



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



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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.

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### **New manuals**

We would like to draw your attention to new electronic manuals that can be downloaded free of charge under the "bookmark" heading on the website: [www.filatellie-liberec.cz](http://www.filatellie-liberec.cz)

My colleague Jaroslav Moravec has been working on the Dove and Dopltní 1919 issues and has published manuals that contain images of the plate defects found on these TDs. However, there is no word index due to the small number of subscribers. These manuals are as follows:

- Dove 5 h purple - 4th TD,
- Supplementary 1919 - 10 hal,
- Supplementary 1919 - 500 hal.

### **10 h - "PRAGUE PRESS"**

This study examines the origins of our earliest postcards (CDV 7, CDV 8, CDV 9), postal selections (CPV 1), postal guides (CPP 2, CPP 3), and postal guides for international transportation (CDP 9 and CDP 10). For this purpose, in addition to the printing plates for printing stamps, at least two more printing plates were produced, which were designated (according to my colleague Radek Nikl) V. and VI. It is obvious that they were produced simultaneously in the period of production of printing plates III and IV. Since the IIIrd and IVth TD bear the same primary defects as the Vth and VIth TD. But they are also very close in their secondary defects.

The V and VI printing plates were cut and fixed with nails into individual "plates", which were subsequently inserted into the printing moulds, e.g. (4x4 postcards). Due to the printing or overloading of the printing plates, the printing plates were worn and the nails were loosened, which subsequently printed. This is why there are prints with several impressions of the nail heads in the edge of the stamp image or an impression of the stamp image that is worn out and "illegible". Printing also required the subsequent dismantling of the printing plates, their cleaning and so on. After these steps, the plates were reinserted into the mould. But not always in the same place on the same form (see below ZP 51). As evidenced by the impression of the same stamp field but a different shape of the Czechoslovak monogram.

My study counts 62 known (determined) stamp fields and thus 38 are not yet captured. But I have 70 more ZP images besides these - some the same multiple times, which I cannot match.

In the following outline of a study of the problem of the origin of our earliest stamps and forms, I have used a cross-section of one of the stamp fields.

ZP 14 10 h (I) – comparison of individual prints of ZP

Common feature of plates I, II and IV: inner outline of oval with growth at 4:15.



I/14 - Inner outline of oval with growth at 4:15. Main ray short. Above the first ray two points diagonally left of the first tower. In the sun a point at 1:30.



II/14 - Inner outline of oval with growth at 4:15. Upper left corner is projecting. Above right upper right corner a blotch. In the third leaf a dot. Right frame above L (SLO) broken. Oval at 2:30 broken.





III/14 - Frame above the right fork with an accretion. Left frame with growths over EC (CES). Vertical leg K (SKO) broken off at the bottom. Main spar very short. Right frame with growth above S (NSKÁ).



IV/14 - Inner outline of oval with growth at 4:15 (sometimes a point). Under the right fork a dot. The main ray is missing. Sun interrupted several times.



V/14 - CDV 7 - simple postcard.



V/14 - CDV 9 response part (questionnaire part ZP 35)

DV V/14: Big point above the sun. Very short main ray. Point in 8th leaf top. Broken upper frame above P (PO).





#### VI/14 - CPP 2

Next I focused on the different positions of the state emblem in relation to the vertical dividing line. The picture is an example of CP 1, which has a distinctive additional VN crossing the 3rd tower.



V/1



VI/1





V/51



Impressions of the fastening nail heads

The study also deals with the resolution of the position of the vertical dividing line in relation to the foot of the R in the CSR monogram. Position A, B, C and their variants. Then also the different shapes of the hachek above the C in the CSR monogram.

Monograph 1, Specialized Manual, Specialized Manual (Novotny's catalogue), Reconstruction of partition sheets - Z. Ryvola, V. Hanák and K. Paděra.

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The stamps of old Austria are highly valued in the catalogue if they have a different colour of cancellation than the standard black. There are not yet many of these collectors on First Republic stamps. Today we would like to show stamps from the Hradčany issue with red cancellations. The following red cancellations are known to the authors:

- J. Chudoba and J. Springer





## "SCHEME" by FRANTIŠEK ŽAMPACHA and ALOIS ŠNOFLÁK

It is said that a man passes away but his work remains after him, and this is even more true in philately. The research work of these two personalities in the field of Czechoslovakia I printing is invaluable for our generation of collectors and philately enthusiasts. It is not for nothing that today people talk about Žampachoviny so naturally that few of us realise how the name of the author has become synonymous with expertise, enthusiasm and hard work. Many people wonder why they did it in the first place. Whether it made sense to rummage through thousands of stamps, looking for their plate errors and compiling them into press sheets. It seems that man is a creature that doesn't always do things rationally. But if you do something you like, with interest, and it makes you happy, you just do it, and you don't look for anything rational or selfish in it. That's why I would like to pay tribute to them and do something together that probably wasn't possible in their time.

