

## SUDETEN GERMANS IN „INNER AUSTRIA“

*Nikolaus von Preradovich*

Among the personalities coming from the Sudeten lands who particularly distinguished themselves in Inner Austria (Styria, Carinthia and Carniola), those above all to be mentioned are the general and ambassador Anton Count Prokesch von Osten, the governor (Statthalter) Guido Baron Kübeck von Kübau, the scholar August Jaksch von Wartenhorst, and the Carinthian Landeshauptmann Florian Gröger.

Anton Count Prokesch von Osten (1795—1876) was born in Graz and was the son of the camera official Maximilian Prokesch, who came from Groß-Seelowitz in Moravia. His rise from a petty-bourgeois background into the highest social strata of the Austrian Monarchy is illustrative of the opportunities offered by the Hapsburg Empire to ability and achievement. A further example of this type is the statesman Karl Kübeck von Kübau (1780—1855), the son of a tailor in Iglau, and his nephew Guido Kübeck von Kübau (1829—1907), born in Vienna, who rose to become governor of Styria. The family of August Jaksch von Wartenhorst (1859—1932), born in Prague and later to become Provincial Archives Director of Carinthia, likewise came from the lowest stratum of the population. His grandfather had been a shoemaker in Wartenberg in northern Bohemia. Also the son of a shoemaker was Florian Gröger (1871—1927), born in Wildgrub near Freudenthal, who became Landeshauptmann of Carinthia after the First World War.

In the Styrian economy, special distinction was achieved by the glass manufacturer Adolf Körbitz, who was born in Asch; the industrialist and estate owner Franz Kandler, who came from Wiese; Wilhelm Rösche, the director of the Steyr-Daimler-Puch AG; Streer von Streeruwitz, the managing director of the Nobel Dynamite Works, who came from Mies; and Josef Brix, the road-construction pioneer, born in Bergstadt in northern Moravia.

To be named in the field of the arts are the painter Leo Scheu, from Oimütz, and Fred Hartig, from Gablonz, as well as the music director Hans Gerstner, from Luditz. In Styrian poetry, high reputations were won by Rudolf Hans Bartsch, whose father came from Jägerndorf; Bruno Brehm, whose father was from the Egerland; Wolfgang Burghauser from Prague; Karl Wilhelm Gawalowski from Zubří in Moravia; Karl Adolf Mayer from Mährisch-Rothwasser; Franz Nabl from Lautschin in Bohemia; and Ottokar Kernstock, whose family came from Prachatitz.