



CZECHOUT

Journal of The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain
1953-1993

June 1993

ISSN 0142-3525

Whole No 71 Vol.11 No. 2
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Editor: A.J. Knight
Technical Production: W.A. Page

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EDITORIAL

Where are our writers?

Despite a number of various appeals for articles and studies in support of the output of our journal, the Editor's pending file is now dangerously low in content. If it is to maintain and improve its appeal to students and specialists in our philatelic field, **Czechout** must have a steady and reliable infeed of substantial studies and lighter articles by which to maintain its objective of 'informing and assisting' our readers - and they are not confined to our membership: this journal is widely read throughout the world!

In October, we are celebrating our 40th Anniversary, yet despite an appeal in our last edition for suitable material to support this, the response, so far, has been **nil!**

Whilst the Society is deeply indebted to that small band of loyal and very supportive writers, this journal still needs very much more in the way of literary support as outlined above. We have within our circle, good and informed philatelic writers whose opinions and findings are valued and we are now making this - yet another - appeal for that extra support that is now badly required if this journal is to carry out its intended functions. May we please hear from you - soon? Finally, have a lovely summer break and enjoy yourselves but please remember that **Czechout** is your own journal - and in need of your support. AJK.

SOCIETY NEWS AND NOTICES

Meeting: Saturday, 13th March 1993

Twenty members attended this our annual competitions event - plus a fine display of postal history by our Netherlands member, Hans van Dooremalen.

Two applications for membership were accepted and we therefore extend very heart welcomes to:

Edwin Lehecka - New Jersey, USA
John Johnston - Bristol

.....

Competition Results:

The George Pearson Trophy

- 1st. - W.A. Page - "5h Hradčany Issues"
- 2nd. - W.A. Dawson - "Concessionary Postcards"
- 3rd. - B.C. Day - "First Anniv. Issue 1919"

The Francis Pettitt Salver

- 1st. - W.A. Page - "Temporary Cancellations"
- 2nd. - W.A. Dawson - "Two New Republics"
- 3rd. - W.A. Dawson - "Provisional Use of Postage Dues"

The Chairman, Alan Knight, presented the Pearson Trophy to Alec Page. Alec further received the Pettitt Salver from Mrs. Florence Pettitt.

.....

The Display:

Hans van Dorremalen presented members with a talk and very fine display entitled "The Postal History of Brünn" (today being Brno, capital of Moravia). Included in this philatelic feast were signed letters from Austrian Emperors Ferdinand III and Leopold I. The exhibition dated from as far back as the 17th century.

All known post offices in Brünn up to 1896 were represented in various forms and from all this, we learned that from that date, post office names were substituted by numbers. Taking us through the development of Brünn post offices, the display also showed us examples of the first **von Brünn** and the later **v. Brünn** handstamps and postmarkings.

In his Vote of Thanks on our behalf, Mr. R. Morrell remarked that this must have been one of the very finest of all postal histories given before the Society. He heartily thanked Hans for all the work entailed in preparing and transporting this display from the continental mainland to London for our enjoyment.

It is becoming increasingly noticeable that entries to our annual competitions are gradually dwindling - this is a pity! If you would like to write to us >

via the Editor, giving us your views on competitions, we may be able to open up a short discussion that could, perhaps, improve/clarify the situation. Maybe you have idea for improving numbers of entries, or you may be 'dead against' competitions - either way, please tell us so that if necessary, Committee can arrange discussion on the matter.

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NEW DISTINGUISHED PHILATELISTS NAMED

At a recent meeting of the Board of Election to the Roll, six more names were subject of a unanimous decision to invite them to sign this Roll at the Edinburgh venue for this year's British Philatelic Congress, on Saturday, September 8th.

Amongst these names was that of our member **Otto Hornung**. We are proud to congratulate Otto through the medium of this journal on his great honour. Having one's hand to a signature on this Roll is recognised as being the world's preeminent philatelic honour.

The other philatelists so honoured are: Istvan Gazda (Hungary), Hiroyuki Kanai (Japan), Knud Mohr (Denmark), D. Singh Virk (India) and Mary Ann Owens of the United States. She will be only the sixth lady to sign since its inception in 1921 - when our King George V became the first signatory.

NEW ISSUES LISTINGS

Pressure on space in this particular issue precludes the usual listings. These will be included in an up-dated listing in our September edition. We are experiencing great difficulty in making contact with Slovak Post - despite several letters. If the situation does not improve, we will be unable to publish first-hand information of Slovak New Issues as we would like to be able to.

NEXT MEETING: October 16th

This will be **Members' Displays (by invitation)** that will contain a miscellany of material from pre-stamp times through all aspects of Cz. philately - to the new states and will include brief introductions from the exhibitors.

In the evening we shall have our **40th Anniversary Dinner** (approx. £20 per head). Further details will appear in September's 'Czechout.' We hope that as many members as possible will ensure this to be a memorable day in our Society's history. Should you have any serious questions re this event, please send them to the Editor as soon as possible. He will then pass them on for further examination by the sub-committee concerned with the event.

Exhibitions

POLSKA '93 (Poznań) - May 7-16 1993

Several members gain Awards

Taken from a Report supplied by W. Alec Page compiled during his visit there

This international philatelic event took place at the site of the Poznań Trade Fair complex in Poland; it was officially opened by State President Lech Walesa. Under F.I.P patronage, the exhibition was organized jointly by The Polish Philatelic Federation, The Polish Ministry of Communications and Polish Post. It attracted over 800 exhibits from approximately 70 countries - and Czechoslovak philately was well represented; several exhibits were by our own membership.

As with all major exhibitions, it is always difficult to do justice to the depth of study and wealth of material displayed; suffice to say, perhaps, that the level of awards given, demonstrates recognition of the exhibits. Hereunder is listed names of our own members who gained awards at this International:

Ernst Gorge: (Large Silver Medal) for his exhibit "1920 Masaryk Issue;" without doubt, one of the finest collections of this issue ever assembled.

Stig Asklund (Sweden) - (Silver Medal) for his study of the 1920 Allegory Dove (the 20h value). This was a most detailed and comprehensive study that it was my privilege to view.

Paul Jensen (Norway) - (Gold Medal and Special Prize) for his renowned and detailed collection of Pre-stamp Postal History, 1456-1850. [We recall with much pleasure, Paul's visit to us with part of this collection in 1991. Ed.]

Johan Klein (Holland): (2 Gold Awards). Johan had two exhibits: "The First Republic", with emphasis on the elusive and unusual. For this he gained a Gold. For his "Postal History of The Kingdom of Bohemia" Johan gained a Large Gold Award.

Other Awards:

Paul Jensen: A Vermeil for "Norwegian Postal Stationery 1872-1925.

Gary Ryan: A Vermeil for "Revenue Stamps used in Courts". Gary also won a Large Vermeil in the Literature class for his Hungarian Handbook/Catalogue.

FIP Championship Class - a special class for previous International Gold Medal winners, included an exhibit by **Otto Hornung** - "Postal Entires of The Ottoman Empire." This was short-listed for the 'Grand Prix d'Honneur' (one of three). However, the emerging winner was Dr. Raymond Casey (Orpington, Kent) for his exhibit "Russian Posts in The Far East."

