

## THE BULLETIN

The Society of Collectors of Czechoslovak Typographic Stamps


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If you do not receive Newsletter 99 by October 1, 2023, please write to the address below. The deadline for submissions is August 31, 2023.

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This English language version was prepared by Mark Wilson FRPSL. It has not undergone proofreading. Only items of general interest have been translated - Society business information has not been translated. mark@knihtisk.org

## Hradčany 3 Haler - The Broken Branch

I am not sure if this information has been reported before. For an upcoming lecture I needed to create an enlargement of the $90 / 2$ defect (Fig. 1) - the broken branch. In doing so, I noticed that this defect has four flat edges that are visible where it interferes with the coloured elements, especially at the top, on the upper left side, the right side, and the bottom centre. This obstruction forms a parallelogram (Figure 2). The defect is probably caused by a small piece of opaque material that either adhered to the negative during the production of Plate 2 or to the plate itself before the coating was exposed to light and so prevented curing of the coating.


Fig. 1


Fig. 2.

## Liberated Republic OR 30 h - TD 3 and 4

The value of OR 30 h was excellently elaborated in 1994 by Mr. Ing. Bohumír Pospisil. However, not TD 3 and TD 4. Together with my colleague Roman Brabec we tried to continue the study of these TDs. We finished the study in April 2022. We were not able to reconstruct the TDs because of the lack of study material. The archives of TD 3 and 4 are not stored in the Postal Museum and, according to our findings, not even with collectors. Also, there are not enough stamps in strips and blocks from these TDs. Nevertheless, I have decided to publish for possible further the facts we have found in the study where you will find:

TD 3: Beyond ZP 13 and 14 described by Bohumír Pospíšil, we have determined ZP 1, 2, 3, 12, 53, 90, 94, 95, 96 and 100. We know that in column 5 the sixth perforation hole is missing in the horizontal perforation. Here we know from strips that there are no DVs on ZPs 4, 5 and 55 .

TD 4: Beyond ZP 13 and 14 described Bohumír Pospísil we have determined ZP 12, 15, 16, 91 and 92 . For ZP 91 there may be a mistake, because the DV "colour point under the shading of Rip" sometimes appears ZP 91 TD 7.

TD 3 or TD 4: From the strips and blocks containing VNs that do not belong to TD 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8 (and therefore can be assumed to belong to TD 3 or TD 4), it was possible to find DVs and to identify these as ZP $3,8-10,12,16-18,34-38$, $44,46-48,50-53,56,58-60,63-67,6973-74,76-80,83-86,89-90$ and $92-99$. We also found defects in the counters under ZP 92 and 94 . However, these defects may be transient.

In the study you will find 168 depicted DVs intended for the ZP, which do not belong to TD 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8 (they belong to TD 3 and 4). You can order the study in A4 format at zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz. The price of the study is $100,-$ CZK + postage.

Zdeněk Rákosník

## Liberated Republic OR 50 h green - study TD 19

Based on the results of the study of a pane of OR 50 h green TD 19, lent to me by a fellow specialist, I have prepared a study of this TD. I consider TD 19 to be the printing plate with the marking 2-24. On the sheet there is a retouch of RZP 40 A and right of ZP 50 there is a punch point. In the study you will find 55 illustrated DVs intended for 39 ZP . You can order the study in A5 format at zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz. The price of the study is $100,-\mathrm{CZK}+$ postage.

Zdeněk Rákosník

## New Manuals

My colleague Jaroslav Moravec dealt with the issue of Dove and Postage Due 1919 and published manuals that contain pictures of the plate defects found on these TDs. However, due to the small number of subscribers, there is no word index. These manuals are as follows:
Doves:

- 5 h purple, TD 1
- 10 h olive, TD 4 (see Newsletter 97 article for resolution)
- 10 h olive, TD 6
- 10 h olive, TD 9
- 10 h olive, TD 11
- 10 h olive, TD 13
- 10 h olive, TD 16
- 10 h olive, TD 48 (1-29)
- 20 h - TD 3
-Postage due 1919-10 h
These manuals are free to download on our website: www.filatelie-knihtisk.cz.


## Liberated Republic 50 h green - new retouch on ZP 1

On ZP 1 there is a defect in the black printing set (VS) "narrowed upper white marginal line above the letters ŠT in POST and the letter T is missing the left arm".


Fig. 1


Fig. 2

On the twenty printing plates made by electroforming technology, there are also three coloured spots of unequal size in the centre of the skirt drawing on ZP 1, which are matrix defects (VM).

