



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



**No. 87**

**2017**



## Invitation to the Society's Autumn Meeting – 11 November 2017 Prague

The autumn meeting of our Society will take place on Saturday, 11 November 2017 from 9 am to 12 noon in the conference room of the Ministry of Industry and Trade at 20 Political Prisoners Street in Prague. The building is located approximately 300 m from the Main Railway Station, 100 m from Wenceslas Square, and 100 m from the building where we met as Knihtisk for many years. See map for more information.

Important: It is necessary to provide an OP at the gatehouse (participants will be registered) or another valid document (passport). Accompaniment to the room will be M. Marčan (meeting organizer, thank you). However, it is advisable that people arrive on time at 9:00 if possible, so that they do not have to go to the gatehouse for each one separately.



The entry procedure may be speeded up if participants confirm in advance that they will attend and send the OP number as part of their confirmation. A attendance list will be created. Those who do not do this will have to register in the reception room on the spot. Send name and OP number to: [marcan.miloslav@gmail.com](mailto:marcan.miloslav@gmail.com).

## 2018 Subscription Payments

Membership fees for 2020, which remain the same, i.e.

- for collectors up to 70 years 100 Kč,
- for collectors over 70 years 80 Kč.

Payment can be made either:

- in person at the Autumn Meeting.
- by transfer to account number: 200115378/2010, where in the message to the recipient state your surname (otherwise we are not able to identify the sender),
- or by postal order to the address: Zdeněk Rákosník, Hlavní 543, 691 67 Šakvice.

Arrange payments from, abroad with the treasurer by e-mail: [zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz](mailto:zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz).

## The Success of Knihtisk at the International Exhibition Praga Piccola

In addition to stamps intended for sale, rare postage stamps were displayed at this year's Collector Exhibition in Prague. This was the 1st International Czech-German Exhibition in Prague and it was the last nomination exhibition for the World Exhibition Prague, which will take place next year in August. See the leaflet on page 12. The scope was smaller, but the exhibits on display were top notch and 4 exhibits were awarded a large gold medal.



### Three exhibits dealt with typographic stamps:

- 1) P. Lazar – Philatelic rarities and interesting facts about Czechoslovakia I, where, among other things, it focused on the most expensive stamps from the Hradčany issue and Czechoslovakia I. Wesaw in the exhibit connected types up to the 500 haler, practically all rare perforations and difficult to obtain designs for stamps. Unfortunately, despite the expensive rarities, there was no room left for significant plate flaws and retouches. The exhibit received a large gold medal and a total of 93 points. It was the highest rated exhibit at the exhibition.
- 2) J. Chudoba –The Liberated Republic. This exhibit focused on only one issue, which the author sorts according to values and in the last part of the exhibit describes test prints. In contrast to the first exhibit, retouches are also shown here (stains behind the head, linden leaves, eggs, bibs, chains, etc.), which is often evidenced

by the stationery and entires. Very nice stamps include a sheet of 60 halers with chain retouches, connected types in 40 halers and a 50 haler red without a head. Unfortunately, today's exhibition cannot do without demonstrations of trial prints and other production defects, which are already a long way from the reconstruction of printing plates. This exhibit also received a large gold medal and a total of 90 points.

<http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibitID=1293&lng=CZ>

- 3) T. Amler - Redone issues (Liberated Republic 50/150 halers). This internationally exhibited single-frame exhibit deals with only one stamp. The first part presents the typology of stamps, types of perforations, and manufacturing defects. The second part focuses on its postal use, where it shows single and multiple frankings in different postal uses.

<http://www.exponet.info/exhibit.php?exhibitID=297&lng=CZ>

Each of these exhibits had a completely different scope, but they all belong to our best and we will be happy to see them at the World Exhibition.