Other exhibits of interest are listed overleaf - in award sequence:- >

Gold:	Jan Karásek (Czech)	.....	Airmails 1920-39
Large			
Vermeil:	Henry Hahn (USA)	.....	The First Republic
" :	B. Helm (Czech)	.....	Airmails 1920-30
Vermeil:	V. Čermák (Germany)	.....	Czecho. 1918-1920
" :	G. Štupká (Czech)	.....	Dove & Alegories 1920
Large			
Silver :	C. Chesloe (USA)	.....	"S.O. Overprints 1920"
" :	Z. Molis (Czech)	.....	1st Anniv. of the Republic and Hussite Issues 1919/1920
" :	L. Fischer (Canada)	.....	1945 Košice Issue
" :	E. Hutyra (Czech)	.....	Cz. Post-WW2 issues
" :	S. Sablatura (Czech)	.....	Postal History 1918-39
Silver :	J.F. Červený (USA)	.....	Austrian Pmks in Bohemia (19th century)
" :	J. Steinmetz (Luxembourg)	.....	Prague History (Thematic)

W.A.P.

"ORAPEX '93" - OTTAWA
Another win for one of our Monographs

The 65th Convention of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada and the 2nd National Literature Exhibition took place in Ottawa between April 30th and May 2nd 1993.

Two of our members gained awards in the Literature section:

Gary Ryan

gained a Vermeil award for his book "The Rarest Mixed Frankings of Hungary"

W. Alec Page

gained a Silver-Bronze award for his compilation: "Field Post of the Czechoslovak & Allied Forces in Russia 1918-1920". This was our Society Monograph No. 9 published in 1991. This volume is an anthology compiled by our Publications Officer and based on original material by Capt. A. Novotný, Otto Hornung and Yvonne Wheatley, with additional material translated by V. Králiček, one of our members in New Zealand.

A U S T R I A N S I L E S I AFirst of 2 parts

EVENTS AND CHANGES POST-1918

-by-

John L. Whiteside, FRPS,L.

Introduction:

The Imperial Province of Austrian Silesia forms a most interesting area of postal history study, following the break-up of the Austrian Empire after World War 1. The notes that follow attempt to provide a survey of events and boundary changes, especially in the eastern part of the province. This area was in almost continuous dispute between the new states of Czechoslovakia and Poland from 1918 to 1939. It is hoped that the information presented may prove useful to students of all aspects of this area. It has been collected from a variety of separate sources and tries to provide an overview of the area - exclusive of national prejudices: hence some data on the Polish areas is included to provide as complete a picture as possible.

The Imperial Province

The province of Austrian Silesia was divided into two parts by a triangular tongue of Moravia, which reached its apex on the German Imperial border north of Moravská, Ostrava and west of Bohumín.

The western portion became a part (in its entirety) of Czechoslovakia and part of Moravia: it was a strip along the north-eastern edge of that province. This study is primarily concerned with the eastern portion but one addition to the western part - the Hultschiner Ländchen will be considered first.

The province was divided into 9 administrative districts: 5 in the west and 4 in the east. In 1912, their area and population are shown in the table below:-

<u>District</u>	<u>Area (Sq. miles)</u>	<u>Population</u>
Freiwaldau (Cz. Frývaldov)	284.35	68,891
Freudenthal (Cz. Bruntál)	228.44	49,252
Jägerndorf (Cz. Krnov)	205.66	60,751
Troppau (Cz. Opava)	252.15	97,688
Wagstadt (Cz. Bilovec)	135.69	45,315
Total western part:	1,106.29	321,897
Bielitz (Pol. Bielsko)	294.69	101,370
Freistadt (Pol. Frysztat)	117.44	121,986
Friedek (Cz. Frýdek)	186.24	108,917
Teschen (Pol. Cieszyn)	282.88	102,420
Total eastern part:	881.25	434,693
<u>PROVINCIAL TOTAL:</u>	<u>1,987.54</u>	<u>756,590</u> >

In 1912, the population by racial origin of the eastern part of Austrian Silesia was described as:-

54% Polish 26% Czech 17% German 3% others.

Of the 4 administrative districts, most of Bielitz remained totally within Poland after 1918. That of Friedek remained entirely within Czechoslovakia. The Friedek district was almost entirely within Czechoslovakia except for a small, sparsely populated part of the eastern end. The Teschen district was divided between the two states roughly equally by the Olsa river.

For the neutral observer, it is interesting to check the second language used on the bi-lingual cancels of the Austrian Empire prior to 1918 for those offices within the Czechoslovak borders. In the Friedek district, all were Czech, except one. In the Freistadt district, all were Polish, except three and in the Teschen district all were Polish except two.

The Hultschiner Ländchen (the Hlučín district)

The pre-1918 boundary of Austrian Silesia followed the course of the Opava river, from near Moravská Ostrava to Opava (Troppau). An area north of the river was claimed from Germany by Czechoslovakia and this was upheld and detailed in the Treaty of Versailles (Article 83). There was some delay in fixing the new boundary and the transfer eventually occurred between the 1st and 3rd February, 1920, the Czechs taking full control on the 4th February. There were 13 post offices transferred to Czech control and, probably, a 14th. [N.B. This latter is not listed in Cz. Monografie 17 but was listed in the Hirsch and Franck handbook of 1935.]

The boundary line, at its eastern end, was still the subject of dispute and a further 2 offices were transferred on 16th March 1923. Here, German stamps remained valid for just three days - to 19th March.

In October 1938, these offices reverted to German control as part of the "Sudetenland". They were once again placed under the control of the Ratibor post office, under whose administration they had been prior to 1920 and were the only offices so designated. A 17th office is included within the area but again, this does not appear in Monografie 17. It may have been opened by the Germans in 1938.

The offices involved are:-

(Bolní) Benešov	Beneschau
Bohuslavice	Buslawitz
Bolatice	Bolatitz
Hlučín	Hultschin
Hošťálkovice	Hosch(t)ialkowitz (with/without 't')
Chuchelná	Kuchelna
Kobeřice	Köberwitz
Kravare	(Deutsch) Krawarn
Ludgeřovice	Ludbersthal
Sudice	Zauditz
Šilheřovice	Schillersdorf
Stěpankovice	Sch(t)epankowitz (with/without 't')
Velké Hořtice	Gross Hoschütz >

The 14th office, as mentioned above:-

Oldřišov	Odersch
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The offices transferred on 16.3.23:-

Hař	Haatsch
Piřt	Sandau (or Pyscher)

The 17th office listed in 1938:-

Sluřovice	Schlausewitz
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[Below is a rough sketch-map of the areas involved]



Eastern Silesia

The eastern part of Austrian Silesia was divided between Czechoslovakia and Poland. The border laid down in 1918 was almost exactly that which exists today. It was bitterly contested by Poland and in January 1919 Polish troops invaded and occupied much of the Teschen, Karwin and Freistadt areas. The Czechs, reinforced by the arrival of the Legion from France, counter-attacked; led by General Snejdarek, retook Teschen and pushed the Poles back as far as Skotschau (Skoczów). >

In February 1919, an agreement was reached between the Allied Commissioners and the Czech/Polish National Councils and a demarcation line was laid down. Negotiations were to continue during the year without result and on 27th September 1919, the Allied Commission announced that there would be a plebiscite. Arrangements proceeded and on 2nd February 1920 an International Commission took over the government of the area with its H.Q. in Teschen.

