



Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences
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BULLETIN

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Vol. II, No. 3

September, 1981

SVU Meetings

**General Assembly, Montreal,
October 23-25, 1981
United Church Building, Upper Hall**

The yearly General Assembly of the Society was held in Canada for the fifth time and in Montreal for the second. The annual meeting is a special event in odd-numbered years, but coincides with the biannual World Congresses in even-numbered years. The Montreal local SVU chapter, headed by Dr. Richard Drtina (Professor and Chairman of the Humanities and Philosophy Department, John Abbott College, Kirkland Campus in Montreal) was in charge of the program.

The administrative meetings took place on Friday evening (October 23) and Sunday morning (October 25). A banquet for all participants and invited public was held on Saturday evening.

There were several exhibits of interest. I. Dobroruka organized an exhibit of paintings, graphic art and ceramics by Czech and Slovak artists from the entire province of Quebec. L. Krivanek from the editorial board of *Bohemicum* was in charge of the collection of Czechoslovak books published in exile. And Anna Skvor of SVU Montreal prepared an exhibit of the literary work by her late husband, poet Pavel Javor.

Most of Saturday (October 24) was dedicated to the scholarly program, which centered on the problems of energy. The Panel "Energy -- Challenge for the World," chaired by Vladislav Zajic

President

Leopold J. Pospisil
(Yale University)
554 Orange Street
New Haven, CT 06511

Vice-Presidents

Karel B. Absolon
(University of Illinois;
National Institutes of Health)
11225 Huntover Drive
Rockville, MD 20852

Milan P. Getting, Jr.
(Allis-Chalmers Corporation)
38 South Euclid Avenue
Bellevue, PA 15202

Henry Kucera
(Brown University)
196 Bowen Street
Providence, RI 02906

Jiri Nehnevajsa
(University of Pittsburgh)
712 North Cleveland Street
Arlington, VA 22201

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(University of Arizona)
5121 N. Tigua Drive
Tucson, AZ 85705

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(Saint Mary's University)
3200 Holly Berry Court
Falls Church, VA 22042

Treasurer

Frank J. Marlow
(Royal Leasing Corporation)
4217 Noble Avenue
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

SVU Books

75-70 199 Street
Flushing, NY 11366

Editor Promeny

Josef Stasa
Harvard University
900 Holyoke Center
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Editor Zpravy

Hana Demetz
72 Centerbrook Road
Hamden, CT 06518

Editors SVU Bulletin

Zdenka E. Fischmann
Box 134
Corona, CA 91720

Michael Heim
Dept. of Slavic Languages
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90024

(electrical engineer at the Institut de Recherche de l'Hydro Quebec) included the following papers:

- T.H. Pavlasek (McGill University, Montreal), **Energy -- Challenge for the World**
- J. Teichman (Universite de Montreal), **Nuclear Fission -- A Compromise Between Energy Needs and a Hazard to be Accepted**
- V. Fuchs (Hydro-Quebec Research Institute), **Thermonuclear Fusion -- Promise of Tomorrow**
- V. Zajic (Hydro-Quebec Research Institute), **Alternate Energy Sources -- Availability, Dispersion and Scale**
- V. Zeman (Concordia University, Montreal), **Progress and Humanity**

We will have details about the agenda of this successful Annual Assembly in the next issue.

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Richard L. Drtina, President of the Montreal SVU local chapter since 1977, is a native of Nachod, Czechoslovakia. He earned his Doctorate of Philosophy (PhDr) in 1968 at Charles University, Prague, specializing in aesthetics, art, sociology and philosophy of culture. His position as a political commentator on Czechoslovak Radio during the Soviet invasion in August 1968 led to his expulsion from the university, where he was teaching, and eventually resulted in his immigration to Canada.

In Canada he has done postdoctoral studies in sociology at Concordia University, Montreal. He has contributed, in Czech, to **Promeny (Metamorphoses)** on such topics as Svejek, the invasion, and Jan Palach. He gave a series of public lectures on major periods of Western art and culture during 1980-81 at the Cultural Centre in Montreal and has contributed reviews to the journal **Central Europe** published by the University of Arizona.

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Bulletin, edited by Zdenka E. Fischmann, Box 134, Corona, CA 91720 and Michael Heim, Department of Slavic Languages, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

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Preparations for the Eleventh World Congress, Pittsburgh, October 28-31, 1982, University of Pittsburgh, PA

Call for papers

In a little more than a year, on October 28-31, 1982 the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences (SVU) will hold its Eleventh World Congress in Pittsburgh, PA. The University of Pittsburgh will host this conference with several other institutions acting as co-sponsors.