These VMs have been retouched on previously unknown printing plates. The four retouches were described by Mr Chvalovský in his 2003 study. For these retouches, he considered the parts of the protective frames on the stamps to be the decisive control feature.

I managed to find stamps with another retouch of this VM without parts of the protective frames. The proof is the matrix defects on the adjacent stamps in the bands - see the ZP 1-2 double-band (fig. 3), where on ZP 2 the VM is ' coloured dot between the points in the palm of the right hand and the protrusion on the right margin line $2,6 \mathrm{~mm}$ from the upper edge' and the ZP 111 double-band, where on ZP 11 the VM is ' coloured dot at the third line of the skirt fold from the left below the waist'.


Fig. 3: Horizontal pair of ZP 1 and 2, retouching on ZP 1


Fig. 4: ZP 2 control characters


I have not found any other identifying marks on the stamps with VM retouching on ZP 1, so they can only be recognized on the strips with the adjacent stamp on which the

Fig. 5: Vertical pair ZP 1 and 11, retouching ZP 1


VMs are located. For this reason, individual stamps with this retouching cannot be identified either.
I couldn't determine whether it is a retouching of the ZP from the same TD, nor which TD it is. On ZP 12 there is a SDV "white dot under S in CZECH". This SDV could help in determining the TD. For completeness I would like to add that on ZP 1, besides the above mentioned one, there are three other less distinctive SDVs, which are:

- the second vertical shading of the skirt is extended into the waist drawing,
- a shortened right shadowing of the left zero,
- the irregularly extended central part of the right frame.

Zdeněk Rákosník

Fig. 6: Control character ZP 11

## Catalogue of printing plates of Sokol in flight stamps

In September, the Catalogue of Designations of the Newspaper Stamps of the Sokol in Flight Issue finally saw the light of day. To tell the truth, I have been working on a publication that would deal with the marking of stamp plates in general for 30 years and only the insistence of my friend Mr. Hauer finally made me sit down and create a similar publication in mutual cooperation.
Nothing new under the sun, it would seem. "Plate numbers" are found in a number of catalogues and one more or less is not decisive. But appearances are deceiving. The publication is not narrowly focused on listing the plate numbers of this issue. This approach to traditional philately, which is unfortunately experiencing something of a "crisis" at the moment, seems to us to be well out of date. Our aim was not even to "discover" and describe other "artificially" created types, subtypes, associated types and retouches or new hitherto uncatalogued (and also meaningless) colour shades of this issue.
Just for the record, this is one of the first issues of postage stamps issued in 1918. Newspaper stamps of the Sokol in Flight issue of the values 2 h and 10 h were issued first, together with the Hradčany stamps of the values 5 h and 10 h . Their postal use is recorded already in the first days after 18 December, and the oldest postal document so far shows that they were used on 19 December (Fig. 1). These are special-purpose stamps that could only be used by newspaper publishers for franking under special permission from the Post Office. Philatelists did not discover the true uniqueness of the issue until much later, when first editions and issues were hopelessly out of print and mostly ended up on the wrappers of newspaper parcels, which were liberally heated by postal employees in their stoves. The issue is a record breaker in our history. It was the longest produced (from 1918 until 1936), with by far the highest stamp run and, most importantly for traditional philately, using the highest number of different printing plates (around 350 different TDs in total).
That is why we said that if we were to create a publication that would attract philatelists to collecting, instead of overwhelming them with nonsense and repelling them, we had to approach the processing differently. The philatelist should know what he collects, and so the introduction describes briefly and clearly, using pictorial material, the method of making printing plates, the principle of assembling printing plates and the printing itself. At the same time, it is documented what all can be found on the printing sheet together with the stamp fields. No one has yet dared to comprehensively divide the printing plates into several types and to indicate for each of them what marks, in addition to the already "famous plate numbers", are found there. Each mark is carefully named, described and displayed with an explanation of what it was used for. And lo and behold, suddenly it became apparent how varied the collecting of this issue is. A friend of ours has made several humorous comments at our expense when we have consulted together on problems at various meetings with the brief remark "all pigeon". We, on the other hand, realised that we had got to the bottom of the matter. Although we only had some 350 press plates to describe to begin with, it turned out that this was only the beginning. In fact, the same printing plate comes in several variants, which can be distinguished at first sight not by the form of the plate mark but by the printer's mark (protective frames, dividing lines, spaces, etc.). We can therefore offer philatelists a way of distinguishing not only the printing plates but also the individual stamp editions printed by a given printing plate. The principle described is universal and can be applied to other issues printed by letterpress. Everything discussed here is recorded, described and documented in the publication with concrete pictures of real philatelic material. Collectors do not have to search, study, measure and research anything because the principle used is clear, understandable and visible.