Society Officers

### **300 Halers Hradčany – Discovery of the 2nd Plate Trial Intended for Colour Tests (ZT)**

It has been a tradition for almost 100 years that only 1 plate was used to print the 300 halers postage stamps. A reconstruction was created from this record by the renowned collector Z. Ryvola (by the way, his manuals are a guarantee of quality). The positions for several thousand or rather tens of thousands of stamps were examined and identified, and no mention was made of another plate. And suddenly in the title above there is mention of the possible existence of plate 2.

I recently bought a lot of about 20 trial prints - colour tests - 300 h stamps, which are on stamp paper with glue. For some of them I found very significant plate defects, so I tried to determine their positions. The colour test print is very clean and does not have fused printing like regular stamps. However, the identification of the positions was completely unsuccessful (even after consultations with colleagues). Even in colour tests with a tally numbers, there is no plate flaw of the relevant position for common stamps.

The first picture shows a colour test from position 93 (tally number 90) and a normal stamp from the same position. The control characteristics of the normal position are:

- Assembly of rays above the 1st and 2nd towers and top left at the 1st tower.
- Confused lines in the 10<sup>th</sup> leaf.
- Spot below the middle bar of the E in the CE.
- The lower right corner extends to the right.

On the contrary, in the colour test we encounter the following defects:

- damaged CH in MUCHA,
- Gap in the oval under the 3,
- shortened 3rd tower,
- a broken edge above A in POŠTA ... and the list could be continued.

Of course, the defining features of plate 1 are missing.



Figs. 1 and 2.

Tally number 90 and illustration of position 93, the trial and the stamp



Significant defects also occur in other colour trials. For example, the next stamp shows a completely different digit 3 in the value plate, a damaged MUCHA, and an interrupted contour in the 5th spiral. The absence of identical defects on the stamps from the plate 1 and the colour trials prove that either another plate was made, or the colour trials are fake.



Based on a discussion with colleagues, whether these are real test prints, additional prints, forgeries, or something else, the following conclusions can be drawn.

1. Nothing has ever been written about these trials in magazines or in the Monograph. The only mention is in the catalog of E. Hirsch from 1924 (*Katalog známek Č. S. R.*), where on page 68 he states the existence of trials in 16 colours. This note proves that Mr Hirsch considered the colour tests to be valuable. At the same time, the information proves that Hradčany issues were issued during the period of validity of the issue, at the latest shortly after the expiry date.
2. Since colleagues are not able to determine colour trial positions, the existence of another plate is proved. This plate was probably not used for stamp printing.
3. The described colour trials were tested by experts J. Mrňák, R. Gilbert, and J. Karásk and are also tested by current experts.

It is therefore possible to consider the colour trials as original prints created from another plate (the reason is not known).

Finally, another question arises – whether the plate contained all 100 clichés, or was smaller (similar to the experimental plate for the 1 halér). For the purchased file containing about 20 stamps, I was able to distinguish only 6 different positions. When looking at the auction catalogues, several more. There are basically two options.

- 1) The plate contained a hitherto unknown number of clichés, less than 100;
- 2) The colour trials were cut from the panes and care was taken to ensure that the same positions were chosen. Which at first glance sounds weird, but from an aesthetic point of view, if I have access to the panes, I will choose a certain corner or the same tally numbers from all the colours. This question is still open.

In the future, it would be interesting to find out according to the defects how many clichés the second plate had. At the same time, it is theoretically possible for the black prints from plate 2 to appear, or on waste paper, or even on postage stamps whose position could not be ascertained. It seems like a pure utopia that there could be another plate in the used stamps, but the classic saying is: "everything is possible with Hradčany".

Pepa Chudoba

### 10 Haler Olive Dove – New Plate Mark

The following plate identifiers with squares under positions 91 and 100 are known for the 10 haler stamp::

- Plates 1 to 16 from 1924.
- Plates 1 to 4 from 1925.
- Plates 5 to 8 and Plates 11 to 14 from 1926. For plate 7/26 and 8/26 two variants of the digits 7 and 8 are known, but only one designation of the year.
- Plates 1 and 2 from 1928, each identifier in two variants.
- Plates 1 to 4 from 1929.

