STANDARD AND COMMON CZECH: ATTITUDES AND USAGE

Eva Eckert

In this article, the author discusses a phenomenon which is specific to the Czech language, the co-existence of two forms of speech: the standard, codified form of the literary language (spisovná čeština) and the colloquial form of speech (obecná čeština). The latter is widely used throughout the entire area in which Czech is spoken, and its position is different than that of the various colloquial forms usually found in other languages. Eva Eckert also discusses the attention this specifically Czech phenomenon has received from linguists in the past and in the present, as well as its effect on Czech language consciousness.

RESEARCH PROBLEMS CONCERNING EMPEROR SIGISMUND

Elemér Mályusz

A symposium on Emperor Sigismund was held in Budapest in 1987 [See BohZ 28/2 (1987) 399]. The introductory lecture has been printed here in German translation. Elemér Mályusz discusses the condition of the Hungarian legal documents from the time of Sigismund. He especially stresses the intrinsic importance of international cooperation in this undertaking by the involved nations. The greatest problem has been the lack of interest in Sigismund himself, which the author considers a temporary situation. Mályusz particularly addresses German historiography, emphasizing its tradition of research on the Sigismund era.

ON THE NAME AND ORIGIN OF JAN HUS

Alois Milz

In this article, the author investigates the meaning and the derivation of the name "Hus". The name comes from the place-name Husseneck, one of a widespread group of German patronymic place-names having the stem "Hus", which derives from the founders of the villages concerned. The author assumes the founders of Hus's birthplace, the southern Bohemian village Husseneck near Prachatice, were thirteenth-century colonists from the Attergau. Alois Milz is not, however, suggesting that the religious reformer was of German background, he is merely pointing out another common Czech-German cultural element.