ABSTRACTS

THE KRUMAU “LANGUAGE PASSION” OF 1649-1653 AND 1710-1720

On the Value of “Language” and “Nation” in the Early Modern Era

Pavel Himl

One of the venues where group interests and group ideas could be expressed in the early modern era was the churches. Conflict potential was offered not only by religion itself, but – as in the case of Český Krumlov/Krumau in Southern Bohemia – language as well. Attempts by parish representatives, in the end unsuccessful, to get German-language sermon transferred from a smaller to the large church of the town parish have brought about a unique source: In the middle of the 17th and at the beginning of the 18th century listings were compiled of the whole town population by language. The question in what language sermons should be delivered led to heated debates between a multitude of actors – from rural and town residents through local clergy, representatives of town and local reign to the sovereign and his administration. The present study looks at the two lists and connected files from the perspective of which kind of personal or group identification with a given language was expressed. The author reaches the conclusion that, as early as the 17th century, the notion of nation was closely related to language, even in a non-academic environment.

THE JOSEPHIST ENLIGHTENMENT TRADITION IN BOHEMIA AND THE POETRY OF KAREL H. MÁCHA

Zdeněk V. David/Christina N. Wall

By imbibing his philosophical and poetical orientation directly from German sources, Karel H. Macha challenged the Austro-Bohemian Realism entrenched in Czech philosophical and literary thought. This direct connection with German Romanticism, which amplified the German Idealist philosophy in Mácha’s work, has been underappreciated. Previously, Mácha’s Romanticism has been traced to Polish and/or Russian exemplars, ignoring the impact of the German provenance. While Mácha’s approach lacks the patriotic pathos of Polish Romanticism and the playfulness of its Russian counterpart, it bears the clear marks of horror, decay, and death of the German genre. Mácha’s devotion to Romanicism both harkened back to the mystique of the Counter Reformation and clashed with the sobriety of the Catholic
Enlightenment. In Czech thought, this legacy was reinforced by the Utraquist tradition of the Bohemian Reformation which had been rediscovered during the Josephist phase of the Enlightenment. What caused resentment in Bohemia assured Mácha a favorable reception in areas where German Romanticism and philosophical Idealism blossomed, particularly Germany, Poland and Slovakia, and attests to the presence of two philosophical traditions in east-central Europe. Mácha’s work serves as a prism through which to examine these two clashing cultures.

"THE SPIRIT OF DICTATORS"

Rusyn Accusations of Corruption and Imperialism against František Svojše and Officials in Czechoslovak Ruthenia

Geoffrey Brown

The decision of the Paris Peace Conference to include the territory of Carpathian Ruthenia in Czechoslovakia provided the Czech nation with the opportunity to become leaders for a fellow Slavic nation. As an underdeveloped corner of the former Hungarian kingdom the region and its Slavic Rusyn inhabitants were significantly behind the Czech Lands both economically and culturally. In spite of the 1919 Saint Germain Treaty’s promise of political autonomy for Rusyns, a Czech-dominated system of administration for the region developed, with stability of the Czechoslovak state seen as paramount. Most Rusyn intellectuals initially welcomed Czech leadership as a means of improving living conditions, but by the mid-1920s tensions heightened over corruption by Czech officials and a lack of respect for the autonomous rights of Rusyns. Gendarme and publisher František Svojše personified this shift towards Czech imperialism and arrogance in the eyes of the Rusyn intelligentsia. As the editor of confrontational newspaper Podkarpatské hlasy he presented Czech chauvinist plans for assimilation of Rusyns which made him a lightning rod for their anger against Czech officials. Despite attempts by Czech officials to highlight the positive benefits of their administration, by the late 1920s the Rusyn intelligentsia, composed of Russophile, Ukrainophile and Rusynophile factions, had lost faith in the Slavic cooperation initially offered to them.

FROM PUBLIC HEALTH CARE TO POLITICAL HEALTH CONTROL

Public Health in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia

Radka Šustrová

This study is devoted to theory and practice of health politics in the “Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia”. The primary focus is on the Czech population, which received supplies in parallel to the protectorate’s German population and thus compe-