

# WWII ERA CZECH PHILATELY

## Synopsis

### General Class, Display Division

Chicagopex 2007

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#### Introduction

The events of World War II did not bring a halt to the pursuit of philately in occupied Czechoslovakia. Indeed, especially during the early years of the war (thru 1942), philately remained a vibrant hobby. This exhibit shows the breadth and depth, and, therefore, the importance of philately in Czechoslovakia during the period 1938-1946.

Exhibit starts with the 1938 international show in Prague, Praga 1938, the last major show in Czechoslovakia prior to the onset of war. The Czech military was already fully mobilized at this time in anticipation of a possible German invasion. Exhibit concludes with the 1946 show in Brno, the first major show following the war. The Czech post office issued souvenir sheets for both shows.

#### Organization

The exhibit is organized into seven sections:

- 1) Prelude (Praga 1938)
- 2) Shows & Anniversaries (shown chronologically)
- 3) Dealers & Collectors (shown alphabetically)
- 4) Clubs (shown alphabetically)
- 5) Stamp Day (shown chronologically)
- 6) Miscellaneous
- 7) Epilogue (Brno 1946)

#### References

Engel, *Böhmen und Mähren Spezialkatalog*, 1990. pp. 119-141. German. List of special cancels.\*

Engel, *Schmuck- und Gedenkblätter/karten/umschläge im Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren*, 1994. German. Catalogs memory sheets/cards/envelopes.\*

Pofis, *Protektorat Cechy A Morava 1939-1945*, 2000. Czech. Currently out-of-print. pp. 147-167. List of special cancels.

<http://czechphilatelist.tripod.com/vystavy/>. Czech. Chrono-logical list of stamp shows.

\*Exhibitor has donated these items to APRL

#### Significance & Importance

The significance of this exhibit lies in showing that philately continued to hold a significant place in the cultural life of an occupied nation.

#### Challenge/Difficulty Factor

The challenge in developing this exhibit is threefold.

1) Much of the exhibited material is not cataloged, so it does not fall into readily organized categories in dealer inventories or listings. Extensive searching is therefore required to find the proverbial "needle in the haystack".

2) Special cancels (Sonderstempel) are listed by Engel, Pofis, and others. Most memory cards/sheets/envelopes (*Gedenkkarten/blätter/umschläge*) are in the 1994 Engel catalog (see references), the only reference available for this material. Since Engel does not individually value items, there is no published information available indicating value and/or rarity. This material constitutes the bulk of the Shows and Stamp Day sections.

3) There are no specific references of/for Clubs and/or Dealers & Collectors active during this time period.

No particularly expensive material is shown. Most items cost less than \$10, many less than \$5; few more than \$20.

#### Items of Special Interest

Praga 1938: Complete package of 20 souvenir sheets; show catalog and program.

Praga 1938 card to Eugene Kline, US Show Commissioner. Kline purchased inverted Jenny sheet from first buyer.

Covers/correspondence to/from/between 45+ different collectors and/or dealers.

Covers/correspondence to/from 15+ stamp clubs.

Covers/correspondence to/from Alfons Stach, former Czech dealer with new shop on Nassau Street in New York.

Bound 1940 and/or 1942 issues of *Tribuna Filatelistu*.

Complete showing of special show cancellations.

Complete showing of Stamp Day stamps and cancellations.

Inverted cachet error on Brno 1946 cover.

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### List of Shows & Anniversaries

Praga (1938)  
Liberewc (1938)  
Vamberk (1939)  
Bucovice (1940)  
Praha (April, 1940)  
Sazava (1940)  
Horazdovice (1940)  
100th stamp anniv. (May, 1940)  
Praha (September, 1940)  
Pardubice (1940)  
Susice (1940)  
Valasske Mezirici (1940)  
Josefov (1940)  
Praha & 100th stamp anniv. (1940-41)  
Benesov u Prahy (1941)  
Pisek (1941)  
Slatinany (1941)  
Turnov (1941)  
Zlin (1942)  
London (1943)  
Hronov (1945)  
Semily (1946)  
Brno (1946)

### List of Dealers/Collectors

Boleslav, Mlada  
Brand, Karel  
Capek, Marie  
Cepek, J.B.  
Cermak, Erich  
Ekstein, Vilem  
Frischer, Norbert  
Gackevuc  
(continued next column)

### List of Dealers/Collectors

(continued)  
Geissler, Rudolf  
Haide, Erich  
Hajicek, G.A.  
Indra, Viktor  
Kabes, Antonin  
Kohler, Heinrich  
Kosina, Jiri  
Kratochvil, Fr.  
Kroiher, M.  
Krouzek  
Kucera, Fran.  
Kuhrt, Paul  
Kuhrt, Pavel  
Minarik, Jan  
Mirvaldova, M.  
Naprstek, G.  
Neubauer, J.  
Palacek, B.  
Pazdziorova, Marie  
Pesek  
Pilny, K.  
Pocta, Alois  
Podlesny, Antonin  
Prochazka, Ladislav  
Redwitz, Ferd.  
Riha, Zdenek  
Roznai, Viliam  
Schacherl, Bruno  
Stach, Alfons  
Staffa, Albert  
Straka, J.  
Supik, Jaroslav  
Svoboda, H.  
Svoboda & Simunek  
Turecek, Jan  
Vesely, Valerie  
Vinicka, Jarmila  
Vickova, Helena  
Volak, Josef  
Votrubec, Jaromir  
Zym, Fr.

### List of Clubs

Filatelisticky Klub Orlice v Zam-  
berku  
Klub Ceskych Filatelistu Kolin  
Klub Ceskych Filatelistu Kutna  
Hora  
Klub Ceskych Filatelistu v Mor.  
Ostrave  
Klub Ceskych Filatelistu v Praze  
Klub Ceskych Filatelistu v Turnov  
Klub Filatelistu v Chrašti u Chru-  
dime  
Klub Filatelistu v Pardubicich  
Klub Filatelistu v Prerov  
Narodni Spolek Sberatelů Postov-  
nich Znamek v Praze  
Plzen Filatelistum  
Sdruzeni Filatelisty v Praze  
Ustredi Ceskych Filatelistických  
Spolku v Praze  
Ustredni Klub Filatelistu Katoliku

### List of Stamp Days

Praha (1942)  
Mahr. Ostrau (1943)  
Brunn (1943)  
Iglau (1943)

### List of Miscellaneous Material

*Tribuna Filatelistu*  
& cover from editor

*Cesky Filatelista*  
*Ceskeho Slova*

Requests for philatelic cancels

Philatelic Sales Offices: Praha 1,  
Praha 2