

Czechoslovak Perfin Covers

Joe Coulbourne

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Purpose of the Presentation

Our purpose here today is to overview Czechoslovak perfin cover pricing for the Czech Perfins Study Group. While not all inclusive, this presentation will attempt to lay out some of the considerations a collector must make to determine what to pay for a Czech perfin cover.

A caution about pricing perfin covers

Perfin cover pricing is more of an art than a science. With the exception of person-to-person sales/trades, the market determines the final price of an item. Rarely are two covers exactly alike and so many factors go into the price of a cover that prices for a particular Czech perfin pattern on cover can vary wildly. The one rule that seems to hold true is that Czech perfin covers are not plentiful and that there is a group of collectors that seek these covers out and bid aggressively for them.

Factors that can increase the value of a perfin cover

- Major factors:
 - Scarcity of the perfin pattern
 - Identification of the perfin user on the item
 - Scarcity of the perfined stamp(s) used
 - Appeal to a larger audience (the topical connection)
 - Positive identification of a previously unknown user (or assumed user)
- Minor factors:
 - Earliest or latest known use
 - Rates
 - Postal markings
 - Personalities (famous people)

Factors that can decrease the value of a perfin cover

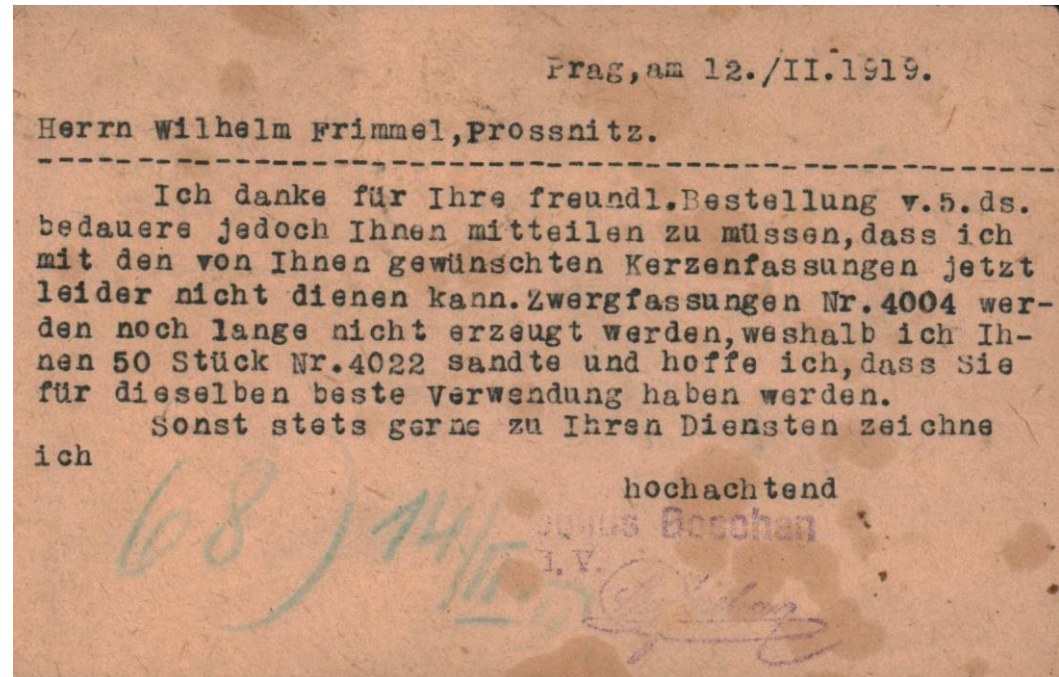
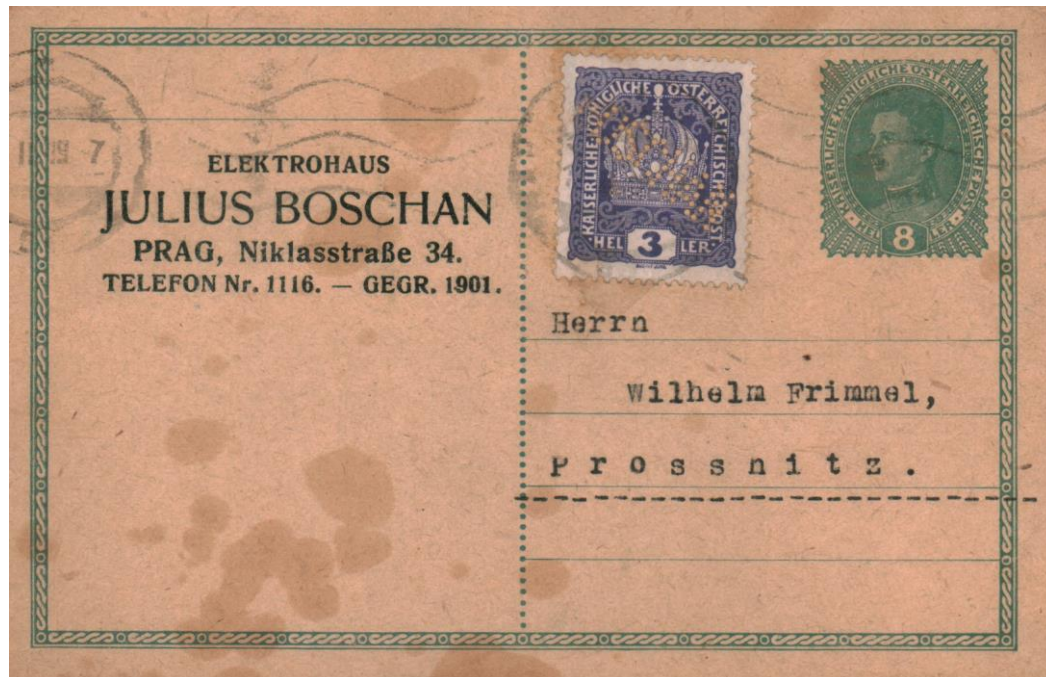
- Major:

- Grubbiness / staining
- No perfin user identification
- Illegal or philatelic use
- “Cut-down” covers

- Minor:

- Ancillary writing or notes on the cover
- Filing holes (as long as they don't affect the perfin)
- Flaps torn away
- Roughly opened covers

Pre-Stamped Tradecard



Trade card of Julius Boschan dated 12 February 1919. The card is stained but the attractiveness of the item was the Czech perfin in the Austrian stamp added to the stamped postal card post independence (October 1918). Pattern B64, this perfin is known used 1908-1930 and is a rarity factor "D" (25-50 copies known). How many exist on cover / card? Very few I suspect. Sold in the PAC Auction for CZK 2,500.

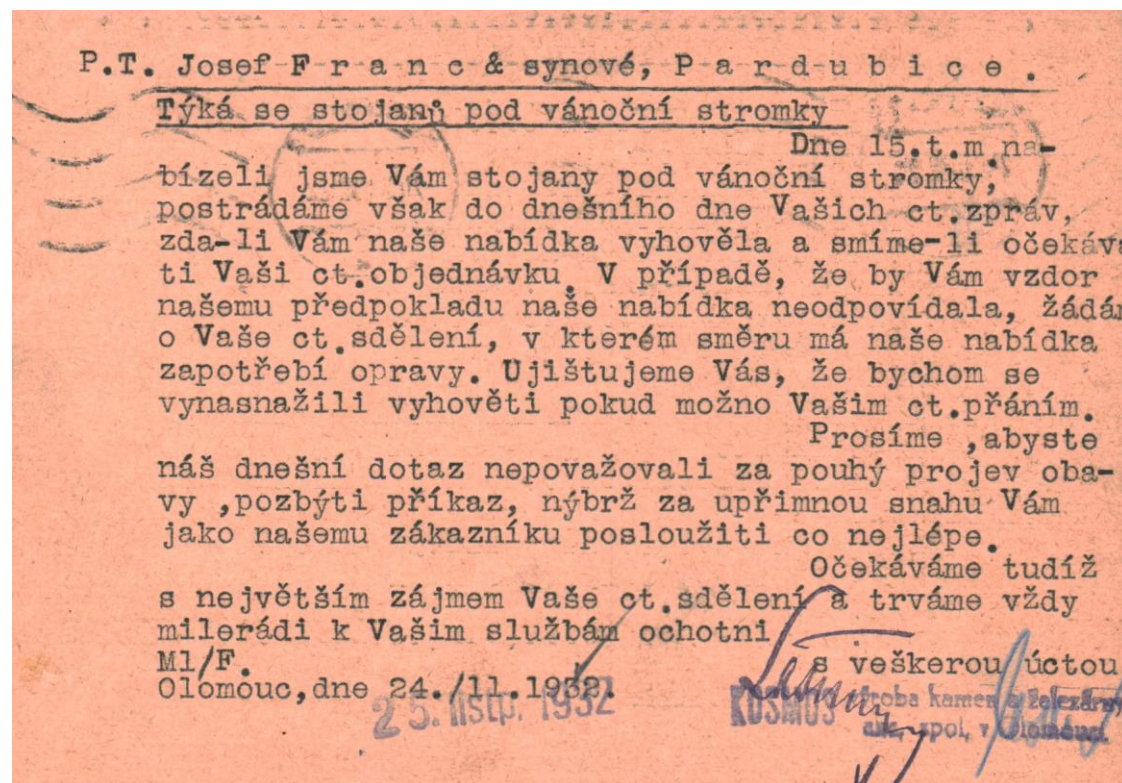
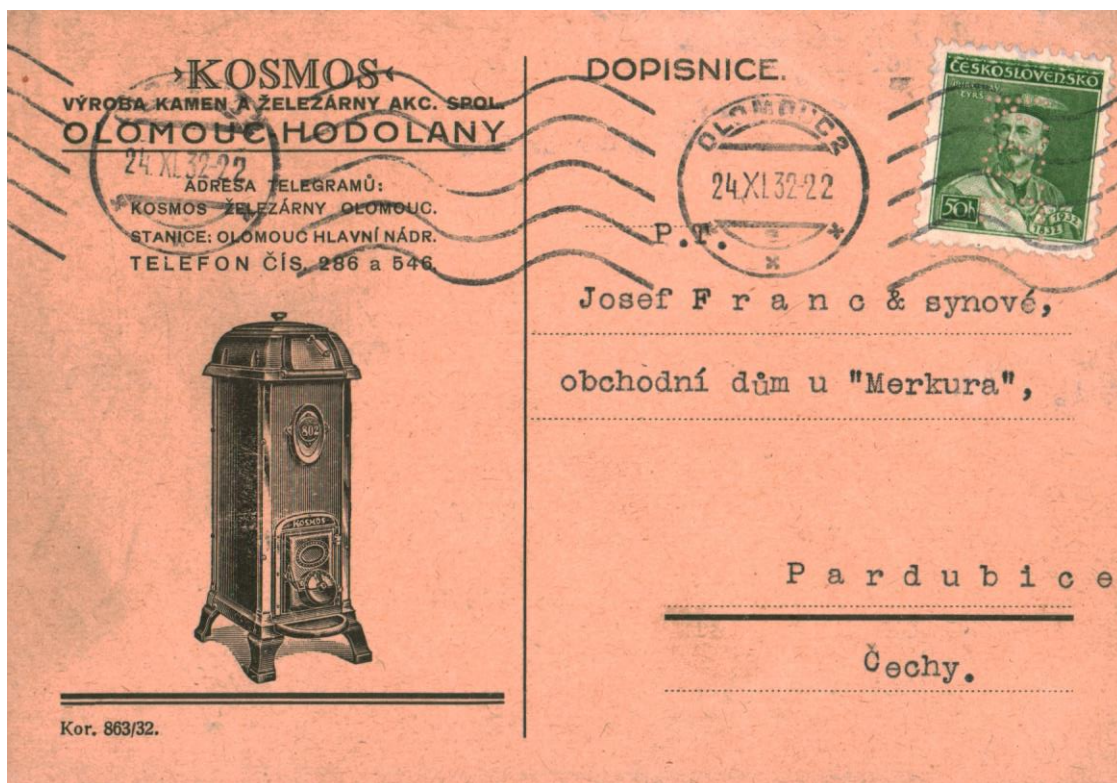
Wrapper

Wrappers are genuinely scarce. Very few survive due to the nature of the service. Even fewer have a user ID. This is perfin pattern J80 (JO) used 1886-1938. How many periodicals were mailed internationally and registered at that? The transit date stamp helps place the cover in time – 15 March 1921. The customs marking at top (Passed Free of Duty) adds to the value.

