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LEAGUE OF NATIONS
COMMITTEE ON INTELLECTUAL CO-OPERATION

ENQUIRY
INTO THE
CONDITIONS OF INTELLECTUAL WORK

Second Series

INTELLECTUAL LIFE

in the

VARIOUS COUNTRIES

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

THE UNIVERSITIES

By

O. de HALECKI

Professor at the University of Warsaw,

Secretary to the Committee;

in collaboration with the Czechoslovak Committee on Intellectual Co-operation.

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NOTE

The object of the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation in publishing this series of pamphlets is to call attention to the problems of organisation and intellectual assistance to which each subject gives rise. The Committee does not propose to treat these subjects exhaustively, but desires rather to bring them to the notice of the public and to provide an opportunity for further suggestions.

THE UNIVERSITIES

I. — GENERAL SITUATION

When in 1918 Czechoslovakia was established as an independent State she possessed two universities on that part of her territory which had previously belonged to Austria. These universities—the one Czech, the other German—were both situated at Prague; she also possessed a Faculty of Catholic Theology at Olomouc (Olmütz) in Moravia.

The University of Prague was founded in 1348 by King Charles, on the pattern of the University of Paris; it was reorganised in 1409, and its distinctively Czech character was maintained until after the Thirty Years' War, when it fell under German influence, and was incorporated in 1653, by Ferdinand III, with the College of Jesuits (*Universitas Carolo-Ferdinandea*). In 1882, it was divided into two separate Czech and German universities, each of which had four Faculties: Divinity, Law, Medicine, Philosophy. This division was due to the efforts of a number of Czech professors, who succeeded during the nineteenth century in emphasising the dual nationality of the University in spite of the preponderance of the German element, which had become more marked since the time of Maria Theresa.

The Theological Faculty at Olomouc was all that remained of the university which had existed in that town from 1574 until 1855 (the Theological Faculty dates from 1582). In Slovakia, which until 1918 belonged to Hungary, a Hungarian university—the Elizabeth University—had been established in 1912, and inaugurated in 1914, at Pressburg, the present Bratislava, which was then called Pozsony; there was also an Academy (Faculty) of Law at Kosice (then Kassa) dating from 1657. In 1919, after the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, the organisation of the universities was considerably modified and extended. At Prague, the Czech university resumed its old name, "*Universitas Carolina*", and a Czechoslovak Faculty of Protestant Theology, called the "John Huss" Faculty, was founded in that city. At the same time an entirely new university, which received the name of Masaryk, was established at Brno (Brünn), the capital of Moravia; its Faculties of Law and Medicine were inaugurated in 1919, but the Faculties of Philosophy (Letters) and Natural Sciences were only instituted at the beginning of the academic year, 1921-22; no theological faculty will be established, as the existing faculty at Olomouc will continue its work under the name of Cyrillo-Methodist Faculty. The Hungarian university at Bratislava has been abolished and replaced by a new Czechoslovak university called after Komensky (Comenius); the Hungarian Faculties of Medicine and Philosophy, which were only instituted in 1918, were dissolved in 1919; the Faculty of Law continued to exist until 1921, when the Elizabeth University, which had temporarily been transferred to Budapest, was finally moved to Pécs; the Komensky University at first inaugurated only its Faculty of Medicine, but the Faculties of Law and Philosophy (Letters) were subsequently instituted, in 1921. In this case again, no theological faculty has been established in connection with the university itself, but, in 1919, a Faculty of Catholic Theology and a Slovak Academy (Faculty) of Protestant Theology were founded at Bratislava. At the Kosice Academy of Law, the lectures are still given in Hungarian.

