



THE BULLETIN **The Society of Collectors of** **Czechoslovak Typographic Stamps**



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Translator's Notice

In the interest of sharing the hard-won information found in the *Bulletin*, the Typographic Collectors Society agreed to my translating and posting them on the Typographic Study Group's website: <https://knihtisk.org/09-group/group.htm>. Readers should carefully consult this notice to insure an understanding of how the translations were accomplished and what their shortcomings might be. In addition to the translated copies of the *Bulletin*, a topical index to the *Bulletin* also appears on the Typographic Study Group's website.

My translations of the *Bulletin* began with the then current issue (#94) and worked backward. Issues published after #86 were fully translated including sections concerning the operation of the Society and most advertisements. Many well-known Czech philatelic abbreviations were translated to their full English equivalents (ZP – position, TD – plate, and so on).

Bulletin 86 (and earlier issues) do not contain non-philatelic information (Society business and advertisements). Readers seeking that information are directed to the Czech and Slovak language originals. In addition, common Czech philatelic abbreviations have not been translated. When the first instance of an uncommon abbreviation is encountered in an article, a translator's note will indicate its meaning (if known).

Because of the press of time, translations have been carried out using Google Translate. While reasonable attempts have been made to insure the integrity of these translations, errors have likely occurred. Readers should note that the translations have not been proofread. Note also that active hyperlinks and email addresses are a soft grey, not the standard blue.

Mark Wilson mark@knihtisk.org

Sad News

On April 11, 2016, at the age of 89, the long-time chairman of our Society, a member of the SČF Commission of Experts, a top collector of stamps and covers, the Liberated Republic, a well-known publicist and a friend, left the philatelic list. Thanks from the management of the Society for 25 years of his work for our Society. That thank you was a reaction to Pep's resignation from all philatelic functions caused by serious family reasons. It was not an easy decision for him at the time, which he commented on: "I am very sorry that I have to end philately and especially that I can no longer associate with friends, many of whom I have known for more than 25 years."

It was Pep's initiative when, in 1986, he addressed all those interested in the typographic issues of our stamps with a call in *Filatelie* and invited them to cooperate. The more active ones then met on 13 December 1986 and formed a kind of basis for the then SČF Typographic Commission. Thanks to the organizational skills of Josef Chvalovský (elected chairman of the Society), many avid philatelists became involved in the study of typographic stamps, and our *Bulletin*, *Philatelic Handbooks*, and *Private Studies* began to be published. All this gradually began to fill the "blank spots" on the imaginary map of the stamps of book editions.



The "Hradčany People" were relatively furthest in their studies at the time, but it didn't take long, and the first comprehensive studies of other typographic issues began to be published. At that time, Pepa Chvalovský had the Liberated Republic and Holubice under his thumb. There was too much for one person, so gradually the concern for the Dove passed to me.

The important thing was that from the beginning we strictly based our studies and their conclusions on a clear knowledge of how to print these typographic stamps. Colleague Chvalovský was very willing to pass on his rich knowledge and experience and thus gained a number of collaborators who can be used for a detailed study of the individual values of the OR and Holubice issues. He was also very willing to lend his philatelic material, of which perhaps the most valuable were whole panes of stamps. Thanks to this, a number of collectors began to publish their study results not only within the Society, but also in *Filatelie* and later in *Merkur-Revue*.

Not to mention the knowledge competition of the Liberated Republic issue, which took place on the *Filatelie* website in 1992 and was led by Josef Chvalovský. It was followed in the following year by a similar competition for the Holubice issue, which I organized. These events popularised our Society and expanded the number of their members.

At the initiative of the SČF management, we were sometime in 1993 invited to a possible procedure for members of the SČF Expert Commission. Together with Pepa Chvalovský, we wrote and submitted our expert works in 1994. Pepa worked on determining the perforation used, focusing on the comb perforation (I focused on retouching on Holubice stamps) and then successfully passed the expert exams and became full members of the then SČF Commission of Experts.

Shortly afterwards, Pepa came up with another initiative to write a *Specialized Handbook for Collectors of Stamps and Integrities of the Liberated Republic*. He chose Zdenek Chvosta and me as collaborators. Zdenek finally withdrew his

cooperation (and possibly other) reasons for his cooperation, so everything remained for the other two, where Pepa was the leading figure. In 2000, the *Handbook* saw the light of day. In recent years, and it was again Josef's initiative, a thorough study of the issue of postcard printing and their connection with stamp printing began.

I am certain I forgot a lot in the list – what cannot be forgotten is to thank again for everything that Pepa did for the Society, how he directed it, and continuing in his footsteps will not be nearly as difficult, but it will be binding.