As program chairman I am extending to you a cordial invitation to prepare and present a paper on a Czechoslovak or Central European subject, or if you prefer, on any other scientific or literary topic of your expertise. If you are interested in participating, let me know by November 15, 1981. In your response please indicate the following:

1. title of your intended paper;
2. your field of scholarship or specialization;
3. a short paragraph indicating the content of your paper.

This information will help us to determine the areas of interest which can be addressed in the conference sessions. As in the past, we are planning to include, in addition to the regular sessions, several symposia and panel discussions. If you know a special topic suitable for such a panel, I welcome your suggestions.

I hope you will accept our invitation and respond promptly. Only early planning will result in a well organized program. Your help and cooperation will assure the success of the Congress.

Cordially,

Zdenka Pospisil
Program Chairman
Professor of Art History
Southern Connecticut State College
501 Crescent Street
New Haven, CT 06515



SVU Projects

New Biographical Directory

In *Bulletin* Vol. I, No. 1 we called the fourth edition of the **Biographical Directory 1978** the Society's "Number One" publication, indispensable to anyone who wants to get acquainted with SVU's membership and activities. No wonder it is almost out of print. Now that many new members have joined the organization, some have died and others moved, the Executive Board has decided to turn once again to Eva Rechcigl and ask her to prepare an updated fifth edition of the **Directory**.

If you wish to be included, please fill out the Biographical Questionnaire and send it immediately to:

Ms. Eva Rechcigl
1703 Mark Lane
Rockville, MD 20852
USA

If you have a "couple" membership, please make a copy of the questionnaire and fill out a separate form for each spouse. Don't forget to take advantage of the lower pre-publication price of \$7.00. The **Directory** will be later sold for \$10.00 (members) and \$15.00 (non-members).

Biographical Questionnaire

Mr. _____

Mrs. _____
Last Name First Name Middle Name

Miss _____

Present Position (e.g. Assoc. Prof. of Chemistry) _____

Business/or Institutional Address _____
_____ telephone _____

Home Address _____
_____ telephone _____

Born: Country _____ Place _____
Year _____ Month _____ Date _____

Education (Degree, Discipline, Institution, Year) _____

Chief Fields of Interest, Specialization or Research _____

Biographical Sources in which Listed (e.g. Who's Who in the East, Contemporary Authors, American Men & Women of Science etc.) _____

Under which discipline (disciplines) do you wish to be listed in the Index (e.g. economics, history, chemistry etc.) _____

List your major publications (not exceeding 5) _____

Honors (honorary degrees, major grants) _____

An inclusion of your Curriculum vitae would be appreciated. My Curriculum vitae is enclosed: Yes _____ No _____

I wish to order _____ copy/ies of the new SVU Directory at \$7.00 a copy. A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Note: Use diacritical marks ("hacky", "carky" etc.) wherever applicable. Original academic titles rather than their English equivalents should be used (e.g. JUDr, RNDr, CSc, prom. filolog etc.). Cheques should be made to Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences. The quoted prices are in American Dollars. Completed questionnaires should be mailed to Mrs. Eva Rechciĝl, 1703 Mark, Lane, Rockville, Md. 20852, USA.

A New SVU-Sponsored Journal

Preparations for a new SVU-sponsored English-language journal of Czechoslovak studies are proceeding apace. Professor John F. N. Bradley has accepted the post of editor-in-chief and is currently putting together an editorial board. The provisional name for the journal is **Cosmas. A Journal of Czechoslovak and Central European Studies**, and the first issue is due to appear in the spring of 1982. It will be published twice a year and be based at the University of Manchester. *Cosmas* (1045-1125) was the first Bohemian chronicler-historian.

To finance the journal and other publication activities SVU has set up a basic endowment of \$40,000. Donations, which are tax-deductible, are needed to keep the fund operational on a permanent basis. Dr. Karel Absolon heads the SVU committee in charge.



Inventory of Czechs and Slovaks Abroad and of Individuals with a Professional Interest in Czechoslovakia

The Executive Board of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences reaffirmed at its recent meeting in Washington, D.C. that one of the chief aims of the Society is to keep abreast of the professional activities of Czechs and Slovaks abroad with a view towards a critical evaluation of their contribution to world culture and world affairs. There is the general belief that there are thousands of outstanding individuals of Czechoslovak descent scattered throughout the world of whom only a small percentage maintains ties with a Czechoslovak organization abroad or whose ethnic origin is known. With time, it will be increasingly difficult to identify such individuals, which would be an immeasurable loss to Czechoslovak ethnic cultural history.

Against this background, the Executive Board has decided to initiate immediate steps toward a systematic collection of information about Czechs and Slovaks (or other nationalities from Czechoslovakia) living abroad as well as those persons professionally engaged in the study of Czechoslovak culture and affairs. Dr. Miloslav Rechcigl, Jr., past President of the Society has been appointed to direct and coordinate the effort.

