

Post and Scout services
in Prague 1914-1918

— In the revolutionary period

The map of Europe was transformed with the end of the First World War, creating new nations by ethnic groups, one of them being Czechoslovakia.

In its early days, the new republic and Prague, its capital, needed a secure, reliable, and fast postal service between the National Liberation Committee and other government offices.

Chief Scout A. Svojsík, together with J. Rössler Ořovský, offered to organize the Scouts for this urgent task. The unwavering acceptance of the proposal by the National Committee was the test of confidence and faith in Scouting.

Then, the well-understood service of the Czech Scouts provided their nascent homeland with something essential at that time: “The organization and distribution of government mail”. The service that officially lasted from November 7th to 25th, 1918, and in which different organizations and people with official positions were able to exchange mail with the new leaders thanks to the selfless work of the Scouts, who carried the shipments in hand, allowing them to be fast, safe and secret.

Benito González Bugallo



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Post and Scout services in Prague 1914-1918 (In the revolutionary period)

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*To my dear mother,
who for years encouraged me
in this arduous task
and she could not see it completed.*







1 - PRESENTATION	12 — 15
2 - EARLY DAYS OF CZECH SCOUTING	16 — 35
3 - ALWAYS READY TO SERVE	36 — 141
4 - THE EMPIRE CRUMBLES	142 — 179
5 - INDEPENDENCE DAY	180 — 219
6 - PRIVATE OVERPRINTS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD	220 — 273
7 - CZECH SCOUT POST TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE	274 — 403
8 - EXTRAORDINARY POSTAL SERVICE (ARRIVAL OF PRES. MASARYK)	404 — 435
9 - END OF SCOUT POSTAL SERVICE	436 — 441
10 - CZECHOSLOVAK NEW REPUBLIC	442 — 447
11 - GLOSSARY	448 — 501





1 - PRESENTATION



POST AND SCOUT SERVICES IN PRAGUE 1914-1918

- In the revolutionary period

The map of Europe was transformed with the arrival of the end of the First World War. New nations were created on ethnic groups, one of them was Czechoslovakia.

The new Republic, and Prague, its capital, initially needed a secure, reliable, and fast postal service between the National Liberation Committee and other government offices.

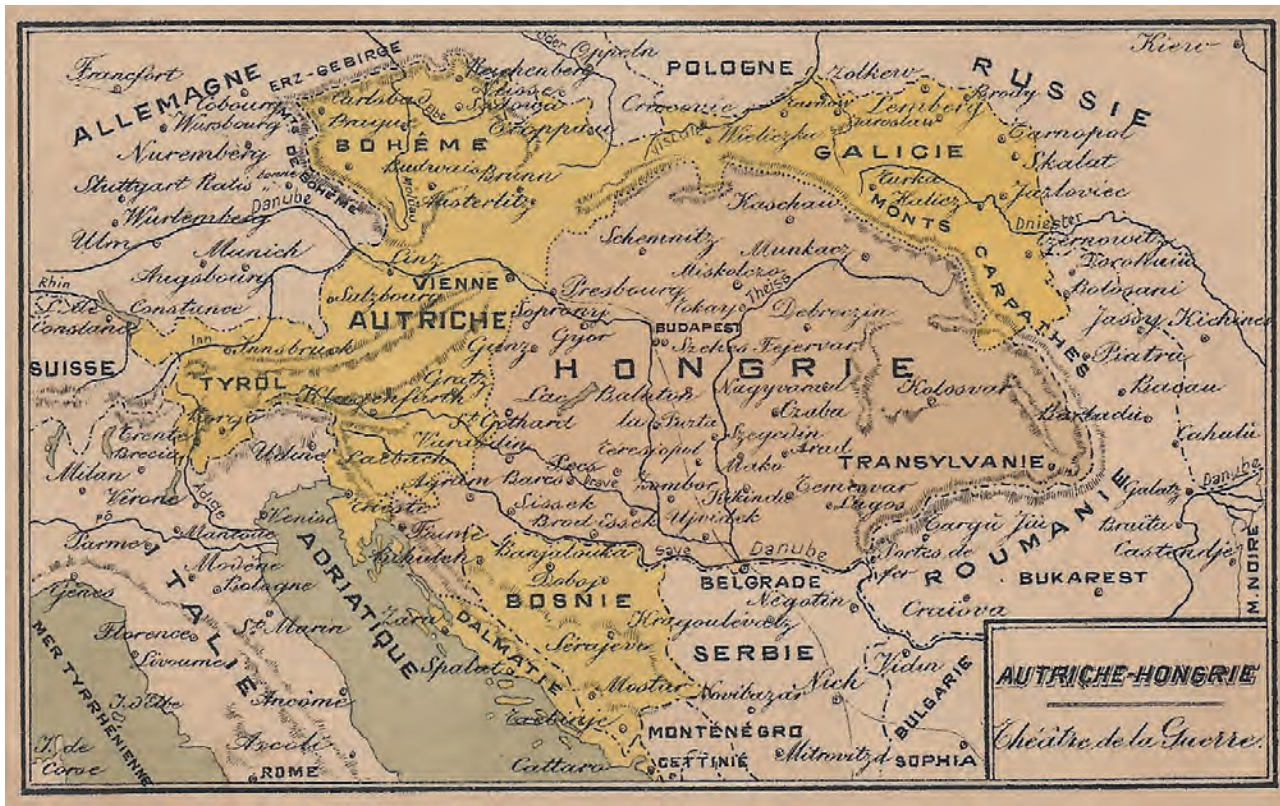
Chief Scout, A. Svojsík and J. Rössler Ořovský, offered to organize the Scouts for this urgent task. The unhesitating acceptance of the proposal by the National Committee was the test of trust and faith in the Scout Movement.

Then, the well-understood service of the Czech Scouts, provided their nascent homeland with something that was essential at that time: “The organization and distribution of the government courier”. Service that officially lasted from November 7 to 25, 1918, and in which different agencies and people with official positions exchanged mail with the new headquarters thanks to the selfless work of the Scouts, who carried in hand all the shipments, allowing them to be fast, safe, and secret.

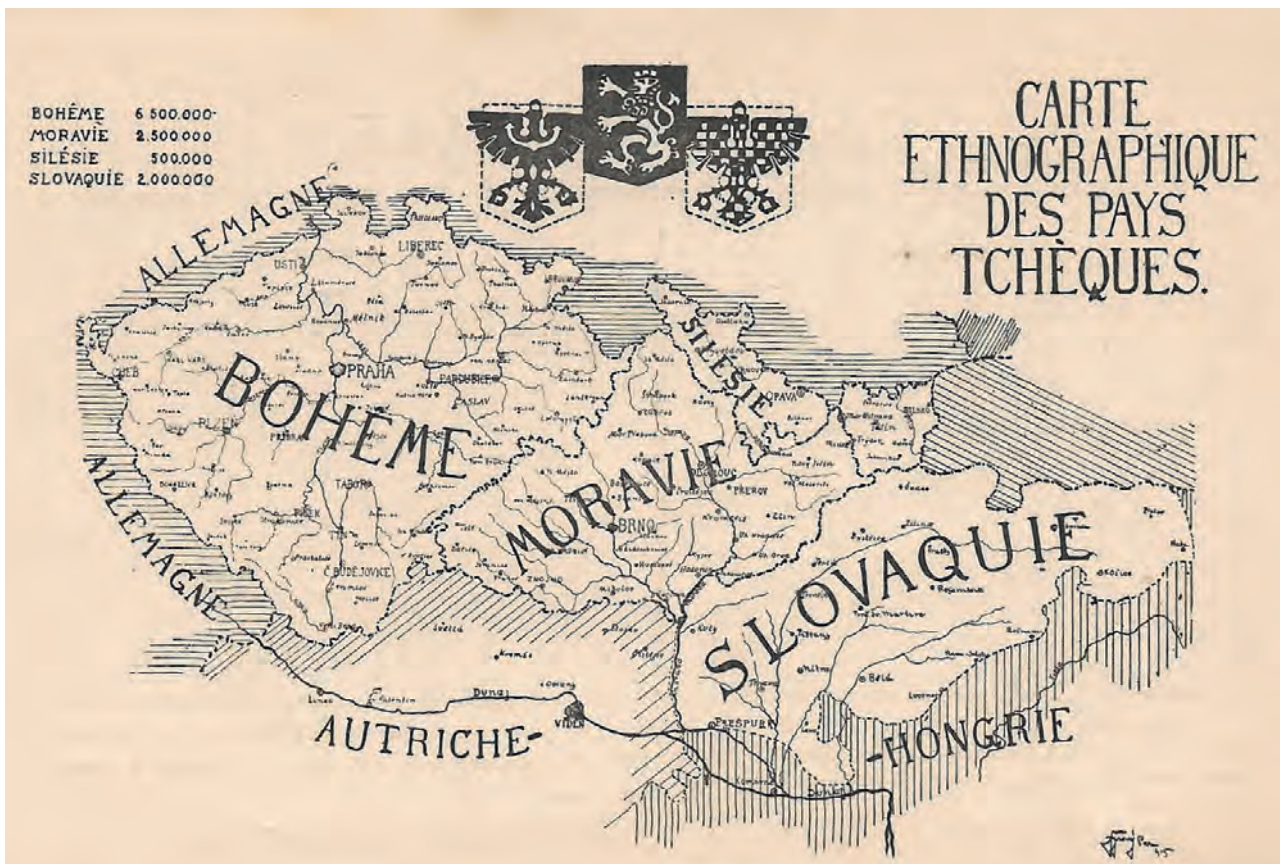
All contact had fractured with the administrative headquarters in Vienna, which meant that the stamp deliveries of the Viennese central printing press had also ceased. The National Committee assumed all the laws and took over the administrative system (Cereal Institute, Central Post Office, as well as other institutions, including the Ministry of the Interior).

On November 14, 1918, the first meeting of the revolutionary National Assembly was convened in Prague, among other things Prime Minister Dr. Karel Kramář said: *“All ties that bound us to the Habsburg Lorraine dynasty have been broken, the Habsburg dynasty being stripped of the Bohemian throne and the republic proclaimed in the new State”*. Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (then in exile) was unanimously elected President of the Republic.





Map of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



Since 1526, the Czech lands (Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Slovakia) have suffered under the yoke of the Habsburgs, but the day of delivery is approaching. Long live the Triple Entente.

— Poštovní známky státu československého budou vydány v nejbližších dnech. Zatím budou užity staré známky, jež budou přetištěny nápisem: „Zatímní vláda Národního výboru“. Později budou vydány ovšem nové známky, jež navrhnou naši umělci. Při návrzích bude lze užítí hojně námětů z naší historie a známky budou moci spolu býti symbolem vzkříšeného státu československého.

Clipping from the Czech newspaper "Národní Listy". October 31, 1918.

Postage stamps of the Czechoslovak State will be issued in the coming days. Meanwhile, the old stamps will be used, which will be reprinted with the inscription "Provisional government of the National Committee" later, however, new stamps designed by our artists will be issued. Many themes from our history can be used in designs and stamps can be a symbol of the resurgent State of Czechoslovakia.



First map of the new Czechoslovak State, 28.10.1918.



2 - EARLY DAYS OF CZECH SCOUTING



During the summer of 1911, professor Antonín František Svojsík travelled to England to study Scouting and the pedagogy applied by Robert Baden Powell. On his return to Prague, he contacted leading Czech academic, cultural, and social figures, who offered him help and support in drawing up the guidelines for what was to become Czech Scouting.

In 1912 he published a book entitled “Základy Junáctví” (Fundamentals of Scouting) to which other teachers and writers contributed (Mikoláš Aleš drew the cover and the head of the bohemian shepherd dog), including contributors such as the Czech playwright, secondary school teacher and politician, author of several historical novels Alois Jirásek, the novelist Karel Václav Rais, the educator and founder of the Czech Olympic Committee, Dr. Jiří Stanislav Guth-Jarkovský etc.

Under the patronage of the leading representative of Czech sport J. Rössler-Ořovský, Divisions of nautical Scouts were formed with training in sailing, also encouraging skiing in their units. Eduard Štorch (nicknamed Sachem) Czech pedagogue, archaeologist and writer gathered around him scouts interested in archaeology, ethnography and biology, Dr. Ant. Štych, former deputy mayor, member of the Prague City Council and delegate of the Czech Olympic Committee in Prague, founded the “scientific Scouting” section, which focused on science courses, astronomical observations, measurements in nature, geology and field trips, English teacher, translator and writer Dr. Jaroslav Novák, František Serafínský Procházka, Czech writer, poet and translator, editor and director of the Prague City Library, member of the Czech Academy and author of the text of the Scout hymn, Adolf Stránský, “Dolfíček” economist and translator, brother-in-law of Svojsík, was his closest collaborator, Alois Svojsík, Catholic priest, translator, press correspondent, lecturer, and tireless traveller, was his brother Antonín’s right-hand man. František Bílý, a Czech secondary school teacher, literary historian, and critic, contributed to the book of Czech Scouting: “Základy Junáctví”, and proposed the name Junák to its founders, Dr. Ladislav Drůbek, secondary school teacher, Václav Jelen, Vlasta Koseová and so many others...

In July 1912, Svojsík put Czech Scouting into practice by applying the experience in nature, organising, and leading the first camp with a small group of 13 pupils from the secondary school where he taught, with the participation of the Czech poet, writer and playwright Jiří Karel Wolker, the educator and writer Rudolf Plajner and the doctor Josef Charvát. It took place in the Vorlovská myslivna hunting reserve, where A.B. Svojsík’s father-in-law lived, near Lipnice Castle, just over an hour from Prague.

The interest generated in the country fellowship was enormous and led Svojsík to submit to the Prague government on May 18, 1914 the statutes for the establishment of the first independent Scout Organisation, called “Junák - Český Skaut” (JČS). Initially, it was not without fears about the possible union or cooperation with the Österreichischer Pfadfinderbund (Austrian Scout Association).

Once the statutes had been approved on May 30, its first task was to prepare camps for the summer, but it did not count on the imminent partial mobilisation on July 26, and general mobilisation on July 31, and the outbreak of the First World War.





Professor A. Svojsík, founder, promoter and leader of Scouting in Czechoslovakia.



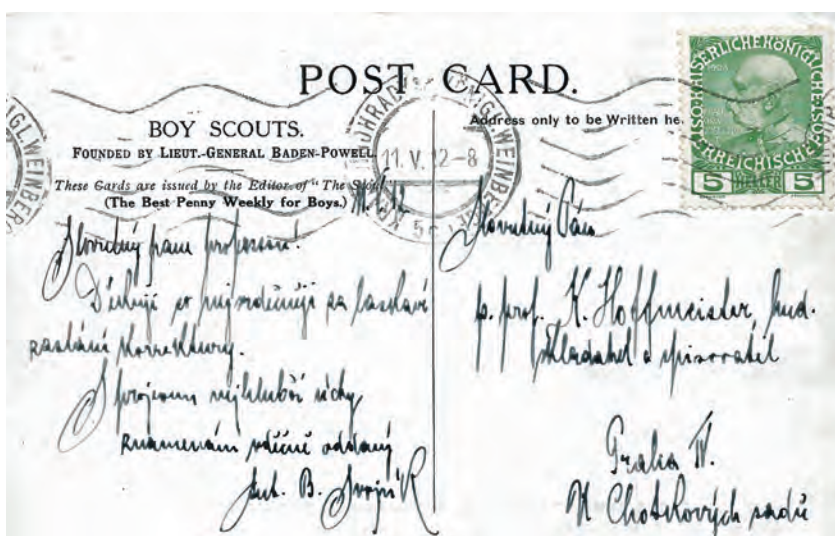
Card of the 4th Prague group, sent to Josef Kalibera, (scout leader and instructor) from the summer camp in Ober Rochlitz (town belonging to Austria until 1918, then to Czechoslovakia). Excellent starting point for hiking, trekking and camping. 14.7.1911.



First nautical scouts in Prague.



Cover of the book "Základy Junáctví".



Official postcard of the English Scout Association, bought by Svojsík on his trip to London. Sent from Prague to professor Hoffmeister on 11.5.1912.



Junák library, Czech Scouts, no 3, A.B. Svojsík. "In Nature".



Christmas greeting to the school. Pictured with his older brother Alois Svojsík and family. 23.12.1911.



Famous quartet of which Svojsík was a member (as the youngest member, he earned the nickname benjamin) A.B.S.





First Scout camp in Prague. Card sent by Svojsík to Ořovský.



1917. Card of the fourth section of scouts in Prague. Sent to Josef Kalibera, outstanding scout leader and instructor involved in the delivery of the Scout mail on 28.10.1918.



The first Czech Scout groups began in the cities bordering Prague, when they began to learn of the formation of the new Association in the capital. This is the case of the city of Beroun, located 30 kilometres from Prague in the Central Bohemian region. The newly created group, with its image, without uniform, without badges, is heading to the 49th infantry Regiment K.u.K. 2nd Company, which is fighting in Videaň (a village in the district of Žďár nad Sázavou in the region of Vysočina, Czech Republic).



Vůdce I. výpravy Junáků a propagátor hnutí junáckého prof. A. B. Svojsík.

Účastníci I. výpravy Junáků na pochodu do tábora.

Knihovna junáků [Českých skautů] obsahuje:

Sv. 1. *Český skaut.* Napsal Ant. B. Svojsík. K — 20.

Sv. 2. *Táboření.* Prakt. rádce k bydlení ve volné přírodě. Napsal A. B. Svojsík. S 43 obrazy. V celopl. vazbě K 2.—.

Sv. 3. *V přírodě.* S příspěvky šk. r. B. Baušeho, Dra Em. Faita a Dra Fr. Smotlacha napsal Ant. B. Svojsík. S 35 obrazy. V celoplát. vazbě K 2'60.

Sv. 4. *Umění pozorovati.* Praktický návod, jak pozorovati a krýti se. Dle sira Rob. Baden-Powella napsal A. B. Svojsík. S 21 obrazy. V celopl. vazbě K 1'60.

Sv. 5. *Základy junáctví.* Návod pro výchovu české mládeže na základě systému sira Rob. Baden-Powella »Scouting« a za laskavého přispění četných odborníků napsal Ant. B. Svojsík. S 208 obrazy. V celoplát. vazbě K 10.—.

Sv. 6. *Význam skautování.* Rozprava o výchovné hodnotě skautingu. Napsal Fr. Čáda. 20 hal.

Sv. 7. Den v táboře junáků. Český skauting v praxi slovem i obrazem. S 52 obrazy. Napsal A. B. Svojsík. 60 hal.

Karel Kovařovič: **JUNÁCKÁ.** Věnováno prvním českým skautům. Slova napsal Fr. S. Procházka. Pro čtyři hlasy. Cena 20 h.

České lidové knihkupectví a antikvariát (J. Springer) v Praze-I., filiálka: Král. Vinohrady.

Advertising card of the first Scout camp held by Svojsík, with propaganda of the bibliography and Scout writings available for sale.



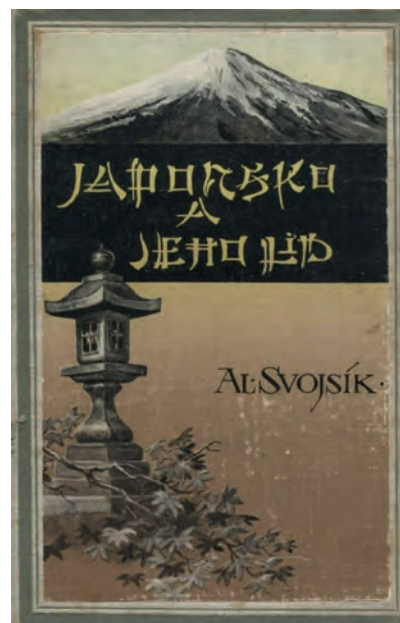
Advertising card of Alois Svojsík as a traveller to five Continents.



Alois Svojsík.



Family pantheon, Svojsík family. Vyšehrad cemetery.



Cover of Alois Svojsík's book 'Japan and its people', 1913.



Postcard from 1912 sent to Miloslav Roubal, head of the "Psoblavci" group, a division of rescue Scouts in which interesting messages are offered about scout counseling and the services of the young leader of the Scout group. (Brand bohemian shepherd dog's head).



Landscape observation. Propaganda card from the beginnings of Czech Scouting.



Stromovka was a hunting ground in the mid-13th century. Royal reserve and park used by Prague Scouts for camping (28.9.1913). Scouts at lunch. Propaganda card from the beginnings of Czechoslovak Scouting (purple ink mark).

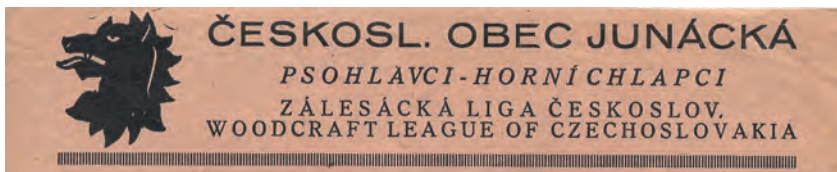




Czech Scout camp held in 1913. Organised by the Czech Associations for Physical Education.



Advertising of the Scout shop, tourist activities, skiing and sports.



Czechoslovak Junák community. Psohlavci. Forestry and woodcraft confederation.



Card from the Junák Czech Scout camp organised by the Czech Association. (physical education Associations) held in 1913.



*Prague Scout camp with teepees**

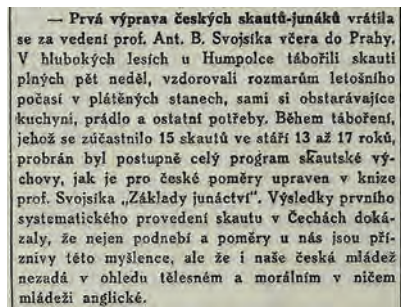
**Conical tent, originally made of animal skins such as bison, and wooden sticks, used by the nomadic indigenous peoples of the United States of the Great Plains.*



Rubber badge with emblem (bobemian shepherd dog's head) of the Czech Scout chairmanship, taken from the "Psoblavci".



Novel "Psoblavci", written by Alois Jirásek.



Newspaper clipping about the Humpolec camp.
The first expedition of czech scouts junák- returned under the leadership of professor Antonín B. Svojsík to Prague yesterday. In the deep forests near Humpolec, the explorers camped for five full Sundays, braving the vagaries of this year's weather in canvas tents, providing their own kitchen, linen, and other necessities. During the camp, which was attended by 15 scouts aged 13-17, the entire Scout education programme, adapted to Czech conditions in professor Svojsík's book "Základy Junáctví". The results of the first systematic implementation of Scouting in the Czech Republic proved that not only the climate and conditions in our country are favourable to this idea, but also that our Czech youth is no match for the English youth in physical and moral terms.





Another important task, once the JČS Association was established (although the wartime was not conducive to publishing activities) was the editing and publication of a magazine that would serve as a link between its members, both rural and Prague, and would portray the multifaceted life of the Scouts.

Thus, on January 15, 1915, Svojsík published the first issue of the magazine “Junák” with remarkable success, despite the war situation throughout the territory. Aimed primarily at Scouts, but also focused on young Czechs, parents, teachers, and friends, it escaped the prevailing censorship on numerous occasions.

In the same year, a pamphlet by the physician and scout leader Čeněk Klika: “Názor lékaře o skautování” “The doctor’s opinion on Scouting”, was published as the eighth volume of the Junák Czech Scout library. Its content was a speech delivered by the author on May 5, 1914 in the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House in Prague.

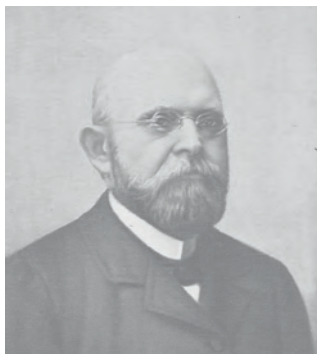
As a teacher of physical education, Antonín B. Svojsík was very directly influenced by the Canadian Ernest Thompson Seton, founder of the Woodcraft Movement, and by R. Baden Powell in creating the Scout Movement in Czechoslovakia, he also combined the educational system with traditions of the Czechoslovak nation and the spirit and ideals of the oldest Czechs physical education Association “Sokol” (which, like Masaryk, he had belonged to), which promoted Czechs culture and social life, cultivating and developing its members physically and intellectually.

A year later, in 1916, A. B. Svojsík wrote “Field Games”, as the ninth volume of the Junák library mentioned above, which, among games intended for the youngest, contained a series of military exercises, which, in the middle of the World War, brought him fierce criticism.

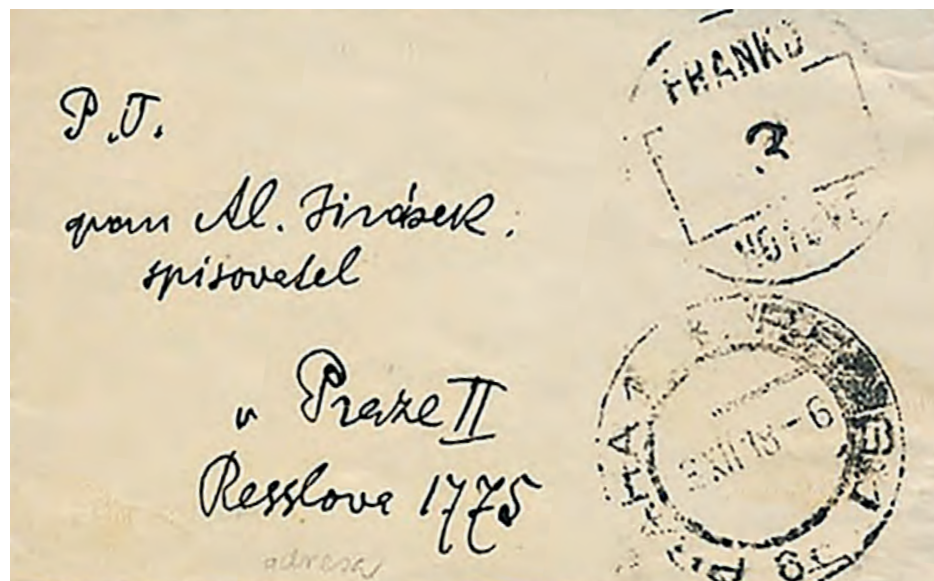
The Viennese writer, translator, and teacher Jan Hořejší, who founded the “Psohlavci” Organisation, which later became part of the Svojsík Junák, used a bohemian shepherd dog’s head as his emblem, taken from the “Psohlavci”, which is a historical novel written by Alois Jirásek in 1883-1884. The dialogues of the novel are written in Chod dialect (former Czechs State border guards), and their dogs are considered a symbol of service, heroism, fidelity, and vigilance.



Čeněk Kliša.



Alois Jirásek.



Newspaper package sent to the writer Alois Jirásek, no postage due to the shortage of stamps. Cash payment (3.12.1918. PRAG in German crossed out in postmark).



Alois Jirásek, 1851 - 1930, (second from left) Czech writer, author of "Psoblavci". He contributed significantly to the beginnings of Scouting. May 1918 festivities in Prague.





Scout from the Rožmitál colony.

We could add other Czechoslovak Scout Associations, as well as other leaders and personalities who in those early beginnings worked in parallel for Scouting: the Czechoslovak high school teacher, naturalist, writer, translator and father of the woodcraft movement Miloš František Seifert; botanist, physician, agricultural expert and pedagogue Anna Berkovcová; founder of Czech Girl Scouting Vlasta Štěpánová Koseová; the Czech writer, playwright and publicist Popelka Biliánová; the Slovak prose writer, publisher and publicist Elena Maróthy-Šoltéssová, not forgetting those women who spent their holidays helping out in the camps run by their husbands (Kliková, Půlkrábková, E. Milčicová and Herbenová).

“I did what I could for Girl Scouting to the best of my conscience, without a model and without any help, and I offer it to our Czech public with the wish that they continue to cultivate it until it flourishes as it should and bring it to the benefit of our youth and our nation...”

Popelka Biliánová.

“We started in the autumn of 1914. The founder of the Czech Scouts, professor Svojsík, was present at the first meetings to familiarise us with the principles of the movement. Later, he also led several of our hikes in the Prague area, where he explained various practices and methods of youth education...”

Anna Berkovcová.





First scout mark with the legend “pošta prvních českých skautů - Rožmitál” “Post of the first Czech Scouts” from the town of Rožmitál. The card is dated July 22, 1914 (six days before the outbreak of World War I). It is printed with the text: “Postcard of the first Czech scout from the American colony for young people in Rožmitál. In the text: ‘Greetings, we go to the forest every day, to learn shooting (archery), playing, and we also learn rowing...’.



Scout salute, drawing in a book of the time.



First Scout camps.

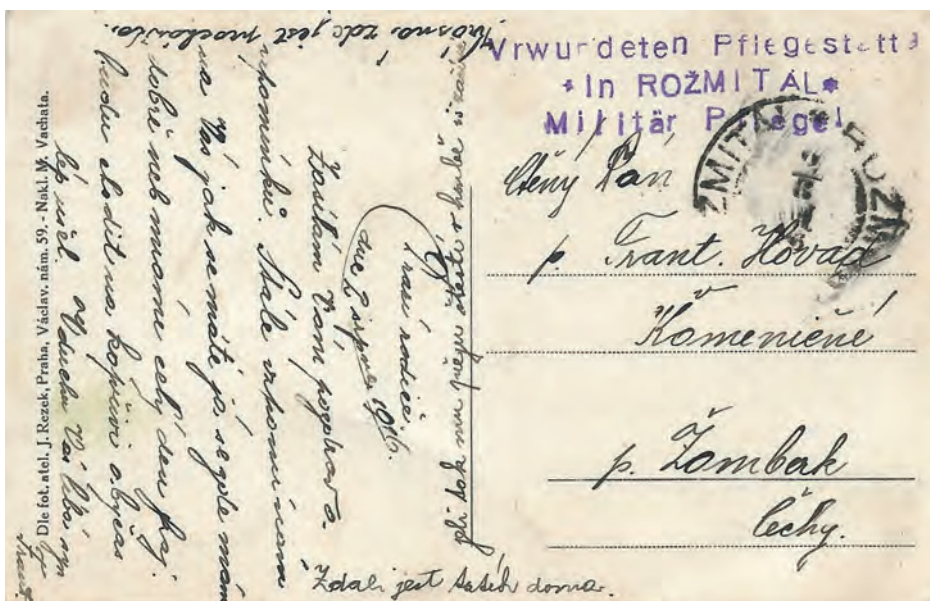




First Czech Scout camps.



Coat of arms of Zdeněk Lev of Rožmitál (before 1470 - July 14, 1535), was a Czech Catholic aristocrat, politician, courtier and art donor of the Jagiellonian and early Habsburg periods.



Purple ink marking of the home for the wounded elderly, where the Scouts served. Military infirmary of Rožmitál 1916.



Emblem with dog's head circumscribed in fleur-de-lis. Badge of the uniform of the first Czech Scouts.



Reverse side mark, violet ink. As on the 1914 card, it reads: "Post from the first Czech Scout".



Registered envelope and circulated four years later (2.11.18) The postmark is of a later type than the postcard. It is addressed to the Prague National Committee (military section).

František Hofmeister can undoubtedly be considered the founder, promoter, and organizer of Scouting on Czech territory since the spring of 1911.

The intention to establish the first boarding school colony according to the American model for youth and Scouts in Central Bohemia dates back to the information that František Hofmeister himself published on 21.1.1911 in the magazine "Národní obzor" (National horizon), and was approved on April 14th, so it was opened on 15.5.1911, one year before the foundation of Junák-Czech Scout, and Scouting, in Czechoslovakia by his follower, professor A.B. Svojsík, who visited the colony in 1913. From the very beginning, Hofmeister had cooperated with the leaders of the Organisation Junák Psohlavci, Miloš Seifert and Jan Hořejší.





Rožmitál castle.

UPBRINGING AND SCHOOLING: AUTONOMOUS VILLAGE FOR YOUTH IN ROŽMITÁL.

When last February I published an article in “Národním Obzoru”, in which I pointed out the difference in the education of young people in America and in our country, and announced that I wanted to establish a colony organised according to the American model, I was already convinced that I would certainly not have a large number of applications. Every novelty meets with various obstacles in our country, of which incomprehension, ridicule and indifference are not the least. The word Scout was unknown to the general public at that time, and therefore I did not use it immediately for tactical reasons, but referred to the colony only by the word American, because more and more often American education was being written about and therefore the word was more familiar to the public.

František Hofmeister.

Other newspapers also reflect the activities of the colony: Žďár (Political weekly 1911) interrupted publication from 1916 - 1918. Čech (Catholic political weekly 6.5.1913) Brněnské noviny - 1914, Čas 3.6.1914, Přehled - 22.11.1912.



František Hofmeister, who studied American (Seton) and English (B. Powell) Scouting, from the very beginning provided a complete uniform for his scout and guide members. It differed from Baden-Powell's Scouting by didactic elements, such as self-government, education through work, training for self-sufficiency and support for leisure activities, distinguishing itself as a political Association and avoiding the military education of Scouts.

The colony was a boarding school in the town of Rožmitál (in the district of Příbram in the Central Bohemian region) which admitted boys and girls from the age of six, not only Czech but also of other nationalities, preparing them in strict self-discipline for practical and orderly life, where the principles of Scouting were applied as part of training, development, and education: staying in nature, camping, signalling, tracking, cooking on a fire, field games.

The aim of education was the proper moral, physical and mental development of the youth, adequate preparation that would teach them to be autonomous and not to depend on the help of others, but to defend their own independent existence, with a clear sense of duty, respect for work, firmness of will and determination.

The colony accepted young men and women for a holiday stay or a long-term stay (often for the whole year) and also attended primary or secondary school, and was, as the propaganda of the time put it: ... *"the best preparation for those wishing to study business or real estate education or for young people interested in military training. For orphans or children whose parents are unable to care for them, the colony is the best refuge. Excellent educational and health results. Many letters of thanks from parents and recommendations from celebrities. For 14-year-old boys and girls who start special courses on October 1. Young people spend the most pleasant holidays in the camp"*.

The Scouts had a uniform, a club house on Jungmannova street in Rožmitál, and their leisure activities included rowing boats and canoes, sunbathing, swimming, skiing, and horseback riding. They helped out in town and in field work, had their own trumpet band and string orchestra. Girls over the age of 14 were taught home management, gardening, handicrafts, health care, first aid, sewing and cooking. They had the possibility to learn German, French, Esperanto, and to play the piano.

The inmates had their own self-government, electing a chief, four secretaries, a board of governors and a court. They themselves ran all the administration in the colony, finances, buying and selling, keeping their own farm of rabbits, pigeons, poultry, and beehives, had their own weather station and tourist information office.

Other activities carried out there were: photography, gymnastics, athletics, orienteering, water sports, fencing, shooting, excursions to the mountains and forests, camping, skating. They had their own library and reading room full of newspapers and magazines, guided foreigners, helped with the harvest, collected medicinal herbs, and also assisted with the management of shipments to the railway station or help in the sawmill.

The boys and girls were instructed in all school subjects, but also in lessons for life which were not taught in the schools. They saw to it that the young Scouts and Guides left the colony morally strong.



Purchase of horses, military stud farm. 1916.



Transport of sick horse. K.u.k. Ministry of War, photograph for press office.

Kundmachung!

Pferdekauf.

Am 11. November 1916, um 8 Uhr Vormittag, trifft eine militärische Kommission zum freihändigen Ankauf von Pferden in ROŽMITAL ein.

Pferdebesitzer, welche ihre Pferde freiwillig verkaufen wollen, mögen diese in ROŽMITAL stellig machen.

Es werden auch mit Evidenzblättern beteilte Pferde gekauft.

Evidenzblattpferde dürfen jedoch der Ankaufskommission nur innerhalb des Aushebungsbezirkes vorgestellt werden.

Die Evidenzblätter sind unbedingt mitzubringen.

Der mit dem Pferdebesitzer vereinbarte Kaufpreis wird **sofort** bar ausbezahlt gegen Entrichtung der Quittungsstempelgebühr nach Skala II und der Vertragsstempelgebühr nach Skala III.

Die Besitzer sowohl von Evidenzblattpferden, als auch von sonstigen Pferden werden aufmerksam gemacht, dieselben nicht an Zwischenhändler zu verkaufen, sondern im eigenen Interesse unmittelbar der militärischen Ankaufskommission zum Kaufe anzubieten.

K. u. k. Militärkommando Prag.

On November 11, 1916, at 8 a.m., in the town of Rožmital, a commission from the Prague military command k.u.k. carried out a private purchase of horses for the use of the imperial Army, with payment in cash. Poster 24.2 x 31.5.



First summer Scout camps.



Propaganda for sale of first Scout camping tents.



*Photograph of Austrian soldiers applying brown pigment to a white horse. The paint is composed of *potassium permanganate.*

**Potassium permanganate, (also known as chameleon minerals or Condy's crystals) was used as a seemingly common practice for painting white horses for camouflage purposes during World War I due to the formation of brown MnO₂.*



Military department of the k.u.k. state stallion depot in Prague, February 15, 1917.

On May 1, 1914, a new Rožmitál-Prague railway connection was opened, with four journeys a day and punctual connections to other destinations, which made it more accessible and attractive, allowing exploration of beautiful places in the area, as well as visits to the American Scout colony in Rožmitál.

In 1915 Hofmeister also had to enlist as an officer in the war in Europe, but the colony was never closed down and was run in his absence by Marie, his wife. During the war period, the Scouts did extraordinary work: they carried out rural work in the area, maintained a post office with its own postal brand, and provided free salons for wounded and convalescent soldiers, who were specially cared for by the Scouts.

After Hofmeister's return from the war in 1919, the Scout colony ceased its activities in the early 1920s.

In America, such colonies also sprang up first in the countryside, far from the big cities. Most American millionaires *graduated* from the colony. The results were so remarkable and excellent that France, Switzerland, and England established similar colonies.



3 - ALWAYS READY TO SERVE



“May we, who have been called to lead Czechoslovak Scouting, be guided by the idea that we are here only and solely to help conscientiously educate the soul and body of the youth entrusted to us, far from strange associations and the pursuit of vain bureaucratic efforts. It is our responsibility to inculcate in the youth an ideal love for the homeland and the nation, without which every effort would be futile or selfish”.

J. Rössler-Ořovský.

Although the political situation in Europe had been showing clear signs of imminent war for many years, the real alarm bell was the attack in Sarajevo (capital of the imperial province of Bosnia and Herzegovina). On June 28, 1914, the heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, and his wife, Sophie Chotek von Chotkowa, Duchess of Hohenberg, who were visiting Sarajevo, were killed by revolver shots fired by Serb criminals. Less than a month later, on July 23, the Austro-Hungarian envoy in Belgrade presented the Serbian government with the ultimatum.

Although the Serbian government's responsibility could not be proven, the Austro-Hungarian Empire held it responsible for the attack, declaring war on it and triggering a succession of military responses that eventually led to World War I. The first battles of World War I were fought in the early days of the war.

The first battles of World War I took place in Serbia, where, following the Austro-Hungarian ultimatum, the Austro-Hungarian Army began operations on July 29, 1914. In the first days of the conflict, the Serbian capital Belgrade was bombarded and the Austro-Hungarian Army, which had a great numerical superiority, advanced into Serbian territory.

World War I broke out in the then short history of Scouting and transformed both the daily life of the citizens belonging to the empire and the activities of the Scouts themselves, obliging them, on their honour, to fulfil that part of their Promise which speaks of *“serving the fatherland at all times and helping others in all circumstances without regard to self-sacrifice”*.

But not in combat and destruction, but by contributing by their efforts and their presence to mitigate the evils of the country, by occupying positions of help and service to eliminate and shorten those evil days. The Scouts are not yet men, but they understand what it is to serve the fatherland when it needs them, and they faithfully fulfil their Promise by throwing themselves into their duties wherever they are needed.

Austria joined World War I in July 1914, when the Káiser declared war on Serbia. Many active Czech sportsmen and scouts were forced to enlist in the Army of Franz Joseph I. The first consequence of the mobilisation was the departure of most of the Scout leaders and the interruption of some holiday camps of almost all Scout colonies in Bohemia.

Sporting life came to a standstill. The Sokol were forced to disband in 1915 and their activities were banned, with many of them joining the Scouts or going underground. Practically the whole of Europe was already in the turmoil of war at that time. Czech sportsmen, civil servants and scouts took up arms, but kept in touch by correspondence.





J. L. Rössler-Ořovský and his daughter Mačička (Máča), who died of a stroke in 1916.

Todesanzeige.

Vom Schmerze tiefgebeugt, geben die hinterbliebenen Mordgesellen und Komitatschifführer tieferschüttelt Nachricht von dem Hinscheiden ihres geliebten Mörderlandes

SERBIEN

welches durch zu starke Beschiessung der österreich-ungarischen Armee trotz allen Widerstandes, nach langem, schweren Leiden zu bestehen aufhörte. Die schließigen Reste werden noch durch Österreich-Ungarn zur ewigen Ruh bestattet.

Die tieftrauernden Hinterbliebenen:

Peter, als Vater.

England, Frankreich, Belgien, Japan

Georg und Alexander als Kinder.

als Verwandte.

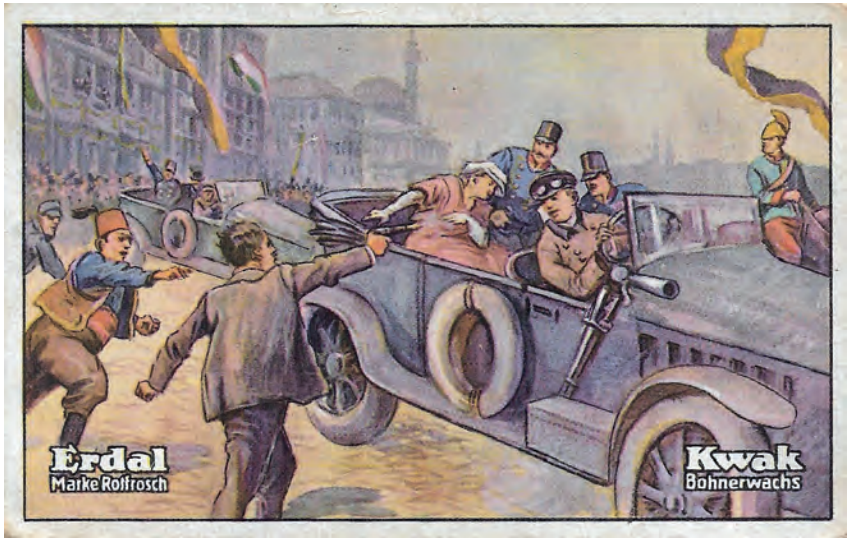
Kranzspenden werden zu Gunsten brotlos gewordener Regierungen abgelehnt.

Obituary

Deeply saddened by their grief, the surviving killers and county leaders report the deeply shocked by the news of the passing of their beloved murderous country

Serbia

which, despite all resistance, ceased to exist after long and severe suffering due to the excessive bombardment of the Austro-Hungarian army. The miserable remains will be buried forever in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Deeply grieving members: Peter, as a father. Georg and Alexander as sons. England, France, Belgium, Japan as relatives. Donations of wreaths are rejected in favor of governments that have run out of money.



Advertising card from the 1930s illustrating the shot that ended the couple's life.



Police capture a suspect after the assassination of Austro-Hungarian Archduke Franz Ferdinand. 28.6.1914.

2 hal. **Zvláštní vydání.** 2 hal.

V Praze, v pondělí 29. června 1914.

Večerník
PRÁVA LIDU

Stanné právo nad Sarajevem.

Demolování srbských budov v Sarajevě. — Podrobnosti atentátu. — Císař ve Vídni a jeho uvítání arcivévodou Karlem Františkem Josefem.

Protisrbské výtržnosti.

Ze Sarajeva, 28. června. (11 hod. v noci.)
V městě jsou velké protisrbské demonstrace. Hotel »Europe« byl demolován.

Hotel »Europe« je majetkem Srba Gestanoviče, tchána srbského vyslance v Petrohradu dra Spalajkoviče. Chorvaté a mohamedáni bombardovali hotel kameny a rozstřelali velká okna. Demonstrace trvaly tři čtvrti hodiny. Polici nepodařilo se rozehnati demonstranty. Povoláno vojsko, které zjednotilo pořádek.

Ze Sarajeva, 29. června. (Zvl. t. Pr. L.)
Dnes je zde plný klid práce, všechny obchody jsou zavřeny. Demonstrace se opakují.

Pohřeb arcivévodských manželů.

Ze Sarajeva, 29. června. (K. k.)
Tělesné ostatky arcivévody Františka Ferdinanda a paní vévodkyně z Hohenbergu byly v noci balsamovány a sňata s nich posmrtná maska. Kdy budou převezeny do Vídně, není ještě stanoveno. Zesnulým stále jsou přinášeny četné věnce.

Z Vídně, 29. června. (Zvl. tel.)
Ve dvorních kruzích se praví, že následník trůnu František Ferdinand nařídil svého času, aby byl pohřben ve své rodinné hrobce v Arstetten v Dolních Rakousích, kterou si dal před časem s velikým nákladem zříditi.

Telegrafické a telefonické zprávy.

Proč sňatí atentát?

Jak byl proveden atentát.

Ze Sarajeva, 29. června. (K. k.)
O prvním atentátu oznámili se úředně tyto podrobnosti: Napřed byl na nábrežii Appelově s

Special edition of the evening newspaper Večerník (People's rights) 29.6.1914. Martial law over Sarajevo, which gives details of Franz Ferdinand's assassination attempt, and the funerals of the archduke and duchess.

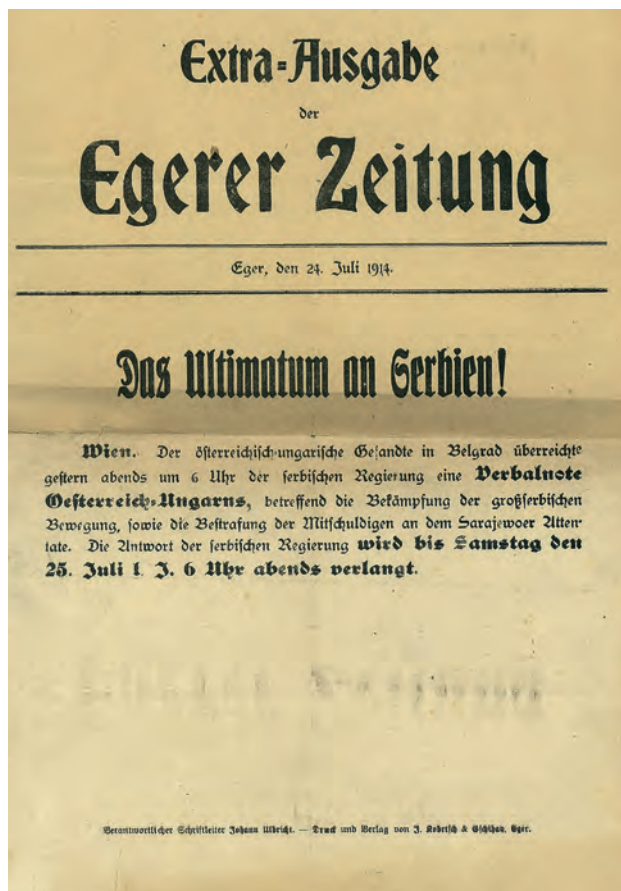


Orderly mobilization in France. The German Reichstag meets. First extra edition. Prager Tagblatt, Sunday, August 2, 1914.



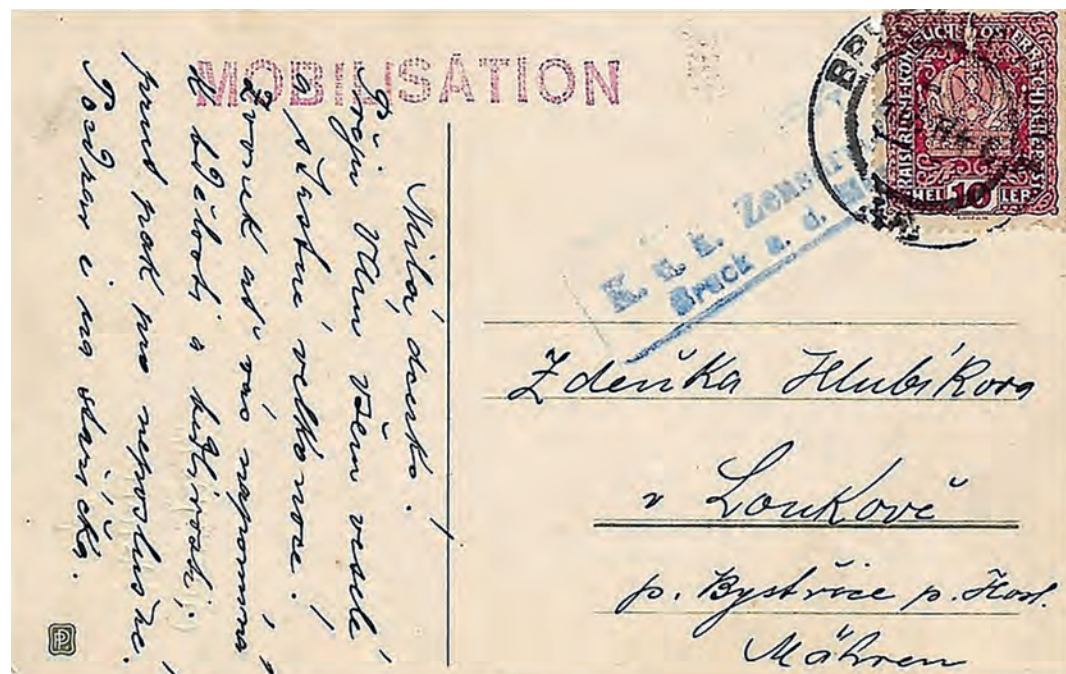
Franz Ferdinand.

Departure from the town hall 5 minutes before the attempt.
 Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir presumptive to the Austro-Hungarian throne, and his wife, Sophie, Duchess of Hohenberg, were assassinated on June 28, 1914.



Masthead of the newspaper Egerer Zeitung, extra edition of 24.7.1914. Ultimatum to Serbia.

Document from the military district governor's office with soldier affiliation data. WW1. Prague 23.11.1915.



Card franked in the city of Bruck, with Mobilisation mark and blue rectangular military censor's mark K.u.K.



Header of the German newspaper "Allgemeiner Anzeiger", for north Bohemia. Before the outbreak of war, 27.7.1914.



Czech soldiers head to the front.



Soldiers in the trench.



*Photographic essay and definitive charity stamp of 1915, 3+1 heller.
Austria 1915. War widows & orphans fund, semi-postals, price 6 d.*

*The infantry, cavalry and artillery of World War 1 pictured in
action to raise funds for the widows and orphans that resulted from
these actions.*



*Photo essay and definitive charity stamp of 1915, 5+2 heller.
World War 1914-1915. Austrian avant-garde, Uhrlans in Galitzia.*



An alle Soldaten des oesterreichischen Heeres.

Die grosse oesterreichisch-deutsche Offensive in Frankreich hat ihr Ziel nicht erreicht. Der Vormarsch der Deutschen ist infolge der Tapferkeit der Franko-Engländer aufgehalten worden.

Fünfhundertmal tausend Mann sind auf den Schlachtfeldern als Opfer des zügellosen Ehrgeizes des deutschen Kaisers gefallen.

Die Schlächtereie dauert fort und der Kaiser ruft andere oesterreichische Divisionen, um sie zum Tode zu führen.

In Böhmen und in Mähren, in Kroatien und in Bosnien droht die Revolution auszubringen. In Gracac, Lapac, Udbina ist der Belagerungszustand verhängt worden.

Im ganzen Reiche herrscht das Elend: die Mehlportion ist wieder begrenzt worden und das Volk stirbt von Hunger.

Svima vojnicima austro-ugarske vojske!

Velika ofenziva austro-nemačka u Francuskoj nije postigla svoj cilj. Napredovanje Niemaca je bilo spriječeno hrabro po Francuzima i Englezima.

Pet stotina tisuća Niemaca i Austrijanaca je palo na bojnim poljima, žrtve nepristojne težnje nemačkog cara.

Klanje traje i car zove druge austrijske divizije za odvesti ih u smrt.

U Češkoj i u Moravskoj, u Krvatskoj i u Bosni širi se revolucija. U Gracacu, Lapeu, Udbini je bilo proglašeno opsadno stanje.

U celom carstvu vlada bieda: obrok brašna je bio ponovno snižen, te narod umire od gladi.

Do wszystkich żołnierzy austriackiego wojska.

Wielka ofenzywa austro-niemiecka we Francji nie osiągnęła swego celu. Francuzi i Anglicy swoim bohaterstwem wstrzymali pochód Niemców.

Pięcsettysięcy Niemców i Austryaków padło na polu walki, ofiary nieograniczonej woli niemieckiego cesarza.

Bój trwa i cesarz woła nowe dywizje austriackie aby je pchnąć na pewną śmierć.

W Czechach, w Morawii, w Bosnii i Krocacji grozi rewolucja.

W Gracac, Lapac, Udbinie został ogłoszony wojenny stan.

W całej monarchji panuje niedza: racya mąki została znowu zmniejszona i naród umiera z głodu.

Az osztrák hadseregnek összes katonáinak!

A nagy offenzíva amebbet az Osztrákok és Németek Franciaában kezdtek nem érte el a célját. A Németeknek az előrevonulása megállítva volt a Franciák és Angolok vitézsége által.

Öt száz ezer Németek és Osztrákok estek a harctérrén a német császár divatlan ambíciója miatt.

A mészárolás folyik és a káizér más osztrák hadosztályt hogy halálra vezesse.

Csehországban, Morvában, Horvátországban és Boszniában, nemsokára a forradalom fog kitörni. Gracacban, Napacban Ubdinában ostromoló állást volt izentve.

Az egész birodalomban a hiányosság uralkodik: a lisztporció újról volt kisebbítve és a népesség éhességtől hal meg.

Všem vojínům rakouského vojska!

Velká rakousko-uherská ofenzíva ve Francii neuspěla. Postup Němců byl zastaven statečností Franko-Angličanů.

Pětikrátsto tisíc mužů padlo na bojistích za obět bezúspěšné cítižadostivosti německého císaře.

Vražení trvá dále a císař volá jiné divise rakouské, by jich vedl k smrti.

V Čechách, na Moravě, v Chorvatsku a v Bosně hrozi vypuknutí revoluce. V Gracac, Lapac, Udbině jest prohlášeno stanné právo.

V celé říši jest bída:

Moučná dávka byla opět ohraničená a lid zmrá hladu.

During wartime and throughout the Austro-Hungarian Empire, propaganda (both official and private) was an important factor in the motivation and/or demoralisation of the fighting troops. The usefulness of propaganda in manipulating public opinion and maintaining morale on both sides was evident from the very beginning of the war, through images, speeches and texts.

Propaganda: To all the soldiers of the Austro-Hungarian Army!

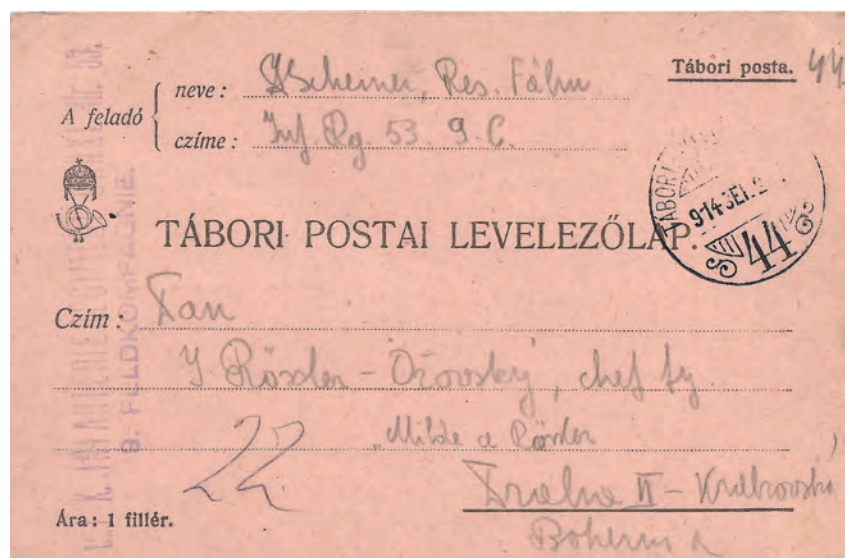
The great Austro-German offensive in France failed to achieve its objective. The German advance was prevented by the bravery and heroism of the French and English. Five hundred thousand German and Austrians fell on the battlefield, victims of the unbridled ambition of the German Emperor. The massacre continues and the emperor calls up new Austrian divisions to push them to certain death. Revolution threatens to break out in Bohemia, Moravia, Bosnia and Croatia. Martial law is declared in Gracac, Lapac, Udbin. Misery and shortages reign throughout the Empire: the flour ration is again reduced and the population is starving.



Some young scouts join the ranks.



1914 Postal stationery k.u.k feldpost, sent from Sarajevo to Prague, addressed to J. Rössler (Milde & Rössler pharmacy). With 5 and 10 heller Bosnian stamps overprint +7 and +12 heller.

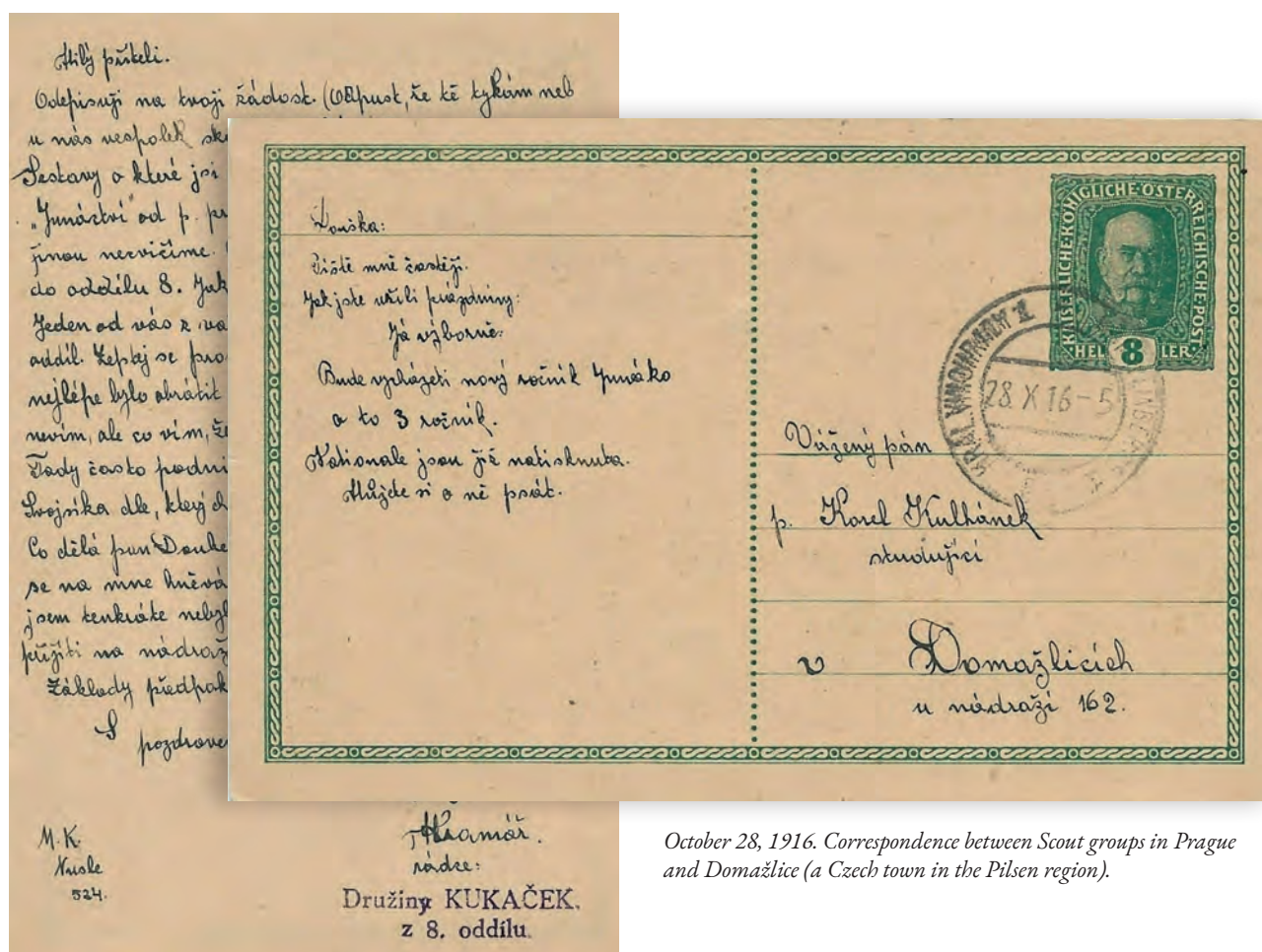


Hungarian Fiel Mail (Postage free) K.u.K. 53rd Infantry Regiment, 9th. Company. Scheiner writes during the war to Rössler Orvosky from the front. In this case as manager and partner of the apothecary's shop (Milde & Rössler) 18.9.1914.



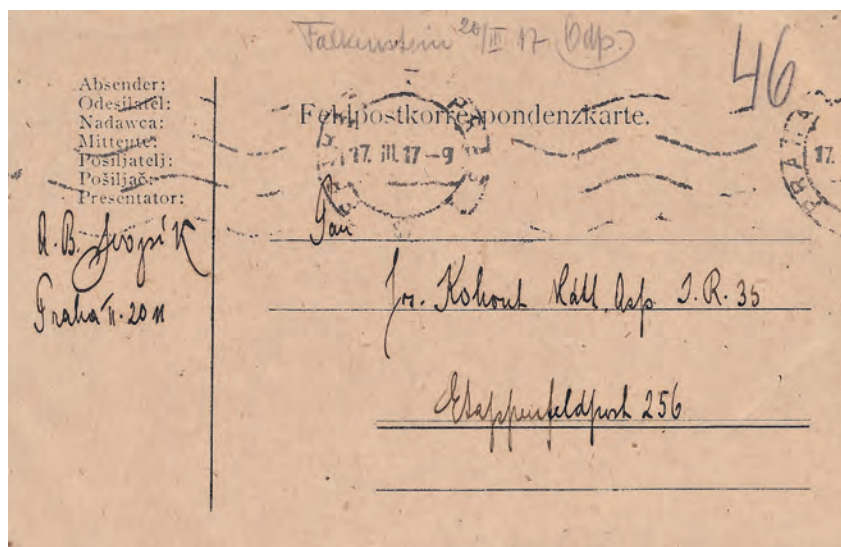


Field Mail (Postage free) sent from the front by the 24th. Regiment to the drugstore of Josef Rössler Ořovský in Prague. 17.9.1914.



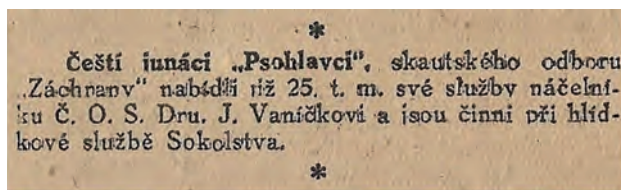
October 28, 1916. Correspondence between Scout groups in Prague and Domažlice (a Czech town in the Pilsen region).

The eighth Scout section of Prague wrote on October 28, 1916 about the activities in the middle of the war and about the magazine "Junák" that kept them in touch.



Card sent on March 17, 1917 by Svojsik addressed to Josef Kohout (Austrian Army) Reg. 35 Etappenfeldpost 256, in which contemporary conflicts are mentioned, but it is mainly the magazine "Junák" link of union and contact between scouts in those difficult times. (admissions to military service, military Scouts leaders on vacation, deaths, illnesses, discharges, new destinations).

Dear friend, thank you very much for your greeting. I wish you to be well and cheerful as much as possible during contemporary conflicts. I don't write about us, but I hope you're getting "Junák" (the scout magazine) periodically like the others. If not, I will get it for you. Good luck and health I wish you. Svojsik. At the top of the card, by hand: Falkenstein 20.3.1917 afternoon.



The Czech Scouts "Psohlavci" of the Rescue Scout Department offered their services to Chief Č.O.S., J. Vaníček and are active in the Sokol patrol service.



Many young people (Scout leaders) left the camps and were recruited to immediately join the fight.



Postcard from the Patriotic Series: Volnost - Rovnost - Bratrství (Freedom, Equality, Brotherhood) illustrating a scout who receives the wounded soldier carrying the Czech flag and leaning on the Sokol.





“War is a terrible, inhuman thing, especially this war. But war is not the greatest evil: living dishonestly, slavery, enslavement and much more is worse. War is evil, but defence is morally permissible and necessary; although it is difficult to define exactly where defence begins and violence begins”.

T.G. MASARYK

(From the entry in the memorial book of the first Regiment of Czechoslovak Legions in Russia on August 20, 1917)

Scouting, despite its short existence, had already been unanimously recognised as an excellent complement to family and school education in peacetime, and no one denied the legitimacy and educational values of those who went to war, but the war slowed down the rapid development of Scout units in Bohemia.

The First World War slowed down the development of Scouting. A.B. Svojsík had to resist pressure from military circles, who wanted to use the Scout Movement for military purposes. The same pressure was exerted by Austrian pro-monarchist circles. A.B. Svojsík, as leader, had the difficult task of managing only the charitable activities of the Scouts for the benefit of the wounded and the families whose parents were sent to the front, while also paying attention to the national consciousness of all members of the Scout Movement.

At the end of July 1914, the Parliament was closed, as well as the land assemblies. Factories important for the war were militarised, civil and military correspondence was censored, parliamentary politics were abolished, a military dictatorship was created, and demonstrations against the Empire and the war were banned. Prices were raised by up to 30%, and speculation, the black market, and the smuggling, appeared as a means of survival.

The municipality and the Prague Scouts played an important role in maintaining the link between the soldiers and their homeland. As early as August 1914, the municipality set up a district auxiliary war office to coordinate welfare actions for the soldiers and their families.

In this war environment and since the official announcement of the mobilisation, those Czech Scouts who had not left for combat performed various auxiliary services during the entire period of the war and cooperated with the authorities by creating the section: “Relief action of Czech Scouts”, the management, leadership, and coordination of which was entrusted to A.B. Svojsík with the support of a committee of philosophers, doctors, professors... It was provided with a permanent office in Stará Rychta, Rytířská street in Prague, and a second Scout headquarters in Bartolomějská street, opposite the police headquarters.

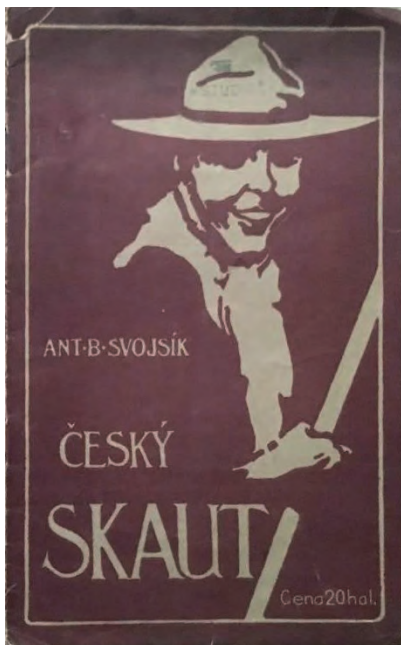
Many Scouts joined and registered immediately. Initially, a total of 700 participants were counted, but this number unfortunately decreased as the conflict dragged on. Clerical work, some Scout reinforcements and long-term activities decreased, but most of them, thanks to the strict Scout education and their tenacity, remained faithful to their posts.



Emblem of Domažlice, Scout group 3.



Commando of the 521st. Field Artillery Brigade addresses student and Scout leader Karek Kulhánec, from the front in August 1918.

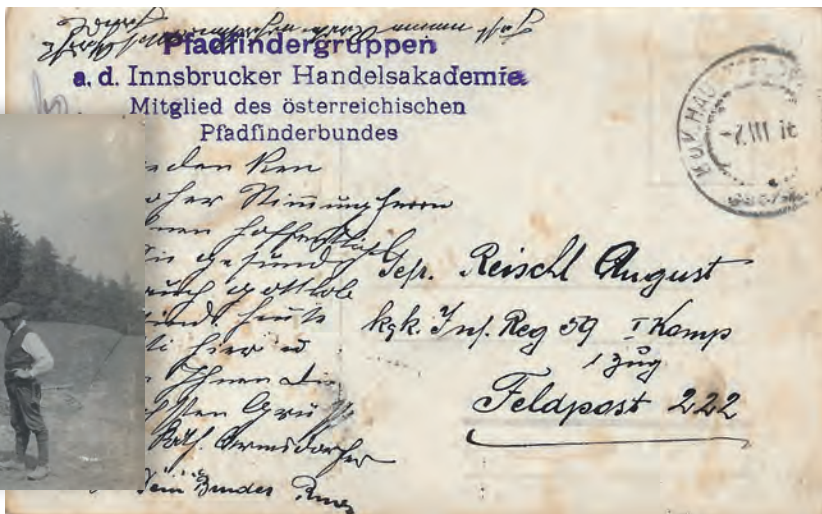


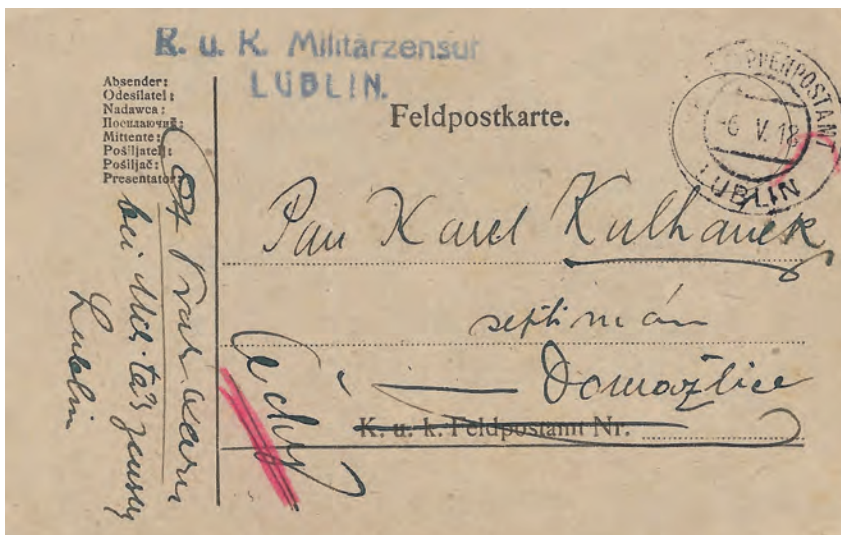
Scout Publication "ČESKÝ SKAUT", 1912. 20 balérů, A.B. Svojsík.



Commando of the 385th. K.u.K. Field Artillery Brigade addresses student and Scout leader Karek Kulhánec from the front, in March 13, 1918.

Commercial Academy of Innsbruck. Member of the Austrian Boy Scout Association. 7.3.1916. K.u.K.



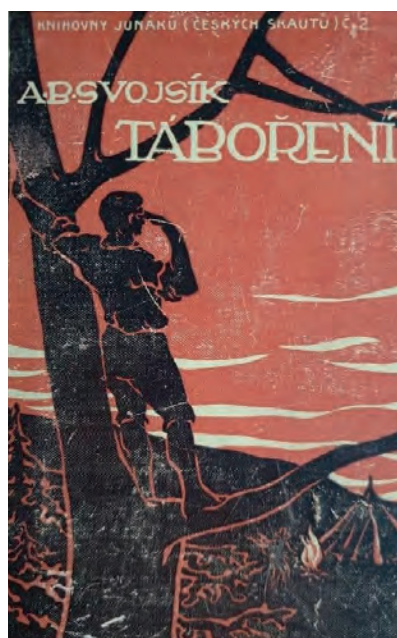


Postage-free, K.u.K. with military censorship from Lublin (the ninth-largest city in Poland). May 6, 1918, to Domažlice, Czechoslovakia. When Russian rule ended in 1915, the city was occupied by the German and Austro-Hungarian Armies.

Scouts on the Polish front go to Scout leader Karel Kulhánek, to inform him about the course of the war.



Patriotic card from the war period (In gratitude to the Czech Legion of the Motherland). "These are the saints of our time, they loved freedom, thousands of scouts fell for freedom".



Junák library (Czech Scouts) n° 3
Book Táboření, from 1912.
Camping in the Wild
A.B. Svojsík.



Citation in the press:
Leaders' meeting 4.11.18 at 7.30 o'clock. At 8 o'clock meeting of the Committee "Junák Český skaut".



Red Cross soldiers and teams receive the wounded from the front at railway stations.



Summer camp.



Franz Joseph Railway Station in Prague.

The “Junak Český Skaut” (JČS) committee decided to combine its core Scout activities (training, courses, lectures, compulsory meetings on Wednesdays, hikes every Sunday and public holidays) in a war environment, establishing humanitarian services and avoiding any activities for war purposes. Through their volunteerism, initially: mailings, correspondence and identification and tracking to help soldiers fighting at the front, they complemented official support and often channelled and provided relief through national, local, and religious entities.

On the part of the Prague city officials and authorities, the Scouts received a prompt welcome and sincere appreciation for the provision of reinforcements in military departments, in the city fire station, in the distribution of missives and decrees, on the recall of horses, etc. The Scouts kept in permanent and constant contact with each other, and also carried out the numerous bureaucratic and administrative duties which their day-to-day schedule required.





Red Cross medical train for the transport of wounded soldiers.



Soldiers wounded on the battlefield wait for transport to the city's hospitals.

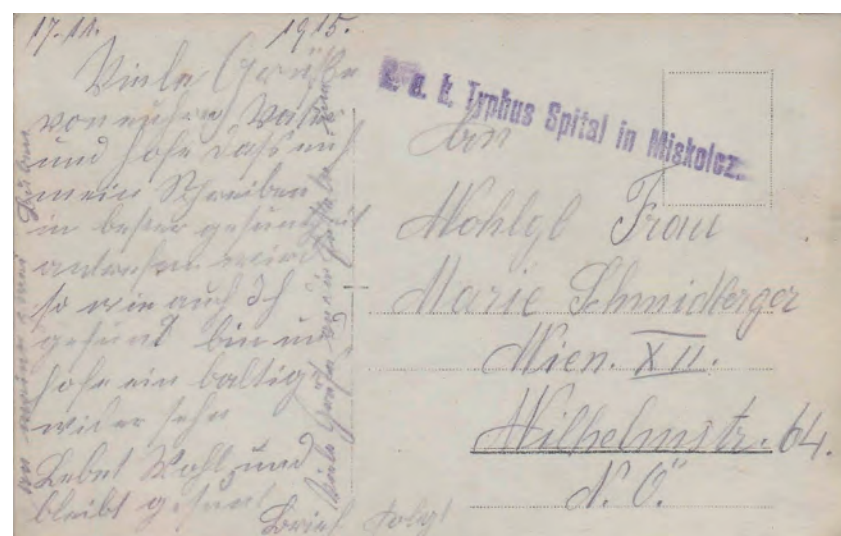
As the war broke out during the summer, approximately 180 Scouts (some in camp) took on the work of associated with harvesting and gathering, helping on family farms and in homes. In addition, unemployed older men, who had applied for field work at the Scout office, were sent as support.

The first large transport of wounded arrived at Prague's Franz Joseph Railway Station on August 30, 1914, generating a steady stream of returns of both soldiers and civilians from then on, amounting to over a thousand a day until 1918. Citizens approached the stations out of an interest in receiving direct news from relatives at the front, rather than out of curiosity.

The police kept the crowds of Prague residents out of the stations. Police or city hall accreditation was required to assist with transportation. The authorised personnel consisted of military doctors who transported soldiers, policemen who regulated traffic,



Quarantine hospital in Prague. With military censorship mark K.u.K. Card addressed to the Hungarian reserve hospital. 2.4.1915.



Typhoid hospital in the city of Miskolcz, in the north-eastern part of Hungary. 17.11.1915.

Red Cross nurses, wearing white armbands with a red cross, along with uniformed Sokol members and Scouts, who helped out wherever were needed.

The Red Cross volunteers, together with the Scouts provided refreshments to the wounded soldiers (soup, sandwiches, drinks such as tea or coffee, but also cigarettes). Beer, which in the Middle Ages had been considered a medicinal remedy for various diseases.

The spread of epidemics became a major concern. The care of Prague's injured servicemen, the influx of wounded and sick soldiers into the capital immediately transformed the use of space. Many important and emblematic buildings in the city were transformed into hospitals, wounded residences, and convalescent homes.



The reading room in the University Library in Innsbruck, which has been converted into a hospital for the wounded.



Arrival of the Sidlik Battalion in Prague. Young girls in regional costumes, together with volunteers and scouts welcome units of legionnaires at railway stations, offering them refreshments and beer.



Epidemiological Hospital k.u.k. in Troppau. Marking: "Military Care - disinfected - military censorship". 1916.



Prague Train Station Command mark. "Military Care", to Vienna, May 17, 1915.



Northwest Railway Station. The now-disappeared Prague-Tešnov Train Station.



Reception and Transport of Soldiers Wounded at the Front.



K.u.k. Bubna Station, Prague. Destination Hungary, November 16, 1914.

With the outbreak of hostilities, the few existing hospitals in Prague were supplemented by field hospitals, as well as other facilities and accommodation converted into auxiliary hospitals.

Correspondence from them, associated health departments and convalescent and recovery homes was accepted free of postage, with a mark (usually a rubber stamp) of the sender's army unit on the envelope or card, and in many cases another with the text: "Militärpflege" (military care), even if the mail was sent through the civilian postal system.

In 1915, more than half of the Scout leaders had been prematurely recruited for military duties and it was difficult to find Scouts with sufficient training and experience to organise and run summer camps. Scout units also lacked the necessary equipment (particularly tents), which at that time were no longer available for sale and the Army could not provide them as they had other priorities, in addition to the progressively tightening rules for camping in the forests.





Transfer of wounded from the railway station to hospitals in the city. Austro-Hungarian military postcard, arrival of medical train at Vienna Railway Station, wounded soldiers, doctors, Red Cross nurses, rescue dogs.



Red Cross volunteers distribute food and drinks to soldiers departing for the front at railway stations.



Foyer of the railway station. Franz Joseph Railway Station in Prague. (Photo, 2018).



Girl volunteers bid farewell to German soldiers departing for the front.



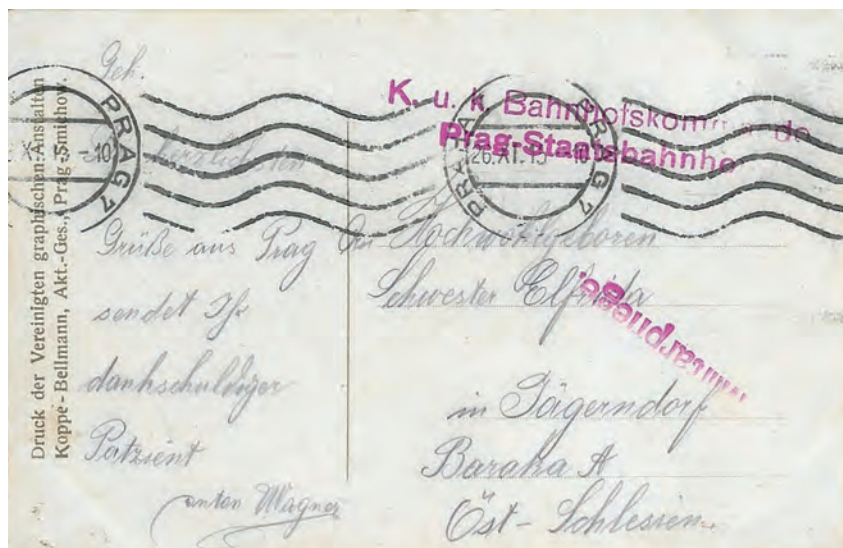
Soldiers convalescing in a military sanatorium staffed by volunteer nurses.



Postal stationery, sent by Military courier K.u.K. on August 3, 1916, from the Municipality of Bezirksamt Kotarski Zvornik (rubber mark), a town on the river Drina, in Bosnia and Herzegovina, addressed to an infantryman in Prague hospital, destination address crossed out, subsequently amended and forwarded to the hospital at the Railway Station in the Prague-Smichov district, west of the Vltava river, originally served by the Western Bohemian Railway (BWB).

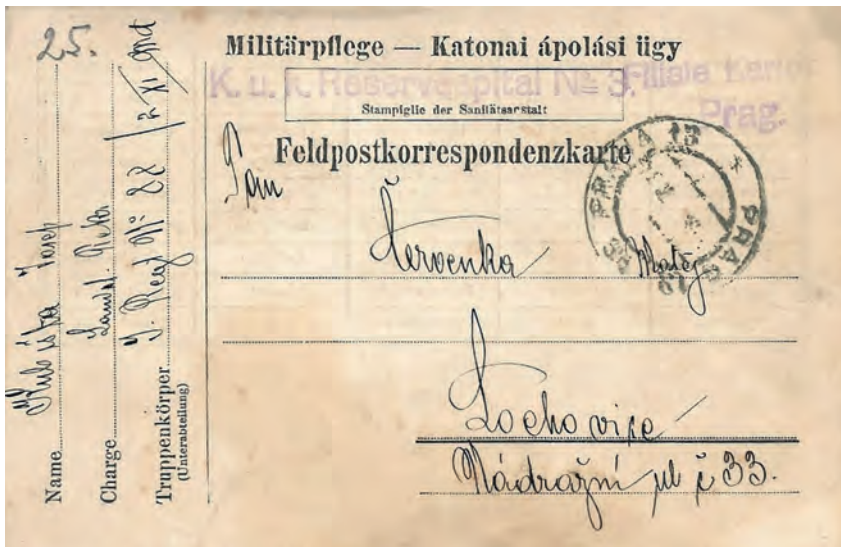


Prague-original-building, Main-Railway Station.



November 26, 1915. K.u.K. Prague State Station. "Military Care, k.u.k."

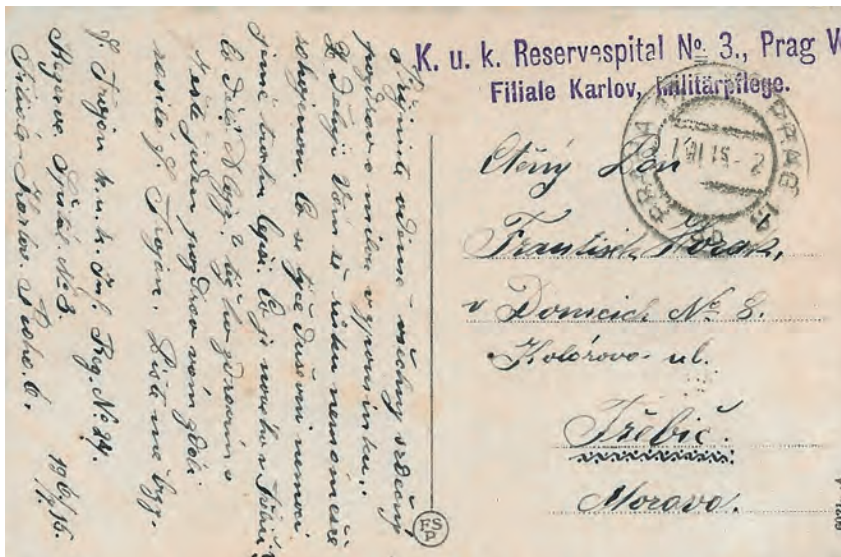




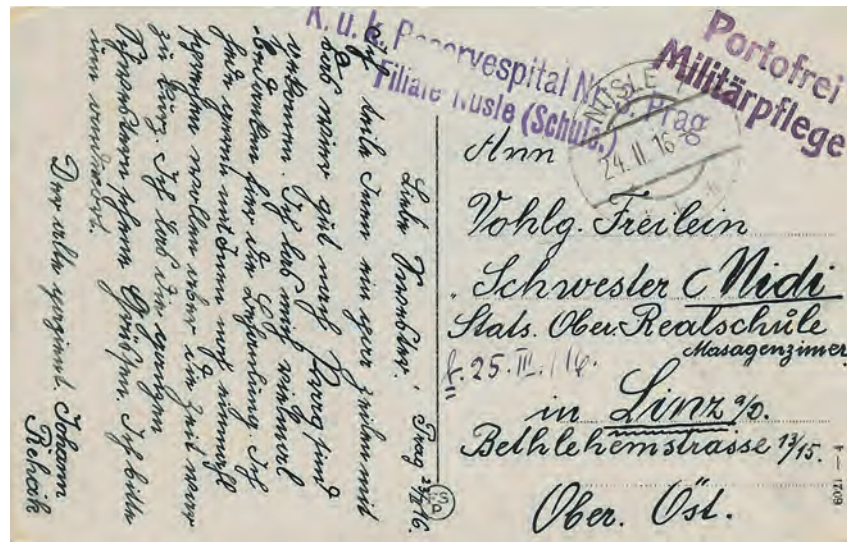
Hungarian card sent from Reserve Hospital n° 3, Reg. 88, Karlov Branch, Prague, K.u.K.



Surgical intervention in a Military Hospital.



Reserve Hospital K.u.k. n° 3, Prague VI. Military Care, Karlov Branch, June 19, 1915.



Prague Reserve Hospital n° 3, Military Care. Nusle Branch (School). Free shipping. Addressed to the secondary school (rehabilitation hall) of the city of Linz, 24.2.1916.

The young Scouts understood that it was a patriotic duty to help during the war, wherever there a social and humanitarian service to be done, and proceeded to hold regular collections of money for various war-related charities. They stood on the corners of the main streets of Prague, collected clothes and food, and also went to houses or sold various gifts - flowers, clover leaves, etc. - for the benefit of destitute widows. They also helped the homeless widows and orphans of Prague's fallen soldiers, the wounded, blind or maimed soldiers returning from the battlefield, poor students, needy artists, writers and journalists, the district war office, the Czech journalists' pension fund, the Czech children's hospital, the Czech provincial commission for the protection of children, the Red Cross, and many others.

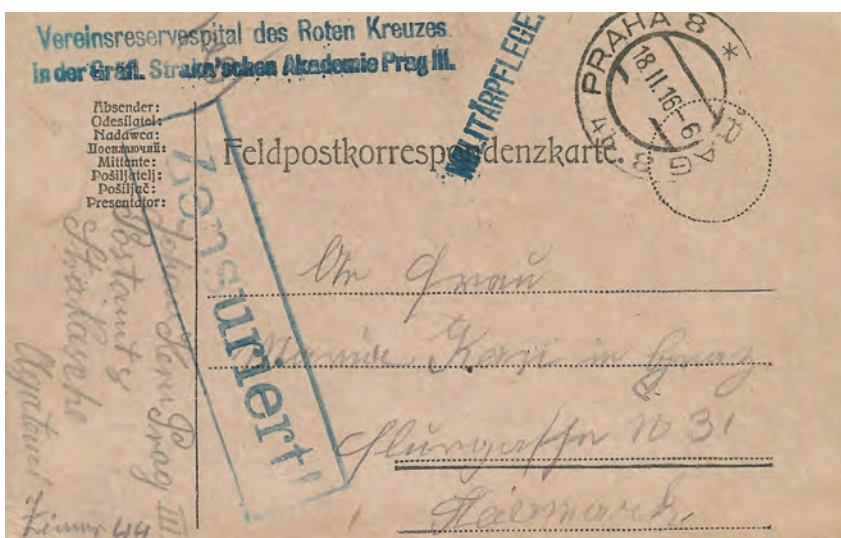
The main train arrival stations were the Franz Joseph State Railway Station and the North West Austrian Railway Station. Some wounded transports also arrived at Bubny Station (one of Prague's largest stations) in the north of the city. A station for wounded soldiers (Krankenhaltstation) was set up at the Smíchov Railway Station in the southwest. It was also necessary to organise accommodation for some soldiers in the outbuildings of the railway station for soldiers in transit who had to continue their journey. Trams were hired to transport wounded soldiers within the city, and new tracks brought them directly from the main railway station to the hospitals.

To accommodate this constant flow of soldiers' contingents, the army sought buildings to house them. Prague had a garrison hospital in Charles square (Karlovo náměstí) and its branches in the Štefánek barracks in Prague Smíchov (Albrecht barracks) and in the Castle (Hradčany).





Garrison Hospital n° 12, K.u.K. Josefov, Prague.



Red Cross, Reserve Hospital at Straka Academy, Military Care, Prague III, February 18, 1916. Censored.



Reserve Hospital n° 9, at the Maria Victoria School in Prague-Smichov district. March 14, 1918. Military Care. Destined for Budějovice.



Nurse with convalescent soldiers in the hospital.



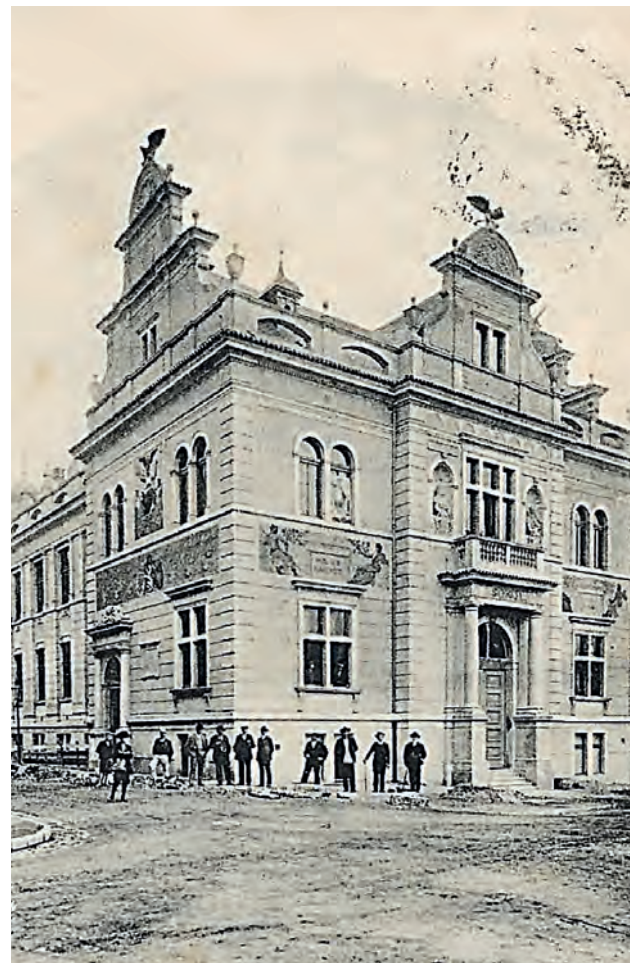
Emmaus monastery in Prague, converted into a hospital.



Military hospital. Castle branch, Prague.



K.u.K. Garrison Hospital n° 11 in Prague. Castle branch. Letter addressed to Berlin, August 19, 1915.



Red Cross Reserve Hospital at Straka Academy. Military Care.
Überprüft brand (verified text). Prague. November 10, 1914.

Prague VII. Headquarters of the Sokol.

Once the public hospitals became overcrowded, all kinds of shelters were improvised, such as warehouses, factory buildings, church chapels, private homes, where the wounded were sometimes cared for by placing them on the floor.

Different categories of medical institutions were established to care for the wounded: civilian hospitals, military hospitals, Red Cross reserve hospitals, military and Red Cross-affiliated hospitals, other medical institutions, and private care facilities.

The Ferdinand Barracks in Karlín was the largest reserve hospital in the city with 1,600 to 2,000 beds. Civilian buildings were requisitioned for conversion into hospitals. Larger school buildings were also used regularly. The Straka Academy (Strakova Akademie), a student residence for children of poorer Czech aristocratic families on the banks of the Vltava river, provided 475 beds for wounded soldiers, but notably disagreed with the transformation of its garden into a hospital garden, depriving the students of a solace space. Religious institutions also gave up numerous spaces in city buildings.

The Sokol were at the forefront of Czech nationalism and had in fact organised large rallies before the war, in which Sokol from other Slavic nations (including the Slavs of the



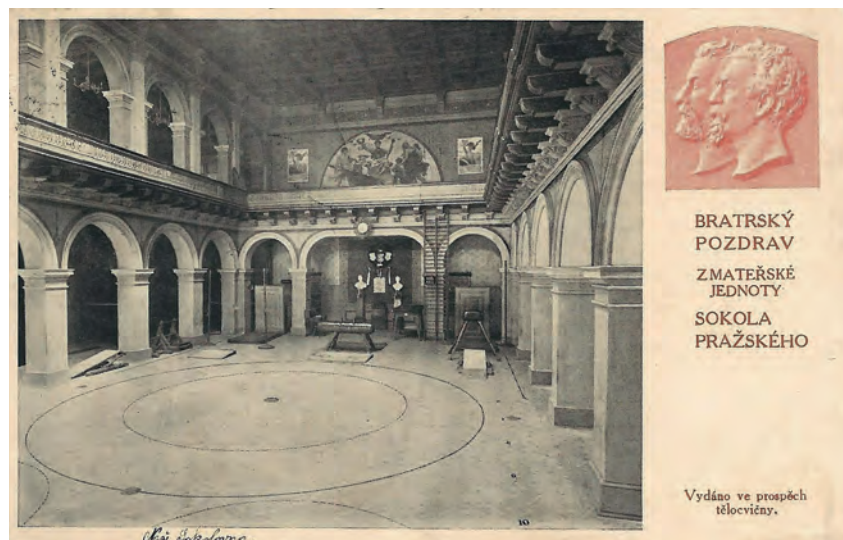
Reserve Hospital of the Red Cross in Karlín, Militar Care. Überprüft brand (verified text). April 1915.



Letter sent from the Infirmary of the Red Cross Reserve Hospital in the Sokol Gymnasium in Prague. January 10, 1915.



Military convalescents in the ward of the Reserve Hospital. August 23, 1915.



Postage-free postcard from the Red Cross Hospital (Military Care) at the Sokol facility, Žižkov District 12.4.1915. Addressed to the Sokol (gymnasium) unit in the town of Semily, in the Liberec region.





August 21, 1917. Mutilated patients accompanied by nurses in the Hospital Ward of the Vienna Reserve.



Hospital of the 11th. Garrison in the Prague branch of the State Commercial School in Smichov. July 1, 1915.

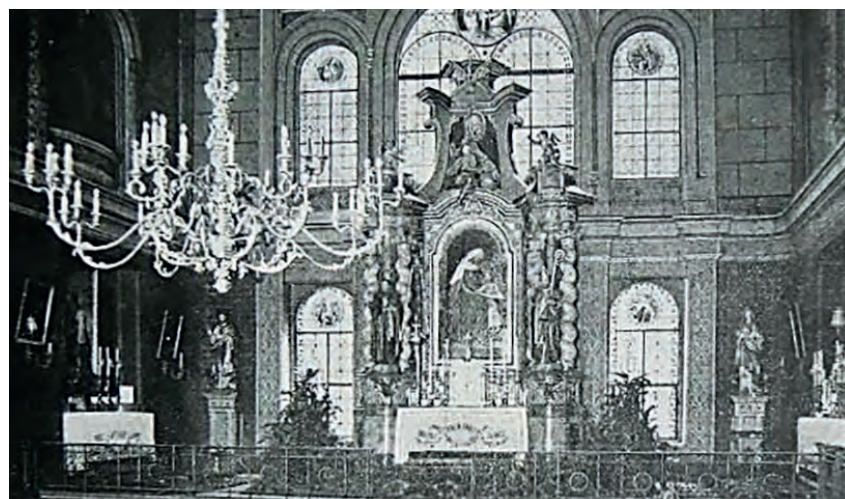


October 30, 1916. Military Care. Association of Reserve Hospital n° 2 in Vienna. Patriotic assistance of the Red Cross.





K.u.K. Reserve Hospital n° 2 in Prague, Department VI. Klementinum. Military Care. July 29, 1916.



Chapel of the Anny Monastery on Ječná street, used as an infirmary.



Red Cross Reserve Hospital in Karlin, Military Care. April 27, 1915.



Red Cross Reserve Hospital, Military Care, branch in Ječná street (German: Gerstengasse), Prague branch in the Karlín (Karolinenthal) district.



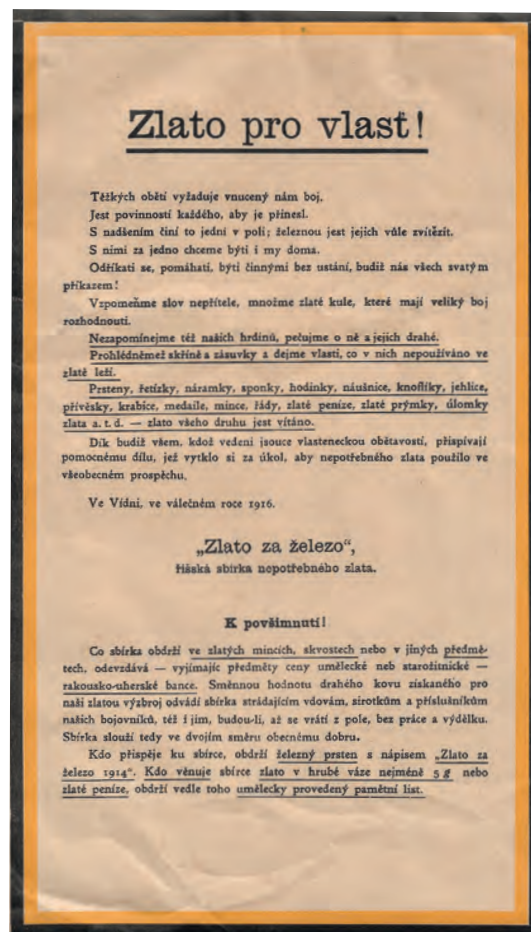
Hospital of the Reserve of the Red Cross of the Kingdom of Bohemia in Prague III (Sokolovna), March 24, 1915.



Red Cross Reserve Hospital. Military Care. Karlín, Prague, Dec. 1916



Convalescing soldiers in the infirmary, cared for by nuns.



Gold for the fatherland.
War action. Austrian pamphlet. Viennese printing house
Karla Goriška 34 x 21 cm. Vienna 1916.

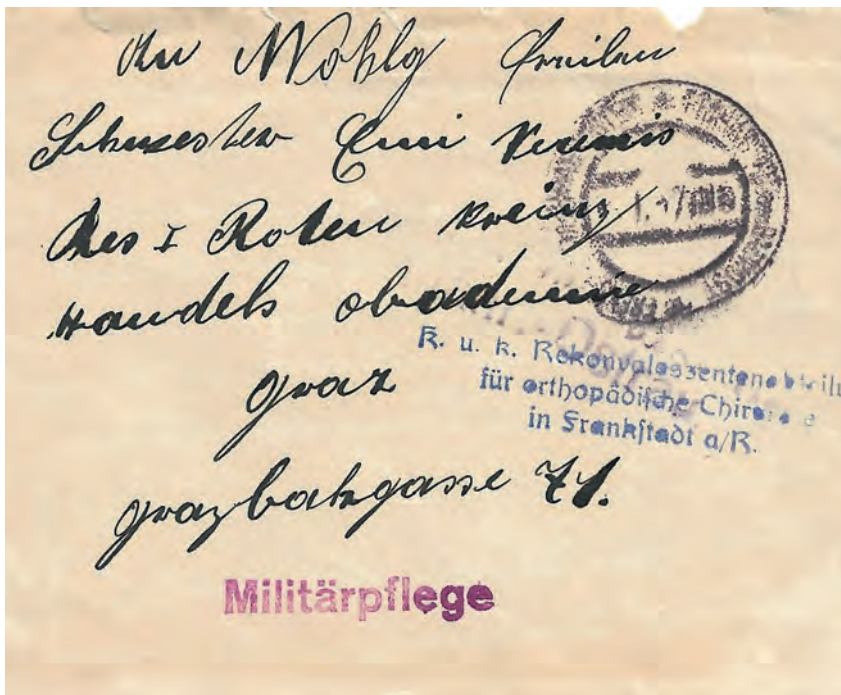
Also, numerous sokol “brothers and sisters” joined the nursing aid or the voluntary security service. Even after their official suppression, they continued to be active, donating money to the widows and orphans fund or donating clothes and shoes to Red Cross hospitals in 1916.

Many Sokol went to the front, and the Association played a prominent role in war relief in Bohemia. The Sokol had been banned and disbanded by the Austrian military authorities in November 1915 because of their pan-slavic links and the prominent role of their members in the creation of Czechoslovak Legions to fight in Russia on the entente side.

They volunteered and contributed financially to the war effort, as well as providing military training for young men. The ambiguous borderline between gymnastics and military training was part of Sokol’s history, although they denied any anti-state activity.

As sufficiently demonstrated, they had rendered a great service to the state through their participation and dedication in wartime, as witnessed by the multitude of fallen and wounded members at the front and many others performing impressive work in the field of war action, multitudes of self sacrificing men and women in the charitable services, and in great financial sacrifices dedicated to these objectives.

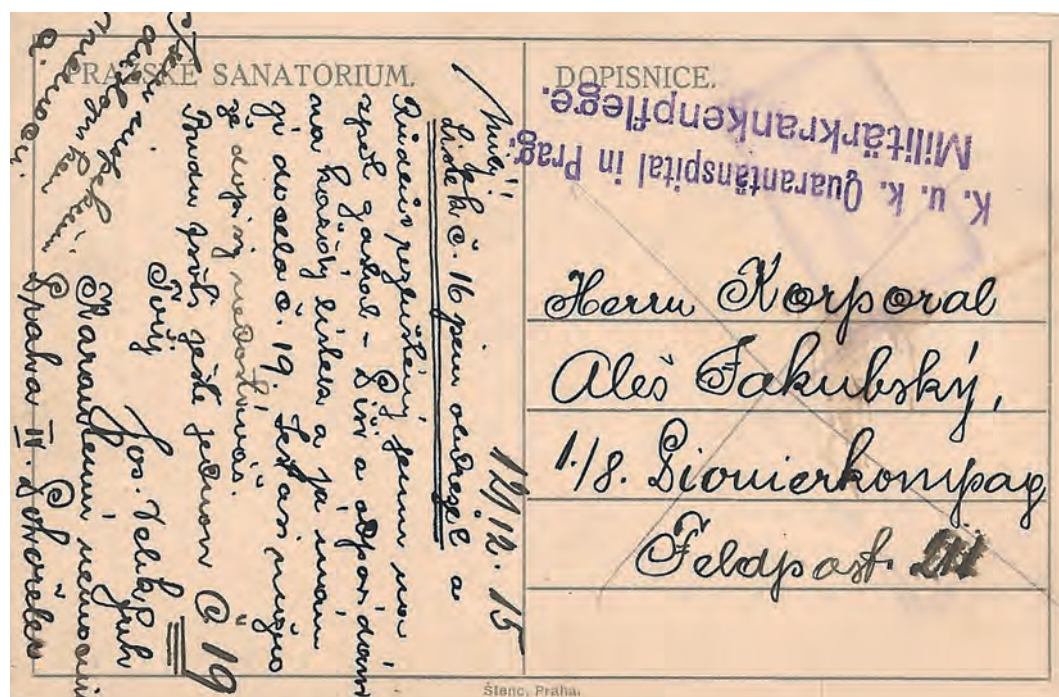




Letter sent to the K.u.k., Red Cross convalescent hospital, military care (orthopedic surgery) in Graz, southern Austria.



