

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND WORKING CLASS IN  
BOHEMIA FROM NEO-ABSOLUTISM TO THE  
CONSOLIDATION AFTER THE HUNGARIAN  
AUSGLEICH: THE TEST CASE OF NORTHWESTERN  
BOHEMIA

*Harald Bachmann*

This contribution attempts to characterize the economic and social prerequisites for the industrialization of northwestern Bohemia. The author examines the development of entrepreneurship in the framework of the German-liberal bourgeoisie and discusses the situation of the working class in this period of industrial fluctuation (railway-building, coal-mining areas). The study presents essential features of the industrialization of the Bohemian northwest, and identifies the work-

ing methods of the entrepreneurs, as well as the intervention of the state in accordance with the precepts of the German-liberal ideology. Used as sources are hitherto little exploited reports of the Reichenberg (Liberec) chamber of commerce and industry.