SUMMARIES

OCCUPATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT OF MIDDLE AND LOWER LEVEL SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC OFFICIALS

Thomas Weiser

In this article, the author examines a sample of lower-level Czechoslovak Social Democratic (ČSD) officials before 1939. He finds that the "better" occupations, particularly teaching, were overrepresented among them to a certain degree. The activities of the ČSD cadres were clearly concentrated in the industrial areas of Bohemia and Moravia or in the neighboring regions of market-based agriculture, thus resulting in the geographic division of the party. Moreover, the author investigates the influence of occupational types on the shape of political careers. The results indicate a distance between the central headquarters and the rest of the party. This explains why functionaries of the party's secondary and interest organizations (education and gymnastic clubs, cooperatives, regional health insurance groups, trade unions) were direct partners in the working basis of the party. The analysis also shows the customary contrast among strata within a working-class party: the clear distance between the qualified and unqualified workers and employees, and the contrast between the "elevated" and "worker" occupations.