Unfortunately, I have forgotten a lot in my decades of collecting said issue. However, I clearly remember the content of my discussion with one of our prominent philatelic experts at a meeting of letterpress collectors in the early 1980s. That expert claimed that this was an issue on the fringe. After all, no one is going to collect penny stamps, which are everywhere. However, he was not in a position to answer my several questions about the existence of printing plates up to 1926.

It is true that collecting the issue was not popular. However, in the last 20 years, everything has changed. Thanks to the research efforts of a few of our tireless fellow collectors, who, while not initially focusing on the markings of the plates, did examine the issues for printing defects, it became apparent that without knowledge of how the plates were made and the issues of printing, we could not move forward. At present, we have to point out that the level and depth of knowledge gained is high. This has enabled us to approach the publication on the Sokol in Flight issue stamps from a different perspective "our perspective" - and I believe that this approach is correct. Recently, the popularity of collecting "plate numbers" has been growing and collector prices for some stamps have reached five-figure sums. Increasingly, my friend Hauzer and I agree on the idea that some stamp specimens fully deserve the name "rarity" (e.g., Figs. 2 and 3), and the entire issue, in the rarity of a number of items, can be boldly placed on the level of the Hradčany issue. Thus, the time is fully ripe for the collecting of the "plates" of the Sokol in Flight issue to reach a new quality and for philatelists to have an adequate and satisfactory tool at their disposal.

Our last piece of information for collectors concerns the design of the publication. All previous catalogues seem to have followed the motto "the less the better". Illustrations and descriptions were small in black and white, and often authors resorted to showing only one detail (e.g. only the number) without any context to the surroundings (e.g. the appearance of the protective frame next to the number, etc.). This meant that the philatelist often could not decide which number belonged to which plate. Our philosophy is the opposite "the more the better". That's why there are colour pictures in the publications, with everything that goes with them. We have spared neither space nor design. Dear friends you will enjoy this catalogue and it will take a worthy place in your library.

And let us add a final note - unlike some of our illustrious predecessors, we did not invent when creating this catalogue. Where we don't know, we say straight out that we don't know. Where colleagues have documented the connection of certain materials, we take it as proven and state it as such. It is up to the next generation of collectors to evaluate and judge our work, and we trust in their forbearance.
Your humble friends of traditional philately
Vladimír Malovík
Michal Hauzr


Fig 1.


Fig 2

Fig. 1 The stamps of the Sokol in Flight issue were probably issued as early as 18 December, when authorised issuers could collect the corresponding number from the post office. They could therefore theoretically have used the stamps in postal traffic as early as 19 December. The postmarking of the stamps took place at the delivery post office. The example shows the cover of a newspaper parcel with 12 newspapers, which was redeemed with Austrian and Czechoslovak newspaper stamps. The stamps were devalued by the Karlovy Vary post office with 10 incoming postmarks dated 22 December 1918. It can therefore be assumed that the parcel was delivered around 20 December 1918.

Fig 2. Manipulative black print taken after etching 1. Print plate of value 2 h . The sample documents that the stamps were supposed to be printed with printing plates with counters. In fact, this was not the case and the production print no longer contained counters. This is the only known evidence that the counters were subsequently removed from the production printing plate.


Fig. 3
Fig. 3. In all catalogues the designation of plate $27-1$ was listed as unknown. Only 2 pieces with this marking are now known, the variant with the line impression next to 91 . ZP is the only one known. The two-band plate shown has only one in a unique four-block.

## Puncture Points on Overprinted Stamps

(NV9 to NV13 and DL15 to DL30)
When looking at overprinted stamps, you may find that some of them are punctured. These are puncture points that had a very clear purpose in overprinting remainders. These stamps were often returned from post offices and usually had varying widths of margins and there could be a problem with accurately inserting the sheet into the overprinting machine.

Therefore, these sheets were fastened to spikes at defined places and then the edges of the sheets were cut according to the two sides. Thus, all sheets had the same width for the two edges at the loading edge of the machine and at the same time the stamps were facing each other. Thus, in other words, the effect of the impression points and the trimming on the loading edge did not result in de-centring of the overprints.

In this article I would like to discuss the impression points on stamps NV9 -NV13 (newspaper provisionals) and DL15 to DL30. According to the different position of the impression points we can distinguish different kinds of the stamps and we find that especially for the Hradec Králové surcharge provisionals there are more variants of the impression points.