Jiří Kašpar

Hradčany 10 Haler Red Clock Retouch

In Bulletin 83 and 84 and also in *Filatelie* 3/2016 I wrote an article concerning curiosities on the 10 haler Hradčany first design. I presented here variants of plate flaws and the retouching of the clock with control characters according to plates. What was my surprise when I received an e-mail from the well-known Brno philatelist J. Michalík, who alerted me to an ongoing Internet discussion on the website: <http://www.sberatel.com/diskuse/sberatel/10h-91-iv-25690>.

Here is a stamp that is demonstrably printed from the 4th TD of ZP 91 and should have either a plate defect of the clock or its retouch. However, the picture shows a large coloured separate spot that replaces the first and second towers. There is a question in the Internet discussion: "What exactly is it?"



I think this is the last stage of retouch damage. Between the first and second towers was a white spot, which they retouched with pliers by pinching. The repair was not perfect because the material was cut and at the same time there was a lack of metal in the place of the defect (due to the existence of the original plate defect). As I proved in the last issue of the *Bulletin*, the so-called first variant of retouching is in fact damaged retouching. It can be seen in the pictures that the original defect begins to appear in the damaged retouch and the first tower is weakened.

Due to the shear when creating the retouch, the metal must have been very unstable and probably the first tower subsequently tore off and so-called "stuck" to the second tower. The right side of the smear is the same as the right side of the damaged retouch. This caused a defect in the picture. This variant has not been written about yet and it is certainly a nice diversification of the collection.

Josef Chudoba

The First Design Hradčany 25 Haler

[HZ comb perforation; ŘZ line perforation – translator]

Two copper plates were used to print this value. The total release was 51.22 million stamps. Imperforated stamps were issued on December 30, 1918, perforated HZ 13¾ : 13½ were issued on May 15, 1919, ŘZ were issued on May 25, 1919 in the smallest circulation of 2,000,000 stamps. Although the plates were made of copper, their wear was evident.

In 1988, Mr. Václav Pelant prepared a study of this value – reconstruction of partition sheets. In this study, he draws attention to some defects which are located in the part of the release on plate 1. This is the first stamp field, where there is a cracked upper left corner running like a long blue line through the 3rd and 4th spiral, the 3rd and 4th leaves, and into the arch. Fig. 1 shows this ZP with the crack; fig 1a without the crack.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 1a.

For ZP 60, 70, 80, 90, and 100 there was damage from an unknown cause to the right frame, probably at a later stage in the printing. This damage looks like it was made by a rough file, popularly called a rasp, and Mr. Pelant refers to it as sawing. This damage is seen as jagged marks. Figures 2 and 2a show ZP 60 with and without damage to the right frame in the area of the 6th spiral. Figure 3 shows ZP 70 without damaging, Fig. 3a with the right frame slightly damaged; both with a nail imprint by the right dove. Figure 4 shows the ZP 80 with an undamaged frame. Fig. 4a, where the damage on this ZP looks like notches and is the most extensive, is found on stamps perforated A and D. Similarly in Fig 5 ZP 90 the right frame is undamaged; Fig. 5a, has notches in the right frame smaller than on the ZP 80, but also is very pronounced. And finally, Figures 6 and 6a - a stamps without damage and one with scratches in the right frame, which are larger. In addition, there is a nail imprint by Á in SKÁ. If a collector who is interested in the Hradčany could explain how this damage occurred, another unknown thing would probably be clarified.

Vaclav Kostal, Jiri Krnak



Figs. 2, 2a.



Figs. 3, 3a.



Figs. 4, 4a.



Figs. 5, 5a.



Figs. 6, 6a.

Liberated Republic 50 Haler Green

Answer to the Question from *Bulletin* 72

In Newsletter No. 72, in the article *OR 50 haler – who can answer this question?* the author asks for help in determining the position and plate for the flaw "in POŠTA the right foot of the A is shorter at the bottom." It is 50/9. There is also another flaw "colour point between the letters V and H in VHB." Because TD 9 was made from the second negative and the red stamps from the first this flaw will not be found on red stamps.

Zdeněk Rákosník

Liberated Republic 50 Haler Green: Further Matrix Flaws

[VM: matrix flaw – Translator]

During my continuing study of a larger number of stamps from the third period of production, I found more matrix flaws.

- VM 4: Mark in the right white border line 1.3 mm from the bottom edges,
- VM 17: Mark on the bottom of the letter B in the VHB,
- VM 20: Protrusion from the lower right corner of the stamp,
- VM 21: Vertical line instead of the upper point in the right palm,
- VM 33: Notch in the white border above the S in SKÁ,
- VM 47: Bump on the upper frame,
- VM 50: Mark in the lower white border,
- VM 54: Mark left of the V in VHB,
- VM 55: Mark on the shading of the right zero, dot in the skirt,
- VM 63: Gap in the eighth vertical shading below the waist,
- VM 65: Mark in left breast shading,
- VM 78: Bump on the thigh to the left of the large bump, bump on the right frame, mark on the lower frame,
- VM 86: White bump on the left border,
- VM 89: The lower mark in the left palm is hook-shaped.