Šnoflák and Žampach's work on the value of 125 h TGM from 1920, which they published in the magazine *Filatelie* in 1975, included a diagram describing the placement of the traces of the so-called nails on the printing plate (TD). I will continue to use the term "nail" for obvious reasons.

"Most likely the two TDs were assembled on a wooden base (foot). This method of assembling the TD seems to be confirmed by the second TD, on which the second quarter is mounted 0.75 mm higher. Further confirmation of this method is provided by the traces of the fixing nails on the 56th, 61st, 91st and partly also on the 26th mark. See diagram TD (fig. 1), on which these traces are indicated by coloured dots with arrows."

Messrs. Šnoflák and Žampach also wrote a literature [2] in which they identified all the characteristic plate defects of the stamp fields (ZP) on TD 1 and 2 of the 125 h TGM 1920 issue.

In the years when this scheme was created there was no digital photography, Internet or electronic communication. Therefore, it was almost impossible to collect all the stamps or their photographs with nail impressions (Fig. 2.), to identify their stamp fields (ZP) and to compile an image of the TD from them. I think, after several years of my work, that even today it is almost impossible. That is why I thought that if there are other Zampachs and Snoflakes in today's world, we can try to finish what these two gentlemen did not manage to do.

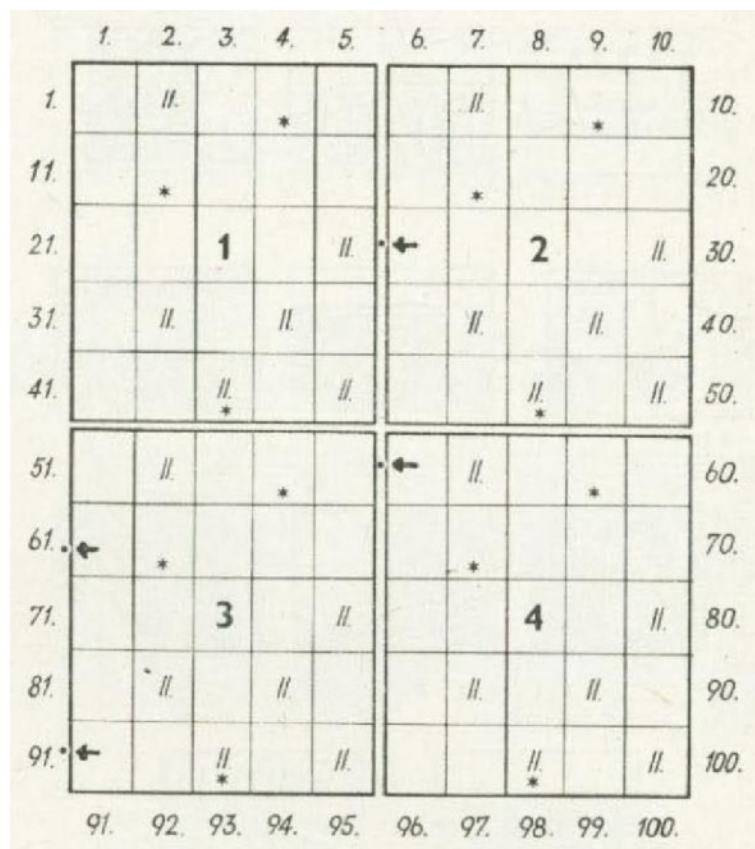
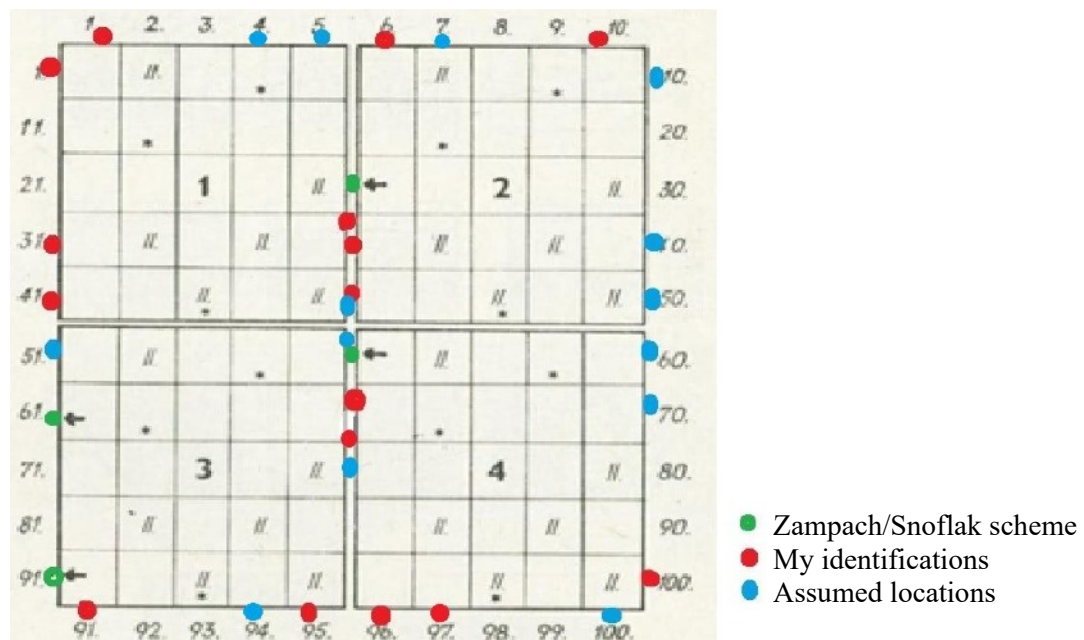