The "S.O.1920" Overprints

Stamps of Czechoslovakia and Poland overprinted S.O.1920 were to be used in their respective areas. The Czech issue appeared on 13th February but the Polish one did not materialize until 15th April. The Czech overprinted series were also to be employed in the Opava and Spiš areas of Slovakia - also disputed with Poland, where the plebiscite was also to be held. This did not take place as agreement on a border was finally reached at a conference at Spa, in Belgium, on 10th July; a treaty was signed at Paris on 28th July.

The Czech S.O. overprints were withdrawn on 11th August 1920 and the Polish set became invalid on 10th September 1920.



- Examples of Czech overprints -

The demarcation line of February 1919 meant that the 14 post offices which had initially used Czech stamps thereafter used Polish stamps and the Polish S.O. overprints. These were the two post offices at Teschen, a group of offices south-east of Teschen towards Jablonkov and a group of 5 offices in the Freistadt area.

Two listings follow: Firstly of those offices that used the Czech S.O. o/prints and secondly of those using the Polish S.O. stamps. There are however, two anomalies ... Darkov (Pol. Darków) appears on both listings. All Czech references I have seen contain it as does the Polish one I have obtained. From its situation, east of Karwin and just south of Freistadt, I incline to the view that it may have been one of the offices that used Polish stamps from February 1919 but I should welcome evidence of their use and/or of either Czech or Polish S.O. o/prints. The other anomaly is Ropice (Pol. Ropica), an office open at the time but appearing in neither listings as I have found them. From its situation south of Teschen, I have included it in brackets in the Polish list.

The Kończyce Wielkie in the Polish list is a different place to that in the Czech list. It is on the Polish side of the border, east of Karvina. >

OFFICES USING CZECH STAMPS OVERPRINTED S.O.1920

<u>Czech Names</u>	<u>German Names</u>	<u>Polish Names</u>	
Baška ve Slezsku	Baschka	Baszka	
Bohumín 1	Oderberg 1	Bogumin 1	P
Bohumín 2	Oderberg 2	Bogumin 2	P
Darkov	Darkow	Darków	P
Dobrá u Frýdku	Dobrau bez. Friedek	Dobra	
Dolní Bludovice	Nieder Bludowitz	Błędowice Dolne	P
Dolní Domaslovice	Nieder Domaslowitz	Domasłowice Dolne	P
Dombrová	Dombrau	Dąbrowa	P
Frýdek 1	Friedek 1	Frydek 1	
Frýdek 2	Friedek 2	Frydek 2	
Hnojník	Gnojnik	Gnojnik	P
Horní Sucha	Ober Suchau	Sucha Górna	P
Hrušov	Hruschau	Gruszów	
Chotěbuz	Kotzobendz	Kocobedz	P
Karlova Huť	Karlshütte	Leskowiec	
Karviná 1	Karwin 1	Karwina 1	P
Karviná 2	Karwin 2	Karwina 2	P
Komorní Lhota	Cameral Ellgoth	Ligotka Kameralna	P
Lazy v Slezsku	Lazy in Schlesien	Łazy w Śląsku	P
Louky	Lonkau	Łaki	P
Male Kuniče u	Klein Kuntschitz bei	Kończyce Małe	
Maravské Ostravy	Mährisch Ostrau		
Michálkovice	Michalkowitz	Michałkowice	
Morávka	Morawka	Morawka	P
Orlová	Orlow	Orłowa	P
Petřvald ve Slezsku	Peterswald	Pietwałd	P
Poremba	Poremba	Poreba	P
Pražma	Prazma	Prażma	
Prostřední Sucha	Mittel Suchau	Sucha Średnia	P
Pudlov	Pudlau	Pudłów	P
Radvanice ve Slezsku	Radwanitz in Schlesien	Radwanice	
Raškovice	Raschkowitz	Raszkowice	
Ratimov	Rattimau	Racimów	
Rychvald	Reichwaldau	Rychwałd	P
Slezská Ostrava 1	Polnisch Ostrau 1	Polská Ostrava 1	
Slezská Ostrava 2	Polnisch Ostrau 2	Polská Ostrava 2	
Stary Hamry	Althammer	Hamre Stare	
Stonava	Steinau	Stonawa	P
Šenov ve Slezsku	Schonhof in Schlesien	Szonów	
Velké Kuncice nad	Gross Kunzendorf an der	Kończyce Wielkie	
Ostravicí	Ostrawitz	>	

OFFICES USING POLISH STAMPS OVERPRINTED S.O.1920

<u>Polish Names</u>	<u>German Names</u>	<u>Czech Names</u>	
Aleksanrowice	Alexanderfeld		
Bielsko 1	Bielitz 1		
Bielsko 2	Bielitz 2		
Bielsko Stare	Alt Bieltz		
Bystra Śląska	Bystra		
Bystrzyca	Bistritz in Schlesien	Bystřice ve Slezsku	P
Brenna	Brenna		
Cieszyn 1	Teschen 1		
Cieszyn 2	Teschen 2	Český Těšín	P
Chybie	Chybi		
Czechowice	Czechowitz		
Darków	Darkow (or) Darkau	Darkov	P
Drogomyśl	Drahomischl		
Dzieńmorowice	Dittmannsdorf	Dětmarovice	P
Dziedzice	Dziedzitz (or) Dzieditz		
Frysztat	Freistadt	Frýštát	P
Goleszów	Golleschau		
Grodziec	Grodzietz (1939-Burghof)		
Istebna	Istebna		
Jablunkow	Jablunkau	Jablunkov	P
Jasienica k Bielska	Heinzendorf bez Bielitz		
Jaworze	Ernsdorf in Schlesien		
Kamienica k Bielska	Kamitz bei Bielitz		
Kończyce Wielkie	Gross Kuntschitz		
Miedzyrzecze Górne	Ober Kurzwald		
Nawsie	Nawsi	Návsí	P
Lutynia Niemiecka	Deutschluten	Německá Lutyně	P
Ogrodzona	Ogrodzon		
Olszówka Dolna	Nieder Ohlisch		
Piotrowice k Frysztat	Petrowitz	Petrovice u Frýštátu	P
Pęców			
Próchna	Pruchna		
(Ropica)	Roppitz	Ropice	P
Rudzika	Riegersdorf		
Skrzeczon	Skrzeczon	Skřečň	P
Skoczów	Skotschau		
Strumień	Strumien (or) Schwarzwasser		
Trzyniec	Trzynietz	Třinec	P
Ustroń	Ustron		
Wapienica	Lobnitz		
Wedrynia	Wendrin	Vendryně	P
Wiśła	Weichsel		
Zebryzdowice Śląskie	Seibersdorf	>	

[To be concluded in next edition]

ANOTHER "CHAINBREAKER" FORGERY

Roy. A. Dehn, FRPS,L.

Error "50/DOPLATIT/50 on 50 (SG.D280)

Some weeks ago I was shown a forgery of this error. It had turned up in a mixed lot.