The first phase of the project will focus on identifying individuals living or dead who belong to the categories stated above. The recently published **Educators with Czechoslovak Roots** (compiled by Dr. Rechcigl under SVU sponsorship and containing names, specialty and position of educators of Czechoslovak descent based at American and Canadian universities and colleges), will provide the groundwork for this inventory. In addition to updating the aforementioned publication, project coordinators will prepare a comparable inventory covering Europe and other continents. They will not limit their purview to academics but will also gather information on personalities in research institutes and industry, in the private and public sectors, i.e., scientists, technologists, scholars, artists, writers, architects, physicians, lawyers, legislators, government officers, diplomats, judges, clergyment, journalists, librarians, teachers, social workers, sports figures, businessmen, financiers, philanthropists, etc.

Absolon divides his first 120 publications and books into three groups. Approximately one third are devoted to clinical issues, one third to experimental surgical matter, and one third to cultural items, including Johannes Brahms and music. His trilogy on Theodore Billroth, the famed Viennese surgeon who had such great influence on medicine in Bohemia-Moravia and who developed many of the twentieth-century practices of surgery, has won world-wide acclaim. In the past issue of the **Bulletin** we reported on the first volume. The second volume is now available (see bibliography).

Absolon published his first scientific paper at the age of 14 in the Prague journal **Vesmir**, then under the editorship of the unforgettable Czech biologist Bohuslav Nemeč. Clearly, it was influenced by his famed father Karel Absolon, the discoverer of the Macocha caves in Moravia, the classical 30,000-year-old Vestonice statuettes, a group of musical instruments of the same age, and of some 400 new speleofauna. "Young" Absolon's philosophy of investigation must also have been influenced by his great-grandfather Jindřich Wankel, physician and founder of Central-European prehistory (as the Danish scientist Stenstrup once stated.)

Absolon received his M.D. degree from Yale University (1952) and M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis (1963). The combination of degrees started him on a career of "scientist-clinician-educator," according to Owen H. Wangenstein, the recently deceased giant of medicine at the University of Minnesota. His thesis at Yale was dedicated to Frantisek Neumann, his tutor in Pathology at Masaryk University in Brno, from which Absolon was unceremoniously dismissed in the turbulent times of 1948. When asked "Why did you go to Yale?" Absolon answers, "Siberia had a peculiar chill."

His Minnesota thesis and dissertation, under the guidance of the Mayo Clinic, confirmed his belief that medicine can and must be advanced. After founding open heart surgery programs in Dallas and Washington, D.C., he became Academic Chairman of Surgery at the University of Illinois (Urbana) and chief surgeon at the Veterans Administration Hospital there.

He was a pioneer in coronary bypass surgery (1954), an operation presently more commonly performed than operations for hernia or appendicitis. He was the first to do liver transplantations in children (1963) and soon his renown had reached all corners of the globe. His technique of esophageal (gullet) replacement with intestinal grafts was a first for certain diseases (1968). So says **Who's Who in Science** and **Who's Who in America**.

Presently Karel Absolon is directing the artificial heart program at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. "This is a new technology that we can conquer," the optimistic Absolon states. "It won't give us eternal life, but it will allow us to live better for a longer time. We also must consider the ethical implications of the issue.

Absolon is a member of a number of learned societies throughout the world, and his books have been translated into many languages, even Chinese. If you want to know more about our Vice-President Karel B. Absolon, reach for the **Surgeon's Surgeon**, his book on his *alter ego*, Theodore Billroth. An extensive review of the first volume by Stacey B. Day, M.D., will appear soon in **Health Communications**.

Dr. Frank Meissner, Agricultural Marketing Economist of the Inter-American Development Bank and 1974-78 SVU Treasurer

When the Editor asked me to submit my personal data for publication in the **Bulletin**, it suddenly occurred to me that at least ten of my Czechoslovak emigre colleagues have chosen to follow careers in the four major international development agencies headquartered in Washington, D.C. Eight of them have belonged to SVU, four before their untimely death. In alphabetical order the agencies are:

Agency for International Development (USAID): Miloslav Rechcigl;
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World
Bank): John Adler and Antonin Basch;

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): Pavel Ehrlich, Milic
Kybal, Patrick Lichner and Frank Meissner; and

International Monetary Fund: Alexander Kafka, Jan Mladek and
Ernest Sturc.

I asked myself whether this was a random occurrence or whether our overall experience predisposed us for work related to economic development of Third World Countries. Let me review my own trajectory and see what tentative hypotheses we can generate.