Fig. 1. Published TD diagram with arrows marking the fastening points [1]



**Fig. 2. Example of nail impressions of ZP 35 and 36**

I have already dealt with this issue in the article *Printing plates and impressions of fixing nails on 125 h TGM 1920 stamps*, published in the *SSCSKZ Newsletter No.93*. [3] On the basis of the analysis of documented ultramarine unissued stamps, on which the occurrence of impressions is more common, I concluded that nail impressions were indeed present only on TD 2. This TD is known to have been produced rather poorly and, in addition to the nail impressions, it exhibited a chemically etched quadrant with thinner numerals 125 and other technical flaws. Both TDs were produced by the Czech Graphic Union in Prague, in the summer of 1920. I have also shown in this article that the nails were not sufficiently worked before the definitive printing of the grey-blue stamps, and it is very rare to find their impressions even on the issued pof. 140 stamps. I have been working on the TGM 1920 issue for several years and have managed to collect thirty-seven pieces of ultramarine stamps with a nail impression and two grey-blue stamps in my electronic archive. After identifying them one by one with the ZP, I took the liberty of supplementing this diagram (Fig. 4.) with red circles to show my findings. I have marked in green the positions indicated in 1975. On the basis of the geometry of the arrangement and the assumed symmetry, I have illustrated in blue the theoretically additional possible positions of occurrence still undocumented nail prints.



**Fig. 4. Detected and predicted nail impressions on TD2**



So far I have been able to document the impressions on the following stamp fields:

ZP1 - left 2 pcs and top 3 pcs,

ZP10 - top 2 pcs,

ZP35 - right 6 pcs,

ZP41 - left 1 pc,

ZP66 - left 1 pc,

ZP91 - down 5 pcs,

ZP96 - bottom 1 piece, ZP100 - right 6 pieces.

ZP6 - up 2 pcs,

ZP31 - left 1 pc,

ZP36 - left 2 pcs,

ZP46 - left 1 pc,

ZP75 - top right 3 pcs,

ZP95 bottom 1 pc,

ZP97- bottom 1 pc,

If there are ultramarine or grey-blue stamps of the value 125 h TGM 1920 with nail impressions in your collection, do you know someone who has them or have you seen them somewhere. Please send me a photo in as high resolution as possible so that their ZP can be identified. This article is not copyrighted, on the contrary, please share it and send it to friends. The goal is to get it out to as many philatelists as possible. I will inform everyone who contributes their interest in the subject about the final form of the scheme. Putting together a mosaic of the past from shards may not really make sense to everyone, if you're interested, join in.