All these universities and faculties are State institutions but they are nevertheless autonomous; the law of February 13th, 1919, revising the relations between university professors and the Government, gave them still greater independence. The internal administration of

the universities and the organisation of the teaching, with an academic year of two terms, have remained much as they were under Austro-Hungarian rule and the only reform of importance has been the making of Philosophy into a separate faculty at all the universities. This was done in 1919-20. The present Faculties of Philosophy are exclusively Faculties of Letters, as there is now a separate Faculty for Natural Sciences. The result of this reform has been to bring the Czechoslovak universities more into line with the universities in Western countries. In spite of the more important role now allotted to Natural Science, Latin has been retained as a compulsory subject in the entrance examination. Pupils from the secondary schools who have not studied that language must, unless they intend to specialise in natural sciences, take a subsidiary examination in Latin, and, if need be, in propædeutic philosophy, before being admitted to the University as regular students. For admission to the theological faculty and certain branches of the Faculty of Philosophy (Letters), a knowledge of Greek (and in some cases, a subsidiary examination in that subject) is also compulsory.

The present economic crisis necessarily reacts upon the financial situation of the universities, but the position, speaking generally, is not intolerable, thanks to the increased subventions which they are accorded by the State. For instance, the budget of the Czech university at Prague, which, before the War, amounted to about two million crowns (1,977,370 in 1913; 2,055,361 in 1914-15), and which even in 1919 was very little higher (2,702,607), amounted to 5,059,581 crowns in 1920, to 7,239,454 crowns in 1921, and to 15,211,202 crowns in 1922. This sum is by no means negligible, in spite of the fact that the Czechoslovak crown has at present only a sixth of its pre-War value; the total corresponds to nearly a million Swiss francs. The budget figures of the German university at Prague and of the new universities at Brno and Bratislava amount to about one-half of those for the Charles University.

The most serious obstacle to the development of all these universities is undoubtedly the lack of accommodation. At Prague, the buildings are scattered in various quarters of the town and, with the exception of a few recently founded institutions, the majority of the laboratories, schools, etc., are greatly hampered by lack of space. Bratislava is in the same predicament, although the Komensky University has been able to make use of a portion of the buildings of the former Hungarian university. The position of the university at Brno is equally unsatisfactory; it is entirely owing to lack of premises that the inauguration of its Faculty of Philosophy has had to be postponed and it is to be feared that the university will have to be content with temporary premises for the next two or three years.

The Government is doing its utmost to remedy the lack of accommodation. A scheme for erecting a new building for the Charles University has been under consideration since 1919, and has already produced positive results. Between 1920 and 1923, a suitable building, intended to house several branches of the Faculty of Philosophy, was erected in the Old Town at Prague; it was, however, found necessary to allot provisional accommodation in this building to certain offices of the Chamber and of the Department of Foreign Commerce. In 1923, the erection of three large university buildings for the Rectorate and the Faculties of Law and Philosophy begun on adjacent sites. The building of temporary premises for the Faculties of Law and Philosophy will shortly be commenced at Bratislava. At Brno, buildings have been adapted at a cost of several millions in order to remedy the lack of accommodation.

The equipment of the university institutions also leaves much to be desired, and the rise in prices prohibits the purchase of books and instruments—especially when they have to be obtained from abroad. A generous donation received in 1921 from the Rockefeller Foundation enabled the Faculties of Medicine at the Charles and German Universities to purchase instruments abroad. In consequence of an increase in the budget for Higher Education in 1921 and 1922, some of the Institutes of Medicine and Natural Science—in particular those at Brno—were able to obtain a very complete equipment. Lastly, it must be pointed out that the high cost of printing prevents the publication of work done by the universities or by individual members.

The financial position of professors, as of all other officials, is very unsatisfactory. The fees of ordinary professors in Prague range from 19,608 to 32,208 crowns, and those of supernumerary

professors from 16,462 to 21,180 crowns. In other words, they vary between 2,600 to 5,200 Swiss francs per annum. Supplementary allowances, which fluctuate according to the cost of living, are, however, granted. The Czechoslovak university professors have formed a Central Society for the defence of their professional interests; the German professors are similarly organised.

