one (Feb. 28, 1919)(Fig. 9). From Mar. 1, 1919 the only valid postage stamps were the Czechoslovak ones leading to situations where the postcards franked in the old days with Austrian/Hungarian stamps were re-affixed with the new Hradčany ones (Fig. 10).

Sometimes the postage stamps of two different countries are not proof of mixed franking, but rather of an additional service being provided by the recipient's postal administration. This is the case of the next example (Fig. 11a/b) showing a parcel dispatch note sent in 1920 from Crefeld (Germany) through the main railway line Dres-

den-Děčín-Ústí/Labem-Praha-Brno to Svitavy/Zwittau (Czechoslovakia). The regular international postage was paid by the German stamps (125 Pfennig), but the Czechoslovak Postal Administration affixed a 50 Heller postage due stamp to collect a fee for home delivery of the parcel.

The next cover (Fig. 12) is an example of the importance of geography to postal operations. A Czech visitor of Munich decided to send his greetings to a friend in



Figure 11a



Figure 11b

Prague. He bought a postcard and affixed the proper German stamp of 3 Marks (1922) for international mail to Czechoslovakia. But he did not mail the item on German territory, but rather at the Cheb Railway Station -- the first stop in Czechoslovakia. Of course, the local post office did not accept the German franking but affixed a Czechoslovak definitive stamp of the Liberated Republic issue which was sufficient for the domestic postcard delivery (50 Heller). The German stamp on the cover is fully obsolete, it paid no postal service at all.

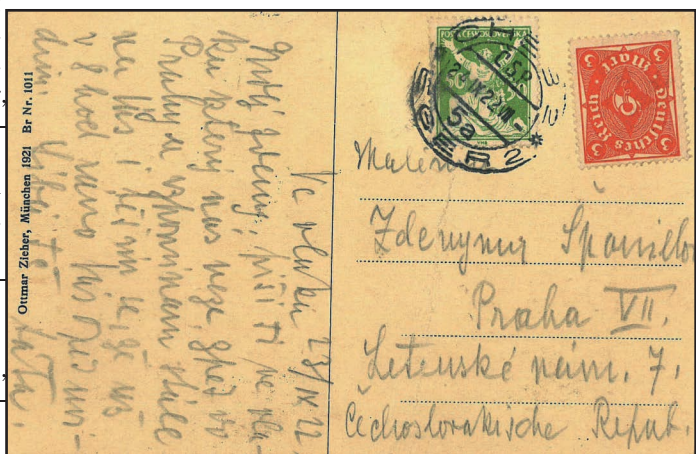


Figure 12

It is often possible to have the postage stamps of two countries on covers which are marked "poste restante" (general delivery)(Fig. 13/14). What does this term mean? This was a general delivery scheme run by selected postal administrations for people who were often traveling and being therefore unable to provide their current postal address. For example, this was the case of businessmen, agents, actors, singers or similar professions requiring regular traveling through the country, but it was also used by tourists visiting a country without booked hotel rooms. The traveling person just informed his/her friends which main cities were to be visited, and the friends were advised to address all communications as a *poste restante* item to a local post office which kept such mail at a special counter, where the mail was personally picked up by the recipient. This service was sometimes provided for free (e.g., in Austria before

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1918), and sometimes for a special fee payable in addition to the regular postage at the moment of the mail's pick up. Between the wars, the typical fee in Europe amounted to 30 units of the local currency = e.g. to 30 Heller in Czechoslovakia or 30 cents in other currencies. The Czech Post Office offers the service nowadays for domestic and selected international mail depending on the country providing the service.

Air mail brought a new service into postal delivery. In the early air mail times, such covers were treated as express mail requiring urgent postal delivery. This approach influenced the next cover shown in Figure 15. This is an air mail letter sent from Sweden to Mr Weissglas, a high-ranking official of the Bata Shoe Company. Mr. Weissglas rented a room in a luxury Prague hotel (the Ambassador Hotel) situated on Wenceslas Square. Before the letter was delivered, he left the hotel for Zlín. When the letter arrived, the hotel management



Figure 13: Domestic post card sent in 1936 from Píčovice to Špindlerův Mlýn to a skiing lady via the local post office as a poste restante mail; the fee collected through a Czechoslovak postage due stamp

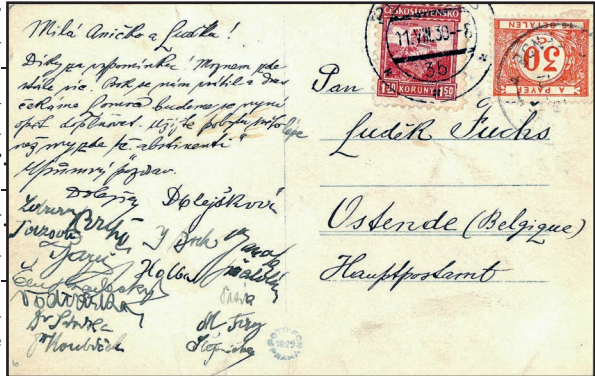


Figure 14: Post card mailed from Czechoslovakia to Belgium in 1930 as international poste restante mail; the additional fee of 30 cents collected by the Belgian postage due stamp



Figure 15

was facing a problem, how to deliver the correspondence to this important guest. They solved the issued easily -- they sent a boy with the letter to the General Post Office in Prague (at Jindřišská Street, just a few hundred meters away) to send the item as express/special delivery mail to the new Zlín address. Because the full postage had been paid by the Swedish stamps, the postal clerk accepted the payment of the basic domestic postage by the affixed stamps and required just the additional express/special de-

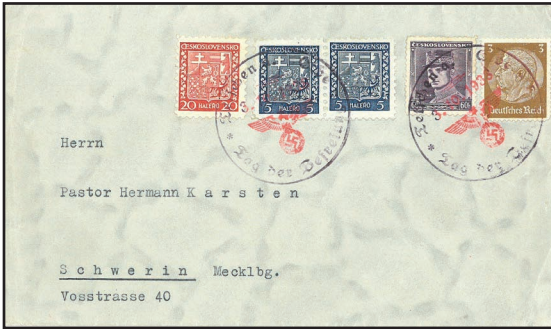


Figure 16

livery fee of 2 Crowns being paid by the Czechoslovak stamps and tied with a Praha 1 postmark. As the backside of the envelope confirms, the letter was properly delivered on the next day.

In October 1938, when Germany occupied the border areas of Czechoslovakia (after the Munich Accord had been signed), both Czechoslovak and German stamps were valid for a short time.

We can often find covers (delivered/not delivered) being franked with a German stamp paying the full postage with additional Czechoslovak stamps serving just as souvenirs from the occupied area. Only rarely do we find covers where the mixed franking really pays the fee for postal delivery. To be able to identify these cases, we need to know that the rate of recalculating the German versus Czechoslovak currency was 10:1 (meaning 10 German Pfennig was equal to 1 Czechoslovak Crown). When we look at the franking of Figure 16, we can easily calculate that the stamps have a total value of 12 Pfennig (3 Pfennig + 90 Heller/9 Pfennig) being sufficient for a domestic letter sent within Germany. It is likely a philatelic cover prepared by a stamp collector or by a proud German celebrating his “return to the German Reich”, but the cover at least fits within the valid postal tariffs.

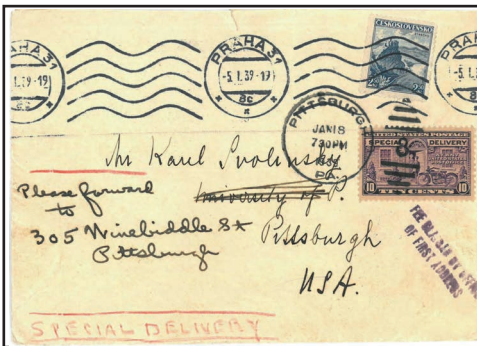


Figure 17a

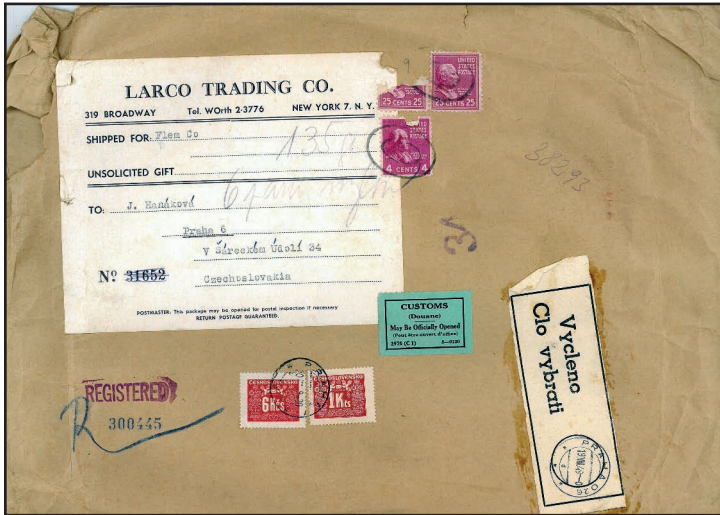


Figure 17b

The next cover (Fig. 17a/b) is an extraordinary example not only because of the postal franking, but also due to its sender and recipient -- Prof. MUDr. František Burian (1881-1965) and Karel Svoboda (1896-1986). Burian was an advanced doctor belonging to the world pioneers of plastic surgery. He started as a military doctor in WW I, later leading the elite teams at the top Czechoslovak civil hospitals. Burian was also working and teaching in the United States, and since 1937 he was a member of the National Academy of Science. Svoboda was a famous Czech painter designing numerous Czechoslovak postage stamps and banknotes, but also teaching at the Prague Academy of Arts, illustrating many books, and painting a window at St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague.