I believe that these 17 newly described matrix flaws will help in the identification of individual stamp positions, especially for used stamps where often the imprint of the postmark overlaps the VM (identification mark). All the above-mentioned matrix flaws supplement the already known VMs (identification marks) of the ZP from the third period of production.

However, the most significant finding for most specialists will probably be the VM in ZP 6, where we have not yet been able to determine an individual stamp. This is the flaw – VM 6: Mark on the bottom the right 5.

Zdeněk Rákosník

Liberated Republic – 100 Haler Plate Marks

There are still doubts about the correct number of plates for this denomination. After quite a long study, I managed to conclude that there are a total of 12 TDs. This is based on documented and proven knowledge.

Plates Without Stress Bars

- 1 TD - the plate is without stress bars and marks.
- 2 TD - Also without stress bars but has below ZP 100 longitudinally cancelled signature of the author of VHB. (I take this as a distinguishing feature between the 1st and 2nd TD)

Plates With Marks in the Stress Bars

- 3. TD - the plate has a scratch at the bottom of the stress bar (under ZP 91).
- 4. TD - the plate has two scratches in the stress bar (below ZP 91).
- 5. TD - the plate has three scratches in the right stress bar by ZP 100.
- 6. TD - the plate has four scratches in the stress bar by ZP 100.
- 7. TD - the plate has the number 5 in the stress bar by ZP 100.
- 8. TD - the plate has the number 6 in the right stress bar by ZP 100.
- 9. TD - the plate has the number 7 in the left stress bar by ZP 81.
- 10. TD - the plate has the number 8 in the left stress bar by ZP 81.
- 11. TD - the plate has the number 9 in the right stress bar by ZP 100.
- 12. TD - the plate has the number 10 in the right stress bar by ZP 100.



TD 3



TD 4



TD 5



TD 6



TD 7



TD 8



TD 9



TD 10



TD 11



TD 12

The plates 1, 2 and 7 are stored in the depository of the Postal Museum and can be requested for inspection. This denomination was not only comp perforated but also line perforated 13¾. It is very difficult to prove which TDs have these perforations. So far, I have managed to determine only TD 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The same applies to the stamps that were overprinted DOPLATIT. There is quite a big unknown here, just in the way of making the overprint. (This is another possibility to expand the study.) Comments or any provable addition can be sent to my address: V úžlabině 2052/8, Praha 10 - PSČ 100 00.

Bohumír Paleček bohumir.palecek@seznam.cz

Comments About The OR 100 Plate Marks

The editor of the *Bulletin* has one advantage in that he can react to each article earlier than his other colleagues. So I will take advantage of this and try to supplement the article by our colleague Paleček and show that determining the number of plates used is often not a trivial matter :-).

Recently, I exhibited the Liberated Republic, where I dealt, among other things, with the plate marks of individual values. A problem occurred with the 100 haler where in the *Specialized Handbook of the Liberated Republic* there are two different illustrations of the plate marking “right frame with four scratches by position 100” which also had a different position. However, this could not happen with just one plate. Compare the picture below and the picture of the plate marking from TD 6 in the article by colleague Paleček.

I also own two stamps from ZP 100, which are from the same printing plate - they have the same shaped stress bars, especially the cut under ZP 100 and a plate defect on the stamp mark above the upper right corner. The problem is that one stamp's stress bar is unmarked and the other has four scratches in the stress bar. The plate marking probably occurred during printing on a hitherto unknown plate. The unseen left stress bar might have any plate marking. Can someone help document which plate this mark belongs to?

Another plate mark which has not yet been described (although it probably belongs to a plate with a known plate mark) is the apparent 1 in the left stress bar by the ZP 81.

Josef Chudoba



5 Haler Express Stamp – New Manual

The 5 haler express was issued on February 10, 1919 in a release of 12,030,000 stamps in light green and expired on July 31, 1924. The stamps were printed typographically from two plates containing 100 clichés with tally numbers at the bottom. One photographic negative was used to make the plates, as evidenced by common defects in some stamp fields.

Plates can be distinguished only by plate flaws, ie flaws particular to only one p[late]. They have no plate marks or other identifiers. (A pair of nail prints on some releases by the ZP 100, although sometimes referred to as a plate mark, is not sufficient to reliably distinguish the plates.)

Part of the stamps were overprinted SO 1920 and after the expiration of the express stamps the remainder were overprinted for use as newspaper stamps.

Common flaws were found in 18 positions. Only one retouch was found: ZP 40 TD 1. This study is meant to follow the study of the express 2 haler stamp from Mr. Zdeněk Ryvola. That's why I tried to use a terminology similar to Mr. Ryvola's. The manual can be ordered from its author or purchased at the 2016 meeting.