This forgery on SG. 207 and the proper stamp for error

Unfortunately it was it was on a 150h stamp with the fake overprint carefully placed so that the top 50 covered the 1 in the top 150 on the stamp and similarly in the bottom numerals. The overprint had been further strengthened with a little black rubbed in to make the 'concealed' figures even less visible. This forgery was not very challenging since the lower 0 could be clearly seen and - it was too narrow and all white!

On the 50h chainbreaker stamp there is a coloured line in the white of both the 5 and the 0. Furthermore, the flag of the 5 turns upward; it is almost flat in the 150h value.

Under UV light the difference between the 150h and 50h is dramatic. The 50h shines bright red, like light through light-red wine. The 150h appear dull red - almost red-brown. The type for the false overprint had been produced photographically and, as often happens when an overprint is photographed, there was a slight thickening of the figures and letters and a roughening of their outline. The top of the T in ATI curved up at the left side. The counter of the A was too small.

It is assumed that the error was only made on one sheet. The first stamp with the error was discovered in 1928, a year after the series was taken into use. Gradually more have been discovered. The 1988 Czech catalogue speaks of there being between twenty and thirty known. Understandably, all are 'used' and all in PRAHA 14.

Bohemia & Moravia

QUERY CORNER

From: Colin Spong,FRPS,L.

With reference to Richard Beith's interesting paper on Trans-Atlantic Airmails 1937-41 in Czechout No. 68 (Vol.10-31). I have the following item to Slovakia to record for Route (f):-

27.3.41 Bratislava - Jackson Heights NY., USA, rated at 9.50Ks., including registration. It bears a red/white label **Bratislava 3 897** on airmail stationery envelope with blue printed etiquette 'Mit Flugpost/Par Avion/By Airmail. There are no censor marks but item is back-stamped **NY REGY. DIV.**

I also have another interesting airmail item which members may be able to help me with, with information concerning a suggested route. It was from Bratislava (5.4.41) to Shanghai, China; rated 8Ks. It is an a/mail stationery envelope with blue-printed boxed 'Mit Luftpost' as above. There is a white censor label with black outlined "Otvorené cenzúrou" ['Opened by Censor'. Ed.] My 'query' is: Did this item travel via Lisbon and the Pan-American Clipper to the USA, thence by Cathay Pacific Clipper/or/China Clipper to Shanghai, or perhaps via Indo-China under Vichy-French administration? [The photocopy sent me by Colin could not be clearly reproduced ...Sorry! Ed.]

WW1



My Dutch correspondent has sent me the above photocopy of a cover given to him by a Czech student's family. They thought it was from an Austrian family in Baskovice to the husband: a serving soldier with the German forces in the Belgian-French campaign. Taken prisoner, he was sent to a French pow camp. The item eventually arrived bearing the Austrian 'triangle', French 'oval' and Cz.slovak censor marks. (cds 5.VII.18). [Ed. note: The cds **appears** to read **BU SKOVICE/BOSKOWITZ**. Buškovice is in Bohemia; Boskovice is in Moravia. Because of the German spelling, I tend to incline to **BOSKOVICE**.]

Bohemia & Moravia

From Clyde Ziegler in Sedan, South Australia, we have another interesting letter - but this time, your Editor took the liberty of submitting Clyde's questions to John Whiteside who, as we know, is well-versed in these matters. The queries and John's findings are lengthy but of real interest to B & M students. As we wish to cover **all** aspects of Czechoslovak philately, Clyde and John have provided us with some good information. Here is what Clyde says:-

Dear Alan, I enclose a photocopy of two items from my collection of Bohemia and Moravia which are puzzling me - as well as two other queries.

1. - A portion of the wrappings of a parcel posted from Prag to Pilsen on 7.5.41. The manuscript marking appears to be 800 (grammes?) and there are three stickers: B-P in red, the others in black. My queries are:-
 - (a) This didn't go as a small parcel as the rate (Michel) was 4.00k per 2000 gr. Assuming it went at a larger parcel rate, what was that rate?
 - (b) What do the three stickers mean - 484 BRUNN 10 - part of a parcel card?; B-P: Brünn to Prag?; PG-PZ: Prag to Pilsen?
2. - A nice taxed cover posted in Brünn to a local address on 26.5.41.

Again, according to Michel, items were taxed at 1.5 x deficiency at that time. A local letter at that time was 80h., as it was for business papers rate (is the 258/1941 a licence number for business items?). Can someone tell me the meaning of the "Portoflichtig....." cancel and what is the relevance of the manuscript 12? I would have thought that the 12 could have indicated 1.20k - the normal tax rate on a local unstamped letter - but the T80 contradicts that.

3. - I have a cover from Italy by Airmail bearing 2.20k postage, which would indicate 1.20k postage and 1k Airmail. Did Italy become part of the Deutsches Reich and then have the rate changed as indicated in Michel? If so - when?
4. - I have seen many covers to Slovakia with postage at the rate applicable to Deutsches Reich, while Michel indicates a separate rate of 2k for the first 20g and 1.50k for each additional 20g. When did the rate change?

.....

In his covering note in reply (overleaf), John said he felt unable to reply to Questions 3 and 4 and therefore it will be appreciated if some other reader(s) may be able to do so - indeed comment relating to **all** these questions is very welcome. Á propos of Q.3 - Could this cover be from a member of the Protectorate Militia in Italy? Unfortunately no date is given by Mr. Ziegler. Be that as it may - John Whiteside answers Qs. 1 and 2 overleaf. >

John Whiteside, FRPS,L. Replies:

THE "POSTGUT" PARCEL SERVICE

This is rather an unusual item. It is a parcel wrapping but the parcel involved was not sent as a postal small packet (**Päckchen**) nor by the regular parcel post service. It was sent by a service called 'Postgut' in German, or by the Czech name of 'Poštovní zboží', hence the identification label printed **PG/PZ**. The service may perhaps shortly described as a 'reduced rate' parcel service, where several (more than 5) parcels are posted together and where they are addressed only to certain **specified larger towns**. A delivery charge was included in the fee, unlike a normal parcel. **No parcel cards were required** for this service.

The Postgut service was introduced in Germany on 15th January 1933 and in Czechoslovakia on 1st October 1933. Here it was entitled "Poštovní zboží". The Czech service was modified in 1934 and 1935, extending the number of towns to which the service was available and widening the types of parcel that could be sent.

