

## SUMMARY

### **Ondřej Durczak**

#### **Photographic publications on Ostrava in the period 1948–1989**

This study focuses on non-periodical publications on the topic of Ostrava and the Ostrava region dating from the period 1948–1989 and consisting primarily of photographs. Despite the formal similarity of most photographic publications on Czechoslovak towns and cities from this period, some photography books devoted to Ostrava possess their own distinct individual character and illustrate the characteristic visual identity of the city. The study maps these books – encompassing not only well-known examples with print runs in the tens of thousands, but also books that are almost unknown or largely forgotten. Besides traditional publications depicting the city itself, the research also explores books published by local companies, including the Vítkovice and Nová Huť metallurgical corporations and the Ostrava-Karviná coal mining corporation (OKD). After summarizing the most prominent motifs found throughout the entire range of analyzed photographic publications, the study presents a more detailed analysis of individual titles – both well-known and almost unknown. Key words: Books, photography, photographers, Ostrava

### **Jan Sucháček**

#### **The headquarters of large corporations in Ostrava and the Moravian-Silesian Region**

Large corporations wield indisputable social and economic power, and they rank among the most important actors in local and regional development. These organizations have a significant and multi-faceted influence on the local economy at various levels. While remaining aware of the limitations of current data, the article sets out to trace the history of the locations of large corporate headquarters in Ostrava and other towns and cities of the Moravian-Silesian Region between 1995 and 2014. This history is compared with analogous developments among large corporations in other Czech regions –both from absolute and relative perspectives. The research applies both quantitative and qualitative methods of analysis based on data collected from respondents in the form of a questionnaire. The results indicate that the locations of Ostrava's large corporate headquarters remained relatively stable throughout the entire period under investigation.

Key words: Ostrava, towns and cities of the Moravian-Silesian Region, large corporations, quantitative research, qualitative research

## **Antonín Barcuch**

### **The development of public administration in Ostrava since 1989 and attempts at reform**

The article traces the development of public administration in Ostrava from 1989 to 2003, beginning with the first attempt to reform state administrative structures (1989) and the creation of 22 municipal districts as subdivisions of the City of Ostrava (1990). The article also describes the efforts of some municipal districts to break away from Ostrava and establish themselves as independent entities, as well as the City's efforts to reform the system by reducing the number of municipal districts in order to improve the efficiency of public administration.

Key words: local and regional government, public administration, territorial subdivisions of a city, municipal districts, Ostrava

## **Martin Juřica**

### **The environment in Ostrava during the era of 'normalization' (1969–1989)**

Ostrava's environment has suffered negative anthropogenic effects since the outset of the industrialization process in the 1850s. The worst period with regard to air and water pollution was probably during the 1950s and 1960s; some significant improvements were achieved from the 1970s onwards. Throughout the period known as the 'normalization' (i.e. the political crackdown following the Warsaw Pact invasion of 1968), levels of airborne dust and waste water emissions remained approximately constant, with occasional fluctuations. Nevertheless, the environmental situation in the Ostrava region was very serious, with levels of pollutants far in excess of legal limits. This led to a deterioration in public health, as local people frequently suffered from respiratory, cardiovascular and oncological disorders. The generally passive attitude of the local population, combined with the relatively small number of people prepared to speak out openly against the situation, prevented the achievement of significant environmental improvements.

Key words: environment, pollution, air quality, water quality, industry, Ostrava

## **Šárka Glombíčková**

### **Jazz, swing and dance music in Ostrava from 1939 to 1945**

Swing music enjoyed huge popularity during the Nazi occupation (under the so-called Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia). It was particularly popular among young people, and swing culture was perceived as an expression of anti-German sentiment and Czech patriotism. Ostrava was home to several swing orchestras during this period; some were disbanded, while

new orchestras were established in their place. Many swing bands featured students from local secondary schools as well as university students who returned to Ostrava when the Nazis closed down all Czech higher education institutions. After the war, some of these musicians became renowned professionals. The bands headed by Sláva Tkačuk and Karel Karpiel won renown beyond the boundaries of their home region. Ostrava musicians who later went on to forge successful careers in Prague included trombonist Jan Číž (who died tragically young) and the guitarist Gustav Vicherek (the pioneer of scat singing on the Czech music scene). Vicherek's arrest for singing in English is a rare example of jazz-related persecution by the Nazi occupying authorities.