The conditions under which students live are, of course, even harder, as a result not only of the high cost of living, but also of the lack of accommodation. All the universities do their utmost to assist them. For example, in one academic year (1920-1921) scholarships amounting to a total of 380,000 crowns were divided between three thousand students at the Charles University. For the year 1921-22, gifts amounting to 44,200 crowns were made to the students at the University of Brno. At the Czech university at Prague, arrangements are made for students to obtain meals at reduced prices in two institutions called the "Mensa Academica" and the "Mensa" in the students' hostel; they are also provided with cheap lodging at the students' colony in Letna and board and lodging at the students' home (Studentský domov) and at the "Masaryk" and "Stephanik" Colleges. Another organisation—called Svépomoc—finds remunerative employment for students and a social Relief Committee controls and co-ordinates the distribution of grants. Two organisations of the same kind deal with housing questions and afford assistance to students belonging to the German university. At Bratislava there is not only a "Mensa" but also a resident hostel for students, who, even in 1920-1921, could live at the rate of 50 crowns a month. In spite of their limited resources the students have formed numerous scientific societies; at Prague, the most important bodies of this kind are those organised by law students, medical students and students belonging to the faculties of Letters and Science. There is also a Central Federation of Czechoslovak students (with local branches and a bureau supplying information concerning studies abroad), and there are Central Associations of Catholic students and Protestant students (Jeronym). The many foreigners, especially Slavs, who study at the Charles University have their special Associations: White Ruthenes, Bulgarians, Jugo-Slavs, Russians (four associations) and Ukrainians (three associations). Similar associations (for science, the humanities and sports) also exist at the German university at Prague; several of them possess valuable libraries.

The influence of the universities on intellectual life as a whole is shown by the number of popular lectures given in university towns and in the provinces. Committees, on which professors from the university and from the polytechnic high school work together, have been set up for this purpose at Prague and Brno. The number of these lectures, which was necessarily restricted during the War (a minimum of 36 lectures in Prague and 18 in the provinces in 1915-1916), has again reached the pre-War figure (120 lectures and 85 in the provinces in 1913-1914), and in the year 1920-1921 it rose to 160 at Prague and 503 in the provinces.

II. — DEVELOPMENT OF INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITIES.

The progressive development of Czechoslovakian universities is best illustrated by the example of the *Charles University*, which has generously supplied the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation with a mass of detailed information on the subject. The institutions of this university are very fully developed, the number—including clinics, schools, laboratories, etc.—amounting at present to 87; some of these institutions have only recently been founded: as, for instance, the schools for the study of apologetics and of the ancient Slav liturgy established in connection with the Theological Faculty; the institutes of bacteriology and serology, and two clinics at the Faculty of Medicine; the sociological school, the institute of psychology, the laboratory for Czechoslovak archæology, the school for the history of music, the phonetic laboratory, the new Jugo-Slav and Russian departments at the school for Slav philology, and two schools for Oriental languages; and lastly, the institute of inorganic and analytical chemistry (now separate from the institute of organic chemistry) and the pharmaceutical and botanical laboratories at the Faculty of Natural Science. The university proposes not only to establish new Chairs (*e.g.*, a Chair for art and ecclesiastical archæology in connection with the Faculty of Theology), but also to create additional institutes (*e.g.*, an institute for photographic and physical chemistry to be opened in connection with the Faculty of Science). New medical institutions are also contemplated (*e.g.*, a third clinic for internal diseases, a third surgical clinic, a second clinic for skin diseases and a second gynæcological clinic, as well as institutes for orthopædic treatment and balneotherapy, history of medicine, etc.).

Since 1920, the Faculties of Law and Philosophy have been organising two-year courses for students of higher schools who have obtained diplomas and who desire to prepare for the consular and diplomatic service. These courses, which since 1921 have been styled "Czech Schools for the Consular and Diplomatic Service", are held in the High Schools, with the co-operation of experts. Lectures are given on diplomatic history, international and constitutional law, political economy, financial legislation and commercial geography and technics. Special courses for journalists will shortly be arranged in connection with the Charles University.

