nomic crises, from which, however, it always managed to recover. But after the
great crisis of the 1930s, the expected recovery failed to materialize, and after
1945, Bohemia's silk industry sank to a wholly insignificant level.
The author not only utilizes statistics to elucidate the individual periods of deve­
lopment from the beginnings through the manufactories to a highly developed
industry, but also analyzes the shortcomings of the state's support, as well as the
social distress of the workers.

EUROPEAN PEACE AS NATIONAL INTEREST:
THE ROLE OF THE GERMAN CONFEDERATION
IN BRITISH POLICY, 1814—1832

Wolf D. Gruner

Using selected examples (the phase of establishing the Confederation, 1814—
1820; conflict between absolutist and constitutional states in the Confederation,
1831—1832; the Belgian-Luxemburg question), analyzes the German Confede­
ration's role in the Pax Britannica in the period before the Revolution of 1848.
The analysis throws light on the determining factors of British policy which result­
ted from the interaction of elements of domestic policy, social development, for­
gain policy, the economy, alliance constellations, and the international system.
The prime goal of British national interests was to secure and preserve European
peace as a prerequisite for a policy allowing a free hand for tackling the domestic
political problems of a society in transition and for securing the global political
and economic interests of the world and commercial power, without overexten­
ding its own forces. The functional role of the German Confederation as a
"keystone" in securing European peace and the resulting British "appeasement"
policy aimed at stabilizing the European center had far-reaching consequences
for the political and economic development of Germany in the 19th century.

FRANTIŠEK PALACKÝ AND THE GERMAN —
CZECH RELATIONSHIP AS VIEWED BY THE CZECH
HISTORIOGRAPHY OF OUR CENTURY

Friedrich Prinz

Of the many themes of Czech historical research which the eminent Czech natio­
nal politician František Palacký was the first to raise, it was precisely those
concerning the German-Czech relationship that have remained topical down to
this day.
Palacký took over the picture derived from Herder of a peaceful Urslawentum
whose original legal equality was destroyed by the creation of class distinctions