There are usually 2 punches on the printing sheet, which took away two degrees of freedom and the sheet could not move in the xy plane. However, since I don't have sheets from each of the stamps, it is impossible to distinguish $100 \%$ the pairs of proofs belonging together.

This article makes use of material that I have in my collection and I would be pleased if the article is supplemented and refined by other collectors.

## NV9 and NV10

Here I have only one variant, which is on ZP 30 and ZP 93 on the bottom right. The stamps were issued in May 1925 and as we will see with the Hradčany issue with the overprint on Doplatit, the same proofs were used in 1926.

## NV11 to NV13

Here again I found only one variant of the spike points. The date of issue is February 1926 and the position of the punches is similar to the Hradčany issue stamps with the DOPLATIT overprint from this period.
$5 / 2$ hal - ZP 30 and ZP 93 bottom right
$5 / 5$ hal - ZP 30 and ZP 93 bottom right
10/10 halls - ZP 30 and ZP 93 bottom right
In my collection I own panes of Pof. NV12, which has a significantly downward shifted overprint. It almost doesn't even cover the counters. The impression points are placed exactly on ZP 30 and 93 as on other stamps. At first glance, it would seem that the reasoning about the need for the impression points for overprinting is not true, but...

Then I noticed that the width of the top edge of the sheet is also considerably shortened compared to similar sheets, and after measuring the distance of the edge of the overprint bar covering the counters from the top edge of the sheet, this distance is the same for both sheets.

The sheet with the de-centred overprint was significantly narrower before the upper edge was cut so that it was no longer shortened by the cut. Subsequently, when the sheet was straightened in the machine the top loading edge was used and this sheet was fitted with the top edge between the others, which displaced the sheet and consequently the overprint.


Fig. 1 - downward shifted overprint caused by shortened upper edge, impression on ZP 93

Another interesting fact is that I found a colour impression of the edge (nail) of the printing plate on the overprint of $5 / 5$ haler on ZP 4 (I own 4x), while I did not find it on the 10 haler stamp (I own 2x). This shows that a custom overprint plate could have been used for each value.


Fig. 2 - ZP 4 with impression of the edge of the overprint plate (nail); width of the upper edge 7 mm compared to the normal 11 mm caused the overprint to shift downward

## DL15 to DL30

There are several variations of the location of the pairs of spike points in this issue. According to the author's opinion, it is possible to distinguish individual overprint costs by means of the spikes. However, due to the lack of sheets, it is not possible (yet) to determine which proofs belong together. I will be glad if this information will be supplemented by other collectors. Currently we know the following combinations of proof points belonging together:

- Together ZP 92 counter punch and ZP 99 and also counter punch
- Together ZP 93 on the right and ZP 30 on the right
- Together ZP 93 left and ZP 20 right

I will also include the date of issue of the stamps for cost distinctiveness. For stamps with both blue and purple overprints, it is not possible to determine from the documents the issue date of the stamps with the purple overprint.

- DL15 (issue date 6/1923)
o ZP 20 right and 93 left (if only right/left is shown it is assumed to be at the bottom)
o ZP 12 right (double impression)
o ZP 98 right
o ZP 92 left
- DL16 purple overprint (date of issue unknown)
o ZP 19 lower right (I own 2 copies, postmarked 10/1923)
o ZP 19 top right (I own 1 copy)
o ZP 20 right and ZP 93 left
o ZP 82 on the right
- DL16 blue overprint (2/1922)
o ZP 92 in counter probably also ZP 99 in counter
- DL17 (6/1923)
o ZP 92 on the right
o ZP 20 on the right and ZP 93 on the left
- DL18 (6/1923)
o ZP 20 right and ZP 93 left
o ZP 30 right and ZP 93 right
- DL19 blue overprint (1/1922)
- DL19 purple overprint (date of issue unknown)
o ZP 20 right and ZP 93 left
o ZP 93 right
o ZP 92 in counter probably also ZP 99 in counter
o ZP 92 on the right
- DL20 (2/1926)
o ZP 30 on top (I own 3 copies)
o ZP 93 left (I own 2 copies)
- DL21 (2/1926)
o ZP 93 left
- DL22 (5/1923)
o ZP 20 on the right and ZP 93 on the left
- DL23 (2/1922)
o ZP 92 in counter and ZP 99 in counter
- DL24 blue overprint (1/1922)
o ZP 92 in counter and ZP 99 in counter
- DL24 purple overprint (date of issue unknown)
o ZP 92 in counter probably also ZP 99 in counter
- DL25 (4/1923)
o ZP 20 on the right and ZP 93 on the left
o ZP 30 right and ZP 93 right
o ZP 19 on the right
o ZP 92 right
o ZP ? upper left corner
- DL26 (2/1926) o ZP 93 right
- DL27 (2/1926)
o ZP 30 right and ZP 93 right
- DL28 (2/1922)
o ZP 92 in counter and ZP 99 in counter
- DL29 (2/1926)
o ZP 30 right and ZP 93 right
- DL30 (2/1926)
o ZP 30 right and ZP 93 right
The following conclusions can be drawn:
- 1. the combination of spikes is on ZP 92 in the counter and ZP 99 in the counter and