Military-franchise envelope on letterhead in German and Czech. Addressed to a convalescent soldier in the Military hospital in Prague on January 29, 1917.



Official card of the Prague sanatorium. K.u.K. quarantine hospital in Prague. Military care. December 12, 1915.



Envelope posted in Prague on December 8, 1914, addressed to the quarantine hospital in the city of Troppau.



Cavalry sanitary soldier.



*Horse collection 1914. K.u.k.
Horses were employed for reconnaissance and to transport messengers,
as well as to haul artillery pieces, ambulances, and supply wagons.*



*Nostitz Palace in Prague. Headquarters of the Red Cross hospital.
Guard and care service by the Prague Scouts.*



*Vereinsreservespitales des Rotes Kreuzes Prag-Karolinenthal in
sanatorium Podoli/Prag, Mark (Podoli Red Cross reserve hospital).*





If there was some pressure and compulsion on the part of the public in the war years to participate in the war effort through charity collections (from metals and other commodities in the early years of the conflict to money) on behalf of soldiers, widows and orphans, this work involved only volunteerism, dedication, and service on the part of the Scouts.

Silver, nickel, and copper coins were withdrawn from circulation from 1916 and made of iron. The authorities organised patriotic collections and pickups for citizens to contribute gold, metal objects, bronze mortars, rubber and wool for war purposes, the bell of St. Wenceslas taken down from the church of St. Ludmila in Královské Vinohrady in Prague on November 6, 1916 was requisitioned for melting and subsequent manufacture of weapons from it, and various collection points were set up with wagons.

Some young scouts were appointed to go around the main cafés in Prague, asking their owners and head waiters for Czech, Polish, German, and Hungarian newspapers, and magazines, for collection and subsequent delivery to hospitals by bicycle.

The city's male schoolchildren accompanied their teachers, forced by the authorities, to go door to door begging and appealing to the generosity of the population, while girls helped collect money in busy streets, where passers-by were more likely to stop, offering flowers to anyone who stopped and made a small contribution.

In schools and cafés, collection tables were set up with collection boxes inviting everyone's participation, some Scout divisions operated in the suburbs of Prague, so there were always more than 200 active scouts.

The humanitarian services of the Scouts in the period 1914 - 1918, were of different nature and included assistance and intervention in activities organised and sponsored by other institutions, participation in tasks and undertakings co-organised by JČS, full collaboration in their own projects and services, for which JČS was responsible, and finally acting in independent work within national events.

Girls' interest in Scouting grew exponentially, even in extremely unfavourable war conditions. Many girls applied for admission, but there were not enough experienced leaders. Patrols were established on Sokol premises, in schools and in sports clubs. They worked intensively throughout the war, especially in nursing work, and carried out the tasks assigned to them in October 1918.

As soon as the transports of wounded soldiers arrived at the front, the Scouts helped with full dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm wherever they were needed: The 12th Scout Division was assigned to the "Prague sanatorium" in Podolí, where they were responsible for security, order, administration, and various services. They stayed there for a few days until the beginning of the school year, helping to organise the rooms, gardening, acting as porters, informing, accompanying, and guiding relatives, bringing medicines, attending to the wounded in the reading room.

Within the medical field, other scouts were stationed in infirmaries, sanatoriums and hospitals scattered all over Prague, provided reinforcements, brought flowers,



Infirmary of the sanatorium of the Red Cross reserve in Prague. Podolí. Addressed to Anna Zízková of the Red Cross in Unhošť (Sokol local) locality in the district of Kladno in the Central Bohemian Region, 20.5.1916. Military mark (military care).



Hotel Klinger, Mariánské Lázně.

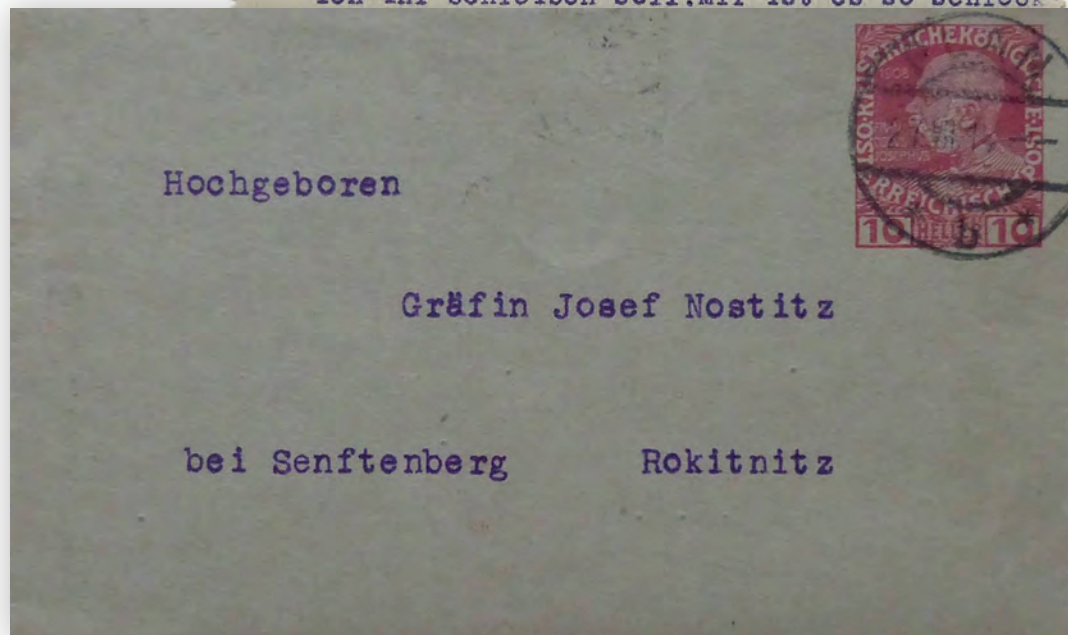


Old coat of arms of the Nostitz family.

26.7.1914. Address: Countess Josef Nostitz. Near Senftenberg in Rokitznitz. 28.7.1914, "declaration of war".

Plan den 26/7

Meine Rosa ! Wie schrecklich! Der Krieg mit Serbien ! Musz Josef einrücken und vielleicht auch der gute Pater und Herr Stracka? Bitte um Nachrichten.Mipp ist gestern nach Prag,da Alfred einrückt.Sie kommt in 2 Tagen nach Hause.d.h. hierher und Marienbad.Beim Hotel Klinger sind alle Köche fort,vielleicht wird Alles geschlossen ?! Gott schütze uns und die Unseren.Der liebe Kary wird gewisz auch einrücken ?Vielleicht wird Co sich an der Krankenpflege betheiligen?Das wäre das Beste für sie.Ach Rosa,es ist so schrecklich und mir ist so bang um ihre arme Seele.Habe Onkel Pater geschrieben und ihn gefragt ob ich ihr schreiben soll.Mir ist es so schreck-



My Rosa!

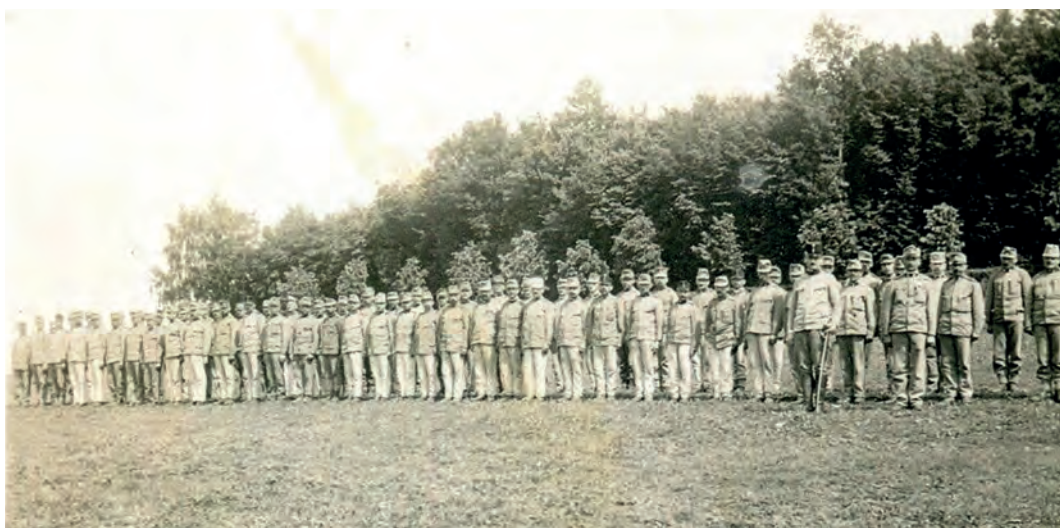
How terrible! The war with Serbia! Does Josef have to call-up and perhaps the good Father and Mr Stracka as well? Please send me news. Mipp went to Prague yesterday because Alfred received the call-up order. She'll be back home in 2 days time, i.e. here and Marienbad.(Mariánské Lázně). At the Hotel Klinger all the cooks are gone, perhaps everything will be closed? God bless us and ours. Dear Kary will surely have to call-up too? Maybe Co will take on some part in nursing?. That would be the best for her. Oh Rosa, it is so terrible and I am so afraid for her poor soul. I wrote to uncle Pater and asked him whether I should write to her. It is terrible for me to remain so inactive and watch her rush to her doom!

- God protect her and all of us. Is Joseph coming? Hugo has left. Poor Lisbeth! How sad on her honeymoon. - Where is Co now? I would like to have her address or the address of her lawyer Those were terrible days for Kary and Josef in Vienna. God bless you all. From the bottom of my heart, yours.

The Nostitz dynasty influenced the lordship until the thirties of the twentieth century, building new populations. In 1651 Otto de Nostitz granted thirteen important privileges to the people. Count Nostitz allowed the Jews to establish their own synagogue and a cemetery, the remains of which remain to this day.

Throughout this time, the German population became larger, which caused problems especially after the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic in 1918.





Formation of the first military units at the front.



Field hospital n° 915. Group of convalescent military.



Convalescent hospital, with medical staff and patients.





Prague reserve hospital n° 1.



Garrison hospital n° 11 in Prague. 14.1.1916. Military care. Sent to the Croatian reserve hospital.



Servicemen in convalescent ward.



Convalescent Hungarian, Austrian and German soldiers walk together.



Lottery shares, 30 heller. Organised by the Central Home Nursing Association. 1918.



20 heller raffle lottery ticket (Empress Zita, children's day). Draw on January 31, 1918. Managed by the presidency of the committee of women godmothers of war. Crown Prince Franz Joseph Otto.



sandwiches, books, medicines to the sick, accompanied them around Prague, read to them, wrote their correspondence (letters and postcards), fed those who could not cut and serve themselves food, helped in the military infirmary as Hungarian interpreters and performed countless other actions that honoured them on a daily basis.

Wounded soldiers and prisoners, whether allied or not, received first aid from German and Austro-Hungarian doctors on the battlefield and were then transferred to field hospitals. The most serious cases were sent to military hospitals in the city for more advanced treatment and care, providing rehabilitation and physiotherapy for the wounded who had lost limbs or suffered paralysis, and offering them psychological help and prostheses to help them cope with their new life.

About 1.4 million Czechoslovaks fought in the First World War. Some 140,000 never returned home.

At the same time, the Scouts also organised recreational activities: they enthusiastically sold lottery tickets for raffles for the benefit of orphans of fallen soldiers, took part in festivals, concerts in public parks, theatrical performances, puppet shows at their headquarters, and church services in various churches in the city. The committee of the JČS Association was a co-organiser of several undertakings and events, in which young people performed a separate part of the programme or independent tasks within national events, such as: sports meetings, days of sacrifice, tour of the royal castle, concerts and charity parties in various parks and gardens in Prague: at the royal hunting reserve, at the Municipal House, at Rudolfinum, theatrical performances, bazaars, social teas, etc., organised by the Red Cross, the Czech Tourist Club, the Czech Sailing Club, the Ladies' Association, the Prague City Council and many others. On these occasions, the Scouts acted as ushers, orderlies, first aid patrols, escorts, informers, and guides in all necessary services.

Sponsored by the "Czech Yacht Club", established by its founder and President of the Scouts R. Ořovský, a sports meeting was organised with the participation of the Scouts for the benefit of widows and orphans of fallen soldiers: "The water festival" on April 8, in the "Koruny" swimming pool (regattas, water polo, canoeing).

Because of their prestige, reliability and solvency, the Scouts were always in demand, and they took care of the organisation, in the field of war charity, both in Prague and in the suburbs or in the countryside, in preparations and in the sale of invitations with tenacity and passion. Girl Guides wove badges, which were sold in support of the various war charities and worn on the lapels of jackets.

In those days, many theatres and cabarets in Prague performed plays for the benefit of the "Imperial Fund for Widows and Orphans" and the Red Cross. Some theatres, cinemas, concert halls and other venues also organised patriotic events glorifying the soldiers at the front.



Labels by 2 haléř in favour of the wounded in Prague (German and Czech language).

Rare 10-cent vignette from the Argentine Republic in favor of the Austro-Hungarian charity.



Royal Czech land Theatre in Prague. National Theatre. Saturday, June 10, 1916. Drama in two acts.



Publicity card for the actors' festival in Žofín, 19-20 May 1918.



Label in favour of wounded soldiers and Boleslav Young Women's Association. Red Cross 2 haléř.

2 haléř in favour of the Red Cross in Turnov.

The proceeds from these vignettes (1 crown) sold in the Czech Republic went to the provincial office of the Kingdom of the Czech Republic for relief and charity of widows and orphans of the army. They exist in Czech and German.



Austrian Red Cross Society.



Circulated envelope in Prague, with vignette of 5 haléř for cold protection aid action of the war welfare office. 7.12.1916.



Lend us a hand...!
To noble hearts,
Post-war pamphlet from the secretariat of the Association of Czech blind soldiers in Brno.
In which, during the Christmas period, as in previous years, they offer items as gifts (pens, pencils, calendars, illustrated books for children, school cases...), in exchange, they beg the public for help and contributions.

War care for the blind at the Klar'schen asylum for the blind in Prague III.

The Prague Scout II theatre group gave a performance for sick and convalescent soldiers, held at the Sokol's premises (Sokolovna Prague-VII), which was followed with interest by fifteen hundred participants and initiated puppet shows at professor Jedlička's Institute for crippled children and soldiers.





War Office 5 haléřů vignettes (German). Relief action for protection from cold. Image Franz Josef Otto.*

* Archduke Otto of Austria. Son of Archduke Charles and nephew of Emperor Franz Joseph.



Labels in favour of invalids. K.u.K. Prague military command, 10 and 20 haléřů.



Red Cross label for the benefit of voluntary patient care during the war. 1914.



22.3.1917. The hospital music trio Jbl, Kopta and Soukup perform Grieg in the Red Cross old people's home. Concert sponsored by Countess Taaffe.





Propaganda Ponrepo cinema where documentaries on Scouting activities were shown.



Young soldiers convalescing.



Military convalescent hospital, staffed by Red Cross personnel.

The Czech National Theatre staged a special performance of an opera by Bedrich Smetana for charity, while a garden party on the island in the Vltava river (Střelecký ostrov) on April 30, 1916 attracted most of the city's elite. For the concert in Rudolfinum by Jan Kubelík for the benefit of the war office, also the Scouts were invited to take care of the organisation and preparations (work and invitations).

Since the first film screening in Prague took place in the hotel U Černého koně on today's Na Příkopě street on October 18, 1896 until eleven years later, when the first cinema Ponrepo was founded, the public regularly attended the screenings, so that by the beginning of the war in 1914, Prague had 39 cinemas, where, among others, informative documentaries on various Scout activities were shown.

Four scouts stood guard at railway stations, especially at František Josef Station, watched over drinking water and food, were available to doctors receiving the wounded from the



Upozornění!

Povolení toto zašle žadatel příbuzným, kteří mu potraviny zaslati miní.
Ti zašlou bedničku na sběrnou Nouzové akce pro českoslov. menšinu v Rakousku.
Bednička budiž dobře uzavřena, **označena číslem povolení**, přesnou adresou, komu je zasílána a kdo ji odesílá, mimo toho budiž zvláště ještě na jiné straně bedničky adresa napsána a **číslo našeho povolení** správně uvedeno.
Čistá váha potravin nesmí přesahovati 5 kilogramů.
Zasílat se smějí pouze potraviny zkáze nepodléhající (luštěniny, mouka a pouze 1 kg uzeného masa a 1 kg tuku). Ve sběrně bedničky se otevrou a věci zkáze podléhající se vyloučí z dopravy. Zásilky obsahující více než 1 kg tuku a 1 kg masa budou zabaveny.
Pro jistotu budiž do každé bedničky zvláště vložena adresa s přesným udáním bydliště příjemce a odesílatele.

Tento vyplněný lístek budiž na bedničku pevně nalepen!

Please note!

The permit will be sent by the applicant to the relatives who intend to send him food. They will send a box to the emergency event fundraiser for Czechoslovakia, (minority in Austria). Keep the box tightly closed, marked with the permit number, the exact address to whom it is sent and who is sending it, the address must be written on the other side of the box and the number of our permit correctly indicated. The net weight of the food must not exceed 5 kilograms. Only non-perishable foodstuffs (vegetables, flour and only 1 kg of smoked meat and 1 kg of fat) may be sent. Boxes are opened at the collection point and perishable items are excluded from transport. Consignments containing more than 1 kg. of fat and 1 kg. of meat will be confiscated. To be on the safe side, an address with the exact residence of the recipient and sender must be entered separately in each box. Let this completed ticket be firmly attached to the box!

1. Nouzová akce pro československou menšinu v Rakousku
(pod záštitou Československého Červeného kříže)

Čís. 21111 Jméno odesílatele: Ignil Dolráal
říd. učitel Olšinky

Místo určení (sběrna): Prostějov/3

Zásilka patří p. anu Dr. Jaromiru Dolráalovi
ve ve Vídni VIII
ulice Langegasse 24/o.

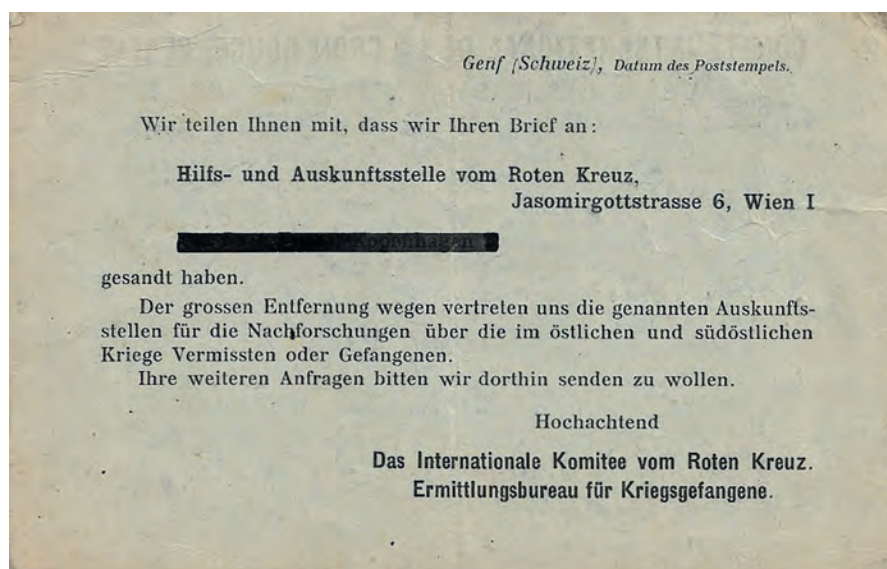
ČESKOSLOVENSKÉ VYSLANECTVÍ
VE VÍDNI
LEGATION TCHÉCOSLOVAQUE
A VIENNE

Emergency operation for the Czechoslovak minority in Austria (under the auspices of the Czechoslovak Red Cross). Purple mark of the Czechoslovak legation in Vienna. Form/printout for food shipment.

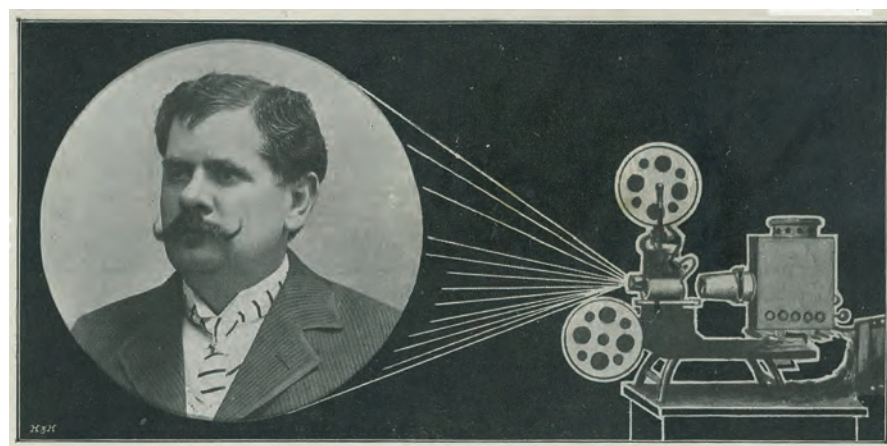




Card from the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva (Prisoner of War Agency), to the hospital of Prague reserve n° 2. January 27, 1915.



Referral form to information centres for enquiries about missing persons or prisoners in the eastern and south-eastern wars.



Propaganda Ponrepo cinema where documentaries on Scouting activities were shown.

Antwort auf Ihre Anfrage de dato: 91. Y. R.

Truppenkörper etc. } des Militärs, } welchen die Anfrage betrifft } Charles Mays

Kompagnie, Eskadron, Batterie etc.

Vor- und Zuname

Charge

Der Genannte befindet sich in der Heilanstalt: bisher keine Nachricht eingelangt.

wohin weitere Anfragen zu richten sind.

Krankheit oder Verwundung:

WIEN, am 5. Sep. 1914 Auskunfts-bureau

der Österreichischen Gesellschaft vom Roten Kreuze.

Bisher keine Nachricht eingelangt. No message has yet been received, September 5, 1914.

II.

 **Portofreie Korrespondenzkarte.**

Auskunfts-bureau der Österreichischen Gesellschaft vom Roten Kreuze.

(Adresse vom Anfrager zu schreiben.)

An Frank Charles

Vorst. d. "Danb. Praka"

in Prag

Ferdinandova str.

Nachrichten über verwundete und kranke Militärs.

Portofrei.



Information office of the Austrian Red Cross society. Correspondence card without shipping costs. News of sick wounded soldiers. November 6, 1914.



Label of the K.u.K. commission for censorship of letters and telegrams in Prague. Postmark of arrival in Geneva. 22.3.1915.



Front and back of a letter sent to the International Committee of the Red Cross (prisoner of war agency) in Geneva. Mark Überprüft (verified).



Czechoslovak Legionnaires captured and humiliatingly hanged by the German Army in 1918, on the Russian battlefield.

battlefield, distributed water, and food along the train wagons to departing and returning soldiers, and had a stable service there day and night.

As well as being involved in various charitable activities, the Scouts put themselves at the service of public hospitals, the military, and the Red Cross.

Millions of letters and cards were sent during the war, with messages full of emotion and strength to the suffering soldiers to encourage them to go on living. Also from them, from the battlefield to their families notifying them of their state of mind, their health, and their hardships.

Since the outbreak of the conflagration, there has been a considerable increase in the number of philatelic collectors. On the one hand, stamps, postcards, and war vignettes were issued by the former central powers, attracting numerous people because of their suggestive design and historical nature, turning them into collectors by accident and on the other hand, in the fact that many people, torn from their profession by the war and condemned to idleness, they felt the collection of postage stamp as an enjoyable and emotionally relaxing pastime (soldiers in the field and in hospitals, etc.). Many others (soldiers and their families) kept, for intimate and sentimental reasons, the correspondence generated during the war with care and attention.

All military mail, both outgoing and incoming, was supposed to be censored, and, consequently, correspondence to and from Czechoslovakia often bears civilian or military censorship marks. The most common French censorship mark is the double oval censor's mark 386, which bears the french text: Ouvert par l'autorité Militaire / 386.



Postal stationery of prisoners of war from France to Prague. Censorship marks. Double oval in black, (opened by the military authority 386).



German woven armband, Red Cross badge for volunteers.



Pfadfinder. Jugendwehr Korps.



Propagandistic label with image of youth armed forces and Scouts (German Empire) issued during WWI.



Scout aid to the English Red Cross. 1914.



This mark can be found not only on early military mail, but also on later mail that was sent by correspondence from Prague to the office of the National Committee in Paris and then forwarded to the final addressee. It is commonly found in black and violet ink.

During World War I, the aristocratic Nostitz family (one of the oldest in Europe) gave the baroque palace in the historic centre of Prague, in Malá Strana, which bears their name, to be converted into the headquarters of the Czech Red Cross. And it is in this headquarters of the provincial Red Cross auxiliary Association, among other places, that several Prague Scout patrols served. The guards and watches lasted all night long with replacement shifts. They had a room with beds, could cook and worked side by side with doctors, nurses, soldiers and sokol, guarding against possible escape or theft of objects.

At that time, the local Red Cross committee tried its best to get more contributions and new members, through volunteering and Scouts, selling around 100,000 badges on the street during the Red Cross week in Prague.

Other services were held at the Red Cross branch in Žitná street, a branch of the Red Cross in Prague VII, where the central Association of Czech Women (donations for soldiers) had a branch for this activity.

The Scouts worked closely together with the Red Cross, filling in forms for the delivery of supplies, and in locating sick, wounded, and captive soldiers.

But it was not only in hospitals that the Scouts carried out their functions and aid, but also at the headquarters of the Provincial Relief Society, collecting sheets and blankets from donors to deliver to needy households (as the English Scouts had also done), transporting petrol and other nursing supplies on two-wheeled carts, distributing letters, procuring reinforcements. During the holidays, and also on public holidays, between ten and fifteen Scouts were employed without rest.

They served in the Prague Provincial Auxiliary War office, in the voluntary war aid committee in Spálená street, in the Girls' high school, where donations for soldiers at the front were collected and sorted, in the Women's Aid action, located in the King's Institute in the city of Prague, and in the auxiliary committee of Catholic ladies who sewed bedding and bedspreads for the soldiers.

The Scouts carried out patrols, printed and distributed government decrees and posted them on street corners in the capital, distributed ID cards to poor children, brought food, helped with the catering and distribution of food in kitchens set up for the poor in Prague and the suburbs. They provided them with coats, set up cookers, collected and sorted consignments and gifts for the soldiers in the field, and so on.

Meanwhile in Vienna, and as they had been doing since the outbreak of the First World War, the Scouts continued to stand out for their work and close collaboration with the "Committee for the collection service and domestic collections", the so-called: Haussammeldienst", founded at the end of autumn 1914, under the protectorate and patronage of Archduchess Zita, wife of Emperor Charles I.

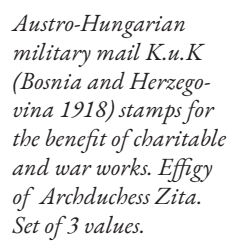
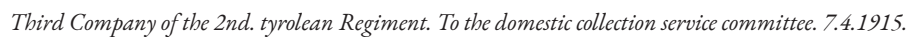


Jugendwehr Korps. Voluntary youth institution for pre-military training in Germany. Card for the benefit of the Red Cross. 8.5.1916.



Photograph sent by field mail on 4.9.1918 to the infantry Battalion 26th Regiment, 4th Company from the city of Sudenburg by the Jugendwehr Korps.







The Scouts, who were not yet old enough to be drafted to fight at the front, were ready to fulfil their promise to serve their country wherever they were needed. Their members had grown up with a strong spirit of duty and loyalty, and many young men performed various tasks which contributed significantly to the country's war effort, among others the service of collecting goods and supplies in the city.

The basic aim was that through their service to the homeland in those fateful days of the First World War, the Scouts would collect and deliver the donations and gifts that they voluntarily and altruistically collected for soldiers at the front, hospitals or welfare centres for the troops, military centres and needy families:

- *Food of all kinds, especially preserves, biscuits, sweets, chocolate, coffee, tea, sugar, herring, pickles, powdered milk, flour, rice, pulses, etc.*
- *Strengthening and refreshing drinks: wines, mineral waters, cognac, brandy, spirits, etc.*
- *Clothing and bedding (especially warm clothing) for men, women and children, sleeping mats, blankets, shoes, socks, etc.*
- *Hospital supplies: bandages, crutches, walking sticks, wheelchairs, stretchers, surgical instruments, thermometers, toothbrushes, etc.*
- *Sports equipment: skis, snowshoes, crampons, hiking boots, spikes, ropes, snow goggles, binoculars, torches, backpacks, canteens, telescopes for rifles, etc.*
- *Toys, games and playing cards for hospital staff and toys for children. Gramophones and musical instruments were also very desirable.*
- *Old carpets for the trenches, books and magazines in all national languages. Writing materials of all kinds, pocket watches, pocket knives, light bulbs and bottle corks.*

Two days a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, the collection carts travelled through the main streets of the town collecting the donations generously made by the population.

The initial task of the Scouts in this service was, on the one hand, to give advance notice by distributing leaflets and leaflets a few days before the collection and, on the other hand, to organise, maintain order and accompany the collection carts.

As a rule, one or two scouts, duly uniformed, would lead the procession, announcing the arrival of the collection wagon with loud bugles, in the busiest and most commercial streets such as Vienna's Mariahilfer Straße, also in the noblest and wealthiest neighbourhoods. They then accepted the gifts and carried them to the transport wagons, where the Girl Guides then collected and sorted them in the designated warehouses.

19. VI. 1917

Mitteilung der Filialkanzlei des Landeshilfsvereins vom Roten Kreuze für das Königreich Böhmen.
PRAG II, Vladislavgasse 26.

Zpráva odboční kanceláře Zemského pomocného spolku Červeného kříže pro království České
PRAHA II., Vladislavova ulice 26.

Name Hellinger Viktor
Jméno
Truppenkörper und Charge 9. B. 11. - 2. Inf.
Sbor a hodnost
Alter, Relig., Nation. 1878
Stáří, náb., národnost
Heimatsgemeinde Horasowitz, Strakonitz
Domovská obec
Ort u. Zeit der Gefangennahme Laut Verlust List
Místo a čas zajetí
Verwundung 576 am Italien Kriegsschauplatz
Zranění
Ort der Gefangenschaft Palestrato
Místo pobytu zajatcova

Filial-Kanzlei des Roten Kreuzes
Prag II., Vladislavgasse 26.

mit fragten identisch, ist hier-
amts nicht feststellbar.

Form sheet 19.6.1917, in german and czech from the Branch of the Red Cross state aid society to the Kingdom of Bohemia. Prague II. Vladislavova 26. Details of the Italian soldier in captivity.



Official card of the auxiliary war office n° 142, for the benefit of the collection service committee. 1915.



Vignette based on the official photograph.



War assistance (collection day, cigarette donation, flower day, money donations, Scout service).



Patriotic cap badge. Domestic collection service 1916.



Hanging medal proof of donation from the 1915 home collection service.

Advertising cartoons of the German chocolate manufacturer Stollwerck, with propaganda of the Scout service to the population.



Group of six wagons ready for donation collection service.



The wagons were drawn by two horses, one of which was ridden by a horseman (not necessarily a cavalryman), the other soldier remained inside the wagon collecting the goods and arranging them inside the wagon. The caravan was accompanied by a non-commissioned officer who led the journey; some accredited people, wearing armbands, were on the street with the task of helping to collect the donations and handing them over to the soldier, who kept what he had received. The vanguard of the platoon consisted of Scouts, the first one leading and blowing the bugle, and behind him, the rest helped with the functions of order and collection. Participating in this home collection service mission gave the Scouts much recognition and notoriety among the population whose success was so prominent and effective for the Scouts that it was reflected in printed representations of the “Haussammeldienst”, home collection service, through photographs, postcards, badges, vignettes, posters, newspaper articles and works of art. The campaign attracted numerous scouts who, by participating in these activities (at least ten times), were rewarded with an allusive badge. In 35 collection days, from December 1914 to April 1915, 473 wagons were filled.

In 1915, a total of 18 collection wagons travelled through Vienna collecting the material and taking it to the depots. There it was duly examined, sorted and distributed by an independent committee.

This campaign brought in a not inconsiderable sum of around 1.5 million crowns, which in today’s terms would be worth one million euros. The success prompted the organisers to continue this campaign, albeit with less intensity, for three more years.

In general, some of the Scouts’ activities were quite similar to military training, even if educational and recreational aspects were avoided. Thus, along with the acquisition of a sense of discipline and team spirit, the Scouts received instruction in first aid, survival in the field, manoeuvres, map and compass orienteering, transmission of messages by signals (flags), Morse code, care of the wounded, skill in hostile environments, rescue work, strategy, and resourcefulness.

The Pfadfinder (German Scouts) in Prague were founded in the summer of 1915 by professor Gellner, and some 300 young people became active. Like the Czech Scouts, they were engaged from the outbreak of war in auxiliary work (transporting starving children from northern Bohemia to Hungary) and even surpassed the Vienna Pfadfinder in the number of undertakings they undertook. Their discipline was stricter, impartial in political matters, with the same ideals, aims and law as the Scouts, but with military drill instruction in high school, which led many to enlist in the Army, others resigned and some joined the “Junobrana”, so that the Organisation was reduced to five divisions, about 60 scouts.

In June 1915, under pressure from Prussian militarism and with the support of the Ministry of Defence and the physical education teacher Josef Klenka, a youth defence Organisation Junobrana was set up, which was supposed to train and prepare schoolchildren for the war. Members of the various municipal bodies, active and reserve army officers were instructors and trained and taught the pupils of the various Prague secondary schools several times a week the soldier’s trade, including German commandos (Jugendwehr Korps) in their public practice.



Label of the children's collection day, scouts in the background with wagons.



Vignette inspection of German Pfadfinder Scouts by officers during the First World War.



Collection truck. Another one is coming Wednesday, November 10. Donate gifts of love to the soldiers and their families. Food, beverages, equipment smoking, clothing, men's and women's white clothing child, fabrics, bedding, material hospital, instruments musical etc.



Collection truck. Comes collection truck. Another one is coming on October 23 and 27. Donate gifts of love to the soldiers and their families. Food, beverages, equipment smoking, clothing, men's and women's white clothing child, fabrics, bedding, material hospital, instruments musical etc.





Stuttgart, Tag des Poststempels.

Stuttgarter Jugendwehr.

Sie sind bisher noch nicht Angehöriger der Stuttgarter Jugendwehr und werden daher aufgefordert, Ihren Beitritt sogleich möglichst persönlich bei der Geschäftsstelle: Techn. Hochschule Keplerstr. 9 geöffnet 8— $\frac{1}{2}$ 1 und 3— $\frac{1}{2}$ 7 Uhr anzumelden. Es ist dringend notwendig, daß jeder gesunde junge Mann jetzt die Zeit bis zur militärischen Einberufung bennützt, um sich körperlich und militärisch vorzubereiten. Die Vorbildung ist kostenlos. Bei Bedürftigkeit werden Schuhe und Kleidungsstücke käuflich überlassen. Vergünstigungen bei regelmäßigem Besuch der Übungen: Wahl des Standortes und des Garnison- und Feldtruppenteils, Urlaub nach der milit. Ausbildung; Aussicht auf Beförderung. Bei Schülern: Erleichterungen in Hausaufgaben. Jugendliche, die an den Samstag Nachmittagen keine Zeit haben, können in abendlich übende Abteilungen eintreten. Die Anmeldung verpflichtet zum regelmäßigen Besuch der Übungen; sonst im Verhinderungsfall vorherige schriftliche Entschuldigung beim Führer nötig. Wir ersuchen Sie um persönlichen Besuch unter Vorzeigung dieser Karte, oder bald möglichste schriftliche Nachricht, welcher Kompanie oder Abteilung Sie beitreten wollen.

Die Leitung.

Postal stationery back.

<p>Absender:</p> <p>Stuttgarter Jugendwehr Geschäftsstelle: Techn. Hochschule, Keplerstr. 9, Zim. 21a. Fernruf 12989. Geöffnet: 8—$\frac{1}{2}$ 1 und 3—$\frac{1}{2}$ 7 Uhr Samstag Nachmittag geschlossen.</p> <p>Heeresache!</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Stuttgarter Jugendwehr</div>	<p>Postkarte</p> <p>Herrn</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p> <p>-----</p>	
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5 18

Postal form from the Stuttgart Youth Armed Forces office (prepaid 5 1/2 cents). Pre-registration for physical and military training, before being called up by the Army (includes choice of place and garrison, exercises, promotion, ease of timetables for schoolchildren and holidays after military training).





German Youth Army Corps, franked at Liverpool, headed for Oldenburg, Germany.



K.u.k. military hospital (infirmary) in Letná, Prague. 30.12.1914. Addressed to Terešov, a town in the Rokycany district of the Pilsen region.

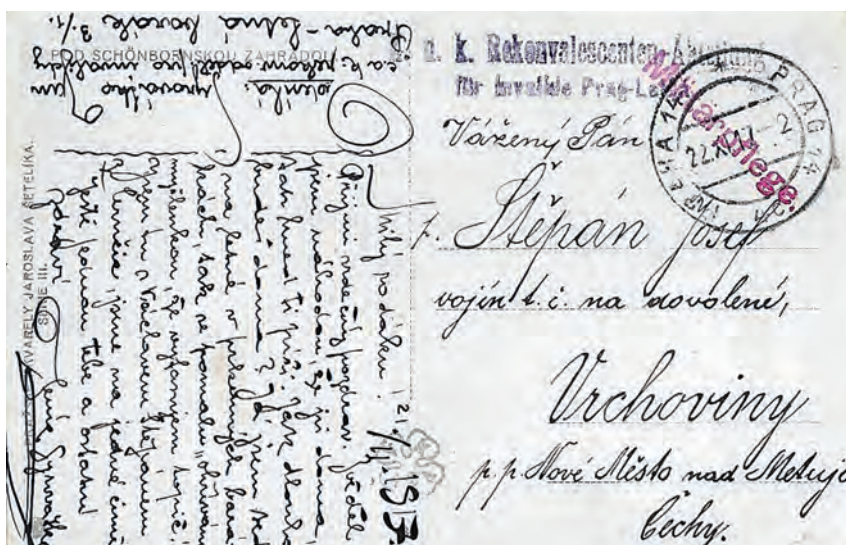


Junobrana ceremony. 5.4.1916 in Soběslav. Young people in training after the maneuvers.



Junobrana ceremony. 5.4.1916 in Soběslav, a village in the Tábor district of the south Bohemian region of the Czech Republic. Performance in front of the local school with brass band and cyclists.





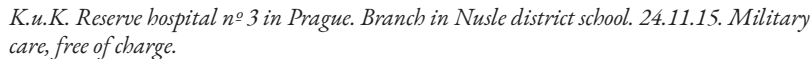
K.u.K. rest home for invalids (military care) in Letná, Prague. 22.11.1917.



K.u.K. hospital barracks (military care) in Letná, Prague 12.1.1916, destined for Hungary.



Barracks hospital, military care in Letná. 9.2.16.



Výborový list
VÁLEČNÝ OBILNÍ ÚSTAV,
ODBOČKA V PRAZE.

Přijímací list na oves Čís. 10

Komisionář: Jan Benal
Obec: Stará Ves
Prodávající: J. Benal Okres: Chrudim

200 kg čisté váhy à K 26 za 100 kg K 52-

Srážka na K

Srážka na zálohu v přijímacím listě č. K

Vyplaceno K

Výše uvedený obnos obdržel: Výše uvedené zboží obdržel:

podpis. Jan Benal podpis.

Místo: Stará Ves Datum: 13. 11. 1916

Rolnická tiskárna v Praze.

Acceptance receipt for 200 kg. of oats. Empire War Grain Institute. Prague branch.

Rekvizice II
Komisionář Jan Benal
VÁLEČNÝ OBILNÍ ÚSTAV
ODBOČKA V PRAZE.
Nákupní oddělení čis. III

Nákupní list čis. 175303

Prodávající: Výborový list č. 22
v: Stará Ves Franko stanice
Okres: Chrudim Lhůta dodací:

kilogramů pšenice
" žita
" ječmene
" ovsa

500 kg. hrubého

Produkt vyhovuje zákonným požadavkům*).
Produkt nevyhovuje zákonným požadavkům*).
Cena dle platného nařízení*).
Prodávající povoluje se zákonné ceny slevu
K za 100 kg. pro

Podpis prodávajícího*): Jan Benal Podpis komisionáře: J. Benal
V: Stará Ves dne: 30/11 1916

*) Nehodící se škrtněte.
**) Nebyl-li přijímací list podepsán, obilno ústavu bezpodmínečně zaslati podepsaný list nákupní.
P o z n á m k a: Nákupní list vydá se prodávajícímu při každé uzávěrci.

V. O. U. 3. — 1916. Rolnická tiskárna v Praze.

Branch office of the Prague Grain Institute. Purchasing department, 500 kg of potatoes. 30.2.1916.

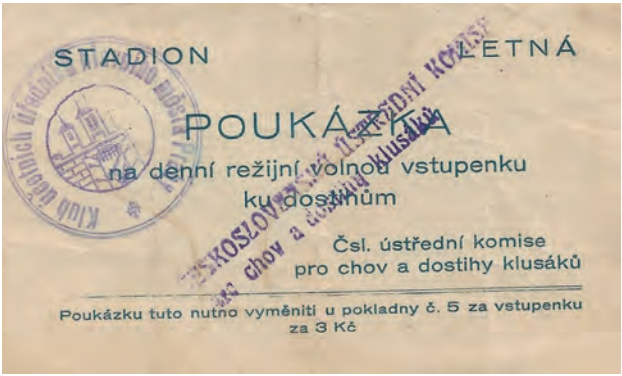
On Sundays, manoeuvres were coordinated on various military grounds in the city. The Organisation even had its own brass band. Some of these parades, drills and exercises were conducted in uniform, but most were carried out in civilian clothes, using wooden pikes to simulate rifles. The regional authorities in Bohemia had refused to provide them with official uniforms for financial reasons, also because they did not want to make it look like a game of soldiers. Armbands in black and gold (the flag of the kingdoms and lands represented in the Imperial Council) or in regional colours were authorised. The search for and procurement of uniforms for the Junobrana proved to be an arduous and complicated task, as it was not easy to obtain funds for this purpose.

In Prague’s Letná park, originally called a “summer camp” or “sunbathing place” (important in the Middle Ages, when the first military camps were set up there due to its strategic location), a barrack hospital was established during the First World War.

An open day was held there so that, for a small fee, the public could attend. Manoeuvres were held on January 1 and 2, 1916, with Scouts being present at the organisational and orderly level. It was attended by his excellency the vicegerent of the Czech Kingdom



Old engraving of Prague's Letná Park.



Letná Stadium. Trotting race.



Report on sugar consumption from 23/7 to 19/8 1916 inclusive.
1¼ kg. (1,250 grams) of sugar for 4 weeks.



Report on sugar consumption from 25/6 to 22 July 1916 inclusive.
1¼ kg (1,250 grams) of sugar for 4 weeks.

Přímý odběr bramborů dle výnosu c. k. úřadu pro výživu
č. 128.347 z 15. září 1918.

Číslo žádosti 7200

Dopravní osvědčení.


Platné jen tehdy, když v den odesílání od obce původu
bramborů zde potvrzeno jest (datum) 6/11 1918

Stibels
Harst

Okrasní pečeti
Obecní úřad
Skrýje (Razítko)
Číslo v. 2570

Pěstitel Amperova Kateřina
v Chrostice č. 4 (Hrupe)
zasílá domácích pěstovaných kg bramborů 2570
z (odesílací stanice) _____
do (stanice určení) _____
prostřednictvím poskytlem
Příjemce Obec Hrupe dle seznamu
v číslo 26-34

V Praze, dne 31/10 1918.

 **Válečný obilní ústav,**
odbočka v Praze.
Reditel: J. Olšavský

Důležité! Toto dopravní osvědčení nutno na vnitřní straně nákladního listu pevně po celé jeho ploše přilepit. Zásilky, které u nákladního listu dopravního osvědčení nemají, budou zabaveny a po případě též od úřadu za propadlé prohlášeny.
V. o. v. 465, 1918.

War Grain Institute. Nutrition authorities. Prague. 31.10.1918.
Harvesting of potatoes, according to yield.

Aprovisační ústavy král. hlav. města Prahy.

 **POUKÁZKA**
na koupi bramborů.

Platí na **73** týden
od 27. srpna do 2. září 1916
pro obyvatele v Praze.

Aprovisační ústavy král. hlav. města Prahy.

Voucher for the purchase of potatoes from August 27 to September 2, 1916, residents of Prague.

 **Výkaz o spotřebě kávy**
od 9./7. až včetně do 2./9. 1916.
Platný jen pro obvod království Českého.
3/8 kg (375 g) pražené kávy
na 8 týdnů.

Nepřevodno!
Prodej dovolen jen odděli-li se přiměřený
úštěžek. — Petisk zakázán.
Neuposlednutí tresce se na penězích až do
5000 K, vězením až do 6 měsíců, případně
ztrátou živnostenského oprávnění.
C. k. místodržitelství.

1/8 kg (125 g) pražené kávy.

1/8 kg (125 g) pražené kávy.

1/8 kg (125 g) pražené kávy.

Report on coffee consumption from 9/7 to 2/9 inclusive 1916. 3/8 kg. (375 gr.) of roasted coffee for 8 weeks.

Aprovisační ústavy král. hlav. města Prahy.

V Praze, dne 22. září 1915.

25. Listek tento opravňuje k nákupu
týden **1/2 kg mouky**
v pátek

Razítko.

1/2 kg of flour per week. 22.9.1915.

Aprovisační ústavy král. hlav. města Prahy.


Listek tento opravňuje k nákupu
40. **1/2 kg mouky**
týden. **v úterý, dne 11. ledna 1916.**

 Úřední pečeti.

1/2 kg flour. 11.1.1916.

Aprovisační ústavy král. hlav. města Prahy.

Listek tento opravňuje k nákupu
37. **1/2 kg mouky**
týden. **v pátek, dne 24. prosince 1915.**

 Úřední pečeti.

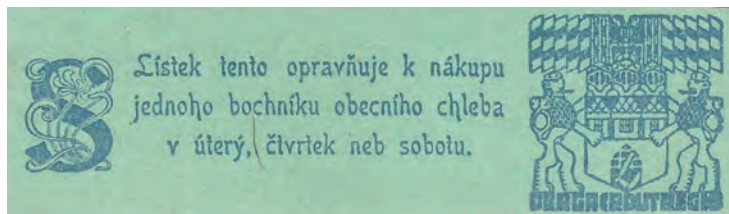
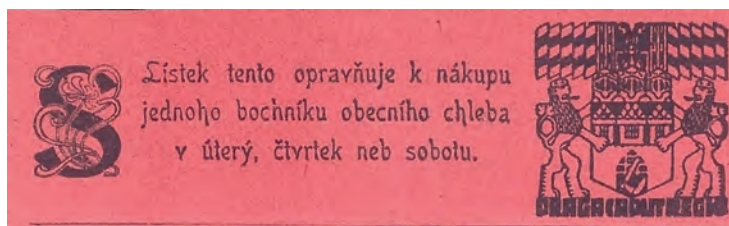
1/2 kg of flour. 24.12.1915.

Aprovisační ústavy  **kr. hl. města Prahy.**

Listek tento opravňuje k nákupu
1/4 kg kávy
v úterý.

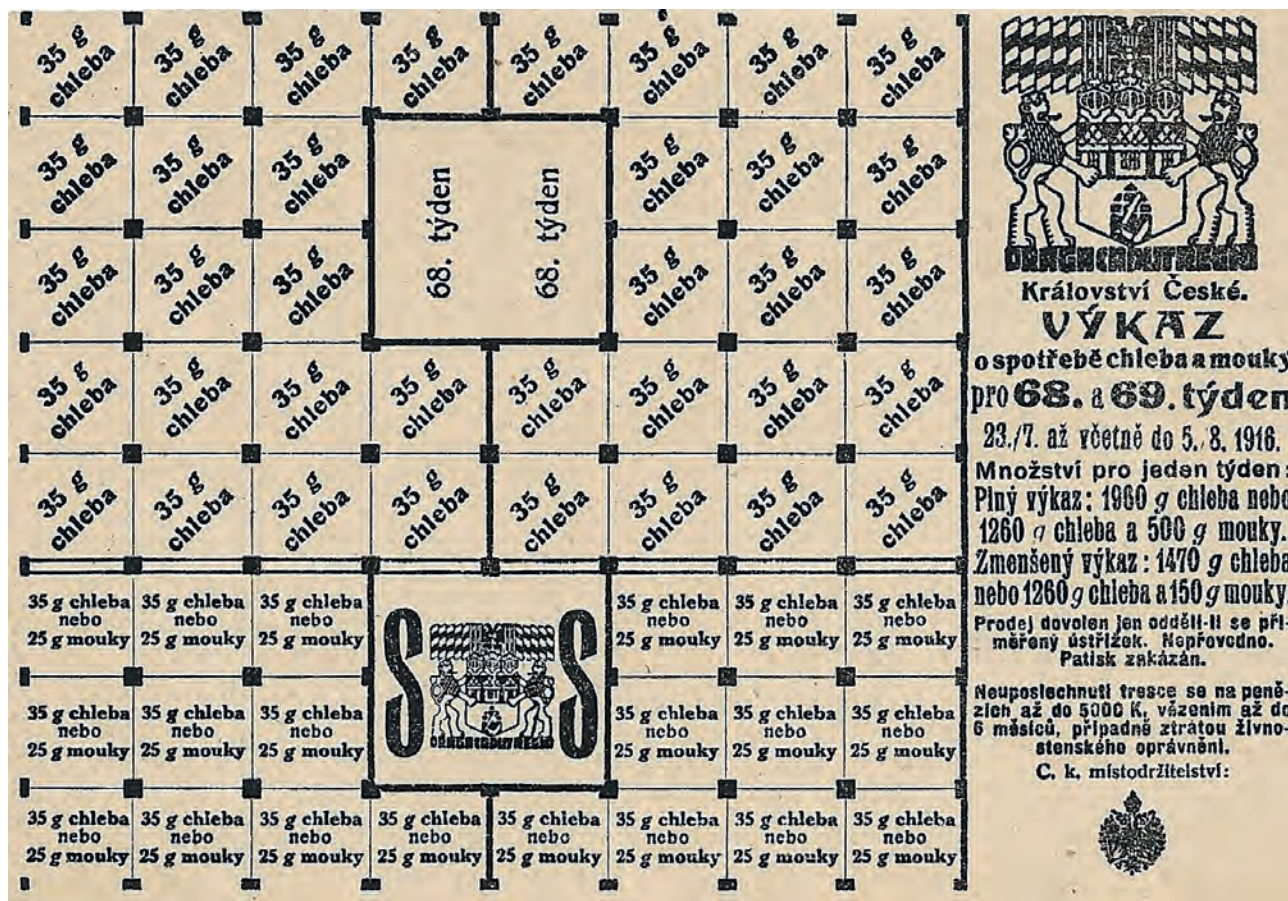
opravňuje k nákupu
z obecní zásoby
v úterý.

From municipal stock a quarter kg of coffee on Tuesdays.



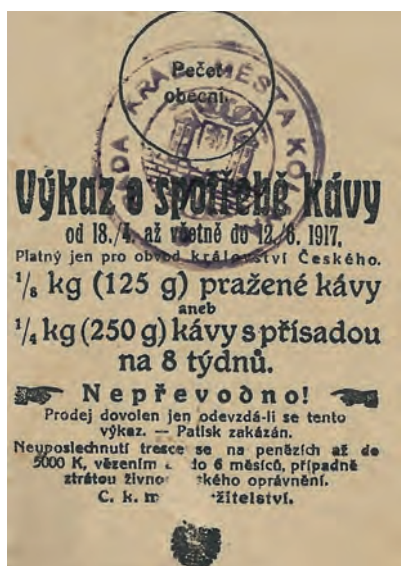
Individual tickets to buy a loaf of bread, on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday.

35 grams of bread, 1 bun or 25 g. of flour.

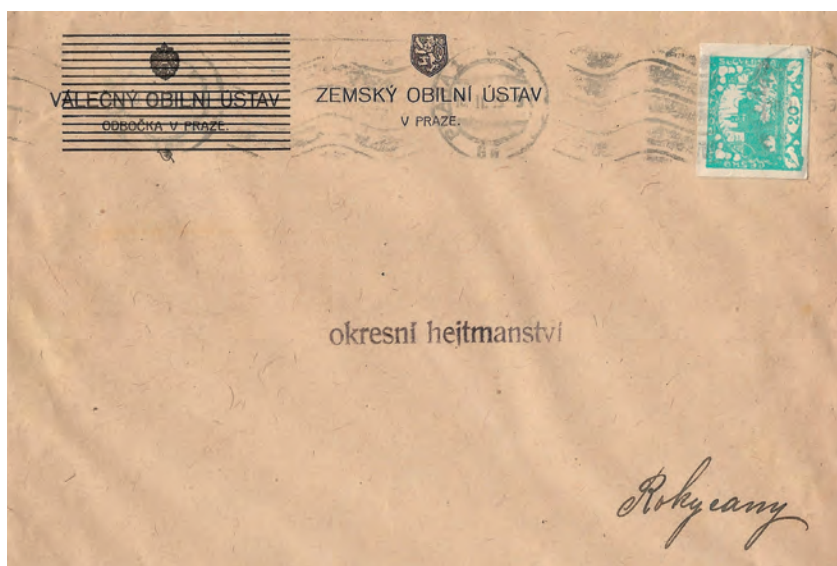


Sales allowed only by separate vouchers. Disobeying the order is punishable by a fine of up to 5,000 crowns, imprisonment for up to 6 months or loss of trade licence.





Report on coffee from 18 April to 12 August 1917. Valid for the area of the Kingdom of the Czech Republic.



Envelope on old empire letterhead, (Válečný Obilní Ústav). Prague war grain constitution (crossed out). Prague land Grain Institute with new Czech emblem (Zemský Obilní Ústav). Addressed to the office of the district governor of the city of Rokycany.



Postal lottery vignettes, 1 crown. Drawing on September 30, 1914. Prize of 25,000 and 70,000 crowns, Prague, Staroměstské náměstí 31.



Czechoslovakia 1914. Label 20 heller in favour of invalid soldiers from Prague 1914-1918.



Christmas 1915. Vignettes of 2 heller (in German) for the wounded in Prague.



together with church, civil and military representatives. In addition to fundraising, the aim was to show the advantages and benefits of indoctrination and the success of the initiative. The Junobrana served as a local transition mechanism from peace to war.

As the war progressed, food supply difficulties in Austria-Hungary grew worse and worse. The Habsburg Empire had not entered the conflagration prepared for a war of such duration and magnitude. Labour shortages caused by mobilisation meant reduced harvests in a context where army requisitions added further strains on the system. The main causes of misery in the Austrian half of the Empire were the suspension of imports from Hungary, the limitation of food from the agriculture of Galitzia and the allied blockade.

35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	Království České. Výkaz o spotřebě chleba a mouky. 8. týden 30./5. až včetně do 5./6. 1915. 1 kg 47 dkg chleba nebo 1 kg 5 dkg mouky 1470 g chleba = 1050 g mouky.	Království České. Výkaz o spotřebě chleba a mouky. 8. týden 30./5. až včetně do 5./6. 1915. 49 dkg chleba nebo 35 dkg mouky 490 g chleba = 350 g mouky.	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky
35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	Prodej dovolen jen dle váhy, předložili-li se výkaz a oddělili-li se přiměřený ústřížek.	Prodej dovolen jen dle váhy, předložili-li se výkaz a oddělili-li se přiměřený ústřížek.	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky
35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	Nepřevodno! Počlivě uschovat! Patisk zakázán!	Nepřevodno! Počlivě uschovat! Patisk zakázán!	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky	35 g chleba nebo 1 houska nebo 25 g mouky
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Úřední pečeť:
MINISTERSTVO VNITRA







Úřední pečeť:
MINISTERSTVO VNITRA

Coupons for the consumption of bread and flour, 35 g. of bread, one roll or 25 g. of flour. 30/5. to 5/6/1915.

4 Platí v měsících:
srpnu, září, října, listopadu 1918
na 125 g vál. mýdlov. prášku
nebo 200 g pracích prostředků
a prostředků k drhnutí tuk
obsahujících.

6 Platí v měsících:
srpnu, září, října, listopadu 1918
na 125 g vál. mýdlov. prášku
nebo 200 g pracích prostředků
a prostředků k drhnutí tuk
obsahujících.


Výkaz o spotřebě mýdla, mýdlového prášku, pra- cích prostředků a prostředků k drhnutí tuk obsahujících

pro měsíce srpen, září, říjen a listopad r. 1918.

Tento výkazní lístek jest nepře-
veditelnou veřejnou listinou.

Přestupky trestají se pokutou do 20.000 K nebo vězením do 6 měsíců. Kromě toho
může býti žánž prohlášen z propadlé živnostenské oprávnění může býti odňato.

Č. k. místodržitelství pro Čechy.




Obecní pečeti

1 Platí v měsících:
srpnu,
září,
října,
listopadu
1918
na 1 jednotl.
kus váleč.
mýdla neb
1 kus váleč.
toalet. mýdla.

2 Platí v měsících:
srpnu,
září,
října,
listopadu
1918
na 1 jednotl.
kus váleč.
mýdla neb
1 kus váleč.
toalet. mýdla.

Soap powder, detergents and scouring agents containing grease. August, September, October and November 1918.

Kdo by ji neobdržel, necht to neprodleně oznámi pojišťovacímu oddělení c. k. rakouského vojenského vdovského a sirotčího fondu v Praze III., Šeriková ulice č. 7.



C. k. rakouský vojenský vdovský a sirotčí fond

pod Nejvyšším protektorátem
Jeho c. a k. Apoštolského Veličenstva KARLA I. a Jeho Veličenstva císařovny a královny ZITY.
Zastoupením Nejvyššího protektorátu pověřeni:
Jejich c. a k. Výsosti nej. pan generálplukovník arcivévoda LEOPOLD SALVATOR a nej. paní arcivévodkyně BLANKA.

ODDĚLENÍ POJIŠŤOVACÍ.

Zemská úřadovna pro král. České v úředních místnostech c. k. místodržitelství v Praze-III., Šeriková ul. č. 7.

Seznam č.	Expositura v	Misto k pozdějšímu záznamu
Běžné č.		č. pojišťovací listiny.

640.45

Stvrzenka platu a úpisu

na K 274.95 slovy korun sedeset čtyřicet kor 45/100, kterýžto

obnos pan Antonín Šturm

jakožto první roční premii na úpsanou a na 10 letou dobu pojištěnou

jmen. hodnotu K VII. daněproště 5 1/2 % ní umoř. rak. státní půjčky
státních pokladn. poukázek

u pojišťovacího oddělení c. k. rak. vojenského vdovského a sirotčího fondu pro c. k. priv. životní pojišťovací společnost Rakouský Fénix ve Vídni složil.

Tímto vstupuje pojištění u c. k. priv. životní pojišťovací společnosti Rakouský Fénix ve Vídni uzavřené dnes 12. hodinou polední v platnost (v předpokladu, že pojištění bude pojišťovnou přijato).

Antonín Šturm, dne 11. března 1918.

Zostane zprů
K 274.95

Jan Šturm
Podpis aběratele.

Předcházející potvrzení o vkladu a úpisu se oddělí a zůstane pojištěnému úpisovateli. Prozatímní potvrzení dosvědčuje okamžitou platnost. Jeho ztráta nezkracuje však právní stanovisko pojištění.

Pojistka (pojišťovací smlouva) bude ihned po dojití přihlášky u pojišťovacího oddělení c. k. rakouského vojenského vdovského a sirotčího fondu prostřednictvím c. k. priv. životní pojišťovací společnosti Rakouský Fénix ve Vídni vyhotovena a úpisovateli prostřednictvím pojišťovacího oddělení zaslána.

Insurance company.

Austrian Fund for Military Widows and Orphans under the supreme protectorate of his Apostolic Majesty Charles I and her Majesty the Empress and Queen Zita, Colonel General Archduke Leopold Salvador and his Excellency Archduchess Blanca. Czech King's Land Office. March 11, 1918.



In August 1915, a branch of the Grain Institute was set up in Prague. Gradually, similar institutes were opened for other types of foodstuffs. From September onwards restrictions on other types of products and goods (meat, fat, potatoes, milk, salt, coffee, sugar, tobacco).

In Prague, the provisions Institute (supply commission) was set up. The municipal government began milling grain and baking bread and selling it at key points in the city to the poorest and most disadvantaged sections of the population, and ration coupons were introduced for the collection of bread.

Gradually, a system of government-sponsored “central agencies”, run by private companies dedicated to specific products (fats and oils), emerged and coupons were introduced for all other foodstuffs and, in general, basic necessities.

Money was no longer of any use; the quantity of food supply was drastically reduced and the quality of products declined dramatically. Substitutes for some foodstuffs were used as a solution to the increased demand and growing shortages. As early as 1915, bread could no longer be made from pure wheat flour, but had to be mixed with flour from other cereals such as barley, oats, or maize. Other substitutes included malt products, potato starch and sugars.

Faced with this situation, many Prague residents travelled to the countryside to buy food and groceries directly from the producers, who, in addition to receiving money for the goods, also accepted clothes, tobacco, even watches and jewellery without any qualms.

The police, aware of the particular situation, remained passive and discreetly indifferent at the railway stations and on the way back. Many other peasants travelled to the city, where they offered their products in makeshift stalls.

This food policy continued until the establishment of the food office on November 13, 1916 by the Joint Food Committee, which lasted until the end of the war, as no agreement was reached to unite the food supply for the entire empire.

In addition to the food shortages in Prague, from the very beginning of the war, there was a notable increase in the number of soldiers returning from the front who were seriously wounded and were immediately treated, which caused the hospitals to collapse, which were insufficient and were supplemented by new establishments and health centres that were improvised throughout the city and the suburbs. With the help of the Red Cross, financial contributions, and donations from members of high society, and even the selfless work of the Scouts, this critical situation was alleviated to a certain extent.

Another task of the Scouts was to find benefactors among the wealthy and aristocratic citizens of the city to provide lunches for poor students, and they managed to collect large sums of money and funds to provide two hundred lunches a week throughout the year.

The municipality of Prague organised a system of war kitchens for the most destitute citizens, distributing around 9,000 lunches a day to the poor inhabitants of the city.



Street food stall in Prague, with more military control than buyers.



Military war kitchens.





Label of Prague, mother with baby. Purchase of tickets in favor of the Czech children's hospital. 15.1.1914, main prize 40,000 crowns.



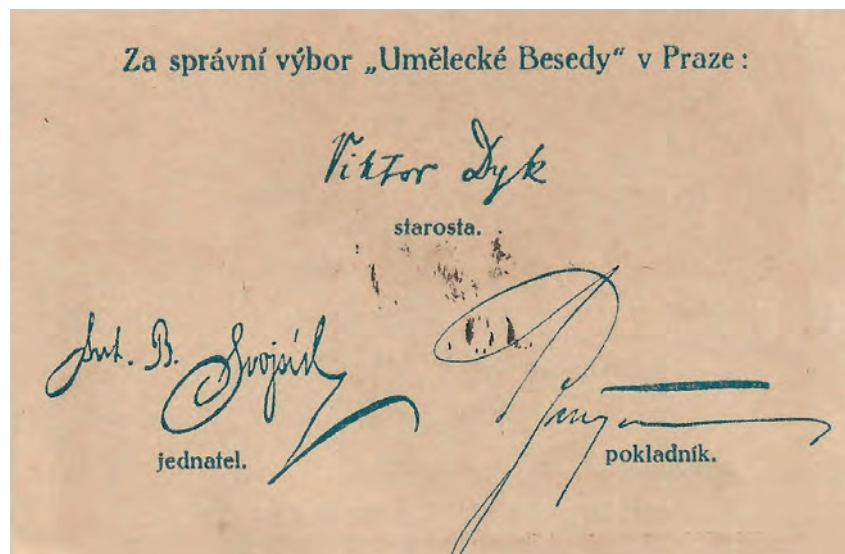
Metal emblem of the k.u.k. military police of the empire in Prague.



Old engraving of Wallenstein Palace in Prague.



Label for letter from the official office of war aid and care of the Red Cross.



Franz Joseph, Emperor Austria, King Hungary, k.u.k. Habsburg label. Donation 5 heller.



Identification card of a member of the Umělecká Beseda. Civic-artistic Association. Signed on the reverse by A.B. Svojsík, as general director in the 1920s.





In 1916 the shortage of basic foodstuffs was already significant. By 1917 it was famine. In the Chodín kitchens, which were set up in the suburbs of Prague, Scout teams were formed to help with cooking, food distribution and organisation.

Various theatrical performances organised for sick, wounded, and disabled soldiers in Prague and several puppet plays were performed at the Jedlička Institute, as well as a demonstration on Střelecký island in the Vltava river on April 30, 1916, in addition, organised by the Prague Ladies' Association and attended by the Scouts, the "Zahradní slavnost" (garden party) was held in 1915 and 1916 at the Wallenstein Palace for the benefit of orphans and wounded soldiers.

There was also puppet theatre, such as a performance of the play *Faust* (a tragedy by the German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe), preceded by short, entertaining, and interesting lectures on the history of Czech puppetry, organised by the Scouts.

A great opportunity arose for the "Sacrifice days" from 4 to 8 October, when they started a service in street and home collections for the Red Cross and for survivors of fallen soldiers and tuberculosis patients. Also, on December 19, at the concert of Umělecká Beseda, (artistic association uniting many Czech artists since 1863 in the literary, artistic, and musical fields) for the benefit of war orphans.

During the concert of the Czech violinist, composer and conductor of classical music, Oskar Nedbal held on March 31, in the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House in Prague for the benefit of wounded soldiers, the Scouts took over the order and organisation.

For the protection of mothers of orphaned children organised on the occasion of the May and his majesty's birthday celebrations, the Scouts also undertook to participate in and take over the usual collection work, both at homes on May 9, and at street collections on May 13 and 16 in Prague and the suburbs.

On May 16, they took over the organisational work during the visits to the Royal Castle for the benefit of the District War Relief office. On May 19, other scouts were on duty for a celebration for blind, maimed, and disabled soldiers in the Vrtbovská zahrada (the Vrtba garden in Prague, one of the most significant and beautiful baroque gardens in Prague).

During the month of June, various activities and collections also took place: on June 4, a concert by a Czech quartet in the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House in Prague, for the benefit of the Jedlička Institute. On June 6, at the Auxiliary War office in Zemská. On the 11th, the management of the Lucerna cinema organised a free performance for young people, during which slides of the Scout festivities in Klamovka were also shown.

Perhaps the most profitable, fruitful, and successful charitable action in the whole war period was the one organised by the Prague Ladies' Committee, with the support and representation of H.E. Governor Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, aimed at raising funds for the benefit of the Jedlička Institute and held during the Pentecost holidays: "The Spring Scout festivities".



Mark of the Scout Company Hajduků. 27.6.1917.
My dear mother and father, in the photo you can see Mrs. Castle,
her daughters and her son-in-law Forester from Krivoklát, who is
currently in the military service. They visit us daily in our camp.



Klamovka. Prague.





Hvězda hunting reserve in Prague.

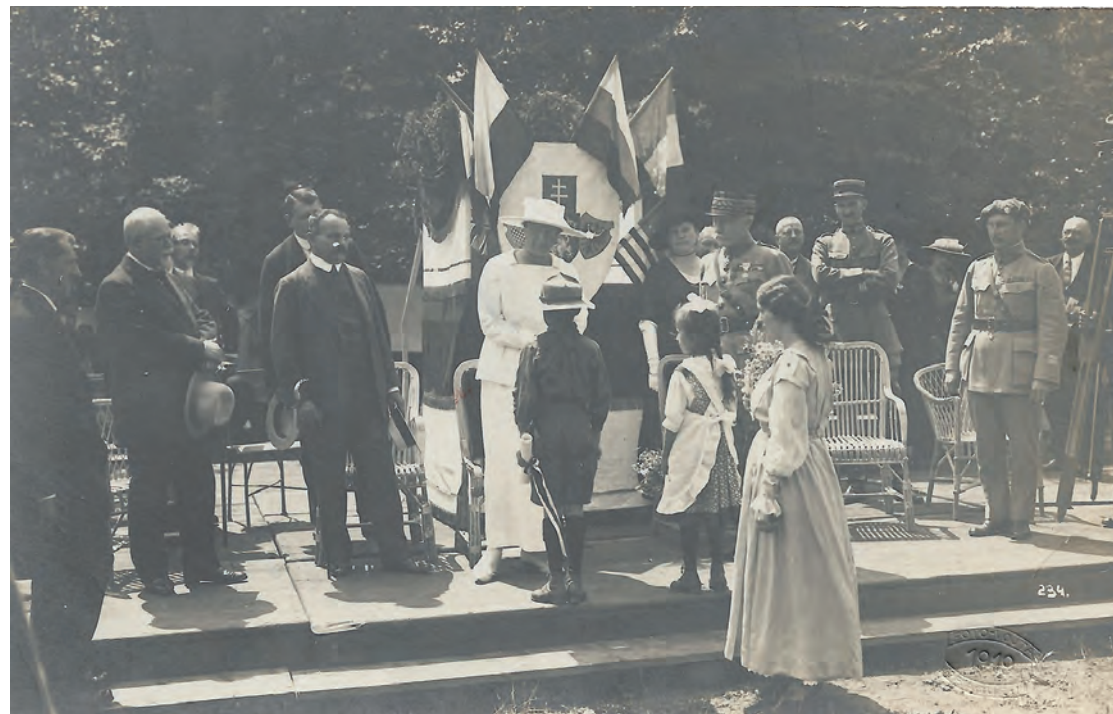
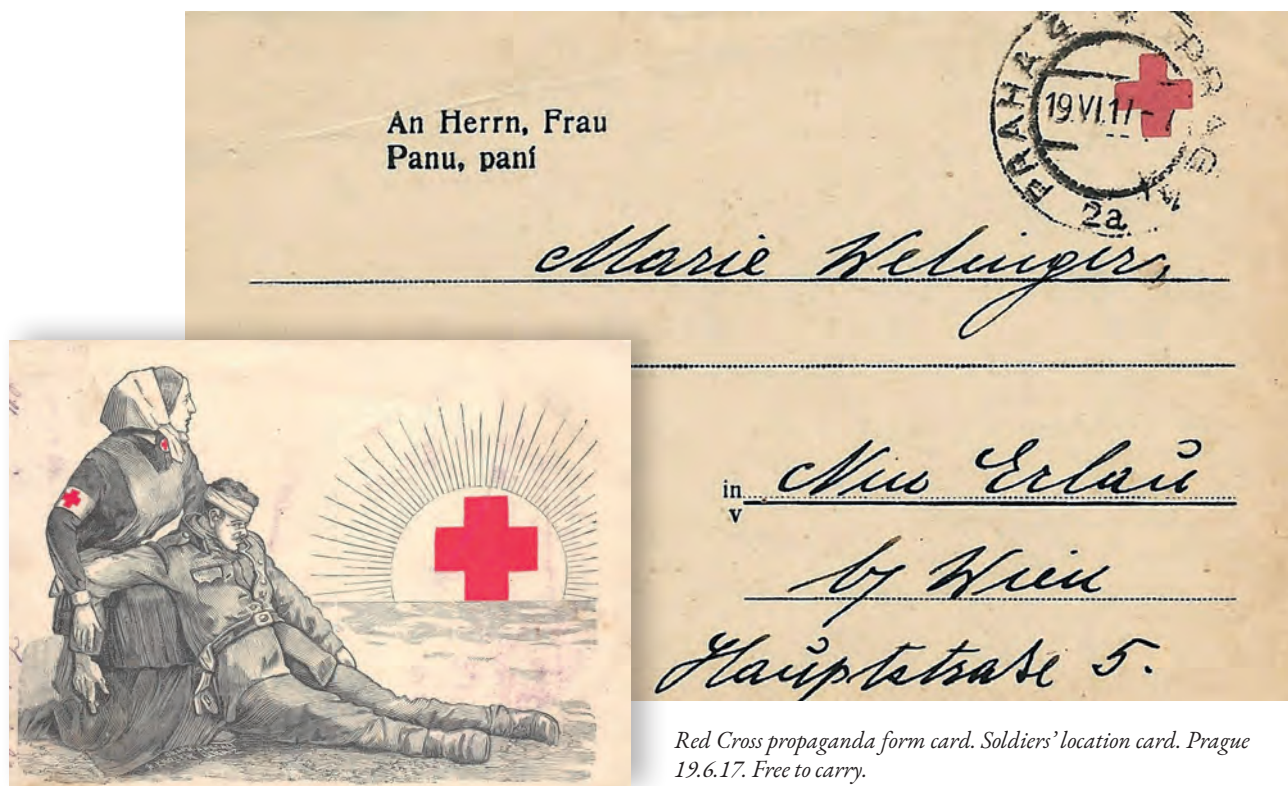


Children's camps sponsored by the Red Cross.



*Distinctive insignia
of the Red Cross.
Care of the disabled.
1914-1915.*





Military ceremony with French officers and legionnaires, with the presence of Josef Svatopluk Machar at the presentation of awards and recognition of the Scouts.



Congregation of the most vulnerable at the gates of shops before their opening.



Many soldiers were left behind and buried in the ditches. The graves of numerous Scout leaders can be found on battlefields all over Europe.



Wounded soldiers convalescing in a military hospital are cared for by nuns.



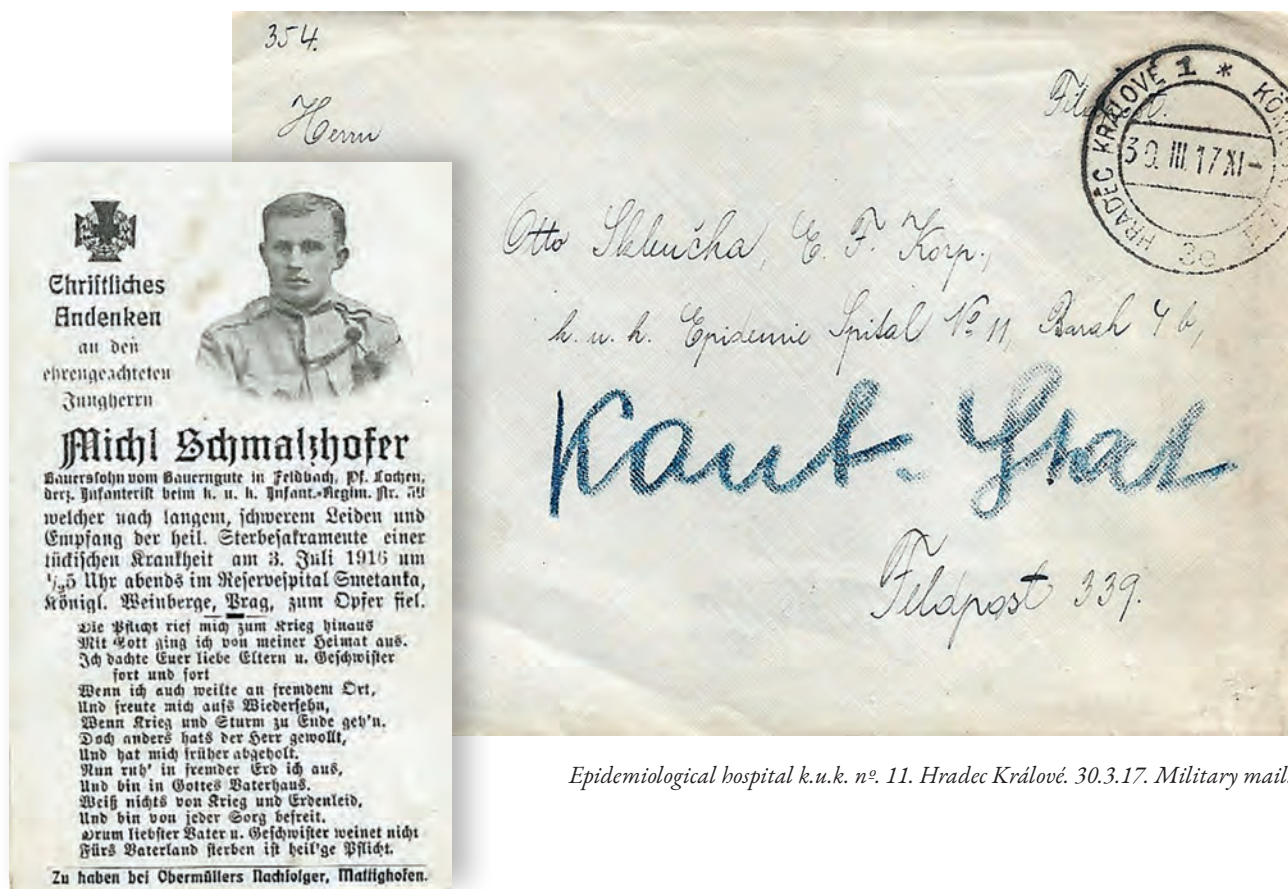
Austrians killed by stones thrown from the Italian hills. Snowy Mountain, June 28, 1918.

A camp was held in Klamovka park (Smíchov district of Prague) on May 24 and 25, 1915 for the benefit of the “Association for the treatment and education of disabled people in Prague”. A large camp was built by Scouts, to which the soldiers contributed by building a military trench, the programme also included the performance of military exercises by the Scouts, which raised some suspicions, but nevertheless attracted many visitors and resulted in minimal expenditure and significant profit. In addition to the camp, the Scouts helped with the buffet services.

The entire net proceeds from the celebration, whose programme was very diverse, were donated by the Scouts to the school for crippled soldiers of professor Rudolf Tomáš Jedlička (founder of independent Czech radiology and medical rehabilitation), who received for his centre the amount of 1.904,13 Austrian crowns.

“It is not important that a person lives a long time, but that he is satisfied with his way of life and happy with his actions. If this happiness of man includes a little happiness of others, then life is beautiful”.

Rudolf Jedlička.



Epidemiological hospital k.u.k. n°. 11. Hradec Králové. 30.3.17. Military mail.

Christian memorial to infantryman k.u.k., 59th Regiment. He died on July 3, 1916, in the Smetana Königliche Weinberge reserve hospital in Prague, after long suffering and after receiving the last sacraments.



Hungarian postal stationery 1914-1915, with 2 filler surcharge to help widows and orphans. From the war hospital in Hungary to the epidemiological hospital in Teplice. Czechoslovakia.



Reminder of mourning fallen soldier.



The last confession on the battlefield.



Corpses on the battlefield.



Rudolf Tomáš Jedlička.





Card of the k.u.k. reserve hospital n° 3, (military care) former sanatorium in Prague, under Vyšehrad. Branch in Podolí. Jedlička Institute. 7.10.1916.

On the frequent visits of his imperial highness the Austrian Archduke Štěpán (Charles Stephen of Austria) to Prague and particularly to the attendance of a gala concert in his honour in the presence of the aristocracy, nobility, high hierarchies (Czech and German) and a large number of militaries, several Scout units maintained a guard and order service on the stairs, in front of the entrance to the concert hall and at the access to the imperial box of the Prague Municipal House (Obecní dům). The archduke personally thanked the Scouts (in Czech) for their services and participation, praising the work of their leader.

In the summer of 1916, the conditions for camping outside the city worsened drastically, yet despite the shortage of food and tent tarpaulins, the JČS committee, and in particular its leader Svojsík, used his contacts (Count Bohuslav Kolowrat of Rychnov), who mediated with the Army. In this way, some 14 Scout groups, supplied with 500 tents of the highest quality, were able to start their camps, taking from their homes everything they needed for food, as well as two boxes of tinned meat donated by the military, which they supplemented with the proceeds from their help and collaboration in the work carried out on the farms, receiving in exchange for their work: bread, milk, eggs, fruit...

Many scouts (the wealthier ones) paid 60 crowns in cash, 3 kilos of flour and 2 kilos of sugar for their stay in the camps. Considering that the salary of an employee in a company was 25 crowns per month, this amount is considered a high price. However, the JČS Association subsidised less wealthy scouts, and with some of them, it even covered all the expenses.

The JČS Association spent considerable resources to enable poor young people to participate in treks and stay in holiday camps. The need for this help was most urgent in the hungry year of 1917, when misery and suffering prevailed accompanied by workers' demonstrations and strikes. The JČS was no stranger to this critical situation, as it was also in financial difficulties, and decided to turn to the Czech citizenry for help:





Klamovka Park in Prague.



Charity event held in Klamovka, organized by the Junák Scouts, and the presence of authorities such as the Count Maximilian von Coudenbove, governor of the Kingdom of Bohemia, (in office since March 1915).

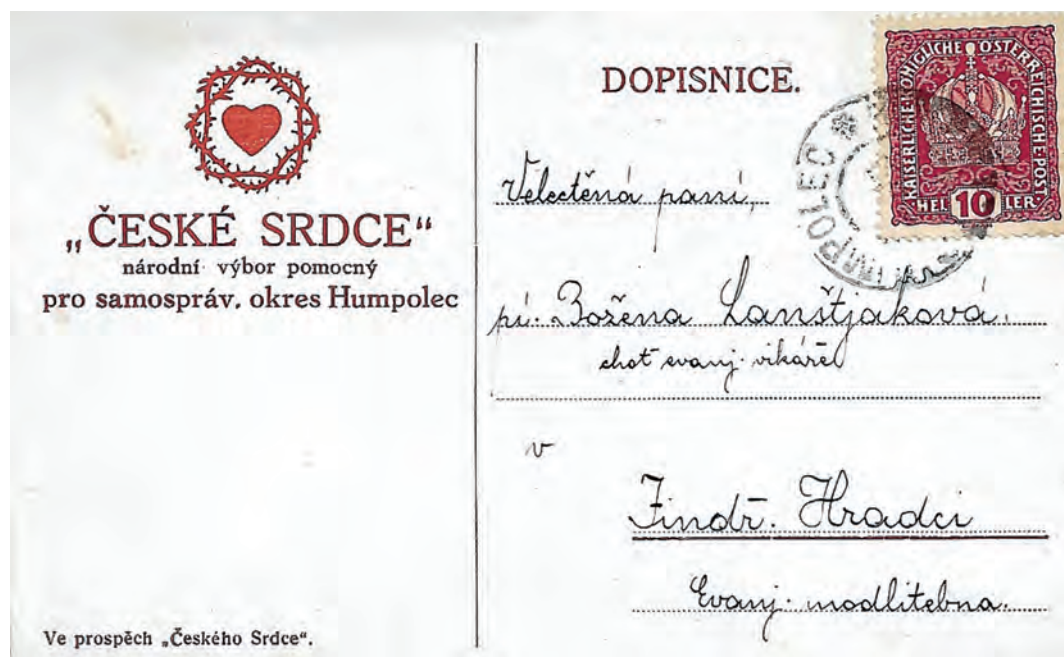


Convalescing soldiers in hospital.



Pen drawing in the camp.





České Srdce national auxiliary committee for self-government. Humpolec.



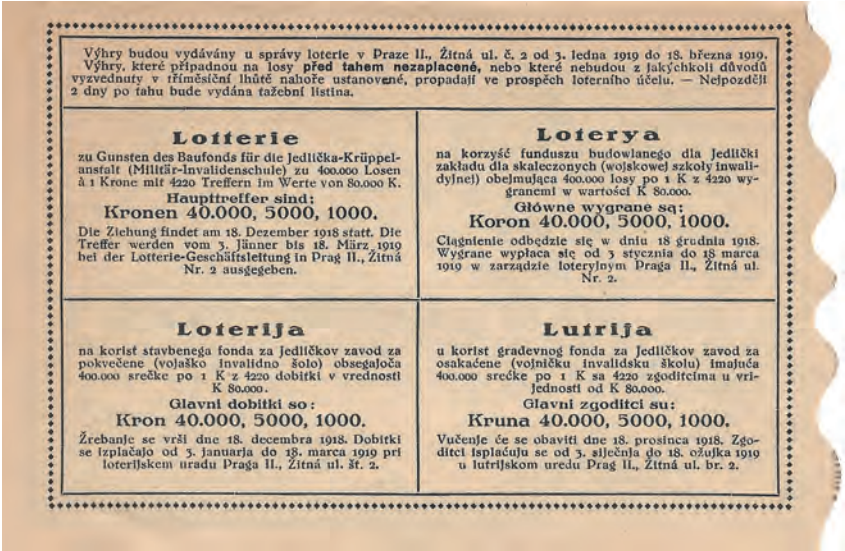
Children's camp organized by the Czech Red Cross.





Participation in the lottery draw on July 26, 1916. 10 heller.

Under the high protectorate of her highness of the serenissima Archduchess Maria Josepha, and the committee issuing war tickets for charitable purposes sponsored by Alice, Countess Harrach. In favor of the relief fund for refugees and orphans of the fallen in war. The first main prize reaches 10,000 crowns, worth of jewellery, gold and silver items, which can be exchanged for cash.



Vecná lottery. Jedlička Institute for the crippled in Prague 1918, treatment and school for disabled soldiers.



“I ask you to carry out this help for the sake of humanity and in the endeavour for a better future of the Czech youth”, were the words of the leader Svojsík.

The economic situation in Vienna and throughout Austria was lamentable, utterly desperate. Supplies did not work, there was no food, no coal, and other needs were not being met. In Prague, a national relief Committee was formed in response to the monarchy's demand for the requisitioning of food from Bohemia, which provoked hatred of Austria and all things German, leading to demonstrations, strikes, looting and raids.

The Prague youth congress took place on May 21, 1916 in the Hvězda hunting reserve near Prague. It was the first event of its kind, with the participation of 16 boys' teams with 279 Scouts and 2 girls' teams with 18 Guides with a total of 305 people, including the leaders. It was organised with the participation of the entire management of the JČS Association, by Josef Rössler Ořovský Jr. and Josef Filip (Starý), who gave it a sporty character. Parades, exercises, signalling - traffic lights, construction, and erection of tents, first aid (nursing, bandaging, and transporting the wounded), different kinds of games, singing and dancing.

Conditions, especially in Prague, became increasingly unbearable; the shortages of 1916 and 1917 led to famine in 1918. Even so, and despite the critical and unfavourable state, Scout camps were held in 1917, or shorter camps every week, from Saturday to Sunday.

During the winter, the young Scouts diligently attended the called meetings. In addition, they trained on Sokol premises three times a week and carried out exercises, drills, and handicrafts.

The regular weekly lectures for Scouts had been almost completely eliminated; there were no speakers. Instead, civic lectures for leaders and counsellors were organised in the form of a pedagogical course. These were mainly given by university professors: J. V. Klíma, Dr. P. Chad, Dr. P. Crumb, (nature and youth, educational schools in nature...).

A report issued by the management of the JČS recommended the desirability and importance of getting the poorest and most deprived young people in Prague out of the big city and into the sun, water, and nature, for which Antonín B. Svojsík appealed for the establishment of an educational school in nature. Svojsík appealed to the population for help and material support.

Scout Ladislav Filip of the 2nd Prague group even considered that in a situation where: *“Thousands of our soldiers are fighting on the front lines in the face of death, when the poor are working for a piece of bread, the Scouts should ask themselves how best to benefit the suffering and the hungry”*, proposing himself to hold a holiday camp outside the city, helping with all his strength and cooking not only for the campers, but also for the local destitute, especially for the children.

The closest and most direct co-operation of the Scouts during the war was with the Red Cross (Červený Kříž) (ČK), whose JČS services were offered at the beginning of the war. There was not a single Red Cross activity in which the Scouts did not participate. Proof of this was the diploma of *“honourable mention awarded by the central Association of the Red Cross for the Czech Kingdom to Junák-Český Skaut for the manifold services rendered by the Scouts since the announcement of the mobilisation”* in 1914.





The Red Cross assumed from the outset the primary responsibility for establishing and maintaining contact with prisoners of war. This was a difficult task, as many of the captured prisoners were sent from the front to transit camps before their final destination, to other camps or to labour camps. This resulted in a permanent bureaucratic and administrative service in the Czech Red Cross office performed by the Scouts.

But also the service provided with direct assistance and care to the most vulnerable, to individuals and families in need, civilians, soldiers and prisoners, services in hospitals, lazarettos and infirmaries, where the Scouts not only represented the infirmary and served as support and comfort, but interacted directly with the staff, with sick patients, convalescents, shopping, maintaining contacts between them and their families, writing letters to soldiers in captivity, serving as interpreters and companions, both in Prague and in other cities.

Later, after the Russian Revolution of 1917, a new wave of refugees began to make their way to Prague. These were often so-called white Russians who feared the Bolshevik regime and the civil war that began to break out in the country. Here, support and solidarity were shown mainly by the Czech population of the capital. The prominent Czech supporter of Russia, pan-Slavic, and later prominent Czechoslovak politician Karel Kramář, was one of the most active organisers of aid for these refugees

Meanwhile, day after day, long queues formed in the streets of Prague and at the entrance to every shop, not only husbands and fathers were fighting at the front. Every morning, women, children, grandmothers, and grandfathers faced the daily struggle to get basic foodstuffs or to somehow redeem food coupons and receive the dwindling rations they were entitled to in wartime. Sometimes, covered with blankets, sitting, or lying on the pavements, they stayed out all night in order not to miss their turn and to keep in line so that, the next morning when the bakery or shop opened, they would hopefully be the lucky ones and get the desired portion of bread before it ran out.

The situation was pitiful: children with tin cans and jars waiting to receive a ration of soup, queues also in front of chocolate factories, queues of nursing mothers claiming their ration of milk for babies under 3 years old and seriously ill people, queues in front of breweries, private and municipal bakeries run by the royal Prague Institute of approval to collect bread or flour, citizens demanding entry to the public war soup kitchen.

Food shortages were accompanied by shortages of other common goods. Coal and firewood, which were necessary for cooking and heating, became insufficient and scarce in the last two years of the conflict, and people had to resort to burning household furniture, and the more daring and unscrupulous to stealing coal from railway stations and goods wagons.

Due to the growing shortage of food supplies, an approval commission was set up in Prague, which took over the general supervision of the purchase and distribution of foodstuffs. In October 1917, a committee was formed to rescue the population of Prague and improve the supply situation. These and other social Organisations received confiscated and seized foodstuffs (sausages, salami, and other goods) from numerous inspections in the streets, railway stations and restaurants.



In the winter of 1917-1918, in the last six months of the war, the situation worsened. All food supplies in Prague were limited to the last remnants of potatoes. In June 1918, the food ration was restricted to a weekly ration of half a loaf of bread per person, the meagre meat being sold only one day a week.

The number of children arrested for begging increased from fifty in 1914 to five times as many in 1917. Looting of bakeries and shops multiplied day by day throughout the city.

In addition, vandalism and violent clashes with police who tried to dissuade them and prevent them from forcing their way into shops and businesses also took place.

The situation was critical in Prague, the problem of shortages of basic foodstuffs reached unbearable levels, popular protests multiplied in the last two years of the conflict, and was undoubtedly the origin of the provocation for the fall of the Habsburg Empire. The population was disgusted and dissatisfied with the king who did not care about them.

The conditions were awful, and little by little the circumstances were giving way to misery and malnutrition among the citizens, affecting the most vulnerable: old people and children, with the appearance of outbreaks of cholera, typhus and diseases such as tuberculosis, practically eradicated in the years before the war and which was the leading cause of death in Prague, followed by numerous cases of oedema (known as famine oedema), characterised by serious anaemia, severe malnutrition, low protein levels and diarrhoea, which led to infection and resulted in pneumonia that ended in death, not to mention multiple cases of mental pathologies.

In this precarious and hostile environment, at the end of October 1917, and after almost three years of war, in the midst of famine, shortages and widespread poverty affecting all sectors of the population (especially in the cities), the poet and writer Josef Svatopluk Machar, under the slogan: "*Let's help the starving Czech children in Vienna!*", he founded a charity which he called "České Srdce" (Czech Heart), thus enabling thousands of children to spend months without hunger in the Czech environment.

This charitable Association made a serious appeal to the population, especially young people, appealing to the duty to do good deeds, to fulfil the law of love in Christ, and besides helping at school, at home and in the street, also to the *Czech Heart*. He managed to organise one of the most important aid events from a financial and organisational point of view, preventing hunger and providing accommodation for Czech children from Vienna in family homes in the Czech countryside. The funds for the children's stay came from organised public charity collections and contributions from its own members.

The Czech Association *České Srdce*, a Czechoslovak welfare and assistance Association, was established as a charitable, apolitical and social Association, led by aristocratic women and honourable men (the J.Č.S. Association was a member), with the social participation of the Scouts, the cooperation of the Sokol and the help of other national and patriotic Associations, it was a long-term event of great importance and significance whose main purpose was to mobilise the Czech population to alleviate the existing misery.





Propaganda of České Srdce, branch in Prague.



Label donation of 2 heller in favour of České Srdce.



Propaganda of České Srdce, Slezské Ostrava.




Official postcard from České Srdce, sent from Hořice, (a village in the district of Český Krumlov in the south Bohemian region) to the hospital in Kadaň, a village in the district of Chomutov in the Ústí nad Labem region, Czech Republic (military care), 12.9.1918.





České Srdce, card from the Brno delegation. Label 5 beller.

VE PROSPĚCH  „ČESKÉHO SRDCE“.

KONCERT

PĚV. SPOLKU „OZVĚNA“ V BENEŠOVĚ
DNE 6. ŘÍJNA 1918.

1.
B. SMETANA:

BLANÍK.

Symfon. báseň pro klavír na 4 ruce.
Složen roku 1879. Po prvé provozováno r. 1880.

Sam do sídla Čech klade náš veliký básník tónů závěr svého
velikolepého kruhu symf. básní „Má vlast“. Vizme, jakými prostými a
zauznanými slovy ho doprovází.

„Hrdinové ze slavných bojů husitských odpočívají v tichém vnitru
dumavého Blaníka“, čekajíce času, kdy opět bude jim chopiti se meče.
Nad nimi vrchol Blanika jasně se zelená a pastýři obcházejí se
skotačivými stády — klidná ta krajinka netuší, co skrývá se v její
hloubi.

Však na zemi českou doléhá svízeť po svízeť, již odnikud nepřichází jí pomoc: tu prociťají ze sna rekové blaníci, chápou se staré
zbroje své a z otevřených hor vyskumpují na zemi, přimáhají se spásu.
S nimi vrací se dávno ztracené blaho a novým leskem září sláva
vší země české.

Kdyby bylo tuto pověst bráti do slova, marně by blaníci rytíři
čekali, marně snili svůj sen. — Ale dnes přiblížil se ten čas.
A které to zbraně dopomohou vlasti naší k tomu, aby našla dávno
ztracené blaho? To dobré vlastnosti našeho lidu, jeho nenásilná pevnost
v odhodlání spojená s vnitřní potřebou pravdy, jak je prokázali
všichni velcí naši předkové Husem počínaje.

Skladba se jaksi rozpadá v 5 částí.

I. První popisuje, jak dávní bojovníci zákona božího, v srdcích
českého lidu čekají svého znovuoživení.

II. Druhý oddíl (Andante non troppo) znázorňuje klidné pávyby
české vlasti.

III. V oddílu třetím (Piu mosso) se předvádí staleté utrpení její
bouře, které ji ochudily a na pospas vydaly bezcitnosti jiných.

IV. (Tempo di marcia). Oddíl další počíná pochodem blanických
rytířů, pochodem české myšlenky na bojiště a popisuje její vířivý
zápas se silami, které se bojí světa pravdy.

V. Pátý oddíl (Grandioso) je šťastným závěrem tohoto staletého
zápasu.

Teče voda, teče.

Teče voda teče cez Velecký majr.
Nehal si ma, nehál, starodávny trájir.
Nehal si ma, nehál, dobre ty vieš, komu,
čo ty řeči nosí, do našeho domu.
Do našeho domu, pod naše okénka:
čo som sa naplkal, sivá holubienka.

7.

SMETANA-WENZIG:

LIBUŠE.

(VĚŠTBA LIBUŠINA).

Bohové mocní! Za tento šťastný den díky budíž vám.
A vy se s oblaků usmíváte tak laskavě!
Vy rukou kynete do temné dálky, tak jako byste chtěli tím snad říci,
že drahý český národ můj, tak krásných dnů se ještě mnoho dočká!
Ha, kým to obraz čarovného lesku, z lána mraků se jeví známé-
nému zraku!

(Obraz III. Otakar II. Eliška a Karel IV.)

Aj tamo zástup chrabrých velmožů přichází blíž! — Buď vítán
mi ó pane vládnoucí od moře k moři, městi původci a lidu příteli!
I tebe vítám paní šlechtná, miláčku národa, kterému ne krále,
oče zrodila, jenž Čechům chléb osvěty při vlastním stole dal!


(Žilka — Prokop Veliký — Husité).

Jako rolník, zralé klasy, národa tak vrahů kácí!
Jím v nádech pláne svať pomsty žár
celému světu nesou vznik i zmar!
A hle! tam v mlhách (jifi z Poděbrad)
sova utvořených poslední září rek,
jenž z národa byl povolán!

V míru i válce veliký, muž velikán, větší stolec svého muž, ducha
sokem obdivovaného! Co dál!
To miha oku zahluje, a mnoho skrývá zkalenému zraku tajem-
ství hrozných, prokletí!
Však, nechť se stane cokoliv, to cítím v nehlubší mých náder
hloubi.

(Královský hrad pražský).

Můj drahý národ český neskoná,
on pekla hrůzy slavně, překoná.



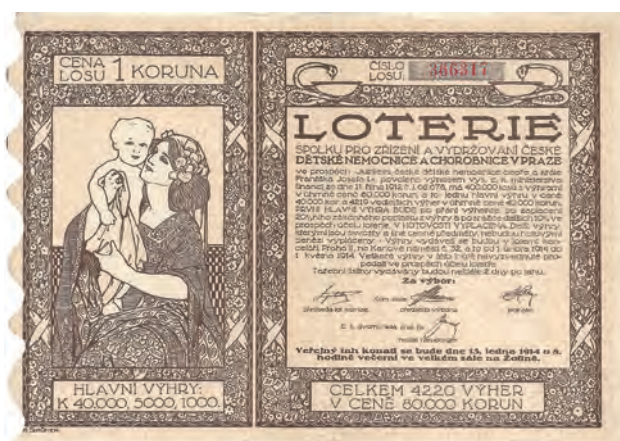
Knihstiskárna Fr. Müller v Benešově.

Concert for the benefit of České Srdce. Programme Bedřich Smetana. October 6, 1918.



České Srdce festivities in Dobruška, a village in the district of Rychnov nad Kněžnou in the Hradec Králové region, Czech Republic 15.8.1918.

Josef Svatoopluk Machar.



Lottery of the Association for the creation and resistance of the Czech children's hospital in Prague 1914.



Official postcard of České Srdce, sent from Hořice, to Kadaň hospital (military care). 12.9.1918.



Labels in favor of Prague's České Srdce.



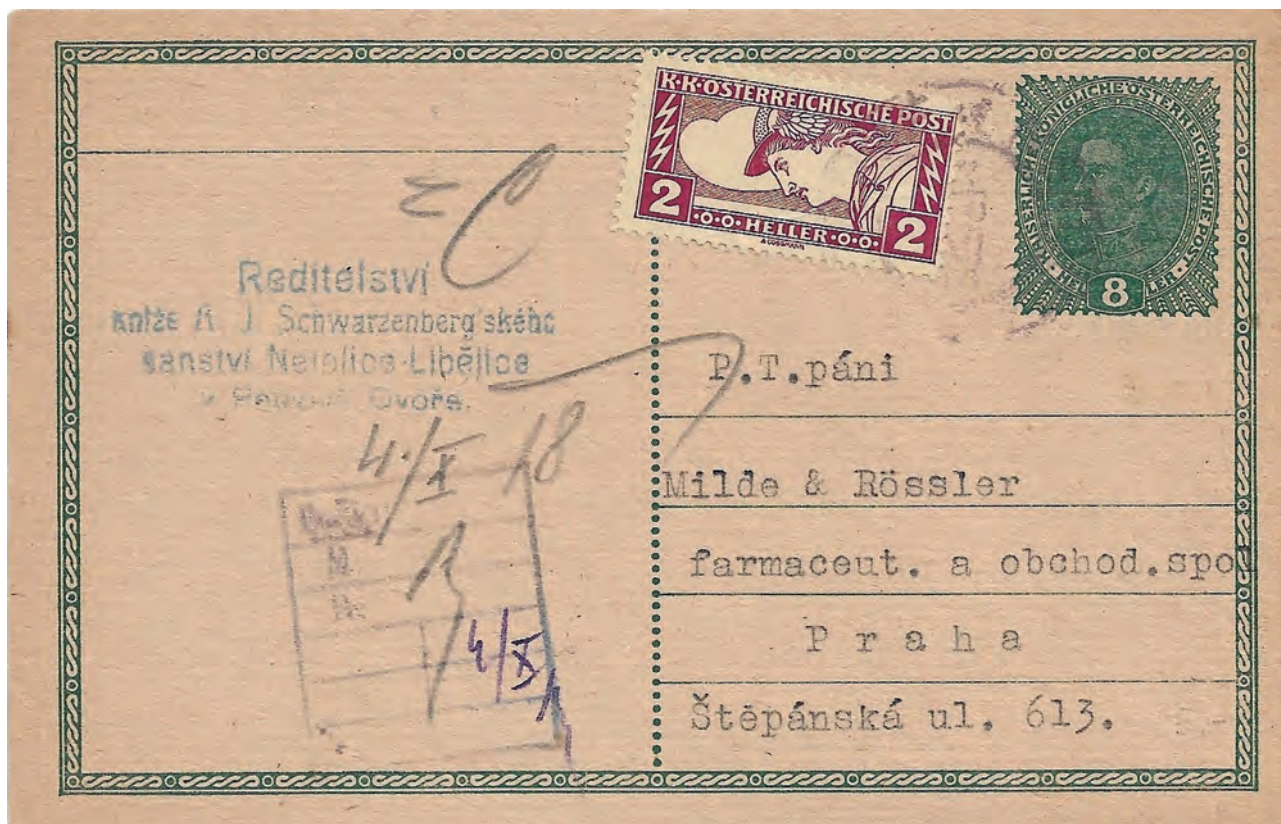


P. T. !
Vaše mi zašlali poštu:
Chloralhydrat 100 gr
Theobrom. natr. salic. 50 gr
Argent. proteinič. 25 gr
Probangol 25 gr
Acid. boric. 25 gr
Kerba keruár 500 gr
fol. nové kři zbylých na Šk.
A hlada užto
Kamuravý
Léčárník



Vignette from the Milde & Rössler
apothecary - drugstore in Prague.