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When the letter was mailed in January 1939, Svolinsky was working with his wife Marie in decorating the Czechoslovak Nationality Room at the University of Pittsburgh (see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationality\\_Rooms](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationality_Rooms)) which was first commissioned in March 1939. The letter was delivered to the university which



marked his private address on the envelope. The university also required the special delivery of the letter paying the special delivery fee in addition to the basic postage already settled by the affixed Czechoslovak stamp.

Sometimes postage stamps were allowed to be used for non-postal purposes. In Czechoslovak postal history, this situation occurred after 1945 when the post office started to intermediate the

Figure 18: Registered letter sent in 1949 from New York to Prague containing 6 pairs of nylon stockings; the customs fee of 7 Crowns collected through the Czechoslovak postage due stamps as requested by the "Vyčleno/Clo Vybrati" postal label shown in the lower right corner.

customs declaration on behalf of the goods recipient. The recipient of a letter or a parcel received the consignment already cleared by customs and was just asked to reimburse the customs fee or handling fee for the service. In some periods, the fees were collected in cash without affixing any stamp on the postal documents, but there were periods of time when the post office confirmed the payment of fees by postage stamps being affixed on the letter envelope or on a parcel dispatch note. Until 1985, the collected fees were shown by the postage due stamps (Fig. 18).



Figure 19a/b: Parcel dispatch note for a surface parcel with CHF 50.00 declared value mailed in 1987 from Switzerland to Ostrava prescribing 18 Crowns customs fee being paid through the Czechoslovak commemorative stamps on the back side

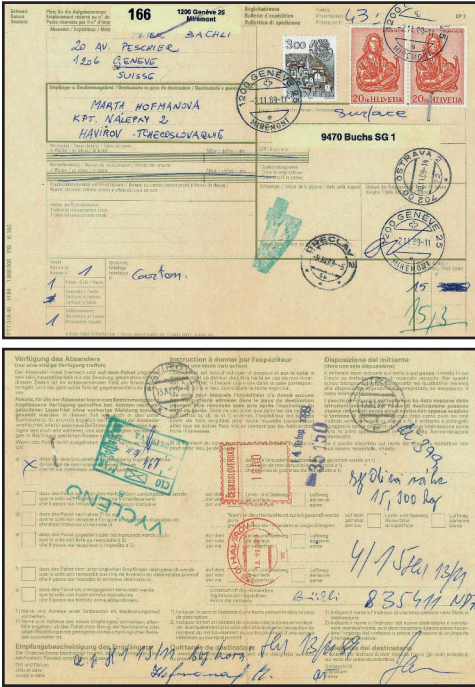


Figure 20a/b: Parcel dispatch note for a surface parcel sent from Switzerland to Havirov in November 1989 requiring 18 Crowns customs fee; the money was collected and confirmed by the meter stamp imprinted by the Havirov post office on the back side. Notable is the high Swiss franking of CHF 43.00 corresponding to USD 27.00 (in 1989 rates of exchange)

When postage due stamps were discontinued in Czechoslovakia, the fees were confirmed by affixing regular postage stamps or by applying a meter stamp (Fig. 19/20). We shall only add that such frankings are not considered mixed ones, because the (Czechoslovak) stamps confirm payment of the non-postal fees.

I hope our journey was not too boring, but demonstrates that an advanced stamp collector can identify many interesting connections in both postal history and general history. Sometimes the postal history description is important, but often the stories behind the philatelic items are more significant, and the collector learns new facts describing the philatelic material. For me, for example, this was the destiny of Mr. W.H. Osgood, a person totally unknown to me, until I bought his letter at the bourse accompanying the World Stamp Show 2016 in New York City.

I would like to thank all of the SCP members that I met at WSS for their hospitality and friendship. I am sending this article as my greetings from Prague to all the other SCP members I will surely meet at PRAGA 2018 World Stamp Exhibition.



## Philatelic News and Views

### 1. From Jaroslav Verner:

My Vol. 7 of the Czech Monografie series is now available. It is a full color, highly illustrated, 344 page, hard cover volume covering all aspects of the mails of the Czechoslovak Legion in Russia and Siberia during and following World War I (Fig. 1, title page).

The hundreds of illustrations of postal cancels, unit cancels and other markings, actual covers and their valuation tables make the book a must even for collectors who do not read Czech. The English translation of the Table of Contents (Fig. 2) will give you an idea of all we have tried to cover in the first detailed study of this important aspect of Czechoslovak history and philately.

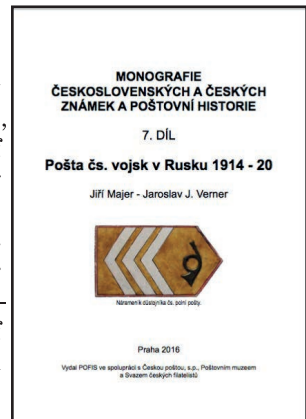


Figure 1

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My co-author, Jiří Majer, brought a number of copies with him when he came here in the beginning of January. So, if you are interested in a copy, the cost of the book is \$30 plus mailing. You can place your order by writing to me at: 8602 Ewing Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817-2610 or contact me by e-mail: [sibpost@verizon.net](mailto:sibpost@verizon.net).

2. From Ludvik Svoboda:

In order for our Society to be able to provide reasonably priced books for our members, we need your help.

Currently, the cost to mail a book (a single book plus packaging weighs between 1 and 2 pounds) across the Atlantic ocean costs \$22.50. If you do not believe me, go to the post office and check it out yourself.

If you are planning a trip to the Czech Republic where you stop in Prague on your way home, it would be a tremendous help if you would be willing to stick a few books into your luggage to bring home to us. We would make the arrangements to let you know what they will be, and how they will be passed to you there. You would then mail them (at Media Mail prices) to our book manager, and be reimbursed for the cost. You can contact me at the information found on page 2. Thank you.

3. From Mark Wilson:

I recently completed two projects. The first was the publication of fully illustrated color plating guides for all 26 Hradčany denominations. They may be purchased from the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain or may be read for free on a PC (not an iPad) at <http://www.czechout.org/pages/on-demand.htm>.

My second project was to add 600 DPI illustrations of every Hradčany denomination's plates (69 panes in all!) to my [www.knihtisk.org](http://www.knihtisk.org) website. They may be viewed here <http://www.knihtisk.org/hradcanv.htm> clicking on an image and then clicking on the "Panels" Navigation button. Every plate except for the 15 haler Plate VII and the 30 haler dark purple Plate I is represented. For those two plates, it is doubtful that any full pane exists -- even the Postal Museum in Prague does not have them.

4. From Ludvik Svoboda:

I want to pass on to you an invitation that we just recently received from a small organization in the Czech Republic. It is from Miroslav Jeník, the Chairman of SSFF CZ. SSFF = Společnost Sběratelů Fiskální Filatelie & jiných známek [society of collectors of fiscal philately & other stamps]. He writes:

"We would like to introduce to you and to your philately society . . . our Society of revenue and other stamps collectors in the Czech Republic.

We are quite small club and we are focused more or less on fiscal material. In attachment you can find few samples of our bulletin which we do issue twice a year.

We will be glad if we will find any collector interested in revenues used on territory of Czech, Moravia and Slovak lands (Austro-Hungary Empire period) and later Czechoslovakia."

Miroslav understands English quite well, so you could write to him yourself at: [mjenik@centrum.cz](mailto:mjenik@centrum.cz). He did send a number of samples of their Bulletin (which is in Czech). They will be kept at the Library, but can be borrowed from there by members.

## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

I have applied for membership (35 Euro a year) so will be getting all of the future issues. If anyone would like to become a member of theirs, please let me know and I will send you the details.

Don't forget that an excellent book in English on Czechoslovak/Slovak/B&M revenue stamps is available to you for viewing through our website. It was put together by our former Board Member, Valerie Kramer, who has since passed away.

5. From Mark Wilson:

Some nice news. On 9 November 2016, I was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London (FRPSL). It came as quite a surprise.

6. From Vojtěch Jankovic, editor:

I would like to welcome you to the English version of the electronic ezine: [www.postoveznamky.sk](http://www.postoveznamky.sk).

If you have an interest in Slovak stamps or even other country's philately, you should visit this ezine -- just click on the British flag in the upper right for the English version.

Here you will find articles, news, exhibits, and literature to entertain and educate you, especially about Slovak philately.

7. From Ludvik Svoboda:

Here are the current Czech Republic postal rates in Kč starting January 1, 2017:

Type of Letter	In Country			Europe		Overseas	
<u>max grams</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>100</u>
Ordinary letter	16	20	24	32	43	37	49
Registered letter	38	46	48	77	94	82	100
Value letter	43	47	49	97	123	102	129

Stamps with the letter values are: A = 16 Kč, E = 32 Kč, Z = 37 Kč (where A = in country, E = in Europe, Z = overseas).

