the development from feudalism through mercantilist industrialization to modern capitalism, including the influence upon the abolition of serfdom.

On the whole the role of the Habsburgs is evaluated by modern Czech historiography, generally in agreement with earlier treatments, in a highly critical way. In its sharp criticism of enlightened despotism and especially of the role of Emperor Joseph II, recent Czech historiography has probably gone rather too far. Positive evaluation of phenomena of the Temno can be found, on the other hand, in the treatment of the cultural development of Bohemia in the period in question.

There is a steadily growing number of works relating to the visual arts of the Baroque period, many of them beautifully illustrated. Even more important is the treatment of the Czech literature in the 17th and 18th centuries. This includes older forms as well as the revival of historiography. It also gives us a lively understanding of the forms of poetry and prose developing in those phases, to some extent open, to another anonymous popular writings, including the remarkable so-called „Ovčácká poesie“ (Shepherds poetry). Some of these treatments go back to the work of Jaroslav Vlček published first in the thirties of this century, others found an excellent treatment by Josef Hrabák in the great History of Czech Literature published since 1959 by the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.


Friedrich Prinz

Notable was a Hungarian contribution (by P. Hanák) to the conference theme, drastically revising, as it did, by means of an analysis of the economic development since 1867, the old clichés of an alleged exploitation and colonialization of Hungary by the Western half of the Empire. A German participant (H. Mommsen) examined the repercussions of the Ausgleich legislation on the political mechanism of the state as a whole. The important fact was noted that the Dualist construction of the state permitted the Emperor and an intimate circle of unofficial advisors at the Court to intervene in the affairs of state with complete disregard for ministerial responsibility. This went so far as to allow a certain measure of absolutism to take root along the structural boundary-line between Austria and Hungary, and led to a dangerous partial paralysis of parliamentarianism in the Western half of the Empire. H. Lentze saw an essential feature of Austrian constitutional history after 1867 in the compromise between the high state bureaucracy and German liberalism; the Liberals hoped to profit from the preservation of bureaucratic centralism to secure German pre-eminence, while the ruling bureaucracy was, for its part, prepared to tolerate some degree of
parliamentarianism. G. Ranki discussed problems of economic growth, arriving at the noteworthy conclusion that the fall of the monarchy could not be explained primarily by economic factors. The consequences of this position became evident in the lively discussion which ensued between Hungarian and Rumanian participants. The Rumanians stressed the political suppression and de-nationalization of their compatriots within Hungary, while the Hungarians emphasized the considerably better economic position of the Rumanians who were living in Hungary. This highly interesting confrontation demonstrated very clearly the discrepancy resulting from an approach which stresses national values and one which underlines socio-economic ones.

RESISTANCE AND REVOLUTION

Detlef Brandes

The author reviews the most recent overall survey of the Czech anti-fascist resistance against the German occupation and domestic collaborators in the years 1938—1945. This account (entitled Odboj a revoluce 1938—1945. Nástin dějin československého odboje [Resistance and Revolution, 1938—1945: An Outline of the History of the Czech Resistance]) was published in Prague in 1965. The work was signed by a team of authors which intends to produce, on the basis of the present survey, conceived as a working hypothesis, an extensive trilogy incorporating also the results of their own research.

Comparing this work with earlier studies and his own findings, the reviewer discovers new impulses especially in the evaluation of the First Republic, the question of the German population group, the Czech and Slovak „collaboration“ with Nazi Germany, and the Czech and Slovak resistance movement. He further points to the conclusions which have to be drawn from the new survey for the appraisal of the events of February 1948 and for the Czech road to Socialism.

Despite all the progress in Czech historiography which this work documents, it still evades some delicate topics or deals with them in a schematic or inaccurate fashion; this is particularly the case as regards the situation in the areas with a German majority and the policy of the Soviet Union and of the CPCS. Nevertheless, the journal which has been appearing since 1965 under the same title and publishing interim findings of the contributors to the trilogy project has gone far beyond the limits established in the „Outline“ — in both the factual and the analytical sense. This is hardly surprising considering the volume of source material that has been encompassed in the meantime.