Reverse side card with pharmaceutical order. 10.6.1918.



Postal stationery addressed from the pharmaceutical company in Petruv Dvur to the Milde & Rössler pharmacy in Prague on 2.10.1918, with
order on the back.





Postcard (feldpost). K.u.K. reserve hospital in the city of Pardubice, to the Milde & Rössler apotheker, with an order for medicines.



Registered letter with inner prescription stamped in Budějovice (Budweis), addressed to Milde & Rössler's drugstore in Prague. 6.6.1917.



K.u.K. postal stationery sent from Rogatic (Bosnia) to the Milde & Rössler Prague drugstore, with order for apothecary products on the reverse. 18.6.1918.



K.u.K. Hospital of the reserve n° 11 of the city of Cholm. Marked in red: "Zur Beförderung geeignet" (approved for transport), 22.4.1916. To the Milde & Rössler drugstore, with an order for drugs.





The volunteers, with special passbooks, travelled through the assigned districts, visiting wealthy families, shopkeepers, farmers in the countryside and collecting everything that the needy families lacked. Donations were handed over at the office and at designated collection points, which were staffed mainly by teachers and priests, as advisors of the *Czech Heart*. And in return they promised: *"You will return home refreshed and aware that you are doing your duty in the field of national work... get down to work according to the deeds by which you will be judged"*.

In the service of the *České Srdce*, the Scouts dug with hoes in the lands where potatoes, turnips, sugar beets, etc. had already been harvested... They picked up forgotten or fallen tubers along the fields and farms. In the forest, they collected pine cones, bark and dried wood in bags and brought them to the poor and elderly in needy. On behalf of poor mothers with small children whose husbands were at war, they lined up for all kinds of goods (fuel, cornmeal, dried cod, and herring...).

The Association's social activities were not only aimed at starving children. It also helped orphans of war soldiers, war invalids, maimed, widowed, and abandoned women and elderly people, organised charity events, holiday stays for children and teenagers, theatre and film performances for young people and adults providing support and care services.

The activities carried out by *České Srdce*, lasted until the end of the war and the achievement of results was promptly reported to the Scout headquarters at the end of each month. Their work continues to this day.

At the ordinary general Scout meeting held in Prague on December 18, 1917 and not concluded until January 15, 1918, new elections were held and J. Rössler-Ořovský, Prague II, 44 Palackého nábřeží street, was elected as chairman, and professor A. B. Svojsík, 5 Náplavní street, Prague II, was elected as the main leader.

After the election, President Rössler-Ořovský took over the leadership of the general meeting and, there being no other business, thanked the attendees for their participation by asking to supplement the amount collected by *České Srdce*. Total collected: 207,20 crowns.

The JČS Association and its leader Svojsík, as well as its members, immediately after the establishment of the Czechoslovak National Committee in Prague, placed themselves at its disposal and offered the services of the entire Scout Organisation.

The Milde & Rössler firm in Prague, run by Jaromir Milde and J. Rössler Ořovský as partners (both representatives of the "Junák - Český Skaut" Association in the period 1914-1918), was a pharmacy and apothecary establishment renowned in and outside the entire territory of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which produced master formulae that were requested from many remote places.

In times of war, the company imported and supplied medicines to the countries in conflict, donating a wealth of material both to hospitals and to the Czech Red Cross. From the correspondence generated, we can read, among other things, the orders that were requested: tea, opium, caffeine, morphine, aspirin...



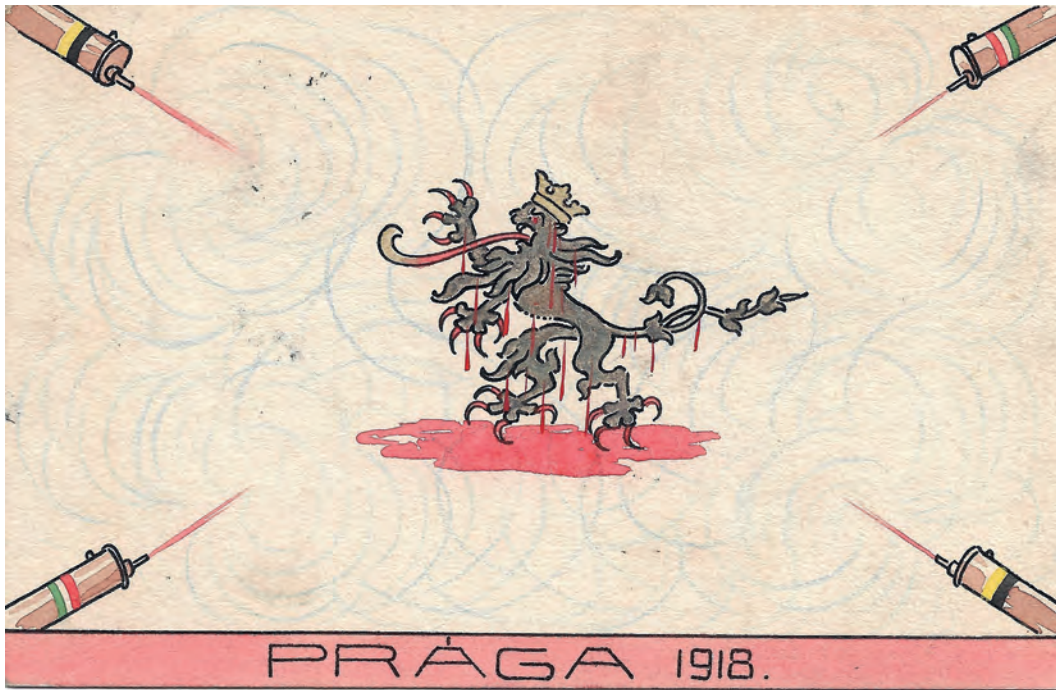
Label of black Souchong tea, originating from Zheng Shan part of Mount Wuyi in Fujian province, China, imported and distributed by the J.L. Rössler apothecary's shop in Prague.

Terrestrisch 5. Decbr 1916.
Horgos, 1918.
Herrn Milde & Rössler
Prag II 613
an den Besitzer des Paketes vom
27. v. Mts. bitte sofort zu senden
per Postnachnahme Express an
unterstehende Adresse nachtrud
2 Reg. Acidum Gallicum 22.
2 „ Extract „ 5.50
H. Couvenier, Apoth. Handigeltunde
Arad, Bin. pr. Polischlaff an
my. Apotheke in Horgos bei Koged
Abnahme bitte durch Apotheker
Tichy Béla, Apotheker
in Horgos bei Koged
Adresse für Pakete:
Tichy Béla, Apotheker
in Horgos bei Koged
Simonyigasse Nr. 6

Order on the back 5.12.1916. Sent by pneumatic mail. Postmarked with wrong date 1918.



Express registered postcard, sent from Arad (Hungary) to Prague, Milde & Rössler pharmacy. Order of products on the back.



Machine guns with the flags of Austria and Hungary shooting at the Bohemian rampant lion, which bleeds mercilessly.

Card franked on January 9, 1918 at Pozsony, Hungary, in German: Pressburg/Preßburg, in Slovak: Prešporok. Today the capital and largest city of Slovakia. The city was influenced by various nations and religions: Germans, Austrians, Hungarians, Bulgarians, Croats, Serbs, Czechs, Slovaks and jews.



Hungarian card back. January 9, 1918.



On January 6, 1918, Czech deputies of the imperial Council in Vienna and the provincial assemblies of the historical lands of the Czech Kingdom, together with Slovak representatives, met to sign a joint agreement, which went down in history as the “Three Kings’ day declaration!”, on the right of self-determination with the plan to form a Czechoslovak State within the framework of the Habsburg monarchy.

A momentous event at the national level was the “National revolutionary oath” (a political act announcing and supporting T. Masaryk’s resistance activities), which was held on April 13, 1918 by Alois Jirásek in the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House in Prague. It was attended not only by the official delegation of the JČS Scout Association (A.B. Svojsík and Rössler-Ořovský) but also by a large number of its members, as well as representatives from other fields (political, artistic, scientific, educational, literary, etc.). Dozens of uniformed scouts stood guard in front of the building and on the stairs, while others served as guardians of order, guides, escorts.

A so-called National Committee was also established in the Municipal House, which prepared all the necessary steps to establish an independent republic. In the first days after October 28, 1918, its representatives also served as an interim government. In the Municipal House, Austrian military power surrendered to the National Committee.

Central to the creation of the Czechoslovak State was the work of the Czechoslovak Legions, which fought relentlessly alongside the allied armies. The Czechoslovak Legions were made up mostly of Czech and Slovak emigrant volunteers, deserters, and prisoners of war from the ranks of the Austro-Hungarian Army. The largest group consisted of Czech units with soldiers in the regular Russian Army. Others were Czechoslovak legionnaire troops, recognised as autonomous allied armies that fought on the side of France and Italy and Serbia. Many fell in the fighting or were taken prisoner.

After independence, the legions became part of the Czechoslovak Army, and were considered an important political force in the building of the new state.



Hungarian postcard, protesting from the city of Kassa - Košice. In 1918 Košice was part of Czechoslovakia. Anti-Czech propaganda. (Hungarian culture will resist the insatiable appetite of the Czech beast).



Card with image of Bohemian legionary spearing the Habsburg double-headed eagle, simulating St. George slaying the dragon. According to legend, St George on his white horse represents good, that which is pure and clean, against the dragon representing evil, the dark, the devil.



*Patriotic ribbon of the Hungarian flag
"Return to the Highlands".*



Kassa - Košice. National Theatre.



Arrival of the Šidlika Legion battalion in Prague.



Parade of the Šidlika Legion battalion in Prague.



First Czech legionnaires from the Italian and French fronts in Prague.





First Czech legionaries in Prague.



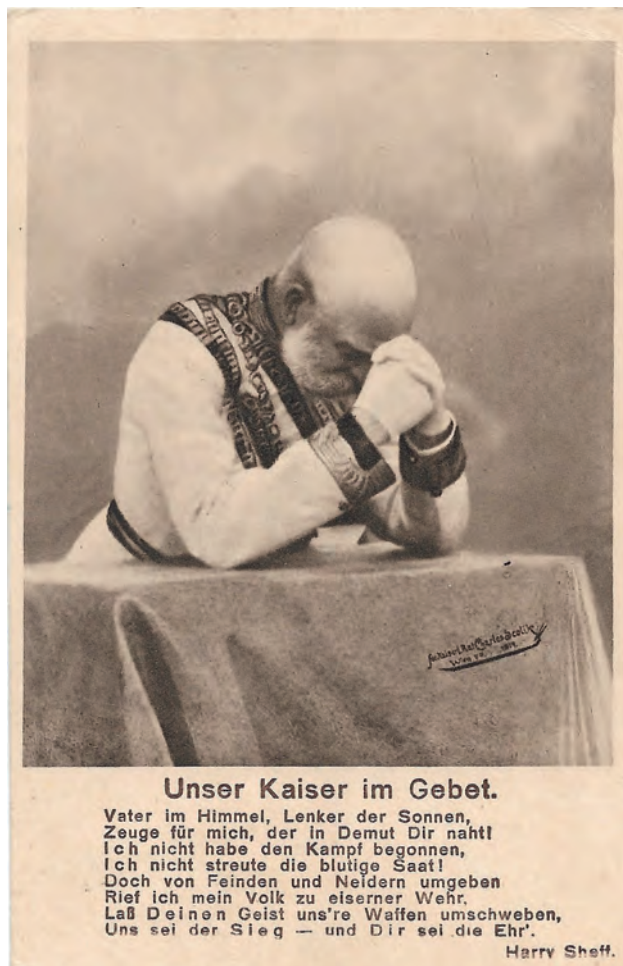
Commemorative card of the 22nd Czechoslovak Regiment dedicated by Alois Jirásek. 5.12.18 to Colonel Husákovi.



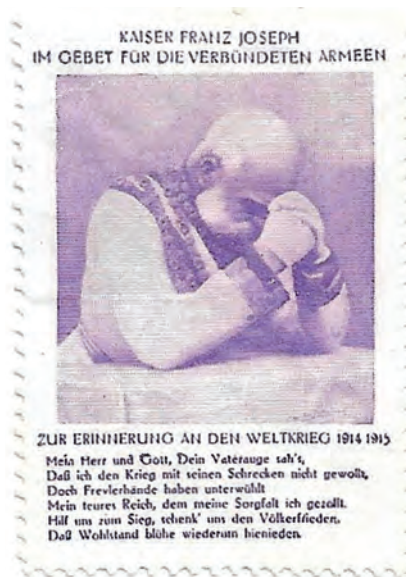
Distinguishing shirt collar mark of the 22nd Regiment. 1918.



Anti-Austrian photograph issued in GB. Czechs in London salute Italy and its allies down Austria, Czech participants in the Italian war demonstration, London, 27.5.1915.



Our emperor in prayer. *Father who art in heaven, ruler of the suns, bear witness of me, that I approach you in humility! I didn't start the fight, I didn't spread the damn seeds! But surrounded by enemies and envious people, I called my people to an iron defense, let your spirit float around our weapons. Victory be to us and honor to you.*



Vignette in German with Emperor Franz Joseph in prayer for the allied armies. In memory of the World War 1914-1915.



Metal emblem with double-headed eagle. Inverted imperial coat of arms (representing the fall of the Habsburgs disapproval of the regime).





4 - THE EMPIRE CRUMBLES





World War I had not yet ended when Franz Joseph I, Emperor of Austria-Hungary and king of Bohemia among other titles, who reigned for 68 years from 1848 to 1916, died. His personal motto was *“Viribus Unitis”* (with union of forces). Throughout his life he received numerous national and foreign decorations, the most important of which was awarded by Spain: Grand Cross of the order of Charles III, with collar, on May 10, 1875.

As soon as the sad news broke that his majesty Emperor and King Franz Joseph I, had died at Schönbrunn Palace on November 21, at 9 p.m., all federal Scout activities were suspended and a note of condolence was sent to the governorate of the Kingdom of Bohemia. At a plenary meeting of the board of leaders and councillors, Svojsík spoke about the noble efforts of the deceased monarch for the benefit of youth, after which the meeting ended with a heartfelt mourning.

Franz Joseph is succeeded by his great-nephew Charles I, who proclaims an amnesty and calms police repression to try to save his throne and maintain the unity of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but it is too late: ... The Empire crumbles.

Over the course of World War I, a courier system had been set up between London and Prague by the Czechoslovak National Council in order to deal more efficiently with communications. Official, diplomatic, and sometime private mail was collected at the Czechoslovak National Council in London and was stamped with a circular handstamp with the text: “Republique Tchécoslovaque legation a London”. This mail is often marked *“Doslo kurýrem”* (arrived by courier).

At the outbreak of World War I, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, Edvard Beneš and the Slovak Milan Rastislav Štefánik, in exile, carried out diplomatic and military activities to achieve independence and formed the so-called “Czechoslovak National Council”, which led the anti-Austrian resistance. National politicians acted in January 1918, pushing the independence process both at home and abroad.

In 1916 Edvard Beneš had been working for the formation of Czechoslovak national unity, of which he was the general secretary. Together with Štefánik, he organised the brigades of the Czechoslovak Army and thus helped the origin and development of the Legions of independence in France, Russia, and Italy, which took part in many of the battles of the First World War. After Czechoslovakia’s declaration of independence, he was appointed foreign minister in the government of Karel Kramář, returning to his homeland in September 1919. After the resignation of Tomáš Masaryk, he was elected President of Czechoslovakia on December 18, 1935.

In July 1918, the seventeen-member Czechoslovak National Committee was established in Prague, constituted as the highest moral authority on those events in political life which, outside the competence of parliamentary activity, would nevertheless require a solution from the point of view of nationalism, and whose task was to prepare for the seizure of state power and to create new laws. Kramář was the chairman, Švehla the vice-chairman, Soukup a member of the board, and Alois Rašín, author of the text of the first law establishing and declaring an independent state and one of the strong men of October 28.



Colonel Husák, legionary leader and hero in Prague.

PROTOCOL OF THE BURIAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF HABSBURG. THE CEREMONY TOOK PLACE AT THE DOOR OF THE IMPERIAL CRYPT.

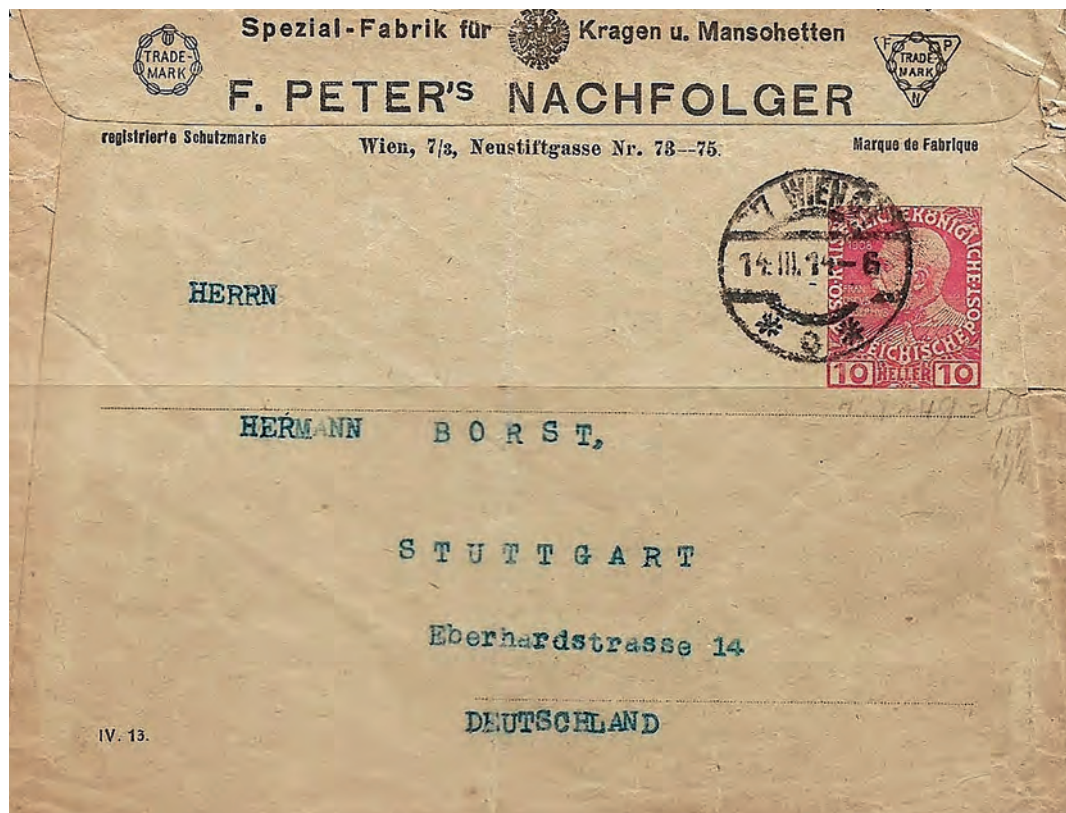
-Who are you? Who asks for entry?
 -I am His Majesty the Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary.
 -I do not know him. Who asks for entry?
 -I am Emperor Francis Joseph, Apostolic King of Hungary, King of Bohemia, King of Jerusalem, Grand Prince of Transylvania, Grand Duke of Tuscany and Cracow, Duke of Lorraine, of Salzburg...
 -I do not know him. Who asks for entry?
 -I am Francis Joseph, a poor sinner, and I implore God's mercy.
 -Then you may enter.



Interior of offices of the London Czech Committee & Czech national alliance. Picadilly Circus, W1.



Franz Joseph I, Emperor of Austria-Hungary, died on November 21, 1916, at 9 p.m., at Schönbrunn Palace. All federal Scout activities were suspended and a message of condolence was sent by Svojsík and the Scout Association to the governorate of the Kingdom of Bohemia.



Front and back of the envelope with a map of the territories of the empire before the First World War, sent from Vienna to Stuttgart (Germany) 14.3.1914.





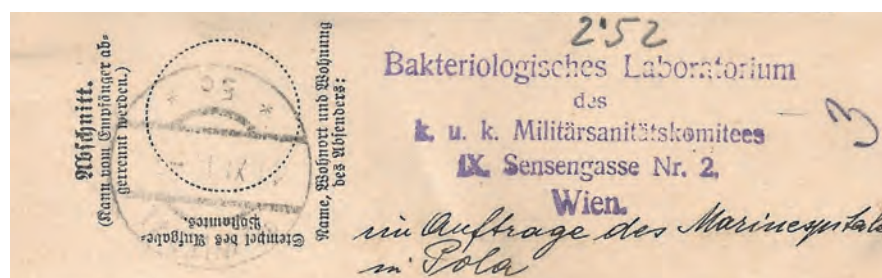
Charles I of Austria and IV of Hungary, accompanied by his wife, Empress and Queen consort Zita of Bourbon-Parma, on their way to the front in a Red Cross train to visit the fighting troops and to attend Holy Mass.



Envelope with feldpost stamps depicting Franz Joseph, registered K.u.K. in Lublin on 5.1.1917, with military censorship. Addressed to Prague.



July 1, 1914. Central newspaper of the Czech Social Democratic Labour Party in Austria. The new heir to the throne and his spouse.



Postal delivery, with the mark of the k.u.k., bacteriological laboratory. Military Medical Committee in Vienna, on behalf of the navy hospitals in Pola. 11.11.14



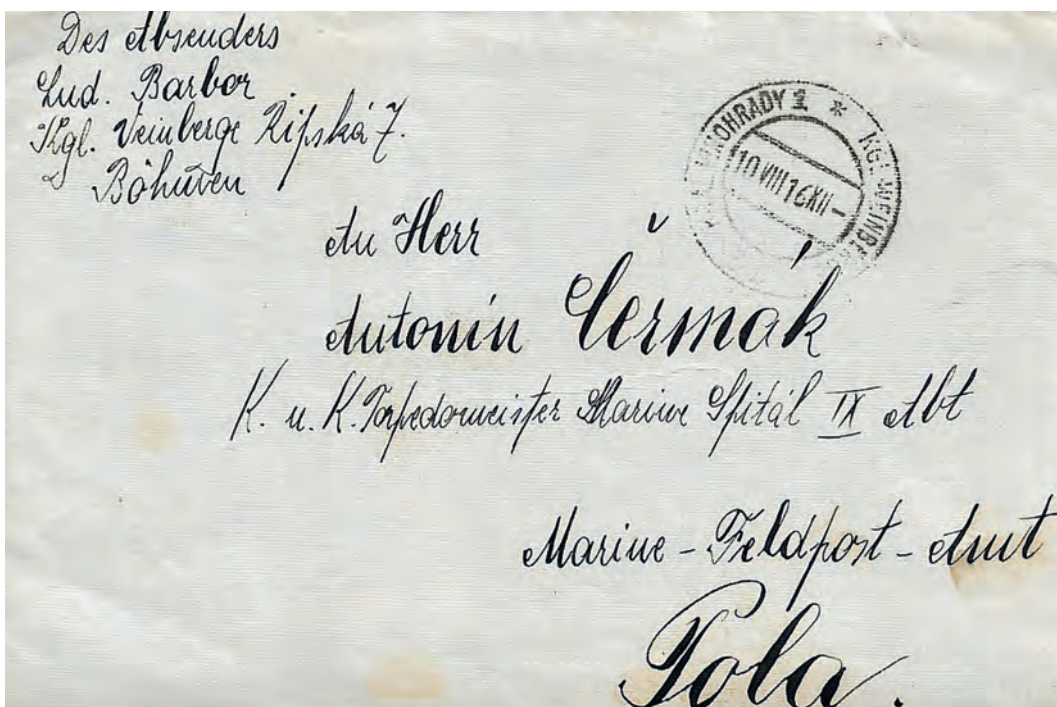
Official postcard of the Austrian naval Association in aid of war welfare. Navy hospital in Pola, to Prague. 16.11.15.



Official postcard of the Austrian Fleet Association for War Welfare. Pola. Navy hospital stamp. Archduke Charles inspects the ship "Viribus Unitis".

"Internal order and the monarchical principle will be in grave danger unless we are prepared to put an end to the fighting immediately".

Emperor of Austria Charles I, October 26, 1918.



Letter feldpost, sent from Prague to the navy hospital in Pola. 10.8.16.

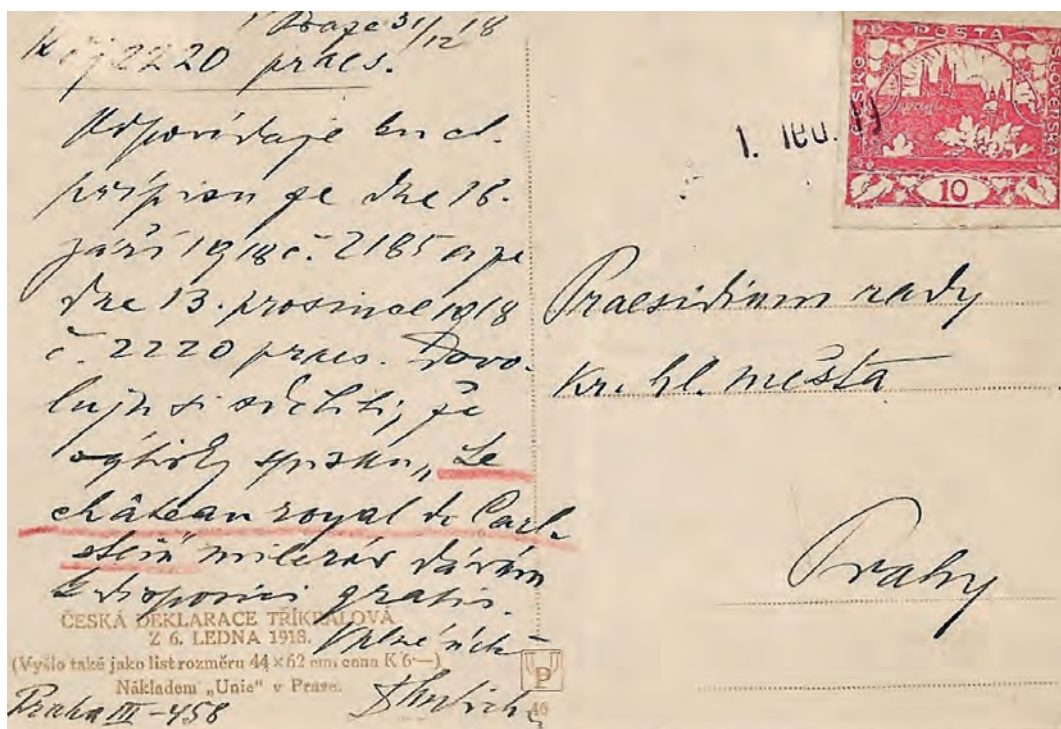


Envelope with k.u.k. feldpost franking, Bosnia Herzegovina (values of 10 and 15 heller overprinted with *witwen und waisenwoche 1917*, -widows and orphans week-). Image of Franz Joseph, registered in Sarajevo K.u.K. on 9.5.1917. Addressed to the director of the Prague Post office Jaroslav Lesetický.



Extra edition of the Austrian newspaper *Die Zeit*, October 17, 1918, at 6 p.m. Price 10 heller, of which 2 heller are for war aid purposes. "Imperial Manifesto". The new constitution of Austria.

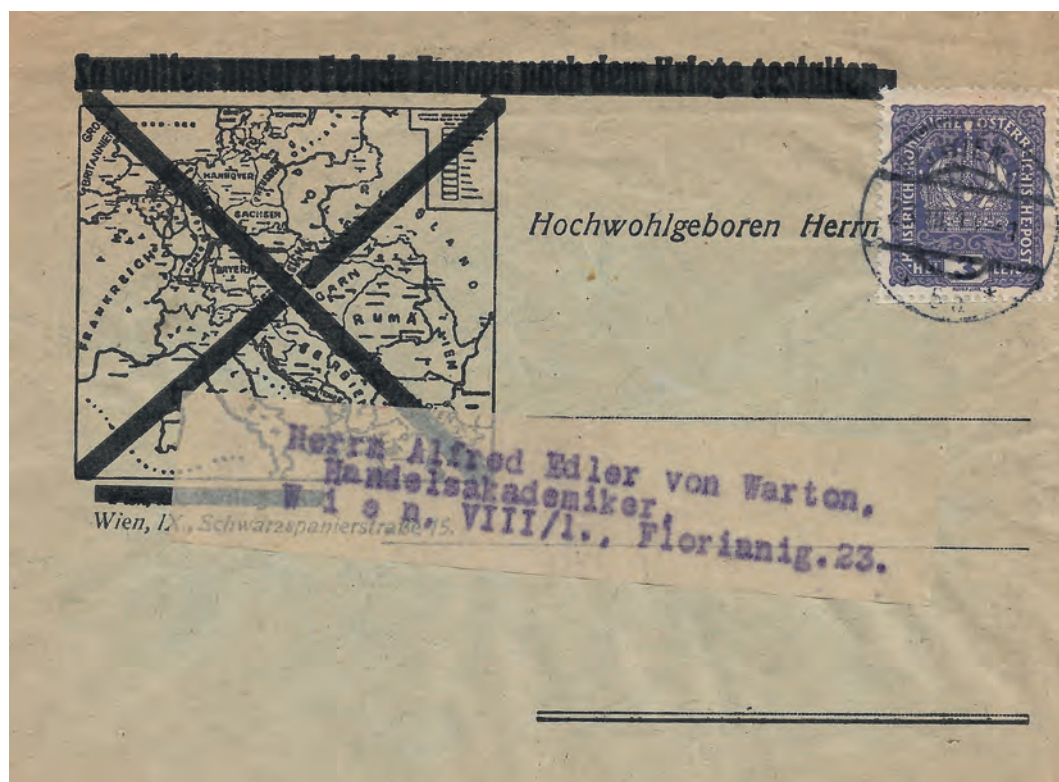




Postcard (transfer of power) postmarked January 1, 1919. Council of the royal capital presidency in Prague. In Prague on 31.12.1918, with reference number 2220 presidency in reply to the above-mentioned notes of September 18, 1918, number 2185 and December 13, 1918, number 2220 presidency. I am pleased to note which extracts from the archive "Karlsstein, Royal Castle" I am pleased to make available to you free of charge. With the greatest respect Prague III-458.



Czech Trikalová declaration of January 6, 1918, on postcard (also issued as a sheet 44 x 62 cm. price 6 kr. Published by Unie Praze.



"This is how our enemies wanted to form Europe after the war". (*Sowollten unsere feinde Europa nach dem kriege gestalten*) Propaganda envelope of "former territories" of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, cancelled and reused again.

Čeští delegáti do Paříže? Vídeňské listy zaznamenávají z Curychu zprávu, že tam přibylí poslanci Klofáč, Haberman a Staněk, za nimiž následují Dr. Kramář a Dr. Preis. Z Curychu prý se odeberou čeští delegáti do Paříže. Jelikož není možno zjistiti správnost této informace, nutno vyčkati bližších zpráv.

Delegates travelling to Paris?

Vídeňské listy records a report from Zurich that members Klofáč, Haberman and Staněk have joined, followed by Dr. Kramář and Dr. Preis. It is said that the Czech delegates will leave Zurich for Paris. Since it is not possible to determine the accuracy of this information, we must await further news.



Václav Klofáč.



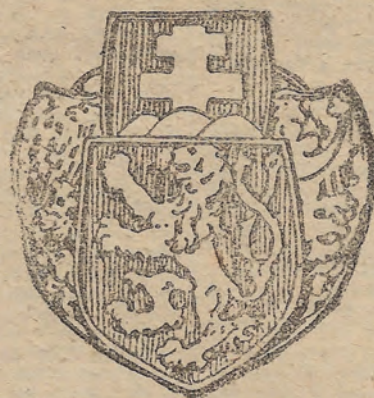
Paris.



**Řeč předsedy Českého svazu
poslance Frant. Staňka**

proslovená 2. října 1918,

**kteřá byla citována v aktech naší česko-
slovenské vlády v Paříži a aktech mo-
nosti dohody jednajících o uznání naší
vlády v Paříži.**



PRAHA 1918.

**Vydáno: Československých podniků tiskových a vydavatelských v Praze
Tiskem Reinoldů tiskárny.**

Speech by the President of the Czech Union, Deputy Frant. Staňka (František Staněk) delivered on October 2, 1918, which was cited in the minutes of our Czechoslovak government in Paris and the documents on the possibility of an agreement negotiating the recognition of our government in Paris.



Edvard Beneš.

CONSEIL NATIONAL
DES PAYS TCHÈQUES

signé l'engagement et continuer
tout simplement leur ancien ser-
vice. Les prisonniers l'avaient
signé sortant du Camp ou arri-
vant à Cognac. Les Américains
l'avaient fait avant de partir.
pour la France.

Il y aurait quelques inconvé-
nients si nous les prison-
niers de nouveau et si quelques
incidents se produisaient
avec ceux qui voudraient
poser les conditions.

J'ai expliqué la question
à M. le Général qui a répondu
dans ce sens au Ministère.

Si, mon Colonel, vous croyez
la question non résolue de
cette façon ou si vous avez
besoin des preuves pour
les autres cas, vous m'en
ferez parvenir un modèle:
attendant le nombre neces-
saire. J'ai prié mon
Colonel de m'excuser de
vous donner ces explications
aujourd'hui seulement.

J'aurai le grand plaisir
de vous voir très prochainement.

à l'occasion de la remise
du drapeau. J'ai prié
en même temps de vouloir
bien présenter, de ma part,
mes hommages à Madame
Philippe.

En vous remerciant, mon
Colonel, de tout mon cœur
pour tout ce que vous faites conti-
nuellement pour nos hommes
et pour notre cause, j'ai prié
de croire à mes senti-
ments très dévoués.

Edvard Beneš

CONSEIL NATIONAL
DES PAYS TCHÈQUES
SECRÉTARIAT GÉNÉRAL
PARIS 18 - RUE BONAPARTE

TEL. FLEURUS 12-19 PARIS LE 29 Mai 1918

Mon Colonel,

J'ai bien reçu vos dévotionnelles et
je m'empresse de m'excuser que
l'affaire n'était pas réglée tout
de suite. J'en ai référé à l'Etat Ma-
jor le priant de vouloir bien vous
renseigner sur la situation.

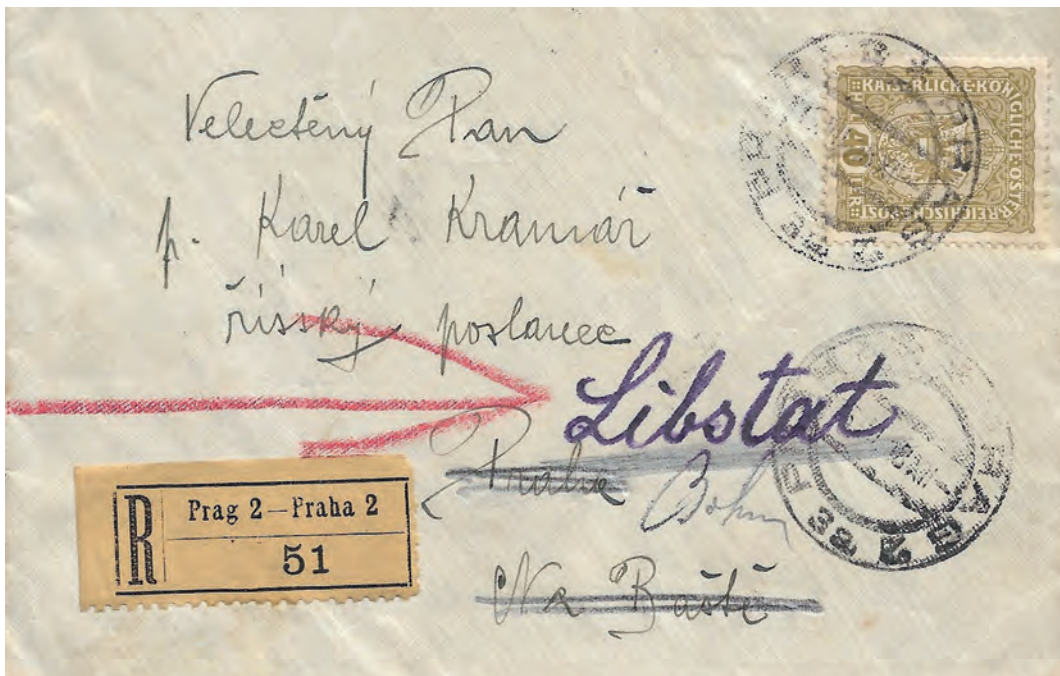
Toutefois je me permets de vous
en dire moi-même quelques mots.

Le Conseil Nat. considère
comme inopportun de recommen-
cer l'engagement de tous les
soldats. Ceux de Russie ont

Four pages letter dated Paris on May 29, 1918, written in French by Edvard Beneš, on printed paper "Conseil National des Pays Tchèques". Beneš writes: My colonel: The National Council considers it inopportune to re-enlist all soldiers. The Russians signed the pledge and simply continue in their old service. Prisoners signed it when they left the camp or when they arrived at Cognac. The Americans did it before they left for France."



Minister Beneš, General Janin, President Poinçaire 1918.

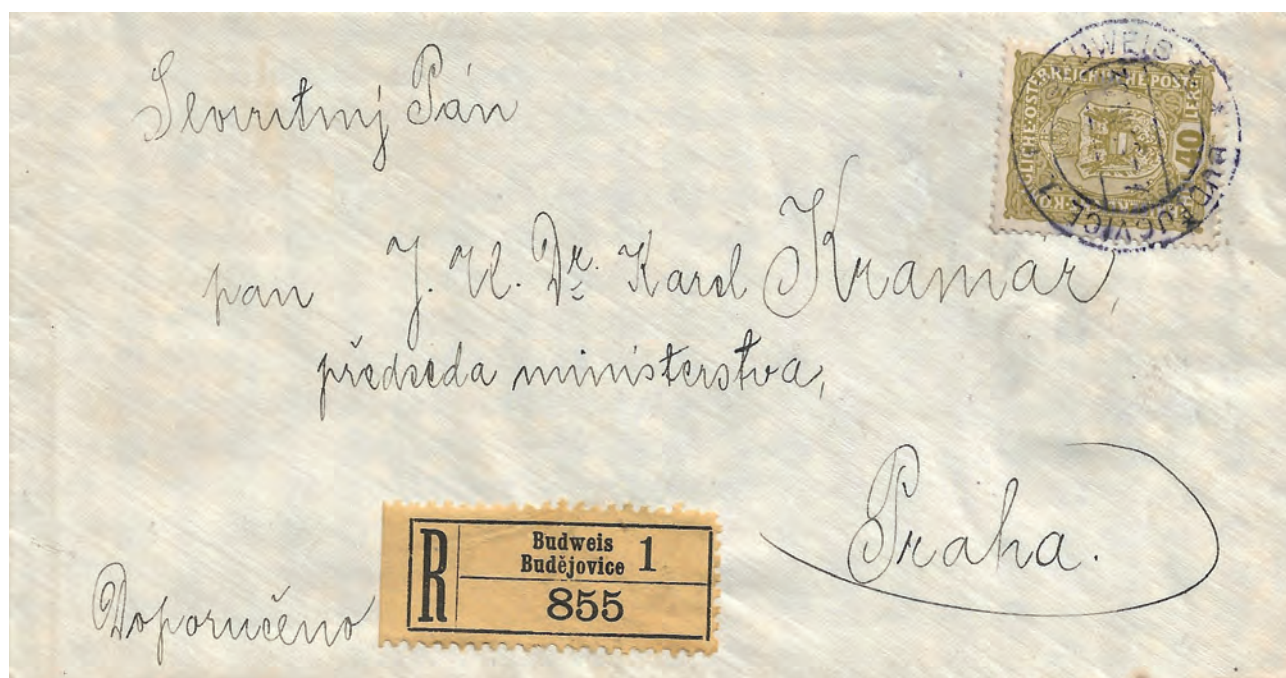


Registered letter sent to Karel Kramář, redirected to Libštát (localy in the district os Semily in the Liberec region).





Back. Budweis - Budějovice, 30.12.1918.



Registered letter sent to Karel Kramář, as head of the ministry from Budweis to Prague. After being amnestied by pardon of Emperor Charles I.



Propaganda postcard with the text: T.G. Masaryk, President of the National Council in Paris. It has a ribbon with the Czech flag sewn on.



Náplavní street plaque. In the years 1914-1938 Svojsík, founder of Czechoslovak Scouting, lived on this street.



Label of President Masaryk, printed by Kolman, with the same serration as the Scout stamps



Envelope with London legation mark, sent to J. Rössler Ořovský as head of the Czech Scouts. On the back, vignette with the effigy of the elected President T.G. Masaryk.





Photograph of Edvard Beneš, Minister of Foreign Affairs, kissing the Czech flag.



Mass demonstrations in the streets of Prague. 1.5.1918.





"May 1st". Demonstrations in Staroměstské náměstí. 1.5.1918. The most important of Prague's historic squares.



Popular demonstrations and celebrations around the National Theatre. Jubilee 1.5.18.



National Theatre decked out for the Jubilee festivities.





Crowds of Prague citizens crowd the central St. Wenceslas square on the occasion of the “May 1st” holiday.



Young women dressed in regional costumes lead May Day demonstrations in St. Wenceslas square, carrying flags and allusive banners.



May 1st, demonstrations in St. Wenceslas square.





Invitation to Prague cyclists' club, attendance at demonstration.



Demonstration by Czech citizens carrying banners: "We want an independent Czechoslovak State".





Kam se mají podávat stížnosti týkající se chleba.

Nám i »Právu Lidu« dochází celá řada stížností z vnitřní Prahy i z předměstí na bídnou jakost chleba a lidé si trpce stěžují, jak mají platit tak hříšný peníz za chléb, který je často docela nepoživatelným, nebo po kterém jim děti ochuraví těžkým žaludečním katarhem. Je tedy ve veřejném zájmu, aby veškeré stížnosti, týkající se výroby a prodeje chleba, byly vneseny na příslušný úřad, poněvadž jen tak lze zjednat nápravu. Nutno ovšem žádati, aby se u úřadů těch vycházelo ochotně stěžujícímu obecnstvu vstříc, a aby každý stěžovaný si případ byl objektivně vyšetřen.

V Praze lze podávat stížnosti:

Where to file bread complaints.

We and "Právu Lidu" receive a number of complaints from the interior of Prague and the suburbs about the poor quality of bread, and people complain bitterly about how they are supposed to pay so much money for bread that is often inedible, or after which their children get sick with severe stomach cold. It is therefore in the public interest that all complaints related to the production and sale of bread be brought before the competent authority, as this is the only way to obtain redress. However, it is necessary to demand that the authorities of these entities willingly attend to the complaining public, and that each reported case be investigated objectively. 20.10.1918.



Young women in regional costumes on the stairs of the National Museum of Prague.



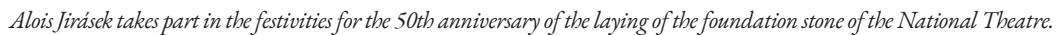


The first popular demonstrations take place in May, with the participation of the Scouts. 1.5.1918.



Celebrations of May 16 and the 50th anniversary of the laying of the first stone at the National Theater. Klofáč's speech with scouts organizing and keeping the crowd going.







But it was not only misery and hunger that kept holding back the work of young people and Scouts, but also diseases, especially dysentery, diphtheria, influenza, smallpox, and in children scabies and lice, which were so difficult to fight without soap and proper disinfection. The Scout leadership decided with the experience and training of Prague doctors and members of the JČS (Dr. Lad. Procházka and Dr. Čeněk Klika) to vaccinate all children against smallpox.

The level of unrest remained very high until mid-August 1918. Among the important events of 1918 that deepened the unity of the population, we should also mention the celebrations of “May 1st” and the 50th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone in the National Theatre, where not only organs of the then two socialist parties merged into a mass stream, but also members of all other political parties together with non-partisans, acted with the citizenry and especially with working-class youth and students.

Naturally, the Scouts were also present at this massive manifestation of the unity of the nation, participating, some in uniform, in these protest demonstrations, shouting “Glory to the Republic” and singing patriotic songs, on Wenceslas square and in front of the National Theatre. In the last pre-revolutionary days, the Scouts did not miss a single opportunity to show the participating public their total dedication and complete readiness for future service, as well as their unconditional membership of the National Committee.

In the last year of the war, in the summer school term, with a malnourished and weak population, affected by numerous cases of the “1918 Influenza”, the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, in desperation, called up the last reserves, including students and scouts as young as 18, who were supposed to go camping, so that many of them did not make it, with the addition of a lack of suitable shoes and food, even though the majority of the Scouts continued to meet. In addition, within a fortnight 18 Scouts and 12 Girl Guides died in Prague and other towns as a result of the first cases of the influenza epidemic. And to top it all off, in many places outside Prague, Scout activities were considered “treacherous raids”. Even J. Rössler-Ořovský had long been labelled as politically suspect, being relegated to private life, and the management of many affairs was passed on to his son.

After the ill-fated and unfortunate summer of 1918, the military, political and social situation in the Central European Empires deteriorated rapidly. The Austro-Hungarian Empire suffered the most serious consequences, disappearing as a state within two weeks. On October 28, 1918, the Czech National Committee proclaims independence.

Although the 1918/19 school year began on time, education did not last long. The influenza pandemic of 1918 (known as Spanish Lady) spread beyond October 28, 1918, at an unprecedented rate, schools remained closed, hospitals were insufficient to care for the sick and cemeteries could not cope with grave-digging, all of which did not contribute positively in any way to the intense activities of the Prague Scouts.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Council, composed of representatives of the social democrats and National socialists, promoted by the National Committee, announced a peaceful general strike on October 14, 1918 (fourteen days before the coup), and called for demonstrations and mobilisations of workers to protest against the famine, the export of



food and goods to Austria, and as a complaint against the supply of food to the Austro-Hungarian troops, since the state of the reserves in the Czech lands was truly tragic.

The call met with a great response, especially in the Czech lands. The one-day strike brought industry and transport to a standstill.

It took place in the town of Písek, south Bohemia, Prague, and other towns, where posters announcing the birth of an independent Czechoslovakia appeared in the crowds. An action committee (B. Šmeral, J. Stivín, R. Bechyně, J. Stříbrný) was set up to manage the strike, which gave the strike political significance by declaring the independence of Czechoslovakia and was echoed in many other cities. The radicals demanded the immediate proclamation of a Socialist State independent of Vienna, and even had its proclamation ready. The Austrian authorities handled the situation by deploying army and police troops.

Fully aware of the impossibility of saving the empire, in mid-October the Austro-Hungarian Emperor Charles I made a last attempt to save the Habsburg monarchy by issuing a manifesto proclaiming the federalisation of the monarchy, but it was too late, the entente did not accept this desperate attempt, so it undertook to ensure a peaceful, disciplined transfer of power without violence or loss of life and ordered the Austro-Hungarian Army not to intervene, which was achieved thanks to the attitude of the Austro-Hungarian authorities and by accepting the American peace terms in a peace agreement.

The last expression of the citizens' desire for national and state independence was the demonstration that broke out in Prague during the play "Jan Vřava" by the Czech theatre director and playwright František Adolf Šubert (about the tragic end after a revolt against the authorities in which a rich farmer joins the rebellious villagers) at the performance on Sunday October 27, in the National Theatre, which moved from the Theatre to the streets of Prague.

If many collective Scout activities slowed down in mid-1918, it did not mean that the boys, as individuals, were untouched by hot political and national events. Many sons of the then political and public representatives were integrated into the ranks of the Scouts, (Rašín, Prokop Drtina, Vaníčková, Záruba, Gaston Guth Jarkovský, Rössler-Ořovský, etc.) and many others under the direct influence of members of the National Committee, the National Council of the Czech Republic or even the Socialist Council (e.g., Vašek Jelen, Jirka Wolker, Rudolf Plajner).

The JČS Association had been creating a favourable atmosphere at these celebrations since the beginning of the year. The promoter and organiser of the preparatory work was mainly Ladislav Vystyd, (auditor representing the Scout Association) who published in the magazine "Junák" two extensive articles on the "Festival of the young nation", with which he appealed to the conscience of his brother scouts.

On October 20, 1918, the ČYK (Prague Yacht Club) became the first place in Prague where the Czech flag was raised instead of the Austrian flag, i.e., before the end of World War I and before the proclamation of an independent state. At that time, it was a flag with the Czech lion and the crown of St. Wenceslas (called royal), the same flag under which the Czech olympians marched in the Austro-Hungarian era. The flag is preserved and stored in the club, the other one is in the museum of physical education and sports in the Tyrš house in Prague.



Scout escorts girls in regional costumes parading through the streets of Prague.

— Junáci-skauti dostavtež se k pořadatelským službám určitě o ½9. hod. ráno dne 19. května t. r. do kanceláře v druhém nádvoří královského hradu.

Press announcement 18.5.1918 Lidový Deník:

“Junák - Scouts be sure to come to the organisational service at half past nine in the morning on May 19, at the office in the second courtyard of the Royal Castle”.



Czech cultural and political personalities at the celebrations on 16.5.18 at the top of the steps of the National Museum.





14.10.1918. Austrian troops occupied the Prague streets.



Freedom of the Austrian peoples. The last wave of Austrian power. 14.10.1918. Austrian troops occupied the Prague streets. (ramp of the National Museum).

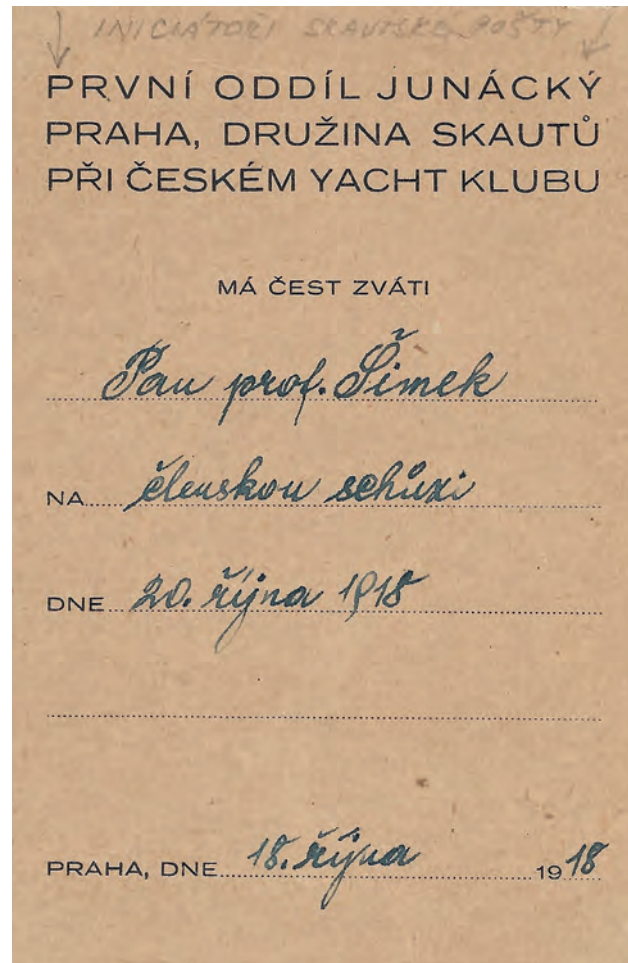




Prague Yacht Club (2017).



ČYK. Prague Yacht Club (2017).



The first Prague Junák-Scout troop, located in the Czech Yacht Club, has the honour to invite professor Šimek, a member of the plenary session, to the meeting on October 20, 1918.

The idea of issuing Scout stamps for the service of the National Committee was conceived before the coup d'état took place, perhaps in September. As a semi-official issue, the design was approved without disagreement or opposition on October 20, the date on which the Assembly of members of the first Prague Scout group was convened (at the headquarters of the Prague Yacht Club).

On October 24, 1918, the Italian Army began its offensive, breaking through the Austrian front and advancing unstopably. The Austrian Army no longer resisted. Everything was rushing headlong. There was indescribable confusion, and disaster struck Vienna on Sunday, October 27, 1918, with a note from the secretary of state, Count Andrassy, to the government of the United States, in which Austria-Hungary capitulated politically and asked for a special peace independent of allied Germany and subject to all conditions.



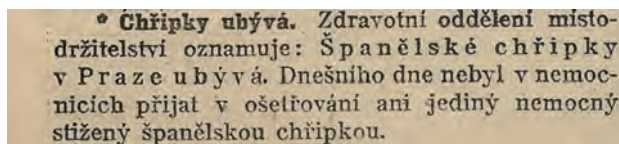
Olšany Cemetery, (Olšanské hřbitovy) honourable graves of fallen soldiers.



Niches at the Olšany cemetery.



Scout procession at the funeral of Otakar Tomášek, 22.4.1918.



The flu is decreasing.

The governorate's health department announces: The Spanish flu is declining in Prague. Today not a single patient affected by the Spanish flu has been admitted to hospitals for treatment.



Soldiers who fell at the front were immediately buried on the battlefield.



Vignette for the benefit of widows and orphans of fallen soldiers. War district office in Boleslav. 4 heller.



2 heller vignette in favor of Turnov's Red Cross section.



Relief fund for blind combatants.

Unser felben Tage für die
 Krankenbestattung k. 550 Wien, am 11/2 1916
 befohlen ist, durch Unterschrift
 des Verordnungs H.R.
P. T.

D. er am 30/1 1916 in der
 k. k. Reis Diabetis op'us
 aufgenommene Leopold Sals
 ist heute um 5 Uhr nachts gestorben.

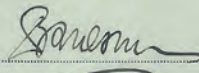
Bestimmungen wegen Beerdigung der Leiche sind umgehend an die
 Verwaltung des Krankenhauses gelangen zu lassen. Diese übernimmt auch die
 Veranstaltung des Leichenbegängnisses nach den von der k. k. n. ö. Statt-
 alterei genehmigten niedrigen Tarifsätzen.

Sollte innerhalb 48 Stunden nach dem Ableben keine Bestimmung rück-
 sichtlich der Beerdigung getroffen sein, könnte den diesbezüglichen Wünschen
 nicht mehr Rechnung getragen werden.

Die betreffenden Zuschriften haben

1. frankiert zu sein und
2. an der Adressseite des Kuverts links unten die Bemerkung „In Beerdi-
gungsangelegenheit“ zu enthalten.

Im Auftrage:


 Inspektionsarzt.

Wiener k. k. Krankenanstaltenfonds, D. S. Nr. **156**, (1911.) : P. H. W. G. (R. 1912)

Form K.u.K. for burial arrangements with regard to sending to hospital administration, February 1916. Signed by the medical inspector.

Aufgabe- Schein.
 Gegenstand: 400 Nr. 100
 an Leopold Sals
Bratna

Gewicht		Nachnahme		Gebühr	
h	kg	K	h	K	h
1	0	1	0	1	0

Postmark: 17.2.1916
 Adhärenz: 3

Postmarked receipt in Vienna 17.2.1916. Adhered to the form.

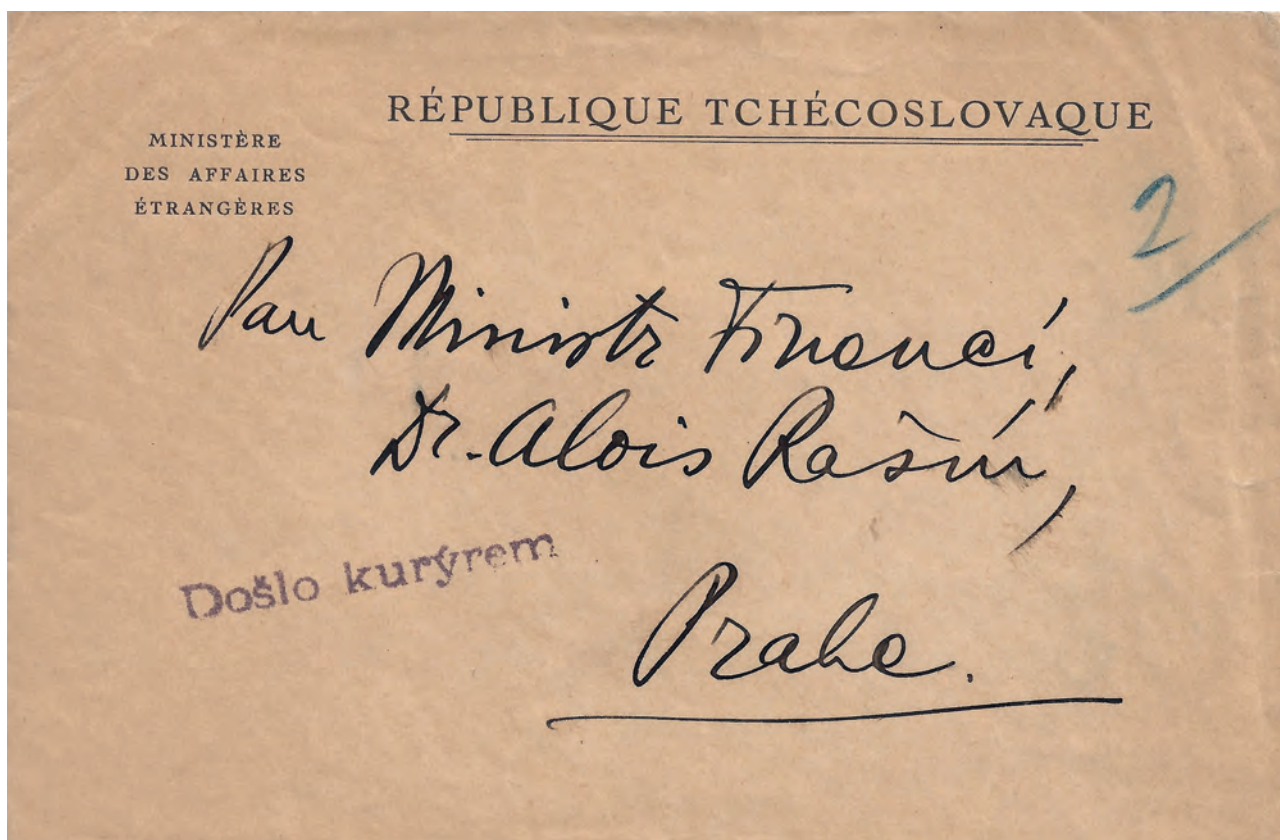


Mourning letter, sent from Bjelovar (Hungary), to military hospital n° 9 in the Czechoslovak town of Cilli, with military censorship k.u.k. 10.4.1917. Military care.



Envelope on the letterhead of the Prague crematorium addressed to master Kasík of Moravské Ostravy. 1918.





Envelope on the letterhead of the Czechoslovak Republic (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) addressed to the Minister of finance and member of the Czechoslovak National Committee in 1918 Alois Rašín. Rubber stamp: Došlo kurýrem (received by mail).



On the back: sealing seal of the procurator of the National Committee and of the Ministry of the Czechoslovak Republic, Mr. Zabradník.



Alois Rašín, member of the Czechoslovak National Committee in 1918.

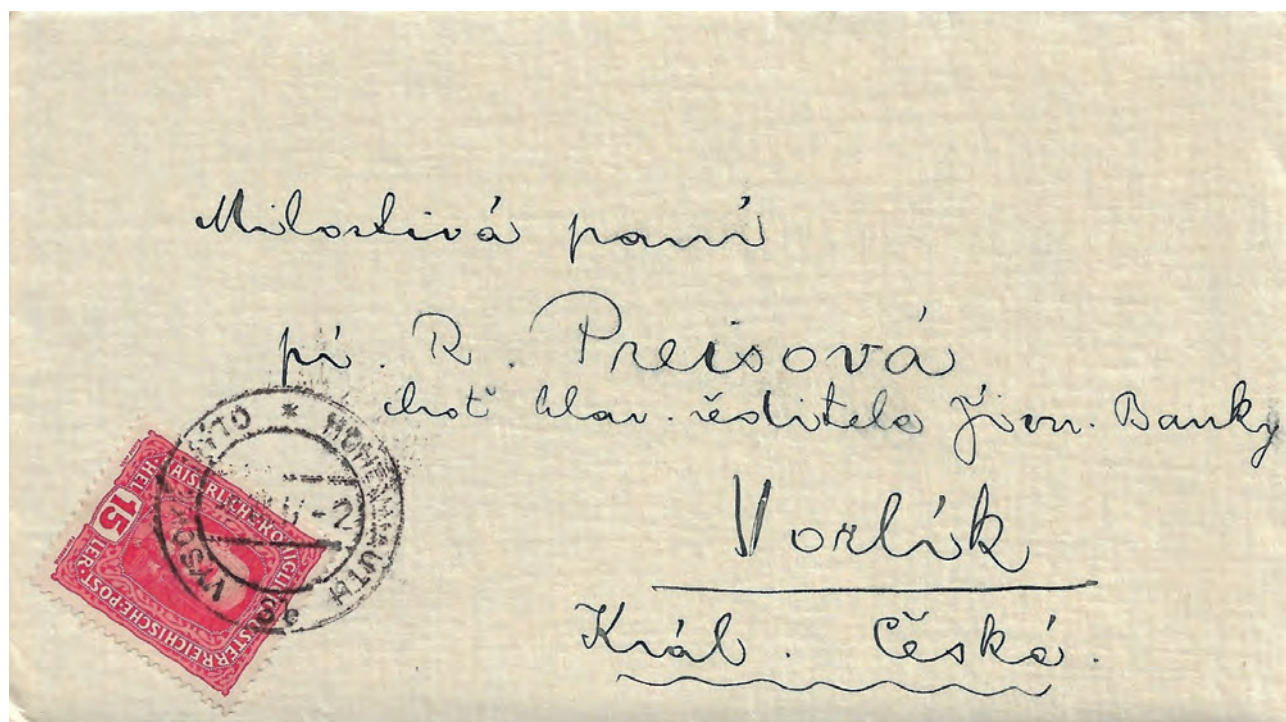


Plate impression of the prototype Alois Rašín, stamp finally not issued.





Alois Rašín, arrested and imprisoned in Vienna for treason and espionage in July 1916. On 7.10.1916 he wrote to his wife Karla Rašínová, the letter was censored, and he returned to the K.u.K. garrison arrest.



Envelope addressed to R. Preisová, wife of the director of Živnobanka, 8.7.1917.



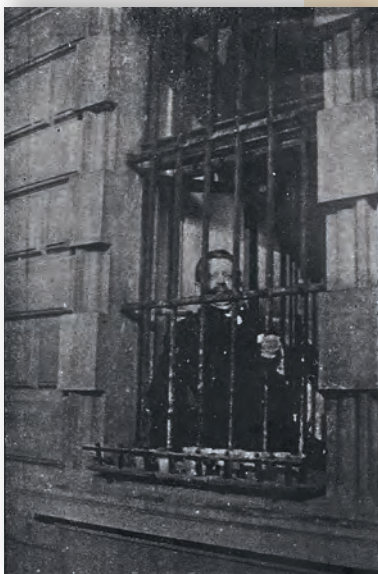
Vysoké Mýto, 8./7. 1917.
Klofáč

Milostivá paní !

Když jsem psal už ničeho neočekával,
byl jsem poselstvem (věra) propuštěn.
Jel jsem tak dříve z s panem
hlavním ředitelem, že každá
jeho radost byla i mou radostí
a všeem i naopak. Bylo mi tedy
skutečně bolno odjíždět samém.
Ale ulvil jsem hned s poslanci,
a především s předsedou Hlávkem,
který "me upokojil, že vážený pan
chtěl a milý můj přítel, bratře
i který právě tak volný, jako já.
Ven jde i k. Čenka i Janáček,
prostě i ti, na něj amnestie

...chtě ano.)
chtěl nových
s ním
de moci
souděti,
a ohodně
vám, milo-
...
...přijede-li
a, z odně
...něj,
...

...sám sepsal mé psaní.
za všech okolností Račte
chtěl "vítání".
My, kteří jsme krásný charakter
...chtěl měli příležitost z nej-
těžších dobách poznati zblízka
příjemnou mu i váš radost spo-
čívajícího oddech v lesích Vrbíků.
S projevem nehlubšího úcty své Vám líbá
V. Klofáč

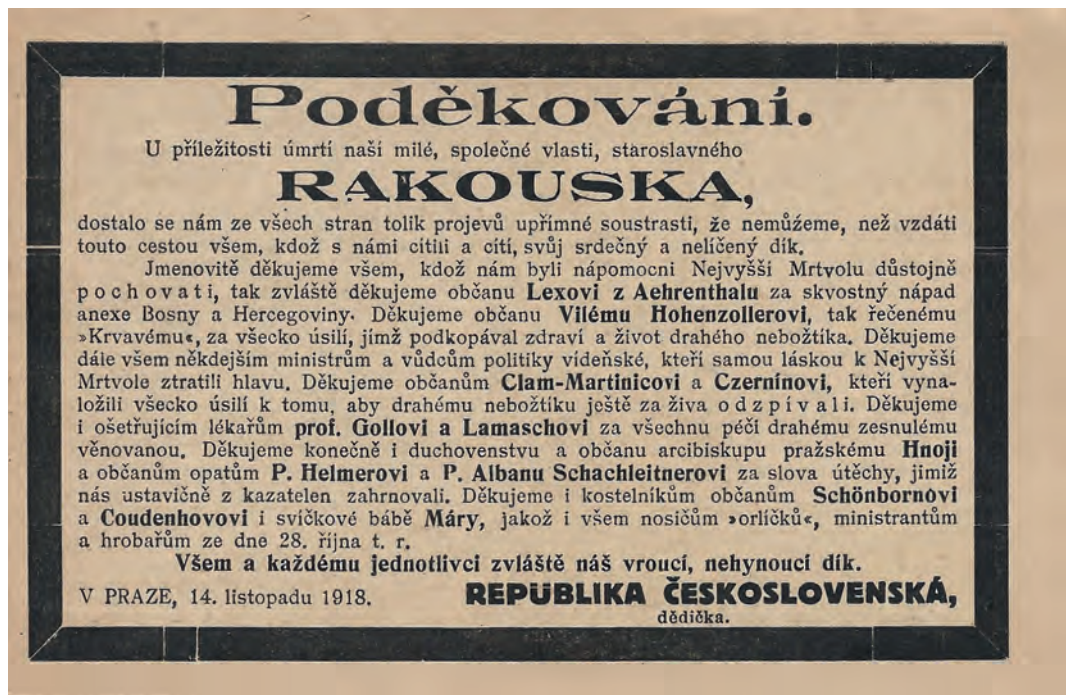


Václav Klofáč in prison.

Letter (two pages) sent by Václav Klofáč from prison. Addressed to the wife of the director Preis of the Živnobanka, with interesting text regarding his arrest and imprisonment. 8.7.1917.



14.10.1918. Freedom of the Austrian peoples. The last wave of Austrian power.



Satirical sympathy card issued to censure and ridicule the deposed empire. Thank you. On the occasion of the death of our beloved common homeland, Austria. Prague, November 14, 1918. Czechoslovak Republic, heiress.





Counterfeits and imitations are prosecuted. The last of its kind.
Riddle: Why did the Austrian eagle have 2 heads?
Answer: Because they wouldn't fit Austrian nonsense on one!.



French postcard with caricature of Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria, he tries to retain Hungarians, Germans, Poles and Czechs fleeing the empire.



Farewell...Austria is dead.



Pamphlet against the tyranny of the empire. 1918.

The survivors: Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Poland, captivated by immeasurable joy, announce that their wicked stepmother died in severe convulsions of old age, cursed by all who had the misfortune to come into contact with her. May be rest in eternal peace and never rise again!.

In lieu of crowns, donations are accepted for national causes.

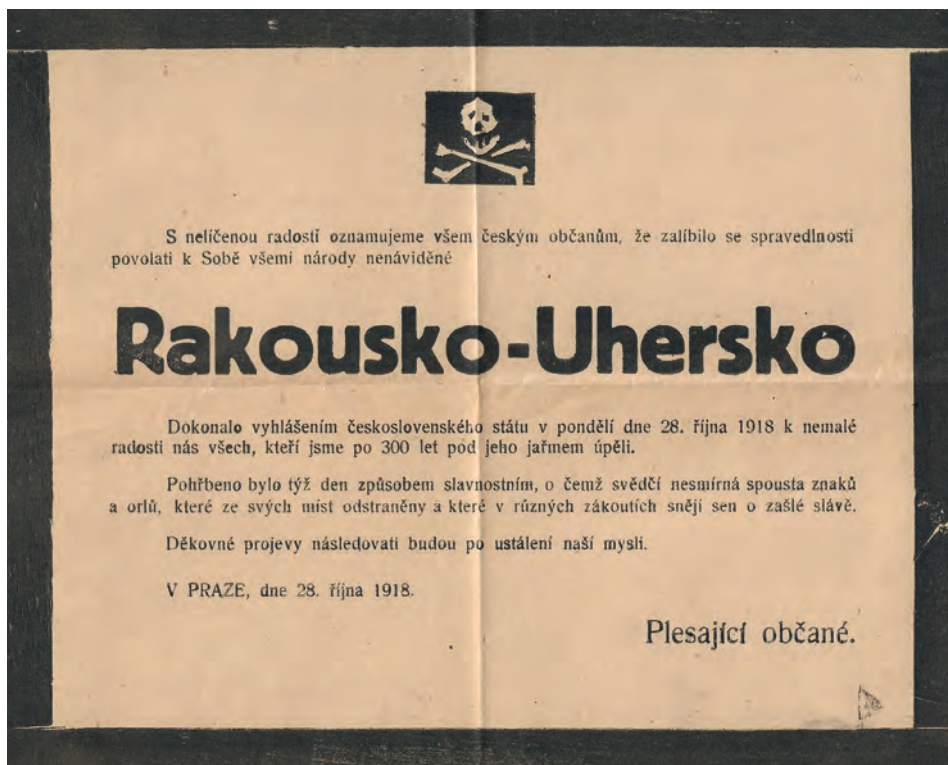
On October 27, Austro-Hungarian foreign Minister Gyula Andrassy sent the American president his reply to the request, asking for autonomy for the monarchy states and recognition of the self-determination rights of the Czechoslovaks. Through the Austro-Hungarian ambassador in Stockholm on the night of October 28, Vlastimil Tusar informed Alois Rašín of Vienna's telephone capitulation to Prague. Rašín immediately informed Josef Scheiner.

The front pages of Czech newspapers published Andrassy's text the next day, and its content was understood by the public as the capitulation of the monarchy.

One of the most pressing problems on the eve of the proclamation of independence was the supply of Austrian troops with food exported from Bohemia. The National economic Council, chaired by Antonín Švehla, made an intensive effort to keep as many reserves as possible in the country. The first success on the road to independence was achieved after the allied powers agreed to recognise an independent Czechoslovakia.

In November 1918, the National revolutionary Assembly was formed, which at its first meeting elected Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk as president of the Republic and appointed a government headed by Karel Kramář.





One of a series of pamphlets, one of several models that various printers rushed to print and circulated in the streets of Prague and the surrounding area on that first day, which were pasted to lampposts and facades. 28.10.1918.



Issue 23 of the satirical magazine *Kopřivy* (nettles), published every second Thursday 14.11.18, this time about the end of the Habsburgs. 40 heller.



Woodrow Wilson.



T. G. Masaryk.

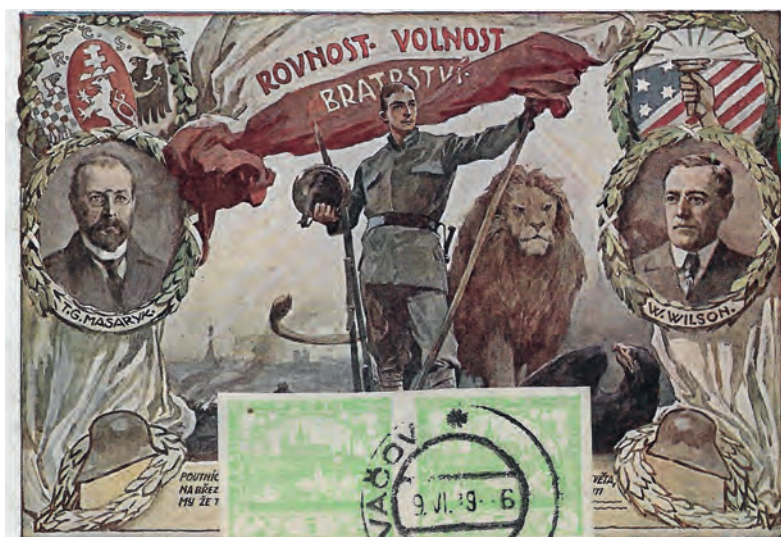




Propaganda card published in Chicago. Campaign for the Czech National Association. 1916. Masaryk, flying the Czech flag with the Bohemian lion, walks towards Prague Castle, where the double-headed eagle, the symbol of the Habsburgs, can be seen.



Cover image of the magazine. 1918. Wilson beheads the double-headed eagle. "Happy requiem for the soul of Austria" As in a fairy tale... and two free doves flew into the blue sky...



Postcard from patriotic series: Rovnost - Volnost - Bratrství (Equality, Liberty, Fraternity), illustrating the Czech and American Presidents T.G. Masaryk and W. Wilson under their respective flags. It also shows a soldier carrying the Czech flag and the Bohemian lion defeating the double-headed eagle of the Habsburg Empire.





5 - INDEPENDENCE DAY





Living in a state of permanent tension, on Monday, October 28, 1918, many Prague citizens gathered, as they did every morning, in front of the notice board of the 'Národní Politika' newspaper on St. Wenceslas square, and also outside the 'Národní Listy' and the 'Prager Tagblatt' to find out the latest news. Wenceslas square, and also gather at the doors of the daily Národní Listy or the Prager Tagblatt to get the latest news: "*A LIBERATED NATION*" "*ARMISTICATION*" "*NATIONAL COMMITTEE TAKES OVER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK STATE*" "*AUSTRIA-HUNGARY ACCEPTS ALL WILSON TERMS*", read by the citizens, who understand this as the capitulation of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. The news quickly spread through Prague, its suburbs and other capitals.

In fact, the headlines were a misunderstanding, as the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, Count Gyula Andrássy, had simply sent a note to US President Thomas Woodrow Wilson offering to open peace negotiations, even so, the Czechoslovak National Committee (Antonín Švehla, Alois Rašín, Jiří Stříbrný, Vavro Šrobár and František Soukup) which met after six o'clock in the evening in the historic hall of Dr. Julius Grégr in the House of the Czech Republic's National Committee. Julius Grégr in the Municipal House, affirmed its legitimacy as a national government by issuing the first law proclaiming the independent Czechoslovak democratic State.

Prague salutes the independent Czechoslovak State!

...Prague and with it the entire Czechoslovak nation are trembling with immense emotion, joy, and well-being...

...Never have the streets and squares of our royal capital seen so much joy, never have they heard a louder clamour and more jubilant sounds. No more joyous moods, such as many have experienced, have occurred since noon yesterday. It was a great, glorious day for the Czech nation, when our Prague knew that the hour of liberation was approaching, that it was almost upon us, that the last chains which until yesterday imprisoned the thought of the great, glorious, and free Czechoslovak State were beginning to fall...

...After ten o'clock in the morning, a telegram arrived in Prague in which the Austro-Hungarian government offered President Wilson special peace negotiations in the form of a reply, based on the recognition of Czechoslovak rights. These few words, of whose certainty we were all firmly convinced, but to which no one, not even the most optimistic, could prophesy fulfilment so unexpectedly soon. At the time in the morning, when the newspaper spread through Prague, Wenceslas square was packed with crowds. The picture in front of our editors has taken on a form we did not pay attention to. Huge crowds filled every space, and the excitement, impatience and enthusiastic eagerness for the news that was manifested here all at once, cannot be written...

Above all, order had to prevail, for the war was not yet over and Vienna still had the power of command over the military in Prague. The security service in the city was provided by the Sokol, the workers' gymnastic units, the army, the Scouts, and the police.



28. říjen 1918

Prager Tagblatt.
Extra-Ausgabe.
Montag, 28. Oktober 1918.
12 Uhr mittag.

**Wir bieten sofortigen Frieden an
Ohne das Ergebnis anderer Verhandlungen
abzawaiten.**

(K. D.) Wien, 28. Oktober. Minister des Aeußern Graf Andrássy hat gestern den österreichisch-ungarischen Gesandten in Stockholm beauftragt, die königlich schwedische Regierung zu ersuchen, der Regierung der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika nachstehende Antwort auf deren Note vom 18. d. M. zu übermitteln:

„In Beantwortung der an die österreichisch-ungarische Regierung gerichteten Note des Herrn Präsidenten Wilson vom 18. d. M. und im Sinne des Entschlusses des Herrn

Da sonach Oesterreich-Ungarn sämtliche Bedingungen angenommen hat, von welchen der Herr Präsident den Eintritt in Verhandlungen über den Waffenstillstand und den Frieden abhängig gemacht hat, steht nach Ansicht der österreichisch-ungarischen Regierung dem Beginn dieser Verhandlungen nichts mehr im Wege.

Die österreichisch-ungarische Regierung erklärt sich daher bereit, ohne das Ergebnis anderer Verhand-

Prager Tagblatt, extra edition. 28.10.1918. We offer immediate peace without waiting for the outcome of further negotiations.

Zvláštní vydání!
Kočník padesátý pátý. V Praze, v pondělí dne 28. října 1918. Číslo 115.

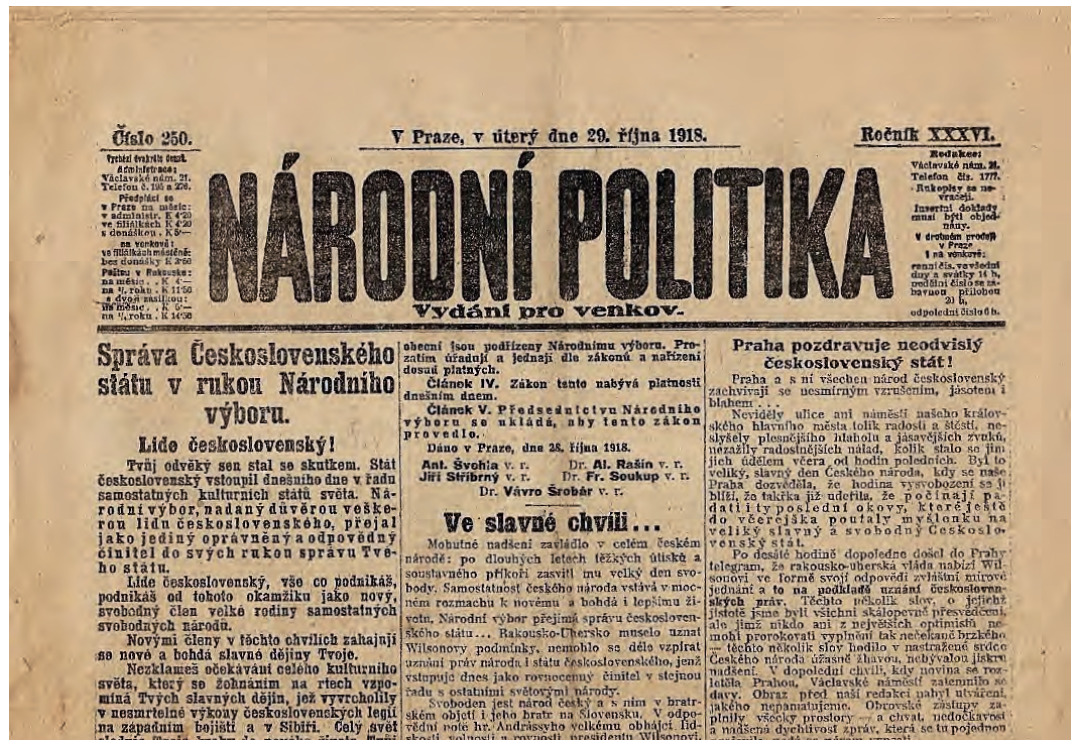
NÁRODNÍ LISTY.

**Rakousko-Uhersko
přijímá veškeré podmínky Wilsonovy.**

Uznává především práva Českoslováků na nezávislý samostatný stát z Čech, Moravy, Slezska a Slovenska. — Žádá o separátní vyjednávání a okamžité příměří.

Z Vídně, 28. října. (K. k.) Ministr zahraničních věcí hr. Andrássy uložil včera rakousko-uherskému vyslanci ve Stockholmu, aby požádal královskou švédskou vládu, by doručila vládě Spojených států amerických tuto odpověď na

Headline of the newspaper Národní Listy (special edition) 28.10.1918. Austria-Hungary accepts all of Wilson's terms, especially recognizing the right of the Czechoslovaks to independent self-government.



Headlines from the newspaper "Národní Politika", October 29, 1918.

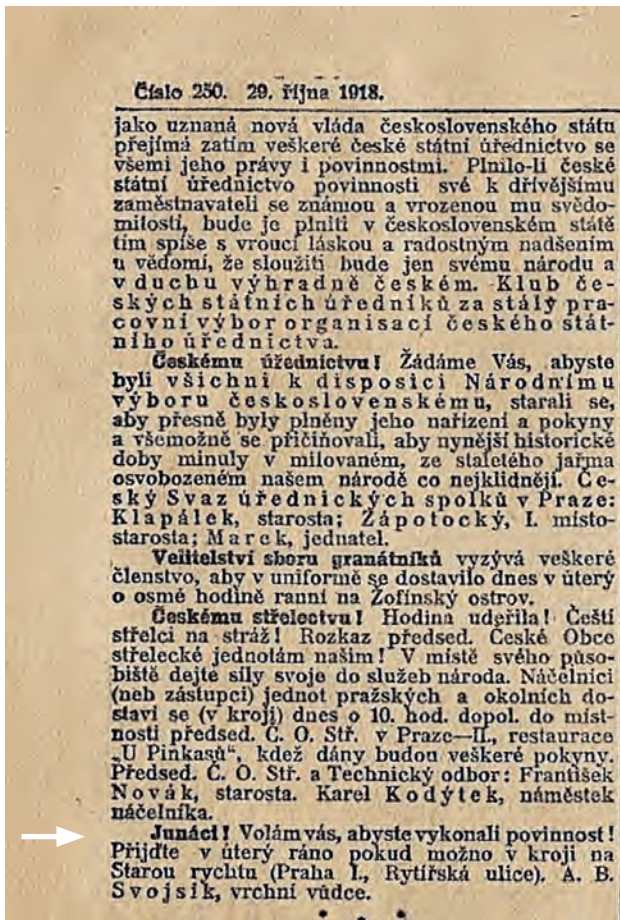
The administration of the Czechoslovak State in the hands of the National Committee.
Czechoslovak people!

Your eternal dream has come true. Today, the Czechoslovak state has joined the ranks of the world's independent cultural states. The National Committee, endowed with the confidence of all the Czechoslovak people, assumed the administration of its State as the only authorized and responsible agent.

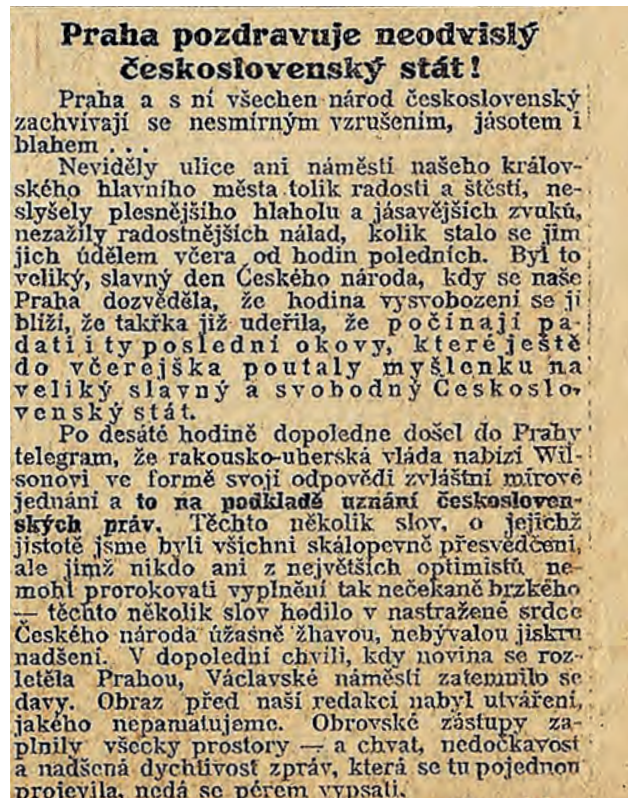


Headlines from the newspaper "Národní Politika", October 31, 1918. Calling on the population to fulfil their duties to the National Committee.





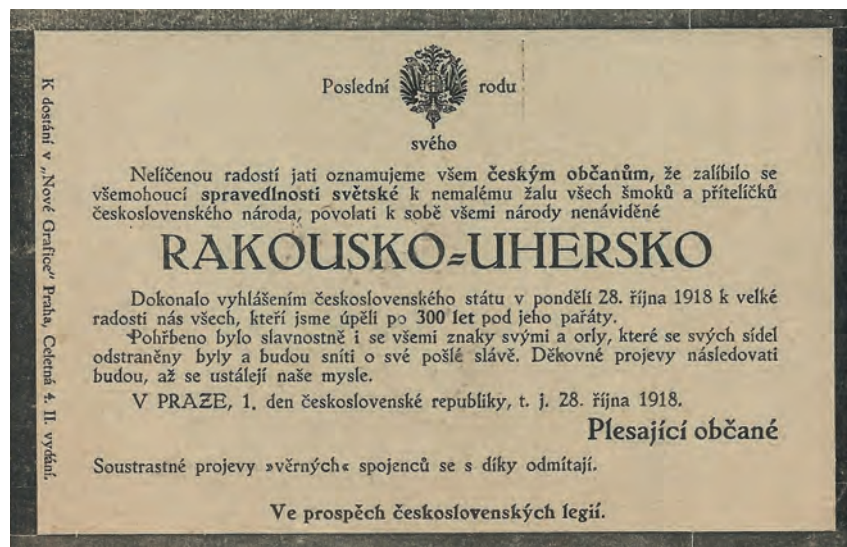
29.10.18. Press advertisement from Národní Politika in which A.B. Svojsík summons Scouts to fulfil their duties to the National Committee.



Prague salutes the independent Czechoslovak state!
Prague and with it the entire Czechoslovak nation tremble with immense emotion, jubilation and well-being, the streets and squares of our royal capital have never seen so much joy, have not heard a louder clamor and more jubilant sounds. They have not experienced more joyful moods, as many have, since noon yesterday. It was a great, glorious day for the Czech nation, when our Prague knew that the hour of liberation was approaching, that it had almost struck, that the last chains that until yesterday bound the thought of the great, glorious and free Czechoslovakia were beginning to fall.



Massive jubilation demonstration on St. Wenceslas square, Prague, October 28, 1918.



Popular pamphlet (inverted imperial coat of arms), symbol of the fall of the monarchy.
Declaration against the hated Austria-Hungary and thanks for the proclamation of the
Czechoslovak State on Monday 28.10.1918 and to the Czechoslovak Legions.



Independence celebration on 28.10.1918 in the town of Velké Opatovice, Blansko district,
South Moravian Region of the Czech Republic.



Demonstrators in St. Wenceslas square in Prague on 28.10.1918, after the news broke.



Správa Československého státu v rukou Národního výboru.

Lide československý!

Tvůj odvěký sen stal se skutkem. Stát československý vstoupil dnešního dne v řadu samostatných kulturních států světa. Národní výbor, nadaný důvěrou veškerou lidu československého, přejal jako jediný oprávněný a odpovědný činitel do svých rukou správu Tvého státu.

Lide československý, vše co podnikáš, podnikáš od tohoto okamžiku jako nový, svobodný člen velké rodiny samostatných svobodných národů.

Novými členy v těchto chvílích zahajují se nové a bohdá slavné dějiny Tvoje.

Nezklameš očekávání celého kulturního světa, který se žehnáním na rtech vzpomíná Tvých slavných dějin, jež vyvrcholily v nesmrtelné výkony československých legií na západním bojišti a v Sibiři. Celý svět sleduje Tvoje kroky do nového života, Tvůj vstup do země zaslíbené. Zachovej štít čistý,



The administration of the Czechoslovak State in the hands of the National Committee.

Czechoslovak people!

Your eternal dream has come true. Today, the Czechoslovak State has joined the ranks of the world's independent cultural states. The National Committee, endowed with the confidence of all the Czechoslovak people, assumed the administration of its State as the only authorized and responsible agent.

Czechoslovak people, everything you do from this moment on as a new free member of the great family of free and independent nations.

Commemorative card reflecting the enthusiasm in the streets and homes of Prague.



Crowds throng the main streets of Prague.

Sokolstvu a studentstvu!

Za příčinou udržení veřejného pořádku vy-
zývá se sokolstvo, aby se o 8. hodině ranní
ve středu dne 30. t. m. dostavilo v kroji anebo
s odznaky do svých tělocvičen (Sokol Pražský do
tělocvičny v Sokolské ul. — vchod z ulice Žitné).
Studentstvo nechť se dostaví do těch tělo-
cvičen, v jichž obvodu nebo čtvrti bydlí. Ve
velké době zachovejte klid a čekejte
dalších rozkazů.

Dr. Scheiner.

Dr. Vaníček.

Sokol and students!

In order to maintain public order, the Sokol team is invited to go to their gymnasiums on Wednesday 30, at 8 a.m. in uniform or with distinctive (Prague Sokol, to the gym on Sokolské street, entrance from Žitná street), the student body must come to those gymnasiums in whose district or neighborhood they live. In the big moment, stay calm and wait for more orders.



28.10.18. Corner of Jindřišská street and Wenceslas square. Citizens salute military units.



October 28, 1918. Karlovo namesti. Patrols of Hungarian troops, stationed at strategic points in the city.



Military units on the corner of Jindřišská street and Wenceslas square. 28.10.18.



October 28, 1918. Around the National Theatre in Prague. Later, the photograph was used by Red Cross to issue cards commemorating the 10th anniversary of independence.



28.10.1918 in the afternoon. Independence celebrations in Tylovo náměstí. Recitation of the poem Czech Legion by Karel Hašler from the balcony of the National Theatre.





Credential card as an active member of the Association of Czech Postal attachés for Austria in Prague 1918. Vignette of 5 beller for the background of the Postmen's Association. Rakousko (Austria) crossed out on the rubber stamp.



Young people, surely scouts, crossing out the symbols of Austria-Hungary (double-headed eagle) on a letterbox in Kolin (a town in the Central Bohemian region) on October 28, 1918. Author: František Kátký. Colección Pavel Scheufler.



28.10.18, lower part of Wenceslas square crowded with cheering crowds celebrating independence.





From that very moment, and despite the cold, the citizens crowd, spontaneously, naturally, and effusively, rushed into the crowded streets, some crowding around the entrance to the Municipal House to see their leaders, the members of the Czechoslovak National Committee who had chosen the “Obecní dům”, (the Prague Municipal House) as their headquarters to hold the first meetings and agree on the steps to be taken.

Other citizens hurry towards the centre of Prague, many huddled around the equestrian statue of St. Wenceslas.

Isidor Zahradník spoke to the crowd for the first time and sent the news of the takeover to other Czech and Moravian cities. František Soukup, Jiří Stříbrný and Alois Švehla, together with Vavro Šrobár, “the Men’s of October 28”, repeated their predecessor’s words about the proclamation of the Czechoslovak State, and the National Committee summoned marching bands to the city centre. They hoisted the first red-and-white flags, the symbol of Bohemia, tore down emblems and coats of arms that implied any connection with the former regime, removed signs in German, removed imperial double-headed eagles from the facades of public buildings (secondary schools, tobacconists, firms supplying the imperial court, lotteries), which in many cases were thrown into the Vltava river, others were displayed as trophies. Celebrations, joy, and euphoria. Songs were sung as uniformed military and Sokol parades, folklore groups and musicians passed by, and at the same time the Scout service was operating non-stop throughout the city and its suburbs.

Masaryk was in Washington, Beneš in Paris, and Štefánik was on his way to Siberia via Japan. At that time, the means of communication did not allow for their immediate connection, so the government could not exercise the usual function of executive power and supreme administrator, but was only a representative government, formed by international recognition of the new State. On the same day that the provisional government was established, events in the Czech lands also began.

The first concern of the National Committee on October 28, was to ensure the institutional continuity of the state apparatus. In fact, the first general law promulgated with the declaration of independence stipulated in article II that all existing laws should remain in force, but even so, some changes especially affected administrative workers of German nationality, who were often forced to hand over important posts to the new Czech officials.

Many army, police and interior ministry officials from the previous regime kept their posts, only high-ranking officials, and hierarchies, such as the head of the Prague headquarters, were dismissed. Some Czech ministerial officials returned to Prague from Vienna, and the old and new employees lived together in harmony and without major problems, the only thing that changed was the word “empire” was replaced by “republic”, as did the legionnaires, who had fought for independence, to join the newly created Czech Administration.

Antonín Švehla and the social democrat František Soukup agreed as a first step to take over the main supply centre “Obilní ústav”, the Grain Institute, in the Lucerne Palace on Wenceslas square in order to prevent the Austro-Hungarian troops at the front from being supplied with food, since the reserves on Czech territory were low. In this way, the National Committee wanted to prevent foodstuffs, especially flour and grain, from being transported



Commemorative photograph of various events in the streets of Prague. Celebrations October 28 under the statue of St. Wenceslas.



Statue of St. Wenceslas.



Delegation of Czech political leaders at the Geneva conference. October 28-31, 1918. (Kramář, Klofáč, Beneš, Staněk and others, a total of 12 representatives).





During the holidays of the liberation of the Czechoslovak nation, citizens gather in front of the publicity of a Karel Hašler show.



Prague giro became tariff: 2,30 kc. 28.10.1918.

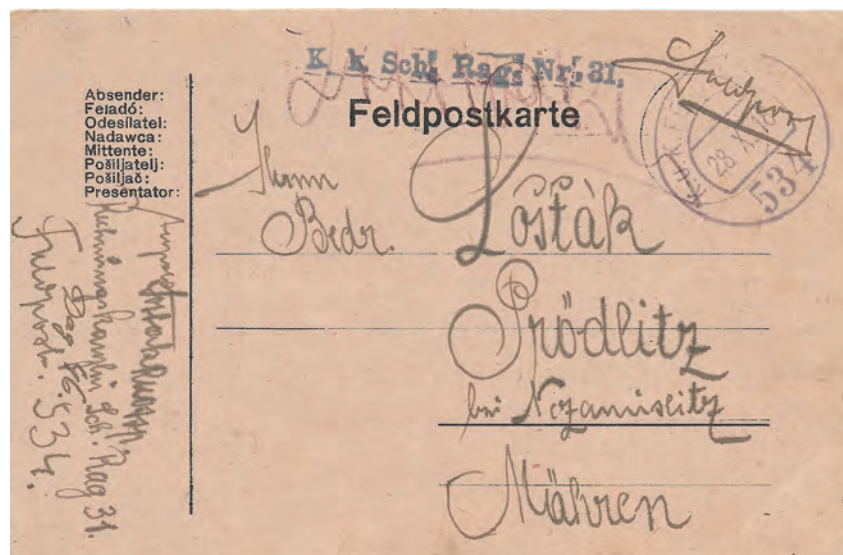


Karel Hašler - Czech composer, writer, actor, lyricist, film and theatre director, playwright, screenwriter. Outstanding participant in the independence celebrations. 28.10.1918.

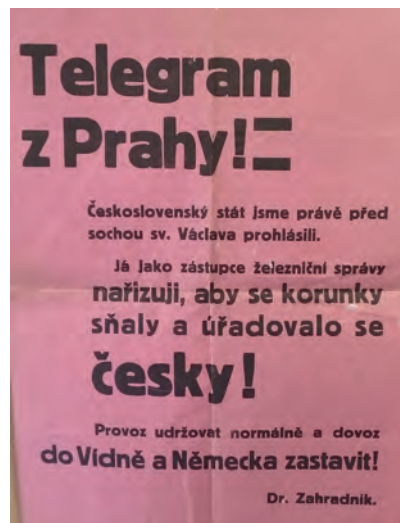


Karel Hašler.





K.u.K. feldpost 534, card sent on 28.10.1918 by the 31st Regiment.



Advertising poster 31 x 48 cm. Creation of the Czechoslovak State, 1918. Pasted by scouts in the central streets of Prague.

Telegram from Prague!

Czechoslovakian state, we are right in front of the statue of St. Wenceslas.

As a representative of the Railway Administration, I order the wreaths to be removed and the ceremony to be held.

Czech!

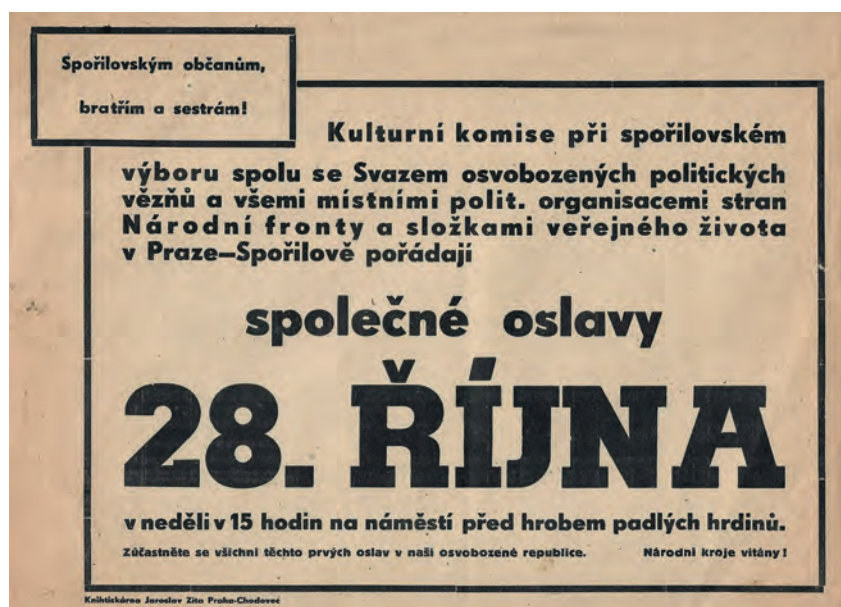
Keep normal operations and stop imports to Vienna and Germany!

Dr. Zahradník.



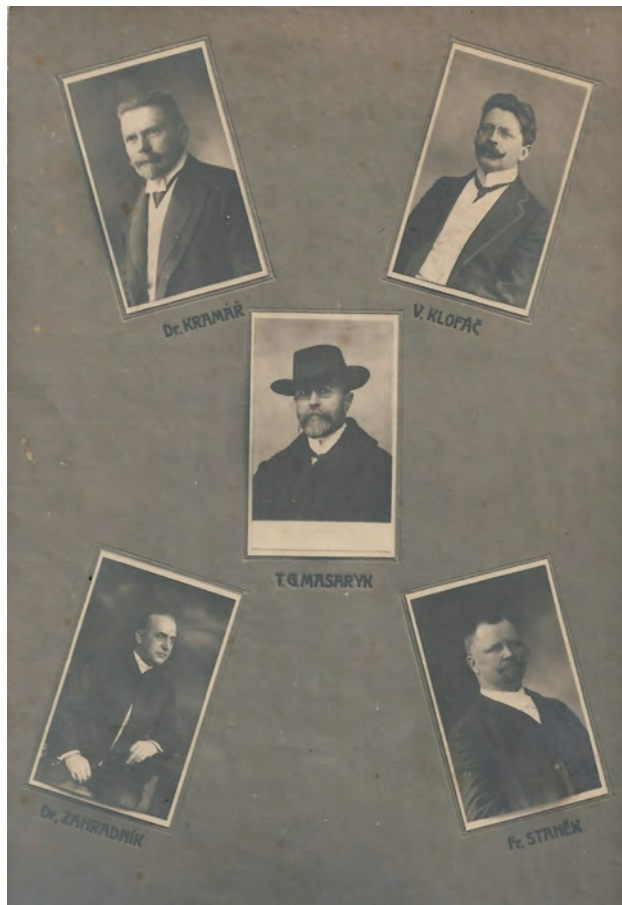
Speech by the priest, lawyer and procurator Isidor Zahradník, of the National Committee, in front of the monument of St. Wenceslas: "We are breaking our chains forever in which the infidel, foreign and immoral Habsburgs have tormented us. We are free!"





Poster of 30 x 21.5 cm. Call for celebrations.

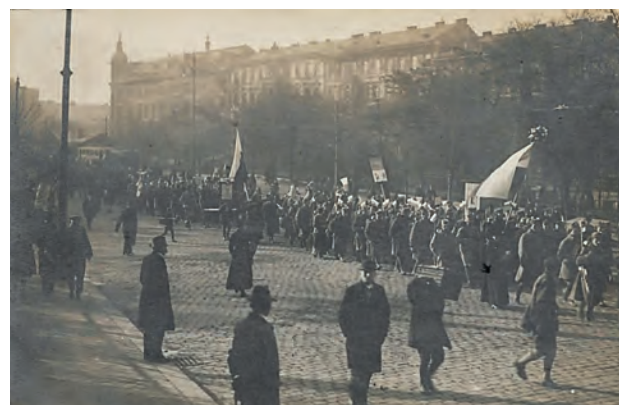
To the citizens, brothers and sisters of Spořilov! (Prague district). The cultural commission in the Spořilov Committee together with the union of released political prisoners and all local politicians, with the organization of the National front parties and the components of public life in Prague-Spořilov, organize joint celebrations on Sunday, October 28 at 3 p.m. on the square in front of the tomb of the fallen heroes. Take part in all these early celebrations in our liberated republic. National costumes are welcome.



Commemorative card of Czech leaders with Masaryk at the head. Dr. Kramář, Klobuč, Zahradník, Staněk.



The authorities address the spectating population in Staroměstské náměstí with warm speeches.



Demonstrations in the streets of Prague. 28.10.1918. Staroměstská náměstí.





from the Bohemian lands to Austria. Thus, the National Committee supervised the consumption of foodstuffs at first hand and allowed it to negotiate with Vienna.

Jiří Stříbrný, who had helped organise the general strike on October 14, 1918, pressured the Austrian Army not to oppose the coup and signed the proclamation on the independence of the Czechoslovak State and the corresponding law, which formally severed ties with the monarchy.

František Soukup, as a member of the Czechoslovak revolutionary National Assembly, addressed thousands of people gathered in the Old Town square and after singing the national anthem: "*Kde domov můj*"?, "*Where is my home*"?, Czech Army officer Jaroslav Rošický organised a march first to Wenceslas square, the National Theatre and finally to Žofín. The aim was to enlist as many officers and soldiers as possible, who were to be recruited as the first foothold of the new military power of the nascent State.