The Faculties of Law and Philosophy at the Charles University also work in close collaboration with the School of Archives, which is constituted on the model of the *École de Chartes* at Paris, and is primarily intended for Czechoslovak nationals who have finished their first year's course of historical studies at the Faculty of Letters and wish to prepare for service in the State archives, or for historical research in general; they have to pass an entrance examination (written and oral test in Latin, Czechoslovak history, historical geography and the German or Hungarian language) and not more than ten candidates are admitted every other year. Foreign students may be admitted in addition, at the discretion of the Governing Body. The course, consisting of lectures given by professors from the Charles University and by archivists, is spread over three years; the lectures deal principally with history and kindred subjects, especially the history of Czechoslovakia, and follow a definite syllabus. At the end of the first and second years the students take examinations, upon the results of which their admission to the next year's course depends. Third-year students have to write a thesis and pass an examination for the Archivist's Diploma. The four or five students heading the lists in the first- and second-year examinations are entitled to a scholarship of from 1,000 to 2,000 crowns for the following year.

The statistical tables, prepared in the Rector's offices at the Charles University, for the purpose of showing in detail the increase in the number of professors and students, as well as the number of doctor's degrees taken since 1913, afford very interesting information concerning the development of the university. The numbers of the teaching staff, of whom there were 220

before the War (1913-1914) and 224 immediately after the War (1918-1919), rose in 1921-1922 to 268. It should be noted that this increase is due principally to the extension of the Faculty of Philosophy, which in 1913-1914 and 1918-1919 had a staff of 108 masters; the strength of this staff had increased in 1919-1920 to 135, and in 1920-1921, when the Faculty was divided into two separate branches, it included 88 masters in the new Faculty of Philosophy (Letters) and 55 in the Faculty of Science; these figures rose still further to 102 and 59 in 1921-1922. At present, the Faculty of Philosophy, which deals exclusively with literature, is as large as the combined Faculty of Literature and Science before the War. The number of assistants and lecturers collaborating with the Professors of Literature and Science has been nearly doubled.

At the same time, the increase in the number of students has been proportionately even larger than that in the number of professors. This may to some extent be a consequence of the War, which prevented the younger generation from continuing their studies and had thus caused an accumulation of new entries when peace was concluded. The total number of students at the Charles University, which was 4,740 before the War (1913-1914) and 5,852 immediately after the War (1918-1919), rose in 1921-1922 to 8,814; the number of women students increased from 444 to 1,404. With regard to individual faculties, the only decrease was in the number of theological students, which dropped from 144 (1913-1914) to 44 (1918-1919) and to 41 in 1921-1922; in the Faculty of Law, on the other hand, there was a marked increase from 2,154 to 2,322 and again to 3,584; even larger was the increase in the faculty, of Philosophy (including Natural Sciences), which rose from 1,339 to 1,526 and 2,336; while the most striking increase was from 1,003 to 1,960 and 2,853 in the Faculty of Medicine. It should be added that, after the former Faculty of Philosophy was divided, the Faculty of Letters attracted more students than the Faculty of Science (1,502 and 717 in 1920-1921; 1,439 and 897 in 1921-1922). The change is due to the striking fact that the number of women students in the Faculty of Science increased from 159 to 184, while in the Faculty of Letters it decreased from 645 to 483.

With regard to the doctor's degrees, the number of examinations passed and of degrees obtained has increased most markedly in the Faculties of Law (636 examinations and 175 degrees in 1913-1914; 1,204 and 370 in 1920-1921) and Medicine (456 and 103 in 1913-1914 and 1,193 and 408 in 1921-1922). In Theology there has been no marked change. In Philosophy there has been a noticeable increase, though not so large as in Law and Medicine (86 examinations and 48 degrees in 1913-1914; 121 and 54 in 1921-1922), more than a third of which (46 and 20) belong to the new Faculty of Science.

The John Huss Faculty of Protestant Theology, which has asked to be incorporated with the Charles University, has been developing slowly but steadily since its foundation in 1919. In addition to the three ordinary professors who formed the original staff, there are now two supernumerary professors, three unsalaried lecturers (privatdozenten) and three readers. The number of students has increased from 31 to 54. Each of the five departments has its school, and the establishment of a new Chair for the History and Philosophy of Religion is under consideration.