1. Bilingual Upbringing as Member of Minority Group

I was born on September 28, 1923 in Trest (Triesch), an industrial town of about 5,000 inhabitants, located some 12 km from the old silver mining town of Jihlava (Iglau) in the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands, halfway between Vienna and Prague. Trest was founded in the mid-thirteenth century as an *entrepot* (warehouse) town; etymologists trace the name to *trziste* or market place. Although over 90% of the population was traditionally Czech, the local agricultural sector was dominated by the large landed estates of the von Sternbachs, hereditary German-Austrian aristocracy.

The Meissner household was bilingual. My father had attended German schools and spoke mostly German; my mother and her father who lived with us, had gone to Czech schools and spoke mostly Czech. My brother and I were brought up bilingually. I had my first sudden insight when my first-grade teacher unscrambled the linguistic mixup by making me aware of the difference between German and Czech. That was my first official exposure to cultural differentiation and pluralism.

The second cross-cultural confrontation arose when I had to learn to cope with antisemitism. I was obviously Jewish, a fact one could not hide in a small town where everybody knew everybody else. Furthermore, my father was the president of the Jewish religious community, the third generation of Meissners in that post. The discrimination was mostly subtle, though occasionally not so. In any case, those socio-economic surroundings turned out to be a first class training for international civil service.

2. Environment of Entrepreneurship

By the turn of the century Trest has become a relatively prosperous industrial island in the predominantly forest covered highlands. The harsh climate (the highlands are often referred to as Moravian Siberia) and poor soil made for low productivity and much rural poverty.

Among the entrepreneurs who built bridges between poor agriculture and relatively prosperous industry there were several members of my family. The extended family of the Meissners and the Gruenbergers (my mother's side) set up a wood processing factory (clogs, furniture, matches) and a factory producing special machinery for butchers and bakers.

Those members of the clan who could not find suitable employment in Trest sought opportunities elsewhere: a banker in Prague; merchants in Vienna, Brno and Bielsko (Poland); lawyers in Brno and Olomouc. The most venturesome one ended up in North America.

Among the industrialists of Trest were the two generations of Schumpeters who created the local textile industry. They also brought forth Joseph Alois Schumpeter, the famous Harvard economics professor who "invented" the theory of economic development. Perhaps he was subconsciously inspired by the business organizations set up by his family, as well as by the highly innovative forms of worker-owned garment and furniture manufacturing enterprises. I use the term "subconsciously" advisedly because for one reason or other, Professor Schumpeter never once referred to Trest in his voluminous writings about entrepreneurship and socio-economic development.

3. Travel -- Some Voluntary, Mostly Not

At the age of eight I first went abroad to visit my uncle in nearby Vienna; at the age of nine I spent the summer in Bled (Yugoslavia); at ten I went to a summer camp on the Adriatic Coast (Grado near Venice), and the year after to Tobelbad, a spa in Southern Austria. At eleven I moved away from home to attend high school in Jihlava, the county seat. Flunking out of the tenth grade (nowadays it is called "dropping out"), I became a lathe operator apprentice in my uncle's machine factory in Trest. In October 1939, as a member of Zionist youth movement, I went to Denmark to learn agriculture in preparation for emigrating to Palestine, now Israel.

After the Wehrmacht occupied Denmark, I escaped in a fishing boat to Sweden, where I got a job at the Agricultural College at Uppsala University. In 1943 I volunteered for the Czechoslovak Armed Forces in Great Britain. After a couple of years in the 111th Squadron (Czechoslovak) of the Royal Air Force (RAF) I was repatriated to Denmark. My entire family had perished in German concentration camps, so there was little to go back to in Czechoslovakia.

Nonetheless, early in 1948, after obtaining a B.Sc. in agronomy from the Royal Danish Agricultural University I returned to Prague as a reporter for the Czech **Agricultural Gazette** (*Zemedelske noviny*). That was a bad time for homecoming. In mid-1948, I grabbed the opportunity to come to the United States to do graduate work at Iowa State University, where I got my M.S. in agricultural economics. For a year I taught for the Veterans Administration G.I. On-Farm Training Program in, of all places, Denmark, Iowa. In 1951 I "emigrated" to the West Coast, where I studied and worked at the Giannini Foundation at the University of California in Berkeley and Davis; met and married Margit, a Morawetz from Prague; then moved across the country to Cornell University where I got a Ph.D. in marketing in 1956. It was at Cornell that I got to know Eva and Miloslav Rechcigl who subsequently became prominent leaders of SVU.

My first full-time job was as market researcher with Crown-Zellerbach in San Francisco, one of the largest manufacturers of paper and pulp. Between 1959 and 1963 I worked as a consultant at Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in Menlo Park, California and taught, first at University of California in San Jose and then San Francisco.