The final change of rates came into effect for this service in Czechoslovakia on 1st March 1937. These were:-

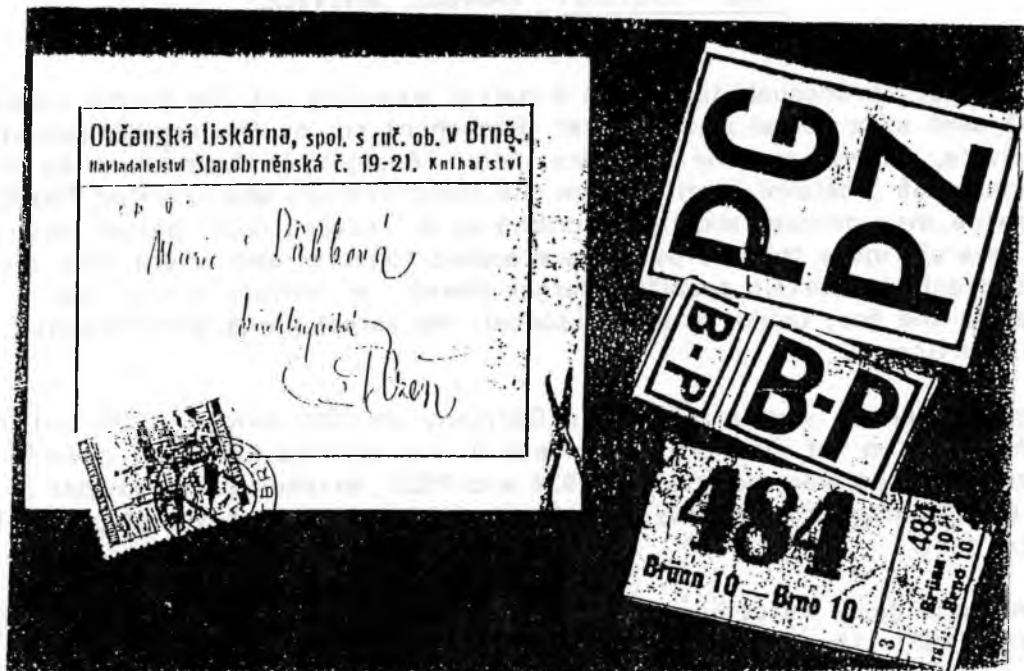
<u>Weight</u>	<u>1st Zone up to 50km</u>	<u>2nd Zone 50-110km</u>	<u>3rd Zone over 110km</u>
up to 1 kg	1.50Kč	2Kč	2.50Kč
1 to 2½	2.00	2.50	3.00
2½ - 5	2.50	3.00	3.50
5 - 7½	4.00	4.50	5.00
7½ -10	5.50	6.00	7.00
10 -15	7.00	9.00	10.50
15 -20	8.50	12.00	14.00
20 -25	10.00	15.00	17.50

The German rates for the service applicable until 12th August 1944, when it was suppressed, were as below (Maximum permitted weight 7kg).

German Rates

<u>Weight</u>	<u>1st Zone up to 75 km</u>	<u>2nd Zone 75-150 km</u>	<u>3rd Zone 150-375 km</u>	<u>4th Zone 375-750 km</u>	<u>5th Zone over 750km</u>
up to 5 kg	0.30	0.40	0.40	0.50	0.60
5 - 6	0.35	0.45	0.50	0.60	0.80
6 - 7	0.40	0.50	0.60	0.70	1.00

Looking now at the queried cover, sent from a commercial printer and publisher in Brno on 7th May 1941 to a bookseller in Plzeň, the PG/PZ label has been explained. The 484/Brunn 10 - Brno 10 label is a normal parcel post label. Normally, the smaller right-hand portion would be stuck on a parcel card and the larger, left-hand part onto the parcel itself, so that they could be matched>



Above: "Postgut" parcel labels. The 800 script did not reproduce here!

Below: "Query No. 2" - An 'Official Mail' (B & M) Cover



together at the destination post office. In this case, no card was used and the whole label was stuck onto the packet. I think the B-P label is a routing label; probably "Brünn-Prag".

The large crayoned 800 is the weight in grammes. Brno-Plzen is approximately 240km as the crow flies. The paid charge of 2.50k is therefore that shown in the 1937 Czech table for the 3rd Zone - up to 1 kg. It seems that the Czech rates were still applied for this service. This is surprising, since it should be expected that the German rates would have applied after 1st October 1940 - if not before. This would have been 4k for the 3rd Zone up to 5 kg.

..... For fuller details of the service, the following sources are available:-

Balíková Pošta na Slovensku, 1918-1985
 Dušan Evinic - Bratislava 1986: Deutsches Reich,
 Postgebührenkatalog, 1923 bis 1945.
 Rainer E. Lütgens - Langenhagen, 1986

Query 2:

OFFICIAL MAIL

The cover shown is not one in which a fine or penalty is levied for underpayment. For such items the Czech charge had been double the deficiency but from 1st October 1940, charges were 1½ times deficiency - which had been German practice since 1923.

This is an example of Official Mail, which was liable to postage; despatched unstamped so that the recipient had to pay the postage. Postage Due stamps were used to collect the fee, but at the **single deficiency only**.

This practice had begun in the Austrian Empire from around 1880 and had continued in the Czechoslovak Republic. Indeed, covers of this type are, perhaps, the most frequently encountered 'postage due' covers of the First Republic. Some examples are occasionally found where postage is shared: half paid by the sender; half by the recipient. In Germany, the practice was less frequent, since **Official Stamps** were used - but examples do occur.

All sorts of official bodies made use of this practice: courts, Lawyers employed by the State, local authorities, parish offices, State Railways, etc. There must have been very extensive regulations on Official mail and the bodies entitled to use this system.

Mail of this type was "**Portopflchtge Dienstsache**" or "Official Mail" liable to postage. Other Official mail was "**Portofreie Dienstsache**" or Official mail free of postage. Some bodies, e.g. government ministries, could send some mail Portofrei, some Portopflchtge depending on whether it was their own official business or a response to a letter from an individual.

The item shown is from the Chamber of Trade and Commerce in Brno. 258/1941 is the ref. number of the matter of the correspondence... "our ref." Unfortunately the "Portopflchtig" cachet is not fully legible but the second line most probably reads "Postage to be Received from the Addressee". Obviously, only the single local letter rate of 80 heller has been charged. >

The 12 in manuscript is not a charge. Brno-Kralovo was **Brno 12** as shown on the cancellation on the postage due stamp.
 [Ed. note: A further query from Mr. Ziegler must be held over until next time]

Stamp Design

**ERRORS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIAN
 STAMP DESIGNS**

Extracted from "Errors in Postage Stamp Design" (NPS - 1979) by D.E.G. Irvine and M. Seshold and submitted to us by J. B. Horne, FRPS,L.

There are a number of errors on Czechoslovakian postage stamps detailed in this book and I felt it would be useful to extract for members the various references to these issues. Having this book in the Library would be the ideal, since it gives far more general background to the types of error that occur. I follow the pattern of the book and give the page no. in the book together with the Stanley Gibbons Catalogue number concerned.

I start with spelling and grammatical errors. On p.9 is seen that the specific names of Plants and Animals, often derived from classical sources, are subject to error. Designers often fail to appreciate that each name consists of a generic name (comparable to a surname) which must be Capitalized - and specific names which should not be Capitalized. Uncapitalized generic names occur in 1962 issues (SG1291-96) and likewise, Capitalized specific names (which should not be so) occur in the issue 1960 (SG1185-90).

Butterflies seem curiously liable to be misnamed. On p.20 we see that the Peacock butterfly 'Nymphalis io' is shown as 'Nymphalis jo' on the 60h value of the 1961 set (SG1261). On p.12 we see that the marmot 'Marmota marmota' is misspelt "Marmotta Marmotta" on the 30h value of 1959 (SG1112), while on the 40h (SG1113) the European bison "Bison bonasus" is misspelt "Bonassus".

