ABSTRACTS

"BRÜNN IST NIT HIN; GOTT (UND DER KAYSER) HAT HELDEN DARINN*/"THEY COULDN'T CONQUER BRÜNN, THANKS TO GOD'S (AND THE EMPEROR'S) HEROES WITHIN"

How Recollections of Defending Brünn Against the Swedes in 1645 Altered Over Time

Simon Hadler

This is a long-term study concerned with the 350-year history of recollecting the fending-off, in 1645, of the Swedish forces which besieged Brünn (Brno). The author demonstrates that various groupings sought to capitalize on this event, be it for engendering loyalties or for building and stabilizing cultural identities or enemy images. Whereas for a long time it was mainly the Church which sought to instil with believers eternal gratitude to the Virgin Mary, around 1800 the citizen as a new player came increasingly to the fore. Citizens used recollections of 1645 as a legitimation for their demands that they be granted political participation. Starting at the end of the 19th century, interethnic tensions resulted in the image of the historic enemy being applied to the contemporary opponent. This nationalization of memory led to the topic being almost forgotten in the 20th century with Czech inhabitants of Brünn. Only after 1955, 350 years after the Swedes had been repelled, did ceremonies slowly restart which were devoted to the memory of the 1645 events. However, large parts of the memory of the Swedes are being overlooked in this attempt to construe and strengthen a more local outlook on history.

THE FELIBRIGE MOVEMENT AND THE OCCITAN "RENAISSANCE" IN EAST CENTRAL EUROPE

A History of Certain Aspects of French-Czech Connections Around 1900

Martina Niedhammer

This contribution is devoted to the Felibrige, a regional movement which was founded in the Provence region of France in 1854 and which sought to establish Occitan as a literary language and, closely linked to the former aim, cultural autonomy within France of the regions where Occitan was spoken. Its members, first and foremost its most prominent figure, Frédéric Mistral, who was later awarded the Nobel Prize,