It is an “A” rated perfin but the attractiveness to a perfin collector is that it is a complete wrapper. Paid \$25 on eBay.



Illustrated Trade Card



Perfin pattern K43 (K.O.E.) on an illustrated trade card used on 24 November 1932. The pattern is "C" rated. This perfin is known used from 1908 – 1938. The advertising on trade cards attract the topical specialists as they seek to add esoteric material to their collections. Sold in the PAC Auction for CZK 400.

Fine Wines – another huge topical

HUNGARIAN WINES.
J. PALUGYAY & SONS,
PRESSBURG (HUNGARY),
GROWERS & IMPORTERS of HUNGARIAN WINES.
Purveyors by Special Appointment to the Imperial and Royal Court of Austro-Hungary; H.I.H. Archduke Josef, the Emperor of Mexico; the King of Spain; the King of the Belgians; Count of Flanders; Prince Charles of Roumania; Prince Milan of Serbia; Duke of Nassau.
Vienna Medal, 1873; Paris Gold Medal, 1875; Government Gold Medal for Agricultural Merit; 1st Prize, 3 Medals, Sidney, 1896, etc.

CHÂTEAU PALUGYAY.
"Messrs. FABRE & CO., 179, Regent Street, acting as agents for the old-established house of J. PALUGYAY & SONS, are introducing into England Hungarian Wines which have long been known as of the highest character, and which justly bear a great reputation amongst connoisseurs and medical men, but which have hitherto been little known here, although esteemed by all who have travelled in Austria, or visited the South of Germany. By these it is recognised as an old and esteemed acquaintance. The Chateau Palugyay is a Wine which has the advantage of being most carefully treated from the day of the gathering of the grape, and so no account is a bad vintage allowed to go out of the cellar under the label of the Chateau Palugyay. Messrs. Palugyay ship only one quality of Red Wine, and only one quality of white Chateau Palugyay, and exclusively in bottles. The house is very jealous of the repute of Chateau Palugyay, and make it a point of honour that the amateurs of this fine Hungarian Wine should always find it of equal quality. It is a Wine in which blending and manipulations of all sorts are avoided, and may be regarded with confidence as a pure and natural product of the grape. In flavor, it resembles some of the finest kinds of Burgundy. It is pure and delicate, free from acidity, and may be employed with confidence where it is desired to order a pure, natural, old, and fine Wine of this character. It will, it is believed, before long, acquire in England the high repute which it enjoys on the Continent."—BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL of October 9th, 1880.

KINEN and FABRE,
179, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.,
GENERAL AGENTS FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE COLONIES.



CHÂTEAU PALUGYAY
BRATISLAVA-PRESSBURG



Cover postmarked 13 July 1938 from the wine making firm of Chateau Palugyay. The linkage to Hungary and Pressburg makes this a desirable cover as does the registration marking and user ID on reverse. The perfin in pattern J88 (J.P.) in use from 1898 – 1936. This cover is a latest known use and will extend the perfin period to at least July 1938 – an added bonus. It sold for CZK 1,500 in a PAC Auction.

Cover with a topical collectible

Josef Riedel was internationally known as the “King of Glass”. The company is still in business today and continues to be a world leader in wine glass manufacture. 10 generations of Riedel’s have firmly established their trade.