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

## Book Review



## Technical Literature PERFINS ON HRADČANY STAMPS

by Vladimír Münzberger

trans. by Lucie Harris

The collecting of perfins on Hradčany stamps is lately quite popular and provides good opportunities for the enjoyment of collectors. The first attempts to catalog perfins on Hradčany stamps took place several years ago -- of course, at that time, only within the limited circle of a few enthusiastic perfin collectors. Thanks to the systematic work of authors Ján Marenčík and Oldřich Špreňar in

cooperation with other collectors, they managed over time to prepare a catalog in such a version that it can now be introduced to a wider collecting public.

The collecting of perfin on Hradčany stamps is an interesting specialization, and that is immediately for several reasons. The validity of these stamps conveniently coincided with the peak period of perfin use, of which we already know a considerable amount on Austrian stamps, and fittingly Hungarian stamps. The catalog shows 370 various perfins that were found on different values of mostly the normally used stamps of the Hradčany issue including some rarer kinds of perforation and printing varieties. Since at that time perfins were viewed mostly as damaging stamps, it escaped the philatelists' attempts to create fake rarities, but alternatively quite accurately reflected actual postal service. The imperfect printing techniques used present an opportunity to combine stamp specialization with perfins.

This catalog is arranged in agreement with perfin labeling according to the commonly used *Katalog Perfinů z Území Československa* [Catalog of Perfins in the Lands of Czechoslovakia] from 1987 and harmonizes it with the newly released catalog. For each perfin is stated its document numbering, diagram/description of

A.D.&C. * A.D.&C.	<b>A14</b> A.D.*&C* Liberec/Reichenberg	
	+ Alfred Deutsch & Co. + Mezinárodní doprava	
	N 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22	7
	Z 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 17	8
AEG	<b>A15</b> AEG - Praha, Teplice-Sázev, Liberec, Moravská Opatava, Podmokla/ Frag, Tepitz-Schönau, Reichenberg, Mähr. Ostrava, Bodenbach	
	+ AEG Elektrotechnická akc. spol. + Výroba elektrotických přístrojů	
	N 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24	4
	Z 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 17	4
	CDV ?	

Perfin image is the exact size; N = POFIS imperf stamp #;  
Z = perf stamp #; number at end is rarity #.

along with their rarity of occurrence. This rarity is based on a scale from 1 to 48, where 1 point roughly corresponds to 2.50 Kč (or 0.10 Euro). Of course, this valuation should be roughly judged by the fact that we are describing the most inexpensive variety, but also as examples that correspond to all of the rules on the quality of canceled stamps and perfins. In the record of every perfin, the reader will also learn whether it is known to be on any philatelic item bearing a Hradčany stamp.

With this catalog, collectors are getting into their hands a quality useful tool not only for perfin collectors but also for lovers of Hradčany stamps. Nevertheless, even this carefully crafted catalog cannot comprehend all of the possible combinations, and therefore the authors welcome any comments or additions.

[Ed. Note: You can contact Ján Marenčík at: [janmarencik@gmail.com](mailto:janmarencik@gmail.com). The Specialist is pleased to reprint this article from *Filatelie* 5/2016 with the permission of the author and editor.]

## NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!!!

As is specified in our Bylaws, it is the time of year for our Society to nominate members in good standing to be candidates in an election of four (4) of our twelve (12) Board of Director positions.

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by a member of the Society (other than themselves) whose signature shall be affixed to a nominating petition. A blank petition for your use is enclosed with this issue. The names of the term-ending board members and of the remaining board members are as follows:

Term Ending: Tom Cossaboom, Chris Jackson, John Pojeta, Ludvik Svoboda, Jaroslav Havel (resignation)

Remaining: James A. Buckner, Marisa Galitz, Keith Hart, Frederick Lawrence, Richard Livingston, Richard Palaschak, Jaroslav Verner

Board members whose terms are expiring may be nominated for a succeeding candidacy. If you decide to nominate someone, please remember the following:

1. The nominee must be a member in good standing.
2. The nominee must have given their consent to be nominated.
3. The nominee must be willing and able to travel at least once a year to a Board Meeting location specified by the President.
4. The nominee must have an e-mail address on the Internet system in order to conduct Society business.
5. The nominator should make sure that his nominee agrees to these conditions.
6. The Secretary must receive the petition by the last day of March 2017.

After filling out the enclosed petition form, mail it to our Secretary, Tom Cossaboom, Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302, or scan it and attach to an e-mail to: [KLFCK1@aol.com](mailto:KLFCK1@aol.com).

Because of the loss of a board member from this election cycle (Havel), your Society definitely needs a new Board Member. Please consider carefully whether you would be willing to participate in the operation of the Society.



## SELL - SWAP - WANT

SELL: SAFE-brand Czech Republic hingeless pages 1993-2013. Separate plastic mounting pages with imprinted paper pages. No binders. Originally about \$450. Best offer + shipping. Mark Wilson, [mark@knihtisk.org](mailto:mark@knihtisk.org).

WANT: A copy of the book *Monografie Československých Známek*, Volume 16, part II. Please contact Robert Lauer at [robertlauer59@gmail.com](mailto:robertlauer59@gmail.com), (H) 1-613-591-2577, (C) 1-613-850-1951

*[Every member is entitled to one FREE 15 word ad each calendar year which will run in the column headed the way this one is. Your name, address, and other contact information does not count towards the 15 words. Send your ad (please type or print it so there are no misunderstandings) to me at the address or e-mail address found on page two of every issue.]*

## Questions and Answers

We philatelists all have questions about Czechoslovak philately. Some of these questions are about the hobby, like “does this material belong to Czechoslovak philately,” “where can I find materials,” and so on. Another category are the questions we have about philatelic material we have which we do not quite understand. The questions of a beginning collector will certainly be different from those of an advanced one, but both will have questions, and all questions are valid and welcome.

This column will address any questions about Czechoslovak philately you may submit that are of general interest to our membership. The most knowledgeable members of our Society will be asked to address the questions. While all answers will be directed back to the inquirer, not all questions and answers will be published.

Illustrations of materials which give rise to questions are welcome, and in fact, in most cases are vital to insure accurate responses. Illustrations should be submitted with the question -- most conveniently as a scan attached to an e-mail in 300dpi. If a scan of the item is not available, the item may be sent to us. If the cost of returning the item is high, appropriate return postage is appreciated.

Questions should be submitted to Ludvik Svoboda at:

4766 S. Helena Way  
Aurora, CO 80015

or

[Lousvoboda@comcast.net](mailto:Lousvoboda@comcast.net)  
phone: 303-680-7118



## WHAT WAS – AND IN THE END -- WAS NOT IN FORGERY BOOKS

by František Beneš  
trans. by Lucie Harris

*The renowned -- and in my opinion to this day still unsurpassed -- book Padělký Československých Známek (Forgeries of Czechoslovak Stamps) by authors Karásek, Kvasnička, Paulíček (and Mrňák) was published more than half a century ago (1963). It was a publication of new and at that time unprecedented quality that opened many collector's eyes and brought them to an independent approach when assessing the authenticity of philatelic material. It is therefore not surprising that to this day we can find it in many libraries. Meanwhile, few of the owners know that they do not have the complete work -- a piece of it is missing.*

At the beginning of 1984 when I started at the Prague headquarters of the Postal Philatelic Services, I had the opportunity to get acquainted with materials that were left there by my predecessors. I was mostly fascinated with the basis for

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Skautské doručení . . . . .	352	
Známky doplatní . . . . .	111	
Pošta v plebiscitním území (SO 1920) . . . . .	111	
Skautské doručení . . . . .	222	
Poštovní pošta v Sibiři . . . . .	33	

Figure 1: On the top, the table of contents of the book as it was issued; on the bottom, as it was planned (the numbering of the pages had not yet been finalized).

the book *Padělky Čs. Známeček* (Forgeries of Czechoslovak Stamps) that was published two decades earlier. At that time I was already very familiar with it, so I was surprised that the one in their library was bound differently and that it was a little thicker. Soon, I found out the reason: it was a publishing

proof in original form including a chapter that was removed before it went into production. This is confirmed by the differently worded table of contents -- the original included stamps of the Czechoslovak Legion in Russia -- which was missing in the final book (Fig. 1).

We can easily imagine the reason for the chapter's withdrawal -- the Legionnaires had fought against the Bolsheviks, so their stamps (actually they were charity stickers) were not suitable under Communism.

However, the stamps existed, were being traded, were popular, and all of this was shown by their considerable price. And when something in our field has value, it attracts the attention of forgers. With the third "Siberian" issue -- called *Lviček* (lion cub) -- everything was counterfeited: from the ba-



Figure 2: Damaged oval, small white "cut" behind the lion's tail, according to which a forgery was easily recognized.

sic stamp of insignificant value (Fig. 2, 3), through the overprinting of the year 1920 and the overprinting of new additional values. The first republic experts knew this well, so we rarely see forgeries authenticated in that time. It is different with newer experts, especially those from the 70's and 80's. Perhaps the lack of sources of information was the cause of errors, whose consequences we still see today. An example is a series bought in 1999 for 4,000 Kč, unfortunately not the only case. Although certified as authentic, in reality the stamps and both overprints are forgeries, as the collectors could have easily read in the original book, if they would have gotten an opportunity.

