

SUDETEN GERMAN SCHOLARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ

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On the occasion of the „Sudeten German Day“ in Vienna on May 15, 1959, the leading Austrian historian, Prof. Hugo Hantsch, who himself, as is well-known, comes from Teplitz-Schönau, read a paper entitled „The Relations of the Sudeten Germans to the Austrian Universities.“ It was understandable that the scholar devoted himself particularly to his alma mater, the Rudolfina, and the other Viennese institutions of higher education. The present study brings, as a supplement to this, an evaluation of the German scholars at the Karl-Franzens-University of the Styrian capital.

Already at an early time an important role was played at the University in Graz by Sudeten Germans, such as the Privy Councillor Prof. Josef Alois Jüstel from Leitmeritz or the Piarist and Professor of Philosophy Calasanz Likawetz, from Schinkau in Bohemia. Next to other important scientific celebrities — Johann Springer from Reichenau, Sales Appel from Lukow near Landskron, Johann Rotter from Braunau, or Josef Büchinger from Groß-Olcow in Znaim district — special mention should be made of Moritz Körner, an uncle of the second president of the Second Austrian Republic, General Theodor Körner Edler von Siegringen, who was appointed Professor of Pathology in Graz in 1863. Since it is impossible within the framework of an article to evaluate all the professors of Sudeten German origin who taught at the Alma-Mater Graecensis, the author restricted himself to several of the numerous Sudeten German scientists who were especially prominent for their scientific or political activity.

Detailed evaluation is devoted to: Gustav Franz Ritter von Schreiner, Professor for Political Sciences and member of parliament for many years, who came from Pressburg; Franz Xaver Ritter von Hlubek, Professor Ordinarius for Theory of Agriculture and politician, who was born in Chatitschan in Austrian Silesia; the physicist Anton Ritter Schrötter von Kristelli, son of a pharmacist from Olmütz; the geologist Karl Ferdinand Peters, who was born in Liebshausen Castle as the son of the director of estates there; the historian and director of the Provincial Library of Styria, Hans Zwiedeneck Edler von Südenhorst, who was born in Graz as the son of a colonel of the artillery from Leitomischl, and who was the father of the famous

Munich political economist Otto Zwiedeneck Edler von Südenhorst; the important historiographer Johann Loserth, who was born in Fulnek in Moravia and whose special interest was in the history of the Bohemian area; the chemist Zdenko Skraub, the son of a cathedral choirmaster from Prague; Anton Mell, the director of the Styrian Provincial Archives and Professor for Austrian History, who was born in Graz, but was the son of an imperial-royal officer who came from Königgrätz; and lastly, but in his importance as Professor Ordinarius for Zoology by no means last, Karl Ritter von Frisch, whose family came from Hohenelbe, but who himself was born in Jungbunzlau.

All coming from the Bohemian-Moravian area, the personalities named were active as important academic teachers and in numerous cases as leading politicians in Styria.