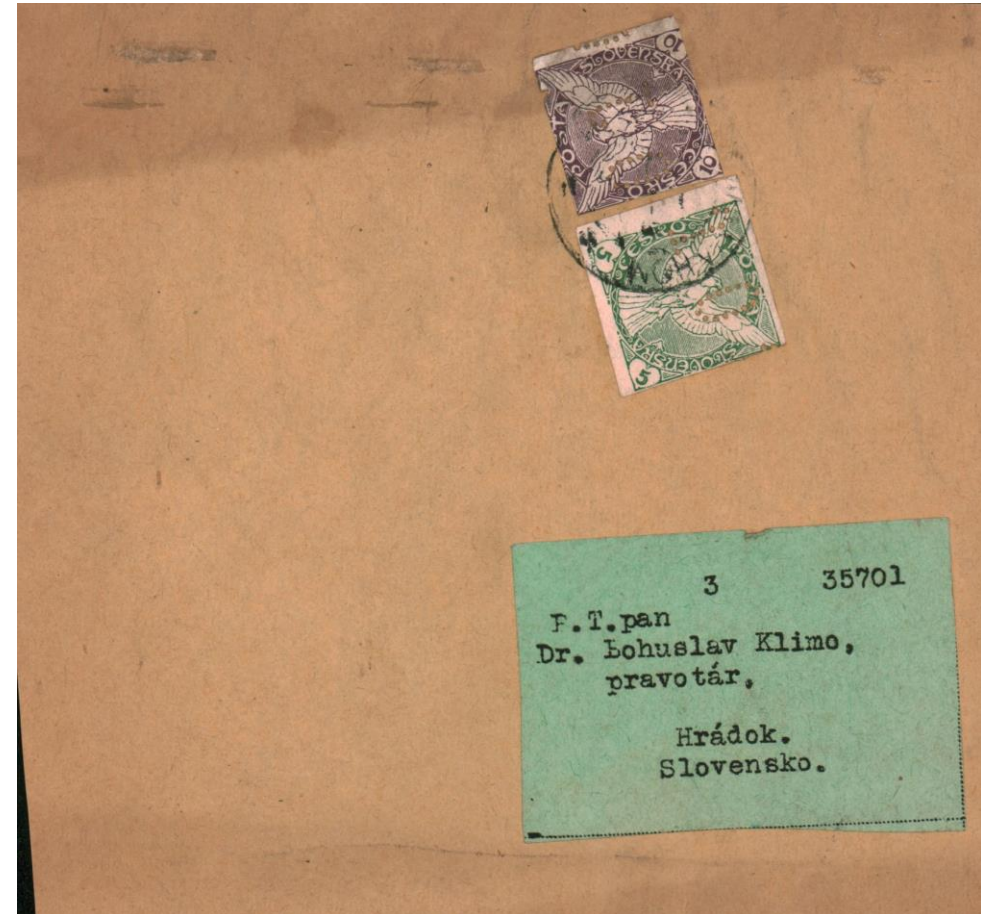
This cover is attractive as it shows the German / Czech town canceller of Unter-Polaun (German) and Dolní Polubný (Czech). The pattern is J89 (JR) in use from 1899 – 1944. It is an “A” rated perfin but the cover sold for CZK 460 in a recent PAC auction.



Perfined fragments or labels

Fragments or labels such as the one shown have lesser value. The perfin pattern is J80 (JO) used 1886-1938. The indistinct cancellation and lack of user identity detract from its value as well. In reality, the only thing going for it is the two newspaper stamps used to pay the postal fee.

Still, this fragment sold on eBay for \$12.99, attesting to the strong market for Czech material.



Some Actuals – Czech prices (current market)