In short, since I left home at age of eleven, I have been on the go. Out of necessity I have continuously had to cope with different environments, customs, languages. Whether I liked it or not, I caught the travel bug early. When in 1963 the United Nations asked me to go on a Productivity Mission to Poland, my answer was "yes." It so happened that in the end it was Buenos Aires, not Warsaw. A nine-month appointment turned into four years, and I became hooked on international civil service work.

My next destination was the Latin American Group of W. R. Grace & Co., a New York based multinational company in chemical and consumer goods industries. For three years I virtually commuted between New York and Lima, Peru.

That became a bit too much travel even for my taste, so in 1969 I therefore accepted a job offer from the Agricultural Projects Division of the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. After a dozen years of challenging work, involving about three months of travel annually, I continue to enjoy myself and am looking forward to working on Third World problems as long as I can.

4. A Hypothesis Confirmed

International civil service is a constant exercise in instant, unexpected adaptation to different modes of thinking. It involves careful listening, receptivity to subtle signals of non-verbal communication, and encouragement of constructive innovations in tradition-prone socio-economic environments. In retrospect I find that my background trained me reasonably well for this type of work: (a) bilingual Czech-German upbringing as a member of an ethnic-religious minority opened my eyes early in the game; (b) the family tradition of entrepreneurship demonstrated to me clearly that God helps those who help themselves; and (c) frequent moving from place to place and country to country was excellent in-service training for coping with cultural differences. I find traces of similar attributes in other Czechoslovak colleagues who chose careers in development.

Incidentally my wife Margit, son Paul and daughter Anne are equally internationally inclined. Indeed it seems that the predisposition for development work is contagious: on July 4, 1981 my son Paul was sworn in as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ecuador.

NEWS RECEIVED

An exhibition of **Contemporary Posters from Czechoslovakia** is being held at the Main Building of the Newark Public Library, 5 Washington Street, in downtown Newark, New Jersey, from October 1 through December 31, 1981. The exhibition was assembled and lent by Zdenka Winters (Montclair State College) and Stanley B. Winters (New Jersey Institute of Technology), and was mounted by the Art and Music Department of the Library.

Assistance Wanted

Jan Loewenbach Graduate Scholarship in Musicology

A scholarship for research in Czechoslovak music has recently been established by the Department of Music, San Diego State University. The Jan Loewenbach Graduate Scholarship in Musicology in Czechoslovak Music will assist graduate students in the study of Czechoslovak music, initially working with the Loewenbach Collection at the university. Students applying are advised to acquire some linguistic background in Czech or Slovak.

Initial funds for the scholarship have been provided by Karel and Vera Bala. Additional funds to establish a permanent endowment are now needed. Tax deductible donations may be made to:

Loewenbach Scholarship
Alumni and Associates
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-1900

Additional information may be obtained from Dr. Jaroslav Mracek, Department of Music, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182-0217.



The Jan Zahradnicek Literary Fund

SVU member Jirina Fuchs announces on behalf of the Czechoslovak Culture Club in Los Angeles that she is working on establishing a Jan Zahradnicek Literary Fund whose purpose is to award prizes to promising new Czech poetic work as selected by a jury of exile literary and cultural experts. Zahradnicek (1905-1960) is an important modern poet who maintained the ideals of Czechoslovak culture even under the most difficult circumstances. Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to: Czechoslovak Culture Club, Fond J.Z., 3564 S. Barrington Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90066.



Kokoschka Correspondence

For a planned edition of an Oskar Kokoschka Correspondence information about or photocopies of letters are requested by: Olda Kokoschka, 1844 Villeneuve (Vaud), Switzerland, and Heinz Spielmann, Museum fuer Kunst und Gewerbe, 2000 Hamburg, Steintorplatz, West Germany.

See *Bulletin* I, 2, May 1980 for the obituary of this famous painter and honorary SVU member. Organizers of the special Kokoschka exhibition in 1968, on the occasion of the Fourth World Congress of SVU, please look through your files.



It seems appropriate to introduce the persons involved in the above requests and announcements.

Jan Loewenbach, an honorary member of SVU, was born on April 29, 1880 in Rychnov nad Kneznou. He studied law, but music was a strong avocation. Combining the two areas of interest led, on the one hand, to a specialization in copyright law -- he represented many of the prominent Czechoslovak composers -- and to extensive music criticism and scholarship on the other. Dr. Loewenbach was also very active in musical organizations such as the Umelecka Beseda and its publishing division, the Hudebni Matic; the Club of Czechoslovak Composers, which he himself founded; the International Society for Contemporary Music, and others.