Later, at 8 p.m., Josef Scheiner, a member of the National revolutionary Assembly, in the uniform of the Czech Sokol Community and as the head of the Czechoslovak troops, and the Deputies Jiří Stříbrný and Václav Johanis arrived in Žofín.

There they also organised the assignment of officers, soldiers and sokol volunteers in the various districts of Prague to perform security tasks, guarding and preventing violence, vandalism or looting and ensuring peace.

The organisation of volunteer armed units continued through the night so intensively that already on the morning of October 29, the districts and suburbs of Prague were occupied by two to three hundred men, including the Hostivice military depot and the cadet school. Other offices, authorities and centres were gradually taken over by the Czechoslovak National Committee.

After 8 p.m. J. Scheiner and Soukup left Žofín for the Provincial Military Command, where they met with general Paul Kestrzanek (Austro-Hungarian infantry general) and the commander of the Prague military garrison Eduard Zanantoni, informing them of the declaration of an independent Czechoslovak state.

The provincial military headquarters in Prague were occupied by the Czechoslovak Army, thus completing the main objectives of the coup in the capital of the new State.

On the other hand, the most important Czech political leaders were in Geneva at the time, meeting with like-minded foreign leaders. In Prague, Alois Rašín met with the head of the patriotic physical education Organisation Sokol, J. Scheiner, who, together with his leaders, decided to form the so-called national guard under the supreme command of the leader Jindřich Vaníček, given the lack of support, especially from the army.

Meanwhile, in the streets, speakers take turns spreading their messages and proclamations to the encourage and cheering populace.... Some citizens, the fewest, rage angrily against their oppressors and initiators of the war, while many others praise the name of the defender of self-determination, Thomas Woodrow Wilson, waving American and



Bohemian flags, waving red and white ribbons, and tearing down monarchist symbols. The representatives of the National Committee took power from the civil and military authorities of the Habsburg monarchy.

Soldiers joining the jubilant demonstrations, mingling in the crowd, replaced the small round emblem on their caps with a “K” (Emperor Karl) with a revolutionary tricolour cockade, which in many cases had been knitted by young girls.

The independent Czechoslovak State was planned as a parliamentary democracy, while inheriting the minority problem of the former Austro-Hungarian monarchy, and U.S., President Wilson wanted democratisation in Europe above all, since he wanted to avoid the weak states of Central Europe as much as possible.

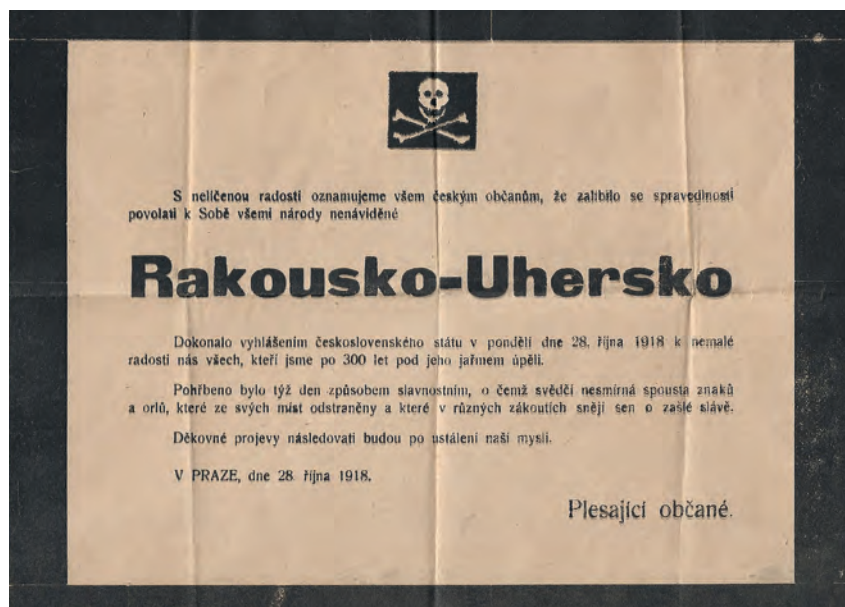
As early as October 18, 1918, Masaryk, Štefánik and Beneš signed the so-called “Declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia” or “Declaration of Washington”. In doing so, they rejected the ideas of the Austrian Emperor Charles I, of October 16, who had set out to transform the monarchy into a federal state.

On the day of the commemoration, the board of the Czech community in Sokol addressed its members with the following proclamation: *“We are on the threshold of a new history!. Brothers, we take out our old banner, raise it above our heads and call to the flocks of hawks scattered under its bright colours. We are restarting the activities of the Czech community in Sokol, whose services we dedicate to the success and benefit of the entire Czechoslovak nation”*. At that time, all help was needed, with members of other Associations, such as the Scouts, also helping out.

After the declaration of the independent Czechoslovak State, the situation on the streets of Prague was not very clear. Enthusiasm exploded in Czech and Moravian towns and villages. Signs and signals of the oppressive power were destroyed, ceremonial parades and services were held. However, the birth of the Czechoslovak Republic was accompanied not only by enthusiasm, but also by some looting, rioting and isolated fighting. In anticipation of riots, Wenceslas square had been blocked by Hungarian soldiers from the Prague garrison who were stationed with machine guns at the monument to St. Wenceslas.

In the border areas of the Empire with a strong German community, there were provinces that refused to be included in the Czechoslovak Republic. Also, in Slovakia and Subcarpathian Russia, areas that historically belonged to Upper Hungary, the Hungarian government obstructed the establishment of a new Administration. These areas had to be occupied using military force. To carry out military operations in Slovakia and Subcarpathian Russia, the high command of Czechoslovak troops in Slovakia was formed, which was subordinated to a military group consisting of Czech soldiers serving in the Austro-Hungarian Army, who joined and placed at the disposal of the nascent republic, legionnaires from France and Italy, volunteers from Sokol and later also 150 anti-Bolshevik former Russian prisoners of war from the Terezín training company.

However, the Czech home guard took part in the disarmament without much opposition of military units, composed of Austrian, Hungarian, and Romanian



Satirical poster (290 x 230 mm) on the disappearance of Austria-Hungary, and the proclamation of the Czechoslovak State, Prague October 28, 1918.



Demolished column of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. Staroměstské náměstí. November 3, 1918.





In the pedestal of the column there was a recess where a small gothic painting of the Virgin Mary was kept, which, thanks to the timely cooperation of the Scouts on duty, was not lost.



Virgin Mary victorious in Prague on November 3, 1918. The Marian column in the Old Town square was demolished on the sixth day of the Czech Republic.



In the few violent demonstrations of 1918, the column was demolished without the consent of the National Committee State.





soldiers, which had been stationed in Bohemia and Moravia in October 1918. They also secured and guarded warehouses of foodstuffs, goods and raw materials, armouries, industrial buildings, railway stations, roads, monasteries, castles, art galleries, libraries, and archives to prevent looting and losses to the country's cultural heritage and the export of important art objects.

They ensured order until early December, when their tasks were gradually taken over by military and police units.

The Sokol together with members of the Czech shooting community, volunteers from high school students, university students and scouts, helped with full commitment and dedication to realise the takeover. A small group of scouts had a training and initiation course for service at the cadet school, entering on their own merit into the history of the fledgling state, among other services and assistance, taking on the honourable role of guard and custodial service at Prague Castle.

On October 30, the Slovak National Council announced the creation of Czechoslovakia, and on October 31, 1918, Austro-Hungarian and Italian generals met at Villa Giusti outside Padua to begin discussions on peace terms. In agreement with the allies, Italy presented the Habsburg Empire with a pact based on the demands of the Treaty of London. On November 3, the armistice of Villa Giusti was signed between Austria-Hungary and Italy.

There were few acts of vandalism and looting in Prague in those days, but just six days after the declaration of independence, on November 3, 1918, the column of the Immaculate Virgin Mary in the Old Town square was demolished.

An iconoclastic mob shouting "*far away from Vienna, far away from Rome!*", thereby asserting their liberation from both the Austro-Hungarian yoke and the Catholic faith, used ropes and ladders to pull down the 60-ton, 16-metre-high statue, which commemorates the successful defence of Prague and the victory over the Swedes in 1648 and the Protestant troops during the Thirty Years' War, recognising the Habsburg dynasty as liberators.

The representatives of the National Committee assumed the power of the civil and military authorities of the Habsburg monarchy. Afterwards, Jiří Stříbrný announced the founding of Czechoslovakia in the crowded Wenceslas square in Prague.

On the evening of October 28, the National Committee issued the first law. The Act on the establishment of the independent State of Czechoslovakia, and then the proclamation of the National Committee was issued: "*Czechoslovak people, your eternal dream has come true ...*". Both documents were signed by Antonín Švehla, Alois Rašín, Jiří Stříbrný, Vavro Šrobár and František Soukup, later called "the Men's of October 28". Representatives of the Germans and Hungarians were not invited.





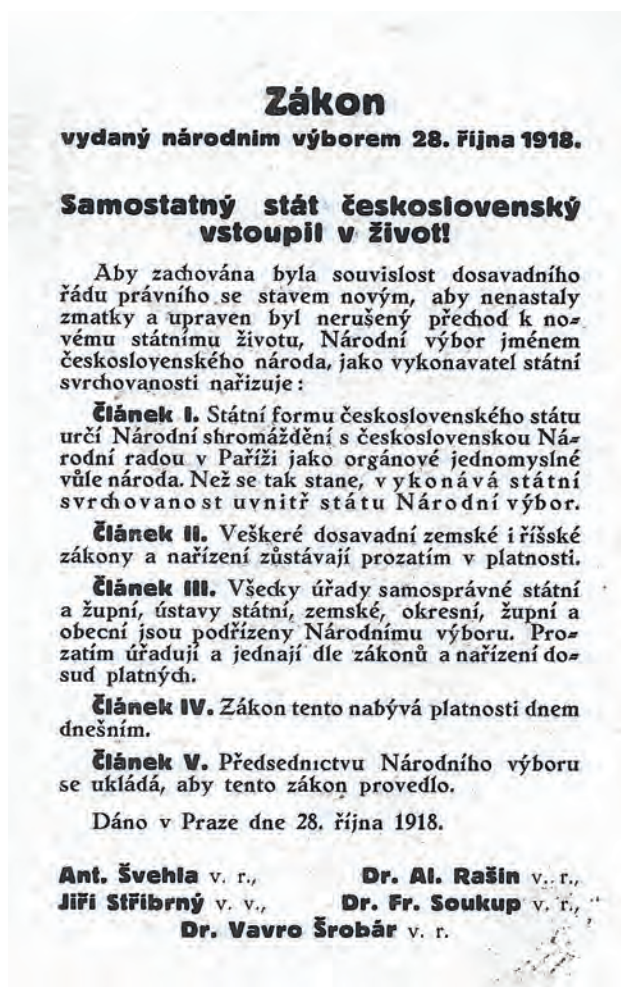
On November 3, a group of young people from the Žižkov district, led by František Sauer, tore down the historic Marian column on Old Town square, which was one of the landmarks there and which its destroyers mistakenly considered a symbol of Habsburg oppression. In fact, it was built in 1652 to commemorate the victory over the Swedes.



Postcard sent from Prague to Něm Brod, Žižkov on 28.10.18. Manuscript in pencil.



Law issued by the National Committee on October 28, 1918.



Card in memory of the declaration of the Czechoslovak State 28.10.1918.



First citizen demonstrations in the streets of Prague.



Members of the Czech National revolutionary Committee on the day of the coup d'état. 28.10.1918.





First Czech government 1918.



Antonín Švebla.



First citizen calls for demonstrations in the main streets of the centre of Prague. Václavské Náměstí square.





Czech army oath, with members of the National Committee, under the monument of Jan Hus in Staroměstské náměstí.



František Staněk.



Monument to Jan Hus, in Old Town square.



Oath of the Czech Army. Members of the National Committee: Staněk, Deputy Klofáč, and generalissimo Dr. Scheiner.





Czech army oath, with members of the National Committee, under the monument of Jan Hus in Staroměstské náměstí. František Staněk, Scheiner...



Monument to Jan Hus.



Speeches by members of the National Committee (Jiří Strábrný, František Staněk, Karel Kramář, Václav Klobáček) under the monument of Jan Hus.





LAW ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON OCTOBER 28, 1918.

The Independent Czechoslovak State has come to life!

In order to maintain the connection between the existing legal order and the new state, to avoid confusion and to regulate a smooth transition to state life, the National Committee, as the executor of state sovereignty, ordains the following:

Article I. The state form of the Czechoslovak State shall be determined by the National Assembly with the Czechoslovak National Council in Paris as the organs of the unanimous will of the nation. Before that happens, the National Committee exercises state sovereignty within the state.

Article II. All existing state and imperial laws and regulations remain in force for the time being.

Article III. All state and county autonomous authorities, state, provincial, district, county and municipal institutes are subordinate to the National Committee. For the time being, they are acting in accordance with the laws and regulations still in force.

Article IV. This law comes into force today.

Article V. The bureau of the National Committee is obliged to implement this law. Given in Prague on October 28, 1918.

Ant. Švehla, Dr. Alois Rašín, Jiří Stříbrný, Dr. F. Soukup, Dr. Vavro Šrobár.

The text was then distributed to the press, read in theatres, telegraphed to national, district and municipal authorities. Emphasis was placed on dignified behaviour at that time, not to do anything that would damage the name of the nation, protecting the personal freedom and property of all others.

The transfer of power from the Prague Post and Telegraph directorate to the Czech National Committee was completed on October 29. A telegram from the National Committee detailed that they had been informed of the decision of the civil service and that the takeover of the Prague postal and telegraphic management was approved; for their part, the officials unconditionally submitted to the stipulations of the National Committee and from then on the language to be used would be Czech on Czech territory.





THE MEN'S OF OCTOBER 28, AND SCOUTS SERVICES.

9:00 am - War Grain Institute (Válečný Obilní ústav) (Lucerne Palace).

9:15 am - St. Wenceslas square (Václavské náměstí).

11:00 am - Monument to St. Wenceslas on Wenceslas square (Pomník sv. Václav na Václavském náměstí) (Isidor Zahradník).

11:30 am - Municipal House (Obecní dům) (Alois Rašín, František Soukup, Jiří Stříbrný, Antonín Švehla).

12:00 am - Governorate - Provincial Military Command (Czech Kingdom Provincial Assemblies Building (České místodržitelství) (Malé Straně) (Jan Kosina) Czech Governor's office.

14:30 am - Provincial Administration Committee (Zemská správní komise) (Thunovského Paláce).

15:00 pm - Prague City Hall in the Old Town square Pražská radnice na Staroměstské náměstí (František Soukup).

15:00 pm - Žofín Island (V odpoledních hodinách - Žofín) (Jaroslava Rošického).

17:00 pm - Municipal House - second time (Obecní dům) (Antonín Švehla-Alois Rašín).

20:00 pm - Prague Military headquarters (Vojenské velitelství Prahy). Malostranském náměstí (František Soukup-Josef Scheiner).

21:00 pm - Municipal House - third time (Obecní dům potřetí).

...From the Czechoslovak press office and in connection with the events of October 28, it is reported that the members of the National Committee lead and assume all executive power of the government on the territory of the Czechoslovak State. Working permanently and taking all measures to maintain order and peace, which has not been violated at all.

29.10.1918. Národní Listy.

...In and around Prague and according to official reports from the Czech, Moravian and Slovak counties, absolute calm reigns everywhere. The cheerful and festive mood is manifested in the decoration of houses and commemorative gatherings, which generally sound serious and dignified.

...As far as public safety is concerned, the Czechoslovak National Committee has taken measures to ensure that both night patrols and peace-keeping patrols are carried out by the Czech National Committee. and order are the responsibility of the Sokol and the Scouts. Patrols are also formed with the workers' gymnasium units, and of course all military authorities are the responsibility of the National Committee.



Václavské Náměstí, a square where in October 1918 the Czech people expressed their independence from the oppression of the Habsburgs, and through which the vehicle that transported the newly appointed first President of the Republic, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, from the railway station to the Castle, also circulated on December 21.



Staroměstské náměstí, in the Old Town square, the Scouts together with the Sokol performed guard duty, maintaining a free space around the monument of Jan Hus.



Detail.



Scouts perched in the windows watch and help to tear down monarchist images and coats of arms.



Headquarters of the Czech Guard. Provincial Military Command. (Malé Straně).





A reminder of the declaration of the Czechoslovak statehood on 28.10.1918.



Call in the press.

Sports journal. To the Czech athletes!

The Czech Olympic Committee in Prague, which is resuming its activities, forcibly interrupted by the conditions of war, makes a sincere appeal to all sports Associations and Associations in general to cultivate the physical education of young people so that their members are available to the Czech National Government, if necessary. Dr. Jiří Guth. Jos. Rössler Ořovský. In Prague, October 28, 1918.



Replaced monarchical emblem of military cap embroidered K of kaiser.



Replaced badge for members of the National Committee, security corps and other authorised persons.



Commercial wrapper (educational literature bookshop) stamp printed 15 heller with reduced postage + 5h postmarked in Vienna on October 28, 1918.



Austro-Hungarian k.u.k. Army Naval rank cap badge.



Patrol of scouts on duty, together with armed soldiers, guard the entrance-lobby of the Municipal House, (Obecní dům). 28.10.1918.

It is not surprising that the Scouts were called up for this service, if we remember how important the Scout Movement once was, and was to become a few years later, in Czechoslovakia, which, with the Sokol, was a truly national Organisation.

At 9 o'clock in the evening, the Austro-Hungarian Army lieutenant field marshal, commander of the Prague military garrison, Eduard Znanantoní and the Austro-Hungarian major-general and provincial commander in Bohemia, Paul Kestřánek went to the Obecní dům to hand over all military offices to the authority of the National Committee. The administration of Czechoslovak military affairs and the police service was entrusted to Dr. Scheiner, the mayor of the Czech municipality of Sokolská.

It was there, in the Municipal House (Obecní dům), the headquarters and seat of the National Committee, a landmark building in the heart of Prague, from where on October 28, 1918, all the necessary measures for the establishment of an independent republic were prepared, that the Scouts guarded the entrance to the members of the interim government, where about 300 scouts, under the leadership of the teacher and Scoutmaster Svojsík, were summoned to perform the service of the National Committee, ready and prepared to serve the new government by collaborating and joining forces to establish an independent State, where the first Scout Post office was established, and from where the Scouts were informed of their mission, pledged loyalty and service to the republic, then dispersed to distribute information leaflets to the population about the new state all over Prague and assigned to guard the emblematic buildings taken over by the National Committee (Cadet Academy, Parliament, Prague Castle, Railway Station).

On the day of the Revolution, October 28, the Scouts and Guides went around Prague removing all traces of the Austrian Empire, from monarchist emblems on military caps to double-headed eagles on the facades of landmark buildings. They sang songs, climbed cornices, tore down and erased posters in German, distributed leaflets from the National Committee to keep calm.





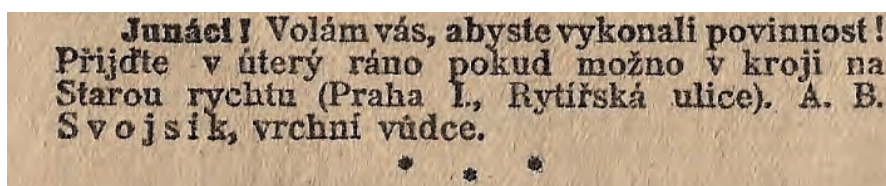
12 Rytířská street, Prague 1. (photo 2017).



Enamelled plaque on Rytířská street in Prague.



On the façade of The Old Town Hall, plaque with the names of the executed Czechs. The crowned place where the killer whale was.



Scout !

*I call you to do your duty!
Come on Tuesday morning in uniform to Stará Rychta (12 Rytířská street, Prague 1)
A.B. Svojsík chief leader.*





On the very evening of that memorable October 28, Scouts and Guides distributed (by bicycle, tram or on foot) 50,000 leaflets spreading the long-awaited news throughout Prague and the surrounding area.

They were also involved in supplies, security, ensuring order during the demonstrations and, above all, a Scout Post office was set up, which reliably and efficiently handled the delivery of official correspondence for three weeks, ensuring the reliable transmission of a great deal of information. At that time, the Austrian Postal Administration was in charge of postal deliveries, but the emerging government could not rely on them and they had to be replaced. The Scouts as couriers fulfilled that function and ensured fast and safe delivery, which often depended on important decisions. The service ended after a month, on November 25, 1918, when this responsibility was taken over by the definitive state postal officials.

World War I was coming to an end. And with it the map of Europe would change significantly. Many nations that were part of Austria-Hungary yearned for independence. For several years, Tomáš G. Masaryk, Milan Rastislav Štefánik and Edvard Beneš had been fighting for the longed-for freedom from abroad.

All major Czech dailies were established during the Austrian monarchy, and therefore nothing changed in the Czech press system after the proclamation of an independent Czechoslovak State on October 28. At that time, the newspapers enjoyed a great deal of attention from readers, which was also due to the fact that the preceding war years aroused greater interest in political events.

Most of the press in the country was in the hands of the political parties (either they were their agency or the political parties acted as publishers) and there were very few so-called independent newspapers.

Numerous advertisements appeared punctually throughout the Czech press calling on various collectives and institutions, and of course: also, the Scouts.

Venkov, Národní Listy, Tribuna, Národní Politika, Pondělník, Čech, Večer... published in the days before the coup in the Czechoslovak press announcements about mobilising citizens and immediately joining the National Committee. Subsequently, news and instructions on how to operate and how to proceed appeared again.

This announcement was published in the Czech press on October 29, 1918, and there, at the entrance to the Scout office in Prague, a crowd of young people gathered, waving the Czechoslovak Olympic flag, brought for the occasion by J. R. Ořovský, President of the Scouts, a Czech delegate to international sporting events, who had represented Czechoslovakia internationally and had distinguished himself from Austria in the days when it was still an Austrian province.

...Members of the National Committee are marked with a Slavic tricolour on the left shoulder in a width of 10 centimetres. No one else is allowed to wear these insignia. We ask everyone to take care that this insignia is not misused.

29.10.18. Venkov.

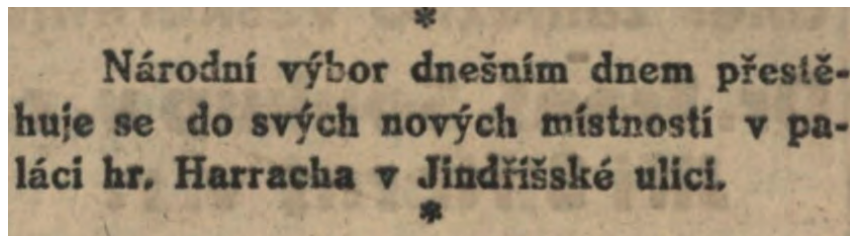




Newspaper headlines October 28, 29 and 31, 1918.



Independence celebrations in Král. Český in Prague. October 29, 1918. Groups of field workers in the People's House arrive at Wenceslas square.



Today the National Committee will move to its new premises in the Harrach Palace on Jindřišská street. 31.10.1918.

Czech village of Sokol. Union of workers' gymnasium units. Union of Czech-Slavic students.

To the Czech civil service!

...We ask you to be at the disposal of the Czechoslovak National Committee, to ensure that its regulations and instructions are carried out precisely and to do everything in your power to ensure that the present historic times run as smoothly as possible in our beloved nation, free from the brutal yoke.

Czech Union of Civil Servants' Associations in Prague: Klapálek, Zápotocký, and Marek, general director.

...The headquarters of the Grenadier Corps calls on all members to come to Žofinský island at eight o'clock this Tuesday morning in uniform.





Imperial and royal military mail card, K.u.k., circulated on October 28, from military post office 420 to Bohemia. Franked with trilingual vignette (Hungarian, German and Romanian) in favour of widows and orphans. Field hunter battalion mark number 28. (The different languages spoken in the empire appear on the return address). Censorship mark in German.



First day of Czechoslovakia as a State. Card addressed to field station K.u.K. infantry Regiment II Lebring, with text: at řije mír !!! Long live peace!!!. Sent on October 28, from the main Post office in Prague to the infantry Regiment in Pardubice.

Ročník XIII.

V Praze, ve středu dne 30. října 1918.

Číslo 252.

Vychází denně
v 6 h ráno, výjma pondělí, s každodenní přílohou „Národní hospodář“, v neděli „Záhavná a poučná příloha“ a „Vážná a poučná příloha“.

Vitavská ul. 48.

XX

Ústřední redakce a administrace:
Praha II, Hybernská 20. Tel. red. 2103.
Telefon administrace 8285.

VENKOV

Ústřední list České strany agrární.

Filiální redakce a administrace:
Praha, Staroměstská ul. 18. Telefon 64.
Olomouc, Česká ulice (Národní dům).
Tel. 109. Píseň, Palackého ulice č. 12.
Tel. 53. Opava, Hradecká ulice č. 7.
Václav IX., Thurnovská č. 8. Tel. 18.897.
Předplatné:
Poštou s náhradou do domu v Praze a poštou v Rakousku na město 6 K.
za čtyři roky 12 K. — Jednotlivá čísla
ve všední dny v Praze i na venkově 20 h. v neděli a ve svátek
v Praze i na venkově 24 h.
Číslo rak. poštovní spojitelnosti 40.487.
Inzerční doklady musí být objednány.
Rukopisy se nevracejí.

**Ceští legionáři
zpravení o pře-
vratu v českých**

Českému lidu!
Národní výbor československý obrací se na Vás s důtklivou žádostí, aby dnes bezpodmínečně byla všude nastoupena práce.
Současně děkuje za všechno to nezapomenutelné nadšení a lásku, kte-

Číslo 252.

V Praze, ve čtvrtek dne 31. října 1918.

Ročník XXXVI.

Vychází dvakrát denně.
V úvodním prodeji
ranní číslo v Praze
a na venkově
ve všední dny a
svátek, 14 h.
v neděli a v 20 h.
Opel. číslo v Praze
i na venkově
za 6 haléřů.

NÁRODNÍ POLITIKA

Redakce: Václavské nám. č. 21. Odpolední vydání. Administrace: Václavské nám. č. 21. TELEFON 8.105 a 210.

Přispívá se v Praze
vašim ministrům
bez donášky K 420
a donášky K 320
ve všech k. K 420
Poštou v Rakousku:
na město K 420
na venkově K 440
a dvojitě ziskové
na město K 520
na venkově K 540

Z nového státu československého.

(Č. t. k.) Národní výbor konal včera odpoledne plenární schůzi za předsednictví místopředsedy Antonína Svehly. Předseda učinil řadu sdělení z pražského, která byla vzata na vědomí. Posl. Stříbrný přednesl zprávu o jednání na vojenském velitelství pražském a o dispozicích, učiněných ohledně převzetí správy vojenského velitelství Národního výboru. Posl. dr. Soukup sdělil ujednání, jež se stala mezi vojenským velitelstvím v Litoměřicích a Národním výborem. Dr. Rašín přednesl zprávu politickou. Dr. Scheiner oznámil všechna opatření, jež se stala za účelem budování československé armády a opatření a udržení veřejného pořádku a klidu. Dr. Engliš referoval o věcech moravských. Na celé Moravě, zejména v Brně, panuje vzorný klid. Na konci bylo pojednáno o opatřeních finančních a stala se příslušná usnesení. Všechny potřebné finanční dispozice jsou hotovy a příslušné nároky budou uspokojeny. Vzhledem k tomu, že se jeví okamžitá nutná potřeba rozšíření Národního výboru, bylo usneseno, aby počet členů byl zvýšen na počet šestnácti osob. Jmenování nových členů provedou v době nejkratší politické strany v Národním výboru zastoupené dle dohodavního klíče.

(Č. t. k.) Národní výbor oznámil na zprav. novinářské části a plným uspokojením, že výsledek, kterou český lid prokázal tak skvěle ve věcech politických, osvědčuje i na poli hospodářském a peněžním. Výsledek ta zraje se v tom, že obecnost, vedená oprávněnou důvěrou ve spolehlivost československého státu, svěřuje své vysoké měrou své budoucnosti domácím ústavům. Pravidelný příliv vkladů je nejlepší zárukou plynutí stavu peněz, který je předpokladem nerušeného chodu veřejné správy i veškeré hospodářské činnosti.

Z vojenského výboru se nám oznamuje: Ve všech vojenských správách omylem bylo hlášeno, že setkal Vurm vedl akci vojenského výboru na Zofíně. Vojenskou akci vedl a vede pobočník dra Scheinera setník Rosický.

Dorazil sbor granátů nastupuje z rozkazu Národního výboru dle službu se členem Národní gardy. Dostavil se o 6 h. več. do Smetanovy ul. č. 21. (Č. t. k.) Národním výboru dali k dispozici: Josef Lukavský za Mošný stál pro Národní výbor 200 k, právník Malinský za pana Stěpánka za Zlín 10.000 K.

Ze zemské rady katolické se nám oznamuje: Slovo „Te Deum“ a pontifikální mše sv. za svobodný stát československý koná se zítra dne 1. listopadu v 7. a 9. hod. dopol. v opatském chrámu Paně na Strahově (opat Zavoral).

Škodový závod ve službách československého státu. Z Plzně, 30. 10. Dnes bylo ve škodových závodech provedeno zrušení dělnické militarizace. Současně, jak již sděleno, postaveny škodový závod do právomoci Národního výboru. Několik set jinonárodních dělníků opustilo již Plzeň.

Z Hodonína. Československý Národní výbor v Hodoníně převzal veřejnou správu ve městě do svých rukou po projevích nadšení. Všude zachována vzorná pořádek. Účady státní i obecní podrobily se bez protestu našemu výboru. Lidová stráž udržuje pořádek, vojenské velitelství nabídl své služby.

Všecko c. k. loďstvo odevzdáno jiho-slovenskému státu.
Z Vídně, 30. Císař Karel vydal dnes lodní rozkaz, jímž se odevzdává příměrně všeho loďstvo, veškerý námořní ústav a veškeren námořní majetek jiho-slovenskému Národní radě prostřednictvím Národního výboru v Pulji. Důstojnictvu ponechává se na vůli sloužiti na loďkách dále. Výměna vlajecké se prozatím provésti se nebude.

Z Vídně, 31. 10. Před ministerstvem vojenských stříhy se včera bouřlivě výjavy. Když demonstranti manifestovali pro republiku, žádali od důstojníků, aby odstranili různé a odznaky. Jistý generál z ministerstva zdráhal se uposlechnouti vůle lidu a proto mu byly různé a odznaky strženy a řáve zlomeny. Generál byl nucen přehodit do budovy ministerstva vojenských.

Z Vídně, 31. (Telef. zpr.) Včerejší demonstrace vedly k vytloukání okna a k plenění obchodů. Masy byly naprosto neukázněné. Ve veřejných místnostech, zvláště v kavárnách na Okružní třídě vytloučeno mnoho velkých okenních tabulí a poškozeno vnitřní zařízení. Mimo jiné vyplněn byl ve 3. okrese obchod. modním zbožím firmy Fumer a celé zařízení vyplněno a demolováno, výkladní skříně zničena. Stráž jen s námahou zjednotila pořádek.

Velké krveprolítí v Pešti.
Boj mezi vojskem Národní rady a vojskem vlády oddaným.

Z Pešti, 31. Včera došlo v Pešti ke krveprolítí. Demonstrace trvaly přes půlnoc. Velké zástupy lidu, asi 10.000 osob, táhly městem, provolávající „sláva“ uherské republice a revoluci. Část vojska, jež se přidala k Národní radě, byla vládním vojskem obklopena a zajata. Na to stál se pokus vojsko toto osvobodit. Došlo k pouličnímu boji mezi vojskem vojným vlády a vojskem oddaným Národní radě. S obou stran zasáhly do bojové střílny pušky. Boj byl krvavý a je mnoho raněných. Ještě o 2. hod. noční trval pouliční boj v pešťských ulicích. Část pešťských vojsk byla včera násilím osvobozena.

Vojenské velitelství povolalo k ochraně své budovy dvě oddělení vojska se střílnými puškami, ale vojsko odepřelo střílet na demonstranty a dle. Hr.

Junáci čeští a skauti, Českoslov. tisková kanc
sděluje: Počínaje středou dnem 30. t. m. jsou všichni čeští skauti ve službách Národního výboru a to část v Obecním domě k dispozici vrchního vůdce prof. Svojsíka, druhá část pod velením druhého vůdce ve Staroměstské radnici. Obě skupiny od 8. hodin ráno do 9. hodin večer. Svojsík, vrchní vůdce, Rössler—Ořovský.

Czech Junák Scouts. Press office of Czechoslovakia.

Informs that from Wednesday 30th, all Czech Scouts are in the service of the National Committee, part in the Municipal House under the command of the leader profesor Svojsík, the second part under the command of the second leader, Rössler—Ořovský in the Old Town Hall. Both groups from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Svojsík, main leader, Rössler—Ořovský.

— Nové poštovní známky. V nejbližších dnech budou vydány nové prozatímní známky republiky československé. Poněvadž dodávání známek pro technické obtíže v tiskárně nebude tak rychlé, aby se okamžitá potřeba mohla krýt, je třeba při prodeji známek zachováti největší šetrnost a žádá se tedy obecnost, by počáteční tyto obtíže respektovalo a poštovní správě tuto přechodnou obtížnou situaci nestěžovalo, zejména, aby pro první dobu za všech okolností vyloučen byl nákup známek k účelům filatelistickým. (ČTK.)

New postage stamps.

New provisional stamps of the Czechoslovak Republic will be issued in the coming days. Since the delivery of stamps due to technical difficulties in the printing press will not be so fast as to cover the immediate need, the greatest care must be taken in the sale of stamps, so the public is requested to respect these deadlines and not to complain to the postal administration about this difficult temporary situation, in particular, so that for the first time in all circumstances the purchase of stamps for philatelic purposes would be excluded.

Zvláštní vydání.

České Slovo

V Praze,
v úterý 29. října 1918.
Ročník X.
Číslo 14.

Vychází denně o 5 h. raně, vyjma pondělí. Číslo prodává se v Praze i na venkově za 10 hal., v neděli za 20 hal. Předplatné na 1/4 roku pro venek K 12— (do 31. pros. K 10—) Redakce, admin. a expedice nalezají se v Praze II., Václavské n. 42. Telefon redakce 3906, administr. 4824, 1464. Majitel a nakladatel: „Melantrich“ v Praze, tiskem téhož závodu. — Vydávatel posl. Václav Křofáč, zodpov. redaktor posl. Jiří Stříbrný. **CENA 10 h**

Vzkříšení Čech.

Arnošt Denis v časopise „Na Zdar“ v Paříži 5. listopadu 1916.

„Rakousko! V nové Evropě, která se rodí, není již pro nás místa! Hrobaři, odněte tu mrtvolu!“

Roku 1526 český král Ludvík zahynul v bitvě u Mohače. Vítězní Turci zmocnili se větší části Uher, jejich vojska dobývala již hradeb Vídně a křesťanstvo, ohrožené vnitřními boji, bylo u velkého nebezpečí.

Slavové české mysleli, že v přítomném nebezpečí, které hrozilo Evropě, národově střední Evropy mají na povinnost sloučiti své síly. I zvolil králem bratru císar Karla V., Habsburka Ferdinanda I., který byl již panovníkem německých zemí a na středním Dunaji a kterého tou dobou i Uhry přijali za svou hlavu.

Tak vznikla monarchie Rakousko-Uherská.

Království České nebylo tedy Habsburky dobyto, Českými stavy povoláni byli Habsburkové na trůn, rozvázným a svobodným aktem české vůle. Tento akt doprovozen určitými a přesnými podmínkami. S Habsburky uzavřena smlouva, která zavazovala obě strany a ukládala novému monarchovi, že

slouží stopy národní samostatnosti a království České přeměňuje v provincii rakouskou.

Kázali Čechům zapomenouti svého původu i svého jazyka — křtili je na Němce.

Krajní útlak, jak se někdy stává, způsobil zážitek jako Polsko i Čechy popřely pravost mínění, které je škrtilo se světa. Vídeňská cenzura musná byla bděti a obrátit nepodařilo se jí zastaviti tajemné vlny, přicházející z Francie, Marsceiea zaznívala z jednoho konce Evropy na druhý, jako buďteček naděje utlačovaným, hláská proroků, básníků, filosofů a dějepisců nalézala znovu myšlenku předků. Pod zášibky praporu znovu pozvednutého Dobrovského, Havlíčkem, Kolářem, Palackým a Riegrem shromažďuje se národ, sedláci, měšťané a studentstvo.

Mrtví vstávají roběti a mění se v bojovníky!

R. 1918, kdy vítězství pařížské v úsoru znamenalo útržku federalismu a demokracie, první rána srážila k zemi despotismu Meternichova na jaře r. 1848, vzhvukl v tvář německé zpučnosti slib slovenské solidarity.

Pro užitéhož a sloužícího do budoucna...

Uher, bytí zůstaveni bez ochrany proti úrátkům pácholek Německa, Hallerů a Bachmannů.

Zhanobení T. Monténem a hlasatel pruské zpučnosti, uražení ve svých nehlubších a nejsvětějších citech, odsouzení, aby šli proti jízám Slovákům, svým bratřím v bídě a útlaku — i proti Rusům, svým vytrouzeným osvoboditelům... vyprázdnil hořkou EM hanby až na dno!

Míra je dovržena! Čechové vypovídají dnes smlouvu, kterou uzavřeli v den pobouření a kterou Habsburkové nepěstali rušiti!

„Byli jsme před Rakouskem, a budeme i po něm,“ řekl Palacký před půl stoletím!

Hodina národního osvobození udeřila! Slované v Rakousku trhají dnes smlouvu, kterou povolíli Habsburkům!

Slováci, Moravané, Slezané, Čechové! Nový život počíná pro vás, utlačované! Den slávy znovu nadešel pro potomky bojovníků Želkových!

Osvobozené Čechy seskupují kolem sebe všechny rozptýlené své syny, odzaváhá Tatár až k Hordám Krušiným. Znovu zasínou místo mezi národy osvobodnými! Znovu posílají alibi, která jim určuje, aby byli pořítkem mezi civilizací Evropy západní a východní, slouží se opět apoštoly evangélie svobody, spravedlnosti, které v 15. století kázal Chelčický!

František Josef I. 20 let tak dlouho, aby to...

České Slovo. Special edition. October 29.

Various statesmen published articles in the press about the Habsburg throne, the end of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, and the Czech States.



To the Czech artillery! The time has struck!

...Czech sharpshooters on guard! president's order. To our firing units in the Czech municipalities! At your place of work, put your forces at the service of the nation. The chiefs (or representatives) of the units from Prague and the surrounding area will arrive in uniform at 10 a.m. today at the president's hall. C. O. Wednesday in Prague, restaurant U Pinkasu, where all instructions will be given. President and technical department: František Novák, mayor; Karel Kodytek, deputy head.

Citizens!

...Obeying the order of the National Committee, Sokol, together with the workers' gymnastics Association, the student body, and the police, took care of public order in all Czechoslovak countries. Therefore, we call on the above-mentioned Associations to work in this direction without delay, to form bodies that protect peace and civil rights.

Czech community of Sokol. Union of workers' gymnastics trade unions. Union of Czechoslovak students.

...The Scouts had the task, the day after the Austro-Hungarian capitulation, of distributing mail between the National Liberation Committee and various public services such as the police, the Town Hall, the Parliament, the Prague Railway Station, etc.

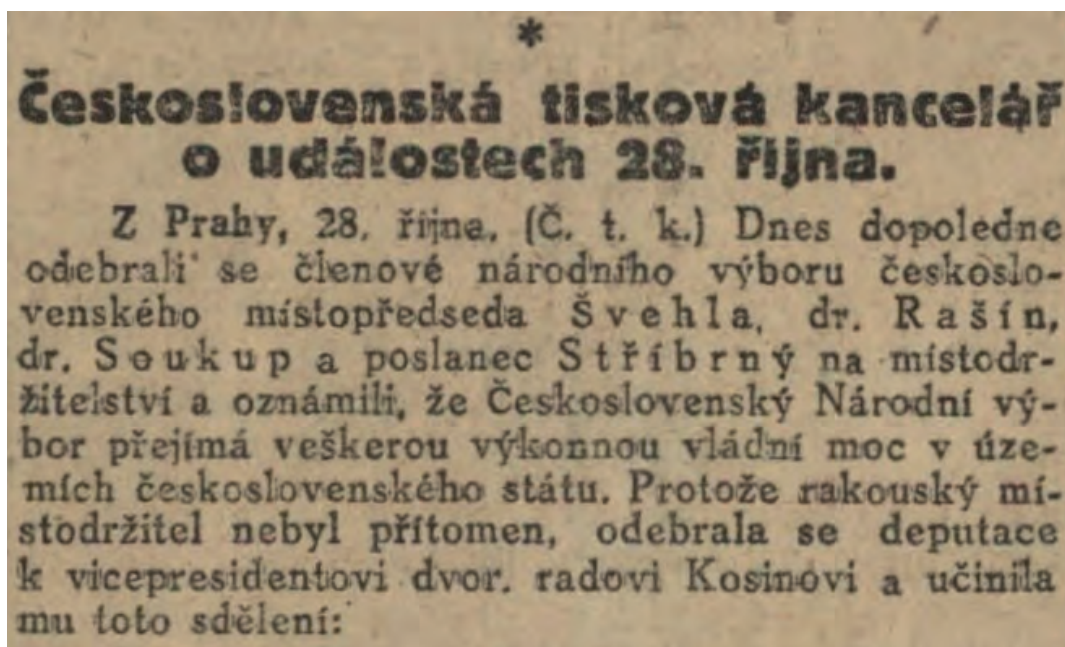
They also continued to provide services for the military guards and members of the Sokol at the railway stations on the first two days, but from November 1, they were assigned to completely different jobs.

On the night of October 30, some 40 more sailors arrived in Žofín; they were quickly armed and equipped, and before dawn began to be sent to reinforce various strategic points. At dawn, other officers and men began to arrive in Žofín to volunteer. Moreover, the National Committee proceeded to move from the Municipal House to the larger rooms of the Harrachův Palace on Jindřišská street.



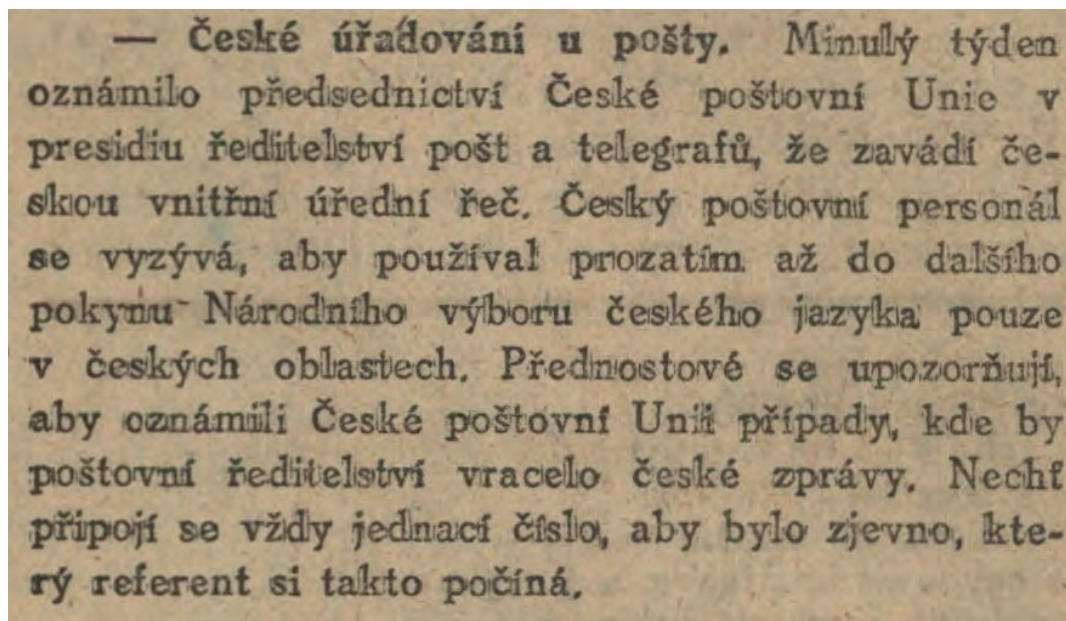
The first Junák-Scout troop in Prague, located at the Czech Yacht Club, ČYK.





Czechoslovak press office about the events of October 28.

From Prague, October 28, (Č. t. k.) This morning, the members of the National Committee of Czechoslovak Vice-president Švehl, Dr. Rašín, Dr. Soukup and Deputy Stříbrný to the governorship and announced that the Czechoslovak National Committee takes over all executive government power in the territories of the Czechoslovak State. The Austrian governor was not present.



Czech office at the post office.

Last week, the presidency of the Czech Postal Union announced in the presidium of the Directorate of Posts and Telegraphs that it is introducing the Czech internal official language. Czech postal staff are encouraged to use only in Czech areas until further instructions from the National Committee of the Czech language. Priority operators are advised to notify the Czech Postal Union of cases where the postal directorate would return Czech messages. Let the transaction number always be attached, so that it is clear which officer is behaving in this way.





6 - PRIVATE OVERPRINTS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD





Faced with the chaos and lack of control that was taking place in official bodies, including post offices, with a lack of precise instructions on how to operate (postage, stamps, tariffs, etc.), the Czech population, eager to see the culmination of a process of liberalization and definition of *their own country* independent of the former empire, was prepared from the first moment to issue without any criteria, those brands, prints, prototypes of stamps, vignettes... that evidence, exalt and define *their new State*, using them freely and without restriction for their correspondence in this short period of transition.

Also, some personalities of political and public life participated in the creation of revolutionary overprints: the official of the Czech Administration Jaroslav Lešetický, the pharmaceutical entrepreneur Josef Rössler-Ořovský, the administrator Vojtěch Mareš, the Slovak minister Vavro Šrobár.

Jaroslav Lešetický, member and collaborator of the Czechoslovak philatelic club, collector, official employee of the Austro-Hungarian Postal Administration, was the first secretary of the newly established Czechoslovak Postal service from October 1918. Together with the president of the Czech philatelic club in Prague (K.č.f.), Ing. Jaroslav Šula, asked the Moravian academic, painter, poster artist and designer Alfons Mucha on October 30, 1918 to submit within three days proposals for designs for new postage stamps, newspapers and postcards for the Czechoslovak State, which he did, however, it was not until December that the stamps were actually issued, put into circulation and sold, as the shortage of technical means such as suitable paper, lack of inks, glue or suitable machines made it impossible to produce them before that date.

We know about the private (so-called revolutionary) overprints as early as October 28, 1918, when the delegate of the postmaster Maximilian Fatka, Jaroslav Lešetický, on the orders of the Czech Postal directorate, proposed at the meeting of the National Committee (Municipal House) overprints on a stock of Austrian stamps for use in Prague capital and suburbs. The text of the suggested printing was: "Zatímní vláda Národní Výbor 28.10.1918" (provisional government National Committee 28.10.18). The Czech Deputy, Dr. Rašín, doubted whether the overprints would be accepted by the Universal Postal Union in Berne and, when in doubt, did not recommend their production, insisting on the definitive issue of the first Czechoslovak stamps, which is why, officially, these overprints were never produced.

In spite of this, and in the face of such an official vacuum, a member of the National Committee commission, J. Rössler Ořovský, in his personal capacity, proposed the production of overprints on Austrian stamps, and even dared to print Scout stamps.

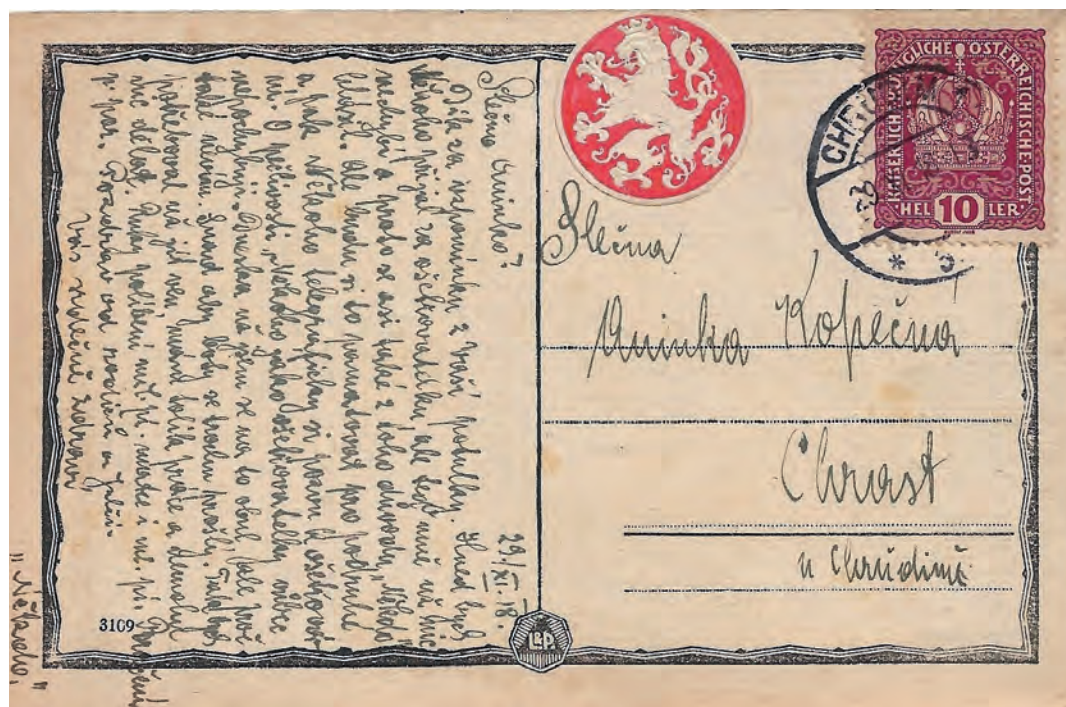
Private revolutionary overprints were also carried out by individual citizens. Such was the euphoria and joy among the population that, without hesitation, and without considering possible legal consequences, they proceeded to issue private overprints (stamp prototypes, vignettes, overprints). Some of the overprints are well known, but others are not known in terms of print runs, the material used, the artists, the places of issue... Austrian overprinted stamps were already in use from the beginning of November until 14th, 1918.



Vignettes with emblems of the Czech crown lands, 10 heller stamp partially affixed with the vignette of the coat of arms "Czech lion" together with handwritten note: "To pay this a week ago would be a crime". Postmarked in Smíchov on 31.10.1918.



Vignette: "Long live the Czechoslovak State". Brno, November 23, 1918.



Round vignette "Bohemian lion" on postcard sent on 29.11.1918.



Round vignette "Bohemian lion" on postcard sent on 29.11.1918.



Circulated handwritten card by Jaroslav Lesetický.





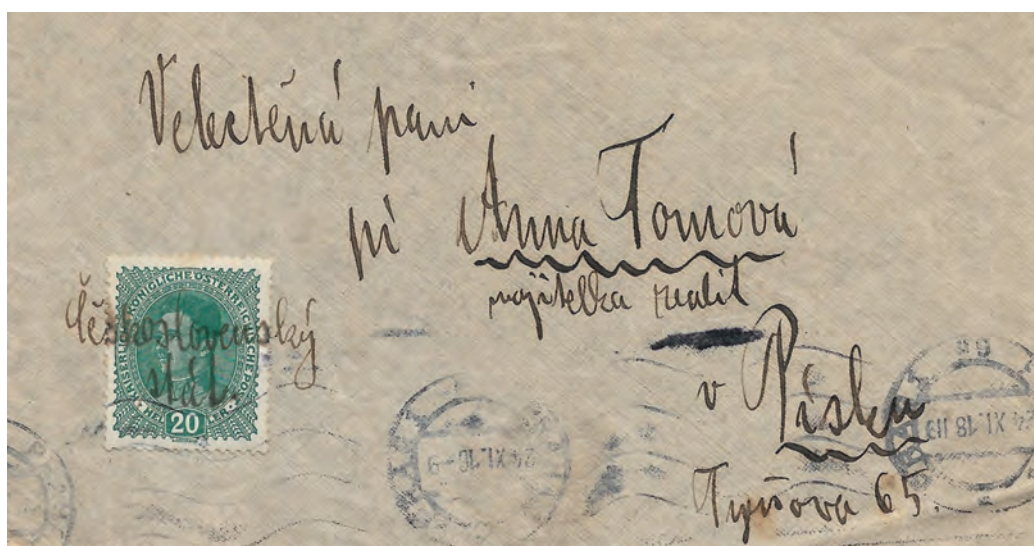
Original 10 heller stamp, k.k.
modified on the postcard, omitting
the imperial crown.

Card with 10 heller (Austrian Imperial crown) stamp, pasted and hidden by patriotic motifs with fragment of serrated sheet border, covering the crown. Franked at Sborowitz - Zborovice on 27.11.1918. Stamp when altered, it is not recognised by postal officials and postage to be paid at destination is added Král. Vinohrady, with two 10 heller stamps.



Austrian ink handwritten stamps Československý Stát, and Československá pošta (Czechoslovak state, Czechoslovak Post).

Back of envelope: wax seal.



Particular envelope sent to the city of Písek (South Bohemia) on 24.11.18. Franked in Prague with Austrian patriotic overprint manuscript "Československý stát", "Czechoslovak state" 24.11.1918.





Particular envelope sent on 24.11.18. Prague franked with Austrian stamp manuscript "Československá pošta" "Czechoslovak Post".



A card franked in Prague, with two Austrian stamps of 5 Heller on which the imperial crown has been crossed out, as a disapproval of the previous Habsburg regime.



Alfons Mucha.

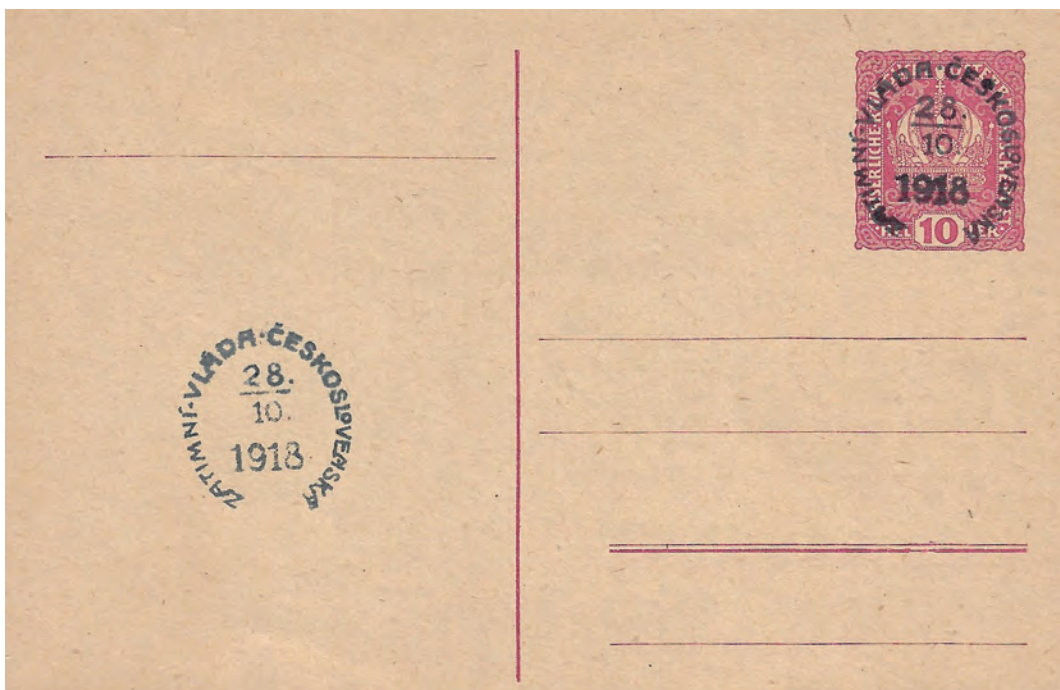
* **České poštovní známky.** Poštovní ředitelství pražské připravuje vydání emise dosavadních rakouských známek s přetiskem „Zatimní vláda Národního výboru“, jež budou v oběhu do vydání vlastních národních známek českých.

Czech postage stamps.

The postal address in Prague is preparing to issue current Austrian stamps with the imprint “Provisional Government of the National Committee”, which will be in circulation until the Czech national stamps are issued. 31.10.1918. Národní Politika.



Three prototypes of the provisional government, not approved for postal use.



Prototype “Zatimní Vláda Československá 28.10.1918”, (provisional government Czechoslovak), Austrian postal stationery, 10 heller.





Prototypes of Czech overprints on unrealised Austrian stamps.



Envelope addressed to Jaroslav Lesětický, director of the main Post office in Prague. 31.10.1918.





Lion overprint with the inscription: "Zakhidno-Ukrainska Narodna Republika". National Republic of Western Ukraine on Austrian stamps.



Overprint (Укр Н. Р. 10) and inverted on Austrian stamps 6 and 12 heller.

Overprint (Укр Н. Р. 5).

According to the Austro-Hungarian postal regulations, which remained in force until the Czechoslovakian official decree concerning postage stamps, no modification of postage stamps by private individuals was allowed. This fact was recalled by the new regulation of December 18, 1918. However, between October 28, and December 18, 1918, postal items franked with private overprints were not strictly prohibited.

One of the first revolutionary overprints with the latin text: *FINIS AUSTRIAE* (end of Austria) in black type and ink and printed in low Austrian values was made in Manětín, a town in the Pilsen region of the Czech Republic.

In the short period of transition, and in the early days of independence, the so-called private overprints of J. Fontana (Kralovice u Plzne) appeared with some variations and actually tolerated in the post since October 30. Some of them are included in official international philatelic catalogues, others are ignored, and the rest, preserved in small quantities, are highly valued as an example of the historical transition period, as an expression of joy, pride, and patriotism of national independence.

Little has been written about the postal merits and speculative demerits of about a dozen local issues, particularly with regard to *authorisation* and legitimate postal use.

They must be considered private, but analysing the existing material and the context in which they were made with undisputed patriotic zeal they were put into circulation in connivance and complicity with post office officials.



Overprint details on three lines of Pošta
Česko Slovenská and Česko Slovenská Pošta
on Austrian stamps.

— Poštovní známky státu československého budou vydány v nejbližších dnech. Zatím budou užity staré známky, jež budou přetištěny nápisem: „Zatímní vláda Národního výboru“. Později budou vydány ovšem nové známky, jež navrhne naši umělci. Při návrzích bude lze užiti hojně námětů z naší historie a známky budou moci spolu býti symbolem vzkříšeného státu československého.

The postage stamps of the Czechoslovak State will be issued in the coming days. For the time being, the old stamps will be used, bearing the inscription: “Zatímní Vláda Československá” (Provisional government Czechoslovak). Later, however, new stamps designed by our artists will be issued. Many themes from our history can be used in the designs, and the stamps together can be a symbol of the revived Czechoslovak State. Národní Listy 31.10.1918.



Letter franked at Teplitz Schönau with three-line violet overprint on Austrian stamps: Česko Slovenská Pošta and Pošta Česko Slovenská.





Based on the Austro-Hungarian legislation, which was still in force after October 28, 1918, the date of the uprising, the issuing and overprinting of stamps by citizens was expressly prohibited, however, in post offices, some postal officials accepted franked correspondence with private overprints between October 28, and November 18, when a new decree was issued by the postal administration prohibiting private printing for franking.

Western Ukraine was a short-lived republic that existed in late 1918 and early 1919. The patriotic forces of Western Ukraine living in the provinces of Galitzia and Bukovina declared their independence from the Austro-Hungarian Empire on the night of October 31 to November 1, 1918 establishing the people's Republic of Western Ukraine (ZUNR) which included ethnic Ukrainian lands: Galitzia, Bukovina and Transcarpathia. The republic issued around 100 postage stamps during its brief existence, two of which are overprints on existing stamps of Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The first four stamps, called the "Lwów issue", were in use for only two days.

There was a second set of Austrian stamps with overprints "Укр Н. Р." named "Kolomyja" after the town of Kolomyia, in Polish Kołomyja and in Ukrainian Коломия.

As a sign of normality in the new Czechoslovak Republic, postal services were to continue without interruption since the end of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, although it would have been the wish of the new government to have its own stamps in time, and it was established by decree that Austrian and Hungarian stamps would be valid as postage until the end of February 1919. In the meantime, the newly created ministry of Posts and Telegraphs hastened to issue stamps of its own (18.12.1918), so for more than two months Austrian and Hungarian stamps were used in the new Republic, which was enough time for some private citizens to design overprints which they applied to Austrian stamps: Mareš "ČESKO-SLOVENSKÝ STÁT"; Rössler-Ořovský "PROVISORNÍ ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ VLÁDA", and Šrobár on Hungarian stamps: "ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA".

The controversial *private markings or overprints* were made between the period immediately after the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the formation of the new Czechoslovak State in 1918, even though there were no stamps of the new republic, markings, private overprints, which, whether we like it or not, after the declaration of independence on October 28, 1918, the Postal Administration of the Czechoslovak Republic admitted, let's say better, officially tolerated, on a provisional basis, at least not prohibited...

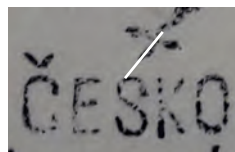
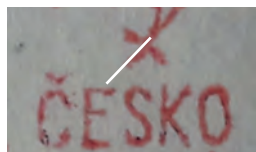
Immediately after the memorable October 28, all contact with Vienna had broken down, administrative relations were suspended, and the supply of Austrian stamps had ceased abruptly. In some Czech post offices, small quantities of stamps were still available, but at the main post office in Prague they were becoming scarce.

How was the lack and shortage of postage material dealt with? Either they paid the corresponding amount in cash at the post office counters, or simply: they stamped the existing Austrian stamps with Czech surcharges alluding to the new regime.



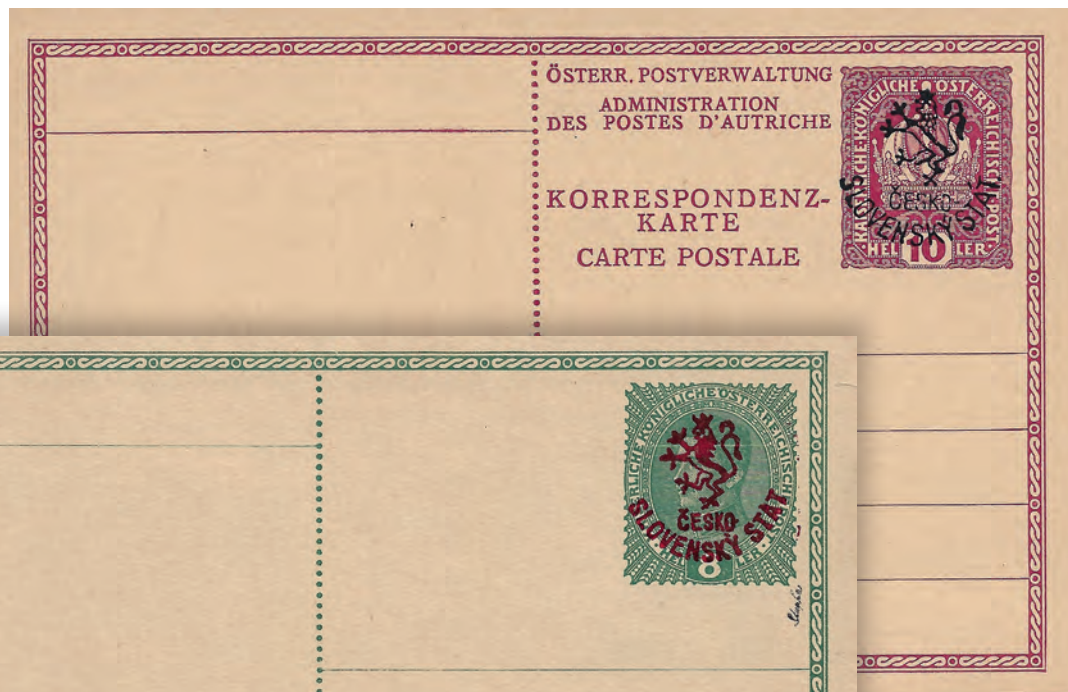


Printing proofs of the revolutionary overprints on Austrian stamps (Marés and Horner). Lion rampant and legend "ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT".



The main identification of the Marés emission consists of the location of the central claw of the lion's right paw pointing to the E of the word ČESKO.

Horner proof, black ink on card.



Postal stationery 8 and 10 heller postcards with overprints ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT, Marés and Horner, in black and red ink.





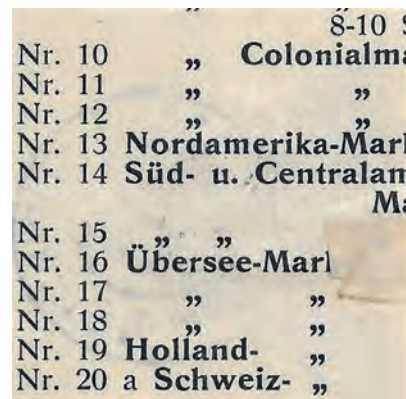
Express registered envelope in Zliv - Zliv 7.11.18, with Austrian stamps overprinted Marés, Hluboká, inverted in red ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT. On the reverse postmark of arrival from the Post office of the city of Nakří on 8.11.18.



Fragments with revolutionary overprint ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT. Postmark at Budweis, (Budějovice).

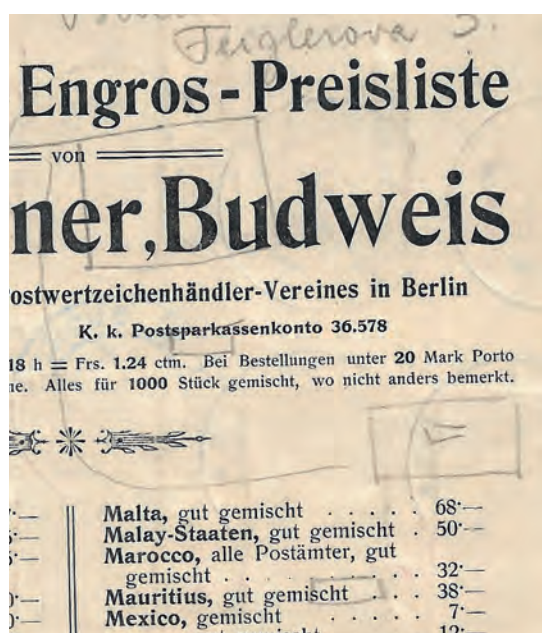


Budweis - Budějovice.



Detail of the reverse of the fragment on German stamp catalogue sheet.





Detail of the reverse of the fragment. Horner overprinted stamps with ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT are affixed to a German stamp catalogue sheet.



Registered express envelope in Hluboka sent to Budějovice. 8.11.1918.



The Post office officials expected the overprints because, at the suggestion of the Czechoslovak press office of the National Committee, it had announced some overprints in news announcements. At that time there was no government, so the National Committee had full powers to, if not print, at least tolerate such overprints. Officially, overprints were not made, because no design acceptable and agreeable to all was presented.

Revolutionary issues are divided into two classes:

- Overprints intended for Austrian stamps used in Bohemia and Moravia.
- Overprints on Hungarian stamps for use in Slovakia.

During the first months of 1919, the Czechoslovak government of the first republic collected evidence in the prosecution of prosecuted offenders of postal laws, among others Vojtěch Mareš, who is credited with the revolutionary overprints on Austrian stamps (Mareš), with a lion rampant and the text “ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT”, also called Hluboká after the place of origin, who had a metal die made by hand with the lion motif and the inscription Czechoslovak State on October 28, 1918 in the town of České Budějovice, with which Austrian postage stamps were overprinted, with which he paid for his correspondence.

Material was sought at Vojtěch Mareš's home for the production of overprints on Austrian stamps during the revolutionary period (postmarks, overprints, dies, engravings). Mareš was not ultimately found guilty as the jury ruled that the postal department was responsible for admitting correspondence with stamps of issue.

Similar to the Hluboká issue, the similar engraving was made by the same engraver, except that it was commissioned by J. Horner of České Budějovice. The overprints are in black, occasionally in red, inverted, tête-bêche... After November 18, J. Horner handed over the die to the Post office, however, he retained an identical engraving and continued to overprint stamps for subsequent sale to collectors.

Although the Austrian regulations in force in the territory of the republic did not allow any modification of stamps, these private overprints were tolerated by the post offices for some time. The use of stamps with overprints was restricted only based on an order of November 13, 1918, which prohibited them with effect from November 18, 1918. After this date, mailings with additional modified stamps were put out of service.

The commercial speculation of various revolutionary overprints occurred at a time when it was already known that they were banned from being used for franking letters. This category includes not only the Budějovice overprint imitated by Beck and other citizens, but also a number of other overprints whose creators were, for the most part, unknown.

In this case, the philatelic dealer Karel J. Levec commissioned the Vlast printing house in Prague (The magazine *Český filatelista* was printed here), to produce the two-line ascending oblique patriotic overprint: “*Československá Republika*” in bold type, spaced 2 millimetres apart. Two different types of this overprint were made, affecting only the typographic details.



Hluboká Castle.



Slanted eye detail and crest.



Budějovice.



Hluboká.

Slanted eye detail and crest.

Legionářské známky

neupotřebené a na dopisech poštou dopravovaných, s razítkem v podobě lipo-
vého listu a kulatým jubilejním v dvoji barvě nabízíme za denní levné
ceny v jednotných seriích i celých blocích, pokud zásoba stačí.

Československé upotřebené, všechna zoubkování, chybotisky i vysoké
hodnoty vždy na skladě.

Při dotazech budiž přiložena známka na odpověď. Obchod poštovními
známkami firmy

KAREL J. LEVEC, společnost s r. o. Praha, Václavské n. 72.

Veškeré českosl. známky kupujeme v malých i velkých partiích, též rakouské
z r. 1916 papíru prosté i na odstřížcích poštovních průvodků, partie cizozemských,
celé sbírky a p.

Advertising of Czechoslovakian stamps and legionnaires in stock. Buy, sell, lots and collections.
Karel J. Levec.

Československá republika.

Revoluční vydání (budějovické) s přetiskem „lev a československý stát“ uza-
vršená řada do 1 K K 30—
úplná řada do 10 K „ 100—

Pražské vydání s přetiskem „Československá republika“

15 hodnot úplná řada do 1 K, na dopise kolkov.
6 „ na dopise 3, 5, 6, 10 12, 15 h
8 „ „ „ 6, 12, 15 h

Nouzové doplňkové s přetiskem T.

5 h spěšné	K 1-25	10 h české
5 „ české stříh.	—35	15 „ císař K
5 „ zoubkované	—50	20 „ „
5 „ 1916	—60	30 „ novino
10 „ novinové (1916)	—80	40 h 1916

Učinili jsme kroky k získání dalších hodnot z měst
též s přetiskem D a zašleme ochotně na ukázkou k výř.
Nové vyšlé hodnoty běžných známek máme vždy ihne
než na venkově a zasiláme je z pravidla s přírazkou
budiž přiložena známka na odp.

Obchod poštovními známkami ve velké

Karel J. Levec,
společnost s r. o. Praha, Václavské 72.

České poštovní známky

s dopisů vystříhané kupujeme: 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20 h 100 kusů za
1 K 25 h — 1-50, 30 h — 3—, 40 h — 4—, veškeré vyšší hod-
noty 10—15% nom. Známký stříhané musí býti s okrají, zoub-
kované se všemi zoubky, nepoškozené a ne příliš razítkem zama-
zané. Za 1a zboží papíru prosté (prané) platíme o 50 až 100%
více. Též známky rakouské, uherské a jiné buď na ústřížkách, nebo
prané ve větším množství se koupí.

Obchod poštovními známkami firmy

Karel J. Levec, společnost s r. o. v Praze,
Václavské náměstí 72.

Press clipping announcing the purchase of
Austrian, Hungarian and other stamps,
paying between 50 and 100% more.

Press announcement by stamp dealer Karel J. Levec, offering different values and their rates.





Type 1.

Type 2.

Overprint "Československá Republika" expanded. Type 1 and 2.

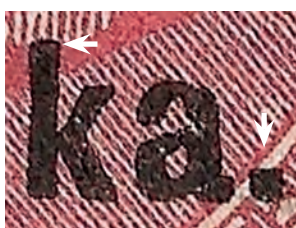


On letterhead: Dobrovolné podpůrné sdružení válečné v Praze. "Association of voluntary support for the war in Prague". 3.11.18. Ascending oblique overprint on two lines (type 1 and 2) Addressed to J. Rössler Ořovský, private address, 44 Palackého nábřeží street.

Type 1: All typographic characters are common, the overprint ends after "Republika", with a large square dot.

Type 2: The ascending shaft of the letter "k" of "Republika" is bevelled, (cut off to the left at its upper end); on the other hand, the word "Republika," ends with a very small, slightly raised dot, this second type is less frequent than the first.





Type 1.



Type 2.

Detail of the two types of the Levec overprint "Československá Republika".



On letterhead: Dobrovolné podpůrné sdružení válečné v Praze. "Association of voluntary support for the war in Prague".
Ascending oblique overprint in two lines (type 1 and 2).

These stamps were postmarked until the end of November 1918. Most of the envelopes franked with overprinted stamps were sent from the Prague 1 office.

On March 13, 1919, the following news appeared in the Czech press:

"Fraudulent machinations with Czechoslovak State stamps for philatelic purposes".

Before the first Czechoslovak stamps were issued, the businessman Karel J. Levec offered postage stamps by publishing the following advertisement in the Czech newspaper "Národní Politika" in St. Wenceslas square: *"Deposit, advantageous investment of capital by purchasing sets of postage stamps at a price ranging from 1,000 to 20,000 kr."*



On letterhead: Dobrovolné podpůrné sdružení válečné v Praze. "Association of voluntary support for the war in Prague". Ascending oblique overprint on two lines (type 1 and 2).

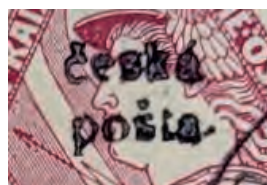


Letter sent from Prague to Schönberg in Moravia on November 3, 1918. Franked with Austrian stamps surcharged with the words: "Československá Republika" Czechoslovak Republic. Types 1 and 2.





Card showing soldiers in the trenches during World War I. Stamps with "česká pošta" overprint on two lines. with railroad postmark from Rakonitz-Mlatz 369.



"česká pošta" in two lines.



"Česká pošta" in two lines.



Municipal office in Bílově. District and Post office in Kralovice. Registered envelope with municipal service matters free postage. "česká pošta" in two lines.



“Česká pošta” in two lines. Postage card with “Česká pošta” (capital Č consonant) stamped on November 3, 1918, with a railroad postmark of Rakonitz-Mlatz 369.

As this offer seemed suspicious, officials from the office for the prevention of usury pretended to want to buy a larger batch of postage stamps, after which, duly identified, they carried out an exhaustive and thorough inspection of their office, which had a surprising result: They found Czechoslovak stamps valued at 10.336,50 kr.

This was a blatant violation of the prohibition of the Ministry of Posts, as the stamps could not be sold for philatelic purposes. But taking advantage of the lack of stamps at the time of stamping: Levec offered these stamps (as shown in his correspondence) to various Czech and foreign cities. In a letter, he writes: *“It is very difficult to obtain stamps and I have to overpay for them”*.

The municipal accountant of the town of Velim (a town in the Kolín district of the central Bohemia region), who had been arrested before the reform for involvement in stamp forgery, bought stamps from Levec for 5.331,20 crowns, of which he owed him 3,000 kr.

Levec was in league with several postal officials who provided him with stamps for his purposes. Levec asked a post office official in Košice (a city in eastern Slovakia) to buy Czechoslovak stamps for 50,000 kr. and offered him 100% above face value, and a certain Ferd. Gedeg (formerly von Gedeg) in Chanovice near Horažďovice, had numerous stamps sent by Levec pasted on envelopes and postmarked (for philatelists) In a letter from January 1918, Levec asks Gedeg: *“Send the printed stamps as soon as possible, so that, in these difficult times, you will earn something...”* Levec writes to another acquaintance: *I have saved 15,000 kr. on stamps and intend to buy a house for sale during the year (i.e. with the proceeds from philately I would buy a house)* Levec was also in business dealings



with Lieutenant H. Beck in Budějovice, where a fake postmark was found. Czechoslovak revolutionary stamps were produced at České Budějovice. Overprinted stamps, were exclusively speculative in nature. For this activity he was expelled from the club of Czech philatelists in Prague and even briefly imprisoned by the Prague police. Due to the time when the overprints were made, as a result of this scandal, Karel Levec was unanimously dismissed from the Czech Philately Club.

Josef Fontana, secretary of the district political administration, overprints in Kralovice u Plzně (near Pilsen) shortly after the revolution, some Austrian stamps, still in progress, for use on his own post. It also overprints some Austrian 8 heller postcards with the two-line overprint: *“česká pošta”* in black with a manual rubber stamp consisting of thick letters in two lines of 16 mm (height of lower-case letters 2 mm). The text makes no mention of Slovakia, which is of Hungarian origin, being only a Czech nationalist claim used in regional Post offices in Rakovník, Mladotice and others. It also overprints *“česká pošta”* in small characters on one line and *“česká pošta”* on two lines.

Correspondence with stamps with this overprint was accepted by post offices for mail. Fontana later, on the occasion of President Masaryk's return on December 21, supplemented the overprint, making it *“česká pošta Sláva Masarykovi”* (Czech post, welcome Masaryk!), and *“Sláva Masarykovi”* (welcome Masaryk!). Fontana's overprints were not placed in the speculative hands of dealers or private individuals, and are therefore rare and scarce.

The revolutionary events that took place did not go unanswered by the philatelic public. The first reactions to the creation of a new state began to appear on the Austrian stamps still in force, therefore, the idea of overprinting the current Austrian and Hungarian stamps initially came from some members of the National Committee in Prague (N.V.) as well as the working staff, who in addition to being members of various government commissions, were well-known philatelists (Josef Rössler-Ořovský, prof. Karel Domin, prof. Fleischer, R. Pilat, P. Novák...).

They argued that the Austrian stamps showed motifs inimical to the new Czechoslovak State, such as: images of the Austrian Imperial crown, the Austrian coat of arms and, especially, the image of Emperor Charles I, the ruler until then.

From October 28 to November 13, 1918, the N.V. (National Committee) was the highest organ of the Czechoslovak State with full and unlimited legal and executive powers, dealing with all the affairs of the emerging state on a full-time basis, but as far as postal matters were concerned, the highest organs of the National Council (director general of Post and Telegraphs) did not speak out, so the various proposals submitted (Jaroslav Lesětický and Josef Rössler Ořovský) for the overprinting of Austrian and Hungarian stamps were not officially approved.

The overprints were produced in small quantities and carried out in a well-known printing house in the Karlín district, owned by František Knapp and Alois Wiesner Jr., son of Alois Wiesner (paper manufacturer, publisher, and printer), philatelist and co-owner of the company in Soukenická street in Prague, which until then had been available for revolutionary purposes.

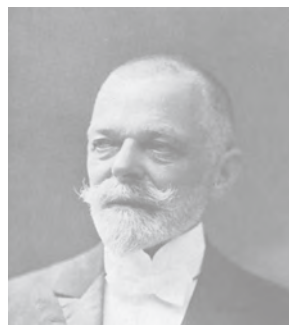




Postcard sent from Kounov, in German Kaunowa, a municipality in the Czech Republic located 13 kilometres north of Rakovník. Stamp with overprint "česká pošta" on one line.



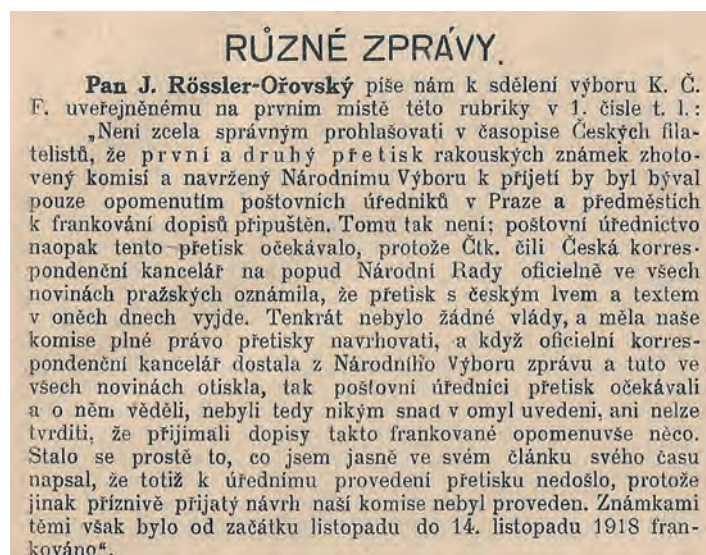
"česká pošta" in one line.



Alois Wiesner.



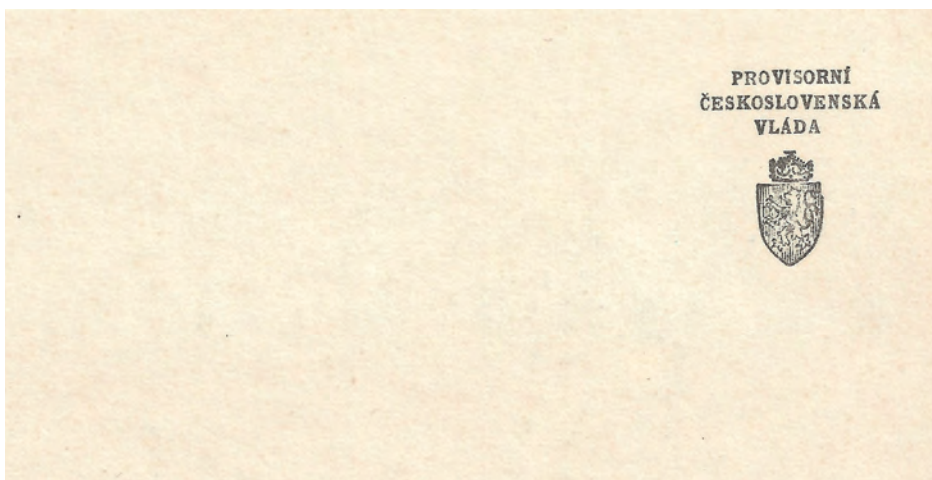
J. Rössler-Ořovský.



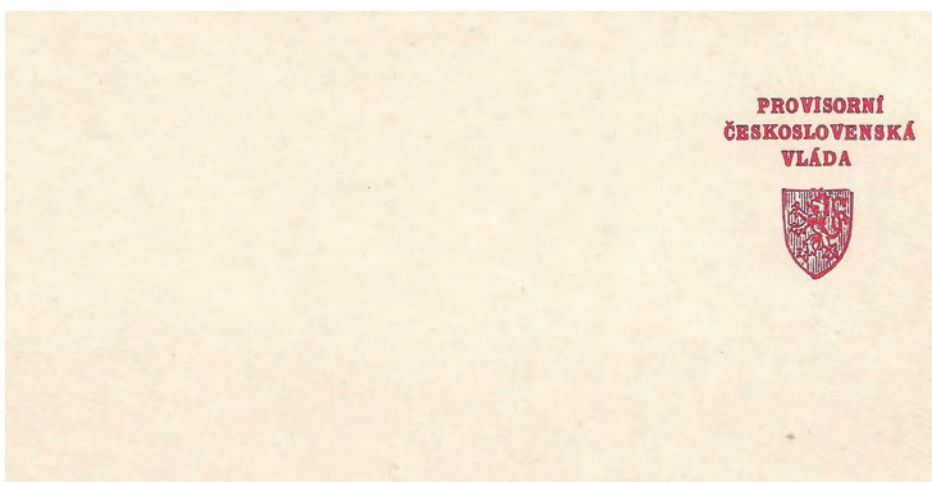
First issue of vol. I, Český Filatelista*. February 15, 1919, p. 25.

*Czech professional publication and organ of the Czech Philatelists' Club in Prague for the interests of philately, established in 1887.





Crown proof in red ink.



Coat of arms proof in red ink.



Crown proof in black ink.

Essays with the text: "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA" and "PROVISORNÍ ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ VLÁDA" (Czechoslovak State Post and Czechoslovak Provisional Government) with small coat of arms, with and without crown, together with the czech lion. The lower values of austrian stamps were overprinted and submitted to the National Council for approval.





The Czech Medical Chamber section for the Czech Kingdom, as well as other official and private institutions, used the Czech coat of arms for the heading of letterheads and other official prints.

The Czechoslovak revolutionary overprints were produced in a short period of time from the fall of the Austro-Hungarian empire and the coup d'état to the formation of an independent Czechoslovak State and the issue of its first stamps on December 18, 1918.

On October 28, 1918 the National Committee adopted law n° 11/1918 R. This law is the basis of the Czechoslovak State and its legal system. The Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs of Czechoslovakia of 17.12.1918, allowed the use of postage stamps of Austrian and Hungarian origin in the whole territory of the newly formed Czechoslovak State and another decree of the Ministry of Industry and Trade allowed the use of postage stamps for the public until 28.2.1919., (postal stationery until 14.10.1919) and allowed its exchange on March 15, 1919 for Czechoslovak stamps.

J. Rössler-Ořovský writes about the report of the K.Č.F.* committee published in the first place in this section in the 1st issue of vol. I, February 15, 1919 Page 25:

... "It is not quite correct to state in the Czech philatelists' journal that the first and second overprints of Austrian stamps made by the Commission and proposed to the National Committee for acceptance would have been only an omission by postal officials in Prague and the suburbs to franked letters. This is not the case; postal officials, on the other hand, expected this overprint, because the Č.t.k., i.e., the Czech Post Office, at the behest of the National Council, officially announced in all Prague newspapers that a preprint with the Czech lion and text would be published in those days. At that time there was no Government, and our Commission had every right to propose reprints, and when the official Post office received a report from the National Committee and printed it in all the newspapers, the postal publishers expected and knew about the reprint, so they were not deceived by anyone, nor can it be said that they accepted letters thus



Coat of arms detail.



Fragment of the first printing.



Overprint with crown in black ink.



Overprints on stamps of different shades 10 and 20 heller.



Black uncrowned overprint on blue and red stamps of different shades.



Black uncrowned overprints on blue and red stamps of different shades.



Block of 4 stamps with crownless overprint.



Overprint second issue in red ink



Czech revolutionary overprint on Austrian express 5 heller stamp. Type II.





Postage with 15 stamps with the imprint of the small coat of arms on a letter addressed to Václav Klofáč, president of the National Committee. 4.11.18.



Václav Jaroslav Klofáč.



Envelope on the letterhead of the municipal office of Hlavečnicku, which, like other public entities, used the shield with the Bohemian lion, which would later be used to make the overprints of Austrian stamps.



Registered envelope, with type 2 overprints, addressed to R. Ořovský of the firm Milde and Rössler. 11.11.18.



Overprint testing. Type I



Overprints I and II.





Wert		Gewicht		Nachzahlung		Gebühr	
K	h	kg	g	K	h	K	h



Registered express envelope on National Committee letterhead franked with overprinted Austrian stamps of the first and second issue, 12.12.1918, registered with Král. Vinohrady label, reverse N.V. postmark of the National Committee. Deleted text to hide identity.



Express envelope with overprinted stamps 1st revolutionary issue addressed to the President of the Czech Yacht Club, Rössler Ořovský, 3.11.18.

franked omitting anything. What simply happened was what I clearly wrote in my article at the time, namely that the official reprint was not carried out because the proposal of our commission, otherwise favourably received from our commission, was not carried out. However, these stamps were franked from the beginning of November until November 14, 1918.

* K.Č.F. = Czech Philatelic Club.

The black overprinting of this revolutionary issue was done in letterpress, manually. The stamps were probably overprinted in blocks of four. The 21-value set includes the 2 h. and 5 heller (special delivery) stamps. The high values, e.g., 2 kr. to 10 kr. are quite rare. Approved as valid for franking. Proofs, inverted, red overprints etc. exist. The exact total number issued is unknown.

The stamps of the second issue are much less numerous than those of the first issue. The preparation of this issue was very similar to the first Prague revolutionary issue. Overprinting was applied manually and used to prepare a small number of complete sets and a set of proof sets overprinted on various Austrian stamps, Scout stamps and paper fragments. The overprint was also applied to a small number of postcards.



Josef Rössler-Ořovský, founder of the Prague Ski Club.



Circulated postcard, corresponding to the Ski Championships in Jilemnice, in which Josef Rössler-Ořovský participated for the Czech Club of Prague (top right picture).

First impression:

The coat of arms is chamfered on its upper right side, missing the upper right corner. Also, in some values we can find the coat of arms with its upper horizontal line slightly curved and raised to the right.





Registered envelope with overprint postage type 1 and 2, addressed to Josef Rössler-Ořovský guest of the hotel Modrá Hvězda in Jilemnice. 3.11.1918.

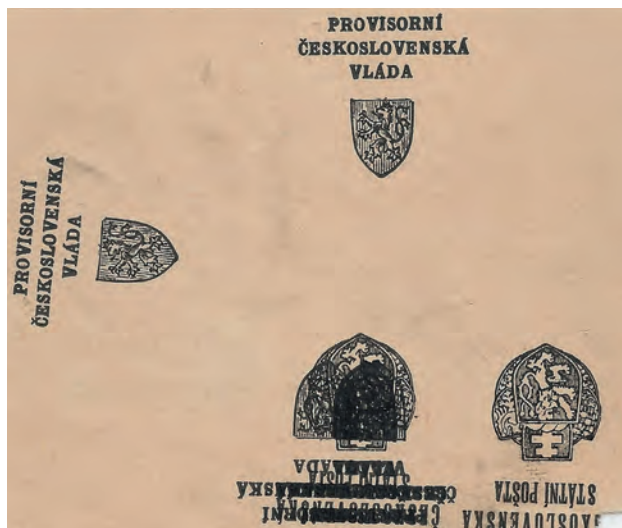


Berlin. Brandenburg Gate.



Reverse of the envelope with arrival postmark Berlin, 13.11.18.

Registered envelope on National Committee (Municipal House) letterhead, postmarked Prague 2, November 8, 1918, addressed to Berlin. On the reverse, the letter is postmarked for arrival in Berlin W on November 13. The 5 h., 12 h. and 15 heller stamps are surcharged with type 1 ("P" in PROVISORNÍ slightly lower than the rest of the letters), while the 3 h. and 10 heller stamps are type 2 (bulge at the top right of the coat of arms). Postage: letter rate 20 heller (to Germany, same as local rates) plus 25 heller for registered.



Prague revolutionary overprints tests, 1st & 2nd issue.



Proof overprint Prague 2nd issue, misprint (overprint) in black ink.



Revolutionary overprint, proof of Prague, 2nd issue in black ink.



Overprint proofs in black and red ink on cardboard.





Express envelope franked from the Král. Vinohrady Post office (Königliche Weinberge) addressed to the home address of Rössler-Orovský, Palackého nábřeží 4, with Austrian franking overprinted: "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA".



Registered express envelope franked with overprinted Austrian stamps of the second issue, 12.11.1918, registered with label Král. Vinohrady 1. Reverse postmark N.V. of the National Committee.

Back.



Overprints 2nd Prague issue "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA" on Scout stamps, red ink on 10 and 20 heller Scout stamps.

Detail overprint "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA" coat of arms in red.



Proof overprint. Second issue in black ink.



Rudolfovo nábreží.



Express envelope franked from the Post office in Královské Vinohrady addressed to the Czech Junák-Scout Association Prague 1 - (student hall) Rudolfovo Nábreží street. Praha, Malá Strana. Dated 7.11.1918.





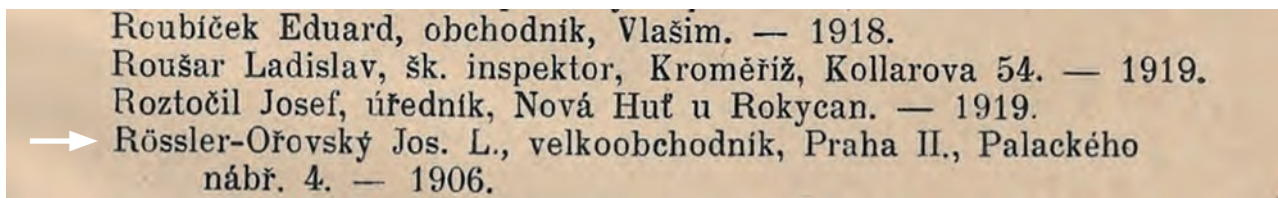
Second and first issue overprints from Prague, on Austrian stamps of 4 heller without denting.



First and second issue inverted overprints from Prague, on Austrian stamps of 4 heller without denting.



Overprints simulating postal stationery, second issue type 1 in red and black ink.



The Prague philatelic Association bears the name of Rössler-Ořovský, the author of the overprints.





35. ČESKOSLOVENSKÝ PLUK

PRAPOR 35. Pluk Česko-Slovenský

ROTA

Velitelství 2. praporu.

Barca, dne 3. května 1919

dne 191

Č. protokolu.

Odpověď k ve

Č. Oddílu

příloh

Předmět

Velitelství

Ověření

za příčinou vyplacení podpory.

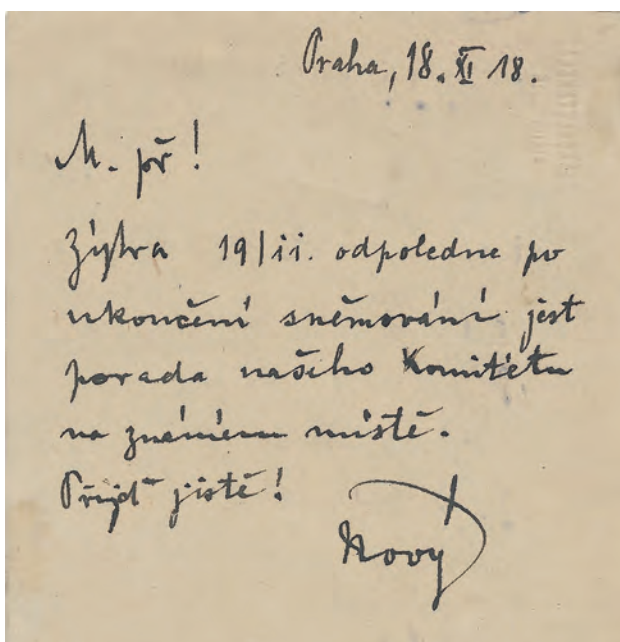
*Desátník Miltner Antonín, dne 11/12. 1884. v
Choceradech n/Šár., okres Černý Kostelec narozený, tamtéž příslušný,
je v činné službě u 35. Č. S. pluku, I. prapor, stálá rota.
Manželka jeho Marie Miltnerové buďto podpora
je příslušící vyplacena.*

Velitel praporu
majora:

Robt. Miltner

The engraving for the coat of arms reproduced was taken from the office of the Czechoslovak Legions where it was used for heading on letterheads and other printed matter. Form referring to active service verification activities, for the purpose of payment of the aid.

Two different military brands. 35 headquarters of the Regiment of the II commando, Battalion in Chocerady. Černý Kostelec district. Written in Barca, 5.3.1919.



Prague 18.11.1918.

Dear friend:

Tomorrow, November 19, in the evening, after the (Parliamentary) session we shall have a meeting in our Committee. Signed Nový.

Overprint type II.

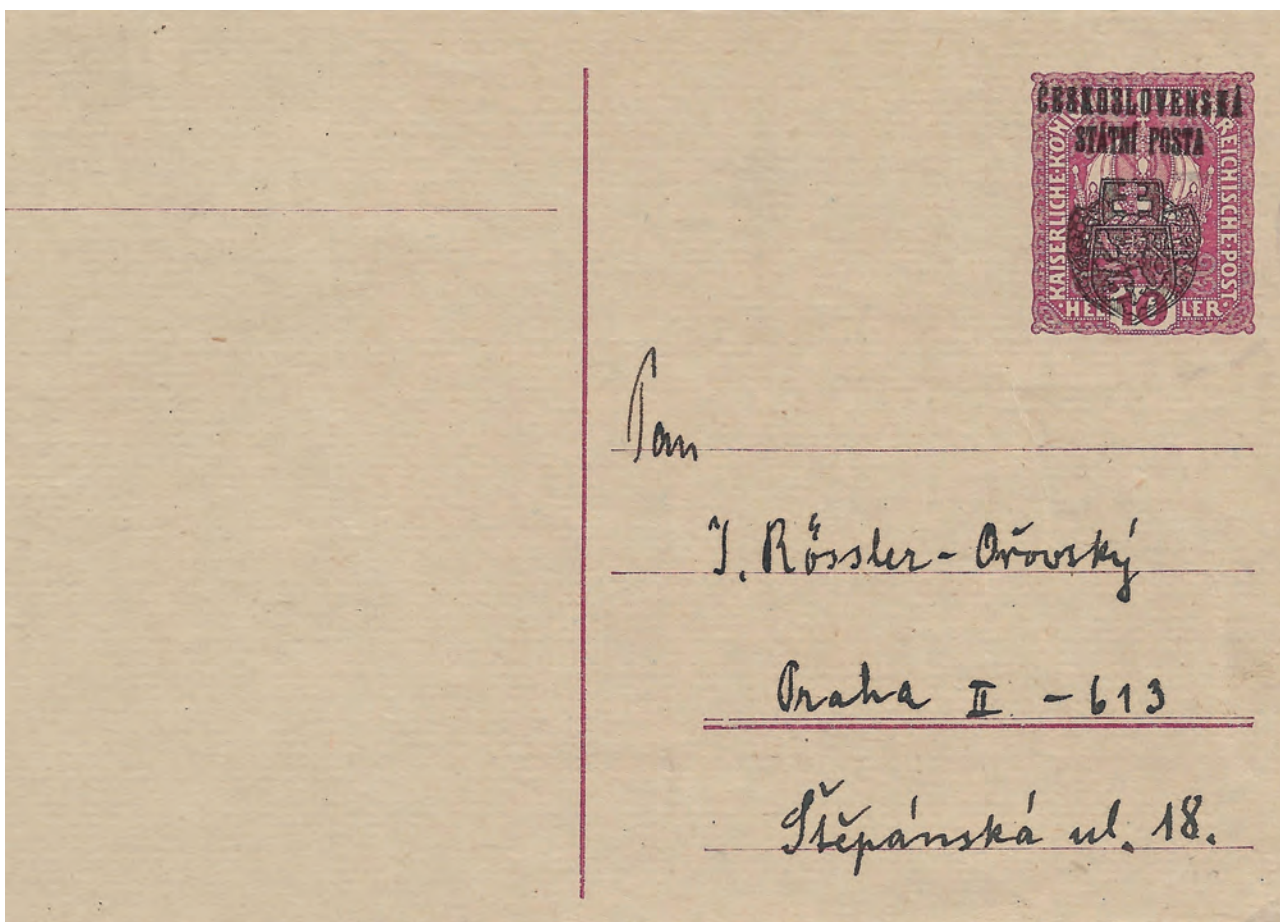


Type I



Type II

Second overprint of Prague. Edition for the National Committee (N.V.) or for the Directorate of Posts and Telegraphs.



Postal stationery 10 heller, with overprint "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA", addressed to J. Rössler Ořovský as a member of the National Revolutionary Committee. 18 Štěpánská street, 18.11.18.



R. Ořovský.



J.L. Rössler drugstore on the left of the photograph.



Registered envelope with Austrian franking overprinted "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA", 2nd issue, addressed to the drugstore of J.L. Rössler, Štěpánská street. 14.11.18.

In this impression, again, the first letter "V" of the third line of the surcharge is sometimes shifted slightly below the rest of the line.

Second impression:

- (a) The impression is much stronger and pressed;
- (b) The tear in the upper right corner of the shield has been repaired by adding metal to the electroplating, but the repair is clearly visible:
- (c) The word "PROVISORNÍ" in the first line of the overburden shows a very clear break, the two letters "O" and "R" being separated by a space of half a millimetre:
- (d) The "V" in "VLÁDA" is clearly below the regular printing line, and II due to production at two different printers.





Registered envelope with Austrian franking overprinted "ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA", 2nd issue, addressed to the drugstore of J.L. Rössler, Štěpánská street. 14.11.18.

In 1892, the first skis were imported by count Jan Harrach (for the use of forestry workers) to Jilemnice in the Giant Mountains. The first races were organised there, the first independent Czech Ski Association was founded and the first international competitions were organised there, with the participation of Josef Rössler-Ořovský, who took over the presidency of the Association after Jan Buchar (founding member).

REVOLUTIONARY OVERPRINTS (2ND PRAGUE REVOLUTIONARY ISSUE)

The lower values of Austrian stamps were overprinted and submitted to the National Council for approval.

This issue was produced in the same values as the twenty-one Austrian stamps of the first issue. This time, the coat of arms is much larger than the previous one, but executed in typography with the same detail and perfection. In the centre of the coat of arms is the Czech lion with the double tail, crowned by the coat of arms of Slovakia with the St. Stephen's cross with double horizontal blades crowning the three symbolic peaks of the Tatra Mountains.



To the right and left of this main motif, two other coats of arms of the Ruthenian and Polish minorities, completing the Czechoslovak nationalities, on a background of lime leaves, the emblem of Czechoslovakia. This is surmounted by the two-line legend in narrow, thin characters: “ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA” Czechoslovak State Post.

There are two types of this manual surcharge with the following characteristics:

TYPE 1:

- 1.- The distance between the bottom of the text STÁTNÍ POŠTA to the top of the coat of arms is 2 ¼ mm.
- 2.- A cut appears in the centre of the coat of arms outline.
- 3.- The accent above the A's is not placed on them.

TYPE 2:

- 1.- The distance between the bottom of the text STÁTNÍ POŠTA to the top of the coat of arms is 2 ¾ mm.
- 2.- The outline of the coat of arms is not cut off.
- 3.- The accents above the letters Á are not in contact.

The text and coat of arms used to print the first revolutionary issue of Prague was criticised because it did not reflect the union of Czechs and Slovaks in one state. It was J. Rössler Ořovský who ordered the issue of a second revolutionary issue from Prague, which bore the text: “ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ STÁTNÍ POŠTA” (Czechoslovak State Post Office) and the coat of arms of the legionnaires. This inscription in no way indicated the republican character of the new state, which was crucial at a time when there was a desire to make an immediate break with the Habsburg monarchy, so the government also refused to issue this provisional issue.

The printing of the stamps was not very clear due to weak inking, light pressure, and wear of the stamps. There were also some blocked “S” letters in the word “STÁTNÍ”. This overprint also appears on Hungarian stamps (Skalice issue).



Jan Štenc.



Overprint test type 1.



Czech revolutionary overprint on Austrian express 2 heller stamp.



Registered envelope from the main Post office 12.11.18 to Vienna. Overprint type 1.



Registered envelope with Austrian franking overprinted types 1 and 2, addressed to J.L. Rössler (drugstore). 14.11.1918.