[Ed. Note: *The Specialist* is pleased to reprint this article from *Filatelie* 5/2015 with the permission of the author and editor.]

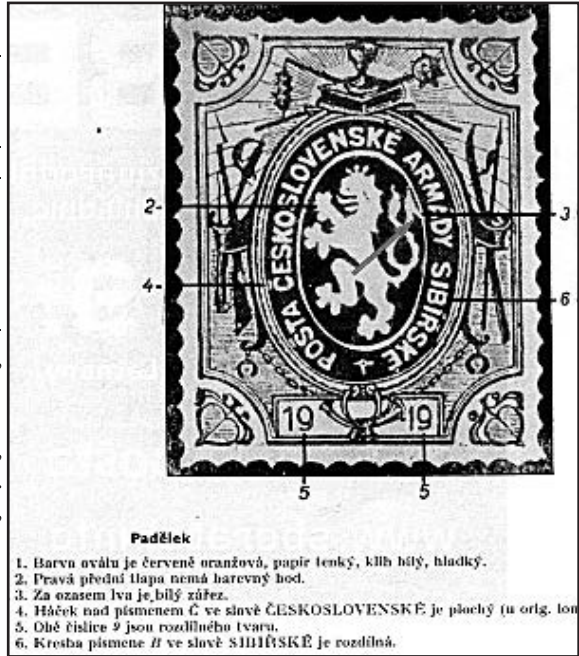


Figure 3: Forgery

1. Color of the oval is reddish orange, paper is thin, glue is white and smooth
2. Right front paw does not have a colored dot
3. After the tail of the lion is a white cut
4. Háček [v] above the letter C in ČESKOSLOVENSKÉ is flattened (orig. is angled)
5. Both number 9's are different [from original]
6. Drawing of the letter B in SIBÍRSKÉ is different [from original]

## COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Check out our sister organization, the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, at their website: [www.cpsgb.org.uk](http://www.cpsgb.org.uk), and through their new Membership Secretary, Hans van Dooremalen at [cpsgb1@gmail.com](mailto:cpsgb1@gmail.com).

Their publication *Czechout* and our *Specialist* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your CPSGB dues to our SCP Treasurer without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the UK. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies! CPSGB dues are \$10 for digital, \$45 for printed copies by airmail or \$39 for printed copies by surface. Payment can be made via Paypal to [sales@csphilately.org](mailto:sales@csphilately.org) or by check to SCP, c/o Tom Cossaboom, PO Box 4124, Prescott, AZ 86302.

**PRAGA 2018**  
by Lubor Kunc  
Secretary General  
PRAGA 2018 Organization Committee  
kunc@praga2018.cz

Prague traditionally has become the venue for the specialized world stamp exhibition PRAGA 2018. The history of this tradition starts in 1938, when



Czechoslovak collectors organized the first PRAGA stamp exhibition which was followed by similar events in 1955, 1962, 1968, 1978, 1988, 1998, and 2008. The prominent position of the PRAGA exhibitions can be illustrated not only by the excellent stamp exhibits and the participation of the world's leading stamp collectors, but also by the large number of visitors and by the fact that PRAGA 1962 was the very first world stamp exhibition in all of philatelic history.

The PRAGA 2018 Exhibition is to be conducted under the patronage of the World Philatelic Federation (FIP) and under the auspices of the European Philatelic Federation (FEPA). The main organizer is the Union of Czech Philatelists. The exhibition will be open for qualified exhibits in the traditional, postal history, philatelic literature, open, one-frame, and modern philatelic classes. The goal of the exhibition is to create an event that introduces the best stamp exhibits from around the world such that it is an interesting event for both philatelic and the general public.

The exceptionality of the coming PRAGA 2018 stamp exhibition is also based on the year 2018 during which it occurs. We remember that in this year we experience the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of: the creation of Czechoslovakia (Oct. 28, 1918), the issuance of the first Czechoslovak postal stationery (Dec. 10, 1918), the establishment of the Prague Postal Museum (Dec. 18, 1918), and the issuance of the first Czechoslovak postage stamps designed by the famous painter Alfons Mucha (Dec. 18, 1918). The Czech Republic will also be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary since it was created on Jan. 1, 1993, when Czechoslovakia split. And finally, the year 2018 will also be marked by the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War I.



The key attractions of the stamp exhibition will be the stamps and covers displayed in the individual exhibits. But PRAGA 2018 will offer more attractions to its visitors. The event is to be crowned by the presence of the Blue and Red "Post Office" stamps of Mauritius (1847) which are coming from a reputable Czech collection. Visitors

will also enjoy other rare stamps, a historical printing machine, and the new stamp issues prepared by the Czech Postal Administration. The visitors can buy a philatelic passport for collecting the stamps and postmarks prepared by the individual postal administrations that have traveled here from around the world! It will be a nice souvenir remembering not only Prague, but also the variety of the postage stamps being produced in the different countries of the world. And many more events are being prepared for the PRAGA 2018 visitors.

The key information about the PRAGA 2018 stamp exhibition is:

-- PRAGA 2018 will be held on Aug. 15 - 18, 2018.

-- The exhibit venues are scheduled to be at the Clarion Congress Hotel Prague (located at Freyová 33, Prague 9; <http://www.clarioncongresshotelprague.com>). This is the key exhibition venue which is accessible by car and by the underground metro line B, Vysočanská station.

-- The stamp dealer bourse will be at the Tri Star Hotel (at U Sluncové 14, Prague 8; <http://www.olympik.cz/cz/artemis/>). It is just 7 minutes from the main venue, accessible by car and by the underground metro line B, Invalidovna station.

-- The philatelic literature class is to be hosted by the Prague Postal Museum (at Nové Mlýny 2, Prague 1; <http://www.postovnimuzeum.cz/>). It is accessible by the underground metro line B, Náměstí Republiky station.

You can regularly get the newest information about the event via its website; <http://www.praga2018.cz>. Social media such as Facebook and Twitter will be available for PRAGA as well.

We are looking forward to meeting you at PRAGA 2018 in the world of philately where pieces of art and human history are illustrated by these small witnesses of our life.

**FOR SALE**  
**STAMPS of CZECHOSLOVAKIA on SCOTT PAGES**

As an avid stamp collector from the late 1940s into the mid 1970s, I acquired collections of several European countries. When my job demands grew too great, I ceased collecting.

I have recently enjoyed reviewing them -- particularly some of the Art in the Czech stamps, but also recognize the need to find someone to enjoy them since I will not be able to much longer.

Would be pleased to supply an Excel file, which lists the stamps indicating new, used, etc., along with the 2012 Scott value of each or to discuss options.

George Daniels

304-342-0231      [gdscore256@gmail.com](mailto:gdscore256@gmail.com)

*New Issues*

**CZECH REPUBLIC**

by Keith Hart

*(Editor's note: The Postal Printing House of Securities (Poštovní Tiskárna Cenin, Praha) produces the majority of philatelic material for both the Czech and Slovak Republics. In the future they will only be mentioned by their initials (PTC) within the text of the new issues. Any production carried out by another printer will of course be noted as such.)*

**CZECH REPUBLIC 2017 ISSUE PLAN  
FOR POSTAGE STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY**

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Name of Issue</u>	<u>Kč</u>	<u>Stamps Per Sheets</u>	<u>Other Products</u>
Jan 20	Tradition of Czech Stamp Design: Oldřich Pošmurný	16	30TL	ZS, 4k, NL
Jan 20	Historic vehicles: AERO A-14 ČSA airplane	32	50TL	CM, NL
Jan 20	Czech crown jewels	E	8	ZS, NL
Feb 15	Historic vehicles: Post bus	16	25TL	CM, NL
Feb 15	Historic vehicles: Railroad mail car	16	25TL	CM, NL
Mar 2	Postal card: Munich International Stamp Fair 2017		0	CDV
Mar 8	120th anniversary of opening of Straka Academy	24	50TL	NL
Mar 8	Historic vehicles: Paddle steamer 'Prague'	16	50TL	CM, NL
Apr 5	Beauties of our Country: The Porta Bohemica	20	8 MS	NL
Apr 5	80th anniversary of Prague airport	32	50TL	NL
May 3	EUROPA: Frýdlant Castle and Chateau	32	6MS	NL
May 3	Personalities: Maria Theresa	32	4MS	NL
May 3	Personalities: Věra Čáslavská	16	50TL	NL
May 11	Postal card: International Stamp Fair Essen 2017		0	CDV
May 17	75th anniversary of Operation Anthropoid	46	1MS	NL
May 17	Prague Castle: Paolo Veronese 'St. Catherine with Angel'	32x2	2STV	Nlx2
Jun 2	Postal card: Bratislava Collector's Days 2017		0	CDV
Jun 7	Personalities: 1) Josef Kainer, 2) Heliodor Pika	16,37	50TL	NLx2
Jun 7	Personalities: Jože Plečnik Definitive stamp 'A': Model railroad	32 A	2UTL 8	k, NLJun 7 ZS, NL
Jun 21	Moravian Museum, Brno	20	50TL	NL
Jun 21	Church of the Assumption of The Virgin Mary, Most	16	50TL	NL
Jun 21	Definitive stamp 'A': 1) Pneumatic tube mail, 2) Payroll	Ax2	?	NLx2
Jun ?	Pictorial postal card: Historic postal buildings 2017		set of 8	
Sep 6	Nature Protection: Zoological Gardens II: Brno, Chomutov, Hodonin, Pížen	16,20, 24, 30	4MS	k, Cmx4
Sep 6	Technical monuments: 170 years of public gas street lighting	16	30TL	2x2k, ZS,NL
Sep 6	Three Kings' anti-Nazi resistance group	16	50TL	NL
Sep 6	Postal card: Sammler- Praga Piccolo 2017		0	CDV
Sep 20	100th anniversary of the Association of Czech Graphic Artists "Hollar"	20	50TL	NL
Sep 20	200 years of mailboxes	16	8	k, ZS, NL
Oct 11	Family	16	50TL	NL