He and his family left Czechoslovakia before the Nazi occupation and lived for short periods in Switzerland, England and Cuba. Finally, in 1941, they settled in New York, where Dr. Loewenbach worked as press attache of the Czechoslovak Consulate during WWII. In 1946 Dr. and Ms. Loewenbach returned to Czechoslovakia, only to leave again in 1948. From the time he returned to New York until his death on August 13, 1972 he and his wife lived in semi-retirement.

After Ms. Vilma Loewenbach's death their daughter, Vera Bala now living in Canada, donated his papers and memorabilia through the SVU music section to the Malcolm A. Love Library of San Diego State University.

Jan Loewenbach wrote criticism for a number of dailies and scholarly articles for many music journals in Czechoslovakia. Later he contributed to New York Times, Musical Quarterly, Musical America, the British Slavonic Review, etc., mainly on Czechoslovak music. He is also the author of several entries in the Encyclopedia Americana. Among his larger studies are: **Music in Independent Czechoslovakia** (Prague, 1931, in Czech), **Czechoslovak Music** (New York, 1941), **B. Smetana -- Genius of a Freedom Loving People** (Washington, D.C., 1943), "Dvorak's Significance in the Development of American Music" (in *Tempo*, 1946/47, in Czech), and many articles on Smetana, Dvorak, Novak, Suk, and other twentieth century Czech composers. He also translated some Czech vocal works into German and several works from German or English into Czech. He is the author of the librettos for Martinu's opera **The Soldier and the Dancer** (1928) and Kricka's **The White Gentleman** (1929). In addition to his writings he constantly promoted Czech music through lectures, exhibitions and organization of performances (e.g., of Dvorak's **Rusalka** in Detroit and several of Janacek's compositions in New York). His literary pseudonym was J. L. Budin.

ZEF



Canadian born **Jaroslav Mracek**, Professor of Music at San Diego State University and SVU member, studied history of music and piano at the University of Toronto and earned his Ph.D. in musicology from the Indiana University in 1965. His major research was published in book form

under the title **Seventeenth-Century Instrumental Dance Music in Uppsala University Library Instr. Mus. hs 409. Monumenta Musicae Svecicae. Volume 8.** Stockholm: Editions Reimers, 1976. It is an edition and study of 213 compositions which form a repertoire recorded by Gustaf Dueben in Stockholm between 1650 and 1662. Among other works the edition contains the music of the French string orchestra at the Swedish Court of Queen Kristina. These French dances were originally performed at the courts of Louis XIII and Louis XIV, and the French manuscripts were destroyed during the French Revolution. Consequently, the music preserved in the Uppsala manuscript is unique.

Dr. Mracek has recently contributed to the "New Grove's" and coordinated with his colleagues the "San Diego State University Musicology Lectures" and "Colloquium & Workshop on Early Music Performance Practice" (October-November 1981). His lecture in this series was "Castles, Cathedrals and Courts as Sources for Music."

Another of his areas of research has been for several years the Czech Rorate chants. In May 1980 he presented the lecture "National Elements in Sixteenth-Century Rorate Chants" at the University in Ljubljana. He is also interested in the music of Janacek. In connection with the centenary of Jan Loewenbach's birth he spoke on "The American Papers of J. L. (1880-1972) at San Diego State University" at the Tenth Congress of SVU (October 1980); and "J. L. in America. Music Critic, Author and Publicist" for the Los Angeles SVU Chapter (January 1981), as well as for the joint meeting of Northern California and Pacific Southwest Chapters of the American Musicological Society (April 1981). His efforts for establishing the Loewenbach Scholarship deserve the support of all friends of Czechoslovak music.

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ZEF

Jirina Fuchs is a poet and the editor of Framar Publishers in Los Angeles (Box 66453, Los Angeles, CA 90066). She writes mostly in Czech and produces slim, graphically striking volumes that are of special interest to bibliophiles. One of her collaborators is Jiri Karger, a creative director at CBS Television, another Angeleno and SVU member.

One of her collections is bilingual, however. She says about **An American Baedeker** (1975): "My decision to publish my first collection bilingually is based on the nature of the poems themselves. As a writer I thank Czechoslovakia for my childhood, my thousand-year old cultural heritage, and for the Czech language which, for better or worse, has become the tool of my artistic expression. To America I am grateful for my education (which for political reasons my country refused me), for the roof over my refugee head, and for the glorious freedom of action, thought and expression without which my Czech as a creative tool would be a wasted gift. Because the poems included in this book reflect the influences of my Czech origins as well as those of my present American environment, I felt they should be published in both languages."