Key words: Ostrava, Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, jazz, swing

### **Ivana Maloušková**

#### **The first land reform at Marie Scholz's estate in Třebovice**

The first land reform implemented by the government of the newly independent Czechoslovak Republic (1919–1938) brought major changes in land ownership; land was removed from the control of the former social elite, divided up (parcelled) and redistributed to new owners. The reform affected not only aristocratic estates; it also applied to land owned by the Church and businesses. The estate in Třebovice had been owned and run by members of the Stonawský family – the former tenants of the estate – since the mid-19th century. Marie Scholzová-Stonawská (a poet, writer and patron of the arts known under the pseudonym Maria Stona) owned the Třebovice estate from 1910 to 1944, leasing almost all of the land to a local cattle farming cooperative. Part of the estate was exempted from the land reform, while the remaining part was divided up and redistributed to new owners in the local communities of Třebovice, Martinov, Pustkovec and Nová Ves.

Key words: land reform, land parcelling, estate, Třebovice, Maria Stona

### **Petr Kašing**

#### **Important historical figures and their burial sites at the central cemetery in Slezská Ostrava**

The central cemetery in Slezská Ostrava is the largest of the city's cemeteries. Its history dates back to its consecration in 1823. In the 1950s it was decided to transform the site into a central cemetery serving the entire city; it was to replace the former municipal cemetery located at Fifejdy in today's municipal district of Moravská Ostrava a Přívoz (the site of which was converted into a public park – today Sad Dr. Milady Horákové). This paper

contains brief biographical texts on almost 80 historical figures associated with Ostrava's cultural, political and social life. For purposes of clarity, these figures have been categorized by profession into twelve groups (architects and building contractors; mining experts; theatre, film and TV actors; musicians; cultural and educational workers; doctors; politicians; writers; sportspeople; university teachers; soldiers and heroes; artists). Within each category, the figures are listed in chronological order according to their birthdate. Brief biographical information is given for each individual, accompanied by references to literature and the number of the cemetery subdivision in which the person's grave is located. The article is the first output of the author's research project which sets out to map all of Ostrava's cemeteries and the people buried there.

Key words: Ostrava, historical figures, cemetery, graves

### **Aleš Materna**

#### **Famous ships made of Vítkovice steel on the ocean waves: the Vítkovice ironworks' naval production from the late 19th century to the turn of the 21st century**

The article focuses on the naval production of the Vítkovice ironworks – one of the oldest metallurgical corporations in the Czech Republic (established 1828). In 1843 the ironworks were acquired by the Viennese banker Salomon Mayer Rothschild, after which the company grew rapidly and became renowned throughout Europe. At the end of the 19th century Vítkovice gained a monopoly over the production of armour plating for the ships of the Austro-Hungarian Navy, supplying steel for Habsburg battleships and cruisers which fought in the First World War. Production of steel armour plating, crankshafts and other components of military, commercial and civilian ships remained an important part of the company's portfolio up to the turn of the 21st century. Vítkovice steel was used to build three British aircraft carriers (HMS *Illustrious*), the world's largest and most luxurious cruise ships (*Freedom* and *Genesis*), as well as many famous steamships, tankers, ferries and freight carriers.