REVOLUTIONARY OVERPRINTS (SLOVAKIA)

HUNGARIAN FRANKING - ŠROBÁR issue (authorised). 1918-1919.

Immediately after the break-up of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the birth of the new Czechoslovak Republic: several broadcasts were made in Slovakia, a former Hungarian province, the so-called “Šrobár” programme, officially designed for Slovakia.

In application of the law of December 10, 1918, voted by the National Assembly in Prague by the minister plenipotentiary of Slovakia, Dr. Vavro Šrobár was authorised to have Hungarian postage stamps, which still remained in the Post offices of Slovakian towns, overprinted for the territory of Slovakia by an overprint proclaiming the change of power. Empowered with this authority, the minister immediately ordered four zinc overprint clichés from the graphic arts workshop Jan Štenc in Prague: one of them was intended for overprinting large-format stamps, another for small-format stamps, a third for overprinting postcards, envelopes, and stationery, and the last one for the needs of the postal service. The entire order was sent on January 10, 1919 directly to the minister of the city of Žilina at the royal seat of government in Slovakia.

At that time, Bratislava, the capital of Slovakia, located on the Czech-Hungarian border, was not considered absolutely safe in these still turbulent times (in 1920 Czechoslovakia still had to support a military campaign against Hungary). Mr. Klenka, the postmaster in Žilina was entrusted with this task, which he requested to the Hubert Pokorný printing house in Žilina, to which all supplies of Hungarian stamps from the Post offices of Slovakia's major cities were sent for overprinting. The supply of stamps for overprinting included 170 sheets of different values of Hungarian stamps, then 95 sheets from Bratislava were added.

The overprint included the three-line text “ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA”, (Czechoslovak Post) in bold capital letters 2 mm high for common small-format stamps and 2,5 mm high for double long-format stamps. The stamps of this issue were sold in most of the main cities of Slovakia, except Košice and other cities in eastern Slovakia, and were used until the second half of April 1919. Until they gave way to the definitive and regular stamps of the Czechoslovak Republic.

On October 30, the Slovak National Council announced the creation of Czechoslovakia, and on November 3, the Villa Giusti armistice was signed between Austria-Hungary and Italy.

On October 31, 1918, Austro-Hungarian and Italian generals met at Villa Giusti outside Padua to begin discussions on peace terms. In agreement with the Allies, Italy presented the Habsburg Empire with an armistice based on the demands of the Treaty of London.

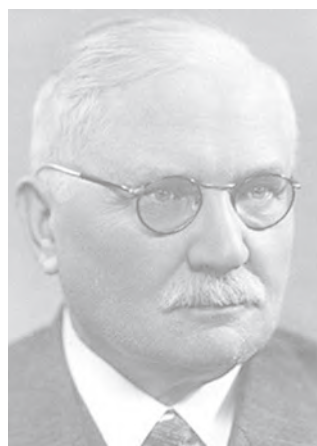
During this brief “revolutionary” period of change and transfer of power, a great deal of correspondence from both official institutions and private individuals circulated throughout the territory of the former empire addressed to the National Committee and its members.



Hungarian postal stationery with overprint ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA, complemented with Czech 15 heller stamp addressed to Milde & Rössler (apothekary) with order for products.



Hungarian postal stationery with overprint ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA, complemented with Czech 5 heller stamp addressed to the drugstore of J. Rössler Oroosky in Prague. Ordered on the reverse.



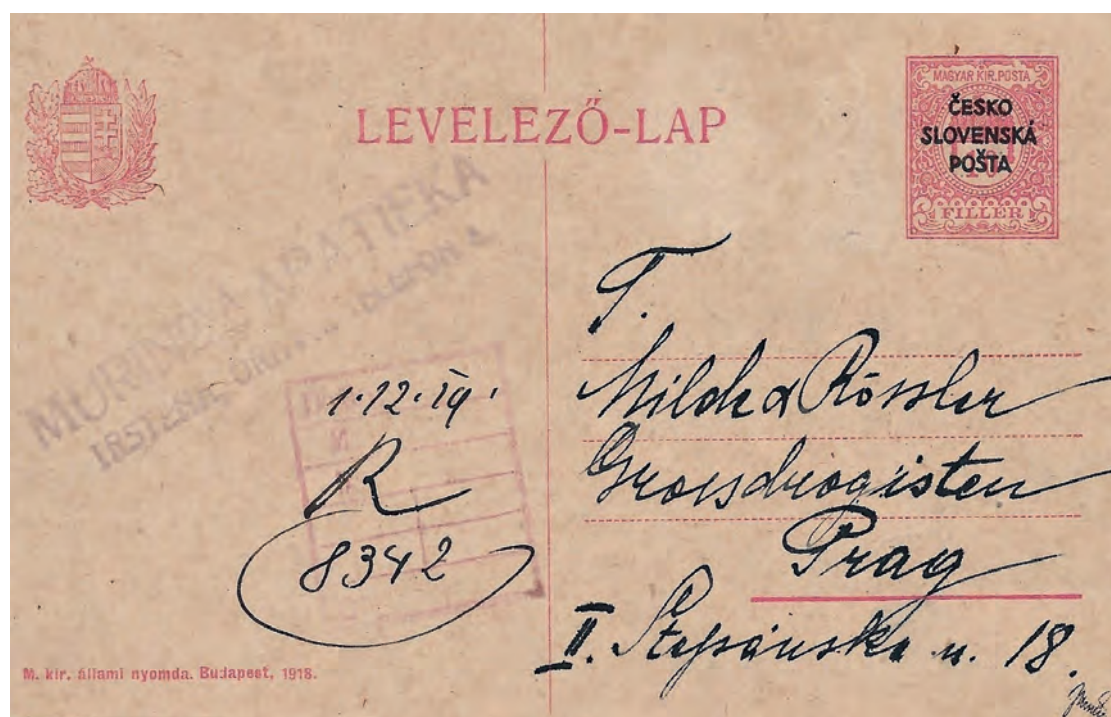
Dr. Vavro Šrobár.



Proof overprint on card stock ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA.



Stamp of 10 filler with overprint ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA.



Hungarian postal stationery with overprint ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA, destined for the J. Rössler Ořovský drugstore in Prague. Order on the back.

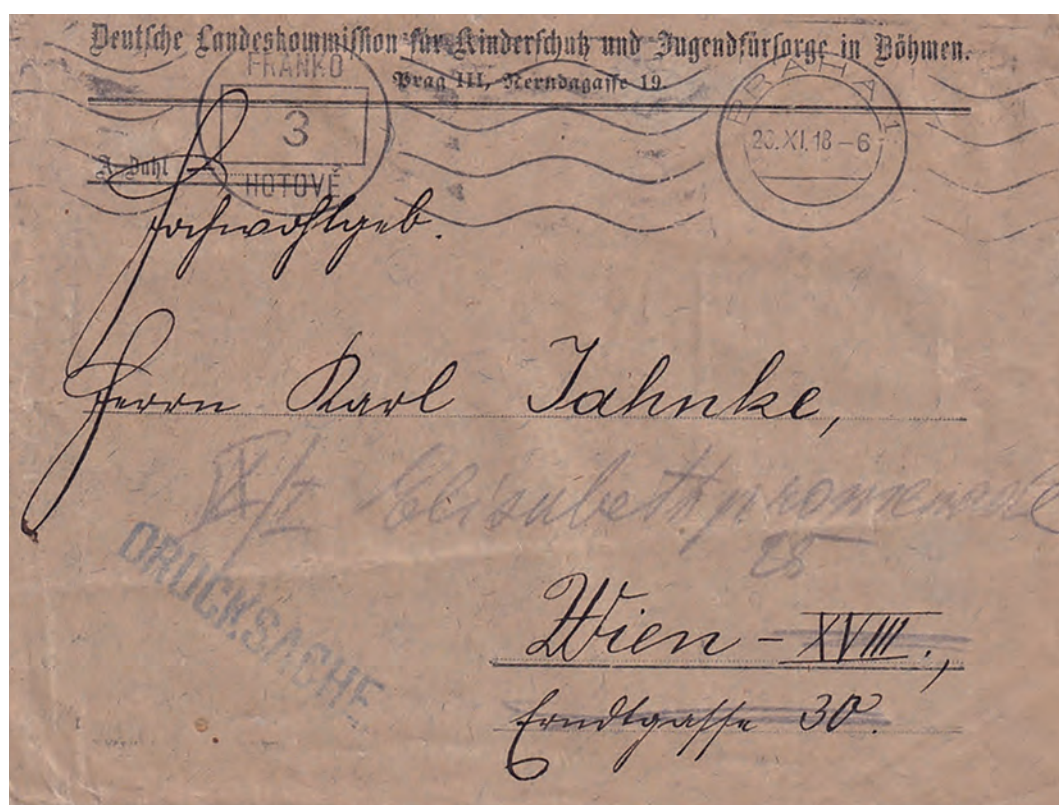
A reminder of the turbulent and convulsive times were the envelopes and correspondence that circulated with the complicity and connivance of the Czech postmen, bearing the stamp of that new nationalist spirit that the State had been promoting with vivacity since the creation of the Czech National Committee in Paris on September 3, 1918, which became the embryo of the country's future government.

Until May 15, 1919, fares corresponded to the full fare. After that date, the tariff corresponds to the pneumatic delivery surcharge, which is higher than the regular postal tariff.

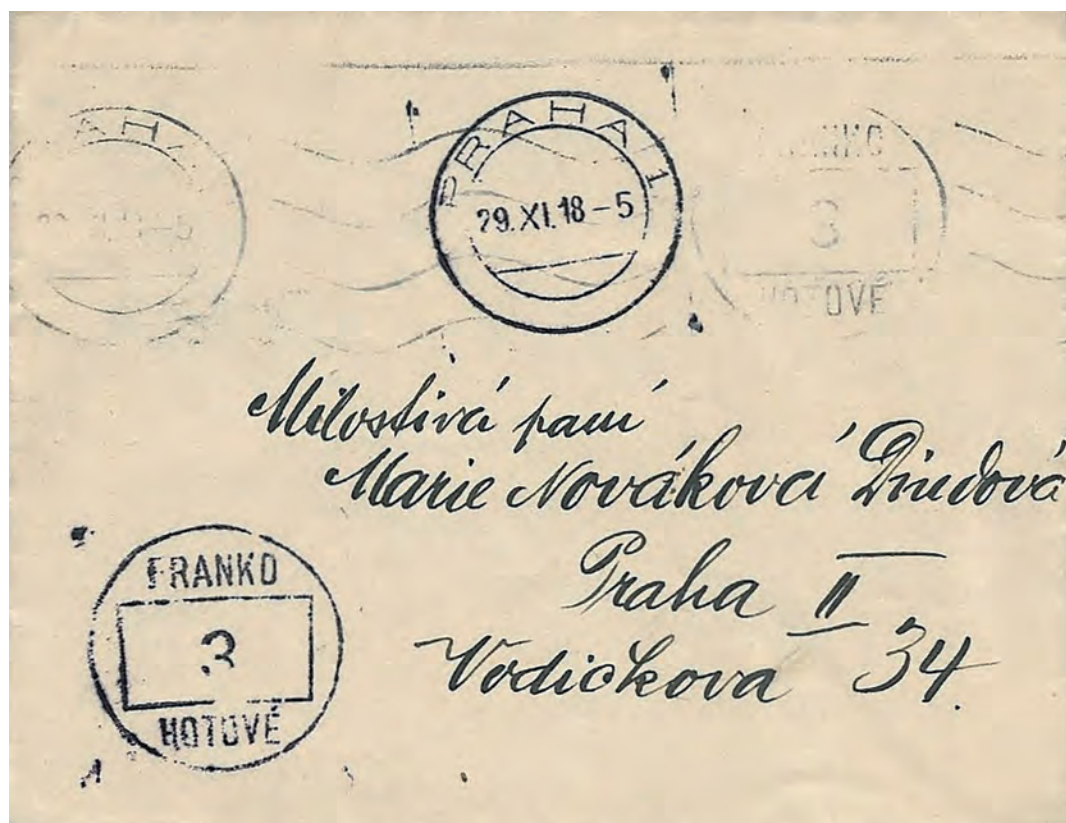




Envelope franked with overprint Hungarian stamps ČESKO SLOVENSKÁ POŠTA, addressed to the President of the Scouts at his home address in Prague, 44 Palackého nábřeží.



Envelope of the "German state commission for child protection and youth welfare in Bohemia". Postage prepaid "franko" roller "Praba" in Czech. November 23, 1918. Addressed to Vienna.



Envelope with postage paid in cash 29.11.18, when no stamp of the new Czechoslovak State had yet been issued. Hand rubber stamp and "franko" roller plus cancellation "Praha" in Czech.



Envelope franked at Gross Heilendorf-Postřelmov, locality in the Šumperk district in the Olomuc region, addressed to the public office, in pencil National Committee.





Plaque on Jungmannova street in Prague.



Envelope postage paid in cash 17.11.18. no stamp of the new State of Czechoslovakia had yet been issued. manual rubber stamp "Franko" plus bilingual cancellation "Praba", with part in German crossed out.

Českým poštovním zaměstnancům. Československý stát stal se skutečností. Dali jsme včera Národnímu výboru, naší to národní vládě, za vás slib, že ze všech sil přispějeme k tomu, aby klid a pořádek na poštách, pak bezpečnost poštovní, telegrafní a telefonní dopravy za všech okolností byly zaručeny. Až na další dbejte pokynů a rozkazů dosavadních svých představených. Národní výbor, jenž uznal organizace a s nimiž společně pracuje, vykoná další opatření. Máme za to, že slib za vás daný plně a oddaně splníte. Česká poštovní unie.

Czech postal employees.

The Czechoslovak State became a reality. Yesterday we gave the National Committee, our national government, a promise on its behalf that we will do everything possible to ensure that peace and order in post offices, as well as the safety of postal, telegraph and telephone traffic, are guaranteed in all circumstances. Until further notice, follow the instructions and orders of your previous superiors. The National Committee, which has recognized the organizations and works with them, will take further action. We believe that you will fully and faithfully fulfill the promise made by you.

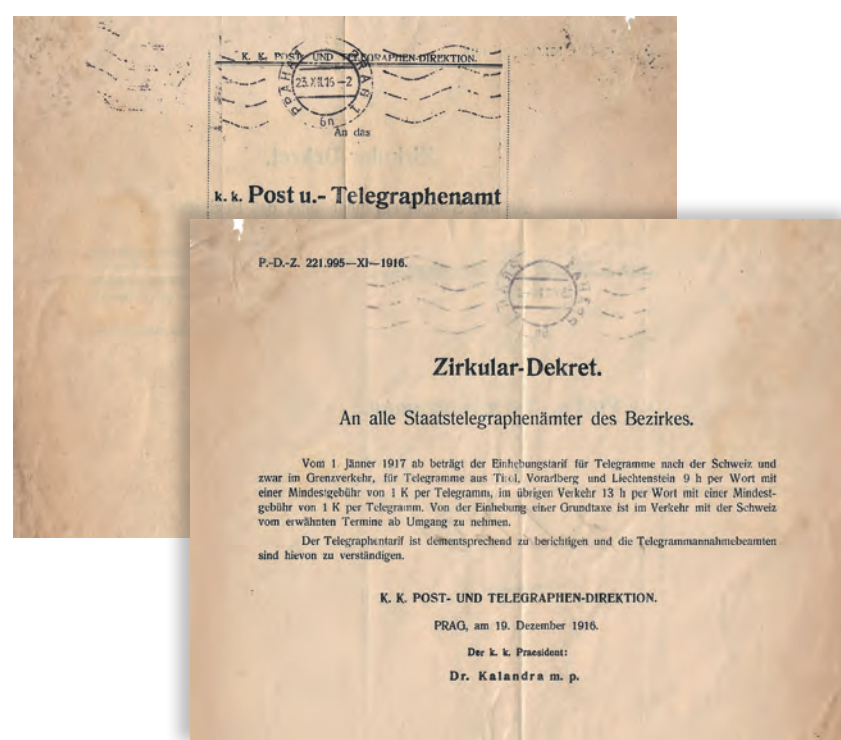
Czech Postal Union.



Reverse of envelope.

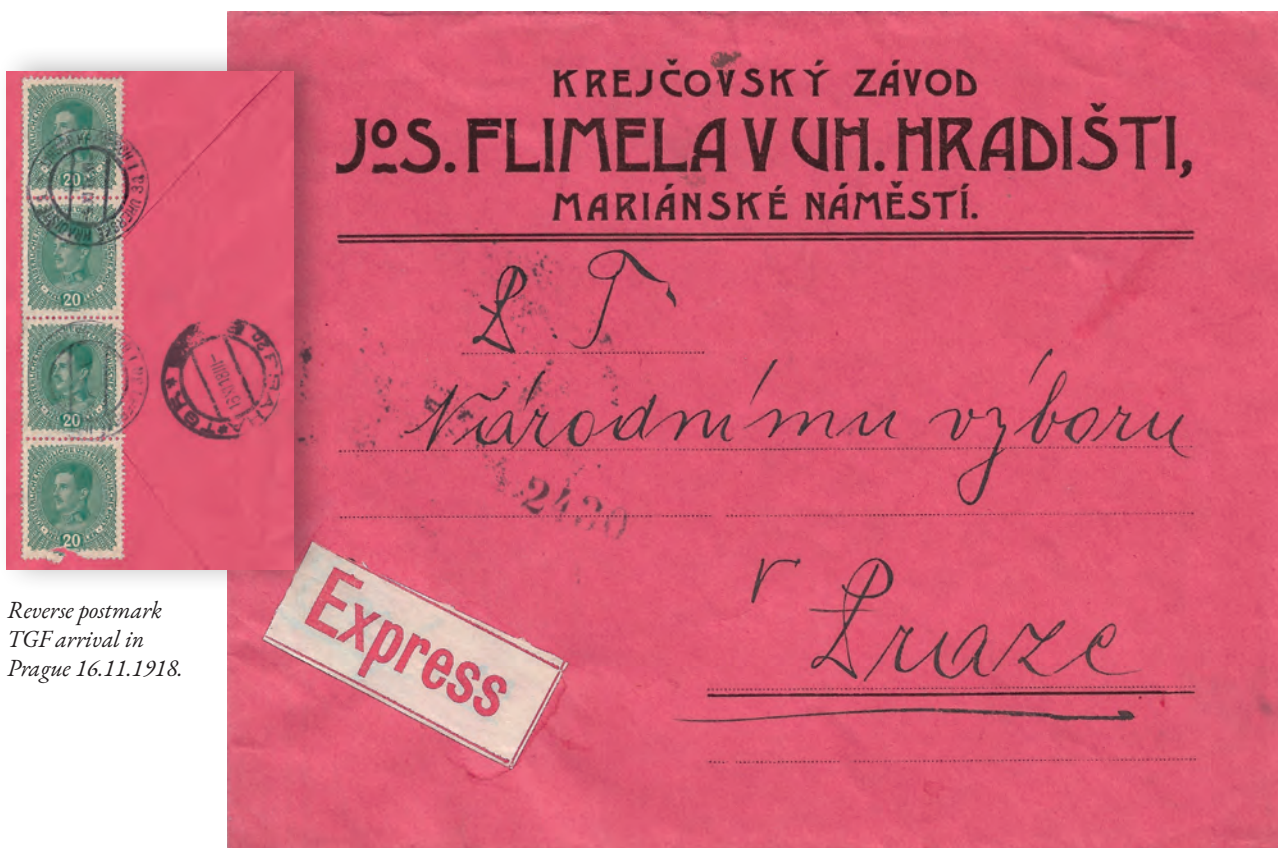


Registered letter from Reichenberg, a municipality located in the district of Würzburg, in the federal state of Bavaria (Germany) addressed to the Glorious National Committee of the State of Czechoslovakia in Prague. 23.11.1918.



During the period in which the war was taking place, the postal and telegraph rates were gradually modified and although the urgent postal rates in Prague were identical to those in Vienna until the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic. Regulations were decreed, in this case to all state telegraph offices, notifying Switzerland of the increase in collection rates for telegrams, specifically in the border traffic for telegrams from Tyrol, Vorarlberg and Liechtenstein from January 1, 1917.

K. k. Post and Telegraph directorate.
Prague, December 19, 1916.
The k. k. President:
Dr. Kalandra



Reverse postmark
TGF arrival in
Prague 16.11.1918.

There was correspondence which, although circulating within the revolutionary period, was not handled by the Scout Postal service, such as this express envelope sent to the Prague National Committee from Uherské Hradiště, a town 80 km from Brno in the Zlín region.



Registered envelope from the Prague complaints commission addressed to the National Committee (official matter exempt from postage). 11.11.18.





AUSTRO-CZECHOSLOVAK DOMESTIC POSTAL RATES 1918 - 1919

The below rates have been announced on October 1, 1918 by the Austrian Postal Administration for all the Austro-Hungarian territories supplied by the Austrian postmen. When Czechoslovakia was declared on October 28, 1918, the postal rates become valid on all the Czechoslovak territory including Slovakia and Ruthenia. The postal rates were replaced as at May 15, 1919 by the new ones.

Mail Class	Postal Rate
Printed matter	Ordinary PM: 3 Heller; high priority PM: 5 Heller
Blind mail	3 Heller
Business papers	5 Heller, but minimum 25 Heller per 1 piece of mail
Samples without value	5 Heller, but minimum 10 Heller per 1 piece of mail
Postcard	10 Heller
Letter	20 Heller (up to 20 grams); + 5 Heller for each 20 grams
Registration surcharge	+ 25 Heller
Special delivery (exprés) surcharge	+ 60 Heller
Insured letter (mailed closed)	Rate of a registered letter + the insurance premium: 10 Heller for each 300 K value
Insured letter (mailed open)	Rate of a registered letter + the insurance premium: 15 Heller for each 300 K value
Parcels	Up to 5 kg: 1 K up to 10 kg: 2,20 K up to 15 kg: 3,20 K up to 20 kg: 4,20 K
Money orders	Basic fee of 25 Heller for the first 50 K of the transferred amount + 5 Heller each 50 K amount exceeding the basic fee





Letter addressed to the head of the National Committee sent from the district of Josefov on 11.11.18 with Austrian stamp on the back of 20 heller.

Reverse side of the letter sent to the National Committee. Circulated during the period of the Scout Postal service, but not delivered by them.



Envelope, addressed to the National Committee presidency (Harrachův Palace).





Express envelope sent to Cyril Dušek, member of the revolutionary National Assembly. Pneumatic mail, franking 80 heller, which conforms to postal tariff. Postmark NOVA KDYNĚ / 31.10.18, pneumatic mail numerator 443. On the reverse pneumatic mail TGF (Telegraph and Post) Prague / 1.11.18, and corresponds to the office from which the pneumatic mail was sent.



Cyril Dušek.



Reverse.





7 - CZECH SCOUT POST TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE





OCTOBER 1918

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER 1918

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

POSTMARKS AND MARKS USED IN THE POSTAL SERVICE TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

1st Scout Post	Rubber 32 mm	1914/18 gP	Black - Violet
Prague Scout HQ.	Rubber 37 x 22 mm	7/ 25 Nov. 1918	Red - Black
National Committee	Metal 24 mm	7/ 25 Nov. 21/12/18	Red - Black - Violet
Scout Post Prague	Rubber 30 mm	7/ 25 Nov. 21/12/18	Red - Black - Violet
National Committee	Rubber 48 x 26 mm	7/ 25 Nov. 21/12/18	Red - Black - Violet
Arrival of president Masaryk	Metal 1.- 12,5 mm 2.- 18,5 mm 3.- 19,1 mm	21 Dec. 1918	Red - Black
Delivered by received by	Rubber 70 x 14 mm	7/ 25 Nov. 21/12/18	Red - Black - Violet

Service for the National Committee began on the evening of October 28, 1918. At that time, independent Czechoslovak military units began to receive information from Střelecký Ostrov (shooter's island) who took part in this action, together with military personnel, members of the Sokol and Scouts.

With the approval of the Prague National Committee, the Scouts served as couriers, delivering verbal and written messages to and for members of the resistance, Maffie, revolutionary government, and newly established Prague National Committee. The reason was that at that time the ordinary Austrian postal service (under police control) did not offer sufficient guarantee, security, speed, and confidentiality.

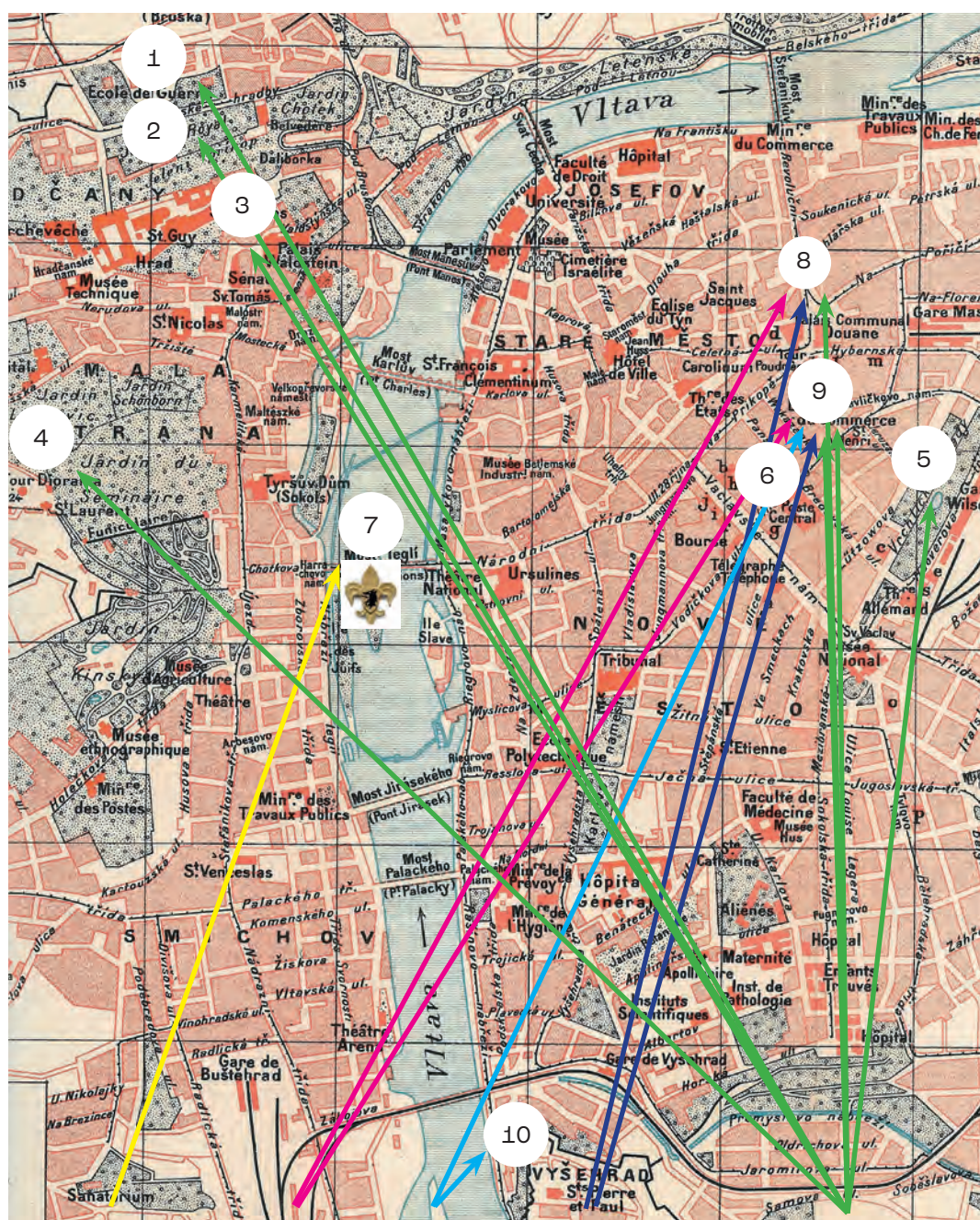


Scout messengers carried out postal service by bicycle, on foot, by tram...



Envelope delivered by Scout Marika on 9.11.18. Received by Marie Knížková in Dejvice, Prague district.





Headquarter of Scouts.

Type B.

Type A.

National Committee.

Type II.

Type I.

Map of the distribution of the Scout Post in the city of Prague, 1918.

- 1.- The Cadet Academy
- 2.- The Prague Castle
- 3.- The Parliament
- 4.- Petrin Tower Telegraph
- 5.- The Railway Station

- 6.- Post and Telegraph office headquarter of Scouts
- 7.- Riflemen's Island
- 8.- The City Hall
- 9.- National Committee
- 10.- The Czech Yacht Club





Reverse side of identity card N.V., with oval postmark of the Prague National Committee.



Identity card: Citizen J. Rössler Ořovský is empowered to maintain peace and order on behalf of the National Committee. Delivered by scout Šourka. Signed Jan Malý.





Stamp of 3 pence 1900. Robert Baden - Powell, 1857 - 1941. Founder of Scouting.



One penny stamp with the image of sergeant major Goodyear. Blue paper. 1900. In the Anglo-Boer War.

After the proclamation of the republic, one of the headquarters of the Czech Scouts was established there in the service of the National Committee.

With their National Council identification badges, they had day and night free access to all members of the National Committee, then the acting government.

Although not comparable, there is a precedent for voluntary postal service by young people. It took place in April 1900 during the 217-day Boer siege of the British colony of Mafeking.

Garrison commander Baden Powell, later founder of Scouting and world Scout leader, organised a group of young people to deliver important messages. Letters and cards delivered by this means were franked with 1d stamps, showing sergeant major Goodyear on a bicycle, or with a 3d stamp with the effigy of Baden Powell.

START OF SERVICE:

OCTOBER 28 - (MUNICIPAL HOUSE) OBECNÍ DŮM

OCTOBER 31 - HARRACHŮV PALACE

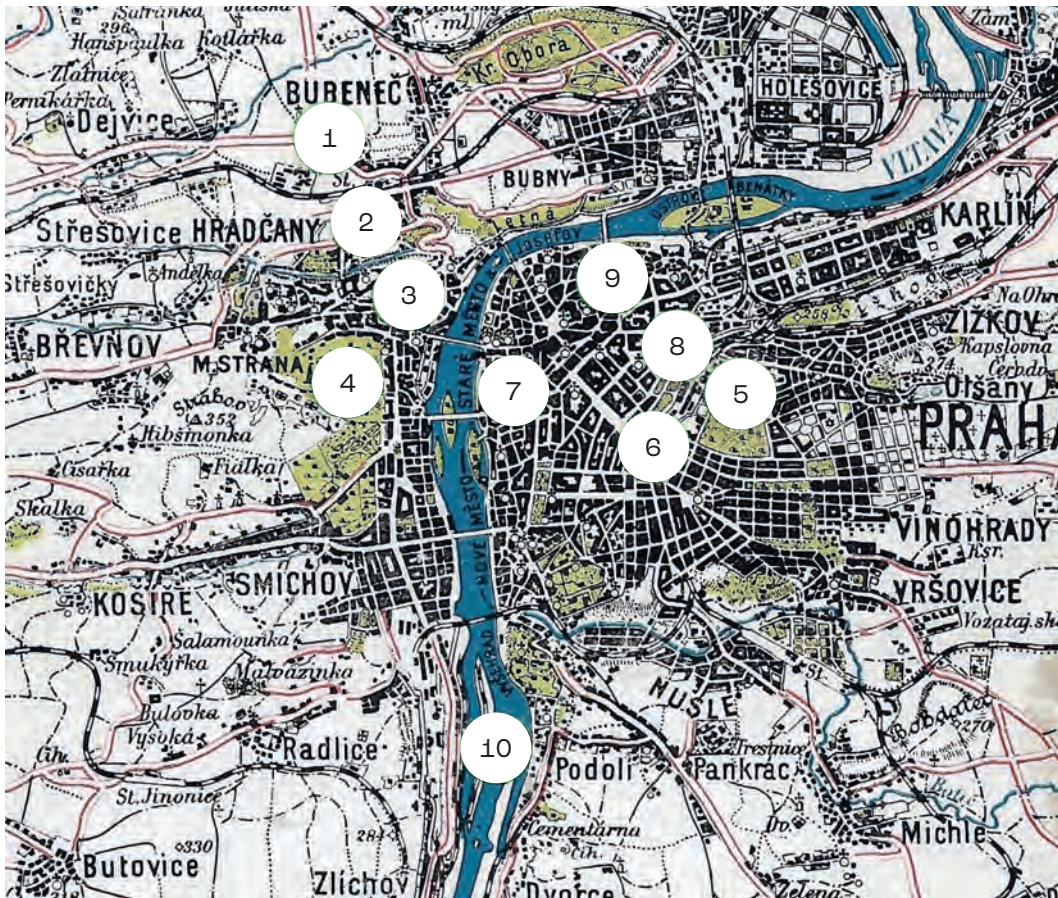
NOVEMBER 10 - CADET ACADEMY

NOVEMBER 13 - PARLIAMENT

NOVEMBER 16 - 2ND SCOUT OFFICE - CASTLE

END OF SERVICE:

NOVEMBER 25 - AFTERNOON



1. Prazská Kadetní Skola. - Kadetka. Cadet Academy.
2. Prazský Hrad. Prague Castle.
3. Snemovna (Thunský Palác). Parliament.
4. Rozhledna Na Petříně. Petrín Telegraph Tower.
5. Hlavní (Wilsonovo) Nádraží. Railway Station.
6. Harrachův Palác. Jindřišská ulice 20. National Committee Headquarters. Velitelství Skautů. Scout Headquarters.
7. Střeleckém Ostrove. Shooters' Island. Velitelství Skautů. Scout Headquarters.
8. Hlavní Pošta. - Jindřišská ulice 14. Post Office and Telephone.
9. Obecní Dům. Náměstí Republiky 5. Municipal House.
10. Podolí. The Czech Yacht Club.



Envelope addressed to Jan Chmel, sausage manufacturer, in the district of Karlín. Delivered by hand by the scout Pánka (Pánek), on 9.11.1918.



Czech philatelic club label from Prague. Since 1887.



Czech philatelic club, label from Prague. 1 Halč.



Envelope sent to Jaroslav Leštický as director of the Post office headquarters in Královské Vinohrady. The word "Post Office" has been crossed out for forwarding to his home address at 4 Šmilovského street, the letter is franked with the 20 heller stamp in pale pink, postmarked with "POŠTA SKAUTŮ" in black ink on the eve of the end of the service Scout Postal (24.11.18), and it is indicated: Osobně!. Delivery in person!.

NEIGHBOURHOODS OF PRAGUE IN 1918

Hradčany: 5,843 h.

Nové Město: 76,001 h.

Josefov: 11,522 h.

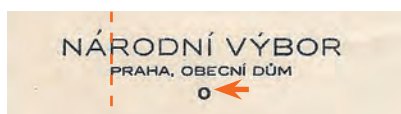
Staré Město: 42,337 h.

Malá Strana: 20,709 h.

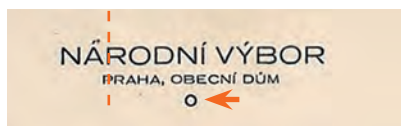
Vyšehrad: 4,546 h.

The formation of independent Czechoslovakia during and immediately after 1918 changed the nature and function of Prague Lesser Town's palaces and landmarks. If during the war many buildings (churches, gymnasiums, chapels, libraries, convents) had been used as makeshift hospitals, now many others were placed at the disposal of the new institutions of the newly created state and foreign diplomatic offices.

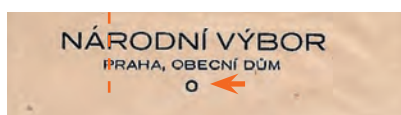
After the coup d'état, the National Committee used various types of envelopes with the letterhead "Národní Výbor" stamped on the top left or on the back for correspondence in the first days of the republic, both at the Municipal House and a few days later at the Harrach Palace.



Municipal House (paper with heavier weight), model I, type I.



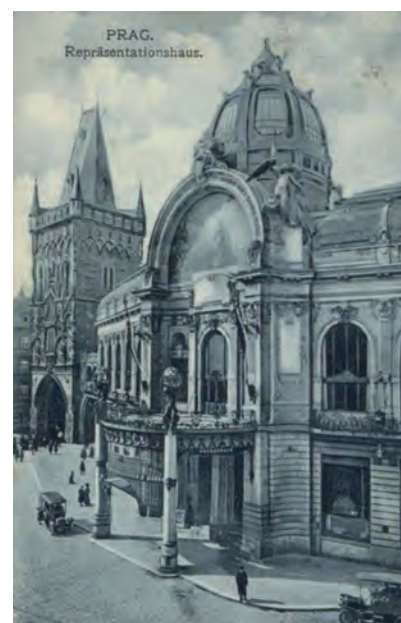
Municipal House (paper with heavier weight), model I, type II.



Municipal House. Different type of envelope (coloured paper and lighter weight), model I, type II.



Municipal House (heavier paper) model I, type II. Letterhead on the back of the envelope, closing flap.



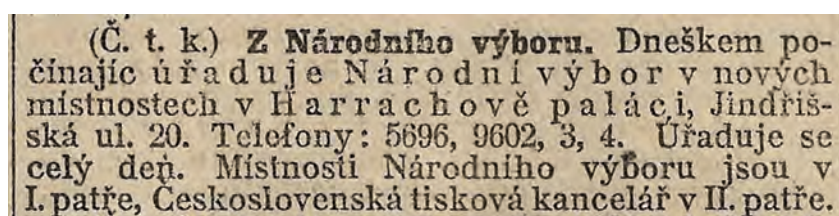
Obecní dům (Municipal House).



Municipal House. (heavier paper) model II, less frequent.



Harrach Palace, model I.



31.10.1918. Národní politika.

(Č.t.k.). From the National Committee. As of today, the National Committee is in its new offices at the Harrach Palace, 20 Jindřišská street. Telephones: 5696, 9602, 3, 4. He is in his office all day. On the first floor are the rooms of the National Committee and on the second floor the Czechoslovak press office.



Harrachův Palace, 20 Jindřišská street (1918).



Harrachův Palace, 20 Jindřišská street (2017).





Envelope on National Committee (Municipal House) letterhead model I, type II., addressed to Josef Rössler Ořovský. Manuscript in latin (in hand). Postmarked with N.V.

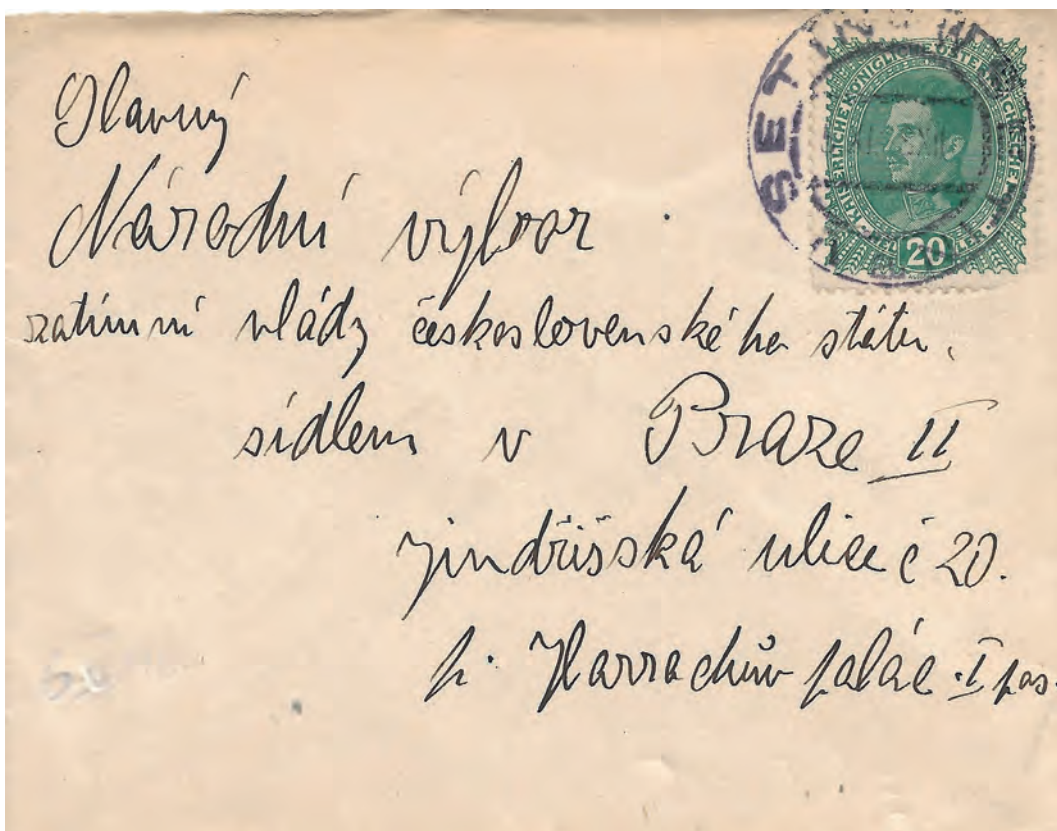


Registered envelope with mixed postage sent on 11.11.1918 from Wekelsdorf (near the border with Poland). Delivered by scout Böhma, received by Ořovský on 12.11.1918.





Envelope with the head of the National Committee, addressed to the table of the press commission of the Czechoslovak National Committee. Delivered by scout Nušla on 15.11.1918.



Envelope sent from Vsetín, district of the Zlín region, Czech Republic, 6.11.1918, addressed to the National Committee of the Czechoslovak State. Harrachův Palace in Jindřišská street, 20.



Letter sent to the president of the Czech Scouts Rössler Ořovský, to the headquarters of the National Committee, Harrachův Palace. Delivered by scout Nuša on 16.11.1918, received by Rössler.



Registered envelope in Příbram. Town south-west of Prague, addressed to the National Committee presidency (Harrachův Palace). Delivered by scout Zelený on 16.11.18.



Reverse: Austrian stamps.

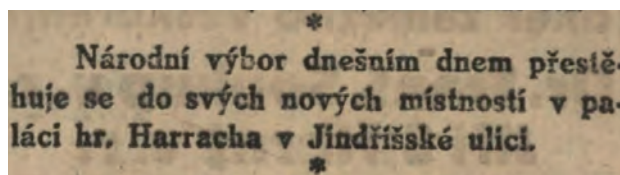




Olympic flag flies on the balcony of Harrachův Palace.



Plaque on Jindřišská street in Prague.



Národní Listy 30.10.1918. Today the National Committee moves to its new rooms in the Harrach Palace on Jindřišská street.



Main Post and Telegraph Office near Harrach Palace, Jindřišská street, headquarters of the National Committee.



Back.

Registered envelope from Prague to the National Committee in Žamberk, on letterhead of the National Committee (Harrachův Palace), with official business mark free of postage. Reverse franked with 20 h. stamp and postmarked N.V.





It was in two rooms of the magnificent Art Nouveau building (Obecní dům), the Prague Municipal House, Náměstí Republiky 5, that the then Government, called the National Committee, was established. From October 28, 1918, the task of the Scouts there was to guard the entrance to the members of the Government and to bring order to the crowds of people who crowded curiously at the entrance to the building, the young Girl Guides sewed badges in the national colours for the state police officers, distributed news to newspaper editors, while others stayed in Scout headquarters organizing courses in first aid, sexual health, child care, and older ones took part in kindergartens and the mother and baby shelter in the Strašnice cadastral district of Prague. From the Municipal House, leaflets about the new republic were distributed all over Prague, and the first Scout Post office was established.

After a few days, the presidency of the National Committee moved, with the help of the Scouts, to the Harrachův Palace at 20 Jindřišská street.

Junák Czech Scouts. Czechoslovakia.

The press office announces: From Wednesday 30th, all Czech Scouts are at the service of the National Committee. Part of the Municipal House is available for the chief leader professor Svojsík, the second part under the command of the second leader in the Old Town Hall. Both groups from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Svojsík top leader, Rössler Ořovský chief.

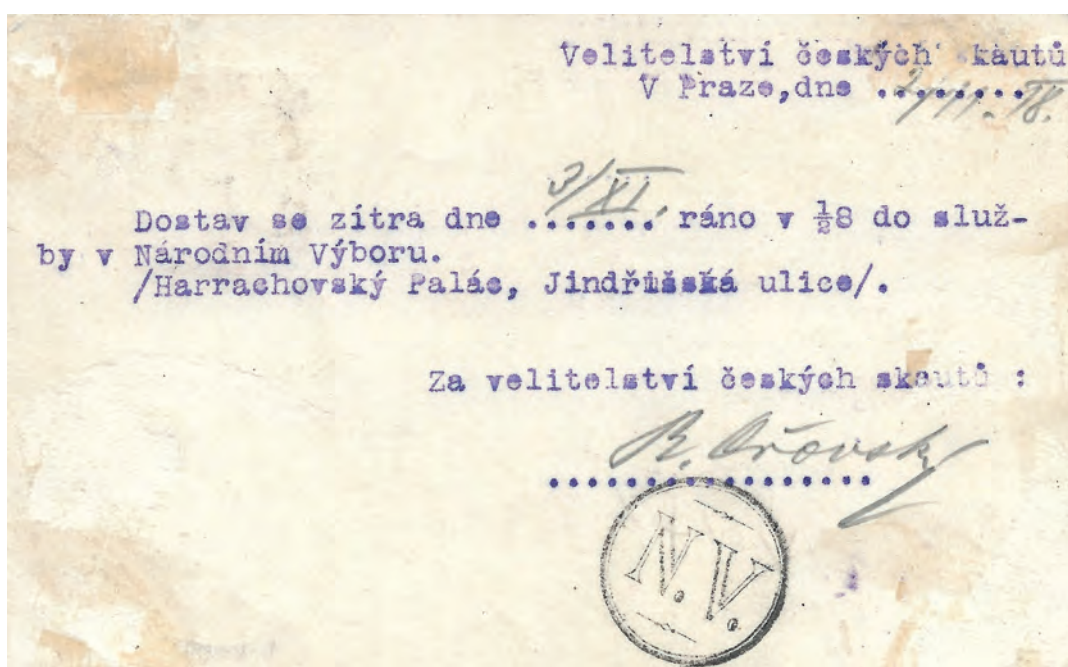
After a few days, on October 30, and because the Municipal House was the centre of Prague's social and cultural life, the headquarters of the National Committee was moved and started operating immediately in the old baroque palace in Harrachův. Dr. Deym placed it at the disposal of the National Committee, despite its poor state of repair, but it was the Scouts who were responsible for the removal and transfer, together with the post office from the Municipal House to the new building. They equipped the rooms with furniture, provided firewood, installed an entrance door, built a guard house and set up a sorting room as a post office for the mails. They sought out Girl Guides and students to type documents and do translations.

As a first step, the Scout Post office was set up here and operated continuously day and night on the ground floor of the building. The National Committee rooms were located on the first floor, the press office on the first floor. The Scouts worked six-hour shifts.

Professor Dr. František Nušl was one of the first instructors for Scoutmasters in February 1913, he had two sons: František and Jan, who were outstanding - especially the latter - for their service and diligence in delivering Czech Scout Post to the National Committee.

From the earliest days of the postal service, summons cards were sent from the Scout headquarters to participants on official service (including the president of the Czech Scout Association J.R. Ořovský to his home address).

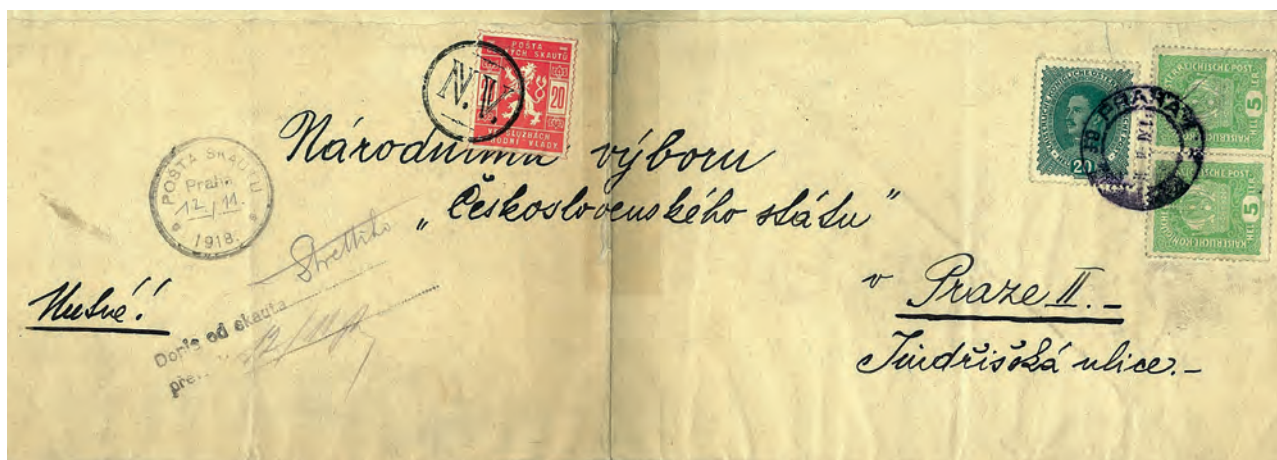
Translation of a page from the Scout chronicle of the Prague department of November 1918.



Card from the Czech Scout headquarters, dated 2.11.1918, in which the scout Nušl is summoned at 7.30 on 3.11.18 for service in the National Committee (Harrachův Palace). Handed over by scout Novák. The service officially started on 7 November 1918. Mr. Rössler Ořovský, Scoutmaster.



Dr. František Nušl.



A series of large envelopes (38 x 13.3 cm) were available to the postal service, in which correspondence and documentation was sent. Envelope with mixed franking addressed to the National Committee "Czechoslovak State" and postmarked in Prague on November 11. Delivered by Scout Strettibo on 12.11.18. Manuscript *Nutné!* (urgently needed). Received Rössler Ořovský.

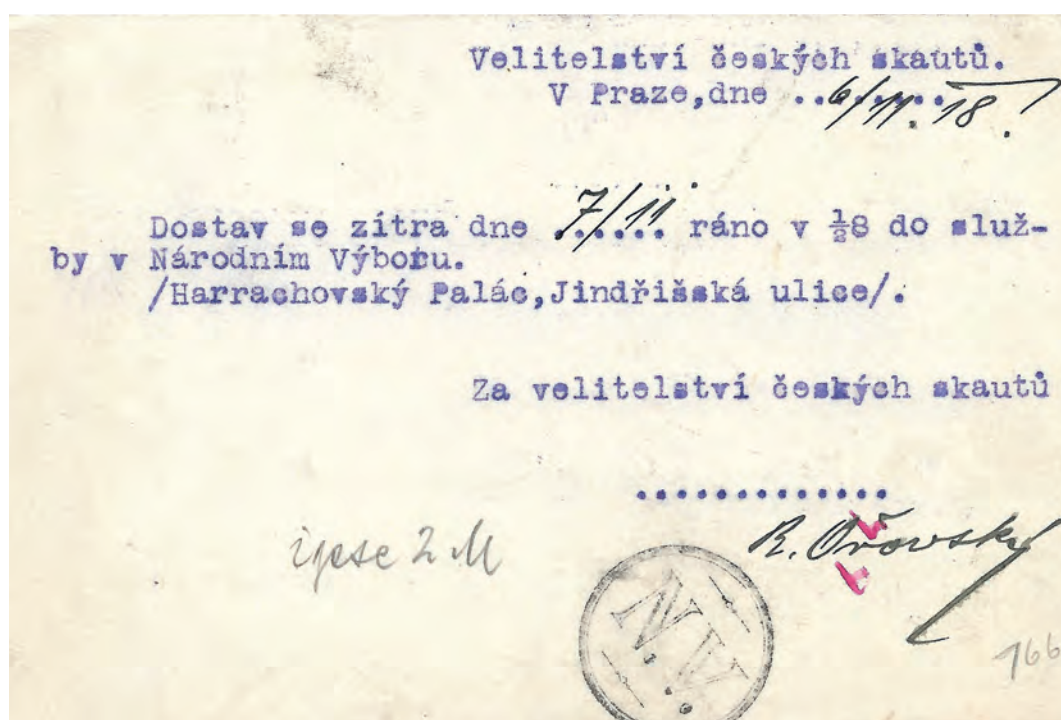
...our department carried out its work in the service of the National Council, fully aware of its duties. For this activity the older Scouts give up all their free time. We did not let the new arrivals; they were inexperienced and did not yet have Scout uniforms. We started our activity in Stará rychta on the morning of October 29, the chairman and honoured friend of our department Rössler-Ořovský senior and the supreme Scout leader A.B. Svojsík spoke to all the Scouts of Prague, from here we all marched to the headquarters of the provisional government, already allocated the obligatory places. The leader of the formation, Pepka*, a member of the department, carried the memorable Czech Olympic Flag. Our department was always stationed in the Municipal House, Harrach Palace or the Cadet School. The jobs we performed were diverse according to the needs: from unloading wood or working with weapons, to postal mail and various administrative office jobs. They were good times and happy days that we can never forget.

*Pepka: nickname, pet name of Ořovský junior, head of department of the first Scout department in Prague.

In Prague's Jindřišská street, next to the main Post Office, built in 1871, stood the Harrach Palace, where count Frederick, the protector of Slavic interests and particularly of the Czechs in Vienna resided. After the revolution, this palace briefly became the headquarters of the National Committee.

From October 29 to November 25, 1918, a permanent Scout service was established there, where there was a post office with a Scout mail collection and sorting room.

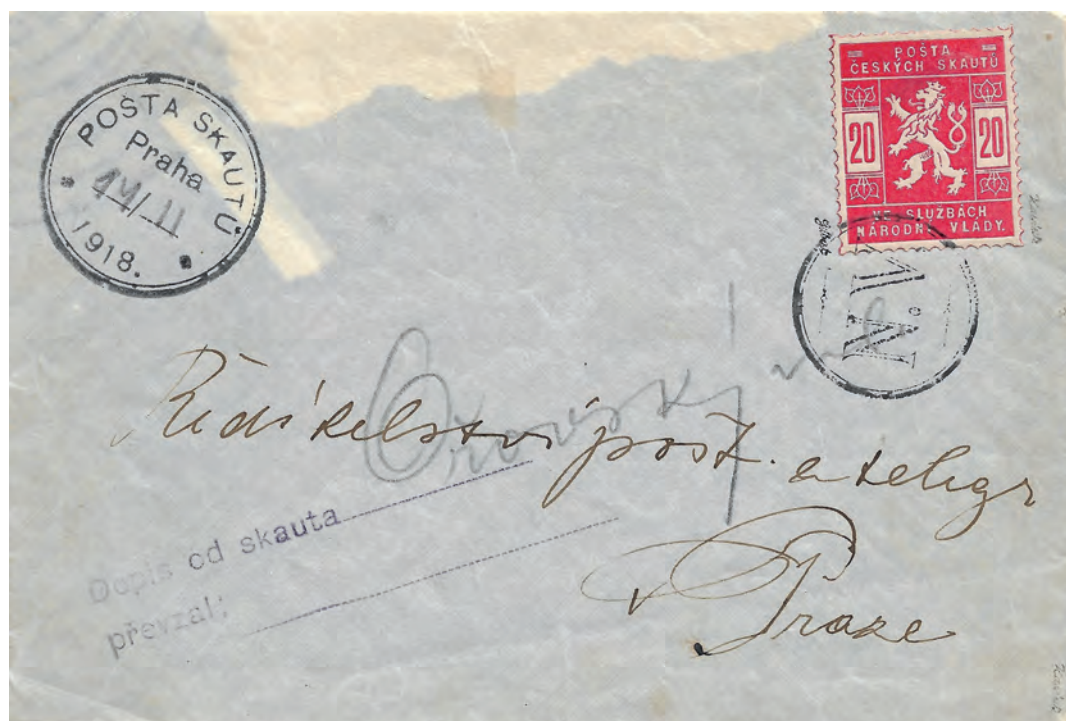




Come tomorrow, November 7, at 8:30 a.m. to serve on the National Committee. Harrachův Palace, Jindřišská street. Headquarters of the Czech Scouts.



Card sent to the home address of J. Rössler Ořovský, delivered by Nováka scout and signed by R. Ořovský on 6.11.18.



Envelope delivered by Ořovský junior on 14.11.18. Addressed to the main Post and Telegraph office.



Envelope addressed to the central Post and Telegraphs. With 10 heller postage in Prussian blue color. Delivered by the scout Nušla, on November 7, the day on which the postal service officially begins, although it had already been carried out before.





Envelope addressed to the Prague Post and Telegraph authority. Delivered by scout Šourek on 18.11.18.



Identification n° 1, of the member of the Scout Association of the Czechoslovak Republic, Jaroslav Strojník, without uniform, with scout emblem.



Identification with a blue triangular mark of the Junák Association, and the mark of the 4th Prague troop.



Card of the scout J. Kalous, leader of the 4th Prague detachment. Signed by Ořovský, Svojsík and Kalibera. Rectangular mark in red ink of the Scout presidency headquarters.



Free passes issued by the Prague Electric Railway Network were available to the Scouts, with the authorization of the National Committee. Oval cancel.



(1918) Photograph of the scouts Gotlib, Valenta and Weizenbauer who performed the Postal service for the National Committee.



LIST OF SCOUTS AND GUIDES WHO MADE THE POSTAL SERVICE FOR THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Scouts Messengers:

Bareš	Gregora	Marfk	Podolsky	Subrta
Bauer	Habrman, J	Mašek	Pospíšil	Šulc, Karel
Bláha	Hiller, Karel	Matejka	Prokop, Drtina	Šůsla
Blahoš	Hron	Nohejl	Prorháška	Svoboda
Blažek	Janda, Moloch	Nováček	Prošek	Svojsík
Böhm	Jirotka, Karel	Novák, Jaroslav (Bratka)	Rada	Syllaba, Jiří *
Bolen	Kaizer	Novosky	Rákosnika	Sýček
Bursík, B (Bohuslav)	Kaizla	Nušl, František	Rašín Jun. (Ladislav)	Tomesky
Chalupa, Eduard	Kalibera, J	Nušl, Jan	Říhalský	Tonda
Charvát, Josef	Karlík, J.	Ořovský, Jos	Rohlík	Topol
Dobry	Klíma, Vladimír	Ořovský, ml (Junior)	Roubal Jun.	Valenta
Domín, J	Kohl	Otta	Šalda	Vlk
Drtina, Prokop. Jun.	Koníček	Palacek	Sedlák	Weizenbauer
Dub	Král, Jiří	Pánek	Selce	Zelený
Fárka, Josef	Kropský	Pavelek	Šládeček, V	
Farský, J	Laňha	Pavelka	Šourek	Guides Messengers:
Filip, Ladislav	Lešetický Jun	Plaček	Starý (Josef Filip)	Kotěrová, Hanny
Friedl, S (Friedlander)	Macháček	Poddubský	Stretti, Kaji	Zemanová, Lída
Frimmel	Machone	Podobský, Vladimír	Strojník, Jaroslav	Zemanová Hanna
Gotlib	Malíček	Stržínek		

* Security service of Radio Prague and in the National Council. Founding member of the river Scouts.



A hundred scouts were appointed for mail delivery for the National Committee.

An important management was fundraising which he was in charge of treasurer of the National Committee, Rudolf Chalupa, tax administrator of the town of Jičín (Hradec Králové region).

Not all scouts were assigned to the courier service, the younger ones (some not yet in uniform) worked in the offices of the National Committee, where they were in charge of sorting and preparing mail for their fellow scouts. Other scouts were also in charge of processing and managing part of the National Committee's large daily agenda (presentations of personalities and official positions, visits, attending and assisting delegations, telephone interventions). Many others were assigned to various offices and posts in Prague.

There is a family connection in some of the scouts who performed postal services and served the revolutionary N.V. (National Committee), because the parents of some of the scouts were members of the national resistance (Mafia). The same happened with the sons of Sokol leaders, who were members of both Associations at the same time, or who switched from the Sokol to the Scouts at the dissolution of 1915.

Some names stand out, such as *Ladislav Rašín* (son of Alois Rašín, Czech politician, economist, one of the founders of Czechoslovakia and the first minister of finance). *Josef Rössler Ořovský junior*, (son of Josef Rössler-Ořovský, athlete, organiser, promoter, and introducer of various sports in Bohemia and the Czechoslovak Republic, as well as president of the Scouts), *Prokop Drtina* (son of František Drtina, philosopher, university professor, politician and one of the founders of the Prague river Scouts. He was elected by the Czechoslovak National Committee on 5.11.1918 as vice-chairman of the provincial school board. He was a member of the National Committee and was the state secretary of the ministry of Education in the first Czech Government). He wrote articles in the journal "Junák" (how to cultivate the closest relationship between youth and nature, reports on young people's life, nature, public life, and physical education).

Lesětický junior, son of Jaroslav Lesětický, head of the Austro-Hungarian postal Administration, who at the time of the coup worked at the Vinohrady 1, Post and Telegraph office in Prague (one of the oldest).

Miloslav Roubal, son of professor Emanuel Roubal, leader Sokol, department supervisor, was part of the management team together with Ořovský and Svojsík. *Eduard Chalupa*, son of Rudolf Chalupa, member of Parliament, and member of the Czechoslovak National Assembly.

All of them, and many others, belonged to the Scout Organisation and were present (through kinship and trust) from the beginning of the service and at the delivery of the mail, and on the day of President Masaryk's arrival in Prague.

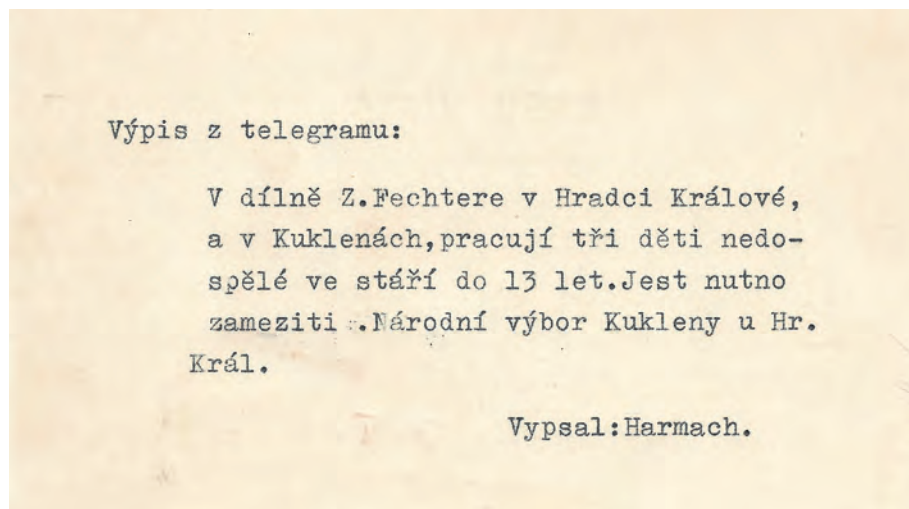
From their reports and diaries, we learn of the work done by some of the Scouts in those days:

Josef Charvát, belonging to the Scout Association since 1913, a prominent endocrinologist doctor and Scout leader, *details the vicissitudes throughout the afternoon*





Balcony of the Municipal House from where the National Committee issued proclamations and speeches to the citizens of Prague on 28.10.1918 (photo 2018).



Extract from the telegram:
In Z. Fechter's workshop in Hradec Králové and in Kukleny, three children under the age of 13 work. This must be prevented. National Committee Kukleny. Signed: Harmach.

Kamil Harmach, worked as a Union adviser in the Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of the Interior in Prague. In particular, he was involved in the protection of mothers and children and the education of women. This time the card is addressed to Rudolf Chalupa, a member of the Chamber of Deputies of the Czechoslovak Parliament.

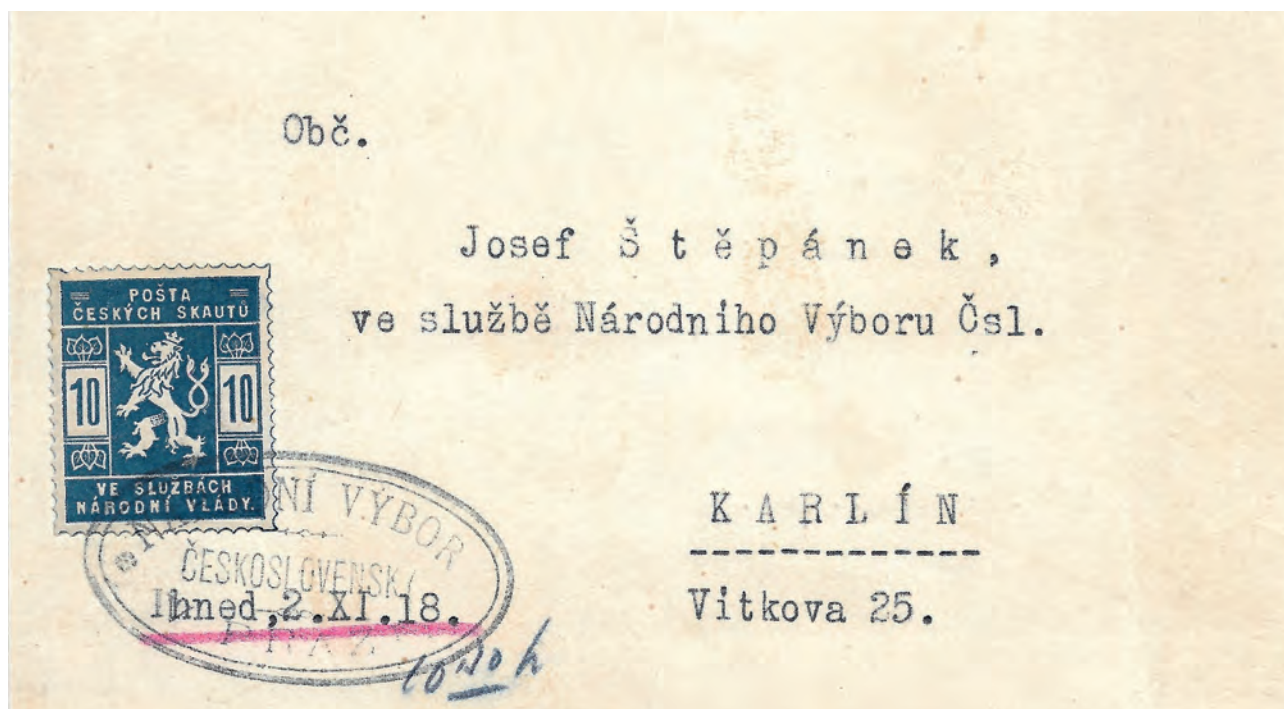


Card-telegram franked on 30.10.18, two days after the uprising. Addressed to the Czechoslovak parliamentary Deputy Rudolf Chalupa. Signing the receipt in pencil on the left-hand side.



Rudolf Chalupa.





Card addressed to National Committeeman Josef Štěpánek. Report without fail this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the National Committee. National Committee oval postmark. Delivered on November 2, at 10.30 am.



Envelope addressed to the District Political Administration of the National Committee Smíchov. Delivered by Ořovský junior. 16.11.1918.





Envelope addressed to the Vinohrady Distric Economic Council. Delivered by Ořovský junior, 17.11.1918.

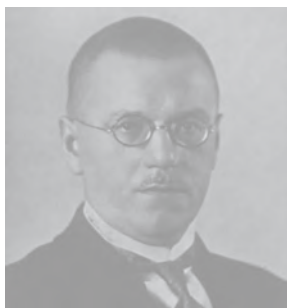


To the National Economic Council of the Czech Kingdom. Delivered by Ořovský Jr. Scout, November 19, 1918.





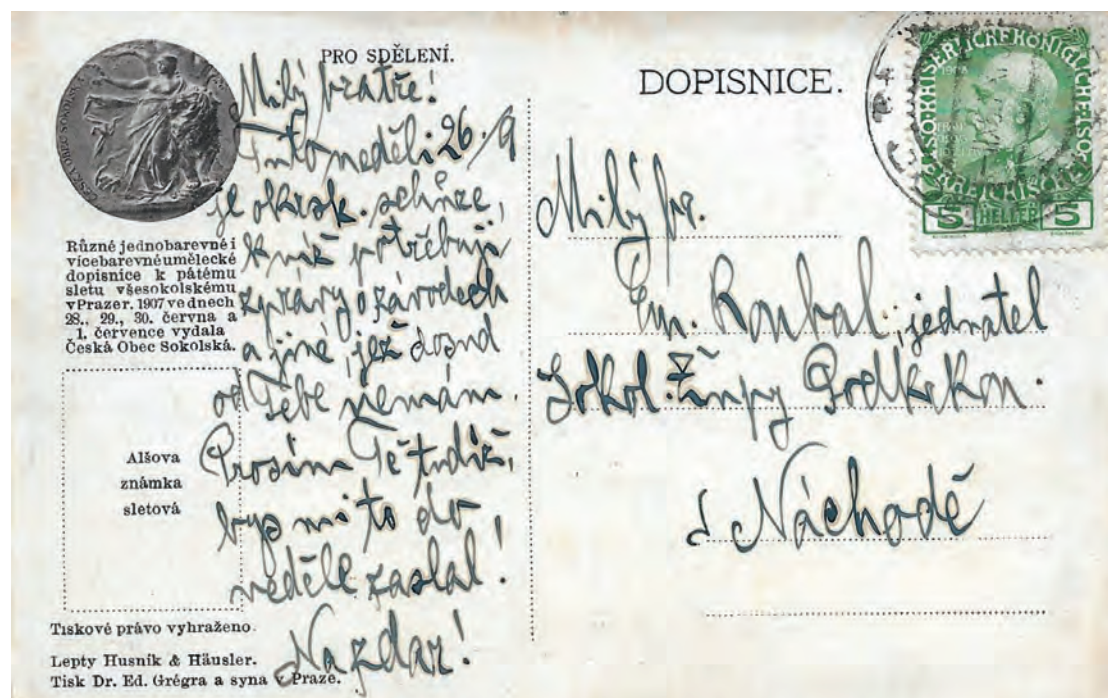
Prokop Drtina.



Jindřich Hrozný.



Card sent by Prokop Drtina 22.8.1917, from Brčko, Bosnia at the age of 17, writes to Jindřich Hrozný, assistant at the Charles University (Univerzita Karlova in Czech) in Prague.



Emanuel J. Roubal, teacher, representative and deputy head of the "Junák - Czech Scout" Association (1914-1918) appointed at the constituent general assembly, held on June 15, 1914 at the Art Forum in Prague II.

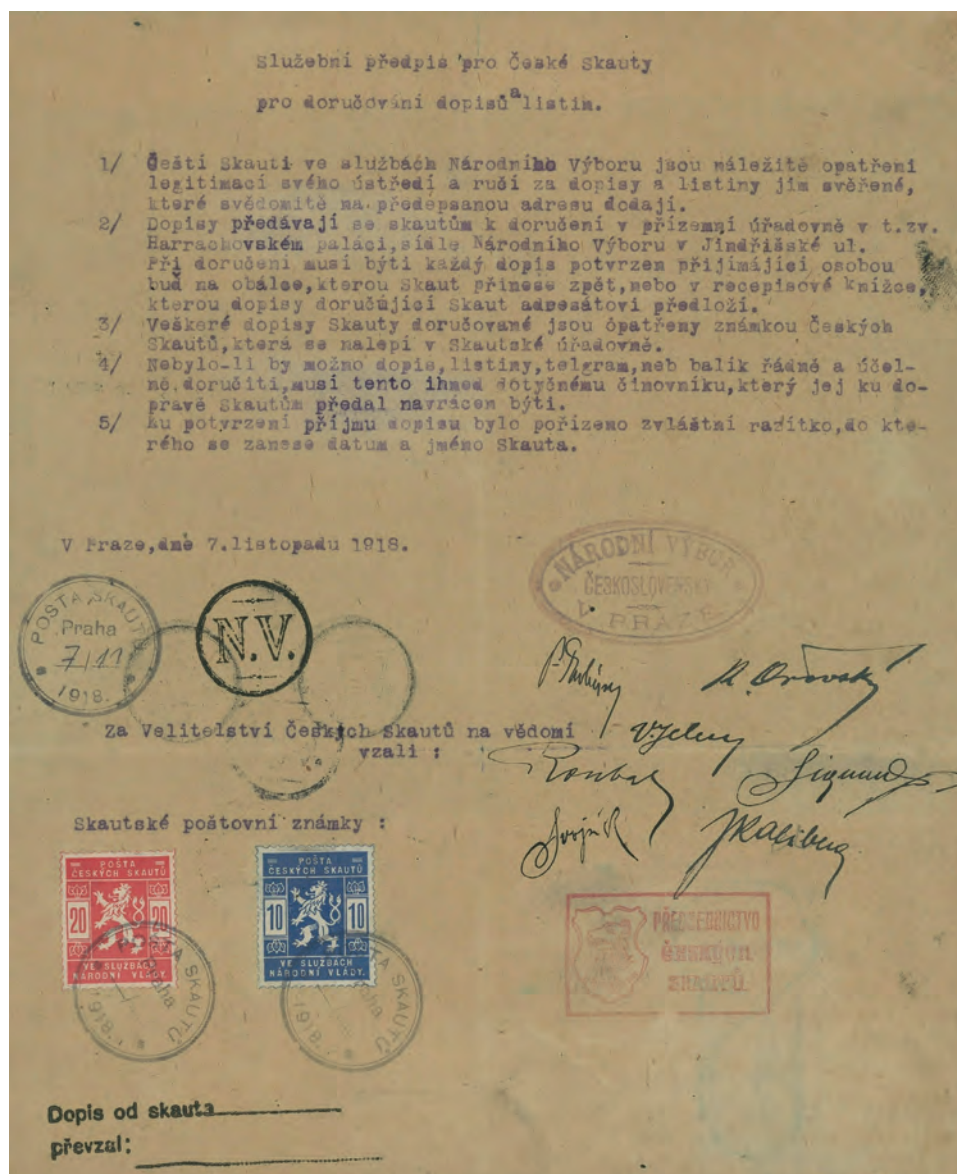




The central design of the stamp depicts the Czech lion rampant in relief on a red field and in an elliptical oval framed by the legend "Pošta Československé armády Sibiřské" (Czechoslovak Post office Siberian army). The outer part of the stamp legend, in blue, shows medieval designs and modern war material.



Envelope "manufactured" or favored, and it came after the legionnaires returned to Czechoslovakia, so they didn't arrive through the mail.



Copy of the postal service regulations for Czech Scouts. 1918. Collection of Frederick P. Lawrence.



Stamps of 10 and 20 heller in final colours.



Preparatory pencil sketch of the red 20 heller Scout stamp.

in the search for the addressee of an envelope to make the delivery of a letter, going from building to building all over Prague until its location and subsequent delivery at 10 pm.

Honda Nušl, one of the first Czech scouts, later a sculptor by trade, said in an interview: “... We stamped the letters with what we had on hand, sometimes we had so much work that we couldn’t even have lunch. At other times we had some free time and the younger ones used to look in the offices for tampons with different coloured ink, which we used to postmark the Scout stamps without any other intention”.

Prokop Sedlak, member of group II in Prague. “... Sometimes it was very difficult to return because a number of incidents and urgent needs required us to help quickly and immediately where it was needed...”

... “I was unable to perform night duty at the National Committee because the patrol relief at the Vršovice barracks did not arrive and I had to extend it until the following noon”.

... “The most difficult tasks were those associated with the information service at railway stations, with the aim of transporting prisoners to the barracks in Prague”.





Šulc, owner of the first Scout shop (sports and Scout shop) in Prague since 1919, ... *“I slept dressed on the table in a room on the ground floor of the National Committee to be always alert”*, tells how he was ordered to deliver a letter to the military headquarters in Mala Strana ... *and half asleep I took the bicycle and drove to the National Theatre.*

Prokop Drtina, leader of Prague group II in 1918, who became a lawyer, minister of justice and secretary to the president, recalled that... *“the second night at 2 a.m. after the coup I was on night duty in the corridor in front of the rooms of the Men’s Club of the Obecní dům, the temporary headquarters of the National Committee, when I was appointed to take an urgent message to Dr. Scheiner at Wenceslas square”.* *Saturday 2.11.1918, all day in Harrach, distributing correspondence to various members of the National Committee.*

J.R. Ořovský’s son, Josef Rössler Ořovský, Jr., was a prominent Czech scout in the service of the provisional government of the National Committee in delivering postal correspondence (letters and telegrams), and with a group of scouts in his charge, In the Czech language *ml.* is short for junior (Jr.).

In 1918, J. Rössler Ořovský belonged to one of the various revolutionary committees then prevailing in Prague, and among other prerogatives, and as a good philatelist, he attributed to himself the power of, among other issues of the National Committee, the matters concerning the revolutionary overprinting “PROVISORNÍ ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ VLÁDA”, Provisional Czechoslovak government”, he also conceived the idea of the issue of postmarks, markings and printing of Scout stamps, as well as the organisation and supervision of the postal service that the Scouts would provide to the National Committee until November 25, 1918, and on December 21, with the arrival of President Masaryk in Prague.

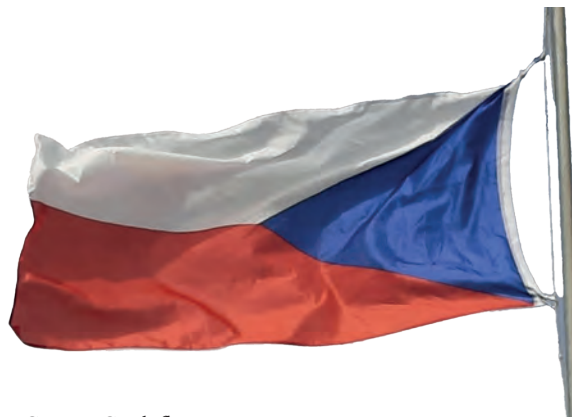
The stamps of the Czech Legion in Siberia were also devised by the same author, Ořovský, and with the same process as these two stamps, i.e., using a single die that he cut while making a kind of indentation that imitated line perforation and that explains the colour on the edges of the stamp.

At the beginning, the Scout Postal service was based on an oral agreement between the Czech Scout leadership and the National Committee. The service was endorsed on November 7, 1918 with the signing of decree number 324R, which gave it official status, regulating the postal service that had been carried out from the very beginning.

Authorities and senior officials in Prague had full rights to use the postal services provided by the Scouts, although their use was not strictly obligatory. Scout mail also carried and delivered items without Scout stamps.



10 and 20 heller coins. 1916-1918.



Current Czech flag.



At the same time as the stamps, a postcard with the value of 10 heller printed in blue and with simulated serration was put into circulation, with a small print run of 1,000 copies.



Stamps printed on brown paper.



Yellow gummed stamps.



Stamps with yellow and transparent gumming. First and second printing.





ORGANISATION OF THE POSTAL AND TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Regulations of the service for Czech Scouts in the delivery of letters and documents, signed by leading members and representatives of the Association “Junák - Český Skaut”: (chairman of the honorary Council, JUDr. František Pavlásek, President Josef Rössler-Ořovský, Ing. and executive C. Vašek Jelen, Scout leader and instructor Josef Kalibera, supreme Scout leader and professor Ant. B. Svojsík, professor Emanuel J. Roubal, librarian A. V. Sigmund).

1 / Czech Scouts in the service of the National Committee shall have badges issued by the Scout Association and are responsible for letters and documents entrusted to them, for delivery to the prescribed address.

2 / Letters are delivered to the Scouts for distribution in the office on the ground floor of the Harrachův Palace, headquarters of the National Committee, Jindřišská street.

At the time of delivery, each envelope must be signed by the recipient, either on the envelope itself, or on a receipt book which the scout shall return on his return as proof of delivery of the letter to the addressee.

3 / All letters delivered by scouts shall bear Scout stamps, which shall be affixed at the Scout office.

4 / If it is not possible to deliver a letter, document, telegram or parcel in a proper and efficient manner, the item should be returned immediately to the official concerned, who handed it to the scout for forwarding.

5 / To confirm receipt of the letter, a special rubber stamp was issued, bearing the date and the name of the scout.

In Prague on November 7, 1918.

The design was approved without disagreement or opposition during the last days of September and the first days of October, so it was decided to issue stamps with a strong nationalist character for this service, and some 30,000 copies of 10 heller in blue and 50,000 of 20 heller in red were printed, both colours being typical of the Slavic Flags.

The production of stamps for this service was all carried out in a single printing process (one by one), using a typographic method with a single die, which printed and enhanced the relief stamping of the design, gummed, as well as directly cut the outer edges to make them look jagged, which explains why the perforation (12,5 mm) is bordered by colour, and there are no blocks or sheets, as they were made one at a time.

At the same time as the stamps, cards, postal stationery with the value of 10 heller, printed in blue, were put into circulation in a reduced quantity of 1,000 copies.



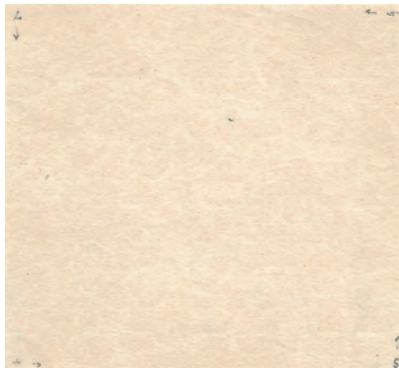
Stamps without teeth showing the leaf of the linden tree, a sacred tree and symbol of freedom in Slavic mythology.



Detail of the 20 Heller Scout stamp with the leaf of the linden tree.



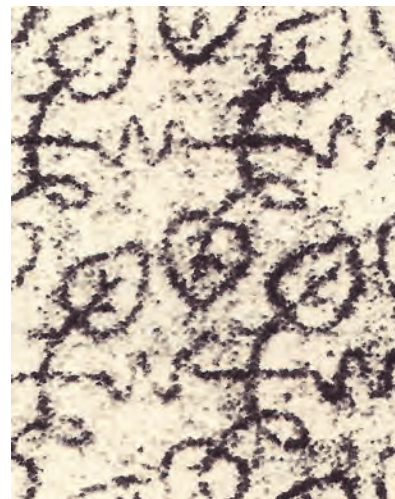
Stamps of 10 Heller. Different tonality.



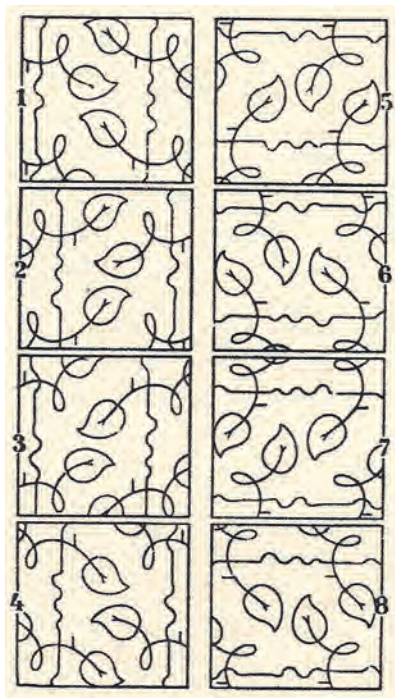
Watermark printing sheet of linden tree leaf.



Stamps of 20 Heller. Different tonality.



Detail of enlarged watermark.



Watermark positions on the printing sheet.



Color varieties of the 10 Heller stamp.





Envelope addressed to Karlín district council, delivered by scout Novák, 18.11.18, with blue 10 heller definitive stamp.

The remainder of the cards were used to send short messages or to confirm the delivery of short telegrams (usually between members of the National Council and Scout headquarters).

Two impressions were made of the stamps: the first was on thick paper with yellow gum, applied unevenly. The second print ranges from light to dark on thin paper with transparent gumming and applied evenly.

Before adopting the final colours for the stamp issue. Numerous colour and shade tests and trials were carried out for both the 10 and 20 heller values.

The engraver of the stamp plates was J. Panenka, and the stamps were printed by the Kolman company in Královské, a firm located in the Vinohrady district of Prague. On the stamps we can see the figure of a rampant lion with a double tail, the symbol of Bohemia, and the captions: “POŠTA ČESKÝCH SKAUTŮ” at the top of the label, which means: “Czech Scout Post”, and “VE SLUŽBÁCH NÁRODNÍ VLÁDY”, at the bottom, which translates as: “in the service of the National Committee”

CHARACTERISTICS - ORIGINAL STAMP 10 heller:

Process: type plate with embossed perforations, made in a single printing.

Surface of the engraving: 22 x 27 mm.



Olive brown.



Yellow olive.



Brown olive.



Olive grey.



Sepia.



Blackish brown.



Blackish olive.



Light green.



Brown lake.



Brown.



Venetian red.



Dull vermilion.



Deep rose-red.



Orange vermilion.



Brown red.



Different trials of blue colour of the 10 heller stamp.





Cover of envelope with stamps of 10 heller with different shades of blue. Addressed to the Grain Institute. Delivered by scout Nuša on 11.11.18.








































































Express registered envelope, sent from the Military Academy in Vienna to the National Committee in Prague. Delivered by scout Starý on 10.11.18. Mixed franking with Austrian stamps (10 and 50 heller) and 10 heller scout stamps, blue-grey and indigo variety.





10H. STAMP ORIGINAL AND FAKES

Original	Original	Fakes A	Fakes B	Fakes C
	               	               	               	               
<p>Fakes A</p>  				
<p>Fake B</p> 				
<p>Fake C</p> 				



Overlap on paper strip.



Oblique guillotine cut.



Horizontal paper fold.



Stamp with vertical paper fold.



Individual printing with margins on all four sides.



Right side margin with right negative perforation remainder.



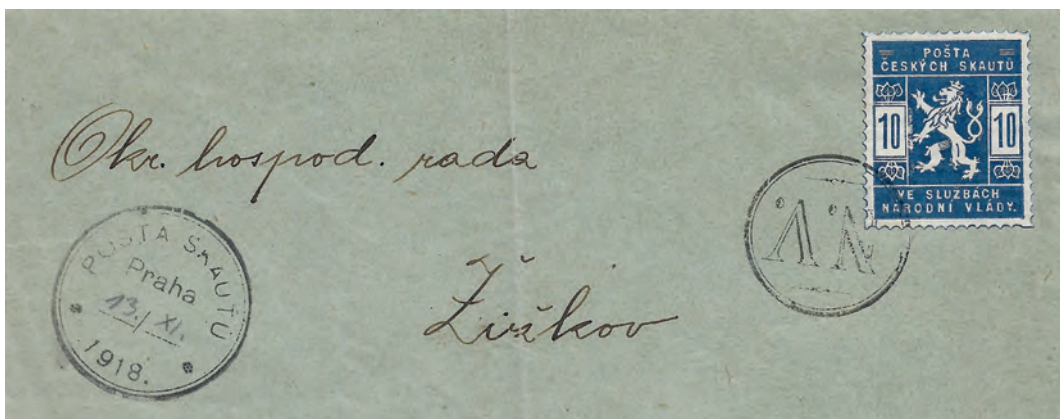
Strip of paper with the imprint of the 10 Heller stamp in triplicate.



Strip of paper with the impression of the blue 10 Heller stamp duplicated.



Strip of paper with blue 10 Heller stamp impression in triplicate.



Envelope with 10 Heller stamp with lack of printing.



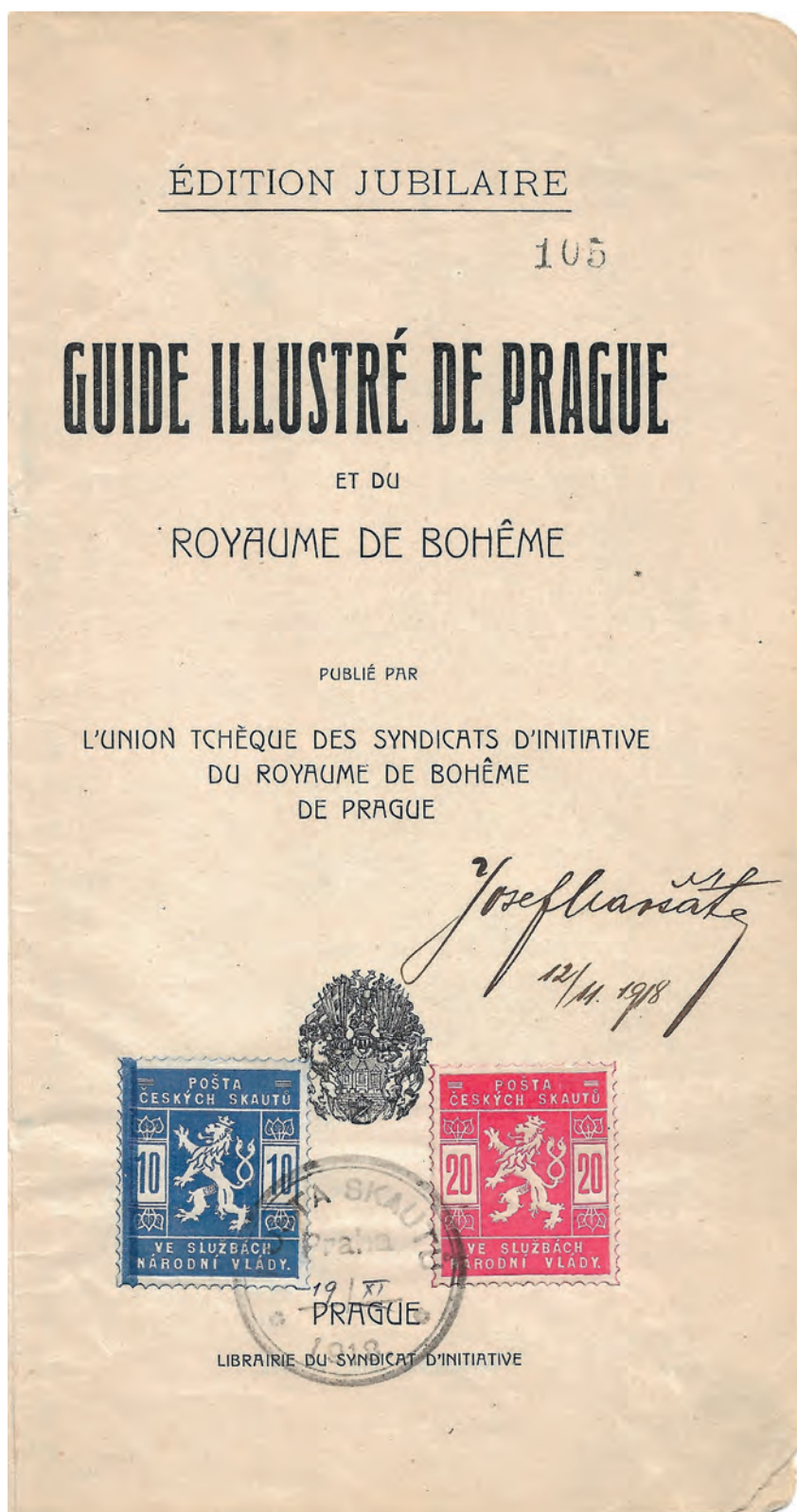


Print waste stamps, printed on two parts paper, color saturation, lack of printing, used stamp stamped printed on two parts paper. Paper bellows through the stamps, Fragments of stamps with top, bottom, side cuts...



In the printing of the stamps, they are traced on the back (gummed side, both in the first and second printing).

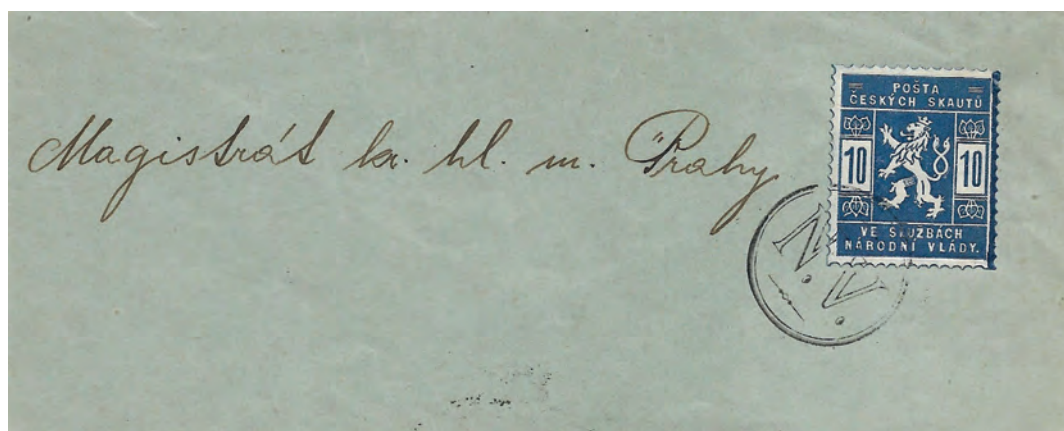




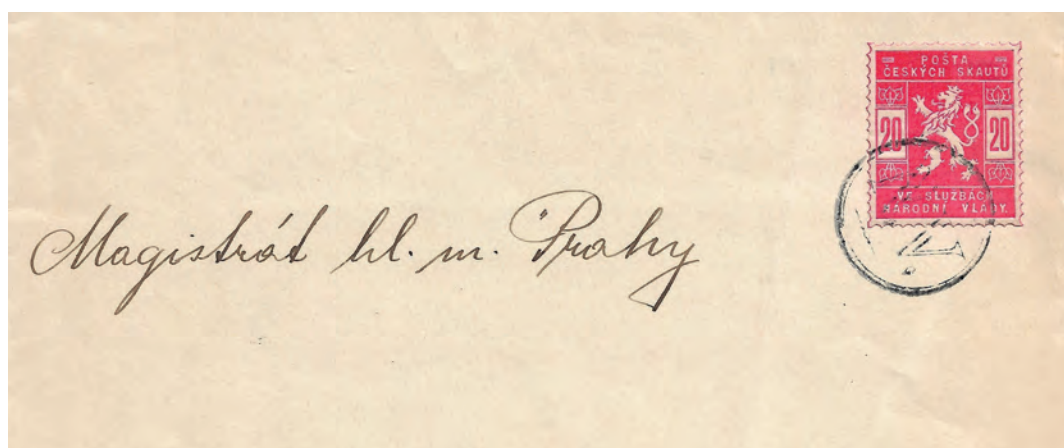
Back cover of Prague guide with 10 heller stamp with left impression band. "POŠTA SKAUTŮ - PRAHA - 1918" in black, dated November 19, 1918.



Colour stains, colour saturation, faded, filled, right colour bands, lack of printing.



Envelope addressed to Magistrates of the Kingdom of Prague, with 10 heller stamp and right impression band.

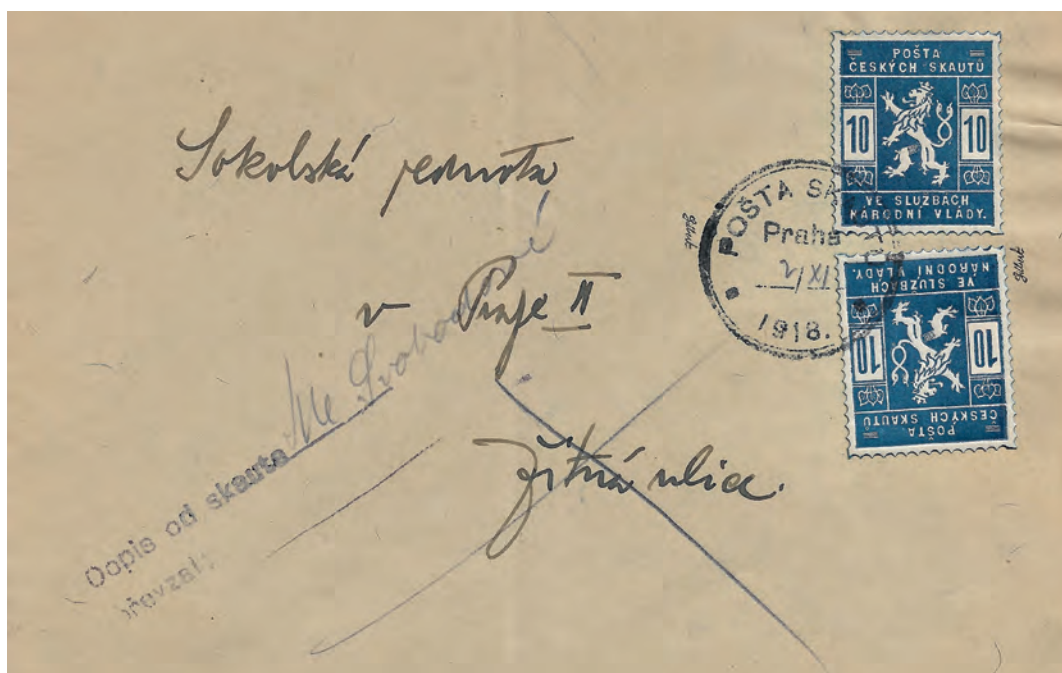


Envelope addressed to Magistrates of the Kingdom of Prague, with 20 heller stamp vermilion red.

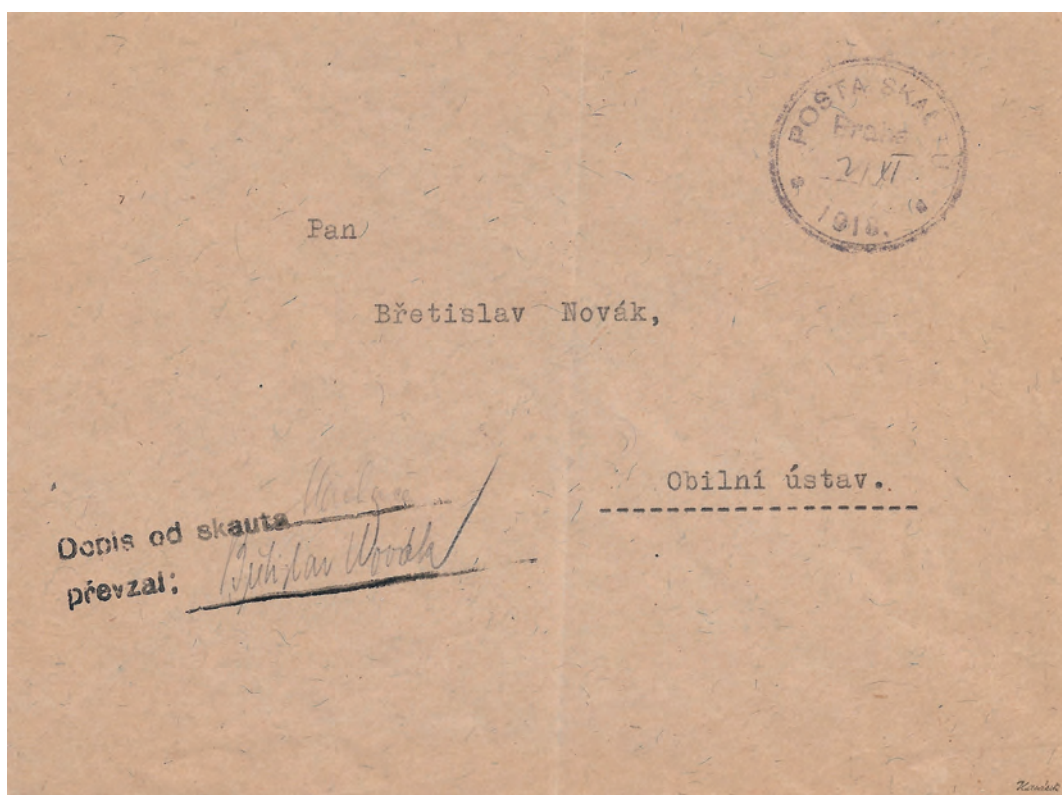


Envelope addressed to the Cereals Institute on 11.11.18. With different blue shades of 10 heller stamps. Delivered by scout Nušla. Postmark "POŠTA SKAUTŮ - PRAHA - 1918" in red.





Envelope sent to the Sokol Association on 2.11.1918, delivered by the scout Svodové.



Envelope without stamp, but with postmark "POŠTA SKAUTŮ - PRAHA - 1918" in black colour, dated 2.11.1918. Marked "Dopis od Skauta" převzal: in black, delivered by the scout Macháček. Addressed to Břetislav Novák of the Cereal Institute. These envelopes - scarce - are produced at the beginning of the postal service, because in the early days of the postal service in the Scout Post offices there were postmarks, but a limited amount of stamps.





Light yellowish green, dark yellowish green, light olive green, dark olive green, emerald green, turquoise blue, dark violet, dull purple...



Envelope addressed to the Grain Institute, delivered by scout Bauer on 8.11.18. Light carmine coloured stamp.





Bellows on paper through the stamps.



Different varieties of red, before the final issue (scarlet red, bright carmine, vermillion).



Stamp printed on two parts of paper, lack of impression, used postmarked stamp printed on two parts of paper. Paper bellows through the stamps.

- 1.- The crown is symmetrical, with a cross in the centre.
- 2.- There is a slight spot of colour on the mane of the neck.
- 3.- Under the second mane there is the left paw prolonged with a cut in the body.
- 4.- The line marking the outline of the body is executed by a single continuous stroke.
- 5.- The accents of the letters “Š” and “Č” are sharp.





Paper glued in two parts, coloured bands, colour saturation, lack of paper...



Stamp printed on paper strip.

Stamp printed on paper strip. Printed one at a time.

Stamps printed on strip of paper, individually.



This mirror image is due to the accumulation of stamps that are still wet from printing. Yellow and transparent gumming.

6.- The "D" under the letter "S".

7.- The letter "Í" is under the space between the "U" and the "Z".

For the franking of postcards, a single blue 10 heller stamp was normally used, while for letters and other items, a red 20 heller stamp or two blue 10 heller stamps were used. Both values have different colour shades, mainly caused by saturations, or ink deficiencies during printing.

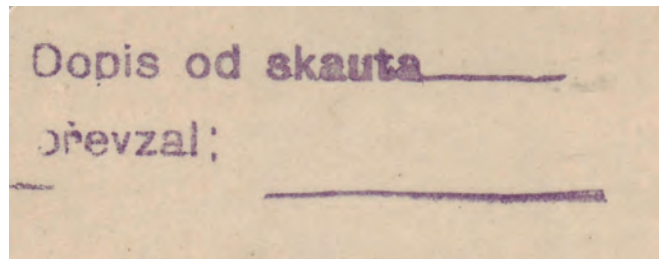
On the sides, above and below the face value of the stamps are leaves of the lime tree, the Czech national tree.