She certainly uses her American freedom well, as her involvement in the community shows. She recently read her poem "Miracle" from the above collection, in Czech and English, during a very unusual event that took place on June 22 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. That day 9,700 immigrants became U.S. citizens in the largest oath-taking ceremony in history. In the Pre-Ceremony Tribute to New Citizens various musical and dance groups performed, and poems from the Fifth Street Studio Theater's

table events of the fast-moving twentieth century. In this light the First Czechoslovak Republic appears in retrospect as a kind of experiment to realize the Platonic ideal of a free state led by a "philosopher king," i.e., a highly mature and moral personality not interested in and even somewhat naive about the intricacies of violently irrational and implacable power struggles.

Masaryk became a symbol -- almost a myth -- for the "republican generation" nurtured by his teachings, but now a critical and often painful scrutiny of his opinions and practical decisions is going on. All too frequently his precious "good" did not prevail in the face of the "evil." One hundred thirty years after his birth we must accept the unfortunate conclusion that Masaryk's motto "Truth will prevail," the motto of the First Czechoslovak Republic, does not always work in practice, and that the reality of human life and national existence is a good deal harsher.

A new publication, **Tomas G. Masaryk 1850-1937. A Selective List of Reading Materials in English**, compiled by SVU member George J. Kovtun and published by the European Division, Library of Congress (Washington 1981, 26 p.) is a valuable bibliographic aid and a pictorial document. It has three parts: "Writings by T. G. Masaryk," "Writings About T. G. Masaryk," and "The American Press, 1918." The latter quotes the headlines relating to Masaryk's efforts to achieve recognition of Czechoslovak independence. The bibliography includes all types of Masaryk documentation in English until 1978. One of the latest entries is recent thesis (1976) from the University of California, Berkeley, on "T. G. Masaryk, Educator of a Nation."

SVU member Josef Kalvoda (Saint Joseph College, West Hartford, CT) has published an article "Masaryk in America in 1918" in **Jahrbuecher fuer Geschichte Osteuropas** 27, pp. 85-99 (Wiesbaden: Steiner Verlag, 1979), using primary documents and showing a firm grasp on the literature. He specifically explores Masaryk's dealings with President Wilson and Robert Lansing, Secretary of State; the so-called Tokyo Memorandum; the problematic Pittsburgh Agreement, and Masaryk's contact with W. Somerset Maugham in St. Petrograd about the employment of the Czech Legion in Siberia.

SVU has organized several Masaryk Conferences, e.g., a Harvard symposium and another one in Los Angeles (1975). A Conference in Interlaken, Switzerland, took place in May 1980, and **Promeny (Metamorphoses)** 17/4, 1980 published eight papers from it in Czech and one in German. We will comment next time on the just published book, **T. G. Masaryk in Perspective**, ed. Milic Capek and Karel Hruby. Among the contributors to this collection of essays are Roman Jakobson, Jan Patocka and Vaclav Cerny.

Also on the occasion of the 130th anniversary the Paris Institut national d'Etudes slaves organized an international Masaryk Symposium in December 1980. The proceedings of this symposium are to be published soon. The Institute, founded from the initiative of the historian Ernest Denis, a close friend of Czechoslovakia, was opened on October 17, 1923 by the French President, and President Masaryk attended the ceremony.

A recent source in Czech are the articles "Masaryk, Benes, hrad" ("Masaryk, Benes, the Castle"), published in *Studie (Studies)*, an organ of the Christian Academy in Rome, and reprinted in the monthly *Ceske Slovo (Munich)*. The author, Dr. Jaroslav Pechacek, 70, a retired journalist and editor/commentator of Radio Free Europe, has been living in New York since 1975 and is a past editor of *SVU Zpravy*. He bases his study on documents collected by Dr. Jan Papanek, 85, until 1948 Czechoslovak delegate to the United Nations. The core of these documents is Masaryk's letters to Edward Benes, which date from the late twenties and relate to political events then current.

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MUSIC

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The concert pianist Rudolf Firkusny, an honorary member of SVU and for years a member of the Board, has recently published, in collaboration with Roland John Wiley (University of Michigan), an important review in *Notes*, Vol. 37, No. 4, June 1981. It concerns **Piano Compositions** by Leos Janacek, Series F, Volume 1 (1978) of the **Complete Critical Edition**, a joint publishing effort of Supraphon (Prague) and Baerenreiter (Kassel). The editors are Ludvik Kundera and Jarmil Burghauser, both well-known Czechoslovak musicians. The volume has an introduction and titles in Czech, German, English, French and Russian. All Janacek's piano solo works, with some earlier versions, are included. The 52 pages of a critical commentary, however, are in Czech and German only.

According to Firkusny knowledge of a supplemental volume, **Edicni zasahy a smernice k notacni problematice klasiku 20. stoleti (Editorial Principles and Directions Concerning Notational Problems of the Classics of the 20th Century)** by Milan Solc and J. Burghauser, is essential for the understanding of the new edition. This important book (Prague: Supraphon, 1979) is in Czech, with rather skimpy summaries in German and English.