Oct 11	The 1917 Fight For Czech Statehood	30x2	2MS	3k, NLx2
Oct 26	Postal card: Sindelfingen Stamp Fair 2017		0	CDV
Nov 8	100th anniversary of Czech Astronomical Society	16	50TL	NL
Nov 8	Works of art on stamps: 1) Jaroslava Pešicová, 2) Taras Kuščynskij, 3) Norbert Grund	30,32,38	4UTLx3	Nlx3
Dec 6	Czech postal history	16,32,37	3MS	Nlx3

**Explanation of initials:** **A:** equivalent to 16Kč for 50g in country letter; **CDV:** postal card w/overprint; **CM:** Cartes maximum; **CP:** postal card; **E:** equivalent to 32Kč for 50g letter to other European countries; **k:** coupon; **MS:** miniature sheet; **NL:** collection sheet; **STV:** se-tenant of colored and b/w versions of stamp; **TL:** full sheet; **UTL:** sheetlet; **ZS:** stamp booklet



Figure 1

1. On October 12, 2016, The Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Czech Republic issued a commemorative postage stamp in the denomination of 16 Kč for the Železné Hory Protected Landscape Area. The left-hand side of the stamp shows a view of the wild Lovětinská ravine, known for its exposed layers of gneiss, with the ruins of Lichnice Castle beyond. The

right-hand side shows a beech forest on the hillside of the Krkanka ridge, with the landscape around the Doubrava river in the distance (Fig. 1). The graphic designer was Adolf Absolon, with the line drawing for the stamp by Martin Srb. The stamp was produced by PTC using multicolored offset with 50 stamps per sheet. The Železné Hory Protected Landscape Area is a mountain range, part of the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands in the central Czech Republic. The area contains several nature reserves and one national nature reserve- Lichnice-Kaňkovy Hory. The FDC has an engraved cachet by Martin Srb showing the minerals barite and fluorite from the Běstvína deposit where they were mined for industrial use.

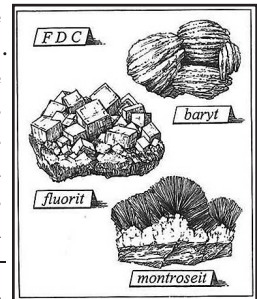


Figure 2

Also shown is Montroseit, a very rare mineral from a site in Prachovice (Fig. 2). The commemorative handstamp depicts a 95 million years-old ammonite fossil from the Smrček-Studená area, with the text TŘEMOŠNICE 12.10.2016.

2. On October 12, 2016, The Ministry issued a commemorative souvenir sheet, the third in the series dedicated, after a century, to the years 1914-1918. The theme of this sheet depicts events during 1916 affecting the Fight for Czech Statehood. The sheet contains two different 27 Kč stamps and three coupons (Fig. 3). The upper stamp depicts famous Czech historic figures- St. Wenceslas, Přemysl II Ottokar, and Charles IV whose 700<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary was celebrated in 2016. Also shown are period flags and standards of the Czechoslovak region. The lower stamp depicts a woman, widowed by the war, cowering with her two children beneath the symbolic shadow of the Austrian Imperial eagle. The left-hand coupon shows Emperor Franz Joseph II of Austria on his deathbed. The right-hand coupon depicts his successor, Charles I of Austria and his wife, Empress Zita. The upper coupon and the surrounding margins of the sheet show the flags of the involved



countries fluttering over scenes of death and destruction. The year 1916 had two of the deadliest battles of World War I, at the Somme and Verdun. Each battle had over 1,000,000 casualties. The Battle of the Somme saw the introduction of tanks in warfare for the first time and the left of the upper sheet margins show a tank relentlessly advancing towards the trenches, where soldiers await the attack, while the right side shows the dead carcasses of cavalry horses which were the tank's predecessor. The central section of the margins shows soldiers advancing from their trench across the entire width of the sheet, partially obliterating the more famous personalities who they fought for or against. In addition, the central left-hand margin shows a silver impression of the Bohemian Lion on the reverse of a 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century coin known as the Prague groschen. The lower left-hand side of the sheet

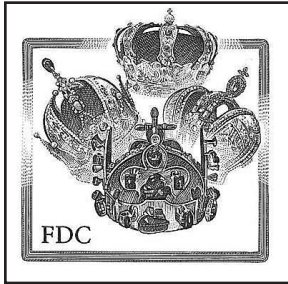


Figure 4

margins contains portraits of persons who influenced the political development of the Czech, Moravian and Slovak peoples during this time- General Štefánik, T. G. Masaryk, and Edvard Beneš. The lower right-hand margins depict the leaders of the war's major nations- King Wilhelm II of Prussia, Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Tsar Nicolas II. The very edges of the sheet are framed by a ribbon containing a selection of references to events that laid the foundation for the post-war discussions that led to the founding of Czechoslovakia. The graphic designer of the sheet was Jan Maget and the 108 x 165mm sheet was produced by PTC using multicolored offset. Two FDCs include engravings by Václav Fajt. The FDC for the stamp showing historic leaders of the Czech region, has a cachet depicting symbols of monarchy in the form of crowns (Fig. 4), with a cancellation showing a crown and the text PRAHA 12.10.2016. The FDC for the stamp showing a widow and her family has a cachet showing a period collection of flags (Fig. 5), with a cancellation depicting the Czech lion, also with the text PRAHA 12.10.2016.



Figure 5

3. On October 12, 2016 the Ministry issued a 20 Kč definitive postage stamp showing two bee-eaters (Fig. 6). The stamp was designed by Jaromír and Libuše Knotek and produced by PTC using multicolored offset in sheets of 100. European bee-eaters (*Merops apiaster*) are richly-colored, slender birds, who breed in open country, preferably lowlands with scattered trees. They usually nest in colonies of between 10-20 pairs. At the end of May they lay 5-7 eggs which they brood for about 20 days. The fledglings are fed by both parents in the nest for 20 days and then around the nest for another 12 days. Parents are often helped by a third single adult bird.



Figure 6

**THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST**

4. On November 9, 2016 the Ministry issued a commemorative stamp to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the foundation of UNESCO. The 32 Kč stamp shows the logo of the organization amended to include the number 70 (Fig. 7). The stamp was designed by Otakar Karlas and produced by PTC using multicolored offset in printing sheets of 50. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is one of fifteen specialized agencies of the UN and



Figure 7



Figure 8

is headquartered in Paris. It was established to contribute to peace by promoting international collaboration through education, science and culture to further universal respect for justice, the rule of law, and human rights. Czechoslovakia was one of the twenty states whose signature to the constitution was required to initially ratify the foundation of the organization. The FDC cachet, designed by Otakar Karlas and engraved by Bohumil Šneider shows the UNESCO logo with additional text which translates as CZECH COMMITTEE FOR UNESCO (Fig. 8). The commemorative cancellation has a globe surrounded by the text PRAHA 9.11.2016.



Figure 9

5. On November 9, 2016 the Ministry issued a commemorative stamp in the series- Works of Art on Postage Stamps. The 27 Kč stamp shows the painting 'Two Women' (1929) by Jaroslav Král (Fig. 9), from the collection of the Gallery of Modern Art in Roudnice nad Labem. The stamp was engraved by Václav Fajt and produced by PTC using recess printing from flat plates in combination with offset in printing sheets of 4. Jaroslav Král (1883-1942) was born in Malešov u Kutné Hory, studied at the technical school in České Budějovice and later at the Academy of

Fine Arts, Vojtěch Hynais Special School of Figural Painting. After traveling to Munich he became deeply influenced by the works of great masters, such as Rubens, Rembrandt, Titian, and Tiepolo. By the 1920s his painting style combined a classical form with cubist aspects and a strong monumental yet sensual feeling. His paintings were filled with simple, ordinary people, who he had felt attracted to since his childhood spent in rural areas. The seemingly simple formal devices and themes of his

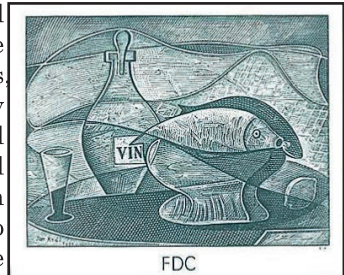


Figure 10

paintings helped him achieve a level of artistic quality that made him one of the legends of Czech art in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He died in Auschwitz, Poland in 1942 and left behind a body of work comprising more than 500 paintings, together with many brilliant drawings. The FDC shows another work by Král, 'Landscape with Fish', engraved by Václav Fajt (Fig. 10). The FDC cancellation shows a woman's head in the style of Král, together with the text PRAHA, 9.11.2016.