The German University at Prague, which also sent in a detailed reply to the Committee's questionnaire, has not developed to the same extent as the Czech university. The number of its institutes, clinics and schools has been practically stationary since 1913-1914 (64). At that period it was in some respects better equipped than the Czech university, having in 1882 obtained the apparatus belonging to the ancient common university. Since the War, a school for philology has been established and the Faculty of Philosophy (Literature), which has just established Chairs of Comparative Literature (with a school), of German Ethnology and of Czechoslovak History, also proposes to create a Chair of Popular Education, a lectureship on library economy and an institute for the study of the home country (*Heimatsforschung*); the Faculty of Science is contemplating the creation of a Chair of Natural Philosophy and an institute of anthropology. The number of professors and other teachers, which remained practically stationary (about 170) between 1913 and 1921, has recently risen to 186. There has been a large increase in the number of students (from 2,295 in 1913-1914 to 3,539 in 1921-1922); but whereas before the War there were about half as many students as at the Czech university, the present proportion it considerably less (half would be 4,407). As at the Charles University, the largest increase has been

in the Faculty of Medicine, where the number of students and the number of examinations passed have been practically trebled, while there has been a decrease in the numbers at the Faculties of Theology and Law.

As was explained above, the new *University at Brno* was organised as it were in two stages. During the scholastic years 1919-20 and 1920-21 there were only two Faculties, Law and Medicine; in 1921-22, the Faculties of Philosophy and Science were added. Much difficulty was at first experienced in establishing these institutions; however, the Faculty of Medicine, which at the beginning had only seven institutes and clinics, now has 22; while nine schools for the Faculty of Philosophy, and 15 institutes and laboratories for the Faculty of Science have been organised. The Faculty of Law has two schools. The former Moravian library, with its 250,000 volumes, has become the university library and is visited by more than 200,000 readers yearly.

The number of professors has increased rapidly : in 1919-20 there were 9 professors in the Faculty of Law and 9 in the Faculty of Medicine; for 1920-21 the figures rose to 10 and 17 and, at the same time, the first professors for the two other faculties were appointed, bringing the total to 63. At the end of the scholastic year 1921-22, the numbers had already increased to 81, with the addition of 56 assistants. The students, of whom there were only 540 in 1919-20, were divided almost equally between Law and Medicine. Thus, in 1920-21, out of 967 students, 505 were taking law as compared with 453 studying medicine. In 1921-22, there was only a slight increase in the number of law and medical students (556 and 496 respectively), but there were 128 working at the Faculty of Philosophy and 64 at the Faculty of Science, bringing the total to 1,244.

The Faculty of Catholic Theology at Olomouc numbered 12 professors and 91 students during 1921-22.

At Bratislava, the new *Komensky University* used the clinics and medical institutes belonging to the former Hungarian university, as well as its library of 67,700 volumes (now 78,000 volumes and 230 manuscripts). Between 1920 and 1922, additions were made to this library by the systematic purchase of books and even of whole collections. Several new medical institutes and four schools for the Faculty of Philosophy were organised in 1921-22. During the first two years of its existence, there were only 10 medical professors and two readers in the Czech and Slovak languages at the university. In 1921-22, four new masters were appointed to the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculties of Law and Philosophy began work with 7 or 8 professors, thus making a total teaching staff of 31. There were 133 students in 1919-20 and 247 in 1920-21.

The Faculty of Protestant Theology in the same town had 6 professors and 19 students in 1920-21; the *Faculty of Catholic Theology*, which has already appointed several of its professors, has not yet been able to begin work, because the negotiations between the Holy See and the Government concerning the syllabus are not yet concluded, and have been suspended for the time being.

The Academy of Law at Kosice, the library of which contains more than 32,000 volumes, including many ancient Hungarian books, had a staff of 11 professors and readers in 1920-21.

III. — INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

All the universities in Czechoslovakia exchange their publications with the principal universities throughout the world and the individual faculties also effect exchanges with parallel institutions in foreign countries (1). Foreign languages and literature are also taught at all universities in the Republic. At the Czech university in Prague, there are regular chairs for the Slav, French, English and German languages, modern Arabic and the Semitic dialects; Italian, Polish, Lusatian-Serb tongue, Lithuanian, Latvian, Hungarian and Dutch are also taught for speaking purposes; finally, there are courses in the literatures of all these languages—especially Slav, French, English, Italian, German, Arabic and Dutch—and lectures on foreign institutions are given in the Faculty of Law. At the German university in the same city the French, English, Slav (Czech, Polish, Russian and Bulgarian) languages and literature are taught, as well as the principal languages and literatures of the Near East (Turkey, Syria, Arabia, Abyssinia, Persia, etc.) and of India; Spanish, Portuguese, Hungarian and Italian are also taught for speaking purposes. The English, French and German languages and literature are taught at the University of Brno, as well as Slovak, Russian and Italian. With a view to encouraging the study of the French language and civilisation, the French Government, in November 1920, founded the French Institute at Prague, with Professor A. Tibal as Director; at this institute, which since 1921 has been officially styled the "Ernest Denis Institute", public lectures have been organised on the French language, literature, geography, history, etc., as well as private lectures on the French language and practical exercises; the special courses for the Russian students in Prague have also been arranged at this institute. One of the five professors of this institute, M. Alfred Fichelle, former Director of Studies at the University of Lille, was appointed in 1922 to the University of Brno, where he lectures in French history and geography, directs the practical work, and gives explanations of texts. In 1923, the *Istituto di cultura italiana* was founded on a rather different basis; it possesses a library of its own, and its aims are akin to those of the French institute.

Since 1920, numerous foreign professors have gone to Prague to give single lectures or short courses. The following list of these visits was prepared in the Rector's offices at the Charles University :

On October 31st, 1920, Ernest Denis, professor at the Sorbonne, spoke on the relations between France and Czechoslovakia and on events in the history of Czechoslovakia (1 lecture).

On May 18th, 1920, Ant. Meillet, professor at the Collège de France, gave one lecture on grammatical genders. In 1920-21, Professor J. A. James from Evanston lectured on the development of institutions in the United States. In the same year, Professor Francesco Toracca, from the University of Naples, lectured on Dante Alighieri; and M. R. Demogue, professor at the Sorbonne, spoke on the fundamental principles of civil responsibility.

During the summer term of 1921, Professor Arthur I. Andrews, from Tufts College (Boston), lectured at the Faculty of Law on the following subjects : An historical survey of the fundamental policies of the United States; Slavic and American institutions; history of the Slavs from an American standpoint.

(1) For example, the Faculty of Protestant Theology at Prague exchanges its publications with the *Faculté Libre de Théologie Protestante* in Paris and with the *Faculté de Théologie Protestante* at the University of Strasburg, and also with the theological colleges at Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow (of the United Free Church of Scotland), Belfast (Presbyterian Church of Ireland) and Princeton (Presbyterian Church in the United States of America) and with the "Union Theological Seminary" at New York.

On May 17th and 19th, 1922, Dr. Victor Henri, professor at the University of Zurich, lectured on the structure of matter (2 lectures).

On June 22nd, 1922, Professor Vl. Vernadskij, director of the Radiological Institute at the Russian Academy of Science, spoke on : (1) the chemical structure of living matter; (2) Radioactive elements.

Professor Baudouin de Courtenay, of the University of Warsaw, lectured during the whole summer term at the Faculty of Philosophy.

During the same term, Professor Vahan Totomianz lectured at the Faculty of Law on the history, theory and practice of co-operative societies.

On October 7th, 9th, 14th, 1922, Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, Curator of the Department of Physical Anthropology at the National Museum in Washington, spoke on the following subjects : the origin of man; the population of the globe; the origin, past, present and future of the Slavs, and in particular of the Czechs and Slovaks.