Key words: Vítkovice ironworks, shipbuilding, 19th–21st century

### **Jarmila Burešová, Jana Brožovská Onderková**

#### **The development of public libraries in Ostrava from 1921 to 1945**

The article traces the development of public libraries in Ostrava during the period from 1921 to 1945. It describes the establishment of the city's public library in 1921 and presents the library's role in the public education system of inter-war Czechoslovakia. The main focus is

on the role played by the library in the context of Ostrava's specific social and cultural environment. In 1924 seven separate municipalities were merged to create the administrative entity of Greater Ostrava (Velká Ostrava), after which the library was also active in other parts of the city (especially Vítkovice). Other topics covered in the article include the development of the library's stocks, key events in its history (e.g. the Congress of Czechoslovak Librarians in 1924), the opening of the central library and reading room in Moravská Ostrava (in an imposing new building), and important figures in the library's history (especially Bohuslav Šída and Josef Hrbáč). The public libraries serving Ostrava's minority communities (German and Czech) are also mentioned in passing.

Key words: public libraries, Czechoslovakia 1918–1945, Ostrava, central library and reading room in Moravská Ostrava

### **Jana Prchalová**

#### **The fate of the Jewish businessman Filip Förster and his descendants**

This article traces the life story of Filip Förster from Přívoz (today a district of Ostrava) – a businessman, local politician, and founding member of Ostrava's Jewish Religious Community. Förster began his business career as the owner of a wine shop, later opening a Jewish restaurant and an inn. He was also active in the construction industry and local transport, and he helped to build the first municipal roads and pavements in Přívoz. He played an active role in municipal politics for more than four decades, as well as being a member of several associations in Přívoz and Moravská Ostrava. He was the first chairman of the Přívoz Temple Association, which built a synagogue in Přívoz at the turn of the 20th century. Many members of Förster's family perished in the Nazi death camps. The family tradition was continued by his grandson Robert Förster, an engineer working at the Vítkovice ironworks' bridge division who helped to build the steel structures for the Czechoslovak pavilions at the World Fairs in Paris and New York.

Key words: Jewish community, synagogue, municipal politics, associations, Holocaust, inn-keeping, World Fair

### **Ivo Černý**

#### **The history of the VŠB-Technical University after its relocation to Ostrava in 1945 to 1965 – viewed by a direct participant in the events**

The author of this memoir is Professor Ivo Černý from the Faculty of Mining and Geology at the VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava. After a brief introduction tracing the history of the

university (originally situated in the Bohemian town of Příbram, and relocated to Ostrava after WWII), the author focuses on the development of the university during his time there as a student and later as a lecturer. He describes the initial location of the university's individual institutes and faculties as well as the forms of study that were available in the 1950s. The article also focuses on the staff of the university from 1945 onwards, as well as on interpersonal relations in this academic environment.

Key words: VŠB-Technical University of Ostrava, Příbram, František Čechura, university lecturers

### **Jaroslava Novotná**

#### **The request by the syndic of Moravská Ostrava Kašpar Hauke for his suspension to be revoked**

The article presents a transcript of a request (written in German) dated 31 January 1873 and submitted by Kašpar Hauke, a syndic (legal official) for the municipality of Moravská Ostrava (Mährisch Ostrau), for the revocation of his suspension from duty without pay; Hauke sent the request to the Presidium of the Přerov Regional Authority in Hranice na Moravě. Hauke had been suspended from his post on the basis of an order issued by the Government Authority of Moravia and Silesia in Brno (Brünn) on 31 December 1836 after the discovery of serious problems with the municipality's conduct of its legal affairs. Three months later, the highest-ranking municipal officials were dismissed from their posts *en masse*. Kašpar Hauke's request for the revocation of his suspension is his only statement on the situation held by the Ostrava City Archives. It is clear from his letter that he felt great bitterness towards his opponents, yet he was determined to explain the situation, clear his name and continue his work. Ultimately his efforts at reinstatement proved unsuccessful; his health deteriorated, and he died on 14 October 1837.

Key words: syndic, Kašpar Hauke, Moravská Ostrava, municipal authority, legal affairs