Accents can be treated casually and it is general practice to omit accents for upper-case Roman letters for display purposes (p.22). Czechoslovakia commemorated the International Olympic Congress in Praha in 1925 by overprinting three values for the event: "Congres" instead of "Congrès" (SG246-8). One could argue that the letters being in 'upper-case' did not require to have an accent **but** the special postcards issued on the same date **do** have the accent (CS Cat. CDV31).

Wrong identification can occur with wrong subjects being portrayed (p.26). No known portrait exists of the etcher Václav Hollar, so the 'portrait' on the 1953 issue (SG802) is quite imaginary. A Panamanian 21c stamp of 1964 (SG833) shows the Czechoslovak Cathedral of Košice but labels it 'Kassa - Hungary'. Kassa is the Slovak town of Košice which belonged to Hungary until 1918. It was handed back to Hungary in 1938 but was reincorporated into Czechoslovakia in 1945.

1967 shows us a 60h stamp (SG1690) pertaining to show St. Sophia Istanbul but in fact illustrates the Selimiye Mosque of Edirne - some 150 miles from Istanbul

Misstatements (p.52) merge into errors of identification on one hand and false claims on the other. First - look at dating errors: Czechoslovakia honoured Stodola on a 40h stamp issued in 1959 (SG1099) but gave his death date as 1924 instead of the correct 1942. With many famous people of long ago, the birth and death dates may not be known with great certainty (p.53); thus the date of the martyrdom of St. Wenceslas is given on the issue of 1929 (SG293-7) as 929, yet most authorities accept that he was slain by his brother Boleslaw in 935.

Railway events (p.60) seem prone to error. A 30h stamp of 1966 (SG1558) shows a locomotive labelled "Karlstejn 1865". This was No. 427 - (not 408 as shown on the stamp) of the Österreichische Staats Eisenbahn Gesellschaft. It was built in 1872; the date on the stamp referring to the date when the production of this class of locomotive started.

Hungary errs with the timing of the landing of the USSR Moon Rocket on a 1959 60f stamp (SG1605) being 10 seconds later than the official time shown on the Czechoslovakian stamp of 1959 (SG1111).

Sometimes it is the stamp's issue date and not the event date which is at fault. (p.63). The Czechoslovakian stamps of 1957 (SG983-6), marking the 250th Anniversary of the Polytechnic Engineering School, Prague were issued a year late.

People's names also cause some errors (p.65). The Slovak patriot Josef Miloslav Hurban had his initials transposed on the 1.50Kčs stamp of 1948 (SG521).

A curious error appears (p.71) on a 1967 1Kčs stamp (SG1642) showing a star map with LEPUS (the hare) and LUPUS (the wolf) interchanged.

Music on Stamps is often shown incorrectly (p.74). In 1941 Bohemia & Moravia commemorated the 150th Death Anniversary of Mozart with an issue of four stamps (SG68-71) which were printed alternately with label throughout the sheet. The extract from 'Don Giovanni' printed on the label attached to the 30h and 60h values (SG68-69) has a crotchet 'rest' missing from the 3rd beat in the treble - and the second and fourth beats in the bass should be composed of quavers (i.e. joined together by only one line at the top). In 1934, a 50h stamp (SG327) honouring Smetana includes the opening four (not motif) notes ex. "Libuše" but a dot is missing from the second note.

Errors of subject portrayal (p.91) has the 1976 set (SG2267-9) marking the Winter Olympic Games getting the special emblem of the Games wrong - by printing INNSBRUCK 1976 **under** instead of around it.

Flags (p.92) can be in error in many ways. The Union Jack probably causes more difficulties than most. A frequent error is to place the red saltire of Saint Patrick exactly central in the white background which, thus, technically eliminates the white saltire of Saint Andrew. [N.B. the correct name is Union **Flag** in general terms. A 'Jack' is a small 'nationality' flag hoisted from the 'jack staff' of a ship. When it is the flag of the United Kingdom, it is known **then** as a Union Jack - Ed.] The 1945 1.50K (SG443) shows flags of the victorious Allies. In 1958, USSR issued a 40k (SG2204) to commemorate the Communist Postal Conference in Moscow and tried to show the flags of the involved countries in colour. Unfortunately they inverted the Czechoslovakian flag by putting the horizontal white stripe below the red stripe. >

This was corrected later in the year (see Russia SG2205). Flag colours are not always accurately reproduced on stamps (p.94), The 1945 issue (SG396, 400-2) features clasped hands above a map of Czechoslovakia/Czechoslovak and USSR flags at sides. The Cz. flag is shaded to indicate white and black horizontal stripes with a red triangle at the hoist - instead of the proper white and red stripes with mauve triangle.*

Railways (p.99) feature frequently on stamps. The 1956 issue includes a number of poorly reproduced locomotives: The 1846 'Zbraslav' locomotive on the 10h value (SG946) has a back wheel on the tender missing. There appears to be no coupling rod for the 0-6-4 tank engine on the 30h value (SG947) and the 4-8-4 tank engine on the 60h (SG950) has a coupling rod which appears to connect with the trailing wheel of the bogie. Aeroplanes also feature on stamps (p.105). The 1946 issue (SG469) shows Captain Major Novák with a Westland Lysander aeroplane in the background; a slow reconnaissance plane quite inappropriate for the famous 'stunt' and fighter pilot, for whom a 'Spitfire' or 'Hurricane' would have been more suitable.

The technicalities of the space age (p.106) often defeat stamp designers. The 80h of 1964 (SG1418) shows escape towers still attached to the Mercury capsule while in flight over the earth. In 1967 the 'Stamp Day' issue 1Kčs (SG1712) - (p.111) has the perforations of the central and right stamps depicted with far too wide a gauge. Sport has produced many errors of design (p.112). The 1956 80h (SG927) features a marathon race and it is clear that the second runner from the left is, in fact, sprinting. It is difficult to decide whether a sprint or a relay race is meant to be depicted on a 2K + 2K Slovakia semi-postal of 1944 (SG133). The 60h (SG975) issued in 1957 shows a lady archer fitting an arrow to her bow that has no bow string, so it is not surprising that the bow is unbent.

With Birds - the Bullfinch (p.121) on a 1Kčs stamp of 1959 wrongly has a white beak - it should be black.

Anachronisms occur regularly. One can argue (p.132) that a quotation from the 'Internationale' - composed by Degeyer and Pottier in 1888 should not be associated with the Paris Commune of 1871, as indeed it is on the label accompanying a 1Kčs (SG1949) centennial commemorative of 1971.

A rather special category concerns scientific names of organisms (p.135). The fungus on a 60h (SG1060) of 1958 is named 'Krombholzia Rufenscens' but - Krombholzia had earlier been used for a genus of flowering plant, so could not be used here; the correct name would have been 'Leccinum Testaceo-scabrum'.

Under the heading "Impossible Compositions" (p.140) we find that the fingers in the clasped hands of SG396 and 400-402 of 1945 are curled at an impossible angle.

Diplomatic errors (p.147) are those that, while in themselves may be accurate enough may give offence to others - individuals or nations. The first Cs. stamps in 1918 did not, as the Czechs fondly imagined, show the sun rising behind the Hradchin Castle in Prague - very suitable symbol. As the stamps show the **eastern** front of the castle, the sun must be **setting**. Consequently, the following year saw the design revised and the 'sun' removed altogether. >

* The triangle is actually blue. Ed.