The situation with plates 7 and 8 from 1926 is particularly interesting, where we know two variants of the designation and only one type of date. Any engraving and addition of material to the Plate is very difficult, so it is also difficult to engrave the plate marking in a square completely differently. See Figure 1.

I recently bought a letter franked with two five-stamp-strips, each with a plate label. Under position 91 is the designation 8; under position 100 is the designation 25. The designation from position 91 is the so-called second variant of the designation, while on the right the marking is completely unknown. See Figure 2b, where it can be seen that 5 in the year is higher than 2, while with known markings the height of the digits is approximately the same.



Plate 37.



Plate 38.

Figure 1: Plate mark from 1925 and plates 7 and 8 from 1926.

How to explain the existence of a completely new plate mark from the year 25 and at the same time the occurrence of two five-stamp strips, which probably originally formed one ten-stamp strip. Indirect evidence is the detachment of stamps between positions 95 and 96, where the penultimate tooth on position 95 (almost below) is broken into position 96. And at position 96, the detachment is also evident. For this reason, the strip can be described as originally solid.

It can be considered proven that there is another plate 8/25, which we have to date listed under one of the variants of the designation 8/26. Similarly, I believe that there is a plate 7/25, where we do not yet know the variant of the year. At the same time, we know which variant 7 belongs to the year 25 or 26.

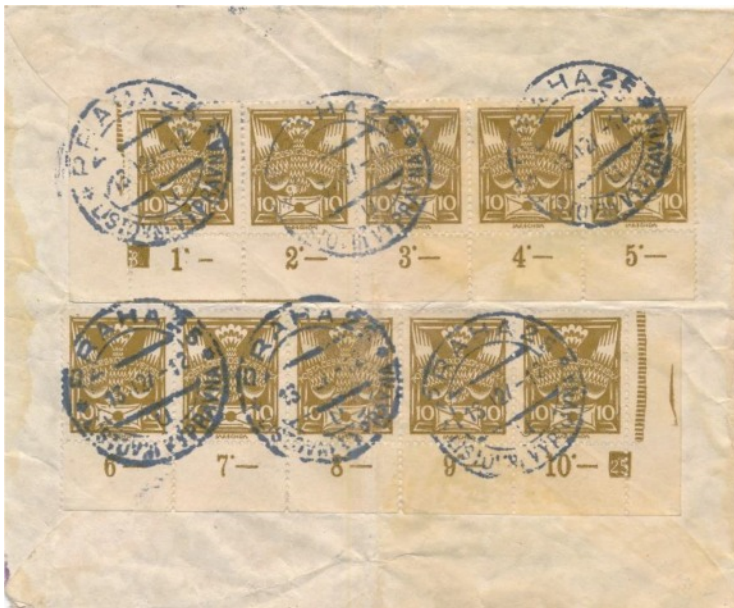


Fig 2 a: The letter with two five-stamp strips.

Fig 2 b: Detail of plate mark 8-25.



Fig 3: Detail of tearing a 10-strip into two five-strips..

This adds new data to the *Monografie* and to the book *Plate Signs* by Messrs. Kašpar and Moravec, where there are other plates 7 and 8/25 for the 10 haler stamp. At the same time, delete the note that says for plates 7 and 8/26, the serial numbers 7 and 8 are different in shape, even if it is the same plate. Personally, I believe that the collection of panel markings is very interesting and interesting things can be discovered in this field even on relatively affordable material, which, however, can be very rare due to its occurrence.

Pepa Chudoba

### Liberated Republic 50 Haler Stationery

[Translator note: This is an area unfamiliar to me and I may have botched the translation in places.]

With this article, I want to supplement and specify some of the data listed in the "Study of Postcards with the Motif of the Liberated Republic 50 Haler" from 2014, by Zdeněk Chvosta and Josef Chudoba. In Part 3, "Defects of the negative of the 50 haler OR stamp", I tend to change the name from "defect of the negative" to "defect of the matrix".