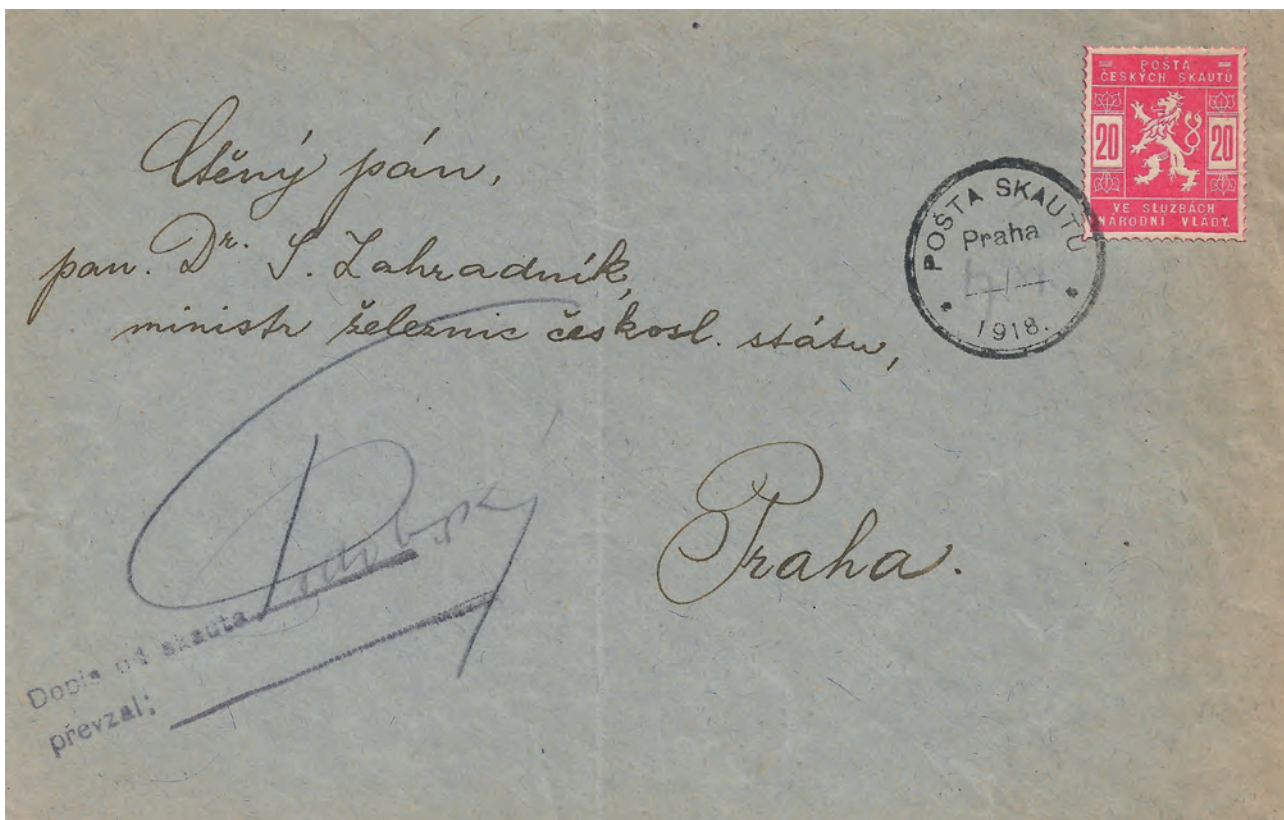
Postmark N.V.



Postmark POŠTA SKAUTŮ.



Rubber stamp: Dopis od skauta _____ převzal: _____.



Envelope addressed to Dr. Isidor Zabradník, Minister of Railways of the Czechoslovak State in Prague. Red color tone stamp. November 17, 1918. Delivered by scout Podobský.





In any typographic process, and more so in those moments of urgency, confusion and disorder, a series of accidents and printing errors inevitably occurred, both in the first and in the second printing, such as: problems of insufficient inking, folded and accordion printing, offset, (tracings on the back, gummed side), irregular inking, colour stains, colour saturation, discolouring, pasting, lateral colour bands, lack of printing..., which are normally discarded, but some specimens are still preserved to this day, resulting in philatelic rarities.

Correspondence (letters, telegrams, parcels, cards, envelopes and other items) from all over the republic, mainly from Prague, were sent to the corresponding headquarters of the National Committee, where they were sorted and classified by the Prague Scouts, the postage being supplemented with the stamps proper to this service (10 and 20 heller), after which the corresponding metallic postmark was applied: N.V. (Národní Výbor) National Committee, intended mainly for stamping documents for archiving, or the rubber postmark with the text “POŠTA SKAUTŮ - PRAHA – 1918” (Scout Post - Prague - 1918) used at the National Council, Harrach Palace, Main Post and Telegraph office, at the Municipal House, Cadet School. Additionally, a rubber stamp was applied: “Dopis od skauta_ _ _ _ _ převzal” - Delivered by Scout_ _ _ _ _ received by: The envelopes were then entrusted to the Scouts who would perform the delivery service at the indicated addresses.

At the given address, the scout who made the delivery signed the first line: *Dopis od skauta_ _ _ _ _* in front of the addressee and the recipient took the letter or document and signed the receipt on the second line: převzal: _ _ _ _ . In this way the envelope was collected and returned by the scout to the head office as a receipt and control and as a proof that the delivery had been made in a confidential and secure manner. There was also a receipt book which the scout filled in and returned on his return from service as confirmation and proof of delivery of the consignment to the addressee.

According to a document found in the archive of the National Council in Prague, Rössler Ořovský stated that some letters were also carried by personnel paid by the National Council, which would explain why some envelopes did not bear a Scout stamp but a postmark with the letter N.V. (National Council) or the oval stamp “NÁRODNÍ VÝBOR ČESKOSLOVENSKÝ V PRAZE” (Czechoslovak National Committee in Prague) was used at the National Council (Harrach Palace) and the Municipal House.

At the beginning of the postal service provided by the Scouts to the National Committee, not all the rules were strictly adhered to, sometimes because of the lack of stamps, sometimes because of the location of postmarks, so that some correspondence was incomplete.

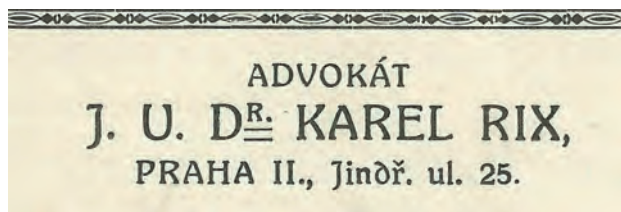
One of the first agreements of the National Committee regarding the new State was made on October 28, 1918 in Prague, and it was the acceptance that the Grain Institute would be located in the Lucerne Palace, St. Wenceslas square, on the corner of Štěpánská street.

Dr. Karel Rix was a prominent Prague lawyer with an office in Jindřišská street, next to the Harrachův Palace (seat of the National Committee). Personal lawyer of Josef Rössler Ořovský and the company Milde and Rössler, (apothecary and pharmaceutical supply). He was also a member and supporter of the Czech Philatelic Club (K.Č.F.), a stamp and stamp collector and a member of the Prague Nautical Club. During World War II he was





Olympic flag-raising. Czech Yacht Club, Prague 1918.



Business card of lawyer Karel Rix., 25 Jindřišská street.



Dr. Karel Rix.



Mark detail of the Czech Yacht Club in Prague.



Envelope with red 20 heller stamp and fragment of 20 heller stamp with negative perforation on both vertical sides. Postmarked with N.V. in black, POŠTA SKAUTŮ dated November 8, and the rubber stamp Dopis od skauta with the signature of the delivering scout Böhm. In the upper left corner is the mark of the Prague Yacht Club. Addressed to Dr. Karel Rix, lawyer and member of the Prague Yacht Club, home of the Scouts. At the top is Osobně!. Hand-delivered.





a prisoner in the Terezín concentration camp (German: Theresienstadt). It was named after empress Maria Theresa. In this camp he wrote: *“Remembrance of an old Czech philatelist before his death”*.

The rubber postmarks were ordered from the stamp and badge maker Kármel Kyselý in Husova třída 46, Žižkov district. Although the rubber stamps were made in a single operation, small differences between them are visible under high magnification.

Two hand postmarks were used in this service: the “N.V.” (NÁRODNÍ VYBOR), National Committee, was made of metal and was used in the Scout offices in the National Committee building. It was used as a mark, and to apply on Scout stamps.

The “POŠTA SKAUTŮ”, in rubber, was used as a date stamp, for which there was a space for the day and month to be put in by hand. Both were usually stamped on envelopes and documents, both incoming and outgoing. Used in all Scout offices.

There was also a mark made of rubber: “Dopis od skauta _____ převzal: _____” (delivered by the scout... received), which was applied to the envelope to be delivered. Here the scout making the delivery signed on the top line, and the recipient of the delivery on the second line.

As main characteristic the round postmark POŠTA SKAUTŮ, type A, lacks notches and incisions, slightly bigger, there are no differences between the vowels “a” of Prague, they are equal and aligned. In addition, between Prague and 1918 there is a line, a slash, and dots for putting the day and month in pencil. This was filled in at the Scout Post office. There are also six dots in the circle and one in the centre. It can be deduced that this postmark was very early used at the beginning of the service (14.10.1918), as the dots are very sharp, without ink obstruction, and the outer circle is not damaged.

From the date (14.10.1918), fourteen days before the coup d'état, it is possible that Emanuel Tyl had these envelopes using his temporary address in Prague, preparing them beforehand and filling in the date later. There is also the possibility that at least the 20 heller stamp was ready on 14.10.1918, as well as the postmark “POŠTA SKAUTŮ” (the N.V. postmark of the National Committee does not appear on these envelopes) and they were used then.

According to his own words and in documents collected in the archive and Museum of the “Sokol” Association in Prague, the scout President Rössler-Ořovský said:



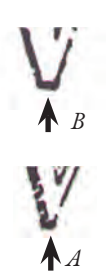
Type A, red color.



Type B, violet color.



Type A - B.



Type B. Black colour.



Type A.

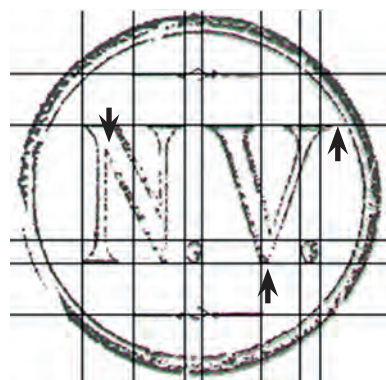


Type B.

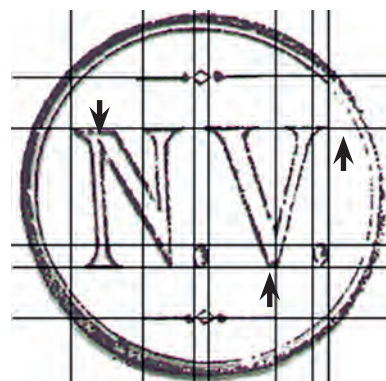


Registered envelope with mixed franking (Austrian and Czech), registered from Police nad Metují, a town near the Polish border and the Sudetenland. Addressed to the National Committee, delivered by scout Kalibera on 16.11.1918.





Type A



Type B

Characteristics in postmark N.V. type A and B.

Registered letter with mixed postage, on November 3, 1918, in the town of Pardubice, delivered by scout Stary on 5.11.18 to the National Committee. N.V. type A.

...the Scouts served day and night without interest and free of charge as couriers, guards, and officers of the National Council. Our Scouts were officers at that time. In uniform and with the National Council card, they had free access to all official members of the government day and night. This mail service was organised because the National Council could not rely on the mail in the early days of the new republic. High officials and many postmen were among those who did not agree with the seizure of power, but even the Post office itself could not deliver mail day and night in and around Prague for the new members of the National Council. Only the Scouts who were in the service of the National Council could do this.

From the archive and Museum of the "Sokol" Association in Prague.



Letter hand-delivered on 10.11.1918, addressed to the Czech writer, journalist and naturalist Karel Matěj Čapek-Chod, a contributor to the newspaper "Národní listy" (National letters). After Karel Čapek started working in the editorial office in 1918, Čapek accepted the nickname "Chod". Envelope with N.V., type B.



Envelope delivered by scout Filip on 23.11.18. Postmark and mark N.V. type A.



Envelope handed in by scout Novák on 16.11.18. Postmark and mark N.V. type A.

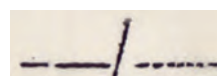




Registered envelope sent from the Municipal office of Nové Město, Moravia on 11.11.18. Addressed to the Prague National Committee, delivered by scout Böhm and received by R. Ořovský on 12.11.18. (reduced postage/official service).



Colour of applied inks (black, red and violet).



Type A postmark without notches on blue and red stamps.

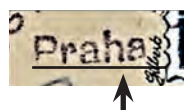
Type A postmark with full circles.

Dotted line.

Notchless ring.



Type A.



Type B.





Favor envelope sent to Emanuel Tyl. Hotel Anděl in Prague. Postmark type A.



Emanuel Tyl & company's business card.

Three types of rubber postmarks were made with the inscription: "POŠTA SKAUTŮ - PRAHA - 1918". Scout Post - Prague - 1918.

In addition, there was a dotted line for putting the day and month in pencil. These details were filled in at the Scout Post office.

As a remarkable detail at first sight, and with respect to the postmark type B, this postmark A, has the complete circles, that is to say, it does not offer notches or cuts. A little bigger than its predecessor type A. There are no differences between the vowels "a" in Prague, they are the same and aligned. It was used at the beginning of the service and from November 16, at the second Scout office opened at the Central Post and Telegraph office, Prague Castle, and the Parliament.



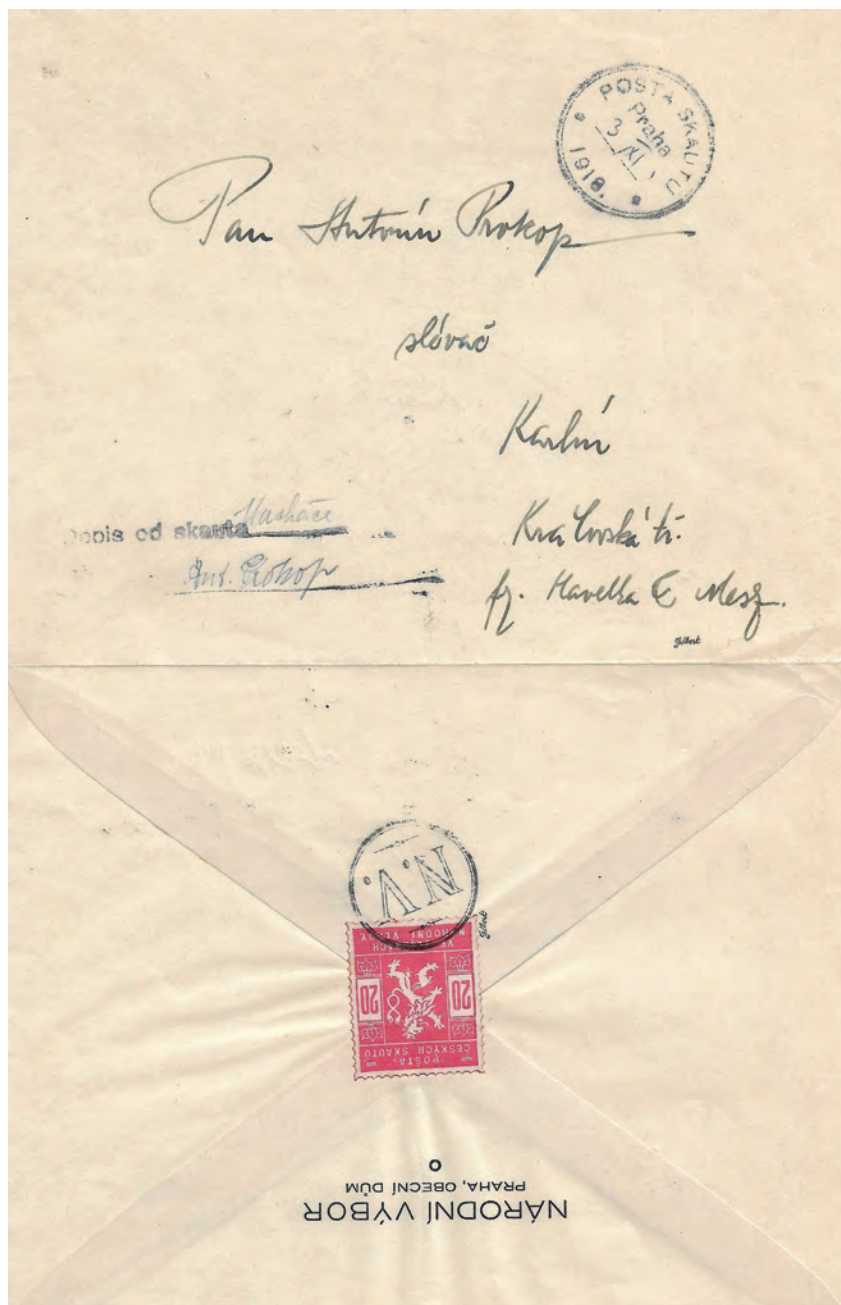
Envelope delivered by scout Strettibo on 7.11.18, (first day of official service) to Josef Čapek who was not only a renowned painter of the cubist school, but during the various stages of his life was also successful as a playwright, graphic artist, illustrator, stage designer, novelist, children's book writer, non-fiction writer, journalist and art critic; he published several novels and a play. He also produced political cartoons for the Prague daily "Lidové noviny", (people's newspaper). Invented the term "robot".



Envelope registered in Reichenberg (Liberec) on 11.11.1918. Delivered in Prague to the member of the National Committee Dr. Isidor Zahradník, by scout Saldy on 13.11.18. Postage on the letter: Postage 20 heller, additional 20 grams rate 5h. registered 25 h. additional Scout postage 20 heller.



Press advertisement of the time. Important copper works, metallurgy, iron, sheet metal articles, machines, syringes, boilers, pumps, metal foundry. Establishment of breweries, malt houses, distilleries and alcohol refineries, dyeing plants, spas, appliances, pans of all kinds, coils, assembly items, etc.



Envelope from the National Committee (Municipal House) addressed to Antonín Prokop (Havelka & Mész company), delivered on 3.11.18 by scout Macháče.





Envelope sent from Vienna by Emanuel Tyl to Rijswijk - The Hague (Netherlands) on 12.10.18, with censorship marks k.u.k. of Vienna.



Vienna.



Envelope addressed to Emmanuel Tyl, Anděl hotel in Prague. He lived in Vienna as a philatelic dealer, a member of the Czech Philatelic Club, and was in contact with R. Ořovský and the printer Antonín Kolman (who was in charge of printing the Scout stamps). It is likely that he had the envelopes ready before the start of the Scout Postal service, as attested by the date of the postmark of POŠTA SKAUTŮ (14/10) fourteen days before the coup d'état. Envelope delivered by scout Strěhibo.



Detail:

Date of the postmark POŠTA SKAUTŮ (14/10).



Back detail: Purple brand of Czech Ski Club Prague.



Favour envelopes, provided by Emanuel Tyl, probably prepared before the Scout Postal service, as attested by the dates of the violet circular postmark type A, (14 and 15 October), two weeks before the establishment of Scout Post. Delivered by the scouts Nušla and Šišla.

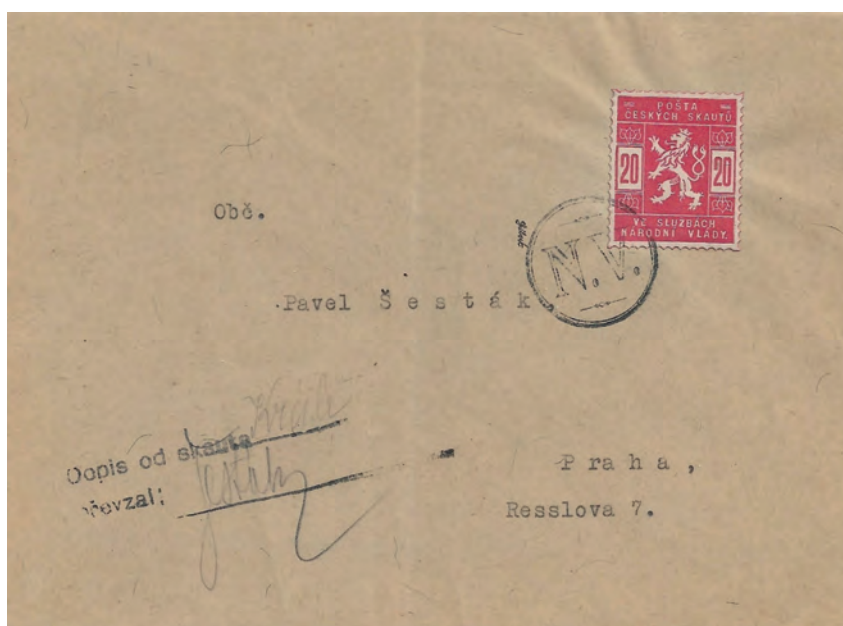




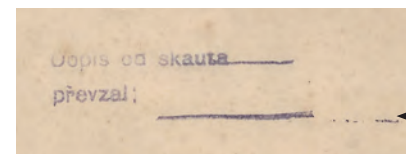
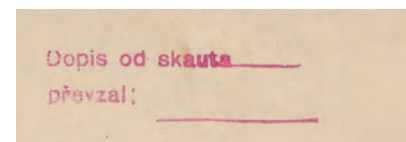
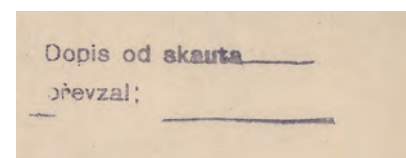
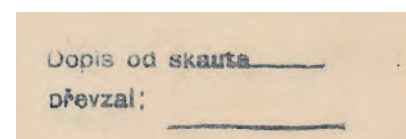
Delivered by the scout Strettiho to Antonín Král in Michle, south-east of Prague. Postmark in green.



Impregnated in black, violet, red and more rarely green ink.

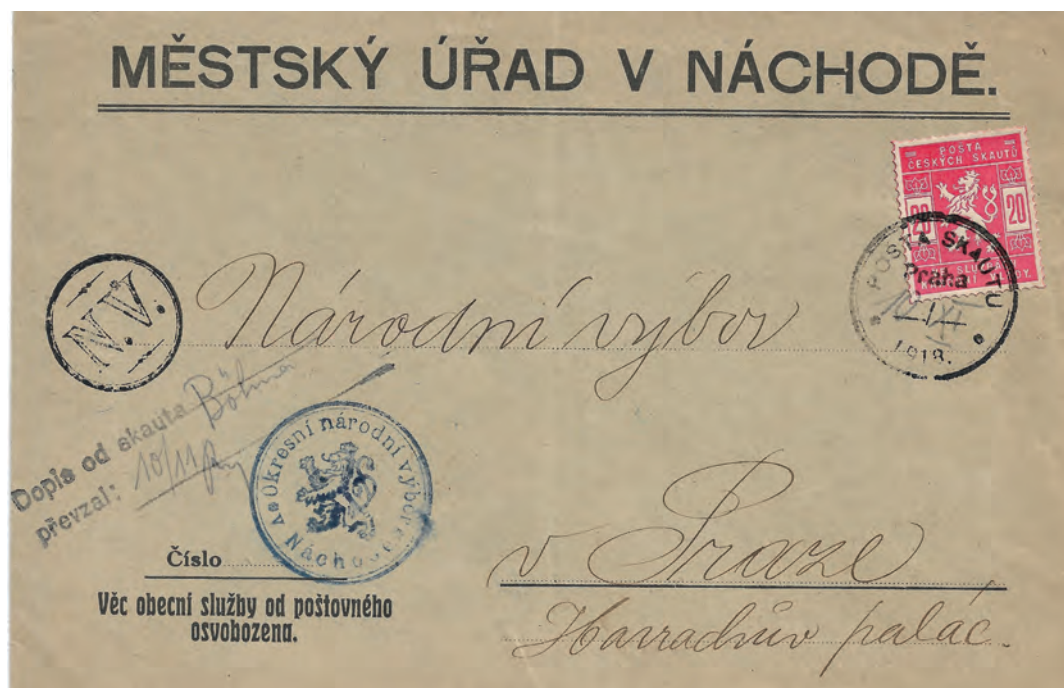


Envelope sent to Pavel Šesták, delivered by scout Král.

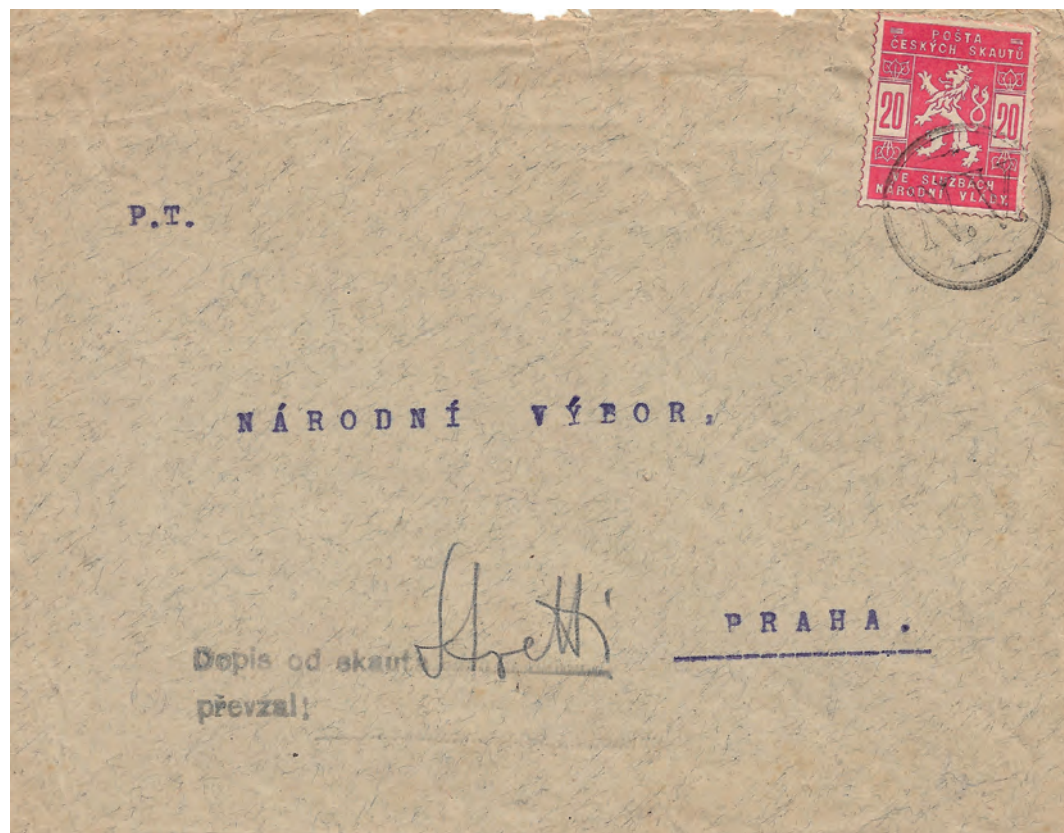


Rubber mark: Dopis od skauta____převzal:____, bottom line broken by use. In three colours (black, red and violet).





Envelope on official letterhead “Městský Úřad V Náchodě”, (City Hall of the New Town), with the rare circular stamp “Okresní Národní Výbor Náchod” and the lion, (official service free postage). Addressed to the National Committee, Harrachův Palace, franked with 20 heller carmine, signed by the delivering scout Böhme, received on 10.11.18 by Rössler Ořovský who signs with the abbreviation of the first and last letters of his surname Ry (Rössler Ořovský).



Letter addressed from the National Committee headquarters and Scout office. Delivered by scout Stretti.



Letter addressed from the National Committee headquarters and Scout office. Addressed to lawyer Karel Rix.



A rubber stamp with the text: "Presidium of Czech Scouts", existed in three sizes. The larger, was available at the Scout headquarters and the smaller one at Rössler-Ořovský.



Always ready or Be prepared.



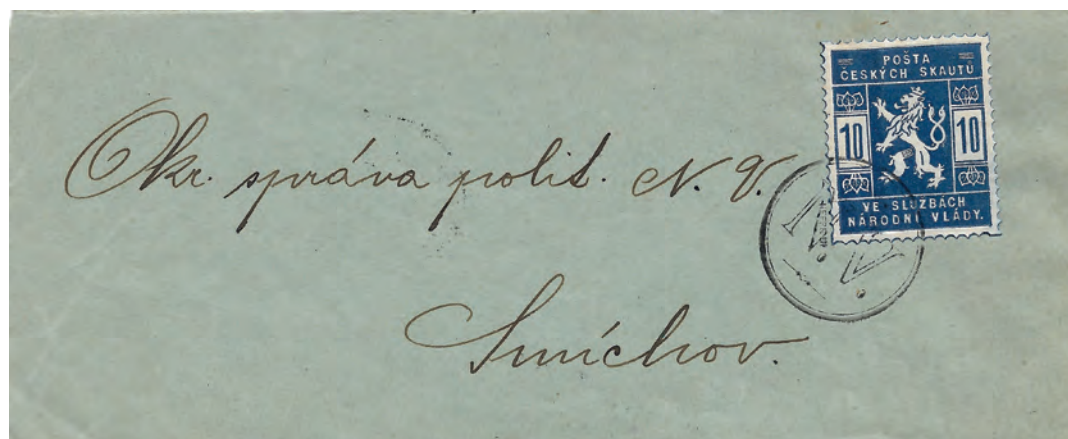
Letter addressed to Karel Carmine, attorney procurator of the Živnostenská Banka in Prague. Manuscript: delivered by scout Šourka on 14.11.18 and official mark of the Czech Scout Presidency with red emblem.



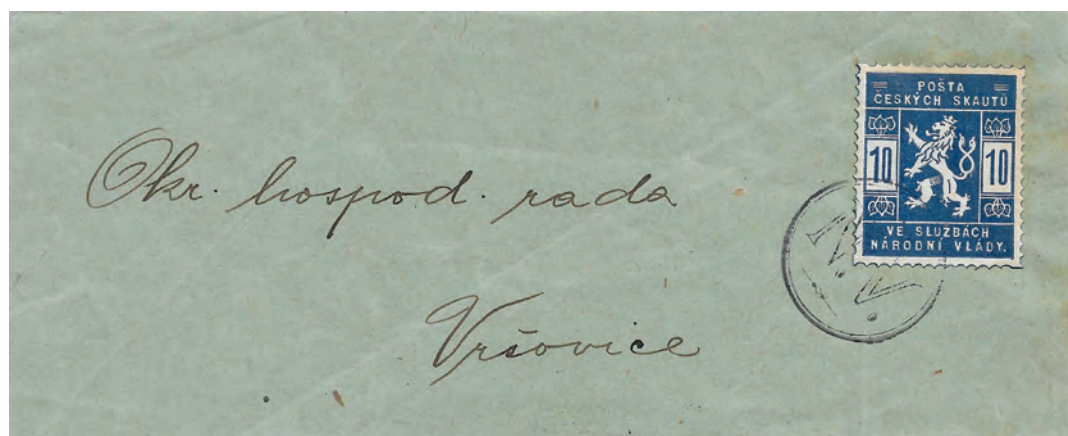
Vignette from the Živnostenská Banka. Prague.



Vignette from the Živnostenská Banka for Bohemia and Moravia in Prague.



Addressed to the district Economic Council of the Smíchov National Committee. Postmark "N.V." on the reverse.



Addressed to the district Economic Council of the National Committee. Vršovice, postmark "N.V." on the back.

The type B postmark, made of rubber, 30 centimetres in diameter, has indentations at the top of the outer ring (to the left of the "S" for SKAUTŮ) and below (between 1 and 8, 1918), fainter at the top. When the ink is light, there are two parallel and oblique incisions, affecting both the outer and inner rings, located to the right of the "A" of POŠTA.

There is a notable difference between the two vowels "a" of Praha. If we trace the base line or writing line under the word Praha, we see that the final vowel "a" does not rest on this line. It is also rotated slightly to the left, and in many documents it appears ungracefully.

This large oval rubber stamp with the inscription "NÁRODNÍ VÝBOR ČESKOSLOVENSKÝ V PRAZE", meaning: Czechoslovak National Committee in Prague, was kept in the National Committee building in Prague at the disposal of its members and officials. Different ink pads were used with different inks: red, violet, black, and occasionally green ink. There are some envelopes and cards with only the elliptical cancellation applied to the Scout stamps, usually when they were sent between Council officials, well-known personalities, and Scout leaders.





Karlín.



Addressed to the district Economic Council of the National Committee. Karlín. Delivered by scout Nušl on 19.11.18.

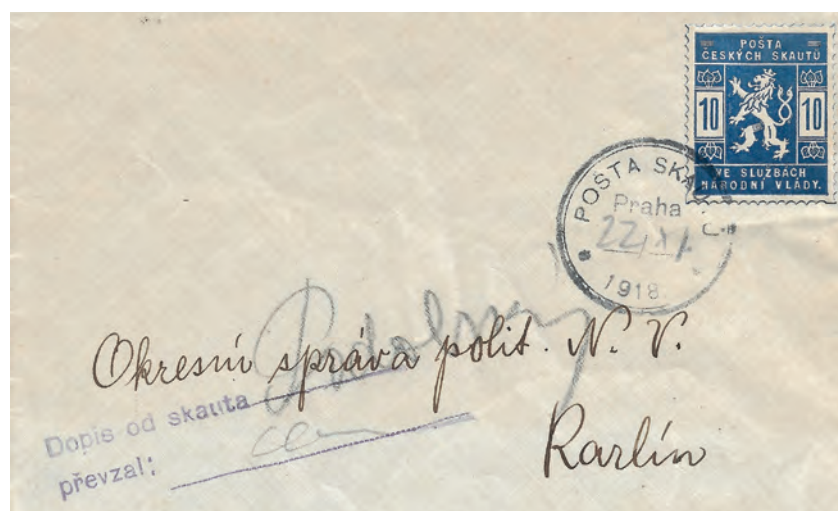


Districts in Prague communicated by Scout Post.





Karlín.



To the district Economic Council of the National Committee, delivered by scout Podobský on 22.11.1918. Karlín.



To the district Economic Council of the National Committee, delivered by scout Novák on 18.11.1918. Karlín.



To the district Economic Council of the National Committee, delivered by scout Nušl on 19.11.1918. Karlín.

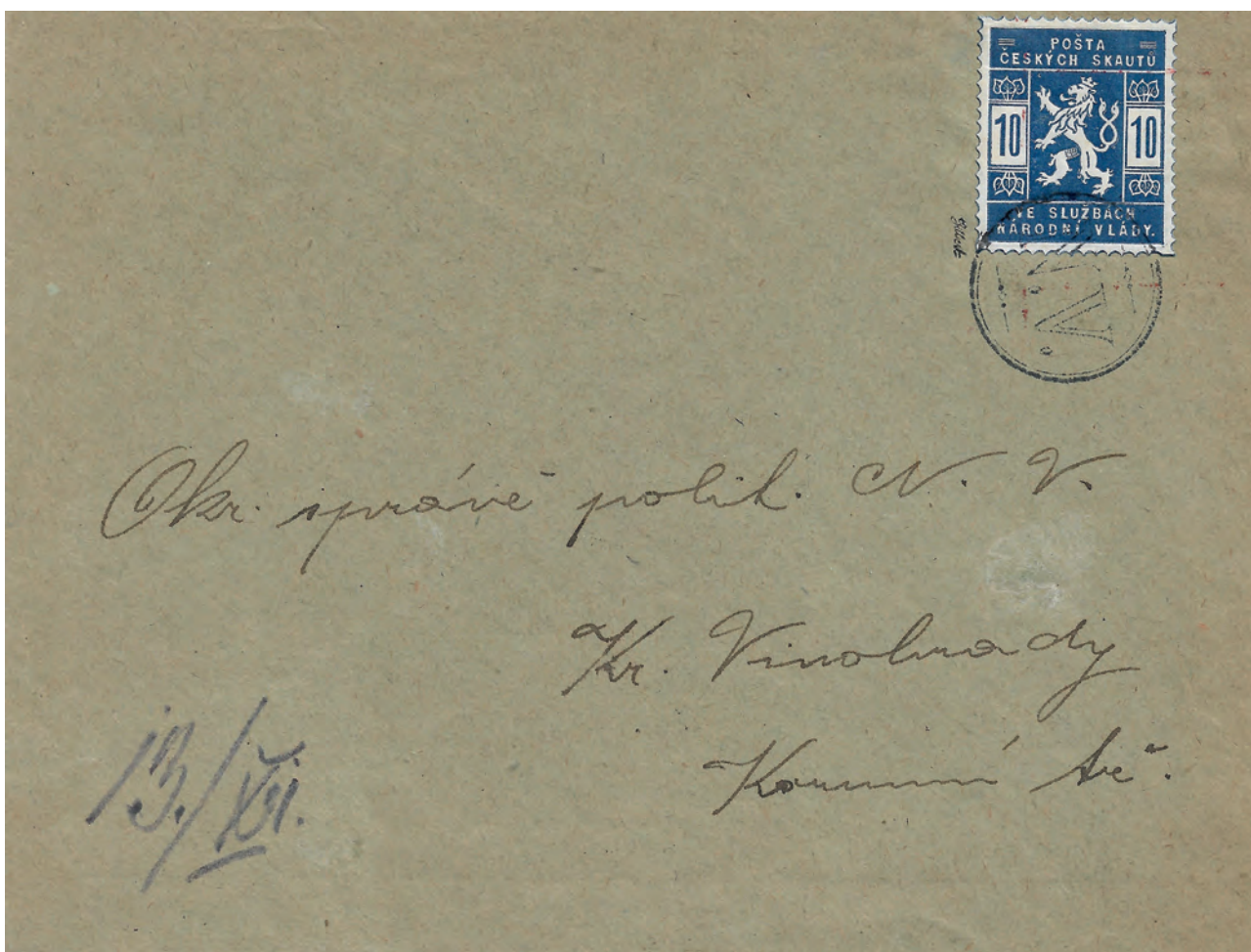


Královské Vinohrady.



Jan Novák.

Addressed to the Economic Council of the Královské Vinohrady district of the National Committee. Envelope delivered by scout Novák, November 24, 1918.



Envelope handwritten in pencil dated 13.11.18. Addressed to the Administration of the political district of the Královské Vinohrady, district of the National Committee.





To the Královské Vinohrady district Economic Council. Delivered by scout Novák 18.11.18. Folded in the envelope due to being folded in the pocket of the scout uniform.

This rubber stamp, after the end of the Scout Postal service, remained for some time in the hands of National Committee employees, so that some favour envelopes were produced which are easy to recognise today.

DOPIS OD SKAUTA MARK.

This rubber stamp was filled in mainly in two ways. The most correct way was when it was written on both lines, the name of the scout making the delivery, and the name of the recipient. Only occasionally did only the name of the scout making the delivery appear, while at other times only the recipient was signed, but almost never the two blanks, if ever the word *Osobně* ! (hand delivery) appears.

In this case, the bottom line: “převzal: _____”, is signed by the recipient Pavel Šesták, the top line: Dopis od skauta _____ is signed by the delivering scout Král, in the genitive case.

If the name of the deliverer is in the nominative, Král, it means that it is the scout himself who signs the delivery, whereas, if the genitive is used as in this case Krále, the name of the scout is filled in later by the recipient of the consignment. This was not always the case, however.





CORRESPONDENCE TO ECONOMIC COUNCILS OF PRAGUE DISTRICTS.

In April 1915, the first coupons for the collection of bread had already been introduced in Prague, the preparation and distribution of which was provided at the city's expense by the newly established bakery, according to the requirements of the bread commissions. Gradually, coupons were introduced for all other foodstuffs and, in general, items of basic necessity and daily use.

On October 25, 1918, the National Committee in Prague took over control of the main supply centre, the so-called Grain Institute, and other decisive Institutions.

The Government of the provisional National Council, in collaboration with the Scout Association, reached an agreement with the Prague public schools under which certain nautical Scouts were exempted from attending school every day in order to perform national service with the Scout Post.

In the late 17th and 18th centuries, Maximilian Thun had a palace built here. In 1800 the palace was transformed into the Provincial Chamber (Czech Parliament).

Immediately after the coup and the proclamation of the republic, the Post office began to operate, serving the needs of the National Assembly.

On November 13, the National Committee and with it the Scout Post office moved to the Czech Parliament building, as the first parliamentary session was to be held the following day. Here the Habsburg dynasty was deposed and Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk was unanimously elected the first president of the Republic. The courier service manned by Scouts acted with immediate diligence in delivering important urgent messages throughout Prague and the surrounding area.

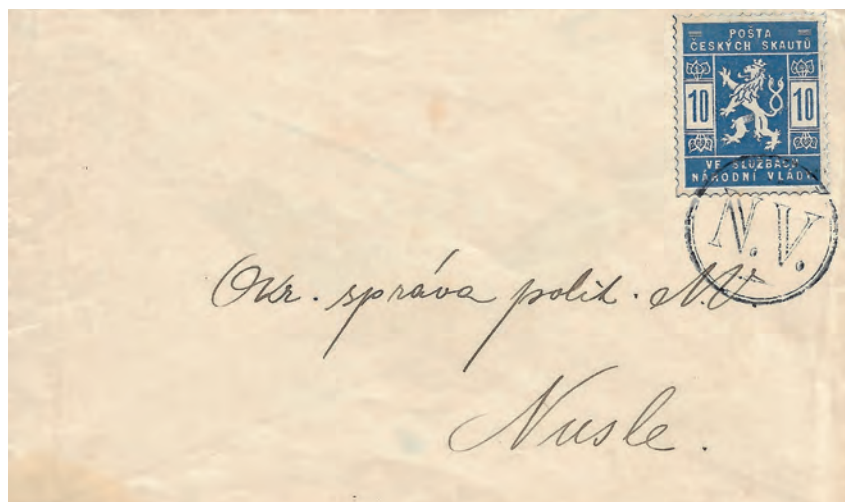
The letters collected at the Town Hall were sorted by the Scouts, who affixed the stamps proper for this service, then the envelopes were taken to the indicated address. At this point, the scout who made the delivery signed the envelope, then the recipient removed the letter from the envelope and signed the receipt, and in this way the envelope was returned to the central office as a receipt and control and as a proof that the delivery had been made in a confidential and secure manner.

Žofín was the second centre established on the night of October 28, 1918 in Prague, responsible for the training and management of the revolutionary armed forces, where, according to Josef Scheiner's orders, Czech soldiers were to go to participate in the service of the new state. There they were responsible for the formation of volunteer military divisions in order to ensure order and avoid conflict with the ruling military power.





Nusle, City Hall.

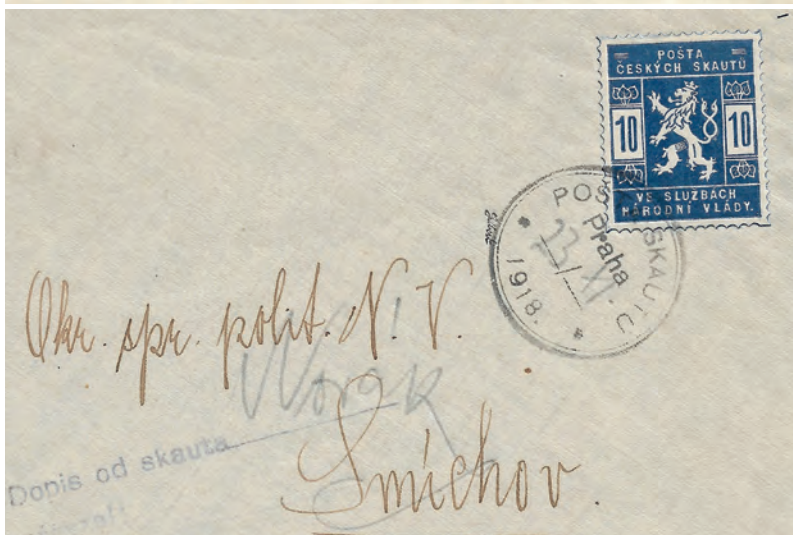


Letters sent to the Economic Council of the Nusle district. Delivered by scouts Nušla and Filip. on 13 and 23 November.





Smíchov.



Envelopes addressed to the Smíchov district Economic Council of the National Committee.
Delivered by scout Novák and Salda, November 23, 1918.





Vršovice.



Delivered by scout Nuša, 20.11.18.



Delivered by scout Stretti, 23.11.18.



Handed over by scout Kalibera on 25.11.18, the last day of Scout service.





Zlíkov.

Economic Council of the Zlíkov district. Delivered by scout Nušla, 13.11.18.



Economic Council of the Zlíkov district.



Economic Council of the Zlíkov district. Delivered by scout Podobský, 17.11.18.





Zizkov Post Office.



Delivered by scout Nuša, 9.11.18.



Zizkov district Economic Council. Delivered by scout Stretti on 21.11.18. N.V. type A on the back.





Mixed postage postmarked in Vienna. 7.11.18. Delivered by scout Nušla. 10.11.18 to the National Committee. Postmarked with N.V. type B.



The metal postmarks "N.V.", were used in the Harrachův Palace and the City Hall. Registered envelope with Cerný Kostelec label. Mixed postage composed of two Austrian postmarked stamps dated 11.11.1918 (inverted head - disapproval of the monarchy -) and 20 heller red stamp of the Scout mail postmarked with N.V. type A. It also bears the signature of the scout Strettiho who makes the delivery on 12.11.18 and postmarked POŠTA SKAUTŮ. Addressed to the Prague National Committee (automobile transport section). Received: R. Ořovský.



Order of the Czechoslovak Military Committee of October 29, 1918.

Military cyclists who have a bicycle suitable for their use must register at the office of the military Committee in Žofín. To supplement the military service provided by the Sokol and volunteers, the Czech national militia is constituted as the order of the National Committee.

This Czech national militia is composed of officers and men, members of the former armed forces. Their office is on the ground floor in Žofín, and they are all officers in Prague!. Men obliged to register there. The office, which has its permanent residence, is subject to the leadership of the military department of the National Committee.

Although the capital was not directly affected by the war, conditions in Prague got progressively worse. There were severe food shortages, and soon the capital was transformed into a giant hospital housing thousands of wounded soldiers. During the war, ambulance trams transported 700,000 wounded soldiers to hospitals, while a funeral tram was specially equipped to transport dead soldiers. The lower part of the carriage had enough space for two to four coffins. From 1917 to 1919, more than 1,000 soldiers were transported from the hospitals in the Vinohrady district to the Olšany cemetery.

It is worth taking a look at this large hospital complex by Dr. Rudolf Jedlička, who wanted to bring together doctors from various specialities in one place to offer patients comprehensive care from diagnosis to convalescence. At that time, the Institute was one of the most modern and leading medical facilities in Europe.

The Prague Sanatorium was completed in May 1914, a month after the Sarajevo bombing. The following month, World War I broke out, and some doctors, including Jedlička, were sent to the front. With the threat of the army turning the new building into a military hospital, Jedlička returned from the front to take over as commander of the third reserve hospital, providing space and cover for the Red Cross. It also included a school for invalids returning from the front.

During the First Republic, the sanatorium prospered and there was no shortage of patients. Among the best known were Josef Rössler-Ořovský and Charlotte Masaryk. Minister Alois Rašín died here after his assassination, February 18, 1923.

In addition to official bodies, the National Committee also sent correspondence to private individuals from its original headquarters in the Municipal House.

The family of Josef Rössler Ořovský ran a wholesale pharmaceutical business with the Milde family as partners, located in the centre of Prague, 18 Štěpánská street. At that time, private correspondence to Rössler himself and to the address of the apothecary/drugstore was redirected to his private residence at 44 Palackého street.



Declaration of consumption of bread and flour (from the Czech Kingdom) for the consumption of 2 weeks 168 and 169.



Detail, bread and flour consumption coupon.

Envelope on National Committee letterhead, addressed to the Cereal Institute, initially located in the Lucerna Palace, Václav Náměstí. Postmark with the mark-cancellation of the acting Government NÁRODNÍ VÝBOR, in red ink.



Lucerna building (Obilní ústav) (photo 2017).

Addressed to the Grain Institute in Václav Náměstí. Delivered by scout Podobský. 23.11.18.



Hall and interior staircase (photo 2017).



Delivered by scout Stretti on 21.11.18. Reverse N.V. of the National Committee headquarters.



Lucerna building, headquarters of the Institute of cereals. (photo 2017).



Envelope addressed to the Grain Institute in Václav Náměstí, postmarked with "N.V." and "POŠTA SKAUTŮ" November 25, (last day of service) delivered by scout Šourek.





Letter on letterhead of the Czech Economic Societies. Department general commission of the Prague branch of the War Grain Institute. To the municipal office in Prague. 10.7.1916.



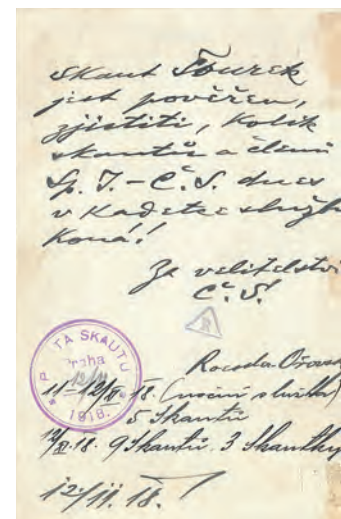
Lucerna interior (Obilní ústav).



Kadetka Tychonova 1, Prague 6, military school for the preliminary education of officers. Cadets received higher professional education and basic concepts for military careers. Scouts had a permanent service during the revolutionary period.



Vignette, K.u.k. infantry. Prague cadet school.



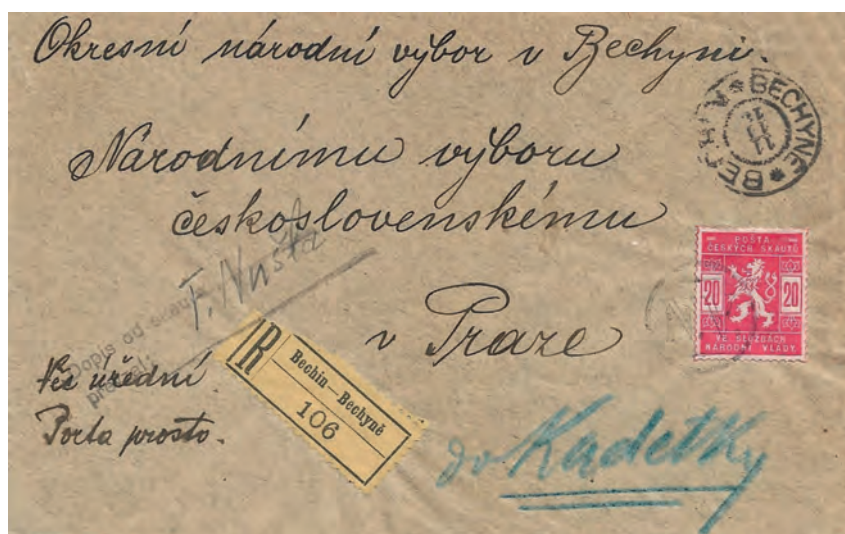
Card (palimpsest) from the Czech Scout headquarters, addressed to the guard post - Scout Post - of the National Committee - military school - dated 12.11.18 in which R. Ořovský requests from scout Šourka, how many scouts and members are on duty at the guard post. Answer: from 11 to 12.11.18 (night duty) 5 Boy Scouts, on 12.11.1918, 9 Boy Scouts and 3 Girl Scouts.



K.u.K. Infantry. Prague cadet school. 1918.



Envelope on letterhead of the Institute for business promotion of the Pilsen Chamber of Commerce. Addressed to the Prague National Committee. Department of the cadet school. Delivered by scout Šourka on 12.11.18.



Registered mail, free of postage. National Committee from the district of Bechyně locality in the district of Tábor in the region of south Bohemia, Czech Republic, located in the north-east of the region, a short distance south of Prague, to the Czechoslovak National Committee in Prague (cadet school). Delivered by scout Nušla on 11.11.1918.





Registered envelope with ordinary Austrian postage dated 12.11.18, addressed to the Czechoslovak National Committee (Harrach Palace), Jindřišská Street 20, crossed out address, is redirected to the Castle, cadet school.



Registered letter from Prague 13 to the National Committee on 13.11.1918 to the cadet school. Austrian stamps on the back. Delivered on the day by the scout Sedivý.



Back of the letter, with Austrian postage.



Envelope with mixed franking addressed from the central unit of the Czech economic communities in the Kingdom of the Czech Republic to the National Committee at the Castle (cadet school - national militia) 11.11.1918.



Sněmovní street plaque.



Czech Parliament building, 1918.

In 1933, a granite memorial plaque was installed on the building of the former Thun Palace in Prague's Sněmovní street in the Malá Strana district, commemorating the 15th anniversary of the establishment of independent Czechoslovakia. On the plaque is a large coat of arms and the text:

In this memorable building of the Provincial Assembly of the Kingdom of Bohemia, a revolutionary coup against Austria was completed and the Czechoslovak State was restored. It was here that the National Committee took control of the self-government of the Czech Republic on 28 October 1918. It was also here that on 14 November 1918 the National Assembly stripped the Habsburg house of the throne, proclaiming the Czechoslovak Republic and unanimously electing its first president and government. On 29 June 1920, the National Assembly adopted the Constitutional Charter of the Czechoslovak Republic.





Registered letter from Oberplan, Horní Planá (in Czech) is a town in the district of Český Krumlov in the region of south Bohemia in the Czech Republic with mixed franking, on 13.11.18 to the pharmaceutical firm Milde & Rössler. Forwarded to the Parliament where J.R. Ořovský was on duty that day. Delivered by scout Šourek on 14.11.18.



Czech Parliament 1918. Scouts in service.



Scouts on duty, bringing order to Karel Kramář's departure from Parliament.



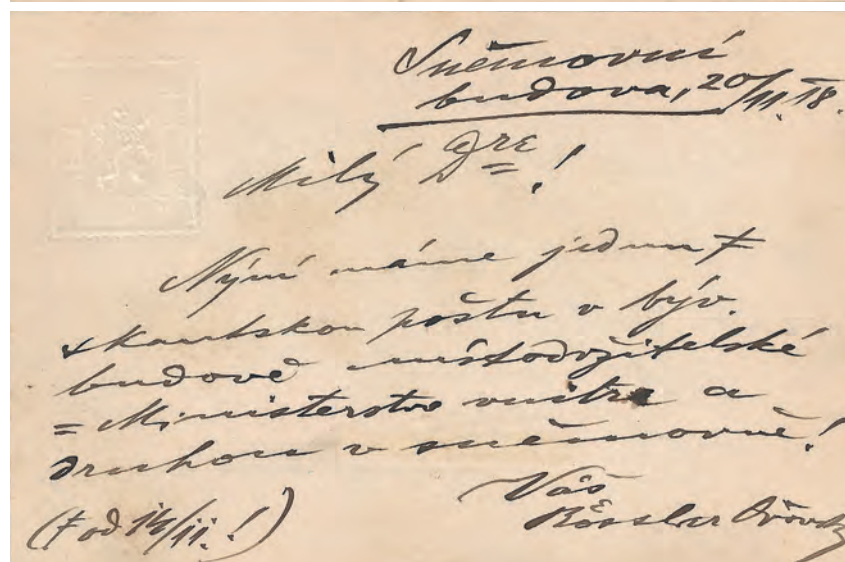
Large envelope for documents addressed to the Scout guard post. Manuscript: delivered in person. Postmark type B in red. 19.11.1918.



Hall of the Czech Parliament, 1918.



Czech Parliament building.



Postal stationery, sent from Parliament on 20.11.18, delivered by scout Podobskebo to lawyer Karel Rix, in which Scoutmaster and member of the National Committee R. Ořovský informs:

Dear Doctor!

We will now hold talks on Scout Post in the building formerly Ministry of the Interior and later in the Parliamentary building (from 14.11). Rössler-Ořovský.



Envelope with stamp 10 h., N.V. postmark, in black ink and black POŠTA SKAUTŮ. Addressed to the Army Headquarters. Delivered by scout Sourek on 25.11.18.



Envelope with letterhead "NÁRODNÍ VÝBOR" (Prague National Committee) Municipal House. Red stamp 20 h. with N.V. postmark, in black ink and black POŠTA SKAUTŮ. Addressed to the Army headquarters. Delivered by scout Böhma on 8.11.1918.

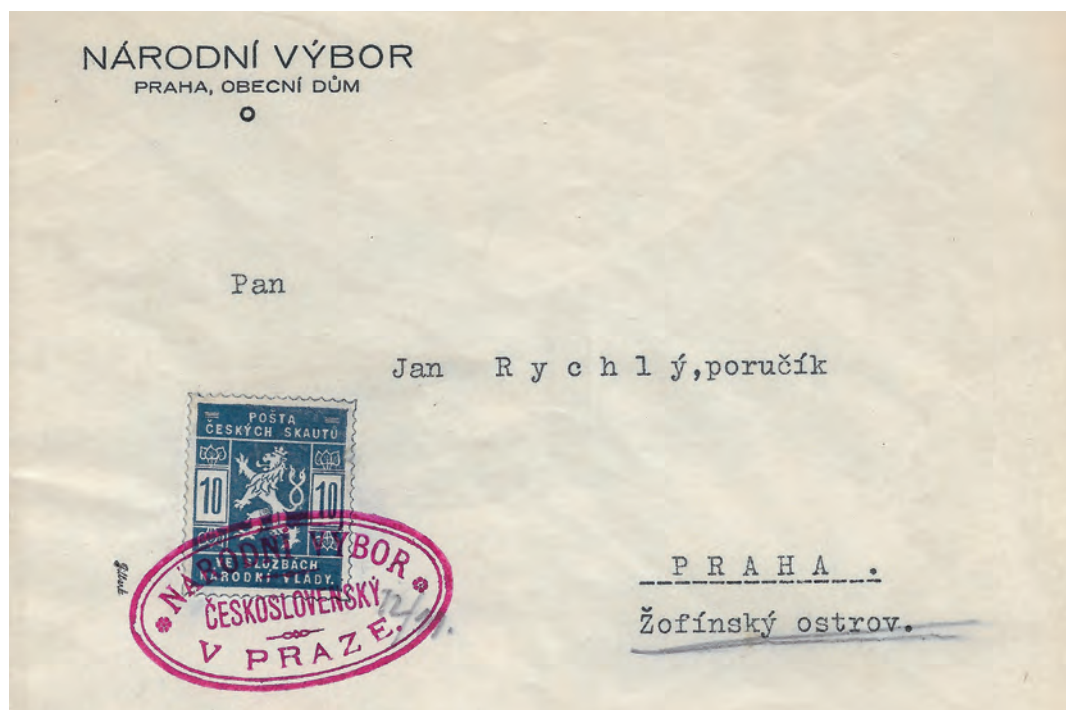




Letter addressed to Mr. Hajný, instructor of the war management forestry department in Žofín. Delivered by the scout Nušla.



Žofín: Revolutionary Army HQ (photo 2017).



From the National Committee (Municipal House) to Lieutenant Jan Rychlý. Oval rubber postmark in red ink. 12.11.18.

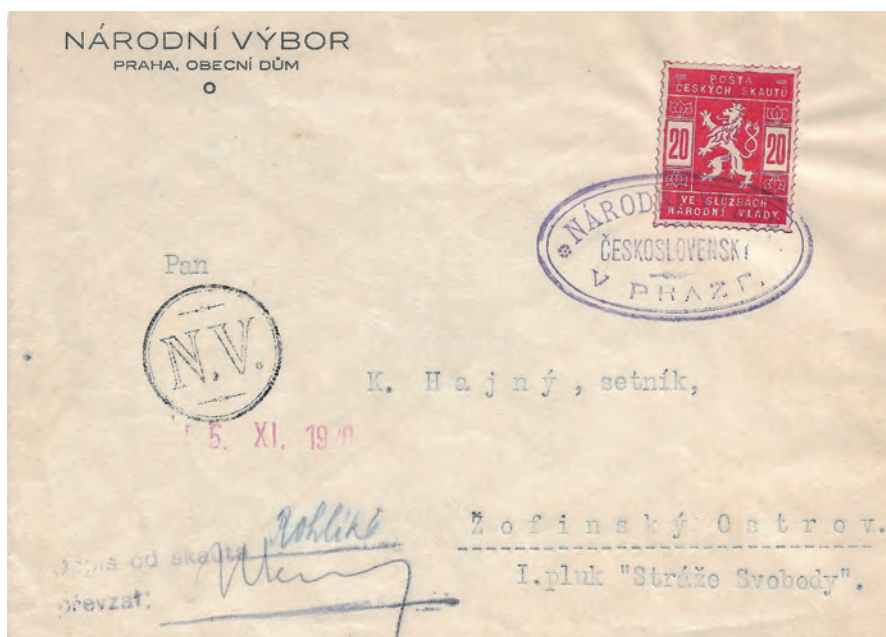




Envelope sent by the National Committee to the barracks in Žofinský Ostrov, to Captain Karel Mašek, in Žofinský Ostrov.



Rooms of the Žofin Palace, enabled for the training and management of the revolutionary armed forces.



Envelope on National Committee letterhead, addressed to K. Hajný, Company I, Regiment "guard post" in Žofinský Ostrov, delivered by scout Roblík. 5.11.1918.





To Superintendent Karel Novotný on 18.11.1918. Received in blue pencil Karel Novotný.



Envelope on National Committee (Municipal House) letterhead. Addressed to Captain Karel Vlahý (Žofínský island). Delivered by scout Novák, signed by Karel Vlahý. Date of dispatch in pencil 5.11.1918.





Express registered envelope with mixed franking. Vienna (7.11.18), addressed to the Prague National Committee (military technical dept), located on the Žofín island.



On the afternoon of October 28, a Czech military unit was formed in Žofín under the command of Captain Jaroslav Rošický. Military guard on the bridge to Žofínský Island.



Envelope addressed to military sanatorium n° 2 in Prague. 16.11.1918.



Card sent from the reserve military hospital n° 2, K.u.k. in Prague (military care) on 12.11.1914, to Dombrová or Doubrava, a town in the Moravian-Silesian region of the Czech Republic, located in the north-east of the country, near the Polish border.

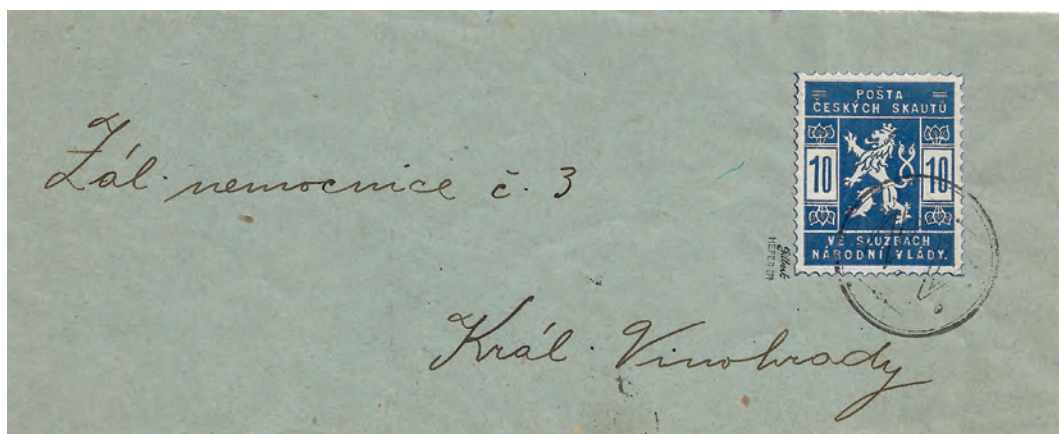




A Red Cross nurse provides hospital care to a convalescent soldier.



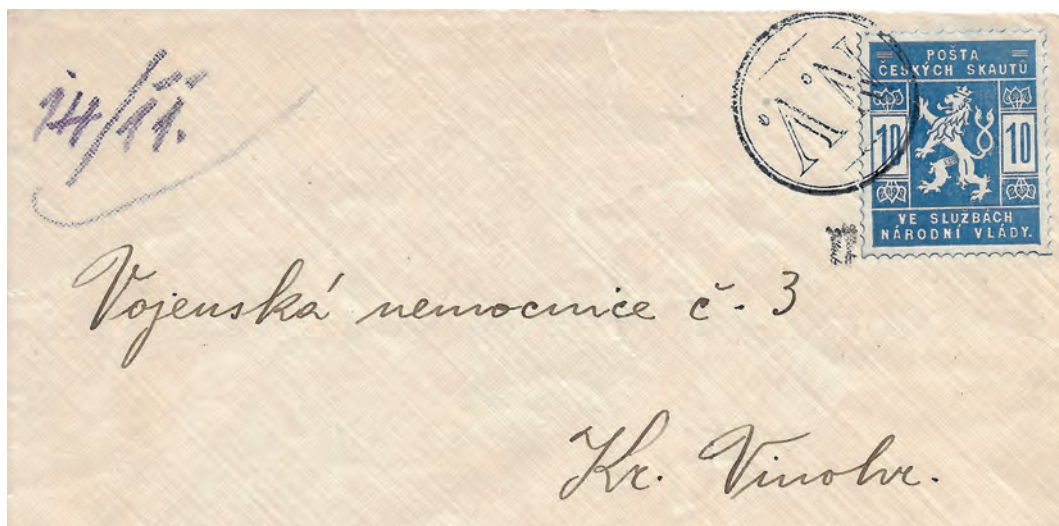
Envelope addressed to military sanatorium n° 2 in Prague. Delivered on 15.11.1918 by Zeman, one of the three (girls) Guides who performed the postal service.



Reserve hospital number 3. Královské Vinohrady. Prague.



Back N.V., type B.



Envelope addressed to the military reserve sanatorium n° 3, handwritten date 14.11.18., 10 heller stamp with different shades of blue.



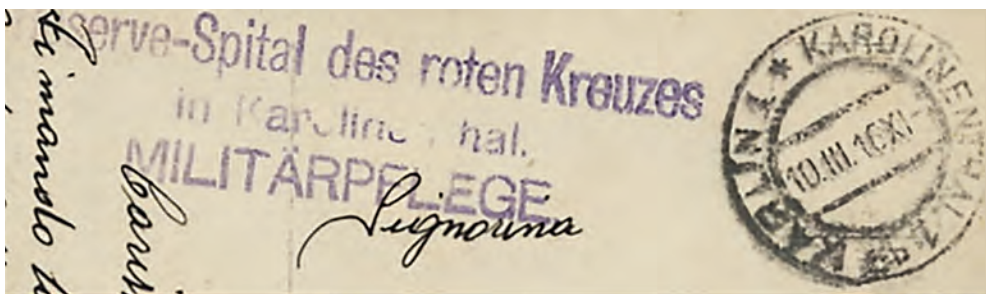


Envelope addressed to military reserve sanatorium n° 3, Králouké Vinohrady, delivered by Scout Stretti, Nov. 24. Postmark "POŠTA SKAUTŮ", in black and rubber mark "Dopis od Skauta" in violet.



Prague city tram 172, equipped for transporting wounded, 1914.

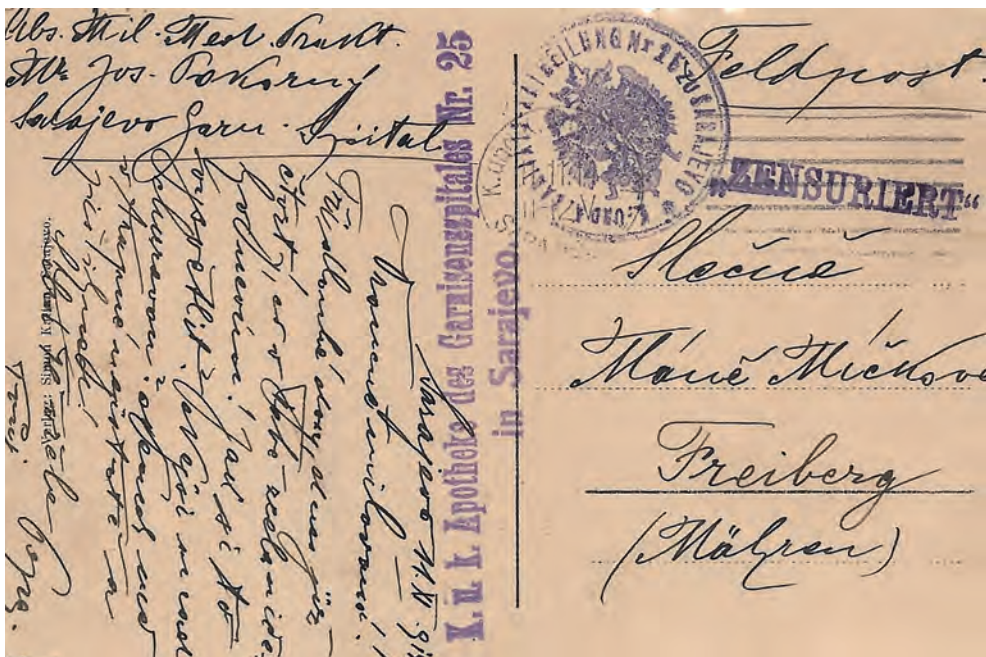




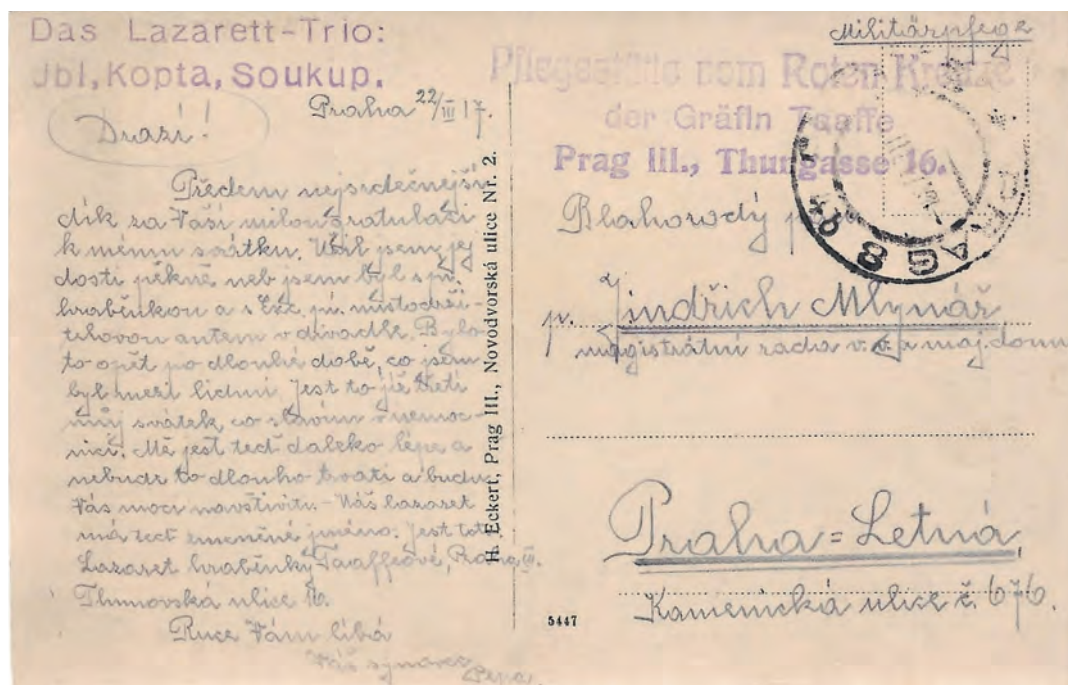
Brand of the Karolinenthal - Karlin Red Cross reserve hospital, military care. 10.3.16.



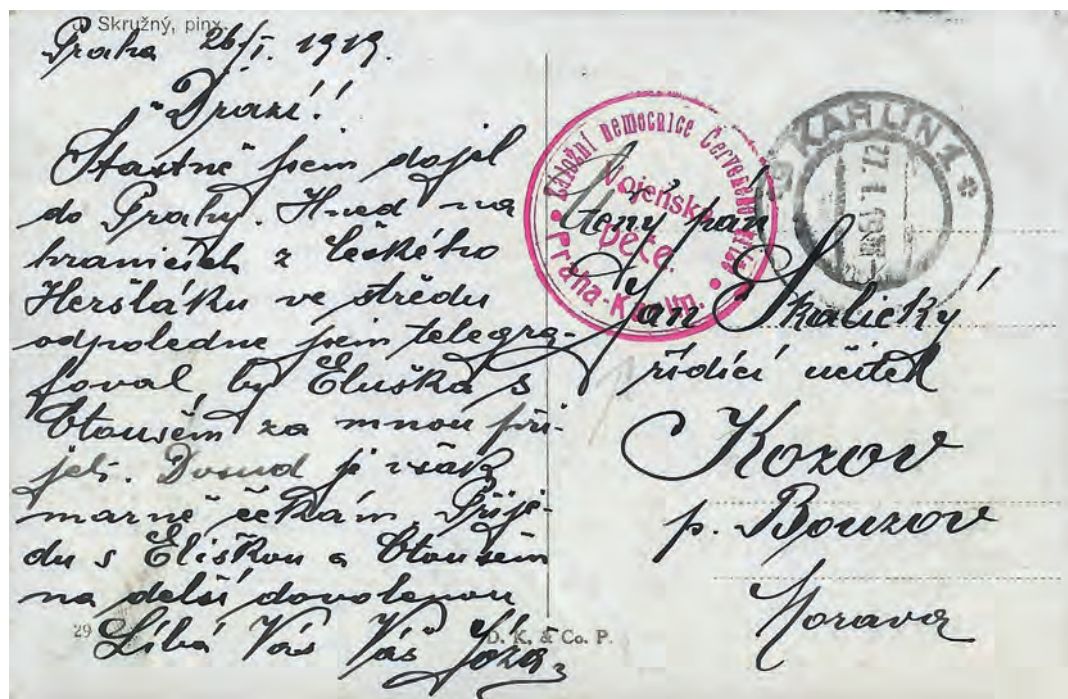
Card with military franchise mark from the Red Cross reserve hospital in Karolinenthal (Prague) sent by the hospitalised patient to his family in Cles, Italy. 10.3.1916.



K.u.K. apotheke of the 25th garrison hospital in Sarajevo, with censorship mark addressed to Freiberg, Mahren, Moravian-Silesian region of the Czech Republic.



Card sent to the Countess Taaffe, Red Cross nursing home (military care). Prague 22.3.1917.



Card sent from the field station at Karlín, Prague, to an Italian legionary patient at the Na Pleši sanatorium, 38 km from Prague. Circular mark in red "Záložní nemocnice Červeného kříže/ Vojenská péče/ Praha-Karlín", from the Red Cross military reserve hospital in Karlín).





Envelope sent from the office of the National Committee (Municipal House) to the Red Cross sanatorium in Karlině Královská. Delivered by scout Nušla. Signed receipt.



Envelope delivered by scout Nušla. Addressed to Dr. Isidor Zahradník. 19.11.18.



Back. Postmark type A.



Dr. Isidor Zahradník.



Envelope with mixed franking from Brno/Brünn on 14.11.18, addressed to Dr. Isidor Zahradník, Czechoslovak State public railway headquarters, procurator of the National Committee. Postmarked POŠTA SKAUTŮ dated November 15. Revolutionary vignette lightly postmarked with N.V. of the National Committee.





Registered envelope sent from Rothřetitz in Červená Řečice (paper mill) to the National Committee, railway department, later marked in blue pencil (cadet academy) and redirected handwritten to Dr. Zahradník. on 11.11.1918. Delivered in Prague to National Committee member Dr. Isidor Zahradník, by scout Sáldy on 13.11.18. Postage on letter: Postage 20 heller, additional 20 gram rate 5 heller, registered 25 heller, additional Scout postage 20 heller.



Envelope addressed to Dr. Isidor Zahradník, Minister of Czechoslovak State Railways in Prague. Postmarked POŠTA SKAUTŮ, delivered by junior scout Ořovský on November 18, 1918.



Fictitious simulation of the position of the Austrian stamps torn from the back of the envelope.

Registered envelope with the label of Bubentsch/Buběň (on the outskirts of Prague at that time), franked with two Austrian stamps (20 & 25 heller) of the king on the back of the envelope, which for political reasons are torn off, and on arrival in Prague the stamp of 20 heller is applied in the Scout office, thus giving conformity to the postage of the new government. Addressed to the general headquarters of Public Railways to Mr. Isidor Zahradník, attorney of the National Committee. 14.11.1918.



Envelope addressed to the national Economic Council of the Czech Kingdom. Delivered by scout Kalibera.



Envelope addressed to the national Economic Council of the Czech Kingdom. 57 Štěpánská street.



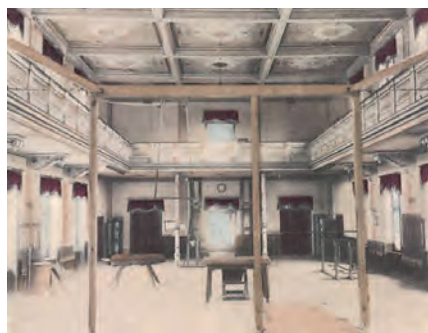
Vignette from the directory of the Kingdom of Bohemia Czech land office in Prague at 57 Štěpánská street.



Reverse side of the envelope with tourist vignettes promoting the city of Písek, and the city's kingdom Council.



Sokol building and gymnasium in the city of Písek, fitted out as an infirmary.



During World War I, many Sokol premises and gymnasiums were given as makeshift hospitals to house the wounded.

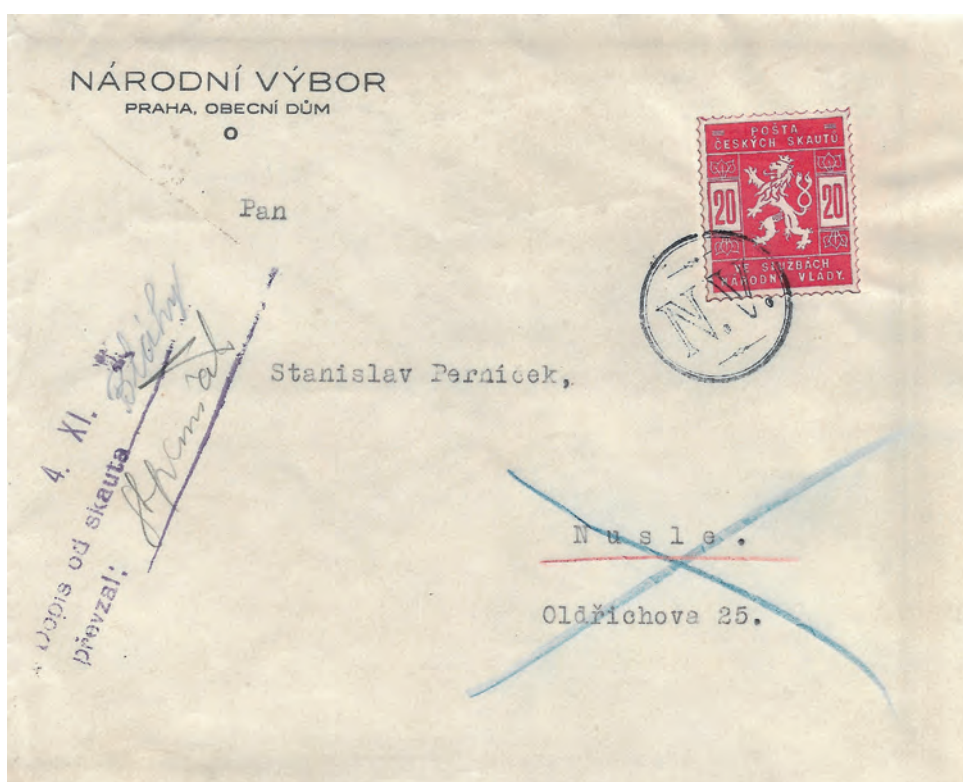


Václav Klofáč.



Registered envelope with mixed postage (Austria and Czech Scout Post) postmarked "POŠTA SKAUTŮ" Type A, in black and addressed to the deputy and member of the Congress of Prague Václav Klofáč. Envelope used in municipal postal services only.





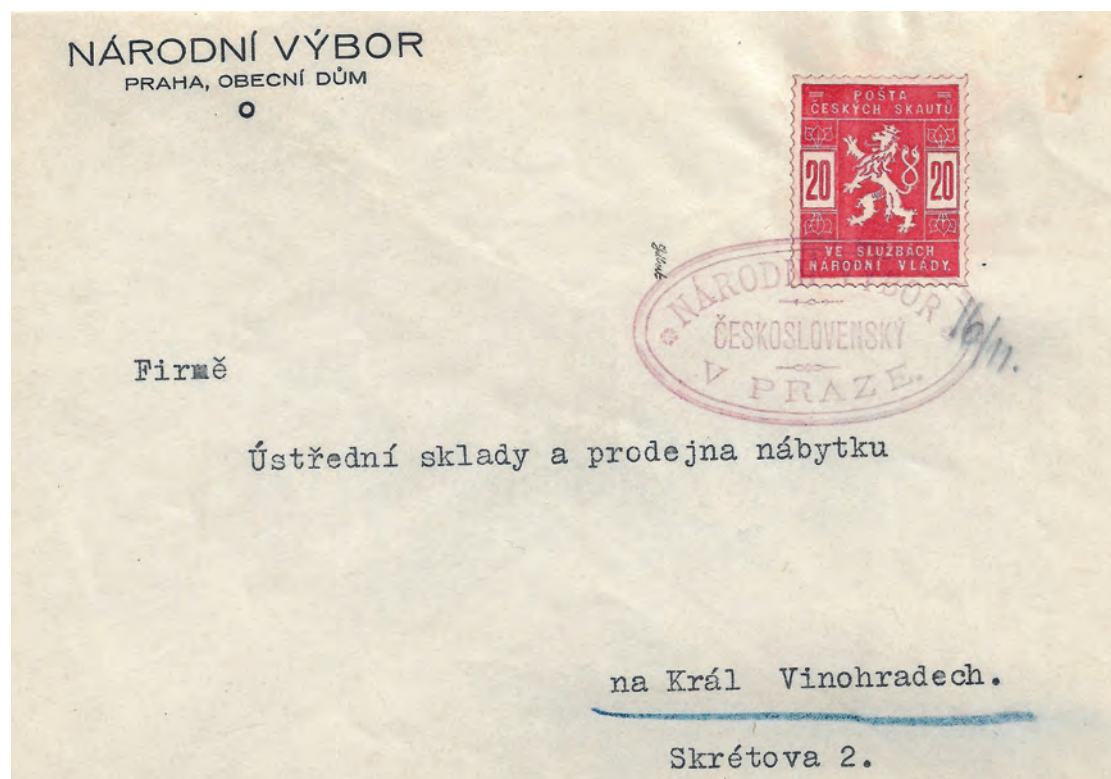
Envelope sent from the Municipal House, addressed to Stanislav Perníček, delivered by the scout Bláhy on 4.XI.18.



Envelope addressed to Jan M. Pauly, prelate, archdeacon of the church of St. Wenceslas in the district of Smíchov. Delivered by scout Bláhy on November 4th, 1918.



Jan M. Pauly.



Envelope on the letterhead of the National Committee (Municipal House) addressed to the central warehouses and furniture store company in Král. Vinohrady. Delivered on 16.11.18.

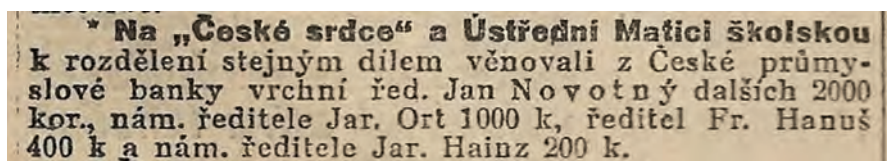


Envelope dated 11.11.1918, addressed to the Prague National Committee, with mixed postage, addressed to the Ministry of Trade of the Government. Immediate delivery!. Delivered by the scout Novák on 13.11.1918.





Envelope on National Committee letterhead, delivered by scout Laňha, received by Richard Vondráček (teacher). 13.11.18.



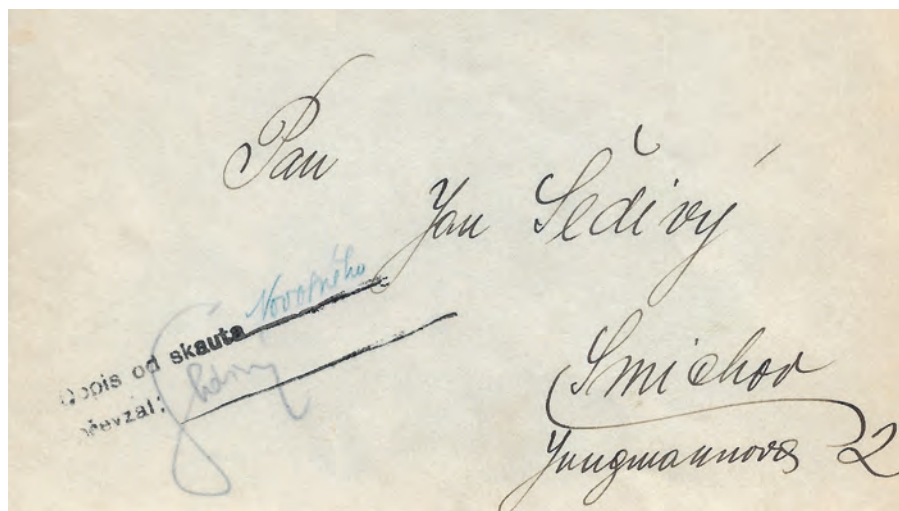
Press announcement of the donation of 1,000 crowns to the schools České Srdce and Ústřední Matica, by Jaroslav Ort.



Envelope on National Committee letterhead addressed to Jaroslav Ort, (locksmith) in the district of Královské Vinohrady. Delivered by scout Řihalskýho on November 6, 1918. Jaroslav Ort made numerous donations to České Srdce.



On the back, 10 heller stamp and oval rubber stamp "NÁRODNÍ VÝBOR" in black.



Envelope with rubber stamp "Dopis od Skauta". Delivered by the scout Novoského, received by Jan Sedivý. Stamp of 10 heller with oval postmark of the Czech National Committee.



Detail on the back, 20 heller stamp, N.V. and oval rubber stamp "NÁRODNÍ VÝBOR" in black.



Envelope with rubber stamp "Dopis od Skauta" delivered by scout Macháče and handwritten date 14/11. Stamp of 20 heller with oval postmark of the Czech National Committee and N.V. postmark.





Domin family memorial at the Vysehrad cemetery (photo 2017).



Karel Domin.

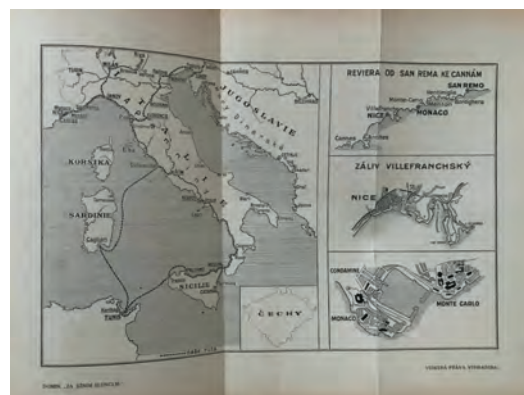
DR. KAREL DOMIN

ZA
JIŽNÍM
SLUNCEM

ZÁPISKY
PŘÍRODOPISCE
Z CESTY
PO STŘEDOMOŘÍ

MCMXXV

NAKLADATELSTVÍ J. OTTO
SPOLEČNOST S R. O. V PRAZE



Vignette K.K. Prague University.



Štěpánská street plaque.



Štěpánská street.



Registered letter dated 5.11.18 in the town of Rychnov, sent to the headquarters of the Milde & Rössler apothecary's shop, crossed out Milde redirected to the private residence of R. Ořovský, (Palackého nábrží, 44.) with handwritten Osobně! (delivered in person). Signed by the delivering scout Böhm.

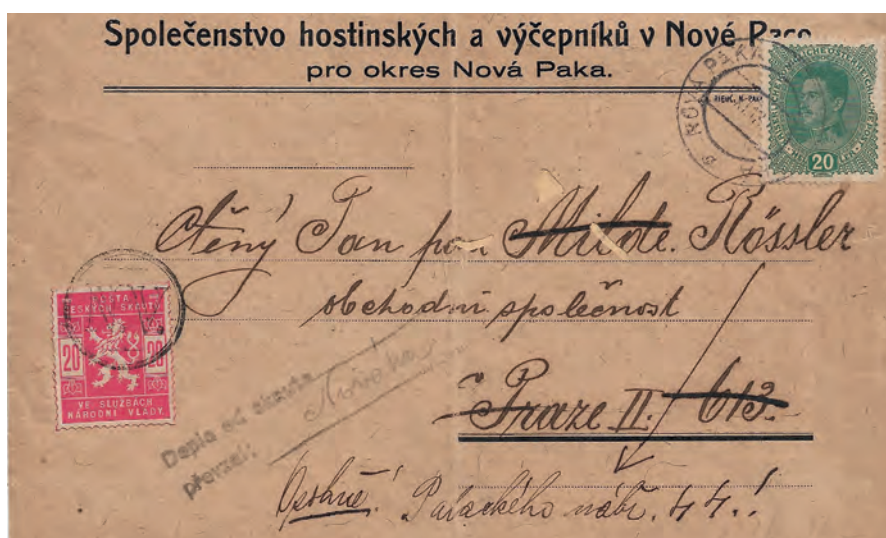


Funeral mausoleum of the Mildova & Rössler family. In the Vysehrad cemetery in Prague. Photo 2018.



Envelope sent from Zásmyky, a locality in the Kolín district in the Central Bohemian region, Czech Republic. Addressed to Milde and Rössler's drugstore in Štěpánská street, and redirected to the home address of Ořovský, Palackého nábrží, 44. Delivered by scout Böhm. Osobně! Delivered in person.





Envelope with mixed postage, addressed to Milde & Rössler, redirected to J. L. Rössler, his private address. Delivered by the scout Novák. Osobně! (delivered in person). 5.11.1918.



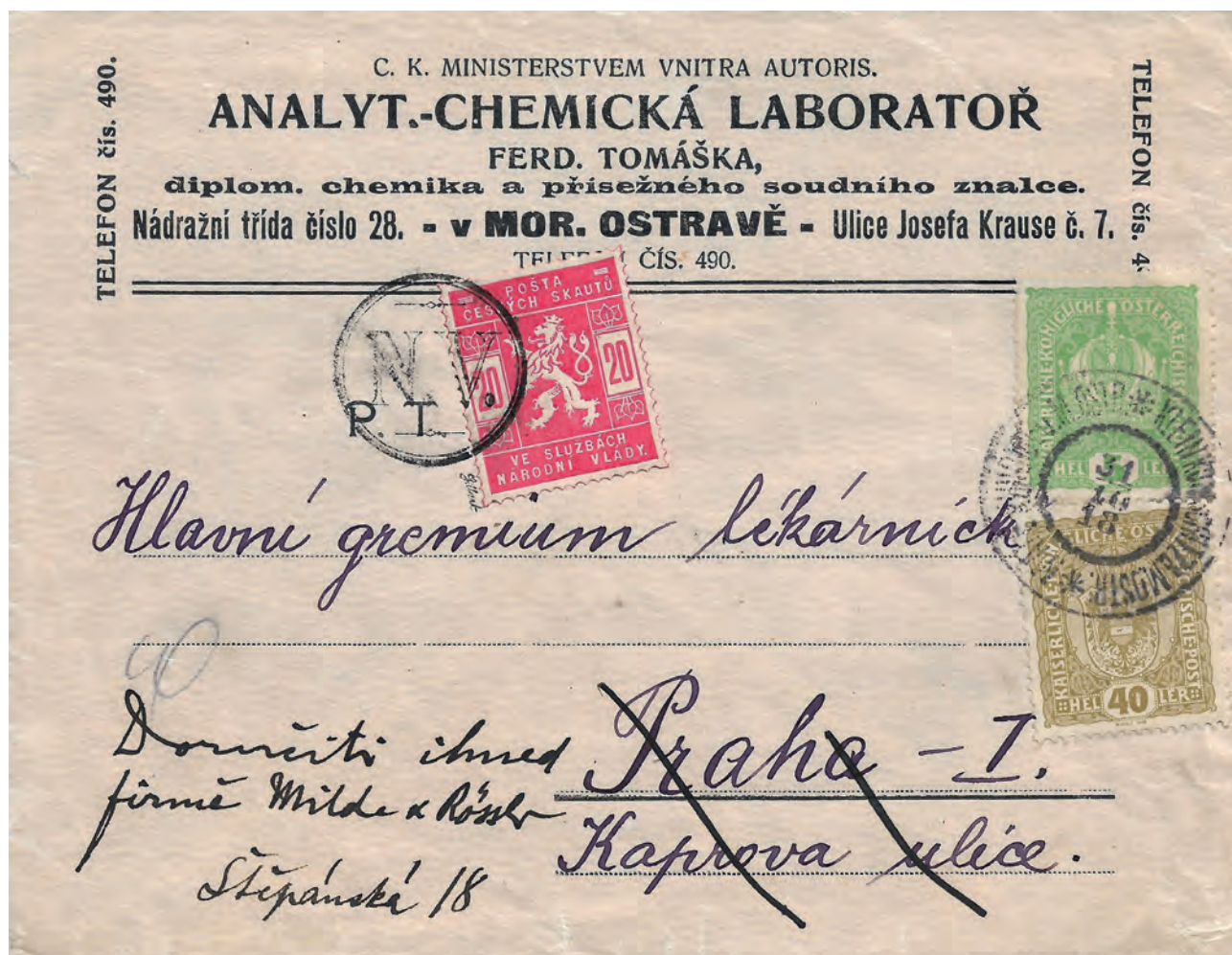
Letter with mixed postage, sent from Náchod, (a town in the Czech Republic, in the Hradec Králové region, situated in north-eastern Bohemia, very close to the Polish border), on November 4th, to the Milde & Rössler apothecary's shop in 18 Štěpánská street, address crossed out and forwarded to his home address: 44 Palackého nábřeží street. Hand-delivered by scout Stretti on 5.11.18 and received by Ry (Rössler Ořovský).

(derived from the German word for bridge, Brücke) Today the town is called Most, which means "bridge" in Czech, and was named after the system of bridges that spanned the marshes in this area in the 10th century.

Immediately after the fall of the Empire, different nationalities, including Czechoslovakia, asserted their rights to the use of their mother tongue to the Austrian government.

Relying on a law which in art. 19, December 1867 states:

"Equal rights are recognised in all component lands (of the monarchy) with regard to the use of native languages in schools, public offices and in everyday life".



Envelope with mixed franking from the clinical analysis laboratory, graduate and expert chemist in Moravská Ostrava, sent to the main pharmacy guild in Prague and redirected to the Milde & Rössler pharmacy in Štěpánská street. Mixed franking. 31.10.1918.



Vignette magistrates of Prague.



Reverse cancellation N.V.



Envelope delivered by scout Šourka on November 15.





Registered letter by Bohuslav Danda (lessee of the Loukovec courts) from Prague district Swijan - Podolí 2, writes to the National Council of the Czech Kingdom Prague - National House.



Army k.u.k. from Brüx.



Registered envelope in Brüx. Addressed to the National Committee Prague (Military department).

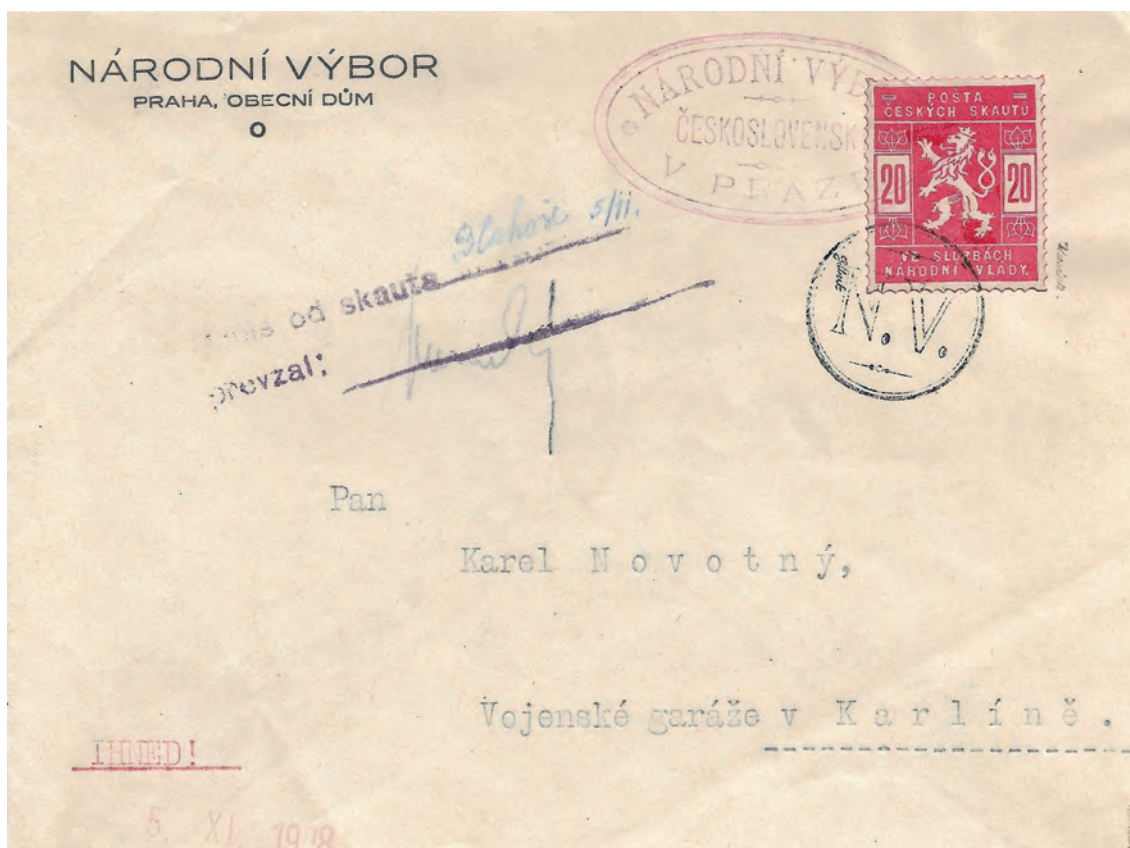


Addressed to the National Committee (foreign section). Postmarked on 7.11.18, the day of the official start of the Scout Postal service. Delivered by scout Zelený 9.11.1918.



Registered envelope sent from the Consulate of the Netherlands in Brno/Briinn on 11.11.18. Addressed to the National Committee (foreign affairs Committee) and delivered by scout Stretihbo on the November 13, 1918.

Back.



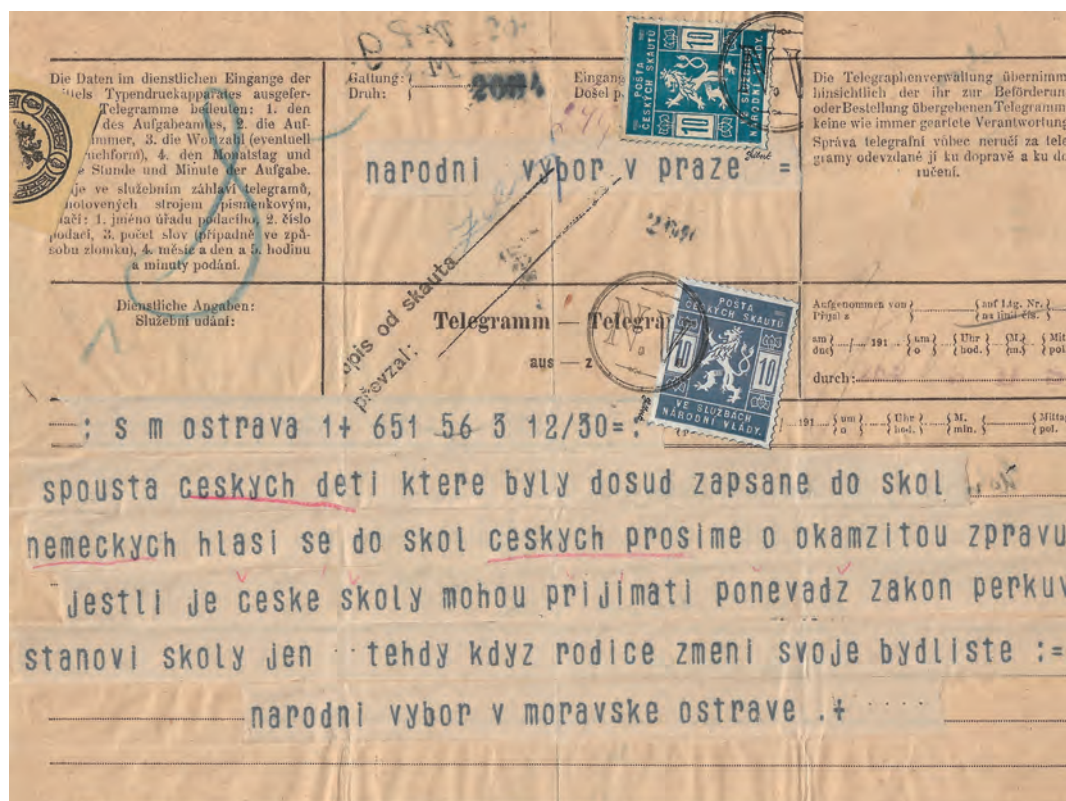
Registered envelope on letterhead of the National Committee in Prague. Municipal House. Addressed to Karel Novotný (military garage) in the Karlín district. Delivered by scout Blahoše on 5.11.18. Ihned!, immediately!. Oval rubber postmark in red.



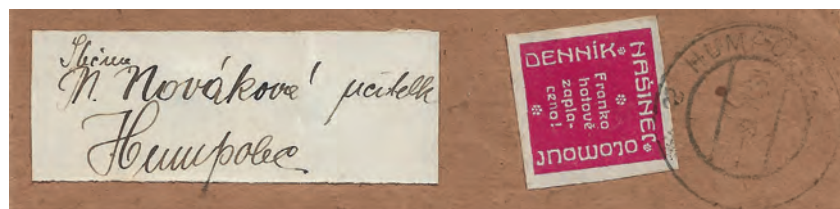
Newspaper wrapper with personalized vignette Národní Politika, postage paid 22.12.1918.



Stamps - temporary personalised vignettes stuck to newspaper wrappers.



Telegram with Scout stamps of 10 heller with different shades of blue and postmark N.V., type B, and rubber stamp: "Dopis od Skauta" in black. Delivered by scout Zelený. Numerous Czech children, who until now have been enrolled in German schools, demand Czech schools. Inform them immediately if Czech schools can accept them, because the Zakon Perkuv law says: this is possible only when the parents change their residence. Signed: National Committee in Moravská Ostrava.



Stamps - personalised vignettes were glued to newspaper wrappers.

The need for newspaper stamps could not be met quickly in the first months after independence. Nor were there enough Austrian newspaper stamps available in Czech Post offices to meet the need. Therefore, on November 19, 1918, the Czechoslovak Post office issued a regulation authorising newspapers to indicate payment of postage by issuing their own stamps or by marking newspaper wrappers. Newspaper publishers prepared stamps on gummed and ungummed paper, which then had to be affixed to the paper wrappers to indicate advance payment of postage. Following Austro-Hungarian practice, the post office cancelled newspaper stamps at the post offices of destination instead of origin. This explains why the provisional newspaper stamps of a publication are often found with different cancellations.