It is found on the blue overprints of 1922. The purple overprint with this combination of punches is found on the 100/80 stamp.

- The next sequence is ZP 20 on the right and ZP 93 on the left, found on the 1923 stamps.
- The last sequence is ZP 30 on the right and ZP 93 on the right, which is found on 1926 issues.


## Stationery with Hradčany 10 h V Stamps

This article is a continuation of the articles published in Bulletin 96 and 97 and contains a list of all stamp fields found on various types of postal stationery with the $10 \mathrm{~h} V$ Hradčany stamp. The postal stationery is numbered according to the POFIS catalogue, and a note with a description of each type of postal stationery is given for the convenience of readers.

After reading the last Newsletter, some readers asked me what the expression 01 A , or X09:
-01 A - a cell with a stamp plate from ZP 1 (determined by VN) and a variant from the printing plate marked A. If we know another plate from ZP 1, the TD variant will be marked B.

- X09 - the ZP could not be identified on the stationery stamp plate ZP ( no VN exists) and the author described this plate with the number 09 .
CPP04A (total $=9$ fields) - Parcel guide, selling price 30 h , Czech version

| X 05 | X 06 | X 07 | X 08 | X 09 | X 34 | X 43 | X 46 | X 96 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



CPP04B/CPP05 (impossible to distinguish on cuttings) (total $=12$ fields)
CPP04B - Parcel guide, selling price 30 h , Czech-German version
CPP 05 - Parcel guide, no sale price, Czech-German

| X 10 | X 11 | X 12 | X 13 | X 32 | X 33 | X 60 | X 84 | X 85 | X 86 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| X 94 | X 95 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

CPP14 (a and b) (total $=14$ fields)
CPP14 - international parcel guide, selling price 30 h

| X23 | X24 | X25 | X28 | X29 | X31 | X35 | X36 | X72 | X73 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| X74 | X81 | X82 | X101 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

CPP15 (total $=7$ fields)
CPP 15 - International Parcel Guide, without sale price

| III-01 | III-16 | X75 | X76 | X77 | X78 | X91 |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |



CPP16a (total $=23$ fields)
CPP16a - international postal guide, selling price $20 \mathrm{~h}, 39$ lines in the emblem

| III-31 | III-45 | III-84 | III-89 | X02 | X14 | X15 | X16 | X17 | X18 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| X22 | X27 | X30 | X61 | X65 | X66 | X83 | X87 | X88 | X92 |
| X93 | X102 | X103 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



Note on cash payout: the payout to Chile varied according to the shipping route. Here we chose the 1st type, a package up to 5 kg had a payout of 3.85 Fr and the price for $1 \mathrm{Fr}=7 \mathrm{CZK}$. The total payout is therefore $26,95 \mathrm{CZK}$

CPP16b (total = 25 fields)
CPP 16b - international postal guide, selling price $20 \mathrm{~h}, 19$ lines in the emblem

| II-01 | II-02 | II-06 | II-07 | II-08 | II-14 | II-15 | II-18 | II-19 | II-21 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| II-23 | II-24 | II-27 | II-28 | II-29 | II-33 | II-34 | II-35 | II-36 | II-40 |
| II-44 | II-48 | II-54 | X19 | X37 |  |  |  |  |  |

## CDP05

CDP 05 - Cash on Delivery Parcel Guide, selling price 15 h


CDP06 (total $=14$ fields)
CDP 06 - Cash on Delivery Postal Guide, selling price 40 h or without selling price; A - Czech, B - Czech-German, C

- Slovak language version

| A | X03 | X20 | X89 | X100 |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B | III-05 | X21 | X26 | X80 | X90 | X97 | X98 |  |  |
| C | X04 | X79 | X99 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