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#### Bibliography:

[1] Žampach F., Šnoflák A. - Filatelie č.12/XXV, ročník 75, str.367-368, Praha, 1975

[2] Šnoflák A., Žampach F. - Plating Guide for the TGM 125 h, Winchester VA, 2007

[3] Češelka M., Tlačové dosky a otlaky upevňovacích klinev na známkách 125 hal TGM 1920, Zpravodaj SSCSKZ č.93, 2020.

#### Dove 10 h olive 1. and 2. TD

In 1974, J. Knap (1) described a 10 h Dove in olive without protective frame with two broken decimal dashes under the 91st stamp. For this plate he indicated a diagonally cut 6 and 8 in the counters. There is a matching cut of the 8 on the 2. TD in green. Due to the lack of comparative material, the author of the article assumed that this was not the plate previously printed 10 h in green, but a completely new plate. Only now can we prove with certainty that the 10 h olive stamp was printed by the same two plates as the green one, marked 1- -, 1- - (2) under 91. A study of the green 10 h Dove stamps published in a comprehensive study (3) describes an exceptionally large number of defects and minor variations occurring on only part of the print run. Significant defects on the entire print run are found on stamp fields 89-90 and 100. In Figure 4 the control marks are identical for both colours.





Plate 2 from the Green 10 Haler Release Used to Print Olive Stamps.



Fig. 3 - details of tally numbers 6, 7 and 8,-



Fig. 4, left green, right olive

On the 100th stamp field of the olive-coloured plate there is a significant defect - a broken right frame, figure 6. Furthermore, the 86th stamp field is significantly damaged - a broken partition in the letter. This is a defect found throughout the entire run of stamps printed from the 1st TD in green. The fact that this defect is also found on the olive stamps indicates that 1st TD green was used to print the olive stamps. Figure 7 shows the only surviving four-block with the most significant plate defect on the Dove stamps





Fig. 5 - details from Fig. 4

Let us add that the authors of the Specialized Manual (4) does not question the printing of the Dove 10 h stamp in olive not only from the 1st TD, but admit the possibility of printing from the 2nd plate as well. These two plates were only used for printing for a very short time. The reason why they could not be included in the list of etched printing plates is their minimal occurrence.



Figure 7: DV ZP 86 TD 1 - broken line in the letter



Fig. 6: Right frame break on ZP 100

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#### Sources:

- [1] Jiří Knap: How many plates were printed?, 1974, Philately No. 13, p. 394 "Dove 10 h olive. Exists with plate without frames and with counter 1 - - - under 91st stamp. The diagonally cut counters 6 and 8 at the bottom could serve as secondary identification marks for this plate. It is likely that this plate is not the plate that was previously printed 10 h in green, but a brand new plate. While I only have a two-plate 10 h green plate with a 1 - - - plate for comparison, the minor plate defects on the 91st and 92nd fields on the green and olive printing do not match up at all. Since it is difficult to imagine printing this stamp from an odd number of plates, the existence of at least one other unpublished plate must be assumed. Logical reasoning suggests that this could be the plate with the 1 - - marking in the counter below the 91st stamp. Does any of the readers of Philately own it?"
  - [2] Hirsch - Franěk: Czechoslovak Stamps, Fr. Borovský Prague, 1935, p. 220 "The plate marks also confirm that the 10 h olive stamp was initially printed with the same two plates as the 10 h green. Under the 91st stamp the markings 1- -, 1- - -"
  - [3] Jaroslav Moravec, Jiří Kašpar: Dove 10 h green, summary study, 1st and 2nd printing plates, 2010
  - [4] Jiří Kašpar, Jaroslav Moravec, Martin Kašpar: Specialized guide for collectors of stamps and entirety of the Holubice issue, 2015,
- Pg. 79 - "The first olive-coloured Dove 10h stamps appeared in circulation on 23 November 1920 and by 1923 they were printed with etched TDs based on a single negative, which had already been used to produce the TDs used to print the green-coloured stamps. Incidentally, these two TDs were also used for a short period of time to print stamps in olive."
- p. 89 - "The first H 10 h stamps in olive were printed for a very short period of time by TD 1 (and possibly 2) made for printing these stamps in green (see the significant defect from ZP 86 in olive, which is only found on stamps printed by TD 1 of the H 10 h green stamps). These TDs are not mentioned in the following list.