This part of the study lists all known matrix defects on stamps from the 3rd period of stamp production (except for the newly discovered VM 6). I own the stationery in the study mentioned (or I saw the stationery), except for VM 32, VM 45 and VM 60. If anyone owns a CDV 28 with these matrix defects, please provide information.

**Cut dies were used for CDV 24 printing:**

- 1) from Plate 1 for printing POFIS 155: positions 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 14, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 35, 39, 41, 50, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 64, 65, 67, 69, 70, 72, 74, 75, 84, 85, 87, 88, 96, 98 and 100,
- 2) from Plate 2 for printing POFIS 155: positions 1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 16, 20, 21, 24, 25, 29, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 43, 45, 46, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 61, 62, 63, 66, 67, 68 \*, 69, 70, 74, 81, 85, 87, 90, 94, 95, 96 and 97,
- 3) from Plate 2 for printing POFIS 156: position 85.
- 4) from some plate (not yet known) for printing POFIS 156 from the 3rd period of production: positions 47 with matrix defect.

Apart from postal stationery with retouch RZP 68/2, the rarest are postal stationery with a plate defect "bib" on position 69/1, which occur only exceptionally compared to postal stationery with position 69/2.

**Cut dies were used for CDV 27 printing:**

- 1) from Plate 1 for printing POFIS 155: positions 8, 9, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 41, 55, 57, 59, 75, 84 and 95,
- 2) from Plate 2 for printing POFIS 155: positions 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 16, 29, 57, 76, 81 and 90,
- 3) from some plate (not yet known) from the 2nd period of stamp production for POFIS 156: positions 8, 42 and 45.

**For imprinting CDV 28**, cut dies were used (except for cut dies with matrix defects, listed in section 3):

- 1) from Plate 2 for printing POFIS 156: positions 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 19, 20, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 \*, 40, 42, 43, 44, 48, 49, 50 \*, 51, 52, 53, 55, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 66, 67, 68 \*, 69 \*, 70, 71, 72, 74, 76, 77, 78, 80, 85, 88, 90, 91, 96, 97, 98, 99 and 100.

The rarest are postal stationery with retouches RZP 9, variants A, C and H, RZP 39, RZP 50, RZP 68 and RZP 69.

For the sake of completeness, I will also mention two as yet unproven retouches, namely RZP 1 (I saw it once and I have no proof for its confirmation) and RZP 9 variant G (literature reports, but I have not seen it).

For the sake of completeness, it is appropriate to state that for the printing of postal stationery, it was most likely that dies from other positions were used, which we have not yet been able to identify according to typical defects.

To think about: Above is an overview of cut stamps from Plate 1 and Plate 2 for printing POFIS 155 – Liberated Republic 50 haler red and used for printing postal stationery CDV 24 and 27. The attentive reader certainly did not miss the dies from Plate 1 positions 8, 9, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 41, 55, 57, 59, 75 and 84 and Plate 2 positions 1, 5, 9, 10, 29, 81 and 90 are repeated for both CDV 24 and CDV 27. There are two options. Either the CDV 24 stamps were reused for CDV 27 printing (more worn), or there were more than two printing plates. When looking for an answer, try to compare the quality of the image of the stamp from the individual positions of the stamp and on the image of the stamp on CDV 24 and CDV 27. I am happy to accept opinions on this issue.

Zdeněk Rákosník [zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz](mailto:zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz)

**Tête-Bêche Liberated Republic 50 Haler Green**

I am asking the happy owner of the edge 20-stamp block of OR 50 haler green tête bêche auctioned in the Christmas auction of the Stamps-ROVA company, for his loan for study or to provide a scan for study.

Zdeněk Rákosník [zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz](mailto:zdenek.rakosnik@seznam.cz)

**Interesting 50 and 100 Haler Sokol in Flight Stamps**

For some time now I have been studying various interesting things about the Sokol in Flight newspaper stamp printed in various values and colours in the years 1918-1936. I come across a well-worked field here and remember with a smile the passionate debates of colleagues about the problem prices for stamps often costing tens of thousands of crowns appearing in domestic auctions repeatedly within a single year. We do not have such problems. Our artefacts can be obtained either by complete chance in individual pieces or in small sets, or even in larger units, which usually appear in the form of the estate auctions of major companies from time to time. Nevertheless, these are items that appear in the collections of important collectors, often in a single copy, very often as only a few pieces. So we are talking about rare but not expensive stamps.