| PAC Auction #53. Milan Cernik owner. Closed November 2020. Lot and Description | Price CSK |
|---|-----------|
| 119 - ČSR: Firemní CPŘ3 Karl s perforací pro psací stroj, přítisk "ELEKTRORHAUS JULIUS BOSCHAN", dofr. 3H Krone (perfin BOSCHAN, Maxa B-64), vylámané SR PRAHA 12.2.1919; vzácný perfin; skvrnky, KVP | 2500 |
| 361 - ČSR: Obálka "Čechoslovakia" vypl. 2* 50h + 30h OR (vše perfin L.P.Č.", Maxa L-30), PRAHA 28.10.1924, KVP | 410 |
| 362 - ČSR: Obálka "R.Promberger" vypl. 10h Holubice (perfin "Pr", Maxa P-27), OLOMOUC 16.5.1924 | 400 |
| 364 - ČSR: Firemní dopisnice "Otto Hoffmann" vypl. 20+30h Alegorie (obě perfin "O.H.", Maxa O-8), HOŘOVICE - 15.10.1924; dv | 450 |
| 365 - ČSR: Firemní dopisnice "Nathan Eisler", 50h OR (perfin "N.E.K.", Maxa N-8), KOLÍN 16.6.1922 | 560 |
| 389 - ČSR: Firemní dopisnice "Kosmos" (Kamna), 50h Tyrš, perfin "K.O.E." (Maxa K-43), OLOMOUC 24.11.1932. Pěkné | 400 |
| 390 - ČSR: Firemní dopisnice "Nathan Eisler", 30h Znak (perfin "N.E.", Maxa N-7), PRAHA 4.6.1931 | 460 |
| 420 - ČSR: Firemní dopisnice "Mücke-Melder-Werke" vypl. 30h Pernštýn (perfin "MM", Maxa M-31), MORAVSKÁ OSTRAVA 30.9.1937 | 460 |
| 494 - ČSR: firemní R-obálka "Chateau Palugyay" vypl.3K Český Ráj + 60h Štefánik (obě perfin J.P.", Maxa J-88), BRATISLAVA 13.7.1938 | 1500 |
| 1118 - B.u.M.: Drucksachenkarte "Knotek & spol.", 30H Hitler (Perfin "K. & S.". Maxa K-51), JITSCHIN 2.2.1940 | 450 |

Some Actuals – US prices (current market)

| eBay material (October – December 2020). Lots and Description | Price |
|--|---------|
| 1904 AUSTRIA BÖHMEN PERFIN "G" Firmenkarte "Hynek Gottwald" | \$8.99 |
| Czechoslovakia perfin F.B. of Franz Buxbaum, Tetschen cover. Fine! | \$59.00 |
| PERFIN Czechoslovakia demand letter with Corporate perforation G. L. = gerstmann & Lindner-Judaica | €24.50 |
| Czechoslovakia 1929 - Perfin "B.P." (Bruder Perutz / Prag.) on Cover | \$22.50 |
| Czechoslovakia - Perfin "E R" (Ing. Erich Roucka) on "Reg." Cover from Blansko | \$47.00 |
| GRUSS AUS MAHR KROMAU TOTALANISCHT KRUMLOV CZECH REPUBLIC PERFIN STAMP POSTCARD | \$9.95 |
| CZECHOSLOVAKIA perfin JO on newspaper stamps | \$12.99 |
| Czechoslovakia perfin P-S from Prag-Smichov on R cover to Switzerland | \$39.00 |
| Czech Slovakia perfin of Stollwerck in Bratislava on cover to Senice na Hané | \$27.00 |
| CZECHOSLOVAKIA Reco letter Praha 1925, perfin on TGM stamps | \$14.99 |
| PERFIN 8 CLASSIC LETTERS CZECHOSLOVAKIA (only 2 of the 8 covers were perfin covers) | \$32.00 |
| CZECHOSLOVAKIA Hradcany 20h Perfin RAS Praha 1921 | \$14.99 |
| CZECHOSLOVAKIA Perfin Arnošt Fischl Praha 1936 | \$14.99 |
| Czechoslovakia perfins of J.F. Daubek, Brünnlitz, Bohemia on cover to Hungary | \$23.50 |
| Czechoslovakia perfins P-S of Meva Metallwaren Prag-Smichov on cover to Zürich | \$16.50 |
| Czechoslovakia perfins P-S of Meva Metallwaren Prag-Smichov on cover to Zürich | \$19.50 |

Conclusions

- There is no simple chart to price perfin covers – the variables and factors affecting value are too many
 - Common perfins may not be so common on covers – without an accurate survey of members' material – there is no way to establish the commonality or rarity of perfins on cover
- The market in The Czech Republic and the global eBay market are very strong and there is significant demand for Czech perfins
- Perfin covers will continue to add to the information in our perfin catalogs and provide ever more clarity into who used the perfins