On December 6th, 11th and 13th, 1922, Mr. MacCracken, President of Vassar College, New York, gave three lectures at the Faculty of Philosophy on Education for Democracy; organisation of American education; the forces at work in American education.

The great Indian writer, Rabindranath Tagore, also visited the university in 1921 and in May 1923. Sir Harry F. Wilson gave a lecture on the British Empire, under the auspices of the "Imperial Studies Committee of the Royal Colonial Institute".

From information subsequently received from the Charles university, it appears that the following foreign professors also lectured during the scholastic year 1922-23 : E. de Martonne (Sorbonne), A. Munoz (Rome), N. G. Jorga (Bucharest), P. Monroe (Columbia University, New York), G. Knight (Ohio), W. Caldwell (Montreal), Ch. Pergameni (Brussels) and A. Newton (London).

The many Russian and Ukrainian professors who have emigrated to Prague have organised special University lectures in that city.

Several foreign professors, after having visited Prague, gave lectures at the Universities of Brno and Bratislava. For instance, Professor Torraca gave a lecture at Masaryk University on the occasion of the Dante Quincentenary.

Professors at Charles University have naturally given but few lectures abroad on account of the depreciation of the currency, which makes travelling expenses too heavy. The following lectures should, however, be mentioned :

Dr. J. Vajs, Professor at the Faculty of Theology, lectured at the Bibliological Institute in Rome in 1922-23 on the Grammar of Old Slavonic;

Dr. François Drtina, Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy, lectured in Strasburg at the end of April and at the Sorbonne at the beginning of May on the humanitarian ideas of Comenius and on Masaryk, who restored Czech independence.

Dr. Lubor Niederle lectured at the Sorbonne in May 1922 on the evolution of the Czech nation;

Professor Vaclav Tille lectured in 1920-21 at the International University of Brussels on Czech thinkers in many ages and on religion in Czechoslovakia.

The state of the exchange also made it difficult for the University of Prague, and still more so for the provincial universities, to send delegates to university and scientific congresses abroad. The Charles University was, however, represented, in 1920, at the anniversary of the Academy of Medicine in Paris in 1921, at the foundation of the new University Library at Louvain, and at the Congresses on the History of Medicine and on the History of Art at Paris. In 1922, the Czechoslovak universities sent delegates to Padua on the occasion of the 600th anniversary of that university, to the tenth Otological Congress held at Paris, and the second assembly of the International Research Council at Brussels. The three Czechoslovak universities sent their special delegates to the International Congress of Historical Sciences held at Brussels in April 1923, and the Faculty of Medicine at the Charles University sent a representative to the Pasteur Festival in May of the same year.

In conclusion, it should be stated that Professor Tille of Charles University, who also represented the Masaryk University, took part in three sessions (1920, 1921 and 1922) of the International University of Brussels, with which the University of Prague is associated. The Central Federation of Czechoslovak Students forms part of the International Confederation of Students, and has, since its foundation in 1919, taken part in all the congresses held by that Confederation, including the congress of 1921, which was held at Prague; the Czechoslovak Federation of Catholic Students has become affiliated with the "Pax Romana" (International Secretariat of the Catholic Students' Association) at Fribourg.

Exchanges of students or professors between Czechoslovakia and other countries have not yet been systematically organised. Agreements which the Czechoslovak Government is negotiating in respect of the matter with other countries—for example, with Belgium, Poland, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, etc.—will certainly promote the development of such exchanges and will fix the precise conditions upon which courses of study and university degrees in these countries may be recognised as equivalent.

At present there are no special regulations in the Czechoslovak universities for determining this question and a decision has to be made for each particular case. Nationals of foreign States can be admitted as regular students if their preliminary training has, in the opinion of the dean of the faculty in which they desire to become enrolled, been equivalent to that required from Czechoslovak nationals, or if they produce satisfactory diplomas awarded by foreign universities; they can, however, only be admitted to the study of pharmacy if the practical work which they have done and their preliminary examination in pharmacy are recognised as satisfactory by the Ministry of Public Education. With regard to the admission of free students who are not entitled to present themselves for examination, no difference is made between nationals and foreigners.