České Slovo (Czech word), was a Czech newspaper, founded and published in Prague from 1907. The newspapers were founded by the workers' union led by Václav Klofáč and Jaroslav Šalda. In July 1918, Klofáč was elected vice-chairman of the Czechoslovak National Committee. On November 14, 1918, he became prime Minister of National Defence of Czechoslovakia.

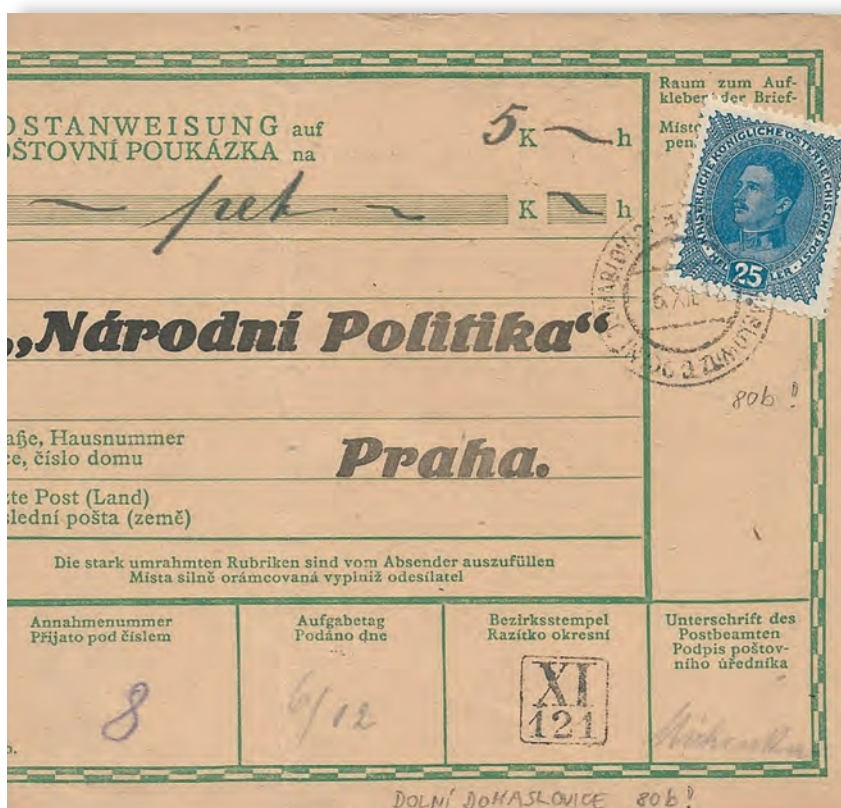




Envelope on the letterhead of the National Committee, addressed to the editorial staff of the newspaper *České Slovo*. Delivered by scout Böhma on the first day of the official postal service. 7.11.18.



Back, type A.



6.12.1918. Postal order receipt "Národní Politika". From Dolní Domaslovice (a village in the Frýdek-Místek district in the Moravian-Silesian region) to Prague.



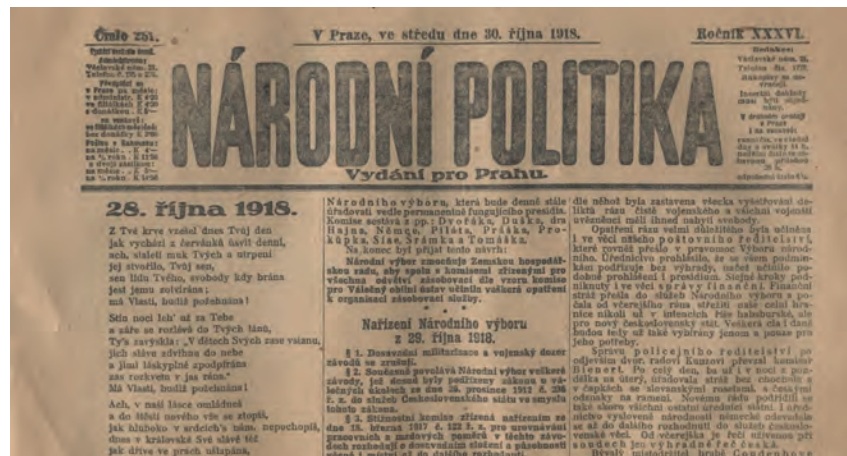
Reverse, postmark arrival in Prague, 9.12.18.



Envelope franked in Pilsen addressed to the administration of the newspaper *Národní Politika*. Military censorship K.u.K. 24.1.1916.



Národní Politika (National Politics) was a Czech-language newspaper published from 1884 to 1945.



Headlines *Národní Politika*, 29 and 30 October 1918.





Postmarked envelope at the office of the National Committee, addressed to the editorial office of *Národní Politika*, delivered by the scout Nusla.

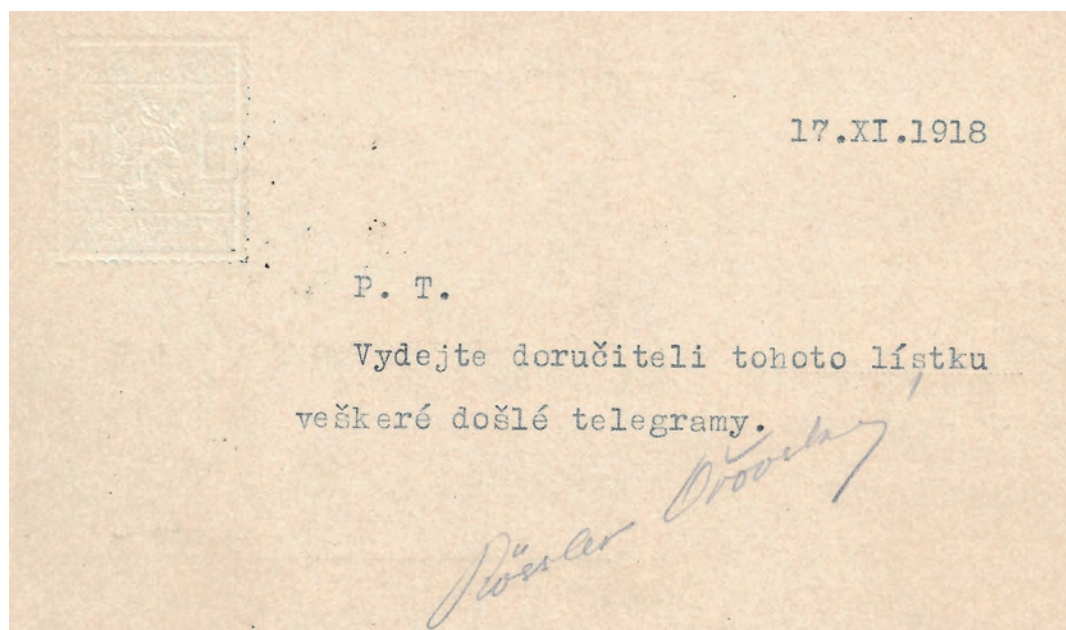
TELEGRAPH STATION.

The main post office in Prague was also involved in spreading the news of the establishment of the new Czechoslovak Republic.

On October 28, 1918, at 7.30 p.m., a telegram was sent from there to all post offices in Bohemia and Moravia announcing the establishment of a new state. At the same time, the country's post offices were informed to continue working in accordance with the regulations in force, to maintain service until midnight and to be ready to comply with the instructions and needs of the National Committee.

At the establishment of the republic in 1918, a total of 25 post offices worked in Prague, only one of which was housed in a purpose-built building, the one on Jindřišská street, the rest were located in rented premises or private buildings, where the facilities did not fully meet the needs of the operations, let alone the social conditions of the employees.

When the Scouts were sent to the telegraph office at the Wilson Railway Station to collect telegrams for the National Council, they carried their Scout identification cards with them.



"Deliver all incoming telegrams to the bearer of this card". Rössler Ořouský. 17.11.1918.



Post and Telegraph Station. Main Office in Prague. (Photo 2018).



Wireless Telegraph Station. Delivered by scout Baura on November 17, 1918.





Post and Telegraph station. Delivered by scout Podobský on 20.11.18.



Envelope franked with 10 heller stamp with faded printing. Addressed to the main office of the Prague Post and Telegraph station, delivered by scout Zelený on 16.11.1918.





Two envelopes, one date, one destination, and two scouts (Šourka and Böhm) make the deliveries to Mr. Lešetický, who in the new republic, became a consultant to the Czechoslovak government in matters of stamps and postal services. Franked with the red 20 heller stamp, postmarked 10.11.18 with "N.V.", plus "POŠTA SKAUTU" and "Dopis od skauta" in black. Addressed to the Post Office "Král. VINOHRADY 1" (KGL. WEINBERGE-1) to the attention of Mr. Jaroslav Lešetický (who was himself the director of the Vinohrady-Moravská Post Office), the second largest in Prague at the time. The letters were delivered on 11.11.18 as attested by the postmark on arrival at the post office.





Gustav Haberman.

Dr. Scheiner addresses the soldiers in the Old Town square. He is accompanied by, among others, Deputy Klofáč, and Gustav Haberman, a member of the Imperial Council and the revolutionary national Assembly.



Monument to Jan Hus in Staroměstské náměstí.

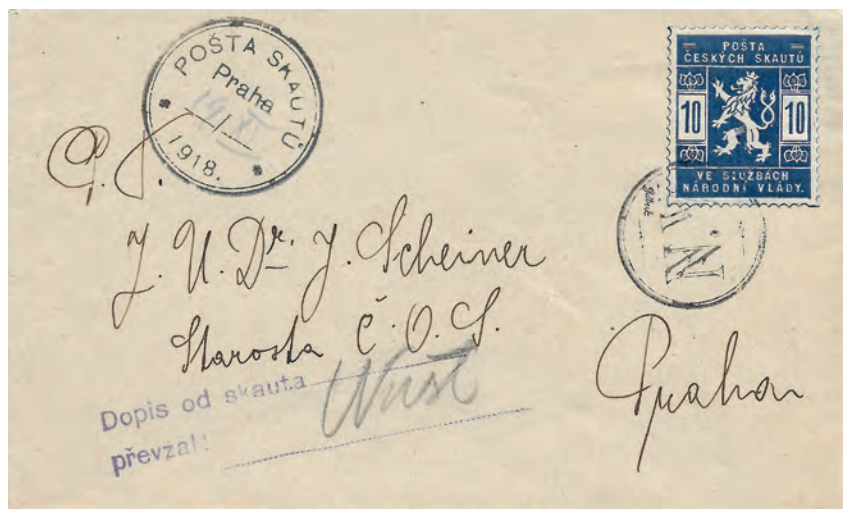


Envelope sent to Dr. Josef Scheiner as generalissimo of the Czechoslovak Army. Delivered by scout Salda. November 19, 1918.





Josef Scheiner.



Envelope sent to Josef Eugen Scheiner as head of the Czech Sokol (ČOS) Česká Obec Sokolská community in Prague. Delivered by the scout Nušl. 19.11.1918.



Army and Police. Provincial Military Command. CK Governorate. Building of the Provincial Assemblies of the Czech Kingdom.



Letter addressed to Josef Scheiner, generalissimo of the Czechoslovak Army, delivered on 20.11.18 by scout Nušl.





Letter addressed to Josef Scheiner, generalissimo of the Czechoslovak Army. Delivered on 23.11.18 by scout Šourek.



Letter sent from the local military headquarters in Prague to the National Committee Dr. Scheiner, commander of the newly established Czechoslovak Army, member of parliament and head of the Sokol. POŠTA SKAUTŮ postmark in black dated 13.11, two 10 heller stamps with N.V. postmark and Dopis od skauta (scout Novák) mark manuscript: contains 2 service letters.



Letter addressed to Josef Scheiner generalissimo of the Czechoslovak Army. Delivered on 18.11.18, by scout Strettibo to the Military Headquarters.

POST AND TELEGRAPHS.

At the same time as the stamps, some 1,000 copies of postal stationery were printed. They were printed using the same cliché as the 10 heller stamp and were intended for use in the Scout Organisation's own courier service. About thirty are known to have been used.

After the formation of the republic in 1918, the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs was created, under which the Post and Telegraph directorate in Prague and Brno depended.

In September 1918, the National Committee decided to form an underground revolutionary army, with the unconditional support of the Sokol and other Associations, and Josef Scheiner was appointed leader and supreme military commander of the Czechoslovak troops. Who better than he to put the largest physical education Association in the Czech lands at the service of the state. More than 10,000 organised men represented an ideological potential that was not to be underestimated by the Austro-Hungarian security forces.

On the night October 28, 1918, two centres for the training and management of the revolutionary Armed forces were established in Prague. One, was located in the former Town Hall, where the activity was organised by sections of the National Guard. The police patrols consisted mainly of the Falcon (Sokol), members of the workers' trade union and a significant nucleus of Scouts.

Another important centre, was located in Žofín, where, according to Josef Scheiner's





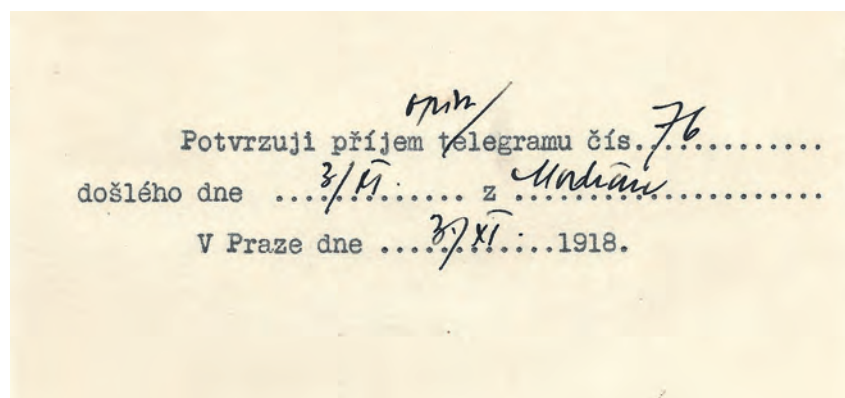
Letter addressed to Josef Scheiner as head of the Czech Sokol (ČOS) Česká Obec Sokolská community in Prague. Delivered on 17.11.18, by scout Nušl.



Identity card corresponding to the sokol and scout Weizenbauer. Year of entry 1918.

Our cause is not for the parties, but for the nation as a whole.
Tyrš.

To be an association of united brothers, not divided by political or religious opinions; that the rich man be the brother of the one to whom fate has assigned less; Let him who works with fortitude of mind for the success of the country, be the sincere brother of the one whose hands are decorated with the calluses of honest work.
Fügner.



Reverse side reads: I certify receipt of copy of telegram n° 76 on November 3, 1918, from Modrany.



Václav Johanis.



Card addressed to Václav Johanis. Member of the revolutionary National Assembly.



A.B. Svojsík.



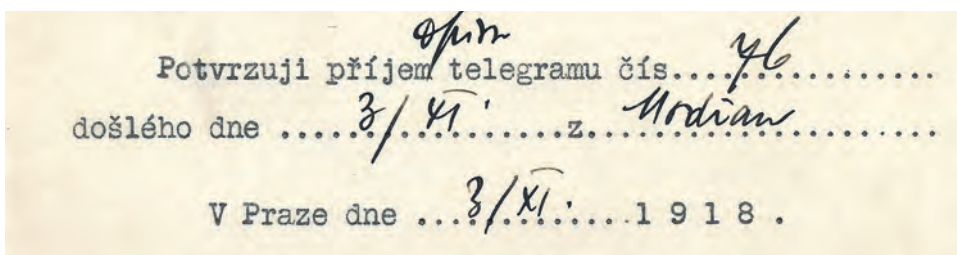
Card with light blue 10 heller stamp, addressed to professor A. Svojsík, founder, promoter and leader of Scouting in Czechoslovakia, signed by A.B. Svojsík. On the back it reads: I confirm receipt of telegram.



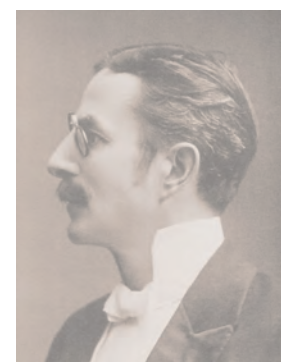


F. Soukup.

Card with light blue 10 Heller stamp addressed to National Committeeman Dr. Soukup or Dr. Jaroslav Novák, signed receipt by Soukup. The reverse reads: I confirm receipt of telegram n° 384 received on 7/11/18.



Reverse side reads: I certify receipt of copy of telegram n° 76 on November 3, 1918 from Modrany.



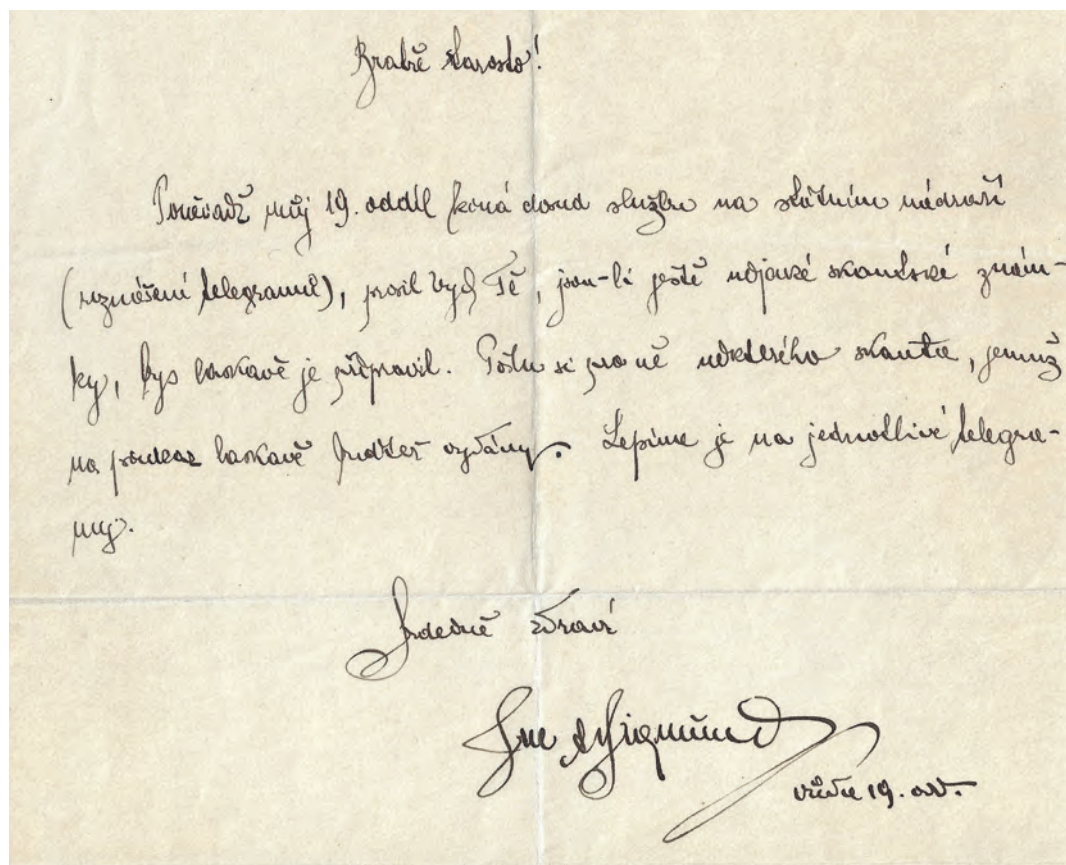
J. Rössler Ořovský.

Card addressed to director Rössler, National Committee, signed receipt by J. Rössler Ořovský.





Small letter without stamp with postmark "POŠTA SKAUTŮ - PRAHA - 1918". 4.11.18, to the home address of J. Rössler Ořovský, Palackého nábřeží, 44. Praha.



My team 19 is still serving at the state station (telegram distribution). I would like to ask you to be so kind and prepare the Scout stamps if there are any. I will send one of the scouts to bring them to me. Please give them to him against the signature. We affix them to the telegrams. Signature of the leader of team 19, leading member and representative of the Association "Junák - Český Skaut". Librarian Sigmund.





Castle guard post. Service outside the Castle by the Sokol. 1918.



Envelope addressed to the Sokol. Castle headquarters, delivered by the junior Ořovského scout, on November 15, 1918.

orders, Czech soldiers participating in the service of the new State were to be assembled. They were also responsible for the formation of volunteer military divisions, in order to prevent conflicts and ensure peace and order.

The primary mission in those bloodless days was to motivate and encourage the Sokol, soldiers and the general population and to transmit and maintain revolutionary morale and enthusiasm.

In 1908, the Sokol physical education Organisation had been active for almost 50 years. Before that, in 1904, the Sokol Organisations in the Czech, Moravian-Silesian and lower Austrian counties merged to form the Czech Sokol community (ČOS).

Dr. Josef Scheiner from his youth, like Masaryk, Svojsík and many other leaders, was a



Envelope addressed to the police at the Sokol headquarters at Prague Castle, delivered by scout Filip on November 22, 1918.



Envelope on the letterhead of the National Committee (Municipal House) addressed to the Castle school. Delivered at 7 p.m. on 5.11.18 by scout Topola, received by teacher Květa.





member of the Sokol Movement and was later elected to the board of the Czech Sokol Association. Immediately after October 28, 1918, he joined the formation of the Czechoslovak Army. From December 1918 to June 1919, he served as inspector general of the Armed Forces and member of the National Assembly.

During World War I, the falcon (Sokol) played an important role in the formation of the Czechoslovak Legions and in the days of the October 1918 coup they maintained order in the cities. They were often called *“our national army”*. Representatives of Sokol - mayor Dr. Scheiner and chief Dr. Vaníček: they became the organisers of the new army staff.

Sokol's patriotic and nationalistic approach was evident from the very beginning and their performances - trips in traditional costumes, participation in national festivities, public exercises, etc. - encouraged national self-confidence.

In the early days of the postal service, postcard-sized telegraphic postcards were issued from the National Committee to members of the provisional government and Scout leaders.

When the Scouts handed over telegrams, or other important documents, the recipients signed the cards presented, which the Scouts returned to the operation's centre offices as proof of delivery.

TO THE CASTLE.

The National Committee appointed representatives of the Sokol Movement to act as guards, to watch and guard the Hradčany Castle and later to protect the newly elected President T.G. Masaryk upon his arrival on December 21, 1918.

The Castle courtyard has housed the Post office since its inauguration in 1919. During the First Republic it provided telephone connections to the Castle and other entities and Organisations. The Prague pneumatic Post office also operated there, making it a very important state institution. It also administered the cadet school (now Ministry of Defence) outside the Castle.

The Post office of the Czech Scouts in 1918 was located in the former governor's palace.

In addition to being the Prague Castle guard post of the Scouts, it was also the guard post of the Sokol, who worked together in security and service to the president of the Republic.

There was a temporary Post office at Prague Castle registered in 1907, which was supposed to serve when the emperor and the Viennese court visited Prague Castle, but it was never activated. Shortly after the formation of the First Republic, the relevant state organs had to be established immediately and it soon became necessary to set up its own Post office for the central state office, i.e., for the office of the president of the Republic and the offices based at the Castle.



Many letters appear with perpendicular folds, which I assumed that the scout in charge of delivery folded to put the document in the pocket of the uniform shirt. Envelope delivered to the Sokol HQ Police at Prague Castle by scout Kalibera, 18.11.18.



Envelope delivered to the Sokol HQ Police at Prague Castle by scout Kalibera, 14.11.18.





Identity card (multi-purpose) of the scout/sokol Weizenbauer, one of those responsible for the Scout Postal service.



Plaque of the Hradčany district, located around Prague Castle.



Prague Castle compound.



Letter addressed to Špaček by A.B. Svojsík to the Sokol military headquarters at Prague Castle.



On the back marked *Přijato* (accepted) by Stanislav Špaček.



S. Špaček.





To the Sokol police headquarters at Prague Castle by scout Stretti on 19.11.18.



Addressed to the Sokol police HQ at Prague Castle, delivered by scout Saldy on 24.11.1918.



Delivered by scout Stretti on 24.11.1918 to Sokol HQ.





8 - EXTRAORDINARY POSTAL SERVICE ARRIVAL OF PRESIDENT MASARYK





In early May 1918, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk was in Chicago, USA, leading a Czechoslovak liberation movement after returning from Russia where he had stayed for three years, helping to organise the Czechoslovak Legion in its struggle for an independent state.

Chicago was then the Czechoslovak epicentre of immigration to the United States, and Masaryk was greeted by an enthusiastic reception.

From Chicago, Masaryk continued his journey across the United States, achieving recognition of Czechoslovak independence in early September 1918.

On October 18, the birth of Czechoslovakia as a new independent and democratic state was proclaimed in Washington.

Masaryk left New York on November 20, 1918, having been elected the first president of Czechoslovakia, for Paris, from where he went to Switzerland, and after three weeks he arrived in Prague, where he was elected the first president of the new state and presided over the National Assembly.

Once again, it is the people who want to show their joy and enthusiasm for the return of the president to his homeland. And once again, as they had been doing since the first day of the establishment of the new republic, they expressed themselves through the mail, adding expressive phrases and slogans to their letters and postcards: *Hello to the Czech Republic!, glory to Masaryk!, cheers Czech Republic!*

On September 1, 1918, Austria increased the postal rate for postcards from 8 to 10 heller. The stock of 8 heller cards was supplemented with 2 heller emergency stamps from the 1916 issues, and so they were sold. After the declaration of independence, these cards were used in the Czechoslovak territory.

AUTHORISED REVOLUTIONARY OVERPRINTINGS.

Josef Fontana, secretary of the Kralovice district political administration, had immediately after the revolution overprinted some Austrian issues for his own use (on envelopes and 8 heller cards) with the one- and two-line markings: “česká pošta” and “Česká pošta”.

On this occasion he again puts into circulation a new overprint complementing the previous one “česká pošta Sláva Masarykovi”. Czech Post, welcome Masaryk, and “Sláva Masarykovi”, glory to Masaryk.

The Fontana overprint was not put into the speculative hands of dealers; therefore, the existing copies are rare.

Horní Dvořiště was the first stop before his arrival in Prague. There, on Friday, December 20, 1918, after 1 p.m., President T.G. Masaryk was ceremonially received by the National Assembly and representatives of the south Bohemian districts, with music, hymns, and speeches by representatives of the allied States (Italy, USA, Great Britain, and France)



on his triumphant return to his homeland. Masaryk responded briefly and greeted those present, including the governor of Kaplice, a town in the district of Český Krumlov, who also made a welcoming speech. There, T.G. Masaryk, and his daughter Olga met their son Jan Masaryk again after four years.

Some other local issues are listed in handbooks and catalogues, including the Fontana issue, with the overprint “česká pošta Sláva Masarykovi” (Czech mail, glory to Masaryk, and “Sláva Masarykovi”, glory to Masaryk.) was not made for speculative purposes. It was not sold to the public and was made only for private postage. It was prepared at the Post office in the town of Kralovice near Pilsen.

The sender of the overprints, Josef Fontana, the author of the overprints, wrote to the director of the main Prague Post office, the honourable Lešetický, in response to the excitement created by the issue of the overprints and to the fact that the use of a series of marks outside the postal service was being played down:

...All the overprints “česká pošta” (large and small), also “česká pošta Sláva Masarykovi”, are criticised for their use on Austrian stamps by your Czechoslovak Post office.

The stamps are not intended to deceive collectors and were not and will not be sold publicly, they were used only in private correspondence and are systematically protested against overprints on Prague and České Budějovice and Scout stamps, and these are only private matters.

We have to be honest and say: all stamps from the period between Austria and the first issue of Czechoslovakia stamps, which were overprinted by any kind of overprints, are only of private origin just like the Scouts stamps, therefore they should be considered only as private issues”...
Regards Fontana.

The day of the president’s arrival was postponed several times, as the president, returning from Paris via Italy, stayed in Padua, where he met with the Italian King. Finally, the public was informed that the special train in which the president departed Padua on December 17, via Alla, Trento, Dobbiaco, (in German Toblach) Bialak and Selzthal was approaching České Budějovice.

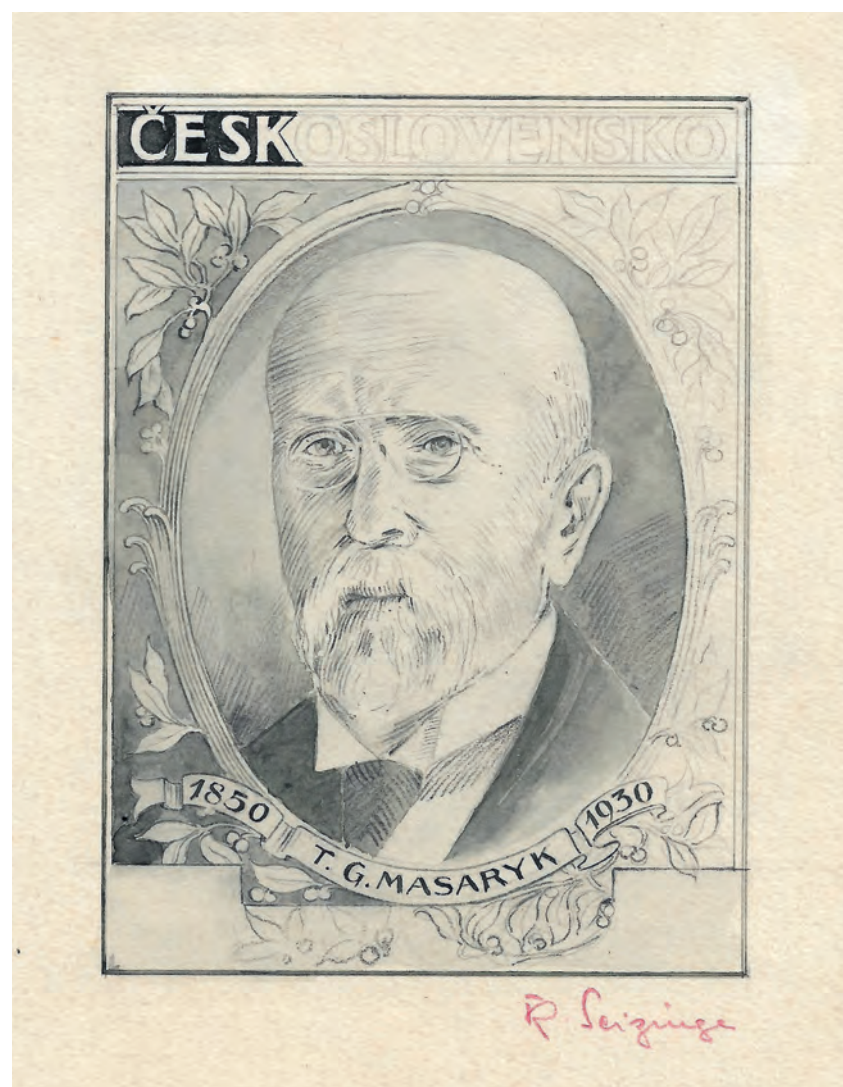
Initially, the arrival at the Czech border station, Horní Dvořiště, was scheduled for 12 noon on Friday, December 19, the arrival at České Budějovice at three o’clock and Prague on December 20 (Saturday) at 1 pm.

On December 20, 1918, President Masaryk boarded a special train near the Czech border. The train arrived in Prague the next day in the early afternoon. A dozen telegrams were sent from intermediate stops along the train’s route: to the National Committee, City Hall, illustrious personalities in Prague, the Castle, the railway station, newspaper publishers and the Masaryk family.

On December 21, 1918, the National Committee together with the Czech Scout Association authorised the Scouts to resume, once again, the postal service on the occasion of President Masaryk’s arrival at Prague Castle, for which the 10 and 20 heller Scout stamps were overprinted with a three-line letterpress “Příjezd presidenta Masaryka”. The blue value of 10 heller in red ink and the red value of 20 heller in black.



Souvenir diptych with photos of the activities in honour of T.G.M. on the occasion of the professor's arrival in Chicago. It would later be stamped and postmarked with the "N.V." of the National Committee in Prague. Vignette of the third section of the Prague nautical Scouts.



Original pen drawing in preparatory design adopted for the execution of stamps, showing the effigy of President Masaryk.

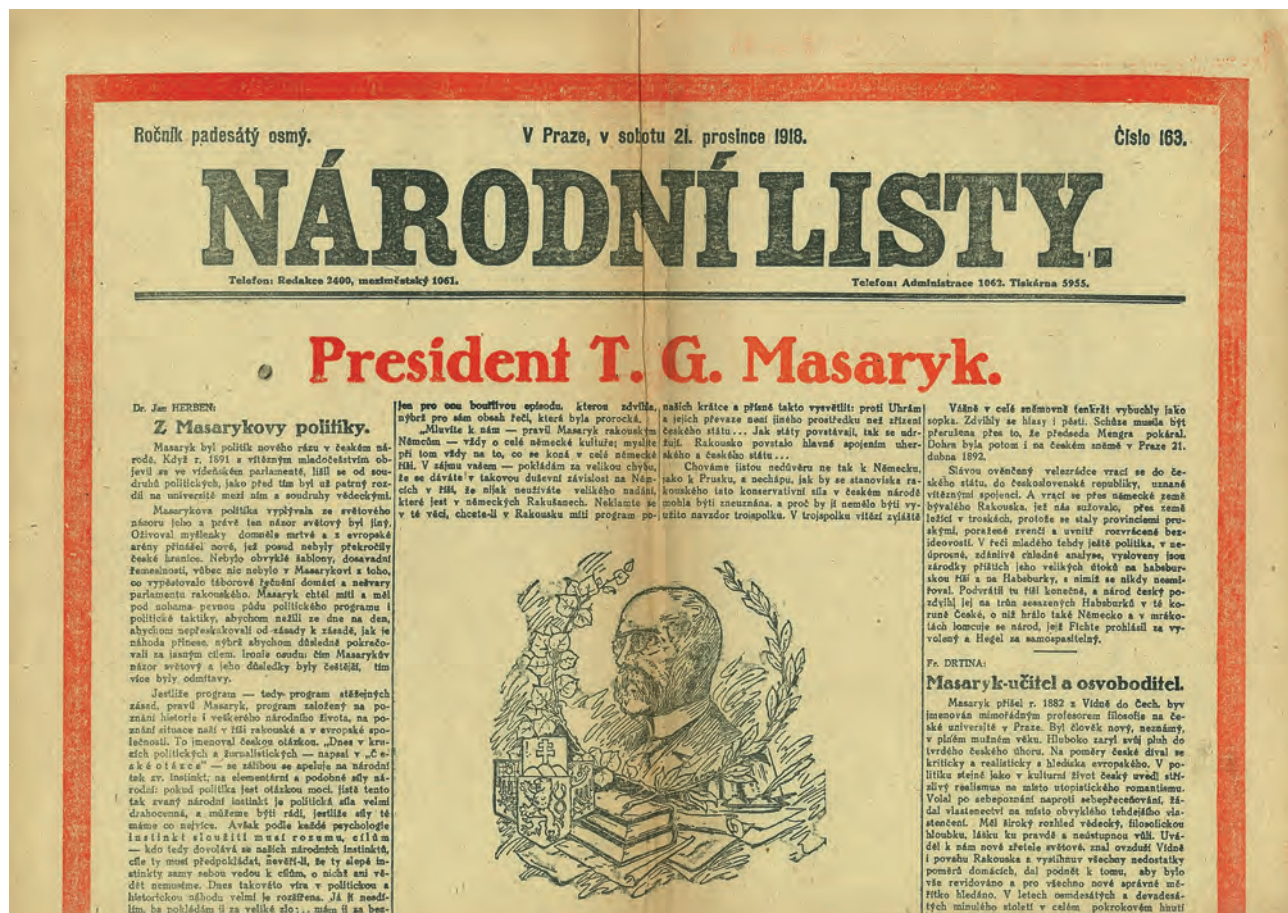


Triumfální příjezd presidenta Masaryka do Prahy.

President české republiky jede s předsedou Národního Shromáždění Frant. Tomáškem za obrovského jásotu obyvatelstva z Wilsonova nádraží na Hradčany.



Cover of the monograph "Illustrovane Noviny", devoted entirely to President Masaryk's arrival in Prague.



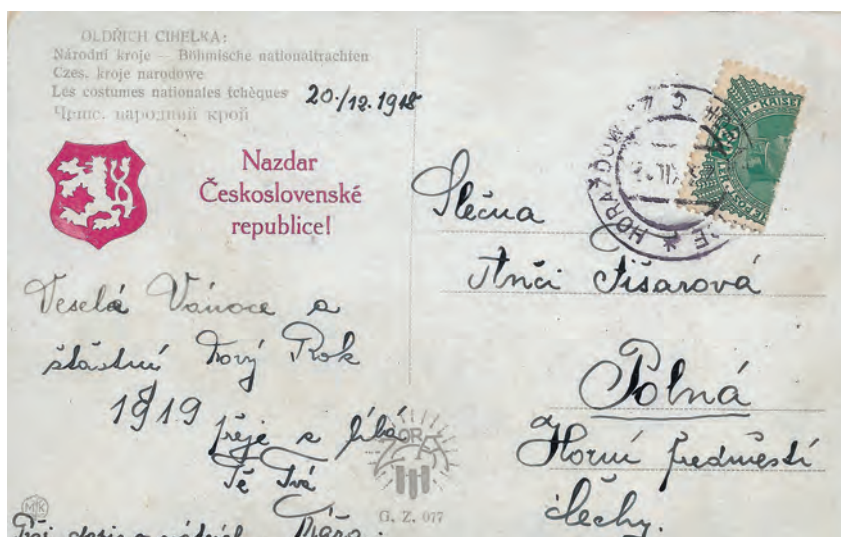
Front cover of the newspaper "Národní listy", with news of the arrival of President T.G. Masaryk on December 21, 1918.



President Masaryk received by the authorities at the Horni Dvoriště border station, where he first entered Czech soil.



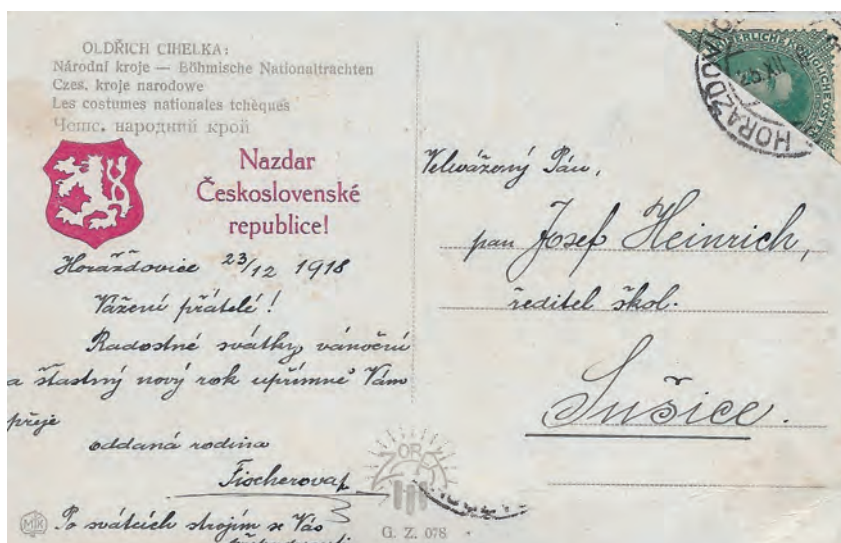
President Masaryk together with the French Ambassador Simon and General Piccione at Wilson Station.



Postcard dated 20.12.1918, marked in red ink "Nazdar Československé republice"! "Welcome Czech Republic"!



Railway station. Wilson Railway Station. 1918.



These cards were sent from Horažďovice, (a town in the Klatovy district of the Pilsen region), in December 1918. They bear an Austrian 20 heller cross and vertical bevelled stamp of Emperor Charles I and a rubber stamp with the Bohemian lion coat of arms and the inscription: "Nazdar Československé republice"! "Welcome Czech Republic"!

ek 20. prosince 1918.

Číslo 162.

NÍLISTY.

Telefon: Administrace 1062. Tiskárna 5955.

drobném prodeji

V Praze
ranní číslo ve všední dny za 10 h
ranní číslo v neděli . . . za 20 h
večerní (odpolední) číslo za 10 h
Na venkově:
ranní číslo ve všední dny za 20 h
ranní číslo v neděli . . . za 30 h
večerní (odpolední) číslo za 10 h

Inzeráty

platí se hotově napřed.
Předplacení a inzeráty přijímá administrace v Mariánské ul. 3. Tam jsou též redakce, tiskárna a expedice "Nár. Listů". Rukopisy se nevracují a neobednané se nebonorují.

úvěru ve své straně, řich
onocadeční motiv méně.
oděd pořadu: Zpráva
a. Boučka, iménem právně
ěné vojenského trestního
sta nedovoluje reprodu-
dužno se omezení na
m. že návrh právního
blaně odhodlání i zval

President Masaryk na cestě do Prahy.

Praha žije několik dnů zrychleným tempem v předtuše a přípravách slavnostního z osobních přátel J. S. Machar, dále plumpem v předtuše a přípravách slavnostního kovník O. Husák, za ministerstvo zahra-

Ročník XIII.

V Praze, v neděli dne 22. prosince 1918.

Číslo 300.

Vychází denně

v 6 h. ráno, výjma pondělí, a každodenní přílohou "Národní besedy", v neděli se "Zbavou a poučnou přílohou" a "Věstníkem dorostu", přílohami "Venkovský zpravodaj" a "Dělnická hláskas. Každou středu a pátek "Lidová umělecká hláskas. Každý druhý čtvrtek a pátek "Národní zpravodaj". Každou sobotu přináší "Věstník lidu, pro chov žánle a každý druhý čtvrtek "Věstník Zpravodajstva vrazu dobyt. pojítkovna. Prámie: Rodinný kalendář.
Číslo redakce a administrace: Praha II., Hybernská 20. Tel. red. 2103. Telefon administrace 3235.

VENKOV

Ústřední list České strany agrární.

Finální redakce a administrace: Brno, Starobránská ul. 12. Telefon 64. Olomouc, Česká ulice (Národní dóm). Tel. 109. Píseň, Palackého ulice 3. 12. Tel. 68. Opava, Hradecká ulice 3. 7. Vídeň IX., Thurngasse 3. S. Tel. 12337.

Předplatné

Poslou neb s doplátkou do domu v Praze a poslou v Československé republice na místě s K. za čtvrt roku 15 K. — Jednotlivé čísla ve všední dny v Praze i na venkově 20 h. v neděli a ve svátek v Praze i na venkově 24 h. Číslo rak. poštovní známky 49.457. Inzerát dokladů musí být objasněn. Retekoply se nevracují.

Triumfální vjezd presidenta Masaryka do Prahy.

Konečně mezi

sově: starý chorál luskatý a po něm "Kde domov můj je" a "Nad Tatrou sa blýska". Krásno zřítí na skvělý presidentův průvod. Trochu za ním stoli ministrův náčelníkův. Konečně ulava od toho

tomobilů, jež byly určeny pro presidenta. Čtení vlády a zástupce cizích států.

Vjezd vlády presidenta

Číslo 297.

V Praze, v neděli 22. prosince 1918.

Ročník XXVI.

Vychází denně v 6 h. ráno, výjma pondělí, a každodenní přílohou "Národní besedy", v neděli se "Zbavou a poučnou přílohou" a "Věstníkem dorostu", přílohami "Venkovský zpravodaj" a "Dělnická hláskas. Každou středu a pátek "Lidová umělecká hláskas. Každý druhý čtvrtek a pátek "Národní zpravodaj". Každou sobotu přináší "Věstník lidu, pro chov žánle a každý druhý čtvrtek "Věstník Zpravodajstva vrazu dobyt. pojítkovna. Prámie: Rodinný kalendář.
Číslo redakce a administrace: Praha II., Hybernská 20. Tel. red. 2103. Telefon administrace 3235.

PRÁVO LIDU

ÚSTŘEDNÍ ORGÁN ČESKOSLOVANSKÉ SOCIÁLNĚ DEMOKRATICKÉ STRANY DĚLNICKÉ.
TELEFON REDAKCE 212. ADMINISTRACE 5171.
Adresa redakce: Praha II., Hybernská 20.

Číslo prodává se v Praze i na venkově ve všední dny za 10 h, v neděli za 20 h. Veškeré v Praze i na venkově, jakž i "Právo Lidu" za venkově za 8 h.

Předplatné do Praze (posle na ranní vydání):
roční 5 K
polroční 2 K 50 h

Poslou i na venkově (posle s "Věstníkem lidu"):
roční 8 K 40 h
polroční 4 K 20 h

Do Německa
roční 8 K 50 h

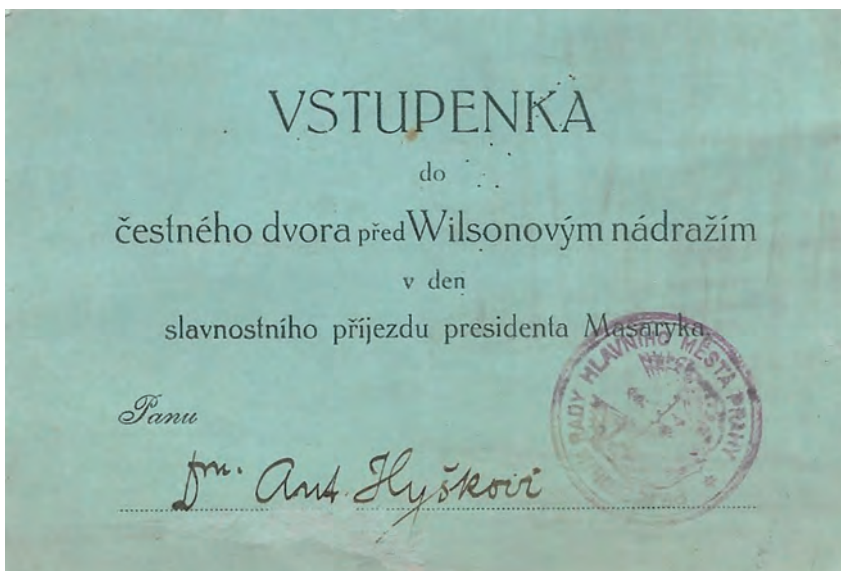
Triumfální vjezd presidenta Masaryka do Prahy.

Masaryk od věrejška dít zase mezi námi. Největší muž pitomných Čech se vrátí po čtyřletém exilu do vlasti a do Prahy, kterou opouští zhanobenou, bezmocnou, chudou, a teď při svém návratu ji našel slavnou a šťastnou jemu všichni jásající. To nobyl návrat do Prahy, to byl triumfální vjezd do Prahy. Byly snad v dějinách průvody honosivější, než byl věrejši Masarykův, ale snad ještě nikdy netoužilo tolik srdcí upřímně vstříc jednomu muži, jako věrejši sruce pražského lidu a hostů doukla vstříc Masarykovi.

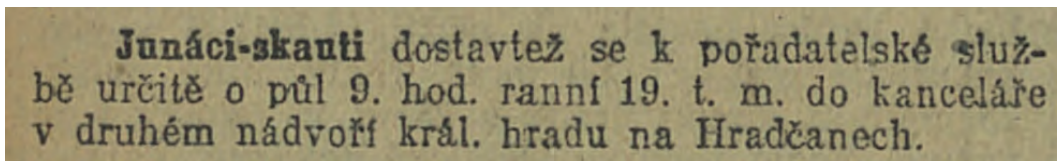
presidenta Masaryka. Všechny vrstvy, všechny stavy, lid, boháč, každý přšel a každý Masaryka vítal. A bylo to vítání dojmavé, tak dojmavé, že sám filosof Masaryk, starý, otužilý muž, v jehož srdci ozývaly se ještě za posledních čtyř let nesčetné bouře nadějí a žánle, že sám Masaryk neodolal a zaslzel. A tak zaslzel i mnohý v kordonech.
A jaký byl muž, jemuž to vše padlo? Proslulý, skromný, v 40 let, vystupující ze svého vozu, několika větami odpověděl na obšířné proslov Aloise Jiráka, ve sněmovně

se po letech utrpení zase do radosti a Tomáš Masaryk ví, že může se opřít také o lásku dělnictva. A dělnictvo ví, že oně zas se může opřít o prvního presidenta republiky, o syna hodnostského panáského kočho, kovářského dělníka a později profesora filosofie Masaryka, který vešel do Prahy slavně, jak by snad kdysi židě vítal Mešláse a že do ní vešel, aby osvobozenému národu dal také vnitřní sociální svobodu. A proto i my připojujeme se k volání statusů prostých: Vítej sám v Praze, Tomáš Masa-

The Czech press reports "President Masaryk's triumphal visit to Prague". December 20 and 22, 1918.



Authorisation to pass to the tribune of honour in front of Wilson Station to attend the arrival ceremony of President Masaryk. Issued by the Prague City Council in the name of Antonín Hyšek. Scouts and authorities also had nominative access passes.



Scout Junák

Make sure to arrive at the organization service tomorrow the 19th at half past nine, at the office in the second king's courtyard at Hradčany Castle.



"We were invited by the Ministry of the Presidency to welcome President Masaryk". 16.12.1918.



Express rate postcard. Franked with 6 Austrian 2-heller stamps and a 1-crown stamp with overprint "česká pošta" sent on November 22, 1918 from Smíchov.



On the reverse are affixed Austrian postage stamps, cancelled with blue pencil, the correct value of the general postage (front and back) total 70 heller, addressed to Josef Fontana from Kralovice with interesting text: Prague liberated, Masaryk arrives today about one o'clock.

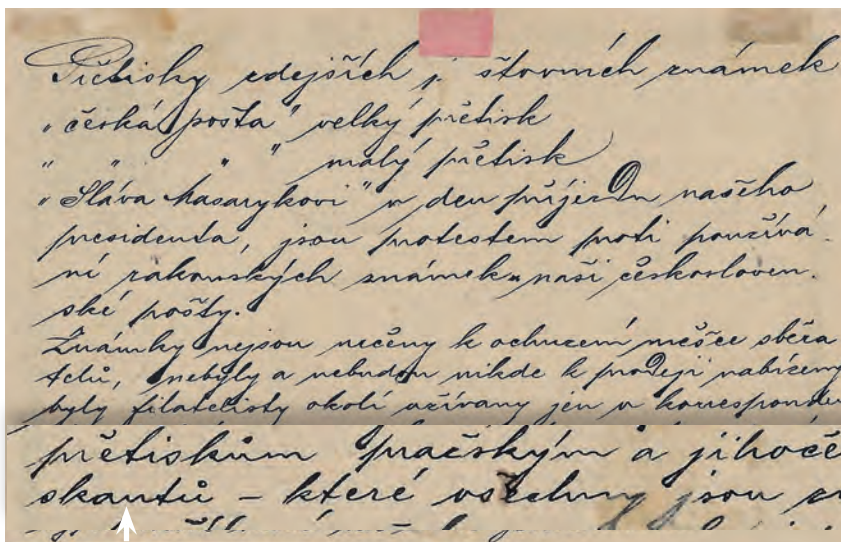




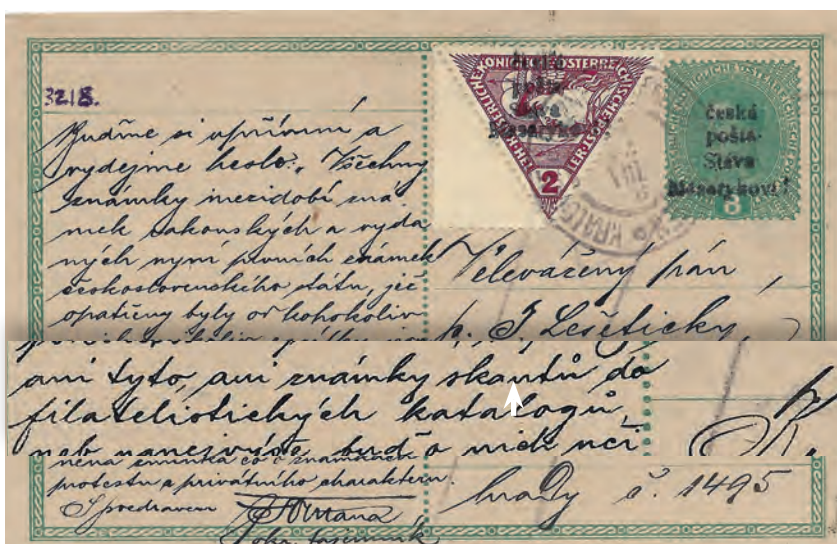
Overprints "česká pošta" on one line and "Česká pošta" on two lines.



Overprint: "česká pošta Sláva Masarykovi"! on stamps of 2 and 5 heller in fragment. 21.12.18.



* Detail quote regarding the Scout stamps.



* Detail quote regarding the Scout stamps.

Fontana overprint on Austrian 8 heller postal stationery, complemented with 2 heller triangular express stamp with sheet edge coupon, both with the rare black four-line overprint: "česká pošta Sláva Masarykovi"! Kralovice u Plzně 21.12.18, interesting contemporary document on overprints, including Scout stamps, with Fontana signature, sent to Jaroslav Lešický (postmaster of the Prague Post office).



Overprint Sláva Masarykovi!.



Overprint for 20 h. stamp.



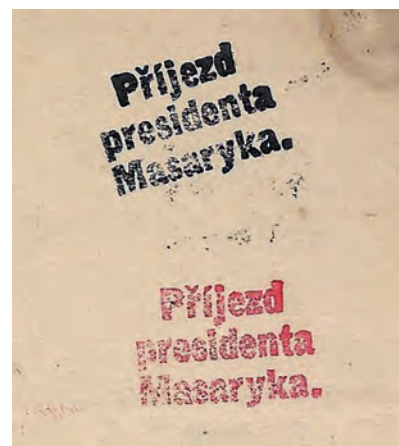
Reception of President Masaryk at Tábor Station.

<p>Daten im dienstlichen Eingange der als Typendruckapparates ausgefer- a Telegramme bedeuten: 1. den an des Aufgabebes, 2. die Auf- ammer, 3. die Wortzahl (eventuell in Bruchform), 4. den Monatslag und 5. die Stunde und Minute der Aufgabe. Üdaje ve služebním záhlaví telegramů, vyhotovených strojem písmenkovým, značí: 1. jméno úřadu podacího, 2. číslo podací, 3. počet slov (případně ve způ- sobu zlomku), 4. měsíc a den a 5. hodinu a minuty podání.</p>		<p>Stellung: / Druck: /</p>		<p>Die Telegra... hinsichtlich... oder Bestellun... keine wie imm... Správa telegramů... gramy odevzda... zu dopravě a ku do- ručením.</p>	
<p>Dienstliche Angaben: Služební udání: 269 w</p>		<p>Telegramm — Telegram aus — z</p>		<p>Aufgenommen von / Príjati z / 20. XII. 1918 durch: /</p>	
<p>horni dvoriste - 376-56 pros - 20 - 13. 10</p>		<p>president masaryk prijel zvlastnim vlakem - uvitani ministrem zeleznice drem zahradnikem a clenzy narodniho shromazdeni - prijeli delegati francie anglie italie - odjezd do ceskych budejovic kde prenocuje - odjezd do prahy zitra 10 hodin dopoledne - narodni vybor ceske budejovice +</p>		<p>{ Uhr } { M. } { Mittag. } { hod. } { min. } { pol. }</p>	
<p>D. S. Nr. 769. (Deutsch-böhm.) (Auff. 1917.)</p>					

The telegram was sent by the National Committee from the Post office in Horní Dvoriště on December 20, 1918 to the National Committee in Prague stating that: President Masaryk arrived on a special train. Welcome from the Minister of Railways Zahradník and members of the National Assembly, representatives of France, England and Italy were present. Departure to České Budějovice where you will spend the night. Departure for Prague tomorrow at 10.00 a.m. Signed the National Committee of České Budějovice.



T. G. Masaryk with his youngest daughter Olga (who accompanied him in exile and worked for him for the cause) on the left at the Railway Station in Horní Dvořiště on 20.12.1918.



Try overprinting for 10 and 20 h. stamps.



10 and 20 heller stamps that were overprinted for 21.12.1918.



Scout stamp overprinted on 8-beller Austrian postal stationery fragment.



T.G. Masaryk's first stop in Bohemia: Arrival at Horní Dvořiště Station, where the president was received by the National Assembly.



Six hundred copies of the blue stamp of 10 heller were overprinted Příjezd presidenta Masaryka (arrival of President Masaryk) in red, and one thousand red stamps of 20 heller were overprinted in black by the Knapp printing house in the Karlin district of Prague.



Dr. Jindřich Vaníček.



Letter addressed to the chief of the Sokol Dr. Jindřich Vaníček, hand-delivered by the scout Kalibera.



Jan Masaryk with his sister Olga and the anti-Austrian Czech poet and essayist Josef Svatopluk Machar, and the Italian General Piccione.

During World War I, Dr. Jindřich Vaníček headed the outlawed Sokol Association, and coordinated the Sokol resistance network. After the establishment of the Czechoslovak State in 1918, he placed the Sokol at the disposal of the ministry of Defence, participating in the military army of the armed forces. Immediately after 28.10.1918, he initiated the establishment of the National guard of Sokol members and the union of workers' gymnastics unions (until December 1918) and the freedom guard (from Nov. 1918 to Nov. 1919) as provisional armed forces independent of the state.

České Budějovice was the first major Czech city visited by President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk. On his return from exile, he stopped on December 20, 1918, also in Horní Dvořiště and one day later in Tábor.



František Soukup.



Letter addressed to Minister František Soukup (cadet school) with delivery mark by scout Strettiho and signature of receipt in blue pencil 21.12.1918.

Fragment with 20 heller stamp overprinted.

<p>Die Daten im dienstlichen Eingange der mittels Typendruckapparates angefertigten Telegramme bedeuten: 1. den Namen des Aufgabebes, 2. die Aufgabennummer, 3. die Wortzahl (eventuell in Bruchform), 4. den Monatstag und 5. die Stunde und Minute der Aufgabe. Utdaje ve služebním záhlaví telegramů, vyhotovených strojem písmenkovým, značí: 1. jméno úřadu podávajícího, 2. číslo podání, 3. počet slov (případně ve způsobu zkratky), 4. měsíc a den a 5. hodinu a minuty podání.</p>		<p>Gattung: <u>Druh: převzetí</u> Eingangsnummer: <u>Došel pod čís.: 21/12</u></p>	<p>Die Telegraphenverwaltung übernimmt hinsichtlich der ihr zur Beförderung oder Bestellung übergebenen Telegramme keine wie immer geartete Verantwortung. Správa telegrafní vůbec neručí za telegramy odevzdané jí ku dopravě a ručení.</p>
<p>Dienstliche Angaben: <u>Služební udání:</u></p>	<p>Telegram</p>	<p>Aufgenommen von: <u>1918</u> Uhr: <u>11</u> Mitt. <u>11</u></p>	<p>durch: <u>1918</u></p>
<p>Česke budejovice 9863 46 20/12 18 4.10 odp</p> <p>= tesne pred ctvrtou hodinou za snehove vanice prijel do ceskych budejovic vlak pana presidenta masaryka velmi vrete uvitan predsedou narodniho vyboru profesorem zdrahalem pohnut a dojat podekoval kratkym projevem vecer navstivi mesto a bude prijat mestskou radou na budejovicke radnici = svoboda .†</p>			

Telegram franked with Scout stamps postmarked with "POŠTA SKAUTŮ" dated 21.12.1918. Delivered by the scout Strettiho on the day when the Postal service was reactivated to support the arrival of President Masaryk in Prague. In addition, it is postmarked N.V. and marked "Dopis od skauta.... převzal...". Just before 4 o'clock, and after the snowstorm, President T.G. Masaryk arrived in České Budějovice and was warmly received by professor Zabradník of the National Committee. Brief speech and receipt by the Budějovice City Council.



PROCESS OF POSTMARKING TELEGRAMS:

On December 21, 1918, the telegrams were picked up by the Scouts at the Telegraph office at Wilson Station, taken to the temporary Scout Post operations centre (Harrach Palace), franked with the *Příjezd* surcharge, and subsequently delivered by the Scouts to their destinations.

At the general congress of the Czechoslovak Scouting Association on February 27, 1938, i.e., twenty years after the service rendered by the Scouts to their nascent fatherland, the president of the Senate of the National Assembly: Dr. František Soukup was presented with the diploma of thanks as an expression of gratitude, understanding and love with which he accompanied the work of the Scouts during those years. His words were:

...On October 28, 1918, the Czechoslovak Scout Movement entered unconditionally into the service of the revolutionary Movement. At that moment, Scouting entered forever in the history of our nation in golden letters. Undoubtedly, all participants in the coup took with them unforgettable memories. We were all executors and servants of the elementary and victorious national will, even those who at this moment bore responsibility. -Let me recall those who were in charge at the time. ... We can all be proud that, through our own work and sacrifices, we have built a state in the centre of Europe that is at the forefront of cultural and democratic Europe. ...

In 1872 the Franz Joseph Railway Station, Prague's main railway station, was built behind the city walls. The Post office was located in this building from the very beginning, but it was in 1902 that it acquired the entire adjacent building. From 1901 to 1909 a new Art Nouveau building was constructed on the site of the old railway station according to the plans of Josef Fanta.

In the days after the revolution, a Scout courier service office was set up here, from where important consignments were delivered and received.

The return of T.G. Masaryk as the first president to his native Czechoslovakia on December 21, 1918 was a historically significant and unprecedented event, during which the Scouts, in addition to setting up the Post office at the main railway station in Prague, again offered their fast and reliable services to the National Committee. They acted as organisers and carriers of reports, messages, statements, news, letters and telegrams between Prague Castle, the Chamber of deputies, the Town Hall, the Post and Telegraph office, members of Parliament and prominent personalities.

In addition, the Scouts were all along the route from the Wilson Train Station from where President Masaryk arrived to Prague Castle, also escorting the motorcade all the way.

A large and enthusiastic crowd cheers him as a liberator, many crowd around the motorcade, and around the car (decorated with flowers and the tricolour flag) that transports him to Prague Castle. Members of the Sokol and the Scouts accompany him.

The day before, there was a Scoutwatch at the Wilson Railway Station from morning, also at the old Town Hall and from 4 to 6 o'clock at the Parliament building, after which they remained on the alert all night at the royal Castle. *At 8.15, Scouts Stretti, Joseph Domin, Fr. Nušl, Ořovský junior, Filip and Stary arrived. From there, they asked Svojsík, who was at the railway station, for more Scouts for the service.*



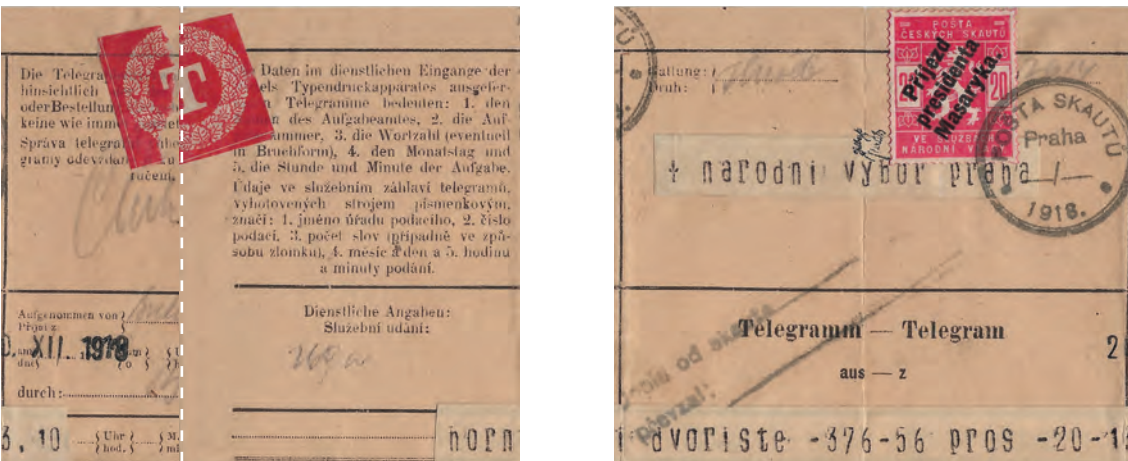
TELEGRAM POSTMARKING PROCESS:



In the Telegraph office, at the outset, the telegrams were first folded horizontally in the center.



Then folded vertically again into three parts, in such a way that a sixth of the telegram, the upper part of the central third, was visible frontally once folded.



Then, the back flaps of the folded telegram were superimposed and glued together by a paper label, which, in this way, kept the text hidden.



EXTRAORDINARY POST SERVICE - OVERPRINTS.

On December 20, 1918, President Masaryk boarded a special train near the Czech border. The train reached Prague the next day in the early afternoon. The ten reported telegrams with Masaryk overprints were all sent from stops along the route of the train, either to the National Committee or private parties in Prague. On December 21, 1918 the telegrams were picked up by Scouts at the telegraph office at the Wilson Station, carried to the temporally Scout Post operations center, franked with Masaryk overprints, and then delivered by Scouts to their destinations.

The ten telegrams known to this day with postage stamps overprinted by “Příjezd presidenta Masaryka” (arrival of President Masaryk), were sent from the stops along the train route, to the National Committee, to illustrious personalities, and newspaper editors in Prague. On December 21, 1918, the telegrams were collected by the Scouts at the Telegraph office at Wilson Station, taken to the Scout Postal operations centre (Harrach Palace) and franked with the *Příjezd* surcharge and subsequently delivered by the Scouts to their destinations.

Time/Date	Sent from	Sent by	Sent to	Franked with
1:10 PM December, 20 1918	Horní Dvořiště	National Committee České Budějovice	National Committee of Praga	10 h. Masaryk overp.
1:10 PM December, 20 1918 (*)	Horní Dvořiště	National Committee České Budějovice	Nat. Committee of Prague	20 h. Masaryk overp.
1:15 PM December, 20 1918	České Budějovice	Dr. Zahradník minister FFCC	Director Office newspaper Venkov	20 h. Masaryk overp.
3:10 PM December, 20 1918	České Budějovice	Jan Masaryk son of T.G.Masaryk	Charlota Masarykova wife of Masaryk	20 h. Masaryk overp.
4:13 PM 20 December 1918	České Budějovice	Svoboda	Prague National Committee	20 h. Masaryk overp.
5:10 AM December, 21 1918 (*)	České Budějovice	Svoboda	Narodni Politika Prague newspaper	10 h. y 20 h. without Masaryk overp.
8:10 AM December, 21 1918	České Budějovice	Hajek	National News Prague newspaper	20h. Masaryk overp.
10:15 AM December, 21 1918	České Budějovice	Nat. Committee České Budějovice	National Committee of Praga	20h. Masaryk overp.
11:45 AM December, 21 1918	České Budějovice	Dr. Zahradník minister FFCC	Presidium of the Prague Committee	20h. Masaryk overp.

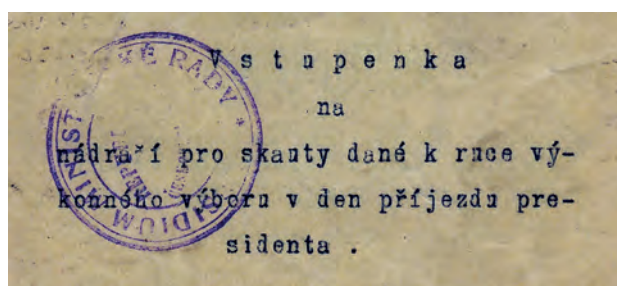
(*) PRESENT IN THIS BOOK.



Franz Joseph I Railway Station, later called Wilson Station.



František Soukup. Autographed photograph.



Station access ticket with mark of the presidency of the National Committee of the Czechoslovak Republic, for scouts, to be given to the executive committee on the day of the president's arrival.



Military battalions and a large representation of Prague Sokol, warmly greet the president at the exit of the station, paying their respects with bows and banners.



The entourage leaves the railway station, ready to get into the vehicles.



Envelope sent from Parliament to Rössler Ořovský at his home address, 18 Štěpánská street, redirected to Wilson Railway Station,, where a group of scouts has been on duty since early morning. Delivered by scoutmaster and courier Kalibery at 10:20 am.





Outside the station and among the various entities, organizations, political parties... the Scouts are present with their President Josef Rössler-Ořovský, who enthusiastically welcomes Masaryk's arrival.



At first it was thought that the president would go in a carriage pulled by four white horses, but he declined this proposal, getting into an open-top car. Instead, it was his children Olga and Jan



A formation of legionnaires waits at the railway station to escort the president's car.





Masaryk boards the vehicle that will take him through the main streets of Prague.



T. G. Masaryk, accompanied by the President of the National Assembly, František Tomášek, boards the open-top Laurin & Klement model car surrounded by legionnaires, which will take him through the main streets of Prague to the Castle.



Escorted by legionnaires, he leaves the railway station. He is accompanied by the President of the National Assembly, Tomášek.



Presidential car escorted by legionnaires awaits the formation of the retinue.





A large group of Sokol with their banners are waiting to be part of the procession.



Parade of legionnaires forming part of the presidential entourage.



Escorted by legionnaires, sokol and scouts, they leave the railway station behind to go to the National Museum.





Girls in regional costumes wait at the entrance and on the steps of the National Museum for the arrival of the procession.



Photomontage. Modified photograph for sale, with a cut-out of Masaryk in detail in the car on top of the previous one.



A car that is part of the entourage with Josef Scheiner as head of the Czech community Sokol and Václav J. Klobáček.





On 21.12.18, a group of Scouts is on duty in the Parliament. Also on this day, Scouts are still on duty in the old Town Hall, at the Wilson Railway Station, as well as along the entire route along which President Masaryk and his entourage passed on their arrival to the royal castle. Parliament 21.12.18.

We have been on guard since morning at Wilson Station, then at the Old Town Hall, from 4 to 6 o'clock at the Chamber of Deputies, and then we will be at Prague Castle all night. In addition, my Scouts will be on guard all the way through which President Masaryk will pass, from Wilson Station to the Castle. Here in Parliament, while the Assembly is in session, I have a moment of free time to write you these few lines. Yours sincerely. Ořovský, President of the Scouts.

In the days of the revolution and especially on December 21, the day of President Masaryk's return from exile, the Scouts and Sokols served the newly created republic side by side in all the work and missions entrusted to them.

In front of the entrance to Wilson Station, half a million joyful and anxious Czechs, together with flag-bearing Sokol detachments and foreign delegations, waited for the president from early Saturday morning. Never before had Prague's streets and squares seen so much hustle and bustle, life and colour and cheers of happiness as on that day.

The presidential car, escorted by detachments of Czechoslovak legionnaires, fighters on the French, Italian and Russian fronts, arrived at Wenceslas square.

All along Wenceslas square, enthusiastic crowds of people, eager to see and greet "their president", cheering him as a liberator, gather around the motorcade and the car (decorated with flowers and the tricolour flag), members of the Sokol and the Scouts accompany him.

At first it was thought that the president would ride in a carriage drawn by four white horses, but he declined this offer, climbing into a convertible. Instead, his children Olga and Jan took his place.

The organisers, with the approval of the National Committee, decided that the Scouts would parade with the Italian legionnaires as guards of honour on either side of the president's car.

As the Italian legionnaire divisions in the procession passed by, the crowds that had gathered in Wenceslas square in the early hours of the morning cheered enthusiastically amidst numerous measures of order and security on the part of citizen volunteers.

Various Sokol units paraded amidst the cheers of the crowd. Those who had been banned by the monarchy in 1915 were now proudly parading for the president who had also belonged to their Association.



Various vehicles as part of the procession transport prominent personalities through the main streets of the city.



Vehicle number 4, which carries Karel Kramář and Vlastimil Tusar as part of the entourage. Escorted by sokol and volunteers.



Sokol units parade through St. Wenceslas square.





Sokol tour on horseback as part of the presidential entourage from the station to the Castle.



A large and enthusiastic crowd cheers Masaryk as liberator, many crowd around the motorcade, and around the car (decorated with flowers and the tricolour flag) that transports him to Prague Castle. Members of the Sokol and the Scouts accompany him. Procession through St. Wenceslas square. A scout follows the presidential car.



After leaving the railway station, the presidential motorcade heads for Wenceslas square, the National Museum.



Sokol units parade behind the presidential procession. A number of prominent security scouts in full uniform bring up the rear.





Sokol units parade behind the presidential procession.



Letter on National Committee letterhead addressed to Minister František Soukup, (cadet school) with delivery mark signed by scout Strettiho, and received by Soukup. Written in pencil: Ihned ! (immediate delivery!).





Presidential entourage, descends through Wenceslas square. Scouts as part of the entourage.



Scout as part of the entourage, escorts the presidential vehicle behind the Sokol in Wenceslas square.



Sokol units parade after the presidential procession. Some scouts in charge of security and perfectly uniformed accompany and maintain order.





Vehicles with prominent personalities descend on St. Wenceslas square.



A retinue of legionnaires descends through the St. Wenceslas square followed by Sokol and Scouts.



A motorcade descends through the Wenceslas square.





Sokol units parade after the presidential.



Two Girl Guides the carriage in which Masaryk's children, Olga and Jan, are riding.



Detail girls Guides escort carriage sons of Masaryk.





A vehicle leading President Masaryk's entourage carries revolutionary National Assembly member Přemysl Šámal.



Scouts lead the march of flag bearers, through Wenceslas square.

The procession proceeds through Wenceslas square and Ferdinandova street in the direction of the National Theatre, from there it turns right onto the promenade towards the Castle.

The population, as well as in the streets, throngs the balconies, windows, and rooftops to catch a brief glimpse of what is happening there.

Press release:

Thomas G. Masaryk, the first President of the Czechoslovak Republic, formed as a result of the revolution of October 29 last, made his triumphal entry into Prague, the capital of what used to be Bohemia, on December 21. Thousands of people flocked to the city for the occasion, and the people's leader was greeted with indescribable enthusiasm. His train and car, and the city itself, were lavishly decorated with flowers, evergreens and flags, and thousands of portraits and busts of President Masaryk and President Wilson were displayed. At the station renamed in honour of President Wilson, T. Masaryk was received by the Prime Minister, Dr. Kramar, and led in a two-hour procession to Parliament House, where he was sworn in. During the war he has been in the United States and elsewhere, working for the cause of his country, of humble origin (the son of a coachman), he has risen to eminence as a writer and philosopher, as well as an ardent patriot. His first objective, as president, was to establish communications, by air and rail, between the entente countries and Czechoslovakia.





9 - END OF SCOUT POSTAL SERVICE





After the end of the postal service, the used stencils were cut up and made unusable, and deposited together with the dies and postmark pads in the archives of the National Committee. Much of this material was destroyed, either by the nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia or during the fire in the archives of the City Hall in the Prague uprising of May 8, 1945.

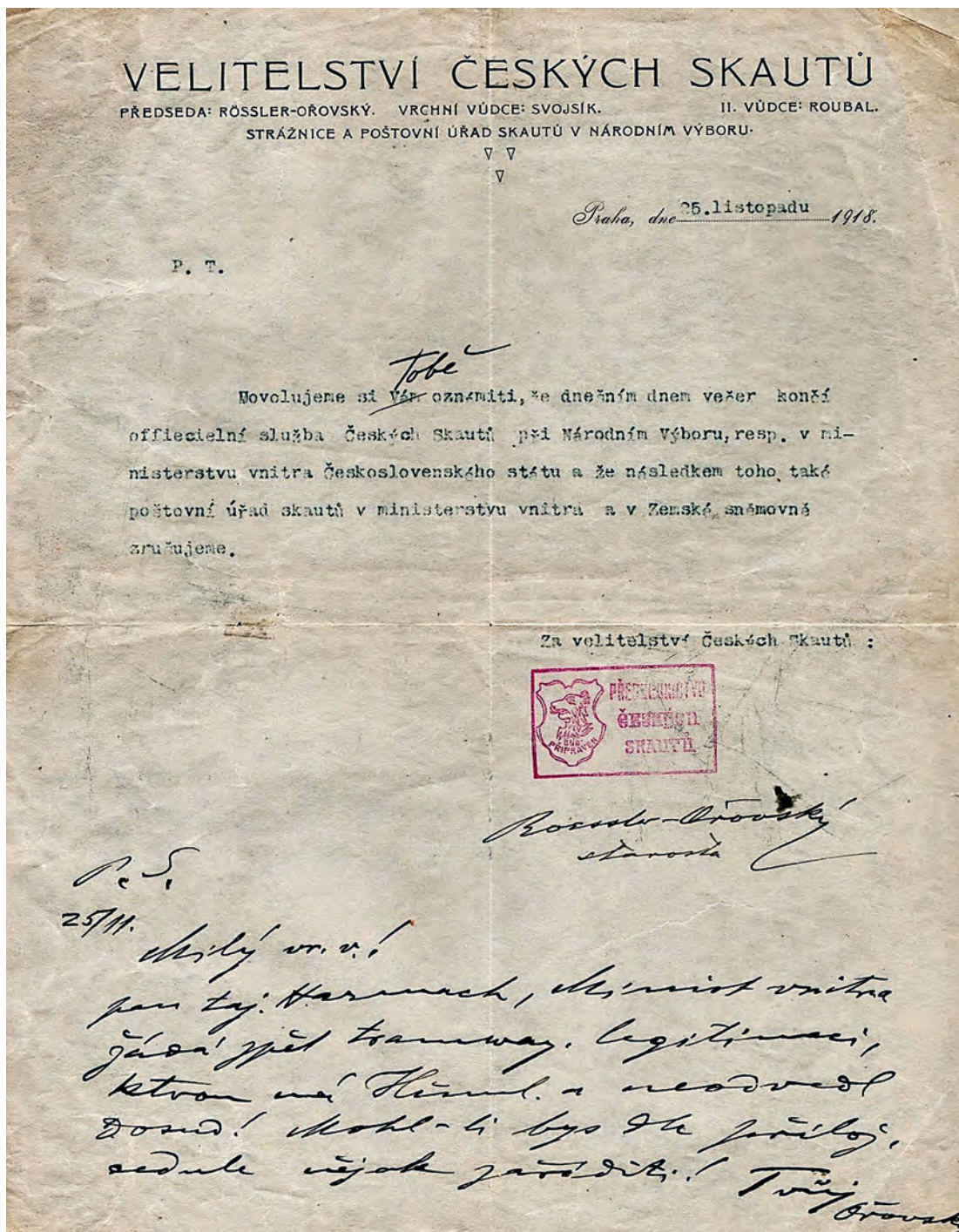
After the end of the Prague Scout courier service, on January 3, 1919, Rössler- Ořovský wrote to Josef Stěpánek, a member of the National Council, in which he said:

...Dear friend, after our conversation, I will send you a heavy package with the destroyed cliché and a lighter package of the postage stamp used in the Scout Postal service. As you know, all this material is destined for the National Council or the archives of the resistance movement. You will be sure to take the necessary security measures to ensure that no one can abuse them. If it is necessary to show these items as evidence to experts or responsible persons, you must understand what measures to take.

Rössler Ořovský.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE CZECH SCOUTS
CHAIRMAN: RÖSSLER-OŘOVSKÝ. SUPREME LEADER: SVOJSÍK. II. LEADER: ROUBAL.
SCOUT GUARD AND COURIER IN THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

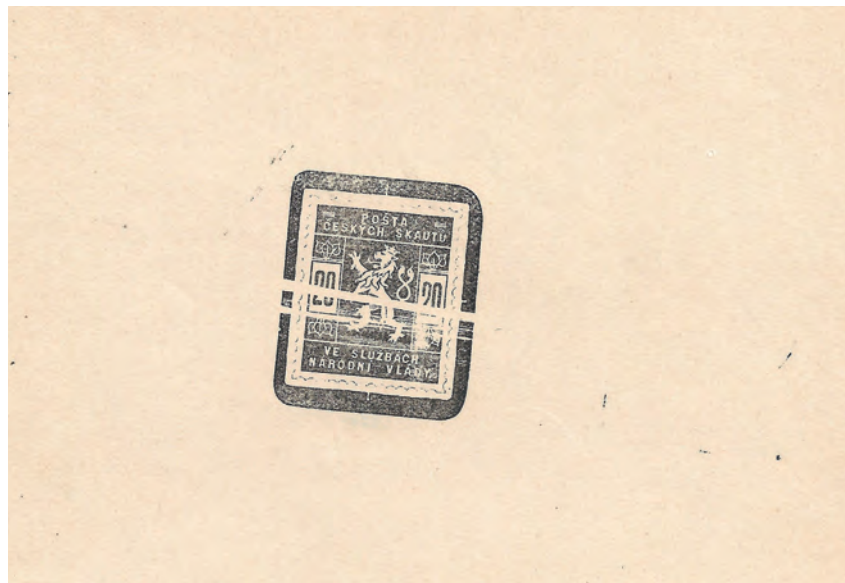
In Prague, November 25, 1918.



We would like to inform you that the official service of the Czech Scouts at the National Committee will end tonight, as well as at the Scouts' Post office at the Ministry of the Interior of the Czechoslovak State respectively.
Headquarters of the Czech Scouts: President Rössler-Ořovský.



Printing in black ink of the unused plate of the red and blue 10 and 20 heller stamp.



Black ink printing of the unused plate of the red 20 heller stamp.



Red ink printing of the stamp plate of the 20 heller stamp.



Printing in black ink of the unused plate of the red 20 heller stamp.

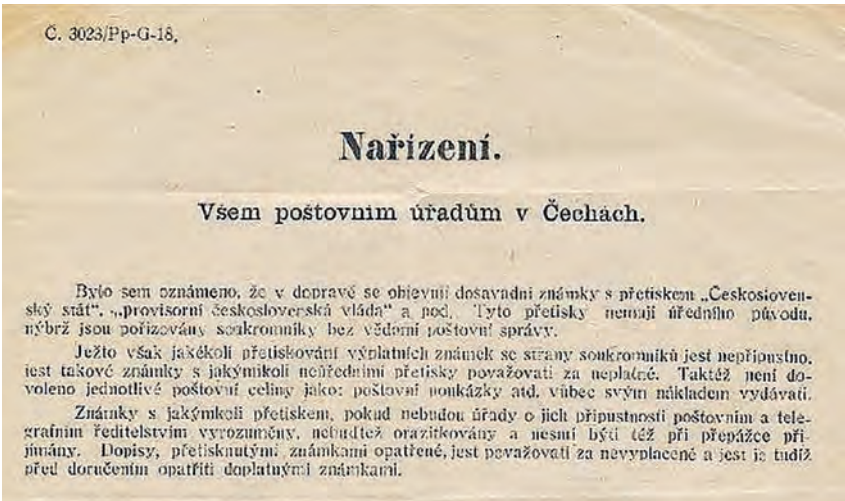


Town hall.



Photo of the City Hall after the bombing during World War II.





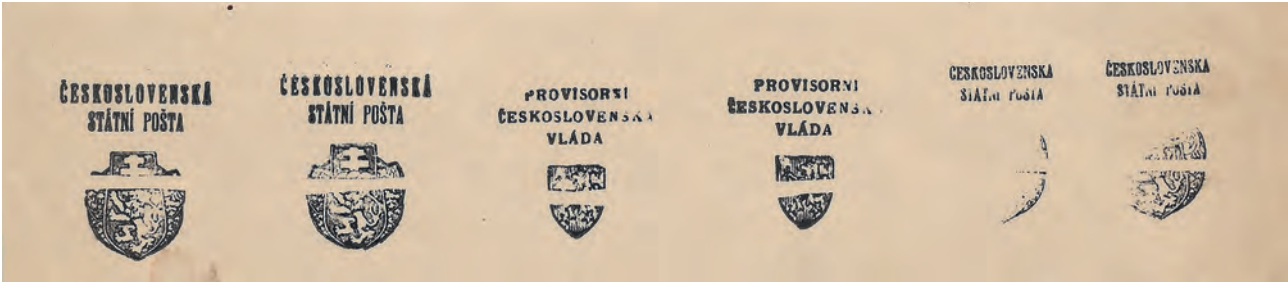
Dr. Maxmilián Fatka.

Copy of the official ordinance of the directorate of Posts and Telegraphs declaring that none of the overprints are of an official nature or valid for postal postage; prohibiting their sale in post offices and the acceptance of all correspondence with these stamps at post office windows; Any letter in the mail with such overprinted stamps will be invalid and must have correct postage stamps affixed prior to delivery.

Ordinance:

To all postal authorities in the Czech Republic. It is reported here that old stamps with the overprint "Československý Stát", "Czechoslovak State", "Provisorní Československá Vláda", "Czechoslovak Provisional Government", etc., are appearing in circulation. These overprints do not have an official origin, but are acquired by individuals without slanted eye detail and crest. The knowledge of the Postal Administration. However, any reprinting of payment stamps by private individuals is inadmissible. Such stamps with unofficial overprints are considered invalid. It is also not allowed to issue individual postal items such as: money orders, etc. at your expense. Stamps with any overprint, unless the Post and Telegraph authority has notified the authorities of their admissibility, are not stamped and cannot be accepted over the counter. Letters with overprinted stamps will be considered unpaid and will be returned to be provided with postage stamps prior to delivery.

Directorate of Posts and Telegraphs.
In Prague, on November 13, 1918



Writing proofs of the cancelled 1st and 2nd Prague revolutionary overprint and Skalika overprint clichés, in black on plain paper.



ozdē a nezby'vá mē
3.
kn.⁶

Vaše- sokonale
 Vašátko
 rukou opíral
 isek

Velitelstvo
čestných skautů
"Havla Růžek - Ořovský"
22
Praha

On December 25, 1918, after the end of the Scout Postal service, the head of the Písek city Post office asked the scoutmaster for the revolutionary stamps for the service of the Administration.

Envelope sent from the Post office in Pisek to J. Rössler Ořovský, 25.12.1918. Postmark N.V., of the National Committee of arrival in Prague.



10 - CZECHOSLOVAK NEW REPUBLIC





FIRST OFFICIAL CZECHOSLOVAKIAN POST

The first stamps of the Castle (Hradčany) series were issued in December 1918 as the first stamps of the newly created Czechoslovakia. Initially, they were not used very often, due to the large stock of Austrian and Hungarian stamps. Prior to December 1918, there had been no stamp printing on Czechoslovak territory, the printing works of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy being located in Vienna and Budapest. Due to this situation, there were a small number of printers experienced in printing postage stamps and specialists in the machinery to be used, paper, and ink to produce them. Therefore, the printing house “Česká grafická unie” (Grafický spolek Unie, printing and publishing houses united in Prague) had to use letterpress, which was the easiest and simplest method of printing, and the quantity of stamps issued in the first month was very limited.

The Post Office issued the following stamps in 1918:

On December 18, 1918, the 5 heller greenish-yellow and the 10 heller pink stamp.

On December 21, 1918, the 3 heller red violet 3 heller stamp.

On December 30, 1918, the 20 heller greenish red and the 25 heller bluish heller.

The first printed values were the 5 and 10 heller of the first Hradčany design. The printing plate consisted of two panes of 100 stamps for each of the values, arranged as shown. The printing sheet thus contained 400 stamps and was cut into separate panes after printing. In some cases, the sheet was not cut between panes of the same value, producing pairs of gutters showing the arrangement of the plates on the original printing sheet.

The design by A. Mucha shows a panoramic view of the Castle (Hradčany) with the church of St. Nicholas in Mala Strana in the foreground and two groups of bushes at the bottom. It is framed by twigs and linden leaves, along with stylised hearts and doves. The text is placed along the top, left, and right, value in an oval in the lower centre frame.

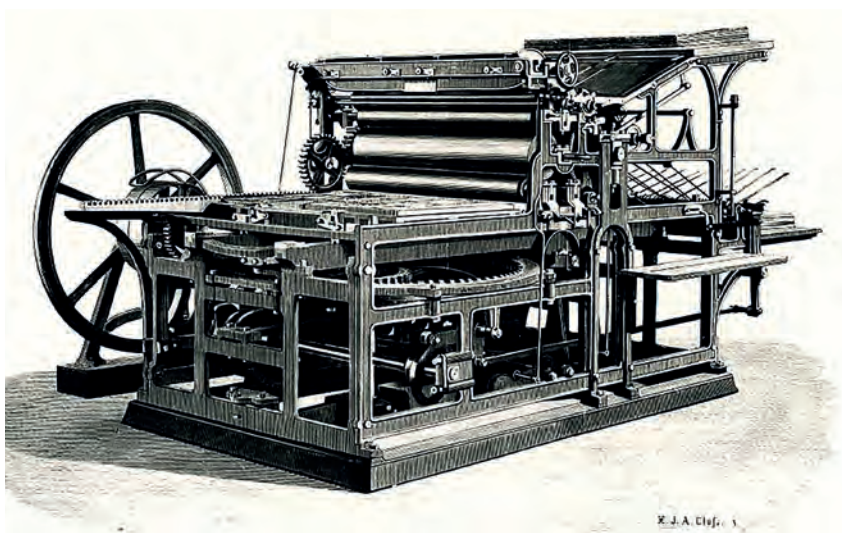
On December 18, 1918, and during the following days, the stamps were only sold in Prague and in limited quantities, the entire month of December the printing house Česká grafická unie was saturated with the printing of the Hradčany stamps. The number of stamps increased rapidly, and after December 20, they were distributed outside Prague, as well as to small post offices.

Press release issued by the Czechoslovak Philatelic Club.

To our members and readers!

The war beast is defeated and writhes in its last pangs. The Austrian hydra is mowed down, and in the places where it used to work, the flowers of the liberated states bloom. What seemed impossible, what we hardly dared to dream of, has become reality: we have our Czechoslovak State, we have our Czechoslovak Republic!. Our heart beats with joy, our eyes shine, our chests swell with pride and satisfaction at the sight of our first Czechoslovak

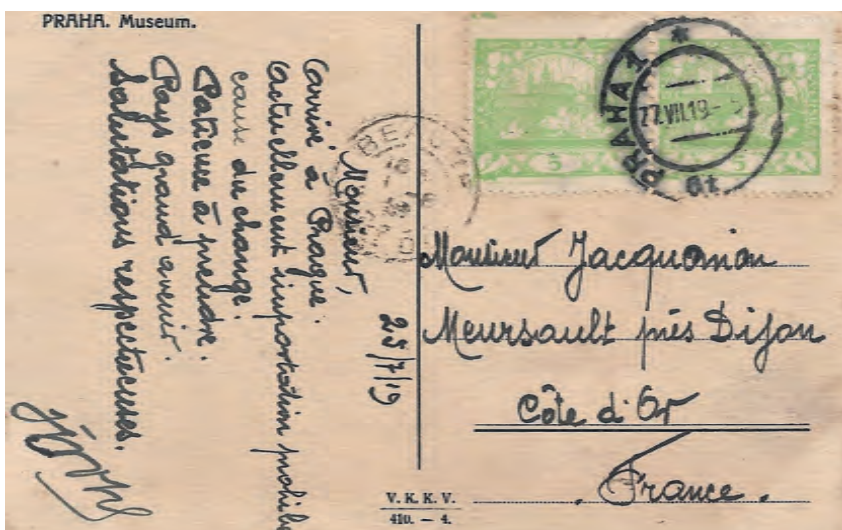




Simple Czech quick press with circular motion. Cylindrical inking unit with two applicator rollers from 1875 for the production of the first postage stamps of the Czechoslovak Republic.



Values of 5 and 10 heller.



Value of 1,000 heller.



Postcard sent from Prague to France on July 25, 1919. At present the import is forbidden because of the exchange rate. Patience!. Country with a great future!. Respectful greetings.



Stamp of 1 heller.





Rubber tampon:
Please, specify the transaction number when paying.

Postcard with postage paid in cash (pro forma rate) Prague 16.12.1918. Application for export permit. Export and Import Commission of Czechoslovakia.



Registered letters with mixed Austrian and Czech postage (correct postage for letter abroad 45 heller) on 14.01.1919 from the Smichov postal district of Prague to Vienna.



postmark. Having been hastily made at a time of a general shortage of all its components, it certainly does not meet the requirements of a world-wide beauty. It has a special character and is all the more interesting because it is a pioneer of our postage stamp of the future, the creation of which will be the passion of our best artists. It is our stamp first, not so much a postage stamp, but a stamp of our independence, of the existence of our young republic, and that makes us happy! In this tremor of pride, we Czech philatelists are adding a new blank sheet to our album, waiting for other stamps that we will be able to store in the album sheet with the title "Czechoslovak Republic".

It will be some time yet before, even if there are stamps of the new government in circulation, the population will use for their correspondence propaganda that reaffirms and ratifies their newly created Czechoslovak State.



11 - GLOSSARY



Aleš, Mikoláš (1852 - 1913)

Illustrator and painter. A precocious child from the age of four, he surprised his surroundings with his ability to draw. In 1878 he participated in the decoration of the National Theatre in Prague with a series of frescoes on the theme of “The fatherland”.

He worked with Czech architects creating mural paintings and sgraffitoes both on the frescoes of many building façades and interiors, such as the church in Vodňany (south Bohemia) or the neo-renaissance one in the Hotel Rott (Prague) and in the foyer of the Town Hall in the Old Town of Prague.

Later he devoted himself to caricature, illustration and pen and ink drawing. During his lifetime he produced more than 3,000 drawings of great variety: illustrations for magazines, books, poems, invitations, playing cards, postcards, calendars (some of them for Scouts), author of the dog’s head and the cover of the A.B.S. manual “Fundamentals of Youth”, making him one of the most important and prolific creators of Czech Art Nouveau design.

Andrássy, Gyula (1860 - 1929)

Politician, diplomat, military man, and writer. He was a member of the Hungarian National Assembly. In 1912 he represented the Austro-Hungarian Empire on a diplomatic mission (unsuccessful) to prevent the outbreak of the Balkan War. In 1915, after the outbreak of World War I, he supported peace negotiations between the warring sides. As Foreign Minister in 1918 he declared the alliance with Germany dissolved and attempted to negotiate a separate peace with the allied countries.

Austro-Hungarian Empire (1867 - 1918)

Considered one of the great european and world powers, whose area was equivalent to that of the following 13 European countries: Austria, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia (the regions of Vojvodina and Western Banat), Montenegro (Mouths of Kotor), Italy (Trentino-Alto Adige and Trieste), Romania (Transylvania, Eastern Banat and Bukovina), Poland (Western Galitzia and Silesia) and Ukraine (Eastern Galitzia and Transcarpathian Rus). Its motto was: “Indivisibiliter ac inseparabiliter” *Indivisible and inseparable*. Each of these territories was administered independently, with its own parliaments, governments and courts, and there was no common citizenship. Only in matters of national defence and foreign relations did the Austro-Hungarian Empire act as a unified entity.

The dual Danubian monarchy, in which Franz Joseph was Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, was used as the imperial and royal kaiserlich und königlich, abbreviated to K.u.K. The inscription on all buildings (town halls, stations, courthouses and even the train carriages of the monarchy) and, of course, on postmarks.

Baden Powell, Robert (1857 - 1941)

British military man, writer, and cartoonist. Founder of the World Scout Movement, he





took part in various military campaigns in Africa, in which he stood out and gained great popularity among the British population, especially for his heroic defence of Mafeking.

The interest and dissemination of his writings, especially “Scouting for boys” on education and youth training, crossed borders and were a source of inspiration for the creation of Scouting on all continents, where he travelled and participated actively in supporting and disseminating its activities.

Beneš, Edvard (1884 - 1948)

Associate professor at the University of Prague and one of the founders of the Mafia. In September 1915 he went into exile with Masaryk. He helped organise the foreign resistance and administered the Czechoslovak National Council in Paris from the post of general secretary. He later became Czechoslovakia’s first foreign minister and represented Czechoslovakia at the Paris Peace Conference. He supported the Scout Movement and in 1930 was elected mayor of the RČS Union of Young Men and Scouts, a position he held until 1935, succeeding Masaryk as President. He belonged to the Scout organization.

Buchar, Jan (1859 - 1932)

Czech professor, cartographer, lecturer, botanist, pioneer of skiing and mountain tourism promotion in the Giant Mountains, friend, and close collaborator of Josef Rössler Ořovský.

In the winter of 1892-1893, he was one of the first skiers in Krkonoše (National Park and one of the most valuable natural areas in the whole of Central Europe). Later, together with the president of the Prague Ski Club, Josef Rössler Ořovský, he organised a series of mountain tours and promotional lectures. In 1903, he participated in the founding of the Czech skiers’ Association and became its first president. He was also involved in the development of tourist infrastructure (road signs, mapping, installation of lodges). He supported Czech minorities in border areas.

Čapek, Josef (1887 - 1945)

Josef Čapek was not only a renowned painter of the expressionist and cubist school, but during the various stages of his life he was also successful as a playwright, graphic artist, illustrator, stage designer, novelist, children’s book writer, poet, journalist, and art critic. In 1918, he became the editor of “Národní listý”. He published several novels and a play. He also produced political cartoons for the “Lidové noviny”, a Prague daily for which he was editor and critic. He invented the word ‘robot’, which was introduced into literature by his brother, Karel Čapek.

Čapek, Karel (1890 - 1938)

Karel was a Czech-language writer (science fiction, children’s literature) known for coining the modern concept (invented by his brother Joseph) of the “robot”. He was a translator, novelist, filmmaker, photographer, playwright, journalist, philosopher, and painter.



One of Karel Čapek's first fantasy stories is entitled 'The Factory of the Absolute' (1922): Čapek contributed to various Czech publications such as the newspaper "Lidové noviny".

After World War I he became one of the most famous and influential authors, and was particularly concerned about the rise of undemocratic authoritarianism and populism in Europe.

In 1929, he visited Spain and, the following year, published an illustrated travelogue that was an unavoidable reference for several generations.

Čapek-Chod Karel Matěj (1860 - 1927)

Czech novelist, playwright, representative of naturalism. He worked in Prague as a journalist for the newspaper Národní politika. Throughout his life, he maintained friendships and contacts with many important personalities of his time.

Although he had previously adopted the nickname and double surname of "Chod", mentioned in books as early as 1902, it was after working with the Čapek brothers in the editorial office of "Národní listy" from 1912 onwards that he used it in order to avoid confusion.

Castle - (Hradčany). (IX century -) Prague Castle (Pražský hrad)

119 08 Prague 1 - Hradčany

+420 224 372 434 | +420 224 372 423

<http://www.hrad.cz> | <http://www.kulturanahrade.cz> | info@hrad.cz

Prague castle, the historic abode of Czech princes and kings, and since 1918 the residence of the President of the Czech Republic. Founded in the 9th century, it is one of the oldest and largest castle complexes in the world, older than Windsor, England. Within its grounds is St. Vitus Cathedral, the traditional place of coronation of Czech Kings and their final resting place.

After October 28, 1918, the day Czechoslovakia was liberated from the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Castle became the seat of government and where Sokol and Scouts lived together as guards and messengers. When President Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk returned to Prague on December 21, he took it as his official residence.

Česká pošta – Hlavní pošta. (1871 -) Czech Post, Main Post Office.

Jindřišská 14 | 110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

+420 800 104 410 | +420 954 292 103





<https://www.ceskaposta.cz> | <https://www.postaonline.cz/detail-pobocky/-/pobocky/detail/11000> | info@cpost.cz

Since its opening in 1874, it has always existed as Prague's main Post and Telegraph office. From October 29, to November 25, 1918, an office for the permanent postal service of the Scouts, one of the three main mail collection and sorting rooms, was established here.

České Srdce - Czech Heart (1917 -)

Charitable Association for Czechoslovak social welfare in Austria. It was established in late 1917 and early 1918, due to the desperate economic situation in Vienna and throughout Austria, as poverty had affected all sections of the population, there were food and fuel shortages everywhere, especially in the cities. Hunger, strikes, raids on shops in the cities, but also in the less agriculturally prosperous areas of Austria, were the order of the day, and to this was added the requisitioning of food in Bohemia by the monarchy, which, of course, provoked a wave of hatred towards Austria and all things German.

České Srdce was founded as a charitable, non-political, and social Association on the initiative of the writer and novelist Růžena Svobodová and the poet, writer, and journalist Josef Svatopluk Machar, together with a committee made up of prominent representatives of politics and culture, as well as representatives of the Women's Movement at the height of the war's misery.

The charitable idea succeeded in attracting numerous personalities from a broad political spectrum. Women in particular played an important role in the charity, which aimed primarily to help starving children who were innocent victims of the war. The initiative met with a massive and immediate response throughout Czechoslovakia. Soon branches of the Association sprang up not only in Bohemia and Moravia, but also in Silesia.

The Association, together with the Scouts, organised one of the most important aid events from a financial and organisational point of view, as it ensured food, clothing, and accommodation for children from the poorest social classes in Vienna in peasant families in the Czech countryside, where food shortages were not so severe. The funds for the children's stay came from public charity collections organised by the Czech Heart and from the contributions of its own members, thus enabling hundreds of children to spend two months without hunger in the Czech environment. The Association's social activities were not only aimed at hungry and malnourished children, it also helped war orphans, war invalids, widowed and abandoned women and the elderly, organised charity events, holiday stays for children and teenagers, and provided support and care services.

Český Yacht Klub - ČYK - Czech Yacht Club (1893 -)

Nedvědovo nám. 14 700, | Prague 4, Podolí

+420 241 430 036

<https://www.yachtclub.cz>



The Czech Yacht Club (ČYK) is one of the oldest in Central Europe and the oldest in the Czech Republic, founded in 1893 by Josef Rössler-Ořovský, a great athlete, outstanding sportsman, member of the rowing club Blesk (founded in 1876) and founder and pioneer of many other sports. Indirectly, and for work reasons, (internships in pharmaceutical industries) in France and England, he maintained his interest in water activities.

At the celebration of its 25th anniversary on October 20, 1918, the ČYK became the first place in Prague where the Czech flag was raised instead of the Austrian flag, i.e., before World War I, and before the declaration of an independent state. It was then a flag with the Czech lion and the crown of St. Wenceslas (called the royal crown), the same flag under which Czech Olympic athletes marched during the Austro-Hungarian era.

The club's facilities are: a pier and a three-storey wooden shed, built in 1912 in Podolí, under the rocks of Vysehrad, its members are propagators of water sports and founders of the Czechoslovak Olympic Committee, as well as participants of the Olympic Games. Rössler Ořovský, also designated the premises for the headquarters and practice of the Prague river Scouts.

Throughout the history of ČYK, in addition to the founders and athletes, we find several names of prominent personalities, appear as members: Jiří Guth-Jarkovský, founding member of the International Olympic Committee, master of ceremonies of the President T.G. Masaryk, Jaroslav Novák, pioneer of youth education, leader of the river Scouts in Prague (known as Bratka).