Figure 11

6. On November 9, 2016 the Ministry issued a commemorative stamp in the series- Works of Art on Postage Stamps. The 30 Kč stamp depicts the polychrome baked clay sculpture 'Girl with Absinth (1924)', by Bedřich Stefan (Fig. 11), now in The National Gallery, Prague. The stamp was engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň and produced by PTC by recess printing from flat plates in combination with offset in printing sheets of 4. Bedřich Stefan (1896-1982) was born in Prague. From the age of 15 he trained as an artisan plasterer, also attending evening drawing classes at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design. His studies were interrupted by military service from 1917-1919, after which he studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts. In the mid-1920s he studied in Paris and also worked as a draughtsman for Le Corbusier. In the late-1920s he began to win several important public contracts for sculptures to decorate Prague buildings, such as the portal of the Law Faculty of Charles University (1928) and St. Wenceslas' Church in Vršovice (1930-1933). His first solo exhibit came at The Belvedere of The National Gallery, Prague in 1980. His last exhibition of note was at Prague's Millennium Gallery in 2001. The FDC has a cachet by Jaroslav Tvrdoň showing a theme from Stefan's 'The Way of the Cross' relief sculpture in St. Wenceslas' Church in Vršovice (Fig. 12). The FDC cancellation depicts a collection of sculptor's tools and the text PRAHA, 9.11.2016.

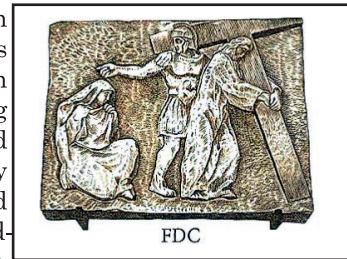


Figure 12



Figure 13

7. On November 9, 2016 the Ministry issued a commemorative stamp in the series- Works of Art on Postage Stamps. The 38 Kč stamp shows the painting 'Clown with Monkey' (1933), by František Tichý (Fig. 13), from the National Gallery in Prague. The stamp was engraved by Václav Fajt and produced by PTC by recess printing from flat plates in printing sheets of 4. František Tichý (1896-1961) was a Czech painter, graphic artist and stage designer. After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts he created almost 50 stage sets for the Švandovo Theater in Prague. By 1928 he was

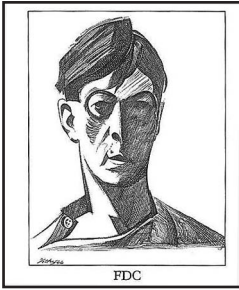


Figure 14

working as a book designer and art editor at the Melantrich publishing house. In 1929 he visited France, after which he intended to continue on to America, but he returned to Prague in 1935 where he worked almost exclusively as a painter. Despite an extremely varied portfolio of subject matter, Tichy was permanently drawn to figures from the circus and vaudeville world, using different methods to portray them. The FDC cachet has an engraving by Václav Fajt showing a self-portrait of the artist (Fig. 14) and the special cancellation shows one of Tichy's clowns with the text 9.11.2016, PRAHA.

8. On January 20, 2017 the Ministry issued a 16 Kč stamp in the series Tradition of Czech Stamp Design: Oldřich Pošmurný. The stamp shows a portrait of Pošmurný, with an example of an ambigram (Fig. 15), was designed by Zdeněk Netopil and engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň. It was produced by PTC



Figure 15



Figure 16

using rotary recess printing combined with photogravure in sheets of 30. It was also available as a booklet of 8 self-adhesive stamps with 4 coupons (Fig. 16). Oldřich Pošmurný was born in Tábor in 1942. After completing studies in graphic design and illustration he worked from 1965 as an art director for the Svoboda publishing house and became a freelance designer in 1968. During his career he designed more than 2000 book covers and dust jackets, also more than 100 logos for companies, exhibitions and cultural events. He was also well-known for his expertise in ambigrams, a form of typography that can be read even after being turned upside down. In 1986 he designed a Czechoslovak stamp for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the introduction of R-stickers in the Czech lands, which became winner of the 1986 Best Czechoslovak Postage Stamp award. For Praga 1988 he was in charge of the creative design of all printed materials, stamps, postal cards and tickets. He later worked on stamps for series of vaudeville, circus, and dinosaur. He died in 2010. The FDC was designed by Zdeněk Netopil, with a cachet engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň depicting

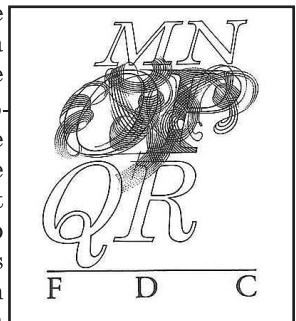


Figure 17

stamps for series of vaudeville, circus, and dinosaur. He died in 2010. The FDC was designed by Zdeněk Netopil, with a cachet engraved by Jaroslav Tvrdoň depicting

typography with Pošmurný's initials, in their normal place in the alphabet (Fig. 17). The special cancellation shows Pošmurný's initials entwined, together with the text PRAHA 20.1.2017.

9. On January 20, 2017 the Ministry issued a 32 Kč stamp in the series Historic Vehicles: The Aero A-14 ČSA airplane. The stamp shows a side view of the airplane (Fig. 18) and was designed by Petr Ptáček. It was produced by PTC using multicolored offset in sheets of 50 stamps. The Aero A-14 was a single engine training, reconnaissance and transport bi-plane. Although it was obsolete before it entered production in 1922 the airplane is important in historic terms as it was used by the Czechoslovak Air Force to survey the route between Prague and



Figure 18

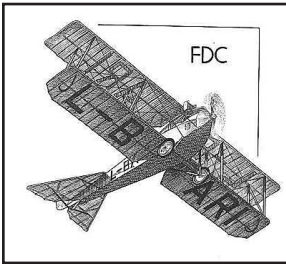


Figure 19

Bratislava which was later used by ČSA flying the same airplanes on the first airmail and cargo transportation route within Czechoslovakia. The FDC was designed by Petr Ptáček, with a cachet engraved by Bohumil Šneider featuring a view of the airplane as seen from the ground (Fig. 19). The special cancellation depicts the logo of the Aero aircraft company, with the text PRAHA 20.1.2017. A Carte maximum for this stamp was also issued on January 20, 2017.

10. On January 20, 2017 the Ministry issued a definitive stamp designated with the letter E (currently costing 32 Kč and used for ordinary letter postage within Europe). The stamp shows the Czech crown jewels and was designed by Libuše and Jaromir Knotek and produced by PTC as a booklet containing 8 self-adhesive stamps (Fig. 20). The Czech crown jewels shown consist of the Crown of Saint Wenceslas, together with the Royal orb and scepter. The crown was created in 1346



Figure 20



Figure 21

specifically for the coronation of Charles IV in the following year. The orb and scepter were made during the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Other coronation jewels not shown include the gold reliquary cross, the sword of St. Wenceslas, and the coronation robe. The door to the Crown Jewels chamber within St. Vitus Cathedral is secured by 7 locks each in the possession of a different key holder and these holders have to convene whenever access is required. The jewels are only taken out and exhibited on special occasions, and even then have to remain within the confines of Prague Castle. The FDC was designed by Libuše and Jaromir

Knotek and the cachet depicting a carved bust of Charles IV (Fig. 21) was engraved by Martin Srb. The cancellation depicts a small fragment of a cross from the crown, together with the text PRAHA 20.1.2017. A collection sheet for this stamp was also issued on January 20, 2017.

*(Editor's note: This is the first stamp to be issued showing the logo of 'Praga 2018' in the corner).*

11. On October 16, 2016 the Ministry issued a postal card with additional printing commemorating the International Stamp Exhibition-Berlin 2016 held on 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October. The postal card has an imprinted postage stamp (historic mail coach) with the letter 'E'. The additional printing shows a vintage post box from a period postal card in the collection of Irena Vyčítalová, with an accompanying text indicating the exhibition dates (Fig. 22). Postal cards were printed by PTC for purchase at the cost of 32 Kč, or 34 Kč to include the promotional and daily cancellations at the exhibition.



Figure 22

12. On October 27, 2016 the Ministry issued a postal card with additional printing celebrating the 34<sup>th</sup> International Stamp Fair- Sindelfingen 2016, which was held in Germany on 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October. The postal card has an imprinted stamp (historic mail coach) with the letter 'E'. The additional printing is a combination of a vase with a bouquet superimposed on a period postcard, both from the collection of Irena Vyčítalová, with an accompanying text indicating the exhibition dates (Fig. 23). Postal cards were printed by PTC for purchase at the cost of 32 Kč, or 34 Kč to include the promotional and daily cancellations at the exhibition.



