THE BOHEMIAN LANDS IN THE CRISIS OF 1870/71

Jan Křen

In view of the Prussian success in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71, the Viennese government felt obliged to undertake discussions for an Ausgleich with the Czechs and the Poles. The essay contrasts the relatively calm negotiations for the autonomy of Polish Galicia with the complex problem of the political situation in the Bohemian lands. In the latter, the planned Ausgleich met with fierce opposition from the German Liberal side and finally ran aground due to the inflexibility of the Czech political representatives. Indeed, although the Ausgleich was in some respects unclear and too complicated, it would still have been, despite its conservative tendencies, a considerable improvement over the status that the Czechs had until the end of the Monarchy.

HISTORICAL ARGUMENTS IN THE SUDETEN GERMAN NATIONAL STRUGGLE, 1918–1938

Rudolf Jaworski

Both the discontent of the greater part of the Sudeten German population with their minority situation in Czechoslovakia, as well as the simultaneous attempt to assert themselves as a definable community were expressed with historical arguments in the interwar period. This study introduces the most important and frequent arguments of this sort and submits them to a critical ideological analysis. The author, among other things, comes to the conclusion that the historical reproofs, due to the specific presuppositions of the Sudeten Germans, have not joined together in a comprehensible historical picture.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC SELF-ABANDONMENT THROUGH UNITY WITH THE COMMUNISTS

The United Front Policy of the German Exiles from Czechoslovakia, 1939–1945

Jan Foitzik

Using the example of the liquidation of the Sudeten German Social Democrats in exile, this article seeks to document the initiating and decisive role of the Communists in the process of the fusing of the social democratic and communist parties into socialist unity parties. The actual cause of the social democratic political self-abandonment is seen here as the pragmatic understanding of politics and the lack of interest in an ideological-political definition of position.