Let me, dear readers, at this time acquaint you with my knowledge of the various stages and points of interest in the printing of 50 and 100 haler stamps. According to the current level of knowledge, the 50 haler orange Sokol in Flight newspaper stamps used a total of 6 printing plates. The first four plates were etched and had tally numbers. Plates 1 and 2 are without any marking and can only be identified by their plate flaws.





Fig. 1: Plate 1.  
With fold over positions 81 and 91.

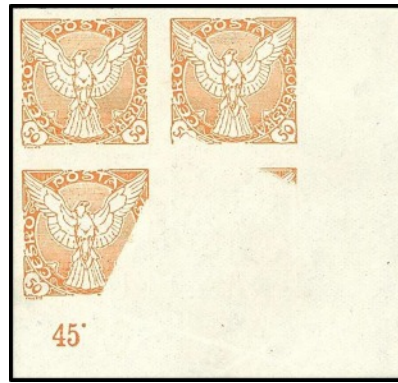


Fig. 1: Plate 2.  
Failed printing on positions 90 and 100.

Plates 3 and 4 can be identified by alterations to their tally numbers. Plate 3 has a gap in the decimal line below position 93 in the number 15.—. However, the line was not altered until a later stage of its printing, so there are stamps from this plate without the dash being broken. See Figures 3 and 4.

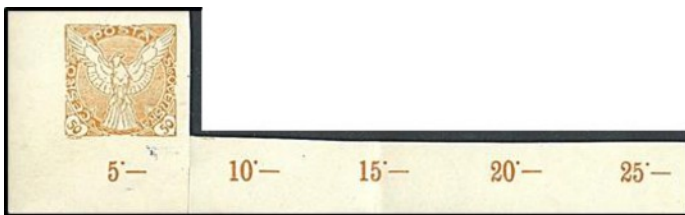


Fig. 3: Early Plate 3.  
No gap in the tally number 15.— decimal line.



Fig. 4: Later Plate 3.  
Gap in the tally number 15.— decimal line.



Fig. 5: Plate 3. PDR [? Trans]  
Without identifying marks.  
Also no guillotine line or spacers.



Fig. 6: Plate 4.  
Short 45.— decimal line.  
Plate edge imprint under position 100.

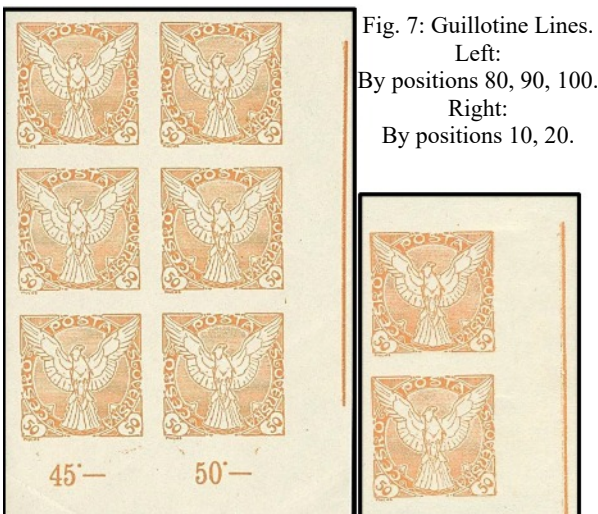


Fig. 7: Guillotine Lines.  
Left:  
By positions 80, 90, 100.  
Right:  
By positions 10, 20.



Fig. 8: Plate 4.  
Nicked 2 in 20.— without guillotine line.



Fig. 9: Plate 4.  
Nicked 2 in 20.— with guillotine line.