Politics can produce difficult situations (p.149). In 1967 a set was produced commemorating the Millenary of the Jewish Community (SG1660-65) but it was withdrawn a fortnight later to express disapproval of the Arab-Israeli six days war. Not to write-off their investment however, the Czechs discreetly sold the stamps a couple of years later when the brouhaha had died down.

Italy issued in 1924 stamps with advertising labels attached but not separated by perforations; though this had been intended. The U.P.U. protested because of the possible legal complications - almost immediately banning these from use on foreign mail. The U.P.U. had, indeed, banned the use of stamps with non-postal labels attached since 1912 though this has been flouted by postal usage of pre-war Czech and wartime Bohemia & Moravia issues - to name but a few.

Portraits can be unacceptable too! (p.152). A 1939 Slovakian issue (see SG note after Slovakia No. 35) was prepared by which to mark the 20th Anniversary of the death of General Štefánik, who became a Brigadier-General in the French Army in July 1918 but as he was shown wearing French uniform, the Germans refused to allow the issue to be released. Nevertheless, the employees of Bratislava Post Office cancelled a few on cover, as a favour to friends and some others from outlying villages. A few got through the Slovak postal system.

The 1965 Postal Ministers Conference in Peking (p.157) was marked by a 60h stamp (SG1506) bearing portraits of Marx and Lenin. At that time, however, the relations between Peking and Moscow were distinctly strained.

International errors (p.164) include the incorporation of a feature which the authorities would certainly not wish to be there. In 1939, the 50h value issued by Bohemia & Moravia featured Karlstein Castle (SG26). The designer, Bohumil Heinz arranged a cloud formation, pine tree tops and rocks to very ingeniously represent a map of the independent province of Bohemia before the Nazis invaded Sudetenland; a dig at the Nazis which earned Heinz a place in a concentration camp and led to this stamp being replaced in 1940 by one showing the Castle of Neuhaus (SG44).

Finally - the 1967 60h (SG1641) shows a Greek letter Phi but inverted in a formula given on a stamp illustrating Space Research.

[Ed. note: I believe this article will certainly engender some comment from readers! It could be argued, possibly, that some items included are not real 'errors on stamps' maybe. However, I enjoyed examining the majority of those quoted - certainly the Cz. issues; my favourite two would be the 10h (SG946) with the missing wheel (very clear under magnification) and the unbent bow on stamp SG975) - and further noted that the bow was actually facing the archer! If readers can supply some more genuine errors, perhaps they could be compiled for a further short article sometime; after all the book from which this article derived was published fourteen years ago.]

PHILATELY AND HISTORY (Pt.II - conclusion)

-by-

Dr. phil. Walter J. Rauch

..... The same question can be asked if a WW2 collection of Czechoslovak fieldpost be shown against the ČSSR "Svoboda" m/s (1975) showing the advances of his army - or if a document from the Seven Years War (the Battle of Kolin) is shown together with a stamp of the Prussian King Frederick the Great, of 1933 - under "Germany." 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.

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 the 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 instruction 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 sender, often with dire consequences for the parties involved. Censoring can reveal an internal power struggle between controlling offices such as competition between the [German] Wehrmacht and the Gestapo [secret state police] 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 [see Czechout 2/ and 3/1991] and 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 post office 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 post office in the Jewish settlements of Litzmannstadt. There, if its contents were found to be 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 and how and under what circumstances prisoners in labour and concentration camps could have access to 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.

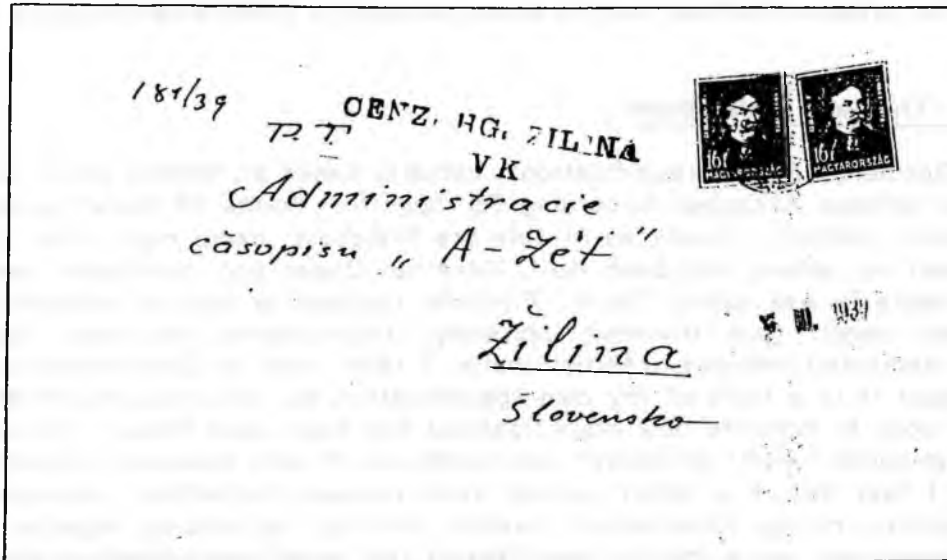
Rules for Thematic Collections

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 Fieldpost, camp mail, local collections as well as railway and boat mail, Venetian Doges and merchants' mail. In Czechoslovakia it was called "Sujet" Filatelie (subject or topical philately) subdivided into 'motif' and 'thematic' philately. Unfortunately, the name 'sujet' philately remained unknown internationally. I refer here to Czechoslovakia not only because it is a field of my own specialization, but also because initial essential work to identify new classifications has been done there. The new FIP rules eliminated "motif philately" and combined it with thematic collections. However, I feel 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 some 500 years ago, etc., etc. In those cases, historical topics are presented as 'thematic' collections. I urge that the exhibitor might also 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 require participating exhibitors to give a detailed description of the subject matter of their collection, either on the application for exhibition frames or on the introductory page of their exhibit. Consequently, even at important stamp shows like **Praga 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."

Classic collectors and territorial collectors all have an easy life, spoilt, as they are, with literature, special catalogues and handbooks. Their exhibits are judged by the scarcity of the items they show. They are also judged by the currently unregistered research of stamp production deficiencies: known as 'flaws' or 'faults.' >

KOŠICE/KASSA (Slovakia) March 18th 1939



From Hungarian occupation zone to Žilina.
 Note: Little-known censor mark of the "Hlinka Guards"
 . . . and the use of Hungarian postage stamps



Mohelnice-na-Morave to Praha: Date unclear; probably 1945. Cover showing a special German Post-Censorship mark on letter to the Austrian consulate, Praha. All mail from Bohemian-Germans had to be delivered to the p.o. unsealed and then to be censored. Three million such 'Germans' were eventually expelled from Czechoslovakia. This censor mark was in use between 1945 and 1946.

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 1) or "Grüsbach" (Hrušovany) or Czech-cancelled stamps of "Olomouc" (Olmütz). Another question: "Who can recognize that few pieces of mail, especially (e.g.) 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 current 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 who specialize in these types 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-time judge have not yet found 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 communications. "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 FIP 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 re-classified 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 FIP 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 FIP General Rules for Exhibiting (GREX) stipulating that every exhibition class should be shown as a unit in one section of the exhibition hall. In order not to confuse both 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 by Article 4.2 of the "Rules of F.I.P. Philatelic Committees." This Article states that the committee board with concurrence of the FIP Congress can form a chapter [body] 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 FIP 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 post. stationery, 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 interreaction. "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 favouritism, much like the so-called "engaged-philately" which has already found a place in modern philatelic exhibits.

