19th century, clinging as it did to the idea of a unitary Cisleithanian state (since 1867), viewed the period from the Thirty Years' War to the awakening of the Czech nation as an epoch of centralization and the crystalization of an Austrian Staatsidee.

The Battle of the White Mountain and, above all, the Revised Ordinance of 1627 effected a profound restructuring of society which shook the old Bohemian nobility and, first and foremost, the knights. Profound economic changes enhanced the importance of the German language in the Bohemian economy and administration and promoted the Germanization of the upper Czech strata.

The Thirty Years' War also sharply changed the settlement structure of Bohemia. But it is difficult to trace the causes and sociological background of the resulting partial expansion of the German-speaking areas of settlement. Generally speaking, it should be stressed that the heartland of Bohemia was exposed to greater devastation than the less fertile peripheral areas. In the case of Prague and other towns of inner Bohemia, the development of the language situation can be studied by using civil registers to examine the new citizens.

The cause of the increased migration of Germans into this area after 1627 may be found in the social restructuring within the Bohemian Stände and in the revival of the handicrafts mainly in the capital but also in the provincial towns. A considerable role in the growth of the urban citizenry was played by arrivals from areas outside Bohemia. The migration into devasted villages, however, came from those areas that emerged relatively unscathed from the war, especially the German regions on the border of Bohemia. The further course of events also clearly shows that while one can speak of a qualitative strengthening of the German part of the population (because of the arrival of qualified artisans in the towns), there was — due to the overall relatively small number and significance of the towns — no marked quantitative expansion of the German population. The relatively high percentage of German tradespeople in Bohemia had a favourable impact on the process of industrialization: already during the age of Mercantilism, a large number of manufacturies were situated in the peripheral areas settled by Germans.

THE PEASANT UPRISING ON THE LIECHTENSTEIN ESTATE OF MÄHRISCH TRÜBAU—TURNAU, 1706—13

Gustav Korkisch

The peasant uprising on the Liechtenstein estate of Mährisch Trübau—Türlau occurred simultaneously with the insurrection of the subjects of the large Liechtenstein-ruled territories of Eisenberg, Goldenstein, Hohenstadt and Aussee; it extended from the Altvater mountains almost to Olmütz. Due to the almost complete lack of source material in the bigger archives, this peasant uprising has virtually been ignored in the historical literature on the subject. Detailed material on it can be found only in the house archive of the ruling Liechtenstein princes, in Vienna.
The insurrection was organized and led by the hereditary mayors („Erbrichter“) of the 178 village communities. Unlike the big peasant uprisings of 1680 in Bohemia, this one remained bloodless, being conducted entirely along legal lines. The reason was that the young monarch Joseph I took the peasants under his special protection from the very beginning. The so-called „Hohenstadt Specifications“ reveal that in the years 1705 and 1706 he granted 37 audiences to the peasant spokesmen. The nobility tried to sabotage the Emperor’s moves by retarding the implementation of his orders.

In view of the wartime destruction of the records of the other estates, the present study focuses on the peasant uprising in the Trübau—Türnau estate. But the existing sources amply illustrate events in the other estates as well. The result is thus a picture of the whole uprising, rounded off by the imperial decisions covering all the estates, which are presented in an appendix. The study not only describes the course of the uprising but attempts to identify its causes, the author reaching new conclusions also in this respect.

The fact that this insurrection was only partially successful can be explained by the early death of Joseph I — for it was thus left to his successor, Charles VI, to pass final judgement on the grievances submitted by the peasants.

THE SOCIAL SITUATION OF GLASSMAKERS IN THE WEST BOHEMIAN GLASSWORKS IN THE 18th AND 19th CENTURIES

Bedřich Stieβ

Thus far not enough research has been done on the social conditions under which glassmakers worked in the West Bohemian glassworks during the 18th and 19th centuries, but it is nevertheless clear that — with only a few exceptions — they had more than ample grounds for complaint. Wages were too low (and, what is more, were paid out in „inferior“ money), excessively high prices were calculated for payments in kind, journeymen and apprentices were exploited and mistreated, and so on.

The journeyman glassmaker Johann Thomas Lenk addressed a complaint along these lines to Empress Maria Theresa in 1766. The result was the publication on 5 October 1767 of a set of regulations on glassmaking aimed at putting the situation on a more orderly basis. Continuing complaints, however, show that the stipulations of these regulations were not obeyed, nor were they even put up on display in the glassworks, as required. Again and again there were conflicts between glassmakers and glasswork masters over the latter’s refusal to adhere to the wage regulations or to pay out wages in full.

Health conditions in the glassworks were extremely bad; safety precautions during the arsenic crushing process, for example, were wholly inadequate. The blazing ovens were a constant hazard for the eyesight, and by the age of forty, many glassmakers were suffering from gray cataracts. Respiratory ailments at the same age were also common.