Figure 23

## SLOVAKIA by Keith Hart

13. On October 24, 2016, the Ministry of Transport, Posts and Telecommunications issued a 1.40€ stamp from the series Art: Ester Šimerová-Martinčeková (1909-2005). The stamp shows her painting 'Chess Composition' from 1931, now in the Slovak National Gallery, Bratislava (Fig. 24). The graphic designer was Vladislav Rostoka with engraving by František Horniak. The stamp was produced by PTC in printing sheets of 4 stamps. Ester Šimerová-Martinčeková was a significant painter in the Slovak modern art movement. Trained in Paris, she had returned to Czechoslovakia by 1931 and had solo exhibitions in Prague and Bratislava during the 1930s. An exhibition in Plzeň in 1941 was declared 'degenerate art' and closed by the occupying Nazis. In 1942 her husband, who was head physician at a hospital, was arrested and executed for hiding the parachutists who assassinated Reinhard Heydrich. After World War II ended she married again and by 1954 had moved to Liptovský Mikuláš, where she lived until her death. She is thought of as a major artist in the Paris School of Art and in 2001 received the accolade of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor of the French



Figure 24

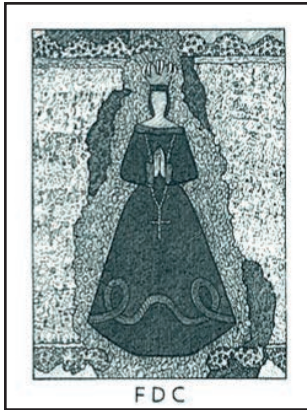


Figure 25

Republic. The FDC has an engraving by František Horniak and shows the artist's composition 'People's Madonna' (1948), from the collection of the Bratislava City Gallery (Fig. 25). The cancellation shows a small detail from the stamp with the text 24.10.2016 LIPTOVSKÝ MIKULÁŠ. An additional special cancellation was available only in Liptovský Mikuláš on the first day of issue (Fig. 26).



Figure 26

14. On October 24, 2016 the Ministry issued a 1.40€ stamp from the series Art: Maria Bartuszová (1936-1996). The stamp shows her 'Untitled' plaster cast from 1985-1987, now in the Slovak National Gallery, Bratislava (Fig. 27). The graphic designer was Vladislav Rostoka with engraving by Rudolf Cigánik. The stamp was produced by PTC in printing sheets of 4 stamps with 1 coupon. Maria Bartuszová was trained in Prague, specializing in ceramics and porcelain. Throughout her career she focused on the development of a distinctive legacy of abstract sculpture. Bartuszová found inspiration in nature and its scientific principles. Egg-shaped patterns were created through plaster casting using different rubber balloon molds, a technique she named pneumatic molding. These sculptures create an egg-like shape which is perforated to give a labyrinth of internal space within the thin walls. The FDC



Figure 27

cachet has an engraving by Rudolf Cigánik depicting a sculpture titled 'Little Shell-Relief' (1958) from the collection of the East Slovak Gallery in Košice (Fig. 28). The cancellation has the text KOŠICE 24.10.2016.

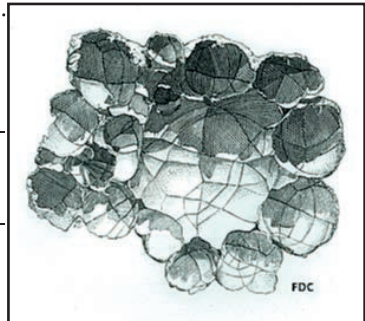


Figure 28

15. On November 11, 2016 the Ministry issued a T2 50g stamp in the series Christmas Mail. The stamp shows a drawing of 'The Three Kings' by Vaneska Peceková (Fig. 29) from the United School in Komárno, within a graphic design by Vladislav Rostoka. The stamp was produced by PTC using offset in printing sheets of 50. The Slovak Post has been organizing a project known as Christmas Mail since 1999. Over the years more than 1.5 million letters have arrived to the address of Baby Jesus, '999.99 Ježiško'. These letters were received from all over the world. Baby Jesus replies to everyone who includes their address and also sends them a small present. The official mailbox is in Rajecká Lesná where mail



Figure 29

is received all year round. More than 120,000 letters were received last year, with over 3000 coming from 51 countries in every corner of the world. Replies were sent in eight different languages and also 144 in braille. The designs for this year's stamp, FDC cachet and commemorative cancellation were all originally sent to Baby

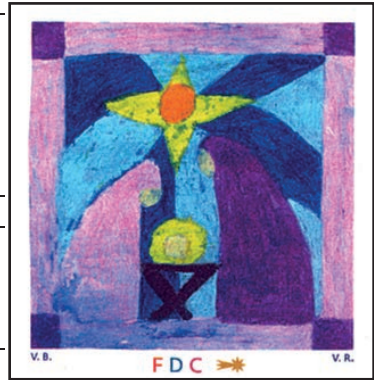


Figure 30

Jesus as part of last year's project. The FDC cachet shows a drawing of 'Christ's Nativity Scene' drawn by Viktória Berková (Fig. 30), who also studies at the United School in Komárno. The commemorative cancellation depicts 'The Christmas Star with an Angel' with the text RAJECKÁ LESNÁ. 11.11.2016, The designer of this cancellation was Šimon Števula, a student at Zlatníky Elementary School. The FDC was produced by offset technology by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava.

16. On November 14, 2016 the Ministry issued a 0.50€ stamp in the series Christmas 2016. The stamp shows a depiction of an angel made from bobbin lace (Fig. 31) and was designed by Mária Habardová within a graphic design by Vladislav Rostoka. The stamp was produced by PTC using offset technology in printing sheets of 50. The following notes are based on text by Juraj Zajonc, originally in Slovak. Angels are a traditional part of the Christmas story about the birth of Jesus. An angel announced to the Virgin Mary that she was going to give birth to



Figure 31

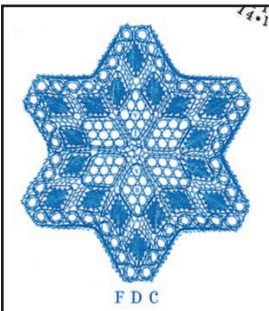


Figure 32

God's son. Joseph learned about the birth of his son from an angel in a dream, and the birth of Jesus was heralded to the shepherds by an angel. Angels are also commonly seen as Christmas tree decorations. Decorations made from bobbin lace started around 1990. According to written records and archaeological findings, lace made of golden and silver threads, as well as cotton and linen, have been used in Slovakia since the beginning of the 16th century. In the oldest lacemaking centers, which were the mining settlements around Banská Štiavnica, Banská Bystrica, Kremnica and Prešov, bobbin lacemaking was becoming common in the

second half of the 16th century. Over more than four centuries elements of German, Italian, Belgian, and Czech lacemaking traditions were incorporated into Slovak bobbin lacemaking. For this reason, Slovak bobbin laces combine elements from

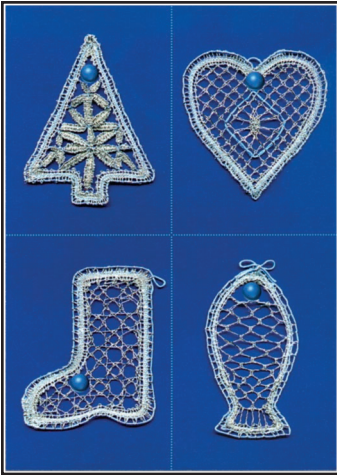


Figure 33

both Western and Eastern Europe, and their diversity is unique in the world. The motif of an angel depicted on the postage stamp is an example of the new forms that Slovak bobbin lacemaking has been taking. It was created by a Slovak lace maker who was inspired by an example from the Czech Republic. The FDC has a cachet showing a blue and white bobbin lace snowflake, which was designed by Vlasta Jursová (Fig. 32) and the cancellation depicting a lace bell is designed by Iveta Žinková, together with the text BRATISLAVA, 11.14.2016. The FDC was produced by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava using offset technology. A booklet containing 10 stamps was also released on 14 November, 2016. The cover of the blue/white booklet features a white lace snowflake designed by Marta Hauserová. Graphic design of the booklet was by Adrian Ferda. A pictorial postal card

with the angel stamp was also issued on 14 November, 2016. The front shows four white lace bobbins on a blue background- a fir tree, heart, boot, and a fish (Fig. 33). This was designed by Marie Sršňová.

17. On November 18, 2016 the Ministry issued a 0.85€ stamp in the series Personalities: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of František Dibarbora (1916-1987). The stamp shows the eyes of the actor and was designed by Lubica Segečová (Fig. 34). The stamp was produced by PTC using offset



Figure 34

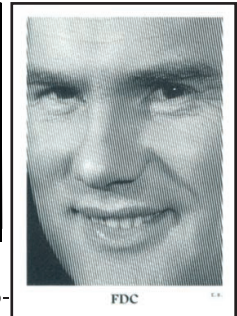


Figure 35

technology in printing sheets of 50 stamps. František Dibarbora was one of the most popular Slovak actors. In younger days he was a sportsman, playing soccer for ŠK Bratislava, while in 1940 he was the goaltender for the Slovak national ice-hockey team. As an actor he appeared in a variety of different forms- theater, operetta, radio, television and film. For many years he was the host of the entertainment program for radio on New Year's Eve. The FDC cachet shows a full-face portrait of the actor by Lubica Segečová (Fig. 35). The cancellation has the text "Ja že som smiešny?", BRATISLAVA 18.11.2016. The FDC was produced by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava.

18. On December 2, 2016 the Ministry issued a 0.95€ stamp in the series Postage Stamp Day: Post Office, Piešťany 1. The stamp shows the entrance to the post office building in Piešťany, together with a coupon showing a bronze head of the architect, Emil Belluš (Fig. 36) which is situated in the lobby of the Piešťany post office.