Chmel, Joseph

Butcher who became the official court supplier to the Austrian rulers, also exported his sausages to America. The Chmel family, involved in the production and distribution of Prague ham: Jan Chmel, a smoker from Karlín, produced Prague ham Antonín Chmel, the most famous producer, who produced it industrially in Zvonařka of Vinohrady since 1879. Josef Chmel, also Královské Vinohrady, production around 1900. Václav Chmel, Karlovy Vary branch.

Cinema Kino NFA Ponrepo . (1907 -)

Bartolomějská 291/11

110 00 Staré Město, Prague 1

+420 778 522 708

pokladna.ponrepo@nfa.cz

On October 18, 1896, the first film screening in Prague took place at the U černého koně hotel, on what is now Na Příkopě Street, by the optician and mechanic Adolf Oppenheimer (Edison Company), but it was not until eleven years later, when the first "Ponrepo" cinema was founded, to which the public regularly attended. At the beginning





of the war in 1914, Prague had 39 cinemas, where, among others, documentaries on Scouting activities were screened until 1918.

Today, the Ponrepo cinema is considered a paradise for moviegoers and a classic in the center of Prague, as it has a long history. As the headquarters of the Czech Film Archive, it screens Czech and foreign films, mostly from the archive's own collection. Czech films with English subtitles are screened once or twice a month.

Czechoslovak flag

Until 1920, a flag with two stripes had been used for all the Czech Lands, one white for the upper side and the other red for the lower side (Slavic colours, symbols of the Kingdom of Bohemia). Two years after the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, and because of the in view of the similarity with the Polish flag and the evocation of symbols of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Ministry of the Interior decided to add a blue isosceles triangle to the left side of the two stripes.

The first Czechoslovak President, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, proposed including stars on the flag, as did the Americans, symbolising the territories of Czechoslovakia at the time, namely Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia, Slovakia, and Subcarpathian Rus.

Czechoslovak Legions

Composed of patriots living abroad who dreamed of an independent country for Slovaks and Czechs, they joined the French Legion and the czarism Russian Army by admitting former prisoners of war who wanted to put an end to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, enabling them to raise an army of 100,000 men.

When Czechoslovakia came into being after the Great War, the new government ordered its members in Russia to continue helping the allies in their fight against the Bolsheviks, forcing them to spend an extra year or two outside their homeland and allowing them to have a great railway adventure. A contingent of 60,000 legionnaires took control of thousands of kilometres of the Trans-Siberian Railway line, and some cities along the way. They became a rolling republic, travelling in armoured trains with bakeries, postal and medical services. Wagons they decorated with patriotic symbols. They also requisitioned a shipment of eight czarism gold reserve trains, which they eventually returned to the Bolsheviks in exchange for permission to leave Siberia and join an allied flotilla waiting for them in Vladivostok, so some did not return until 1921. The legionnaires had a bank in Prague because they were owed a lot of back wages that the authorities had to deposit somewhere, and perhaps also because, according to some rumours, they did not return all the gold requisitioned from the czarism reserve.

ČOS: Československá Obec Sokolská (1862 -) Sokol

Czechoslovak physical education and patriotic Organisation founded in Prague by Miroslav Tyrš and Jindřich Fügner with the basic aim of conducting gymnastic exercises and military teachings. The first President, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, had also been an active member of "Sokol".



During the organisation of the first Czechoslovak foreign resistance during World War I, the Sokol (Falcon) were the best patriotically and physically prepared units of the Czechoslovak foreign Army. In October 1918 and later, armed Sokol units took over the functions of the disbanded Austrian Police, Sokol officers and members formed the basic cadre of the new Czechoslovak Army, especially in the volunteer regiments of the freedom guard and, together with the legions, took part in battles on the Czech-German border and in the liberation of Slovakia.

After the establishment of the first Czechoslovak Republic, Sokol became, through the mass organisation “Československá Obec Sokolská”, one of the guarantors of the Czechoslovak democratic state, its competence was the physical education Association Orel.

Declaration of the Magi (6.1.1918)

The Czech deputies of the Imperial Council in Vienna and the regional assemblies of the historical countries of the Czech Kingdom met in the Grégor Hall of the Municipal House. From there, they transmitted a declaration to the world that will go down in history as the “Declaration of the Magi”. For the first time, demands were made for the recognition of the emergence of full sovereignty.

Domažlice

Domažlice is a town in the Czech Republic in the Pilsen region. The oldest Junák Scout unit in the western part of the Czech Republic was formed there. In the autumn of 1912, A. Svojsík gave an informative lecture there to a small group of students under the leadership of physical education teacher Josef Kramařík.

Subsequently, despite the difficulties brought by the war, they started hiking, gymnastic exercise, and in winter, ice skating, skiing, sledging, the creation of their own library and a music group. Quickly, they grew both in numbers and in the quality of their work. In 1916 a report detailed that the section had 30 members, went on 32 outings, organised 29 meetings, 15 gatherings, 9 parties in gymnasiums and during holidays camped for 12 days near Česká Kubica, or near Čerchov.

A second group from Domažlice, perhaps the largest in the entire JČS, numbered up to 80 members. Kulhánek, Scout troop leader and founder and eyewitness to the beginnings of the Scout Movement in Domažlice, states in his memoirs that the boys' group was joined by a group of Girl Scouts, who were perhaps the only ones of all the groups outside Prague to enter the new republic with three fully active troops.

Domin, Karel (1882 - 1953)

Politician and professor of botany at Charles University in Prague, later, in the 1930s, rector, pharmacist, world-renowned botanist. Member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, member of Parliament, writer and editor of numerous scientific articles and lecturer. He was involved with the Scouts in their early days.





Drtina Prokop, Francis (1900 - 1980)

Czech lawyer and politician. Secretary to President Edvard Beneš. Member of the legendary Dvojka Scout troop, actively participated in the 1918 coup d'état in Prague. Minister of Justice in the 1940s, before the communist coup.

Dušek, Cyril (1881 - 1924)

Journalist, publisher, diplomat and politician, member of the Czech Progressive Party and the Czechoslovak Progressive Party, member of the revolutionary National Assembly in 1918. During World War I, he joined the national anti-Austrian resistance (Mafia). In 1915, like many other politicians, he was arrested and imprisoned in Vienna.

Dyk, Viktor (1877 - 1931)

Czech poet, novelist, playwright, journalist, lawyer, and reactionary politician. The main author of the so-called “rioter generation”. During World War I he was arrested for his activities against Austria-Hungary and his commitment to the Czech national cause.

With the creation of Czechoslovakia in 1918, he joined the editorial staff of the newspaper “Národní listy”. Politically, in 1911 he joined the “Státoprávně pokroková strana” (Czech State Law Progressive Party) and in 1918 he participated in the creation of the “Národní Demokratická Strana”, the Czechoslovak National Democracy (conservative-nationalist party) of the First Republic, for which he was elected as a deputy and senator in the Czech Parliament.

Emperor Charles I (1887 - 1922)

Charles I of Austria was the last Emperor of the Austro-Hungarian Empire between 1916 and 1918. He was known as Charles I of Austria, IV of Hungary, III of Bohemia and IV of Croatia.

Catholic church leaders have praised Emperor Charles for putting his Christian faith first in political decision-making and for his role as a peacemaker during World War I in Europe, especially after 1917. His brief reign has been seen as expressing the Catholic social teaching of the church by creating a social policy, which, in part, still survives today.

Fatka, Maxmilian (1868 - 1962)

Austro-Hungarian, Czech and Czechoslovak civil servant and politician, during the First Republic minister of Posts and Telegraphs of Czechoslovakia and the director of the state postal company. In October 1918, the Czechoslovak National Committee appointed him plenipotentiary of the postal and telegraph service, and in November 1918 he became director-general of the Czechoslovak Post office.

Foglar, Jaroslav (1907 - 1999)

Journalist, educator, scriptwriter, contributing editor, writer of literature for young people,



editor of several children's magazines. Member of the Scout Movement. For most of his life he led a group of boys called *Pražská Dvojka* with his nickname "Hawk". His probably best known works are about a boys' club called "Rychlých šípů" (The Swift Arrows).

Forman, Miloš - Jan Tomáš Forman (1932 - 2018)

Czech-American film director, screenwriter, and actor, (starred in such films as Someone Flew over the cuckoo's nest, Amadeus, The love affair, Ragtime). He was a Scout and a friend and classmate of Václav Havel at the Poděbrady city school boarding school, and said that his Scout nickname "Chobrak" (beetle) came from him. They became friends and even made a film together years later, about the 1938 Munich Treaty.

Franz Ferdinand of Austria (1863 - 1914)

Imperial prince and archduke of Austria, royal prince of Hungary, Bohemia, etc. On July 28, 1914, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne and nephew of Emperor and King Franz Joseph I was assassinated together with his wife Sofia in Sarajevo, Bosnia. The tragic event became a pretext for the outbreak of the First World War.

Graf von Harrach, Johann Nepomuk (Count von Harrach) (1828 - 1909)

Politician, patron of the arts, businessman, industrialist, landowner, and aristocratic nobleman. He played a decisive role in the construction of the National Theatre in Prague with his financial support. President of the Museum Society of the Kingdom of Bohemia (today the National Museum), member of the Czech Provincial Assembly for the political districts of Jilemnice, Vrchlabský and Vysocký.

In 1860, he took over the management of the Jilemnice estate, paying attention mainly to the extensive forests and wood processing. He improved the footpaths and roads, aware of the importance of the emerging tourism. In addition, he contributed to the economic and tourist development of the western Krkonoše Mountains with his generous contributions to the construction of the railway.

In 1893, Johann Harrach, after visiting the World Exhibition in Oslo, Norway, thought about the usefulness and practicality of skis as a working tool for his forestry employees and forest rangers and what it would mean in terms of accessibility and speed of movement in the mountain forests, as up to that time they had to go deep into the snow with Canadian snowshoes. He immediately ordered a pair of ash skis from Norway and a pair of beech skis from Vienna, but despite what is written and reported, it is not true that Johann Harrach was the first to import the first skis to the Krkonoše Mountains; Josef Rössler-Ořovský, a friend of his, had already anticipated this 6 years earlier, since in 1887, Ořovský already owned the first skis in Bohemia and had founded the Prague Ski Club in the same year (the first ski club in Europe outside Scandinavia). Josef Rössler organised regular trips to the mountains for tourists and Scouts from Prague.

In 1895, Český Krkonošský spolek Ski was founded in Jilemnice (Czech Ski Association Krkonošský Jilemnice) and a few years later the first ski races took place.





Guth-Jarkovský, Jiří Stanislav (1861 - 1943)

Czech pedagogue, writer, master of ceremonies of the President of the Czech Republic T.G. Masaryk, founding member of the International Olympic Committee, (1894-1943). Promoted Olympism, tourism, and sport in Czechoslovakia.

In 1896 he participated in the first modern Olympic Games and began promoting the Olympic Movement in Czech and German magazines. He was a close friend and close sports collaborator of Josef Rössler-Ořovský. Together with him he convened several meetings in 1899 and in 1908, both organisers participated in the establishment of the Czech Sports Council, which sought to coordinate the individual Czech sports bodies within Austria-Hungary.

Thanks to his friendship with the founder of the modern Olympic Games, Pierre Fredy de Coubertin, he became a founding member of the IOC (1894-1943), serving as secretary general from 1919 to 1923 and co-authoring the Olympic charter. He was deputy mayor of the RČS Young Scout Association.

Hajný, Vladimír (1895 - 1969)

Born in Jičín, a town in the Hradec Králové region, he was educated at the Faculty of Arts and Law of Charles University. Secretary of the Czechoslovak Union in the field of cooperatives in Prague. Member of the Board of Directors of the headquarters of the Cooperative Unions and of the Board of Directors of Insurance, Advisory Council for Financial Affairs, Economic Commission and Union of Czechoslovak Students in Prague, among other positions.

Harrach noble house (1195 -)

Ancient Austro-Bohemian noble family. The lords, barons and counts of Harrach belonged to the high nobility. Branches of the family still exist today.

Harrachův, Palace (1770 -)

Jindřišská 939/20 | 110 00 Nové Město, Prague

+420 606 157 562

info.cz@museumofsenses.com

<https://muzeummyslu.cz/>

+420 608 213 749

The baroque Harrach Palace is located at 20 Jindřišská street in Prague's New Town 1, near the tower of the same name and next to the main Post Office, built in 1871. The palace, built in 1765 - 1770, has had a succession of aristocratic and bourgeois owners, including count František Arnošt Harrach (Franz Ernst Harrach in German), where count Frederick, the protector of Slavic interests and particularly of the Viennese Czechs, lived. Count Harrach's heirs sold the building in 1921 to the Czechoslovak State, which later (1991) transferred it to the ownership of the large Czech shoe company Baťa, which, in February 2015 through its real estate company, began the reconstruction and completion of the



palace. The reconstruction was completed in 2017. Currently, the building serves as the headquarters of several companies, in the lower part there are shops. The building also houses the interactive Museum of the senses.

This palace took on a completely different role and became after October 28, and for a short period of time the seat of the Czechoslovak National Committee, and a Scout Post office was located here at the end of 1918.

Hašler, Karel (1879 - 1941)

He became one of the most famous and popular Czech singer-songwriters thanks to his pleasant, catchy melodies and patriotic lyrics. He was also a Czech actor, writer, screenwriter, playwright, and director.

He played a few roles at the National Theatre in Prague, from which he was expelled, after which he decided to devote himself entirely to music. Composer, lyricist and singer-songwriter in Prague restaurants and cabarets, including the “Lucerna”. He was the director of the cabaret Rokoko (1915-16) with a varied programme consisting of songs, parodies and one-act plays.

During World War I he ridiculed the Austro-Hungarian Empire in his songs. After the war, he returned to performing at the Lucerne cabaret (1918-23).

Havel, Václav Maria (1897 - 1979)

Prague construction entrepreneur, member of an influential bourgeois family and intellectual. Havel built, among other things, the residential area in Barrandov and the Lucerne Palace in Prague. He was a friend of T.G. Masaryk and the father of the writer, playwright, President, and politician Václav Havel.

Havel, Václav (1936 - 2011)

Czech playwright, writer, and politician. He was the last President of Czechoslovakia and the first president of the Czech Republic.

He supported the political reforms advocated by Alexander Dubček. Opposed the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia. Imprisoned on numerous occasions for his defence of human rights throughout the 1970s, writing public manifestos against prior censorship and calling for *open discussion* of economic and political problems denied or concealed by the communist regime.

Founder of the so-called Charter 77 Movement, he was indicted and sentenced to prison in 1979. After his release in 1984, Havel continued his political activities and his prestige grew. In 1989 he was elected leader of the opposition group Civic Forum, encouraged by the “perestroika” already established in the Soviet Union.



After the fall of the communist regime during the “Velvet Revolution” in November 1989, Havel was elected president of the republic (December 29, 1989), a position which was confirmed after the parliamentary elections of 1990. As a child, after the war, Václav and his brother Ivan were members of the 21st troop of the river Scouts of the Šípka center in Prague 6. After the ban on the Scouts, the group continued under the name Sokol Odivání.

In 1989, the Junák were re-launched in Czechoslovakia and turned to Václav Havel, as the new president, to award him the highest distinction in Scouting and to appoint him protector and honorary president. He, for his part, pronounced these words:

...“Dear Scouts, I welcome you in the courtyard of Prague Castle. I have just received the highest award of Scouting, which of course I respect very much.

I was a Boy Scout when I was young, but that was when most of you were not in the world. However, I can say that Scouting has given me a lot. It taught me discipline, it brought me up and helped others, and it taught me respect for nature.

Scouting educates people in solidarity, it educates them in mutual understanding, in respect for nature. And I believe that all these qualities are urgently needed for our nations today”...

Hlinka, Andrej (1864 - 1938)

A Slovak Catholic priest and patriot, he was a Slovak politician in the first half of the 20th century. One of the founders of the Slovak People’s Party, he was persecuted by the Hungarian authorities for his Slovak political activities. He was imprisoned for two years in 1906. In 1918, Hlinka became a member of the Slovak national Council and advocated the separation of Slovakia from Hungary and its unification with the Czech lands.

... It is time to act. We must decide whether we will stand with the Hungarians or with the Czechs in the future. Let us openly declare our support for the Czechoslovak orientation!. Our thousand-year marriage with the Magyars has failed, we must separate!...

Hofmeister, František (1875 - 1950)

Engineer, secondary school teacher, brother of the Czech glovemaker, writer, historian, and poet Rudolf Richard Hofmeister. He was the first in the Czech lands to start working with youth according to the methods of Ernest Thompson Seton (founder of the “Woodcraft Indians”, a youth group inspired by the ethics and skills of the Redskins), and the pedagogical conceptions of Lord Baden-Powell and the inspiration of his book “Scouting for Boys”. With his American Scout colony for young people, he was one year ahead of his greatest emulator, Antonín Benjamín Svojsík.

Horner, Josef (1869 - 1942)

A Czech merchant of Jewish origin made the revolutionary postal surcharges for postage stamps in České Budějovice.



Horzný, Jindřich (1885 - 1952)

Librarian, biblical scholar, co-author of the library manual, editor of the J.A. Comenius book and the Kralicka Bible, translator of biblical literature from German and Hebrew. Assistant at the Charles University (Univerzita Karlova in Czech) in Prague.

Brother of the writer and orientalist Bedřich Hrozný, he worked at the Public and University Library in Prague in 1911 until the end of March 1918, when he enlisted for the war. From January 1928 he was an employee of the Ministry of Education and national Education.

Hradčany (Castle) | Prague Castle (Pražský hrad)

119 08 Prague 1 - Hradčany

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<http://www.hrad.cz> | <http://www.kulturanahrade.cz> | info@hrad.cz

A number of important Scout events took place in the third courtyard of Prague Castle. In 1920, two years after being appointed President, T.G. Masaryk received a tribute from the Czech Junák-Scouts. Václav Havel was also honoured and appointed honorary president in 1990. In the third courtyard, there is also a bronze equestrian statue of St. George (patron saint of Scouts) created in 1373 by Transylvanian saxon sculptors. The Post office of the Czech Scouts in 1918 was located in the former governor's palace.

Hummelhans, František (1873 - 1942)

Czechoslovak politician. During World War I he was active in the Czech resistance and was a member of the Mafia Committee. Interwar member of the revolutionary National Assembly for the Czechoslovak social democratic workers' Party and mayor of the Prague "DTJ" sports Organisation. Member of the International Union of Physical Education Workers from 1919 to 1938. He was one of the leading figures in workers' physical education, spearheaded at the beginning of the 20th century. He was also the head of the Union of Workers' Sports Units.

Hus, Jan (monument) (1915 -)

(Pomník Mistra Jana Husa)

Staroměstské náměstí | 110 00 Prague 1 - Staré Město

The monument to Jan Hus (1371-1415) (translator, theologian, pedagogue, university professor, writer, philosopher, pastor, linguist, and teacher) unveiled on July 6, 1915 on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the death at the stake of the reformer. Hus





stands looking up at the church of our Lady of Týn, the main Hussite Church between 1419 and 1421. It is surrounded on one side by Hussite warriors and on the other by a series of figures representing the Czech people forced to leave the country in 1620 after the defeat of the protestants at the battle of the White Mountain.

At the foot of the monument, the Czech people (including Scouts) gathered together with their liberators on the day of the founding of the Czechoslovak Republic. Subsequently, inscriptions were made on the monument, some of which were taken from texts by Hus himself.

Institute for Mother and Child Care (1910 -) Podolí hospital

Podolské nábřeží 157/36 | 147 10 Praha 4 – Podolí

Telef: +420 296 511 111

e-mail: info@upmd.eu

The Institute for Mother and Child Care operates in a monumental building under the walls of Vyšehrad on the banks of the Vltava river.

It was founded shortly before the outbreak of World War I and designed by professor R. Kríženecský and opened after four years of construction in 1914, part of the sanatorium was converted for use by the Red Cross during World War I and became a military hospital. It was used for guard duty and service by some scouts during WWI.

Institute of Cereals at war

Palace (Palác Lucerna) | Štěpánská 61 | 110 00 Praha 1 - Nové Město

<http://www.lucerna.cz>

Obilní ústav na Václavském náměstí

Vodičkova 704/36,

110 00 Nové Město, Prague

On behalf of the National Committee, Antonín Švehla and František Soukup took charge of the Grain institute in Prague to prevent grain from being transported to the front and to control the food supply in the famine-stricken country. They let Institute staff swear allegiance to the emerging state.

Jadrníček, Albert (1879 - 1968)

Chaplain and parish priest. Founder of the Scout Movement and the Scout football club in Hulín, a village in the Kroměříž district of the Zlín region of the Czech Republic. He actively participated in Scout events. He excelled in his extraordinary organisational and pastoral skills mainly in youth work. During World War II, Jadrníček was imprisoned for



resistance activities. After the war he was awarded the Military War Cross and the Medal of Merit for his heroic attitude and patriotism.

Jedlička, Institute

Vyšehrad | V pevnosti 13/4,

Telf: +420 261 225 261

128 41, Prague 2

www.jus.cz | E-mail: jus@jus.cz

In 1911, Rudolf Tomáš Jedlička became president of the Association for the treatment and education of rickets and cripples, whose aim was to build an Institution for disabled children. In 1912, Jedlička negotiated a loan for the purchase of a house in Vyšehrad and began to raise funds for the Institute, being himself the first and largest donor. The Association's membership and donations began to grow during his tenure. After returning from the Balkan battlefield in January 1913, Jedlička fully embarked on the new task of establishing a new Institute.

The Institution, named after Jedlička, initially had a capacity of only 10 children. Only children with physical disabilities were accepted, because the aim of the Institution was to teach them to be self-sufficient and thus give them the opportunity to get a job in the future, so that they would not be dependent on others for life. As adults, the children most often found employment as clerks, shoemakers, basket makers, carpenters, and bookbinders.

In the autumn of 1914, the Association decided to allocate part of the Institute to the school for disabled soldiers, which was the first of its kind in Austria-Hungary. President T.G. Masaryk subsequently contributed 100,000 crowns for the construction and extension of the new school of the Institute near Pankrác, Nusle district.

Jedlička, Rudolf Tomáš (1869 - 1926)

Czech physician, surgeon, and philanthropist. Founder of independent Czech radiology and medical radiology and rehabilitation. He advocated X-ray diagnosis and treatment and cure of tumours. He was the first physician in the Czech lands to use X-rays in diagnosis before surgery. He is famous for the use of new surgical techniques (pancreato-gastrostomy, gastric resection).

He worked as a war surgeon on the Serbian side in the First Balkan War and on the Austrian-Hungarian side in the First World War.

Jedlička experienced the negative consequences of using new methods, the dangers of which were unknown at the time of their discovery. Rudolf Jedlička normally used his own hand to establish the correct level of radiation. The finger joints of his left hand were





gradually amputated, leaving him with only the thumb and less than the index finger. However, even with this disability, he was able to continue operating with the help of special forceps, and his name is among the first victims of radiology.

...“It is not important that a person lives a long time, but that a person is satisfied with his way of life and happy with his actions. If this happiness of a person includes a little of the happiness of others, then life is beautiful.”...

Jedlička, Rudolf Tomáš

JČS (Junák Československa Scouting) (1911 -)

Association founded in 1911 by Antonín Benjamin Svojsík, who, after visiting the British Scouts, wanted to establish a similar Movement in his homeland. In 1910, inspired by the writings of Baden-Powell, Svojsík wrote: “Základy Junáctví”, The fundamentals of Scouting, the first manual for Scouts already operating in the Czech Lands. In that book, he combined the Baden-Powell system of education, ideas of the American writer, traveller, and painter Ernest Thompson Seton (founder of woodcraft), and the traditions of the Czech nation. This was followed by an experimental camp in 1912. The participants walked the entire 200 km distance on foot, and their luggage was brought there on a large cart. In the rapidly developing world of Scouting at that time, Junák-Český Skaut, provided a model for many other developing national Associations to follow..

Scouting in the Czech Republic was established in June 1914, the same year its first bulletin was published, the president was Dr. Čeněk Klika and Svojsík was the Scoutmaster. A month later, the First World War started and many leaders were called to fight. In January 1915, the first Girl Guides were introduced, under the leadership of Vlasta Koseová, and soon after a section for the training of Girl Guides was founded. Dr. Anna Berkovcová became the chief Guide. In the same summer, the first Company of Guides held a camp on the banks of the Vltava river.

In 1918, with the creation of the Czechoslovak Republic, the Czech Scouts offered their services and helped the National Committee (provisional government established) in many activities, keeping patrols over buildings and important headquarters, keeping order, but they are best remembered for their courier service in mail delivery, carrying official correspondence in Prague and suburbs. They made their own stamps, the world's first Scout stamps for the franking of correspondence. On December 21, 1918, the “Czech Scout Post” was re-established again, due to the arrival of President Masaryk from exile. After the end of the First World War, the various Czechoslovak Scout Associations were united into a national Association, creating the Czechoslovak federation of Guides and Scouts, which was one of the founding members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement in 1922, with Svojsík elected to the World Committee.

Jirásek, Alois (1851 - 1930)

Czech writer, historian, pedagogue, playwright, and member of the Czech Academy of Arts and Sciences, extraordinary member of the Royal Czech Scientific Society,



nominated for the Nobel Prize for literature in 1918, 1919, 1921 and 1930. Author of a series of plays and historical novels imbued with faith in his nation and in progress towards freedom and justice. He had the opportunity to meet many important Czech personalities from the world of art and science. He worked as an editor at “Zvon” (a weekly magazine of fiction and literature) and was active in the creation of Scouting in Czechoslovakia. He also wrote his first important works, such as “*Psoblavci*”.

In May 1917 he was one of the first to sign the “Manifesto of Czech writers”, an important proclamation supporting the political efforts to have an independent country for the Czechs. On October 28, 1918 at 11 a.m. under the equestrian statue of St. Wenceslas, Isidor Zahradník and A. Jirásek took part in the reading of the Czechoslovak declaration of independence. On December 21, 1918, Jirásek welcomed the first president of the new country, Tomáš Masaryk, whom he would later meet on numerous occasions, with a speech.

Josefská Barracks. (today Palladium)

Náměstí Republiky 1

110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

+420 225 770 250

<http://www.palladiumpraha.cz/> | infokiosek@palladiumpraha.cz

This is the place where the Czech playwright Josef Kajetán Tyl wrote the lyrics of the national anthem of the Czech Republic “Kde domov můj?” Where is my home? 1834.

In the years 1857-1861, the existing convent in Náměstí Republiky, was demolished and in its place the Josefská barracks was built, here in the barracks in Jiří z Poděbrady, the 2nd Regiment of Czechoslovak volunteer infantry was formed, as one of the first volunteer units on Czech soil, to secure the restored State of the Czechoslovak Republic in 1918-1919.

In memory of the 30th anniversary, in 1948, the historical czechoslovak volunteer Association of the 2nd infantry Regiment placed a commemorative plaque with the State coat of arms and the commemorative text. Since 2007 it has been the façade of the Palladium shopping centre.

Jugendwehr (1890 - 1918)

Youth militias that emerged in the German Empire (Berlin) from the 1890s as pre-military and paramilitary training Organisations. They experienced a boom during the First World War.

Junák (1911 -)

The Association of Scouts and Guides of the Czech Republic is the largest children's



and youth Organisation in the country. Junák is a voluntary, civic, independent, and non-political Association, which unites its members regardless of nationality, religion, political convictions, race, etc.

The word Junák, of Serbian origin (hero, brave child) was taken from the works of the Czech writer A. Jirásek. Many years earlier the Serbs had fought against their Turkish oppressors in the battle of Great Cora (Montenegro) and those distinguished freedom fighters were called Junák. Svojsík, taking him as an example, chose the name of the Movement in 1914.

Junobrana (1914 - 1918)

A military-oriented youth gymnastic Organisation of Czech secondary schools, designed for training and later participation in warfare during World War I. The boys learned military tactics.

Kadetní škola v Praze (Cadet school) (1898 -)

Na valech 221/1, Týchonova 221/1, Mariánské hradby 221/1, U Prašného mostu 221/8, Milady Horákové 221/135.

Nº 221/IV Prague

Military school for the continuing education of officers, had a curriculum similar in Austria-Hungary to that of the royal schools and was the prelude to the higher military schools and military academies. Cadets spent from two to four years. They were entered by pupils from primary schools or royal schools. Cadets received higher vocational education and basic concepts for military careers. After the final examination, they became deputies or ensigns. After the establishment of the Republic, there was a war school for the education of staff officers and high commanders. The Czech Scout Post had one of its offices in the Cadet School - Kadetka, Hradčany.

Klenka, Josef (1853 - 1932)

Pedagogue, teacher, and provincial inspector of physical education at the Czech secondary school, Sokol official and promoter of sports games, author of manuals and other publications for coaches, trainers, and teachers in the field of physical education and military exercises (he collaborated closely with Antonín Benjamín Svojsík).

Klika, Čeněk (1865 - 1938)

Family doctor and the first hygienist of the royal capital of Prague, he was a member of the city council. He was the father of Miloš Klika (1890 - 1962), (Czech professor of urology at the Medical Faculty of Charles University in Prague and co-founder of modern Czech urology). He worked in the field of puppet and marionette theatre, among others as an actor, director, and translator of plays.

A close friend of A.B. Svojsík, he became a co-founder of Czech Scouting and the first leader of the Czech Scouting unit Junák, formed by students of the Žižkov primary



schools. Čeněk Klika also took an active and dynamic part in the first camps, together with his brother-in-law Jan Pulkrábek.

One of the rooms in Klika's flat in the Old Town fruit market (house of the Czech Eagle, also called Bubnov House at 15 Ovocný trh, in the Old Town, with a façade decorated by Mikoláš Aleš) served as a Scout clubhouse, where troop IV led by his son Miloš Klika was established. Later, at his place of work in Stará Rychta, he established the first official headquarters of the Association.

Before World War I, in 1914, Klika was directly and actively involved in the establishment of the independent Junák Czech Scout Association, which he supported organisationally, financially, and materially.

He advocated the benefits of outdoor activities for human health, which he summarised in his publication: "The Doctor's opinion on Scouting" (1915). In 1918, he replaced Josef Rössler-Ořovský as President.

Klofáč, Václav Jaroslav (1868 - 1942)

Czech politician, chairman of the National Socialist Party, vice-president of the Senate and journalist. One of the best-known radical nationalists Czech politicians of the Habsburg monarchy.

In July 1918, he was elected vice-chairman of the Czechoslovak National Committee. At the end of October 1918, Emperor Charles I proposed a meeting to him at which he asked him to address the disintegration of the monarchy without bloodshed. He attended meetings of representatives of the domestic and foreign resistance in Geneva with Dr. Edvard Beneš on the future form of the state. On the day of the declaration of the independent Czechoslovak State, he was not present in Prague and his role was played by his partner Jiří Stříbrný. Meanwhile, the composition of the first Czechoslovak government, of which Klofáč was to be a member, was negotiated in Geneva. On November 14, 1918 he became the first Czechoslovak minister of National Defence.

Kovanda, Julius (1881 -)

He was a Czech chamberlain of the Austro-Hungarian minister of the Interior, baron Karel Heinold, who significantly aided the Czechoslovak national resistance in 1914-1915 with an important espionage function for the internal Czecho-slovak resistance, then passed into the services of Franz Clam-Gallas, thus securing a certain intelligence connection. His brother, Antonín Kovanda, as a railway official in Pilsen kept intelligence information on troop movements by rail. He worked in the Mafia under the code name "Douba", which came to light only when T.G. Masaryk arrived in Prague on December 21, 1918.

Kramář, Karel (1860 - 1937)

Czech politician, member of the imperial Council. Arrested, by the Austro-Hungarian military police on May 21, 1915, accused of high treason and russophile activities. Sentenced to death by the judges of the Vienna court, he was subsequently pardoned





by the new Emperor Charles I on July 2, 1917 and returned to domestic politics. Near the end of the war, on July 13, 1918, he headed the Czechoslovak National Committee. Appointed president, he was the first head of government of the first Czechoslovak Republic born out of the disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian Empire between November 14, 1918, and July 8, 1919. After disagreements with Masaryk, he left high politics, but remained politically and socially committed.

Krátký, František (1851 - 1924)

Collection owner: Pavel Scheufler
Pavel Scheufler (@pavelscheufler)
www.scheufler.cz

One of the most important photographers and publishers of stereophotographs of the Czech lands in the Austro-Hungarian period. He focused on depicting Czech and Moravian country life. He took the photograph of scouts crossing out the double-headed eagle on a post box in the town of Kolín on October 28, 1918..

K.u.K. (Kaiserlich und königlich)

The abbreviated imperial and royal designation (k. & k.) was introduced in the Austro-Hungarian monarchy, which emerged from the Austrian Empire in 1867. The first k (imperial) was kept as an abbreviation for the title of emperor of Austria, the second k (royal) for the title of king or apostolic majesty of Hungary of the monarch of the House of Habsburg-Lorraine.

The so-called middle coat of arms of Austria-Hungary 1867-1915 with the coat of arms of the House of Habsburg (lion of Habsburg, Austrian coat of arms, eagle of Lorraine) as the central element.

The imperial, royal and foreign ministries, and representations (legations, consulates) abroad were called Kuk. The joint war army, the joint army in times of war, was also officially designated as Kuk.

The designations in the other languages of the monarchy are:

German	Czech	Hungarian	Polish	Slovenian	Croatian	Romanian
kuk	kralovský C.ak.- cisarskya	cs. éskin. -császári és királyi	C. IK. - Cesarskii Królewski	C. en kr. -cesarski en kraljevski	C. yo kr. -carski i kraljevski	isc - chezănesc si crăiesc / impăărătesc si crăiesc
kk	ck - cisaisko- královský	cs. kir. - császári- királyi	CK - cesarsko- krolewski	C. kr. - cesarsko- kraljevski	C. kr. - carsko kraljevsko	cc- cezaro- crăiesc/ chezano- crăiesc
ku	král. uher. - královský uherský	m. kir. - magyar királyi	królewski węgierski		kn. ug. - kraljevsko ugarsko	





Language

Immediately after the fall of the Empire, various nationalities, including Czechoslovakia, asserted their rights to the use of their mother tongue to the Austrian government. On the basis of a law of December 19, 1867, which states: *“Equal rights are recognised in all the component lands (of the monarchy) with regard to the use of native languages in schools, public offices and in everyday life”*.

Franz Kafka, a Bohemian writer in the German language, regrets that he does not know the Czech language thoroughly. Himself In addition to the Czech newspapers, he was interested in and read the purist magazine “Naše řeč” (Our Language), and also the magazine to the Boy-Scouts “Náš Skautik” (Our Scout).

Lešetický, Jaroslav (1866-1936)

Librarian, archivist, publisher and philatelist. In 1918, employee and first secretary of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs together with postmaster Maxmilián Fatka (1868-1962). He proposed overprinting a stock of Austrian stamps for Prague and its suburbs for the day of the coup. The text of the overprint was to read: “Zatímní vláda 28.10.1918” (provisional government 28.10.1918). The official overprint was never produced. Despite this, so-called private revolutionary overprints were created.

Before the end of World War I, in November 1918, Lešetický, together with Jaroslav Šula, was responsible for supervising the production of the first stamps for the newly established republic, commissioned from the academic painter Alfons Mucha. In this way the first Czechoslovak postage stamp was created, under the name of *Hradčany*.

Lešetický was a co-founder of the journal “Český filatelista”, contributed to several philatelic journals writing articles and working as an ambiguous expert, due to many incorrect appraisals.

At his instigation, the withdrawn Austrian and Hungarian stamps of the monarchy were overprinted with “Pošta Československá 1919” (Czechoslovak Post 1919) and returned to circulation for a short time at the end of 1919-20. The issue of these stamps was widely criticised, as the new stamps of the republic were already available at that time. Lešetický’s involvement can be evaluated as a conflict of interest between postal operations and philately. It is speculated that he made some unique stamps for his own use and sale, with the result that his work was subsequently controversial and criticised.

Lidové noviny (1893 - 2024)

People’s News, or The People’s Newspaper, is the oldest surviving Czechoslovak centre-right liberal-conservative daily newspaper, which owes its prestige to its coverage of political, economic, scientific, and cultural issues and the commentary and opinions of prominent personalities from the Czech Republic and abroad (writers, politicians, and philosophers). It was also the first Czech newspaper to include political cartoons in its pages.





It was founded by the Stránský family, the deputy Adolf, and his son Jaroslav, who owned the Polygrafia printing house in Brno, from where the first issue of “Lidové Noviny” was published on December 16, 1893, and which, like other newspapers of the time, had a morning and an evening edition.

A branch of its editorial staff was established in Prague, including the brothers Karel and Josef Čapek, who made the newspaper famous especially in the interwar period. Lidové noviny supported the so-called Prague Castle Group, and its articles were also published there under pseudonyms by the Czechoslovak Presidents T.G. Masaryk and later Edvard Beneš. With the development of modern technologies, the cost of paper and distribution, its last issue in printed form, came to light on 31.8.2024, although it will remain on the <https://www.lidovky.cz> website.

Lucerne Palác Lucerne Palace (1907 -)

Štěpánská 704/61 and Vodičkova 704/36,

110 00 Nové Město, Prague 1

www.lucerna.cz

tel.: +420 224 224 537

Art Nouveau and modernist building and an important cultural and social centre of the capital, it was built between 1907-1921 as one of the first reinforced concrete buildings in Prague with a highly original glass roof. The investor, organiser and builder was the entrepreneur Václav Havel, whose grandson, Václav Havel, later became President of Czechoslovakia. The palace also played an important role on October 28, 1918. In fact, it housed the headquarters of the Grain supply Office, and it was here that two of the Five Men of October - Antonín Švehla and František Soukup - took office to obtain command of the grain supply to feed the inhabitants of the fledgling state.

Mafeking

Mafikeng, called Mafeking by the British, is a town in south Africa, northeast of Cape Town, which was the site of the 217-day siege of Mafeking (October 1899 - May 1900), the most famous British military action of the Second Boer War and considered a decisive victory for the British and a crushing defeat for the Boers or Afrikaners.

During the siege, a local postal service was developed in which all boys over the age of nine were organised as messengers by Baden Powell, then colonel and in charge of the defence of Mafeking, who years later, would devote himself entirely to Scouting and boys all over the world.

It was decided to issue two stamps: Colonel Baden Powell (two formats) and master Sergeant Warner Goodyear (bicycle), troop leader of the Mafeking cadet corps. They are considered to be the world's first Scout stamps.



Maffie or Mafie - Maffia (1914 - 1918)

A conspiratorial and clandestine organisation of Czech politicians active during World War I with the main goal of resistance, espionage, and independence and against the opposition of Habsburg domination of Czech territories. It played a decisive role in the formation of the National Committee of October 1918, and the declaration of Czechoslovak sovereignty, maintaining contact with the foreign section.

About 200 people participated in his activities. The name Maffie was chosen in memory of a Sicilian Organisation (with no resemblance) known as Maffia, which some participants in the resistance admired at the time.

Before expatriating, Masaryk commissioned Beneš to establish a secret internal resistance Organisation working for the exile and subordinate to him. It was to function simultaneously as an intelligence and influence agency, sending messages abroad via special couriers on international express trains. These reports were to contain information on timely and recent developments in Austria-Hungary and were to be used by the governments of the contracting states. For example, the Organisation recruited the Austrian minister of the Interior, Julius Kovanda, who secretly copied highly confidential documents that the minister took home from work at night and passed them on to the Maffia.

The conspiracy network was to influence the national press, public opinion and Czech politicians at the same time and secretly win them over to support Masaryk's foreign action. His presidency met for the first time in March 1915. State progressives and Russophiles such as Kramář and Rašín also participated in the activities of the secret network. After Beneš's emigration in September 1915, Šámal took over the leadership of the Organisation.

The Austrian state Police never penetrated the Organisation, they could not paralyse it, although some messengers were discovered and spied on (such as the dramatic soprano and opera singer in Prague: Ema Destinová, stage name Emilie Paulina Venceslava Kittlova. The secrecy was so perfect that the officials did not normally know each other. The Organisation operated not only in Prague and Vienna, but also in other cities of the monarchy, being especially active in Brno. The Maffia often lost contact with the exile and had to operate completely autonomously. It managed to organise several social events in support of the exile, such as the National Oath in April or the so-called theatrical Jubilee celebration in May 1918. In October 1918, the Organisation began preparing to seize power.

Mareš Vojtěch (1862 - 1932)

He was born in Prague. He worked as a gardener in Vienna, then in different German cities, and with his experience and reputation he was hired by the Habsburg nobility. From there he went on to work for count Schwarzenberg at his castle in Hluboká nad Vltavou, where he held the position of chief administrator of the forest nurseries.

He is credited with the revolutionary overprints on Austrian stamps (Mareš) with a lion rampant and the text "ČESKO SLOVENSKÝ STÁT"





Mariánský sloup - Marian Column (1650 - 1918) (2020 -)

Staroměstské nám. 20,

110 00 Staré Město, Prague

The corinthian-style Marian column, made of a single piece of sandstone and consisting of a baroque-style sculpture of Mary Immaculate on top and other statues of angels on the pedestal, located in the Old Town square in the Czech capital, was built by the city to thank Our Lady for her protection in the 17th century against the Swedish Armies and to give thanks that Prague was not conquered by them.

In the 19th century, Czech nationalists associated it politically as a symbol of the Habsburg monarchy. This nationalism linked protestantism anti-Catholicism with Czech independence. In fact, in 1915, just a few metres away from the Madonna column, they built another monumental ensemble, in this case of the Hussite leader and protestant reformer Jan Hus.

In the few violent demonstrations of 1918, the column was demolished without the consent of the National Committee, marking the end of the Habsburg monarchy and the beginning of a new era of the Czechoslovak State.

On June 4, 2020, the Marian column was re-erected after a citizens' Association collected dozens of private donations and the selfless work of sculptor Petr Vaňa, who made an exact replica of the original monument.

Masaryk, Tomáš Garrigue (1850 - 1937)

Czech philosopher, politician, professor, and first President of the Czechoslovak Republic. Masaryk remains a symbol of the former Czechoslovakia, having been born to a Czech mother and Slovak father on the border of the two countries.

The 'liberator president', a title assigned to him by the Czechoslovak Parliament, for having spearheaded the efforts to found the independent Czechoslovak State.

Masaryková, Alice or Alice Garrigue Masaryk (1879 - 1966)

Czech professor, sociologist and politician, a prominent figure in the field of applied sociology. Daughter of Tomáš Masaryk and Charlotte Garrigue.

From her stay in the USA, she brought back a strong influence on her future professional development in the field of social work.

Detained for eight months in a prison in Vienna in 1915, for her father's role in the creation of an independent Czechoslovak State, Alice Masaryk was arrested and then not allowed to return to her work as a teacher and with the closure of the sociology department she began to teach sociology from her home until she established the first Czechoslovak college of



social work in 1918.

After the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic on October 28, 1918, Alice Masaryk was one of the first women elected as a member of Parliament headed by her father Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk as the first President, and was appointed head of the Czechoslovak Red Cross Organisation on February 6, 1919, establishing polyclinics and soup kitchens for the poor.

When her mother died in 1923, her father appointed her as his official representative, acting as first lady of the republic.

Members of the Maffie

After the departure of professor T.G. Masaryk abroad in December 1914, a national committee called “Maffie” was formed. From the very beginning, its purpose was to support T.G. Masaryk’s events abroad. Edvard Beneš, who later became second president of Czechoslovakia, Karel Kramář, Alois Rašín, Josef Scheiner, Přemysl Šámal among many others, belonged to the Maffie. They were later arrested in connection with other activities, not for belonging to the Maffie.

Mucha, Alfons (1860 - 1939)

Czech painter, decorative artist, author of scenographies, one of the leading exponents of Secession or Art Nouveau.

In Paris he produced illustrations for magazines and advertising, becoming famous with his first lithographic poster of Victorien Sardou’s Gismonda for the actress Sarah Bernhardt and her Théâtre de la Renaissance.

When Czechoslovakia gained independence after World War I, Mucha designed the first postage stamps, banknotes, and other government documents for the new nation, as well as the stained-glass windows of St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague and some drawings for the Czech Scouts in the 1920s.

Národní divadlo - National Theatre in Prague (1881 -)

Národní 2 | 110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

+420 224 901 448 | +420 224 901 111

<http://www.narodni-divadlo.cz> | info@narodni-divadlo.cz

One of the most famous theatres in the Czech Republic and one of the most culturally, historically, and architecturally important buildings in the country. In April 1851, the board for the establishment of the Czech National Theatre in Prague issued the first public call to initiate collections and lotteries to provide sources of funding for the construction of the theatre. The Czech Kingdom also provided funds through grants approved by the Czech Provincial Assembly or the provincial committee.

Emperor Franz Joseph I, at the head, made his first personal contribution of 5,000





Crowns. Later, when he heard of the theatre fire on August 12, 1881, he immediately donated a further 13,000. He was followed by numerous Czech patriots, who organised various events and bazaars in Prague (Žofín).

Donations were made by the Land Committee of the Kingdom of Bohemia, members of the imperial family, the Russian tsar Alexander II, the Czech nobility: Prince Lobkovic, Counts Chotk, Counts Kolovrat, the Schwarzenberg, Kinsky, Černín, Nostic, Harrach families.

The bourgeoisie, scientists and artists, businessmen, politicians, historians, writers, journalists, and newspapers (Národní listy, Pokrok, Politik) and a long etcetera, also made a significant contribution, and of course The City of Prague.

The first cadet headquarters of the revolutionary Army in 1918 was established here.

Národní Politiky (1883 - 1945)

Václavské náměstí 835/15

Nové Město

110 00 Prague 1,

The newspaper 'Národní politika', a Czech-language newspaper, politically supported old Bohemia. In 1918 it covered the events in Prague in the uprising against the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the participation, announcements and summons of the Scouts. This printing and publishing house had a shop window. On the morning of October 28, 1918, passers-by came across an announcement of the peace terms accepted to mark the surrender of Austria-Hungary. This moment became the decisive trigger. People waited no longer. They openly declared the existence of the Czechoslovak Republic.

Today, a plaque on the façade commemorates the event and marks the newspaper's headquarters.

National Committee

The membership base consisted of several dozen patriots and enthusiastic supporters. The executive power was handed over to the Bureau, and the plenary decided authoritatively on the goals. Karel Kramář was elected chairman, who became a symbol of resistance to the regime, as he had been sentenced to death by Austria (amnestied after the arrival of Emperor Charles I). Antonín Švehla and Václav Klobáček became vice-presidents, and František Soukup was the general director. The presidium of the National Committee included Vavro Šrobár, Alois Rašín, František Soukup, and Jiří Stříbrný.

As of October 28, 1918, the National Committee consisted of 42 members, composed of journalists, lawyers, writers, chairmen of political parties, businessmen, philosophers, economists, theologians...



Novák, Antonín (1874 - 1957)

Czechoslovak politician, inter-war deputy and senator in the National Assembly of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Workers' Party. From 1918 to 1920 he was a member of the revolutionary National Assembly. He contributed to the establishment of Czechoslovakia. He was not one of the "October 28th Men", but supported the armed forces with his efforts when independence was declared in Prague.

Novák, Jan (1876 - 1938)

Pedagogue, school headmaster, writer of 17 works in 25 publications and in 3 languages. He was a critic and interpreter, director, and leader of the Czech Scouts, friend of A.B. Svojsík. Holder of the order of the Silver Wolf.

Nuší, František (1867 - 1951)

Czech astronomer, physicist and mathematician, university professor and one of the founders and president of the Czech Astronomical Society, member, and temporary vice-president of the international astronomical union, participated in the establishment of the popular Štefánik Observatory on Petřín Hill in Prague. Nuší was a talented musician, played the viola and was a member of a Prague choir. He was one of the first instructors for Scoutmasters. He had two sons, also Scouts: František and Jan, who distinguished themselves by their service to the National Committee in 1918.

Nuší, František (1899 - 1975)

Together with his brother Jan, a prominent member of the Junák Scout Association. Czechoslovak designer of the Itar 350 motorbike. A successful motorbike racer on BSA machines, chief engineer at the Walter aircraft engine factory. His father was Prof. Dr. František Nuší, Czech astronomer and Scout instructor.

Nuší, Jan (1900 - 1986)

Very active in the Scout Organisation, especially in the delivery of official correspondence from Prague in the period of the formation of the new republic. Known by the nickname Honda. In Prague, he met Karl and Agustin Šulc in Junák, and his brothers: Miloš and Václav M. Havlov. As an adult, he was a Czech jeweller, sculptor, designer, pedagogue, and restorer.

N.V. (Národní Výbor)

Czechoslovak National Committee. Czechoslovak political representative body at the end of World War I (1916). It was renewed on July 13, 1918 with the main task of preparing for the seizure of state power and drafting the basic laws of the new state.

The representatives of the National Committee (October 28th Men), proclaimed an independent Czechoslovak State on October 28, 1918 in Prague and enacted the first law, the "Law on the establishment of an independent Czechoslovak State".





On November 14, 1918, the National Committee was formed into a revolutionary National Assembly, which handed over executive power to the first Czechoslovak Government of Karel Kramář, appointed on the same day. It took over from Masaryk's provisional Czechoslovak Government, which was recognised by the western powers in Paris on October 14.

Obecní dům - Prague Municipal House - (1912 -)

Náměstí Republiky 5 | 111 21 Prague 1 - Staré Město

+420 222 002 101

<http://www.obecnidum.cz> | info@obecnidum.cz

An important Art Nouveau building in the architectural and political history of the Czech Republic. Multifunctional centre and civic and cultural landmark in the city of Prague.

During World War I, it was the scene of numerous charity events to support soldiers at the front and their families.

On January 6, 1918, the Czech deputies of the Imperial Council in Vienna and the regional assemblies of the historical countries of the Czech Kingdom met in the Grégr Hall, from where they issued a declaration to the world that will go down in history as the "Declaration of the Magi". For the first time, clearly formulated demands were made for the recognition of the emergence of full sovereignty. Three months later, on April 13, and after having signed the declaration of Czech writers in 1917 in favour of the independence of Czechoslovakia, Alois Jirásek read the Oath of Nations in the Smetana Hall.

The rooms of the former Czech Men's Club were established as the headquarters of the National revolutionary Committee and were used since the summer of 1918, with the approval of the representatives of the city of Prague, to prepare all the necessary steps for the establishment of an independent republic.

On the evening of Monday, October 28, František Soukup, Alois Rašín, Antonín Švehla, Jiří Stříbrný and Vavro Šrobár, later called the "October 28th Men", signed the law on the establishment of an independent Czechoslovak State and adopted the capitulation of the headquarters of the 8th Military Corps of the Austrian Army. They proclaimed the first Czechoslovak Republic here, and from the balcony of the Town Hall they proclaimed an independent Czechoslovak State to the people.

In the first days after October 28, 1918, its representatives also played the role of provisional government. In the Municipal House, Austrian military power surrendered to the National Committee.

Portraits of the men of "October 28th Men", - František Soukup, Alois Rašín, Antonín Švehla, Jiří Stříbrný and Vavro Šrobár adorn a plaque in the Municipal House with the text:



“History walked through this hall, here, awaiting the collapse of Austria and preparing for Czech liberation, The National Committee met here, on the day of triumph on October 28, 1918, took over the government of the Czech land, here Comenius’ words came true: “The government of your affairs will return to you, Czech people”.

Obilní ústav (Cereal institute) (1915). The Lucerna Palace (Palác Lucerna)

Vodičkova 704/36 - Štěpánská 61

110 00 Praha 1 - Nové Město

<http://www.lucerna.cz>

The War Grain Institute was an institution for carrying out grain distribution in Austria-Hungary during the First World War.

World War I brought with it the need for a new organisation of basic supplies. There was also a regulation of free trade and a substantial reduction in consumption and production, which was mainly focused on supplying the troops.

On February 27, 1915, the War Institute for Cereals (seeds, flour, pulses) was established in Vienna, which took over the expropriated supplies and redistributed them as needed.

In April 1915, tickets for the collection of bread were introduced in Prague, the preparation and distribution of which was provided at the city’s expense by the newly established bakery, according to the requirements of the bread commissions. Gradually, vouchers were introduced for all other foodstuffs and, in general, articles of daily use.

In August 1915, a branch of the Grain Institute was established in Prague and similar institutes for other types of foodstuffs.

From September 1915, restrictions on other types of foodstuffs (meat, fat, milk, salt, coffee, sugar, etc.) and goods (tobacco) followed.

In October 1917, a committee was established to rescue the population of Prague and improve the supply situation. These and other social Organisations received food confiscated by numerous inspections in the streets, railway stations and restaurants.

Antonín Švehla and František Soukup, on behalf of the National Committee, took over the Grain Institute in Prague to prevent grain from being transported to the front and to control the distribution of food in a starving country. They let the Institute’s staff swear allegiance to the emerging state.

Due to the growing shortage of food supplies, an approval commission was established in Prague, which took over general supervision of the purchase and distribution of food.





In June 1918, the food ration was limited to a weekly ration of half a loaf of bread per person, meat was sold only one day a week.

In the harsh winter of 1917/18, food supplies in Prague were limited to the last remnants of potatoes, and even in the last six months of the war, the situation worsened.

Obora Hvězda, (Hvězda Nature Reserve) (1534 -)

Hvězda Game Reserve

Adamova 9, 162 00

Praha 6

Hvězda (star) nature reserve founded by Ferdinand I. of Habsburg, who acquired the site with an oak forest called Malejov from the Benedictines of Břevnov, to whose estate it belonged. At that time the landscape in Prague was devoid of forests. Therefore, this was the land chosen to establish a hunting ground as the Habsburgs were passionate about hunting and the park was suitable for numerous hunts and hunting festivals.

The layout of the tree planting and the management of paths and trails was completely unique. The oak trees were planted in the shape of a six-pointed star and it was divided circularly by eight paths flanked by avenues of apple and pear trees.

One of the many diversions of the eccentric Habsburg Emperor Rudolf II (1552 - 1612) was animals. He acquired a collection of exotic pets in the castle, where he also kept his beloved lion Muhammad, a gift from the Turkish sultan Murad III (1546 - 1595). As space becomes scarce, he takes some to the Hvězda nature reserve (twelve camels, two cheetahs, three leopards, given to the sovereign by the Russian tsar Fyodor I. Ivanovič (1557 - 1598), a tiger by the Duke of Florence Ferdinand Medici (1549 - 1609).

Hvězda is today widely used by runners, cyclists and, in winter, cross-country skiers. Various cultural and sporting events are traditionally held here. The forest also has playgrounds, picnic areas and gymnasiums. Meetings, activities, and outings are also held here by the Prague Scouts.

Old Town Square, 4

(Staroměstské náměstí)

110 00 Prague 1 - Staré Město

It houses the headquarters of the Scout Institute and has been one of the important centres of Prague for centuries. The Scouts performed a guard duty here in October 1918, when they and the Sokol tried to keep a free space at the Jan Hus monument. In later years (the end of World War II), abundant material and archives with documents from the activities of the National Committee, which were stored in the former Town Hall, burned down, disappearing completely.



Olšanské hřbitovy - Olšany Cemetery (1680 -)

Hřbitovy a pohřební služby hl. m. Prahy

Vinohradská 1835/153, 130 00 Praha 3

T: +420 272 011 126

E: office@hrbitovy.cz

It is the largest cemetery in the city of Prague, particularly known for its many remarkable modernist monuments, it was created to accommodate the multitude of plague victims who died in Prague and needed to be buried quickly. Among the many personalities buried in this cemetery are Bernard Bolzano, mathematician, logician, Bohemian philosopher and theologian, Karel Jaromír Erben, writer, historian, lawyer, poet, translator, Klement Gottwald, Czechoslovak communist politician, general secretary and leader of the communist party of Czechoslovakia, prime minister and president of the republic, Josef Jungmann, Czech poet and linguist and a leading figure of the Czech national revival. Ján Kollár, Slovak romantic writer and poet, archaeologist, scientist, and politician, was an early ideologue of pan-Slavism. Josef Lada, Czech painter, illustrator, and writer, best known as the illustrator of Jaroslav Hašek's World War I novel "The Good Soldier Švejk".

Orel (Czech for eagle) (1909 -)

Czech youth Movement and gymnastics Organisation based in Moravia that emerged as a competitor, supported by the Catholic Church, to the more nationalistic and rather anti-Catholic Czech sports Movement Sokol. The Orel Movement defines itself as a "Christian sports Organisation".

Ottův slovník naučný Otto's Encyclopaedia (1888 - 1909)

Otto's encyclopaedia, dating from the end of the 19th century, with approximately 140,000 entries, 28,912 pages, arranged in 28 volumes, was considered the best and most extensive encyclopaedia and educational dictionary published in the Czech language in the world. Its scope and quality make it comparable to the most prominent works of the same genre and time such as the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Pauly, Jan M. (1869 - 1944)

Prominent and renowned prelate, archdeacon of the church of St. Wenceslas in the Smíchov district. Excellent pastor, preacher, and orator. Skilled in organisational and federal activities (co-founded the Union of Catholic clergy in 1902, of which he was the president), was involved in the Christian Democratic Party.

Passionate patriot, politically committed. During the war he financially supported the internal resistance. Friend of Antonín Švehla, in 1917 he was a member of the Czech National Council and signed a constitutional manifesto. Important and prolific writer





and journalist. Author of manuals and practical treatises for the clergy in the field of church administration and other publications. His plays were performed in various places. Lover of art.

Petřínská rozhledna (1891 -) Petřín, Lookout Tower

Petřínské sady 633

118 00 Prague 1 - Malá Strana

+420 775 400 052

<https://www.prague.eu/petrinskarozhledna> | tourinfo@prague.eu

The 60-metre-high observation tower stands on a hill in Prague. It was built as part of the Prague National Jubilee Exhibition in 1891, inspired by the Eiffel Tower and used as an observation tower as well as a radio transmission tower. At the same time, a funicular railway was built connecting Petřín Hill with Újezd in the Malá Strana district. Used by the Scouts in 1918 as a wireless telegraph station. The first wireless telegraph station was in Letná, and it was more commonly used.

Pfadfinder - Scout (1911 -)

The Pfadfinder Scout Movement was created in Berlin, Germany on the model of Scouting designed by Baden-Powell: to train young people.

In late 1908, Maximilian Bayer met Dr. Captain Alexander Lion, who had served as a medical officer during the war in German south west Africa and had corresponded with Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of the world Scouting Movement, and devoted much of his spare time to the establishment of Scouting in Germany. Bayer worked with Lion to edit and publish a German translation of Baden-Powell's "Scouting for Boys". The book was first published as "Das Pfadfinderbuch" (The Scout book) in May 1909. On January 20, 1909, the first German Scout troop, "Jugendsport in Wald und Feld" (Youth Sport in Woods and Fields), was formed in Berlin. In 1911, the German Scout Association (Deutsche Pfadfinderbund) was founded in Berlin.

Pittsburgh Agreement (May 30, 1918)

Signing in Pittsburgh (USA) of an agreement by which the Czechs and Slovaks agreed to create a common, independent State. The Slovaks thought of federation and thus of maintaining their own administration, diet, language, etc... Masaryk thought of centralisation, of a united Czechoslovak Republic with a democratic Constitution. In addition to Masaryk and representatives of the Slovak league, representatives of the Czech National Association and the Union of Czech Catholics signed the agreement..



Plajner, Rudolf (1901 - 1987)

Czech doctor of natural sciences, specialising in mathematics and physics at the Univerzita Karlova (Charles University in Prague). Rudolf Plajner was a key figure in 20th century Scouting, known as “Dad”. In the autumn of 1916, he joined the Scout troop, founded, and led by the poet Jiří Wolker in the town of Prostějov (a town in the Olomuc region Moravia), after returning from the Scout camp in Lipnice led by the founder of Scouting in Czechoslovakia himself, professor A.B. Svojsík. In 1918, he served the national revolution as a Scout. He and his group went on foot to Prague to meet President T.G. Masaryk and became members of the organising committee.

Podolí sanatorium in Prague (1909 -)

Podolské nábřeží - 157 /36

14710 Prague 4 - Podolí

Today it is the maternity clinic of the Podolí district of Prague and the Institute for Mother and Child Care.

The Prague sanatorium, designed by the architect Rudolf Kříženecký, was founded in Podolí on the slopes of Vyšehrad. It included, among other things, a swimming pool with artificial waves, a sauna, and a sun bath. The first patients began to be admitted to the sanatorium in May 1914.

As soon as Rudolf Jedlička started operating at the Prague sanatorium, World War I broke out, and he was called up to join the Fifth army in Bosnia, his Czech colleagues convinced the military authorities that it was necessary for the professor to return to Prague to carry out his work.

The situation in the field infirmary was desperate in many ways. In addition to the numerous wounded, there were soldiers suffering from dysentery and diarrhoea, coupled with poor sanitary conditions. Both typhoid and cholera appeared. There was a shortage of food and drinking water.

During the years of World War I, part of the sanatorium was handed over to the Red Cross and became a temporary military hospital.

Among the patients were Josef Rössler-Ořovský, Jan Kubelík and Charlotta Masaryková. Minister Alois Rašín died here after an assassination attempt.

Ponrepo, Viktor (1858 - 1926)

Real name Dismas Šlambor, was a Czech magician and pioneer of cinematography. Founder of the first permanent cinema in Prague on Karlova street (the Blue Pike). His artist's surname is derived from “Bon repos” (French for good rest) near Stará Lysá. The cinema of the Czech National Film Archive in Prague, Kino Ponrepo, is named after him.



Prague Main Post Office (1871 -)

Czech Post - Main Post Office (Česká pošta - Hlavní pošta)

Jindřišská 909/14 | 110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

+420 800 104 410 | +420 954 292 103

<https://www.ceskaposta.cz> | info@cpost.cz

Neo-Renaissance building at Jindřišská street 16, built between 1871-1874. After the dissolution of the monastery during the Josephine reforms, its buildings housed an office and a tobacco factory, and finally, after the building was demolished, what is today the main Prague Post office was built in 1871.

It was from this office, in 1918, that a telegram was sent to all post offices in Bohemia and Moravia with the announcement of the establishment of a new State and precise instructions for the post offices to continue working in accordance with the regions concerned.

The creation of the Czechoslovak State at the end of October and beginning of November 1918 brought changes not only of a political and legal nature, but also of an economic and administrative nature. The latter directly affected the way postal services were organised and controlled. All postal, telegraph, telephone and radio services were transferred to the Czechoslovak Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, created on November 13, 1918, which until then had been controlled by the Austrian ministry.

The Prague Scouts' intense activities were also a major factor in this transfer.

Prague Main Railway Station (1869 - 1985)

(Nádraží severozápadní drahy)

The station of the North-western Austrian railway was a private railway company whose network was located on the territory of today's Czech Republic and Austria. It was one of the largest transport companies of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy.

It disappeared in 1975 in a controlled explosion. It was one of the most beautiful and aesthetic buildings in Prague and considered the most elegant in Central Europe.

The regular operation of passenger trains at the station ended in 1972. Due to the construction of the north-south motorway. The northeast wing of the famous station building was demolished in 1975. In 1985, its remaining part was blown up.

The central façade with four corinthian columns and a decoration of allegorical sculptures of economy, science, commerce and industry, Mercury (also identified with Hermes) was an ancient mythological god, messenger of frontiers, travellers, and railways...



Praha Masarykovo nádraží - railway station (1845 -)

Havlíčková 2

110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

+420 221 111 122

<https://www.cd.cz/stanice/5457236> | <https://www.cd.cz>

Prague Masaryk Railway Station, is a terminal railway station near Republic square (Náměstí Republiky) in the New Town area of Prague. It was named after President T.G. Masaryk on March 8, 1990.

It was the first railway station in the city to serve steam trains and the second oldest railway station in Prague (the first being Praha-Dejvice, formerly Bruska on the Lány horse-drawn railway).

In the dramatic autumn days of 1938, trains arrived at this station with people who were unable to live in their homes on the border because of the Sudeten German terror and the Nazi order established after the Munich Agreement. At that time, almost 370,000 Czechoslovak citizens (Czechs, Jews, and anti-nazi-minded Germans) fled to the interior.

During the Prague uprising against the German occupation in 1945, the station was captured by the Waffen-SS on May 8, and 53 surrendering resistance fighters and non-combatants were massacred. Today, the station serves only suburban, regional, and inter-regional trains.

Prague Municipal House (Obecní dům) (1912 -)

Náměstí Republiky 5 | 111 21 Prague 1 - Staré Město

+420 222 002 101

<http://www.obecnidum.cz> | info@obecnidum.cz

Prager Tagblatt (1876 - 1939)

Considered the most influential German liberal-democratic newspaper in Bohemia, it ceased publication after the German occupation of Czechoslovakia. The Prager Zeitung, a German weekly published in Prague since 1991, aims to continue the traditions of the Prager Tagblatt.

Pražská potrubní pošta - Prague Pneumatic Mail (1899 - 2002)

Pneumatic mail is an underground system for sending letters through pressurised air tubes. It was invented in Scotland in the first decade of the 19th century. Pneumatic mail systems were used in several large cities in the second half of the 19th century.





In the city of Prague in the Czech Republic, there was the “Pražská potrubní pošta”, a network of tubes approximately 55 kilometres long for sending mail by post. Following the damage caused by the European floods in August 2002, the Prague system was damaged and operations were suspended indefinitely. It was mostly used by banks, post offices, the government, media, state offices and in some cases, it was also used for public correspondence.

Initially, it operated from the main Post Office on Jindřišská street (next to Wenceslas square) to the Post Office on Malé náměstí Square (next to the Old Town square), later extended to Prague Castle, with a letter or small parcel taking about 8 minutes to get from the centre to Prague Castle (a 4 km journey).

Přemysl, Šámal (1867 - 1941)

Prague politician and lawyer. At the outbreak of World War I, he was one of the founders of the Maffie resistance Organisation. Member of the national revolutionary Assembly for Czechoslovak constitutional democracy, head of the office of the president of the Republic, active member of the Czech Progressive (Royalist) Party.

From February 1918, he supported the Czech constitutional democracy, to which he transferred a large part of the former royalists. In October 1918 he took part in the meeting of Czech politicians with Edvard Beneš in Geneva, which is why he was not present in the country during the events in Prague on October 28. After the creation of independent Czechoslovakia, he became mayor of Prague.

Psohlavci (Dog's Heads) (1883 - 1884)

A historical novel written by Alois Jirásek, first published in 1884 as an offprint in the journal Květy, and published as a book in 1886. The novel's dialogues are written in the Chod dialect (former Czech State border guards).

Psohlavec (Magazine) (1914 - 1922)

It was the first Czech youth Scouting magazine, which the writer, translator, and teacher Jan Hořejší, began publishing in a promotional edition for the general public before the outbreak of World War I. It contained articles from Scout life, about Psohlavce members, including translations of foreign articles. For strictly economic reasons, only a few copies were published and for a short time. The printing was produced hectographically,* disappeared with the integration of the Association with the Czech Scouts and they adopted their new magazine “Junák”.

** Manual or mechanical printing that allows multiple copies of a design to be made using a hydrophilic gelatin sheet.*

Rašín, Alois (1867 - 1923)

Lawyer, economist, and prominent politician. First Czechoslovak finance minister, he studied at the Law Faculty of Charles University, and as a good orator he attended the Slavic student congress as a leader, while participating in political activities against the



police and the Austrian monarchy. Together with Karel Kramář, Václav Klobáček, Přemysl Šámal and Antonín Švehla, he was part of the secret Organisation of the anti-Austrian Maffie resistance Movement, meeting with other political parties and forming a National Council and financing a foreign resistance led by Masaryk. Sentenced to death in 1915 and later pardoned. One of the “five men of October 28” who participated in the seizure of power in Prague, drafting the text of the proclamation of the Czechoslovak State and the first Czechoslovak law. He then served as minister of finance before being assassinated on January 5, 1923, when Josef Šoupal, a young communist and radical anarchist, shot him in the back, causing numerous wounds that ended his life a month and a half later.

Rastislav Štefánik, Milan (1880 - 1919)

Slovak military man, politician, diplomat, and astronomer. From 1908 to 1911 he worked as an academic-diplomat, sent to observe solar eclipses, and strengthen diplomatic relations in countries around the world.

He took part in an official French expedition to observe and record a total solar eclipse in Alcocéber (Castellón), but also worked in countless other countries. He served as a general in the French Army during the First World War. He contributed to the creation of the first Czechoslovak Republic.

Before the war, he travelled in the south Pacific and participated in a French government plan to build a local telegraph network and a system of weather stations. He was only 34 when the war broke out, joining the Czechoslovak foreign resistance. The first year he served as a military pilot. Later, as vice-president of the Czechoslovak national Council in Paris, he organised the Czechoslovak Legions and was promoted to the rank of general in the French Army. He had valuable connections with French politicians, to whom he introduced Masaryk and Beneš. As an experienced diplomat, he prepared Masaryk for his tour of the USA in the spring of 1918. He died in a plane crash on his way back to his native Slovakia on May 4, 1919.

Rössler-Ořovský, Josef Ludvík (29.6.1869 - 16.1.1933)

He was born into a family of prosperous drugstore and apothecary wholesalers in the centre of Prague (between Wenceslas square and Jindřišská street), which allowed him a certain considerable financial security and a comfortable and guaranteed financial autonomy from a very early age for the development of his sporting hobbies.

After graduating and studying chemistry, he joined the wholesale pharmacy business of his father, who sent him to Europe for training and experience in pharmaceutical business, a trip which he used to study and explore the sporting activities outside Bohemia, such as in England, where he used the opportunity to import the first football regulations translated from English for the Czech lands. He spent time in France, Germany and later in Trieste, and had access to sea and water sports.

He was one of the most prominent and important figures of Czech sport. Multifaceted athlete, editor and publisher of sports articles, pioneer, founder and organiser of various





sports Associations and disciplines. Czech sailing club, (bought a sailing boat and established a floating shed club house on the Vltava river). Lawn tennis club, Czech amateur athletic union, hockey club. In addition, it is engaged in speed skating, athletics, football, fencing, rowing, skiing, sailing, hockey, and many others. In 1887, he orders skates and two pairs of skis from Norway, which are later manufactured in Czechoslovakia. It also imports the first six canoes from Canada.

In the years 1888-1893, he sailed in the Adriatic Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, Germany, England, France, and the alpine lakes. He did his military service in Trieste.

Enthusiastic and with an overwhelming personality, leader, diplomat and multilingual, passionate about all kinds of sports and organisational skills, he participated in the Olympic Games in Athens (1906), London (1908), Stockholm (1912), Antwerp (1920), Chamonix (1924), St. Moritz and Amsterdam (1928). Decorated on several occasions for his sporting activities: he was a knight of the French Order of the Legion of Honour, holder of several olympic medals, honorary member of several corporations and sports clubs, especially the Olympic Committee. He was a member and later the secretary general of the Czech Olympic Committee.

His diplomatic work as a negotiator for Czech independence and autonomy with representatives of international federations and the IOC and as a promoter of independent Bohemia on the international sporting stage, elevating it and making it independent of Austria, was fundamental.

We should also mention the work and help he provided as an expert and his extensive knowledge of medicines and drugs in international Red Cross missions.

Later, together with Svojsík, he was the founder of Scouting in Czechoslovakia and President of the Czech Scouts and founder of the first nautical division of the Scouts. He was a member of the first national Council in Prague.

Rožmitál pod Třemšínem

Podbrdské muzeum

Palackého 10,

262 42 Rožmitál pod Třemšínem

pm@podbrdskemuzeum.cz

+420 311 249 262

A town in the central Bohemian region of the Czech Republic. According to legend, the Castle that was built here was surrounded by rose bushes and was therefore called Rosenthal. The German name was later transcribed into Czech as Rožmitál.



In 1911, the first Scout colony was opened in Bohemia. It was an American colony for boys and girls from the age of six, not only Czech but also of other nationalities.

Scheiner, Josef Eugen (1861 - 1932)

Lawyer, politician and Sokol organiser. Arrested in May 1915 along with Kramář and Rašín, and imprisoned in Vienna for his Slavophile activities and contacts with French gymnasts and officials of Sokol Associations in the USA.

In November 1915, the Czech Sokol Community was forced to disband. In February 1918, Scheiner helped found the Czech State Rights Democracy party. In July he became a member of the revolutionary national Assembly of the Czechoslovak Republic with a clear purpose: to get Sokol members to participate in the military seizure of power.

His example as a revolutionary patriot contributed significantly to the doubling of Sokol's membership base after the establishment of the republic.

At the end of October and November 1918 he founded the Czechoslovak national Army. He prevented the last Austrian Viceroy, Max Julius Viktor Maria Coudenhove, from taking military action against the national revolution by arresting him and placing him under house arrest. They soon helped secure the Czech border and western Slovakia. As early as October 28, Sokol members under the command of their leader Jindřich Vaníček created the National Guard. On the anniversary of the battle of White Mountain on November 8, 1918, the first Czechoslovak soldiers were sworn in in Prague.

Seton - Watson, Robert William (1879 - 1951)

British journalist, historian, and professor of central European studies. The most respected English-speaking expert in Hungary at the time. He knew Masaryk from the pre-war period. Together, they drafted the first two memoranda of independence for the Czech State in November 1914 and May 1915, as well as the first two versions of the exile's political programme (the so-called minimalist and maximalist plan). Watson, with the necessary contacts, introduced Masaryk to the British Foreign Office and the then Edward Gray.

Šlambor, Dimas (1858 - 1926)

(Viktor Ponrepo) pseudonym.

He was a magician and illusionist who with his variety show began touring the cities and towns of Bohemia and Moravia before directing his own cinema in Prague.

On one of his trips, he saw a large sign written in French that read: "Bon Repos", which can be translated as good rest or pleasant rest, choosing it as his artistic pseudonym.

I successfully highlight a documentary about the battles of the Boer War in South Africa.

He pioneered Czech cinematography in 1907 by creating the first permanent cinema where films from the collections of the National Film Archive are screened and which





bears the name “Ponrepo”. Documentaries on the activities of the Scout Movement were screened there.

Sněmovna - Thunovský palác (Czech Parliament)

The Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic - Thun palace

Sněmovní 4

118 26 Prague 1 - Malá Strana

+420 257 171 111 | +420 257 174 117

<http://www.psp.cz> | posta@psp.cz

In the late 17th and 18th centuries, Maximilian Thun had a palace built in Prague, which in 1800 was transformed into the Provincial Chamber (Czech Parliament). The abandoned building of the former Czech Provincial Assembly had been empty since 1913. During the war, it served, among other things, as a potato warehouse. Later, the unicameral National Revolutionary Assembly met here.

After October 28, 1918, the state administration, including the basic constitutional institutions, began to develop rapidly, although they were not yet fully democratic in this post-revolutionary period. The State was governed by the National Committee.

National Committee, whose members were appointed by the political parties, and for a time exercised both legislative and executive power. After the adoption of the provisional constitution, it became the first National Assembly, and the palace became its seat. At its first meeting on November 14, 1918, the Habsburgs were deposed here and the President of the Republic, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, was elected. Today, a plaque commemorates a decisive moment in history. In November 1918, a Scout Post office was established to ensure the immediate transport of important messages to other headquarters and political leaders.

Sokol (1862 -) ČOS

Sokol (falcon), symbolise the holy and spiritually strong souls of noble and magnanimous men of great heart, admired for their extraordinary agility, speed, eyesight, strength, and steadfastness, and are a source of inspiration for the oldest Association in the world. The feather in the hat is part of the traditional uniform.

It was founded in Prague in 1862 as a physical education Organisation with a strong nationalistic character, with the aim of motivating a patriotic spirit, physical, intellectual, and moral training of the population through social, physical, and educational activities and using a system of gymnastic training that would help its members to become better and nobler and contribute to making the Czech nation stronger and stronger.



Through the development of healthy minds in healthy bodies, the Czech people would be motivated to revive a personal and national consciousness by fostering the concepts of democracy, fraternity, equality, freedom, and civic responsibility.

Sokol's activity, supporting Czech independence, was banned (November 24, 1915), but the existence and activity of the counties and unity persisted, despite the fact that the mayor Jiří Scheiner was imprisoned for cooperating with the Maffie.

Sokol became international with many clubs in other Slavic countries, and in particular in the USA. It was only three years after the first Sokol Club was founded in Prague.

Soukup, František (1871 - 1940)

Lawyer, journalist, publicist and one of the most important social democratic political leaders before World War I, and during the interwar period in Czechoslovakia. He was the editor of the newspaper "Právo lidu", a member of the Austrian Parliament and a leading Czech social democrat. He collaborated with the Maffia during World War I and spent a short time in prison.

He worked openly for Czech independence, taking part in many important Czech political activities during 1918, such as the National Promise, the celebration of the founding of the National Theatre, etc. He was a member of the National Committee. He also cooperated during the first attempt to enact the independent Czech State during the general workers' strike of October 14, 1918.

Member of the board of directors and executive of the Czechoslovak National Committee and one of the organisers of the coup d'état of October 28, 1918. In the first Czechoslovak government, Soukup served as Minister of Justice of Czechoslovakia in 1918-1919.

In a tribute and speech, he expressed his deep gratitude to the Scouts for their service in the establishment of the new republic.

Špaček, Stanislav (1876 - 1954)

Czech engineer and promoter of scientific labour management techniques, in the service of the state Administration in Prague, where he carried out several road, bridge and hydraulic construction projects.

Even before the end of World War I, he had brought together a number of Czech technical and economic experts to discuss and draw up a plan for the post-war development of the embryonic Czechoslovak State, starting initially from Prague's own problems (e.g., the transport problem of *Greater Prague*).

Šrobár, Vavro (1867 - 1950)

Physician and important figure in Slovak politics in the interwar period, playing an important role in the creation of Czechoslovakia in 1918 after the collapse of the Empire.





He promoted Czech and Slovak unity by becoming involved in the Czechoslovak National Council and was a representative of the Maffia. On May 1, 1918, Šrobár proclaimed the right of the Slovak people to self-determination and to create a common state with the Czechs. Known to Masaryk and other Czech leaders, and as a Slovak representative, he signed the proclamation of independence of the new Czechoslovak State, which was read out in Prague on October 28, the only Slovak politician involved.

Staroměstská radnice - Old Town Hall (1338 -)

Staroměstské náměstí 1/3

110 00 Prague 1 - Staré Město

+420 775 400 052 | +420 236 002 629

<https://prague.eu/staromestskaradnice> | staromestskaradnice@prague.eu

The Old Town Hall in Prague was founded in 1338. It consists of a complex of several houses adjacent to the Old Town square. Historically the oldest square in Prague, formerly called the “great market”. It was here that the first merchants and craftsmen settled to trade and do business. Eventually, they built a proper Town Hall, with the astronomical clock that became the hallmark of the city.

During the Prague Uprising at the end of World War II in May 1945, the old Town Hall served as one of the headquarters of the anti-Nazi resistance. Fighting between the insurgents and the German Army took place in the immediate vicinity, causing extensive damage. The fire started during the bombardment of the Town Hall on May 8, by German troops, a few hours before the signing of the capitulation. It so destroyed the neo-gothic wing of the Town Hall that only the perimeter walls remained standing. The tower, the gothic observation deck and the clock were also severely damaged in the fire, the city archive with valuable sources on the history of Prague burnt down, and with it, numerous documents on the Prague Scout Post of 1918.

Stará rychta

Rytířská 404/12, Prague

<https://www.pamatkovykatolog.cz/stara-rychta>

The street has been used as a market since records exist under different names: New Market, Kotcová, Egg Market, Goose Market, Old Town Market, Rytířská.

Today the building is one of the 14 branches of the regional Hygienic Stations in the Czech Republic belonging to the ministry of Health (Hygiena Praha). In 1918 it was one of the first Scout facilities. It was here, on October 29, 1918, that the Scout leader and Chief Scout, Antonín Benjamín Svojsík called together all the Boy and Girl Scouts of Prague to serve in the period of transition to the newly formed Czechoslovak Republic. From there they marched to the headquarters of the National Committee, the Municipal House.



Štenc, Jan (1871 - 1947)

Czech publisher, entrepreneur, photographer, printer, bookseller, and graphic artist. Founder of the company Grafický závod Jan Štenc, which was engaged in the reproduction and documentation of works of art and architecture. In 1918 he was commissioned to create the zinc plates for the revolutionary overprints “česko slovenská pošta”, for overprinting stamps for the Slovak Minister of state, Dr. Vavro Šrobár.

Strakova akademie (1896 -)

nábřeží Edvarda Beneše 4
118 01, Malá Strana, Praha

+420 224 002 111

www.vlada.cz

Neo-baroque building on the left bank of the Vltava river. It was designed by architect Václav Roštlapil. Today, it is the seat of the Government Office of the Czech Republic. It served as a residence for the poor students of the noble Czech families, according to the wishes of the imperial advisor, count Jan Petr Straka, who in his will gave away all his property for this purpose. Straka's Academy also includes an extensive garden.

Stránský, Adolf (1855 - 1931)

Writer, lawyer, journalist, politician and founder of the newspaper “Lidove”. During the Austro-Hungarian Empire he was a member of the Provincial Assembly Moravian and the Imperial Council, the leader of the Moravian branch of the young Czech Party, Member of the National Revolutionary Assembly and after the establishment of the Republic the Minister of Commerce and Senator of the National Assembly of Czechoslovakia.

Stránský of Griefenfels, Adolf (Dolfíček) (1894 - 1917)

Born in Orlovská hájence near Lipnice nad Sázavou, near Německý Brod. Son of Josef Eduard Stránský, forester of ‘Orlov’. Learned German, French and English. In 1908 he went to England to study economics. When his brother-in-law Antonín Benjamin Svojsík, the husband of his sister Julie, left for England in 1911, Adolf was his local guide, thanks to his knowledge of the environment and the language. After his return to Bohemia, due to his language skills, Stránský helped Svojsík significantly with the translation of the publication: “Scouting for boys” by the founder of Scouting, Robert Baden-Powell. He later worked closely with the founding of the Czech Scout Movement (Junák), especially in the area of translating Scout literature from English manuals.

During the summer holidays of 1912, the first Scout camp in the history of the Czech Scout Movement was organised by Svojsík in the ranger's hut in Orlov, not far from Lipnice Castle. Adolf Stránský collaborated and participated closely in its preparation. From 1914 and throughout the war, the camps took place under the auspices of the new Czech Junák-Scout Organisation. The poet Jiří Wolker describes his camp experiences at



the same place in 1916 in the work “Scout Diary”. In April 1923 he was diagnosed with tuberculosis and died at the age of 23.

Stránský also took part in the first international Scout meeting organised by B. Powell in the summer of 1913 in Birmingham, England.

In 1917 Stránský received a conscription order to join the Imperial Army with his entry to the war front. To protect him from the danger of combat, his parents declared him mentally ill and incapacitated, depriving him of his legal capacity. Unable to bear this fact, he committed suicide on October 2, 1917 at the age of 23 in the Orlov forests.

Střelecký Ostrov

Střelecký Island.

110 00 Prague 1 - Staré Město

<http://www.praha1.cz>

Střelecký Ostrov, an island in the middle of the Vltava river in Prague, is connected to both banks by the legion bridge. It is first mentioned in the 12th century. It was originally used as a garden. Under Charles IV, a training ground was established for Prague marksmen who had the privilege of practising archery and crossbow shooting. Later, bourgeois military corps were trained there.

On the island, the founder of Sokol, Miroslav Tyrš, organised the first Sokol rally or meeting in 1882, which is commemorated by a commemorative plaque. From 1890 onwards, People's camps were held there on “May 1st”. After the proclamation of the republic, one of the headquarters of the Czech Scouts was established there in the service of the National Committee.

In 1890, May 1st, Labour day, was celebrated here for the first time in Bohemia. After the proclamation of the republic, the headquarters of the Czech Scouts was established here during the service of the National Committee, consisting of: Chief Scout and leader: A. B. Svojsík, second leader E. Roubal and chairman J. Rössler Ořovský. During the Protectorate, the island was used by the Prague branch of the Hitler Youth.

Stříbrný, Jiří (1880 - 1955)

Journalist and politician, in 1897 he took part in the founding congress of the Czech National Social Party. Subsequently, he worked in its youth Organisation and as editor of its newspapers.

Member of the Imperial Council (Viennese national Parliament) until the end of the monarchy. Before the war he joined the Maffie resistance Movement. In July 1918, he



became a member of the National Committee, and later, in September 1918, a member of the Socialist Council and the National Revolutionary Assembly, helping to organise the general strike on October 14, 1918.

On October 28, 1918, he became one of the five “October 28th Men”, participating by chance in the coup of October 28, 1918, as the head of the National Socialists, Václav Klofáč, was at that time in Geneva negotiating, so he had to represent him, signing the proclamation on the Independence of the Czechoslovak State, which formally severed ties with the monarchy.

Šubert, František Adolf (1849 - 1915)

Or also (Schubert), Czech playwright, novelist, and theatre historian. He entered the Faculty of Arts and worked for several magazines (Pokrok, Čech, Politik, Brousek). He was the first director of the National Theatre after its opening. In the years 1883 - 1884, he organised the so-called theatre trains to visit the theatre, in which Czech from as far away as Vienna, Budapest and Croatia took part. In 1907-1908 he was the first director of the Vinohrady Theatre.

Sula, Jaroslav (1863 - 1927)

Czech chemist and philatelic official, businessman, publicist and expert, co-organizer of the publication of the first unofficial Czechoslovak book on stamp issues (Scouts and revolutionary stamps).

In 1895, he became a member of the “Czech Philately Club”. In 1901, he was elected president of the Czech philatelic club, K.č.f. and resigned in 1903. At the end of 1905 he was again its president, until his resignation in 1921, the year in which he changed his position to be a stamp dealer, an expert in stamps and a member of the editorial staff of “Tribuna Filatelistů”.

Svatopluk Machar, Josef (1864 - 1942)

Czech poet and essayist. A leader of the Realist movement in Czech poetry, he was active in anti-Austrian political circles in Vienna. Many of his poems were satires of political and social conditions. Father of Sylva Macharová, one of the first Czech nurses and the first director of the Czech school of nursing. Cooperated with the resistance organisation T.G. Masaryk - Maffie, from December 1914.

Švehla, Antonín (1873 - 1933)

As a member of the Austrian Parliament, he defended the lower-middle classes, mainly peasants, in Bohemia. He was considered a progressive within the centrist Agrarian Party.

At the outbreak of World War I, he remained in Austria-Hungary, unlike other prominent Czech and Slovak leaders such as Masaryk, Beneš or Štefánik, whom he secretly supported





and provided information on the situation in the future Czechoslovakia. He refused to declare allegiance to the State and the Habsburg dynasty. During 1915-1916, he was involved in organising the *Maffie*, a secret structure that aspired to Czechoslovak independence.

After the death of Franz Joseph I, and the accession of Charles to the throne, the main political prisoners were released and the regime was relaxed. Švehla led a series of nationalist demonstrations, proclamations and writings that made his cause known abroad. Thanks to his great ability to reconcile the diverse views of the Czech parties and his natural modesty, he was the main organiser of the transition to independence.

As chairman of the Národní Výbor (National Council). On October 28, 1918, he took over the supply of food to Prague and then demanded the surrender of the Austrian governor and the surrender of the garrisons, which was achieved the next day without bloodshed.

While Masaryk was in the United States, Beneš in Paris to represent Czechoslovakia at the peace conference, and Kramář (the new Prime Minister) in Geneva, Švehla had to take charge of forming the government and establishing the apparatus of the new state. Thanks to his work, in cooperation with the leaders of the other parties, a democratic system, respectful of the rights of minorities in the new state, and an important social policy were established.

From 1930, member of the honorary committee of the RČS Youth Scout Union. He kept his faith in Scouting until the last days of his life.

Svobodová, Růžena (Růžena Čápová) (1868 - 1920)

Czech writer, playwright, teacher, and novelist. During World War I, she was involved in charitable work; she worked in the Czech national Self-Help Association “České Srdce” as founder and head of the children’s department. The humanitarian work of this Association consisted in organising the stay of Prague and Viennese children in the countryside, where they received healthy food, while in the capitals of the empire they suffered disproportionately from the war years.

In 1918 he founded and edited the magazine *Lípa*. She focused her humanitarian and editorial activities on politics, but she did not want to join the existing political parties, but she did gather artists, actresses and literary women in her own social hall.

Svojsík, Alois (1875 - 1917)

Czech Catholic priest, translator of religious writings, columnist, and tireless traveller. Author of the publication “Japan and its people”, 1913, the most comprehensive book on Japan written in Czech during the Austro-Hungarian era, he was the elder brother of Antonín Benjamín Svojsík, the founder of Czech Scouting and who helped him in his beginnings.

Tavík, František Šimon (1877 - 1942)

Painter, graphic artist (engraver, woodcutter) professor at the Czech academy of Fine Arts who helped to awaken solidarity among the people with images of starving



children, creating a poster before World War I, consisting of a mother with two children embodying the fate of millions of women, whose men fought in the war and died there, also symbolising the threatened homeland. This interpretation is reinforced by the silhouette of the Hradšchin (Castle) in the background, which at that time was already a traditional emblem for the country's identity.

Těšnov (1872 - 1972)

The Praha-Těšnov Railway Station was a central long-distance railway station in the Czech capital. Built in 1872, northwest of Prague's Old Town in Karolinenthal (Karlín) it was put into operation three years later as the Prague north-western railway. Architecturally, it consisted of a complex of neo-renaissance buildings designed by the architect Carl Schlimp. Until its final closure in 1984 (as part of the planning of the Prague city motorway), it was one of Prague's two major terminal stations. All facilities and buildings were eventually demolished. The south wing of the building with the monumental reception hall was blown up on March 16, 1985.

From July 1, 1972 all passenger trains ran to and from the Railway Stations Praha Hlavní Nádraží (Prague Main Railway Station) and Praha Střed (today: Praha Masarykovo Nádraží).

T.G.M. (1850 - 1937)

Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, Czech philosopher and the first President of Czechoslovakia in 1918. In 1918 Czechoslovakia became an independent country, for a time the most prosperous and stable in eastern Europe. The architect of its creation, Tomáš G. Masaryk, was its first President. Masaryk was considered the father of the nation. He taught philosophy at the University of Prague from 1882, and in 1891 he was elected to the Austrian Parliament when they were still part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Masaryk was a strong supporter of the idea of creating a federation, as the Czechs were despised by the Austrians and he wanted this to change. He envisioned a federation within the Empire that would give the Czechs greater autonomy and independence, with the same rights as the Austrians.

During World War I, Masaryk went into exile and led a campaign for the liberation of Czechoslovakia, including in the United States. He believed that the allies would be more likely to accept the existence of Czechoslovakia than that of a single Czech State. He knew he needed to win the broadest possible support, so he tried to unite the Slovaks and Czechs to make Czechoslovakia a reality. The allies accepted his plan in June 1918, and recognised the borders proposed by Masaryk, who became their first president.

As the architect of the creation of the new state, the National Assembly declared him the first president of Czechoslovakia. He left the United States, where he was in exile, and returned to Europe, where he took a ship to Trieste, Italy. When he crossed the Czechoslovak border, at the first station he got off the train to kiss the soil of his homeland and then continued his journey to the city of České Budějovice where he gave his first speech as president to an enthusiastic crowd.





Thompson Seton, Ernest (1860 - 1946)

Founder of the Woodcraft Movement who directly influenced the pedagogical conceptions of Lord Baden-Powell and A.B. Svojsík in creating the Boy Scout Movement, primarily in the so-called “totemic traditions”.

He was born in England, but at the age of six moved with his family to the Canadian forests where he learned a range of outdoor skills which he called “Woodcraft”. In 1902 he founded the “Woodcraft Indians”, a youth group inspired by the ethics and skills of the redskins.

Having been called by Baden-Powell in 1906, Seton decided to collaborate with the English military man in the creation of a common project, being appointed national Scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts of America (USA) four years later.

The patriotic pro-war fervour of the Boy Scouts during the First World War drove Seton away from this Movement, reviving his pacifist idea of the “Woodcraft Indians” through an American Woodcraft League.

Tomášek, Otakar (1882 - 1918)

Professor at the business academy in Hradec Králové. A tireless worker for the establishment of Czechoslovak Scouting, where he also helped the newly formed Girl Scout section (1917), whose leadership was taken over by the female gymnastics teacher Anna Podhorová. It began in her home town of Hradec Králové, where it held meetings in the building of the business Academy, now the Faculty of Education, on the banks of the river Elbe, and later in the headquarters of the rowing club. The boys-built canoes and kayaks in the rowers’ workshop. They also had a meadow at their disposal where they camped from Saturday to Sunday.

In 1918 Tomášek died in Prague as a victim of the Spanish flu epidemic, one of the organisers of Scouting in Hradec Králové. On April 22, a delegation of the Circle attended his funeral.

Tourism

“The word travel for entertainment purposes, consists in the pleasure of being in nature in general, and then in the search for less known and excellent landscapes, then also for the purpose of physical and mental refreshment”. “In our country, the word tourist means a person who travels on foot, by train and occasionally by steamboat ... The most widespread tourist in our country is the summer tourist, although the better-off classes also go trekking in winter, travelling to warmer or colder countries and to the Alps for the purpose of practicing various winter sports”.

Otto’s encyclopaedia, (translation) ottův slovník naučný

“Turistika slove cestování za účelem zábavy, která spočívá nejmě v rozkoši z pobytu v přírodě vůbec a pak ve vyhledávání méně známých a krajinářsky vynikajících končin, pak také také za účelem osvěžení tělesného i duševního”. “U nás míní se slovem turista člověk cestující nejmě pěšky, drabou a sem tam i parníkem... Nejrozšířenější je u nás turista letní, ačkoli



třídy zámožnější provozují turistiku i v zimě, cestující do krajín teplejších neb i do krajín studených a do Alp za účelem konání různých zimních sportů”.

Trieste

The first commercial port of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and Austria's only outlet to the Adriatic Sea. Ořovský spent time in Trieste, where he did his military service, he also had access to the sea and the practice of various water sports.

Tyrs, Miroslav (1832 - 1884)

Czech philosophy professor, art historian, sports organiser and, together with Jindřich Fügner, in 1862 co-founder of the “Sokol”, falcon Movement, which combined sporting activities with Slavic nationalist ideals. The Sokol groups were banned and forced to disband in 1915 by the authorities because of their anti-monarchist stance. Numerous members were arrested and executed; many others joined the first Scout troops.

Umělecká Beseda (1863 -)

A civic-artistic association bringing together numerous Czech artists since 1863 in three fields: literary, artistic, and musical. It was a revolutionary event in the national revival of Czech cultural life. The founding members were the leading Czech artists of the time: Bedřich Smetana, Antonín Dvořák, Zdeněk Fibich, Vítězslav Novák, Josef Mánes, Karel Jaromír Erben, Vítězslav Hálek, Jan Evangelista Purkyně and many others.

Other social and dramatic fields (painters, sculptors, composers, writers, theatre artists), travellers, historians, scientists, art lovers... were added to the initial activity of the Association.

Organised exhibitions, concerts, lectures, publishing activities, establishment of public libraries, a social club, helping indigent members, a meeting place and exchange of views, a social entertainment centre. It systematically promoted Czech-Slovak cultural reciprocity and contacts with artists abroad. Its honorary members included Tolstoy, Liszt, Bourdelle, Turgenev, Victor Hugo, and many others.

Václavské náměstí - Wenceslas square (1348 -)

110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

Originally a horse market, this is one of the main squares in Prague's New Town, the largest, and was named after its patron saint, St. Wenceslas. It stretches in front of the National Museum and has been and is the scene and witness of many important historical events and a traditional venue for all national demonstrations. The first Slavic mass was held there in 1848. It was also here that people demonstrated in protest against the Habsburg yoke and where the declaration and proclamation of independence of Czechoslovakia took place openly on October 28, 1918. Later, it was also on this square that legionnaires who had fought abroad for freedom were welcomed with enthusiasm.





It was also in front of the monument of St. Wenceslas that the republican soldiers swore allegiance to the new government.

Vaniček, Jindřich (1862 - 1934)

Czech lawyer and Sokol official, in 1890 he was elected head of the central Bohemian county, a year later head of Sokol in Prague. He prepared and led six falcon meetings. Practised fencing, boxing, rowing, tennis, and other sports. Responsible for the care of the physical education of pupils, youth, and members. He worked closely with the mayor of Sokol Josef Scheiner, who represented the organisation externally while Vaniček, was responsible for internal operations and negotiations with members.

After the creation of Czechoslovakia, he worked as the head of the educational department of the ministry of National Defence and in the creation and organisation of gymnasiums, language schools and internships for soldiers.

Wilsonovo nádraží (1871 -)

Prague Main Railway Station (Praha hlavní nádraží)

Wilsonova 8

120 00 Prague 2 - Vinohrady

+420 221 111 122

<https://www.cd.cz/stanice/5457076/> | <http://www.ceskedrahy.cz>

Prague's largest railway station was opened in 1871 as Franz Josef Station in honour of Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria. It is an Art Nouveau building, in whose decoration important personalities took part. Later, during the period of the Republic (1918 - 1939) the station was renamed Wilson Station (after U.S. President Woodrow Wilson).

In the days after the revolution, a Scout courier service office was set up here, where important consignments were delivered. It was here that President T.G. Masaryk arrived on December 21, 1918 to restore the independence of the Czech nation. And where the Scouts, together with R. Ořovský, helped to organise his arrival. For this day, the Scout Post Office was renovated and messengers delivered messages and telegrams between Prague Castle, the Chamber of Deputies, the Town Hall, and the Main Railway Station. They also accompanied the president on his ceremonial journey through Prague to the Castle.

Wojtyła, Karol Józef - John Paul II (1920 - 2005)

Ranked 264th pope of the Catholic Church, he was one of the most influential leaders of the 20th century, playing a decisive role in bringing an end to communism in his native Poland and eventually throughout Europe. He contributed to significantly improving the Catholic Church's relations with islam, judaism, the eastern Ortodox Church, and the Anglican communion. He was canonised in 2014, making him a saint of the Catholic Church.



Pope John Paul II also declared Emperor Charles *Blessed* at a beatification ceremony on October 3, 2004 and stated in his homily:

...“The fundamental task of the Christian is to seek God’s will in everything, to discover it and to do it. Charles of Austria, head of state and Christian, faced this challenge on a daily basis. He was a friend of peace: in his eyes war was “a horrible thing”. He took office in the midst of the storm of the First World War, and strove to promote the peace initiatives of my predecessor Benedict XV.

From the beginning, Emperor Charles conceived his sovereign office as a holy service to his people. His main aspiration was to follow the Christian vocation to holiness also in his political activity. That is why social welfare was important to him. May he be a model for all of us, particularly for those who have political responsibility in Europe today.”

Wolker, Jiří Karel (1900 - 1924)

Czech poet, playwright, and journalist. member of a literary group called Devětsil. He was one of the founders of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in 1921.

He was born in Prostějov, a city located in the Olomouc region of the Czech Republic.

Following his father’s wishes, he moved to Prague to study law. In the meantime, he visited literary concerts. Wolker represents a new literary style “proletářské umění” proletarian art of which he has been the most significant writer.

He suffered from tuberculosis and died at the age of 24. He himself wrote his own epitaph when threatened by his serious illness. The epitaph reads:

Zde leží Jiří Wolker, básník, jenž miloval svět
a pro spravedlnost jeho šel se bít.
Dřív než moh’ srdce k boji vytasit,
zemřel - mlád dvacet čtyři let.

*“Here lies Jiri Wolker, poet, who loved the world
and for his righteousness he fought.
Before he could take his heart to the fight,
died - 24-year-old man”.*

Jiří Wolker was one of the first to camp with the first Czech Scouts and with the founder of the Czech Scout Movement, Antonín Benjamin Svojsík. At the camp, he kept a detailed diary of all activities.

Woodrow Wilson, Thomas (1856 - 1924)

Lawyer and 28th President of the United States. On January 8, 1918, he delivered a 14-point declaration to the U.S. Congress calling on the warring European nations to cease fire and make way for the reconstruction of the continent. In the tenth point, Wilson suggests autonomy for the States that make up the Austro-Hungarian monarchy





(he does not mention independent States). Nobel Peace Prize in 1919 for his impetus to the League of Nations and for the promotion of peace after the First World War through the Treaty of Versailles.

Zahradník, Isidor (1864 - 1926)

Czech Catholic priest, later Orthodox, diplomat, writer, librarian at the library of the Strahov monastery in Prague. Politically active during the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In the imperial Council elections of 1907, he became a member of the imperial Council (national Parliament) on behalf of the Czech Agrarian Party from the Bohemian constituency. Re-elected in 1911, he remained in the Viennese Parliament until the end of the monarchy.

During World War I, he took part in the internal resistance. In 1918 he became a member of the Czechoslovak National Committee.

He was one of the organisers of the coup d'état of 28.10.1918 in Prague. Around 11 a.m. on Wenceslas square near the statue of St. Wenceslas. Zahradník spontaneously emerged from the crowd and uttered a phrase that is considered a proclamation of the Czechoslovak State: *"We are free. Here, on the steps of the monument to the Czech Prince St. Wenceslas, we swear that we want to be worthy of this freedom, that we want to defend it with our lives"*.

The cheering crowd then accompanied him to the Franz Joseph Railway Station.

From 1918 to 1919 he was a member of the revolutionary National Assembly for the Agrarian Party in the government of Karel Kramář. He held the post of Minister of Railways, becoming the first minister in this post since the establishment of Czechoslovakia.

Zemské vojenské velitelství; C. K.

Provincial Military Command; CK Governorate

Malostranské náměstí 258/13

Malá Strana 118 00 Prague 011.

The Liechtenstein Chateau remained in the hands of various armies for a long time. It was the regional seat in Bohemia and of the main provincial commanders in the Czech Kingdom and the military garrison in Prague from 1620 to 1918. During the war they were:

1914 - 1916 Field Marshal Simon Schwerdtner von Schwerdtburg (1854 - 1925)

1916 - 1918 Field Marshal Paul Kestranek (1856 - 1929)

1918 Field Marshal Eduard Znanitzky (1862 - 1933)

After the creation of Czechoslovakia, the Regional Military Command was established here. It was the building of the Provincial Assemblies of the Czech Kingdom.



Žofín (1885 -)

Žofín Palace (Palác Žofín)

Slovanský Ostrov 226 | 110 00 Prague 1 - Nové Město

+420 222 924 112

<http://www.zofin.cz> | pokladna@zofin.cz

An island in the heart of Prague, on which stands the neo-renaissance building of the Žofín Palace, named after Archduchess Žofia, the mother of Emperor Franz Joseph I. Throughout history, the Slavic island has become a solace meeting place for the citizens of Prague and important personalities who enjoy the hospitality of the palace. This is where the headquarters of the emerging Czechoslovak revolutionary Army was established, and where the Scouts also transported weapons confiscated at the stations from soldiers returning from the front, as well as delivered correspondence to the commanders and military personnel stationed there.