Emil Kolesar, Česká Kamenice

Retouch on the 5 Haler Express Stamp

There is no shortage of interesting findings in issues neglected by collectors. Express stamps are among the less popular stamps. However, it is a pity, because like all typographic issues they provide rich opportunities for study. In *Monografie* Part 4, two retouches are described for this issue 2 haler stamp.

While processing the 5 haler, I came across an interesting repair – a retouch of ZP 40 on TD I. This TD was probably damaged before the start of printing. This is evidenced by damage to the adjacent ZP 39 (Fig. 1). The upper left corner is significantly damaged. On ZP 40, the damage was probably even more serious, because the letters of ČESKO were damaged. Of course, this had to be corrected. However, the letters after the repair have a visibly different shape (Fig. 2). On (Fig. 3) is the usual form of the letters ČESKO.



Fig. 1: ZP 39.



Fig. 2: ZP 40.



Fig. 1: Normal Stamp.

Typographic issues, even after almost 100 years, provide collectors with pleasure because of new possibilities for expanding a collection. If any collector owns a trial print of this stamp from TD 1 ZP 40 still with the original defect, please let me know.

Emil Kolesar, Česká Kamenice

Additional Plate Marks and the Creation of Plate Marks

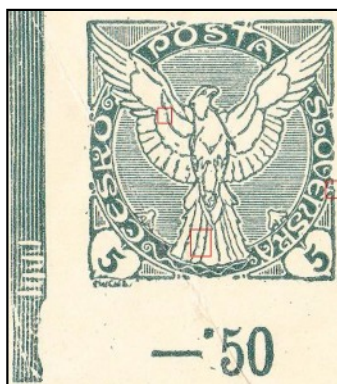
Due to the increasing need for postage stamps, it was necessary to produce a larger number of plates. The plates were regularly inspected after producing a specified number of panes. Initially, as long as the number of plates for a given stamp was relatively small, there was no need to mark them specifically. However, as numbers it became necessary to identify the plates so that during a regular inspection it was always clear which specific plate was in hand. If the plate was unsatisfactory, the worker had to decide whether to replace it, etc. Therefore, older plates still in use were additionally marked; marks began to be added to the newly produced plates as they were manufactured. For example, there were numbers engraves into in stress bars. In the case of plates later produced by electroforming, the problem with identification was solved by plate marks located below ZP 91 and 100. From my studies of the newspaper stamp Falcon in Flight, I give several examples of additional printing plate markings.

5 Haler, ZP 91

- 1) The printing plate, which I now professionally called seven scratches in the left stress bar, was originally without these notches, identifiable only by the bite from the bottom of left frame was later marked by seven notches. It is recognizable by the following plate flaws: a mark in the inner part of the left wing and in the 7th triangle; two marks in the third tail feather.
- 2) The printing plate, I call two semicircular notches in the right frame (by ZP 100) was later marked by putting a gap in the decimal line of the tally – 50. The plate flaws in this second case are: gap in the first tail feather; a mark in the left wing, in the background lines above the head and at the lower edge; group of points in the wing on the right.



ZP 91 – 1.



ZP 91 – 2.



- 3) The plate originally no marking and was subsequently marked with a single line cut through the left stress bar. Plate flaws: a group of marks in the left wing on the left and a mark in the left wing's 13th pin feather; a mark in the right wing's 13th pin feather and another in the body; gap in the neck; mark in S (ČES) and bulge above LO.

5 Haler ZP 100:

- 1) Plate without marking in the right stress bar, during production marked by putting a gap in the 5 _ - and by a notch in the stress bar. Plate flaws are: gap in first tail feather; the upper right corner projects; mark on the edge above O (SLO); gap in the left wing.



ZP 91 - 3.



ZP 100 - 1.



- 2) A printing plate with a longitudinal notch in the right frame is later marked by a double break in the counter 5 * ---. Board defects are: longer left leg M in MUCHA; 2. background line below the IP strengthened; broken line background at the beak.

- 3) A plate with a semicircular notch in the right frame is marked by a double break in the counter 5 * --- and two notches in the protective frame.

- 4) A plate with a semicircular notch in the right stress bar later marked with two scratches. Plate flaws: broken tip on left leaf and 3rd background line under O (POŠ); mark in the 1st triangle, the 7th triangle.



ZP 100 - 2.



ZP 100 - 3.



ZP 100 - 4.



A similar development of the additional marking of printing plates will certainly be documented for other issues from this period. For example, the Holubice or the Liberated Republic. Can anyone prove this fact?

Emil Kolesar, Česká Kamenice

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This English language version was prepared by Mark Wilson FRPSL. It has not undergone proofreading.

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