Figure 36

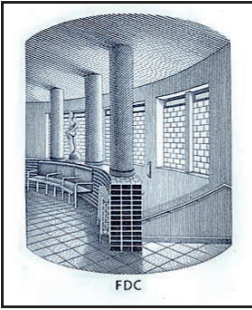


Figure 37

The graphic designer/engraver was Josef Česla. The 44 x 26.5mm stamp, together with the 22 x 26.5mm coupon was produced by PTC using rotary recess printing combined with gravure, in printing sheets of 30 stamps and 30 coupons. This post office building is a significant work of functionalist architecture constructed from 1928-1931. The architect, Emil Belluš, was only 29 when he was chosen to design this building at a prominent site in Piešťany. His bold design uses many curved elements. Besides the curved frontage, the main elements of the interior include an arched curving staircase, linking the main hallways on both levels. The open

aspect of the main floor put customers in closer proximity to the staff than was usually found at that time. The building is a National Cultural Monument and its restoration and adaptation for modern use in 1990 managed to preserve its original external appearance, as well as a great deal of the interior elements. The FDC cachet, engraved by Jozef Česla, shows an interior view of the buildings main floor, showing the staircase to the lower level (Fig. 37) and was printed by PTC using recess printing from flat plates. The commemorative cancelation (Fig. 38) is a small section of an architectural drawing showing the curved front of the building, with the text PIEŠŤANY 2.12.2016. A collection sheet was also issued for this stamp .

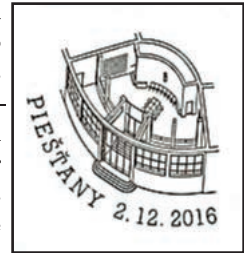


Figure 38



Figure 39

19. On January 9, 2017 the Ministry issued a 1.25€ definitive stamp in the series Slovak Cultural Heritage: The Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra. The stamp shows the administration building and in particular the unique circular assembly hall (Fig. 39). The stamp designer was Igor Benca and the engraver was František Horniak. The 22 x 26.5mm stamp was produced by PTC using rotary recess printing combined with gravure, in sheets of 100 stamps. The university was founded in 1952 and has developed into one of the

leading centers for agricultural study in Europe. 2015 saw the opening of the AgroBioTech Research Center, which is equipped with an infrastructure that allows research activities at international level. The campus was designed in the Modernist style by a team led by Vladimír Dedeček and Rudolf Miňovský. The asymmetric placing of the buildings, as well as the shapes, materials and colors of the architectural details, has led to the campus being declared a National Cultural Monument of the Slovak Republic. The FDC cachet shows an internal view of the assembly hall (Fig. 40) engraved by František Horniak. The commemorative cancelation also shows a detail of the assembly hall roof, together with the text NITRA 9.1.2017.

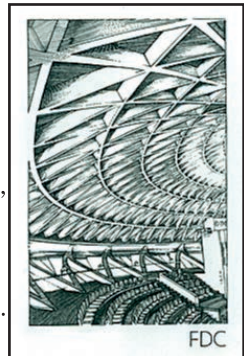


Figure 40

Postal Stationery

20. On October 27, 2016 the Ministry issued a pre-paid postal card with an imprinted T2 50g stamp showing an historic post horn. The postal card commemorates the International Stamp Fair- Sindelfingen 2016, held in Germany from October 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. The cachet, designed by Adrian Ferda, shows historic buildings in Sindelfingen framed as stamps (Fig. 41), with the text Sindelfingen 2016, 27.-29.10.2016. 1800 postal cards were issued.



Figure 41

21. On November 10, 2016 the Ministry issued a pre-paid postal card with an imprinted T2 50g stamp showing the historic postal station at Stráže nad Zvolenom. The postal card commemorates the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of František Tagáni (1816-1894). The cachet shows a portrait of Tagáni surrounded by the text KATOLICKÉHO KŇAZA/NÁRODOVCA A MECÉNA/200. VÝROČIE NARODENIA (Fig. 42). Tagáni was a priest and enthusiastic patriot. He was also noted as being a very humble person who lived the simplest lifestyle. A special cancellation was available in Turzovka on the first day of issue (Fig. 43). 1800 postal cards were issued.



Figure 43



Figure 42

22. On November 15, 2016 the Ministry issued a pre-paid postal card with an imprinted T2 50g stamp showing sporting events. The postal card commemorates Dominika Cibulková's victory in the 2016 Women's Tennis Association's Final Tour Event, held this year in Singapore (Fig. 44). The cachet is a Pavel Neubauer photograph of Cibulková holding the winner's trophy. 2500 postal cards were issued.

23. On November 16, 2016 the Ministry issued a pre-paid postal card with an imprinted T2 50g stamp showing an historic post horn. The postal card commemorates an exhibition of 'The 60 Best Engravings by František Horniak', which opened at the Bratislava City Gallery on November 16, 2016 and ran through January 7, 2017. This exhibition was originally shown at the Czech Postal Museum, Prague and celebrated the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of Horniak. The cachet shows the engraving by Horniak of Ester Šimerová-Martinčeková's painting 'Chess Composition' (Fig. 45) which was issued as a postage stamp on October 24, 2016 (*see item 13 of this section*). František Horniak has designed more than 100 postage stamps for Slovakia. A catalog for the exhibition, in both Czech and English, showing many of his stamp designs, was published by the Czech Postal Museum and is available for 18.50€. 1800 postal cards were issued.

24. On December 16, 2016 the Ministry issued a pre-paid postal card with an imprinted T2 50g stamp showing an historic postal horn. The postal card commemorates The Day of Postage Stamps and Philately 2016. The cachet, designed by



Figure 44



Figure 45



Figure 46



Figure 47

## THE CZECHOSLOVAK SPECIALIST

Adrian Ferda, shows a slanted page with depictions of Slovak postage stamps issued during 2016 (Fig. 46). 1800 postal cards were issued.

25. On January 6, 2017 the Ministry issued a pre-paid postal card with an imprinted T2 50g stamp showing sporting events. The postal card celebrates the City of Banská Bystrica being named a European City of Sport for 2017. The imprint, designed by Adrian Ferda, shows a photograph of the race walker Matej Tóth, the current World and Olympic Champion for the 50km race walk (Fig. 47). In 2016 Tóth became the first Slovak to win an Olympic gold medal in athletics (not as a Czechoslovak). 1800 postal cards were issued.

### SLOVAKIA 2017 ISSUE PLAN FOR POSTAGE STAMPS AND POSTAL STATIONERY

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Name of Issue</u>	<u>€</u>	<u>Stamps per Sheet</u>	<u>Other Products</u>
Jan 9	Slovak Cultural Heritage: The Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra	1.25	100	TL
Feb 10	International Physics Olympiad	1.45	50 TL	NL
Mar 17	Personalities: Josef Miloslav Hurban (1817-188)	0.50	50 TL	
Mar 23	Easter 2017: Folk Painting from Vajnory	0.50	50 TL	ZZ, CP
Mar 24	Tribute to Victims of the Holocaust	0.85	50 TL	PaL
Apr 21	Technical Monuments: Orava Dam	0.95	50 TL	CM
May 5	EUROPE 2017: Castles and Palaces- Lietava	0.90	8 UTL	ZZ, NL
May 12	100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima Apparitions	1.60	1 HA	PaL
Jun 2	Postage stamp with personalized coupon- Motif of the State	0.50	8 UTL	8k
Jun 2	Bratislava Collector Days 2017		0	CDV
Jun 6	Sport	0.95	50 TL	NL
Jul 7	Personalities: Andrej Radlinský (1817-1888)	1.30	10 UTL	
Sep 4	The Biennial of Illustrations, Bratislava 2017	0.50	35 TL	CM
Sep 7	Sberatel International Collector's Fair- Prague 2017		0	CDV
Sep 8	Radvaň Fair	1.65	25	TL
Oct 2	Personalities: Božena Slančíková-Timrava (1867-1951)	0.85	50	TL
Oct 12	Nature Protection: Caloscypha fulgans	0.65	3 UTL	CM
Oct 12	Nature Protection: Clavaria zollingeri	0.65	3 UTL	CM
Oct 23	Art: St. James Altar- Church of St. James, Levoča	1.20	1 HA	Pt
Oct 23	Art: Jozef Božetech Klemens (1817-1883)	1.20	4 UTL	
Oct 23	The Most Beautiful Stamp of 2016		0	CDV
Oct 31	500th anniversary of The Reformation in 1517	1.15	1 HA	PaL, Pt
Oct 26	International Stamp Fair-Sindelfingen 2017		0	CDV
Nov 10	Christmas Mail 2017	0.50	50 TL	
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Nov 24	Road Traffic Safety	0.50	10 UTL	
Dec 4	Postage Stamp Day: Jozef Vlček (1902-1971)	0.95	30 TL	30k, NL
Dec 18	Day of Postage Stamp and Philately 2017		0	CDV

Explanation of initials: **CDV:** postal card w/overprint; **CM:** Cartes maximum; **CP:** postal card;  
**HA:** miniature sheet; **k:** coupon; **NL:** collection sheet; **PaL:** commemorative sheet;  
**Pt:** black proof; **TL:** full sheet; **UTL:** sheetlet;  
**ZZ:** stamp booklet

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