Plate 4 has a shorter decimal line in tally number 45.—. It also has a nicked bottom on the 2 in tally number 20.—. See Figures 6, 8, and 9. The remaining two plates are gapped stress bars, tally numbers, and have the identifiers 1-35 and 2-35, below positions 91 and 100.

This article's goal is not to present various distinguishing features, plate defects, or retouches on individual positions. What I want to do is present various interesting things that gradually arose (and disappeared again) during printing with which we can distinguish the different stages of production.

Recently, it has been possible to record an increased offer of items with various folds or folds on the market, almost exclusively originating from plates 1 and 2. (Figs. 1 and 2). Because the production of these stamps was often not the easiest, the printers sometimes had to help each other by inserting guillotine lines between the individual plates, which are then displayed on the edges of the printed pane. It remains a question, perhaps unsolvable today, whether it was the quality of the materials or the printing presses that brought about these differences at various times during printing (Fig. 7).



Fig. 10: Plate 3 – Spacing or Guide Rail?  
Alongside positions 10, 60, and 100.



Fig. 11: Plate 4 – Spacing or Guide Rail?  
Alongside position 91.

Another extremely interesting study is where plates 3 and 4 have broad imprints on the right or left edges of the pane. There is currently a debate here as to whether this is an imprint of a spacer or the guide rails along which the paper moved during the printing process itself. Due to the minimal volume of examined material, no final decision has been made yet (Figs. 10 and 11).

Even with the arrival of plates with plate marks, 1-35 and 2-35, this denomination does not lose its appeal. Guillotine lines are on the scene again! And we can also report for plate 2-35 damage to the right plate identifier background.



Fig. 12: 1-35, Position 91  
First without a guillotine line imprint then with two different imprints.



Fig. 13: 2-35, Position 91  
With and without a guillotine line.



Fig. 14: Plate 2-35, Position 100.  
Left: Standard plate marker field.  
Centre: Deformed upper right corner of the field.  
Right: Detail of damage.

Just as with the 50 haler the production 100 haler stamps involves an interesting situation. The first four plates were made by etching and have tally numbers. Plates 1 and 2 are unmarked. Subsequently, two more plates were made, only one of which was used for printing: plate 3. The second was apparently used as a matrix for the production of electroplated plates. The negative was then retouched and a final plate, plate 4 was made from the this corrected negative. In line with other issue's denominations, some manufacturing defects have recently been sold for this stamp as well.





Fig. 15: Minor folds and wrinkles.



Fig. 16: Guillotine line by positions 10 & 20.

So far, I have managed to record a guillotine line only for plate 2. For plates 3 and 4 I noticed the occurrences of imprints, possibly guide rails (see also 50 haler, figs. 3 and 4). Once again, this is an open discussion.



Fig. 17: Plate 3.

Positions 1, 11-21, and 81/91.

Left side imprints of the space bar /guide rail.



Fig. 18: Plate 3.

Positions 30, 70, 89/100

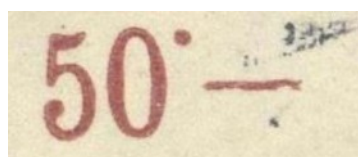


Fig. 19: Plate 3.

Notch in the decimal line.

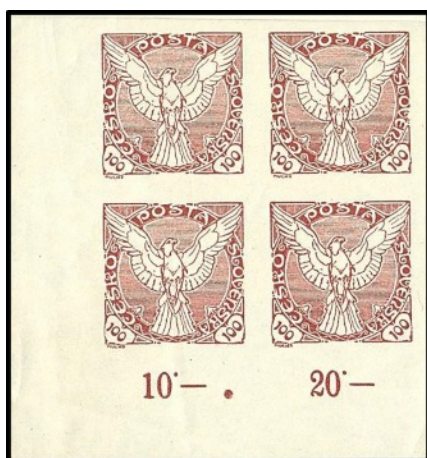


Fig. 20: Plate 4.

Left: Large coloured dot by 10.- (Transient?)  
Above: Imprint of the plate's edge.