**Printing sheet 500 and 600 h ECONOMICS AND SCIENCE**

## IDENTIFICATION OF STAMP FIELDS OF PRINTING PLATES 600 h

The positive response to my article that was published in the SSCSK Newsletter No. 94 motivated me to also complete the identification of the 600 h value of the Economy and Science I (HaV I) issue. Initially, I was not quite sure whether a tabular form of displaying the plate errors (DV) would make practical sense. I have come to believe that this clear form of arranging, not only older but also more recently identified DVs, is a good aid to specialist collectors and saves them time in identifying individual ZPs. In addition to the manuals available to collectors, such a display paints a more comprehensive picture of the arrangement of TD1 and 2. After analyzing two complete TAs from the PM in Prague, I have arranged (Fig. 1.) all the 600h values described in the literature and known DVs [2,3,4] that I was able to identify. I adhere to the numbering of these DVs already established in the past. I was also greatly helped by the paper [4] of Mr. Emil Kolesar, in which the DVs detected in the past by Messrs. Žampach and Látal are documented in detail, supplemented also by his new identifications. I have assigned most of the known DVs to specific ZPs (80 pcs). Duplication errors have also occurred, with some ZPs being described independently by two different DVs. I did not find other previously described DVs on the two sheets. Therefore, I believe that these are not the primary DVs of the ZP in question. Some ZPs have not yet been described and will need to be identified with their primary DVs in the future. I am following the colour convention already established in the previous article. I have marked in green the ZP on which the same DV occurs on both TDs, and in yellow and blue I have marked the DV that is specific only to the TD in question.

I hope that the attached table will help you to better identify the ZP and TDs of this issue from the early CSR I period. I have spent several long evenings with magnifying glass and microscope and if you find any error, I will be glad if you point it out to me. Due also to the lack of my own collecting material, I am relying on the knowledge gained mainly from the literature [1,2,3,4] and the work of the specialists mentioned above. If you have any comments, clarifications or further knowledge about this issue, I would be very happy to receive them.

I bring to your attention that in the Postal Museum, Nové Mlýny 2 there is currently on display in panel 40 a beautiful TA Ha V I of 300 and 400 h values, red and brown. It is the last icon of this issue that would deserve detailed documentation. Many thanks to the PM staff for making it available to the general public. For collectors and letterpress fans who have a trip to Prague, I definitely recommend a stop at the Postal Museum.

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Sources:

- [1] Karásek J., Michele A., Svoboda B. - Monografie československých známek Díl II., Praha, 1971  
 [2] Žampach F., Karásek J., Pittermann P. - HaV 1920, Brno, 1988  
 [3] Látal J. - HaV, Zpravodaj SSKV ČS známek, 38/1995  
 [4] Kolesar E. - HaV vydání roku 1920, Zpravodaj SSČSK známek, č.90/2019

	TD1									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0			DV125	DV129	DV49			DV21		
1				DV70	DV68	DV39	DV108			DV138
2	DV59,122	DV93	DV106	DV64	DV101				DV131	
3	DV147		DV44	DV66	DV130	DV67,18		DV83		
4	DV17	DV34	DV119		DV116		DV9			DV149
5	DV84				DV53,145			DV12	DV117	
6	DV13		DV139,148			DV29		DV10K	DV78,79	DV114
7	DV25	DV46	DV124	DV146				DV92		DV113
8	DV76	DV75			DV112		DV111	DV89	DV132	
9	DV19	DV127		DV45	DV102	DV133		DV57	DV134	DV94
	TD2									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
0	DV15,16		DV125	DV129	DV49	DV85		DV21		
1	DV59			DV70	DV68	DV39				DV138
2	DV81	DV93		DV64	DV101					
3	DV147		DV44	DV66	DV130	DV67,18		DV83	DV142	
4	DV17	DV34	DV119		DV116	DV121	DV9,104	DV88		DV149,123
5	DV84		DV136		DV53	DV80	DV2	DV12	DV117	
6	DV13		DV40,118	DV3		DV29	DV60	DV10	DV78,79	DV114
7	DV25	DV42		DV146	DV109		DV100	DV92,30	DV48	DV113,135
8		DV74,75	DV107		DV112,43		DV111	DV89	DV126,132	
9		DV127		DV7	DV102				DV134,31	DV94

TD1 and TD2

Only on TD1

Only on TD2

600 h HaV 1920 - Plate defects (D)

Fig.3. Location of 600 h plate errors

Fig.3. Location of 600 h plate errors on TD 1 and 2