It is well-known that Janacek tended to notate his compositions in an often idiosyncratic manner and made many changes as an afterthought. Firkusny who studied music with Janacek from the age of five had an opportunity to learn first hand authentic interpretation, for which the written notation was more often a mere approximation. He even owns a copy of **On the Overgrown Path** which "contains some corrections in Janacek's own hand." Yet he and all other Janacek interpreters have learned how to cope with the traditional printed scores.

The new edition is attempting to achieve an unambiguous uniformity by making some drastic alterations, e.g., changing bar lines, key signatures, enharmonic accidentals, and expression marks, all characteristic of Janacek's views of musical elements. Firkusny questions this new approach and gives detailed comparisons of particular pieces and specific passages. He finds the new edition misleading for a new interpreter and disconcerting for those familiar with Janacek's music. He and his co-author conclude that "to the scholar, this edition promotes a willful departure from a composer's original text in what is put forward as a critical, scholarly enterprise, a policy at best experimental, at worst of dubious validity." We assume that these editorial principles apply to all other genres of the complete works and that they will provoke protests from other Janacek connoisseurs of Firkusny's artistic stature and integrity.

YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Now and again we will list books in English (and, perhaps, other major languages) on Czechoslovak topics under this new heading. We hope you will accept them in the spirit in which they are given: not as exhaustive bibliographies, but rather as chance collections of items you may actually have missed.

Absolon, Karel B. **The Surgeon's Surgeon: Theodor Billroth (1829-1894)**. Volume II (The Middle Years, 1867-1879). (Lawrence: Corona do Press, 1981, 232 p., 111 illustrations) Hardcover \$28.50. (Volume I available at original price of \$15.00; Volume III in preparation)

Kalvoda, Josef. **Czechoslovakia's Role in Soviet Strategy**. (Washington, D.C.: University Press of America, 1978; 391 p., paper \$9.75)

Max Brod. **Ein Gedenkbuch. 1884-1968**. Ed. Hugo Gold (Tel Aviv: Edition Olamenu, 1969; 326 p.; many photographs)

Communism and Eastern Europe. A Collection of Essays. Ed. Frantisek Silnitsky, Larisa Silnitsky, Karl Reyman (N.Y.: Karz Publishers, 1981, 242 p.; paperback \$6.95)
Articles on Czechoslovakia by A. Liehm, M. Hubl, F. Silnitsky and J. Starek.

Czechoslovakia: The Heritage of Ages Past. Ed. Hans Brische and Ivan Volgyes (Columbia University Press, 1979)

Article "Czechoslovakia: The Politics of Dependency" by Jan Triska

Ein Loch zur Welt, Ed. Karl-Heinz Jaehn (Muenchen: Damnitz Verlag, 313 p.) Czech and Slovak stories.

Eurocommunism between East and West. Ed. V V Aspaturian, J. Valenta and D. P. Burke (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1980, 384 p.; paperback \$9.95)
Among the contributors are Jan Triska and Jiri Valenta.

Freedom and Power. A Collection of Essays (N. Y.: Karz Publishers, October 1981, 256 p.; \$25.95)

An introductory essay by Vaclav Havel. Articles by R. Battek, V Benda, J. Dienstbier, J. Hajek, L. Hejdanek, M. Kusy, Z. Mlynar, P. Uhl, *et al.*)

Opposition in Eastern Europe. Ed. Rudolf L. Tokes (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1979, 336 p.; \$22.50)

Included an article by SVU member Vladimir Kusin, University of Glasgow: "Challenge to Normalcy: Political Opposition in Czechoslovakia, 1968-78."

Political Development in Eastern Europe. Ed. Jan Triska and Paul M. Cocks. (N. Y.: Praeger Publishers, 1977, 374 p.)

Europa. A Quarterly Review of European Politics and Culture (N. Y.: Karz Publishers) Vol. I, No. 1 appeared in March 1981. SVU member Antonin Liehm is on the editorial Board.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

- 1) For the next issue we would like to have news from the chairpersons of those specialized sections that are beginning to function, with addresses whom to contact. Perhaps we could come up with one simple form to be filled out by members interested in a specific section.
- 2) Thanks to all who have sent in news about their specialties. The **SVU Bulletin** wants to give space to all branches of knowledge represented by SVU members, to become a true forum for the Society. Suggestions for content and publications for reviews are welcome.
- 3) When sending contributions, please indicate specifically whether your address may be printed or whether you prefer initials or name only as acknowledgement.
- 4) The last **Bulletin** was distributed late as a result of Canadian postal strike. We regret the inconvenience.