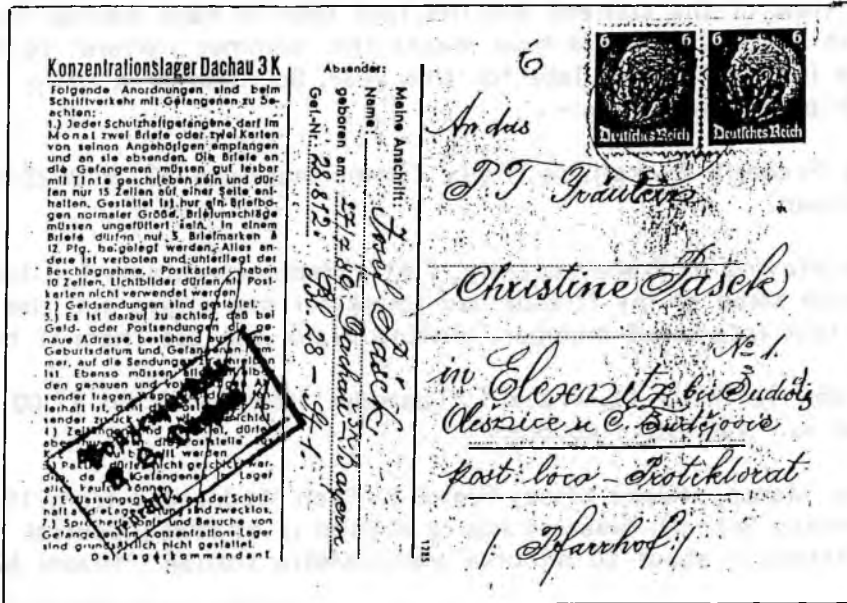
Furthermore, historical developments are the domain of motif philately with thematic overlays, such as history of the Olympics, history of Nobel prizes, history of the arts as well as history of the International Postal Union.

Footnote References

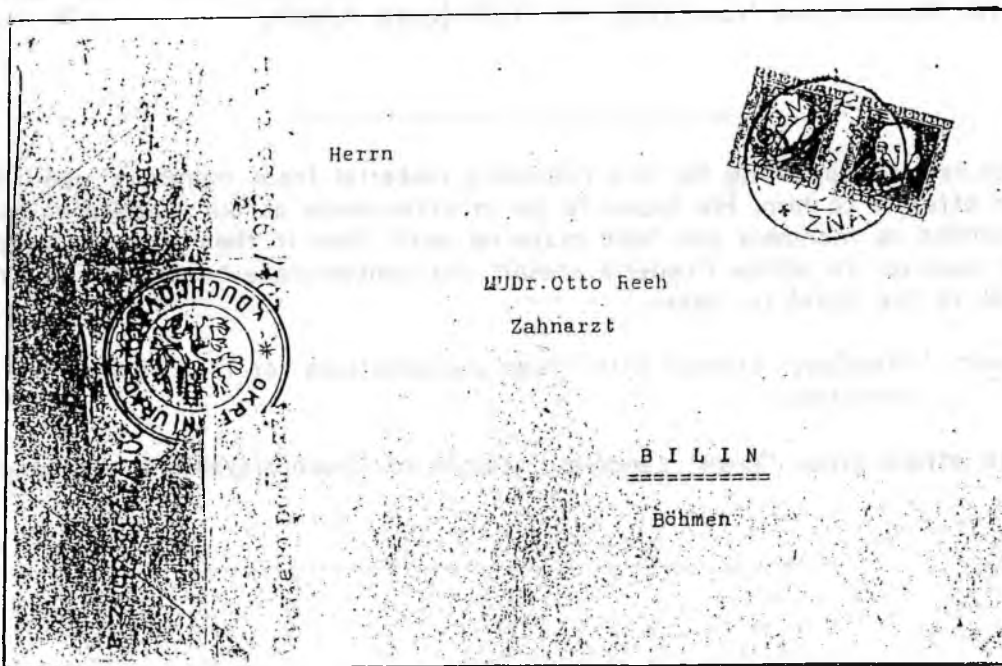
- 1) *Filatelie*, vol. 17 (1977), page 525
- 2) "Postal History in Documents" by W. Rauch, published in *Festschrift Briefmarken-sammlerverein Bayer (Deutscher Philatelistentag 1982 Lever Kusen)*, pages 15 to 32.
- 3) "Postal History Notes" by Prof. C. Brühl, published in *The American Philatelist*, 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) "Teschchen 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).

[Editorial Note: Dr. Rauch's paper will have doubtless raised several eyebrows and maybe, found some sympathetic ears. Whatever your personal thoughts after reading this work, Dr. Rauch will welcome your views - as we will, also. Please address these to The Editor (stating whether they are for publishing in our journal or for direct transmission to the author)].

Out of Dachau: Showing seven prohibitions for writers



1935: Establishment year of "Sudetendeutsche Heimatfront"



1935 (cont.): Showing the censorship seals of Duchov County Court on cover from Znam to Bilin

STOP PRESS!

The undermentioned letter arrived **after** this edition was sent for printing. However, in view of the content and the fact that to have waited for its publication in September would have meant the 'summer visitors' to Praha receiving the information too late for this year. So ... after a little juggling with pages, here it is:-

FROM: Mr. Frederik Backeljauw, Felix Timmermanslaan 39, B-2627 SCHELLE, Belgium.

"When I was staying in Praha recently, I attended three stamp [? bourse ?] meetings which some of my friends had found for me. I give you the addresses herewith so that interested members visiting Praha can use them if they wish:

a. YMCA Club, Na Poříčí 12, Praha 1: Tuesdays from 14.30 till 17.00. Nearest metro station is "Náměstí Republiky".

b. Universitat Menza, Italská Ulice, Praha 3; Each Wednesday from 15.30 to 18.00 (Economics School). Nearest metro station is at Praha Central Railway Station or Florenc - about 10 minutes walk. (Metro station: "Hlavní Nádraží".

c. Each Saturday and Sunday at the House "Důmbarikádníků situated at the end of the street of the entrance/exit of the "Strašnická" metro station, in Praha 10. Sessions are from 0730 till 11.30 (note A.M.!)."

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Frederik is also appealing for the following material from members who feel able to offer it to him. He hopes to be in attendance at our Society's AGM in November so members can hold material until then if they wish. I might be fair however to advise Frederik should you contemplate being able to bring material to the AGM for him:-

Required: 'Hradčany' stamps with clean cancellations for his 'Towns' collection.

Frederik offers other 'town' cancelled stamps of Czechoslovakia in exchange.

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Will paid up members please note: This journal will always publish appeals for 'Wants', 'Exchanges' or 'For Sale' of Czechoslovak related philatelic items free of charge.

The only stipulation is that these must be at the Editor's discretion and when there is space to spare. (The 'discretion' is to ensure suitability of material and the advertiser's eligibility).