The remaining two plates were electroplated. They have gapped stress bars, tally, numbers, and identifiers 1-35 and 2-35 under positions 91 and 100. For these plates, too, we can find several interesting items.



Fig. 21: Plate 1-35.  
Left and Centre: Guillotine line imprints in various designs.  
Right: No guillotine line.

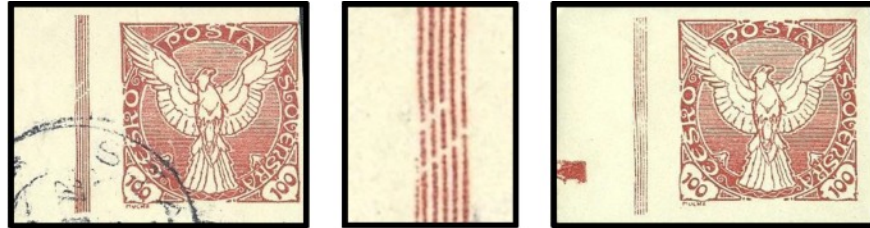


Fig. 22: Plate 1-35.  
Left: Two scratches in the stress bar by position 21.  
Centre: Detail of the scratches.  
Right: Imprint of a spacing/guide rail by position 31.

### Retouch on Postage Due Stamp POFIS DL 2

The first Czechoslovak postage due stamps were printed using typographic technology, so like the other issues, they show a number of plate flaws. Some flaws were of such a magnitude that they required retouching. One of these retouches, mentioned in the *Monografie* Part 4, is a retouch in the 10 haler, plate 2, position 31 (Fig. 1). The left upper and lower loops, the number 10, and the contour of the lower left sprig are retouched. The normal shape of the left loops is shown in Fig. 2.

However, repairs to the adjacent positions indicate there was additional damage to the plate. For position 21, the left lower loop was damaged and was subsequently repaired – it has a quite different shape. (Fig. 3). For position 41, on the other hand, the upper left loop was retouched. (Fig. 4). This left upper loop also has a different shape, similarly to the repaired left upper loop on position 51 (Fig. 5), where, in addition, traces of the original damage to plate probably remained, namely the deformation letters KO in ČESKO.

Emil Kolesar, Česká Kamenice

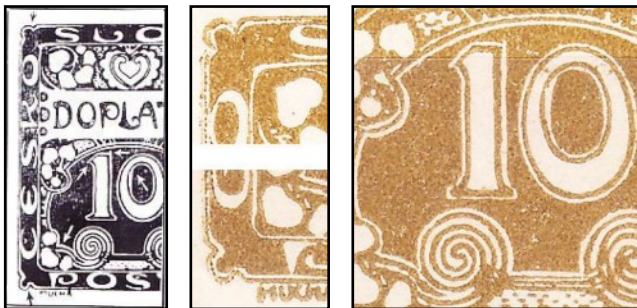


Fig. 1: Plate 2, Position 31 retouch.

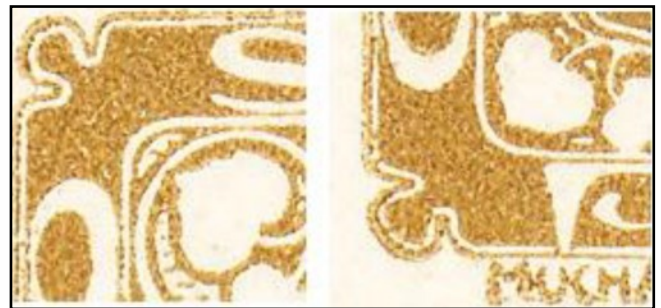


Fig. 2: The loops normal shape.



Fig. 3: Plate 2, Position 21.



Fig. 4: Plate 2, Position 41.



Fig. 5: Plate 2, Position 51.



## Request

Please send scans of postage due panes from the 1928 release in a minimum quality of 600 DPI. Thank you.

A. Židek [azidek@802.cz](mailto:azidek@802.cz)

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