Formerly, nationals and foreigners paid the same matriculation fees; this fee has now been doubled in the case of foreigners (60 crowns instead of 30). Similarly, the fees charged each term for entry upon the rolls, which until 1922 were 2.10 crowns per hour per week for all students, are at present higher (12 crowns instead of 8) for foreigners, who also have to pay 20 crowns instead of 10 at each entry for the use of the library. Finally, foreigners are as a rule charged double fees for all examinations and awards of degrees. In certain cases deserving of consideration, the fees charged to foreigners may, however, be reduced to the same amounts as those paid by Czechoslovakian nationals.

With regard to admission to examinations, studies pursued at a foreign university are as a rule taken into account. Each law student must, however, be entered on the rolls of a Czechoslovak faculty at least for the term preceding and the two terms following the examination in historical law, which is taken after the third of the eight compulsory terms; similarly, medical students who wish to take the examination for the doctor's degree must keep at least half their terms before and after the first "rigorosum" at a Czechoslovak university. This examination is held after the fourth of the ten compulsory terms. In the case of candidates for the degree of doctor of philosophy (*ès lettres*) or natural science, no difference is made between terms kept in Czechoslovakia or abroad.

Foreign students are particularly numerous at the Czech university in Prague, and have increased rapidly since 1918, whereas before the War (in 1913-14) there were only 27 foreign students and during the War practically none; it is true that at that time there were a certain number of students at the university coming from the non-Czech provinces of the old Austrian Empire (126 in 1913-14), from Hungary (8) and from Bosnia (15). Since the formation of the Czechoslovak State, foreign students who are nationals of the various Slav countries have been coming to the Charles University in large numbers. One-half of the number of foreigners consists of Yugoslavs (240 in 1918-19, 611 in 1919-20, 702 in 1920-21, 705 in 1921-22); next in number are the Ukrainians, who have been especially numerous since the Bolshevik invasion of their country in 1920 (3 in 1918-19, 37 in 1919-20, 233 in 1920-21, 438 in 1921-22), and, since 1921, the Russians (284 in 1921-22), whereas there were but few of them in previous years; the number of Poles, which in 1919-20 had reached a maximum of 106,



fell in 1921-22 to 22, and the number of Bulgars also fell from 101 (1920-21) to 82 (1921-22). With regard to non-Slav races, the Roumanians alone sent a fairly strong contingent (121 in 1921-22). There were 22 Austrian and 27 Hungarian nationals in 1920-21. The total number of foreign students for the four academic years from 1918-19 to 1921-22 was as follows : 349, 815, 1,213 and 1,680. It is interesting to note that the great majority of these foreigners (1,173 in 1921-22) were students in the medical faculty; almost all the Yugoslav and Bulgar students attend that faculty. Since 1921-22, the number of examinations passed by foreign students has been recorded separately : in the Faculty of Medicine this figure is very high (452 examinations and 108 degrees obtained—more than one-third of the total number); in the Faculty of Law there were also a large number of these examinations (95 examinations and 27 degrees), whilst in the Faculties of Philosophy and Science there were very few.

At the German university in Prague there are still, as before the War, about a score of German nationals. The Russians, who were numerous before the War (126 in 1913-14), are now reduced to an insignificant total; the same applies to the Hungarians and Bulgars; the number of Austrians, Poles, Ukrainians and Yugoslavs, of whom there were still a fair number in 1919-20, is also decreasing. At the present time, the Roumanian nationals are the most numerous—more than 60 a term. Just before the War the total number of foreigners was 164, and since 1918 the average total has been upwards of 200 (maximum of 294 in 1920-21).

There are few foreign students at the provincial universities. There were, however, 76 at Brno during the winter of 1921 and 111 during the summer of 1922. The majority of these are Russians and Ukrainians, to whom there must be added a few Yugoslavs and Bulgars.

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