LIBRARY ORGANIZATION IN BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA DURING THE PERIOD OF NATIONAL SOCIALIST DOMINATION, 1938–1945

Robert Luft

This article concerns the history of the local and research libraries in the Reichsgau Sudetenland and in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. Separated into German- and Czech-language libraries, their development as institutions and their significance for the Sudeten German and the Czech societies during the National Socialist period is are traced. The author also considers changes in the collections, employees, and conditions of usage. Due to the existing situation (a result of the Czechoslovak Library Law of 1919), the high density of the library network, and the special conditions of the Bohemian area, during the war years the libraries maintained — like the Czech culture as a whole — a certain peculiarity. The attacks on the libraries did not go beyond the level then obligatory in Germany and were different from the radical actions in occupied Poland and the Soviet Union.

GERMAN POETRY IN THE GHETTO
Theresienstadt, 1941–1945

Ludvík E. Václavek

The Theresienstadt concentration camp in northern Bohemia has gone down in history as both a site of the inhumanity of National Socialism and a unique cultural-historical monument. From 1941 to 1945, cultural life developed there on a grand scale. Much has been written about the Czech component, but little about the German. The German-language literary production here can be designated as the last output of Prague German-language literature. Although only a few of the German poets of the “ghetto” are known to the public, they numbered more than thirty. Among the poets of Theresienstadt who came from Czechoslovakia were Peter Kien (1919–1944), Ilse Weber (1903–1944), Gertrud Groag (1889–1979), and Vlastimil Artur Polák (born in 1914).

CROWN PRINCE RUDOLF AND BOHEMIA

Peter Barton

The author describes the life and work of the Habsburg Crown Prince Rudolf (1858–1889), the centenary of whose death was marked by the opening of a successful exhibition at the Villa Hermes in Vienna in January 1989 and a new edition of the work by Brigitte Hamann. Of particular interest here is Rudolf’s relationship to Bohemia and the Czechs and his keen observation of the nationality question in the Danube Monarchy.