

EMIL FRANZEL IN THE LIBRARY OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

Marta Vaculínová

Emil Franzel (1901-1975) compiled the first history of the National Museum library in Prague, on whose staff he was for a brief period in 1940-41. The present contribution analyzes the circumstances under which Franzel worked in the museum library and the context for his writing a history of the library, with the author focusing on apparent contradictions in Franzel's personality. Franzel started out as an important exponent of the German Social Democratic Party, but later gained membership of the Sudeten German Party. Although his history of the museum library was intended as a scholarly work and the concluding piece of his course for German scientific librarians, it offers clear insights into the circumstances of the time of writing and the ideology then prevalent.