

Garden. Late in the evening, when nearing our starting place of Prospect Point, a Common Wall (*Pararge schakra*) was caught terminating our day's highest catch.

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ON LEPIDOPTERA ON CZECHOSLOVAK POSTAGE STAMPS

During recent years in *The Lepidopterists' News* several articles were published on the Lepidoptera on postage stamps issued in different countries of the world (Smith 1954, 1955; Wren 1955). These reports are interesting not only for the philatelists, but for the lepidopterists also. Therefore I give here a short report on a series of nine postage stamps issued on 27 November 1961 by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Transport and Communications. In this series are figured 8 species of butterflies and one moth occurring in Czechoslovakia.

All stamps were designed by the National Artist, Professor Dr. h. c. MAX ŠVABINSKY and were engraved by JINDRA SCHMIDT. The author of these stamps is the well known Dean of Czech artists, 88-year old Professor at the Academy of Art in Prague, Dr. ŠVABINSKY, mentioned in this *Journal* on another occasion (Moucha 1958). [He died 10 February 1962.]

By the occasion of the issue of these stamps Dr. ŠVABINSKY proclaimed: "Before I send my butterflies out into the world I should like to give them a mission — the hope that in everyone who looks at them with a little interest they will awaken a longing to turn ever more frequently towards Nature and her beauty; for everyone who comes to her with an understanding of her language she offers a treasure trove of countless

new wonders and new miracles. For the riches of Nature, the great Comforter, are indeed infinite."

The stamps have the following species and values [100 h ("heller") = 1 Kčs ("Czechoslovak crown")]:

- 15 h – The Orange Tip (*Anthocaris cardamines* L.)
- 20 h – The Small Thais (*Zerynthia hysipyle* Sch. = *polyxena* Den. & Schiff.)
- 40 h – The Swallow-tail (*Papilio machaon* L.)
- 60 h – The Peacock (*Nymphalis io* L.)
- 80 h – The Camberwell Beauty (*Nymphalis antiopa* L.)
- 30 h – The Apollo (*Parnassius apollo* L.)
- 1,- Kčs – The Underwing (*Catocala fraxini* L.)
- 1,60 Kčs – The Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta* L.)
- 2,- Kčs – The Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni* L.).

All species are figured in natural positions on flowers or in flight. The most successful is the Apollo sitting on flowering Thistle (*Carduus*) with the mountains in the background. In the background of the Swallow-tail is the Centralbohemian mythical Mount of Říp. On the stamp with the Brimstone is the silhouette of the ruin of the historical castle "Trosky" in the region of the Czech Paradise. On the background of the other stamps there are different types of the landscapes of Czechoslovakia without the exact determination of the place.

The dimensions of the pictorial portion of the stamps are 22×38 mm. On the upper margin is the inscription "Československo", on the lower one there are the Latin and the Czech popular names of the figured species.

Without doubt the new issue of Czechoslovak stamps with Lepidoptera will be favorably accepted not only in Czechoslovakia but in the foreign countries also.

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