Docent (Senior Lecturer) Lidmila Pantůčková, a distinguished and long-time member of the English Department of the Faculty of Arts, Brno University, is seventy this year. She was born in the South Moravian town of Kyjov in 1923. A year after she finished her secondary studies (1942), her mother's death obliged her to stay at home and help her father keep the family. Later, she worked as a clerk, and it was not until 1946 that her keen interest in English and desire to study led her to the Faculty of Arts in Brno. She finished her studies of English and philosophy in 1950 and until 1991 continued in the English Department, for long years as a Lecturer and from 1990 as Senior Lecturer – a rank corresponding to her actual responsibilities of the preceding twenty years.

Docent Pantůčková's life-long devotion to literary research began with her doctoral thesis on the life and work of George Eliot (defended in 1952), and the 19th century has remained her special area of interest to this day. Between 1957 and 1970 she published numerous articles on W. M. Thackeray (in Sborník práci filozofické fakulty, and Brno Studies in English), among them her Candidate of Science dissertation 'The Aesthetic Views of W. M. Thackeray' (Brno Studies in English, vol. VI., Brno 1966), a work of undoubtable value to literary scholarship as the theme had not been systematically studied previously.

The decade of extensive inquiry into Thackeray's work culminated in the comprehensive monograph W. M. Thackeray as a Critic of Literature [Brno Studies in English, vol. X and XI, Brno 1972). This valuable contribution to Thackerayan studies covered the wide-ranging body of Thackeray's critical writing, re-examined his critical beliefs and their development and convincingly demonstrated their principles with the help of then newly available materials in the identification of which doc. Pantůčková herself played a part. She was the first to analyse and assess Thackeray's literary criticism to its full extent and her effort received due appreciation in specialized journals (Review of English Studies, August 1973, Notes and Queries, October 1975, The Thackeray Newsletter, May 1976), being referred to in Études anglaises (March 1973) as a 'huge endeavour deserving boundless admiration'. The monograph was listed in British and American annual bibliographies and the Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature.

As a recognized authority on Thackeray doc. Pantůčková was invited to contribute
to a special 1981 Thackeray Number of the American journal Studies in the Novel (published by the State University of North Texas), where her article Thackeray in Czechoslovakia (With a Glance at Other Slavonic Countries) as well as all her previous work on Thackeray was highly commended by the editor Professor Robert A. Colby.

Apart from the results of her painstaking Thackerayean research, doc. Pantůčková published many reviews, reports, birthday tributes, obituaries and bibliographies of Brno Anglicists and, in cooperation with colleagues, textbooks of English literature for university students.

In recent years doc. Pantůčková’s research interests have turned to the comparative study of the relationships between Czech and English and American prose in the 19th century. The results of this demanding and truly pioneering work, as doc. Pantůčková is the only scholar currently engaged in this field, were presented in several articles, notably British and American Literature in Jan Neruda’s Magazine Pictures of Life (Obrazy života) in Brno Studies in English, vol. 19 and in papers at English conferences in Brno in 1986 and 1989. Untiring, doc. Pantůčková is now preparing a paper on her comparative study in progress concerning the Family Chronicle (Rodinná kronika) edited by Jan Neruda.

Besides scholarly work, much of doc. Pantůčková’s energy was devoted to teaching. Over the years, her courses included practical English, introduction to literary studies, the theory of literature, the history of the literatures of the United States and of other countries and above all the history of English literature from its oldest period to the 1870s. At the beginning of her career, she spent ten years as administrative deputy-head of her department, and later did very much organizational work there as well, the student and teacher exchange with the University of Leeds being one of her diverse responsibilities. For years, she supervised final year dissertations and she goes on supervising doctoral theses and working as a member of committees awarding senior academic titles.

Though retired now, doc. Pantůčková is as busy as ever, helping her faculty by her experience, vast knowledge, and authority, and working on her new research projects with the humbleness and modesty of a true scholar. She is also a loving mother and grandmother and a devoted wife. All her work as well as her wisdom, honesty and kindness have won her the deep respect of generations of students and colleagues. On behalf of all of them and in particular of the members of the Brno English Department we would like to express our gratitude and admiration to Docent Pantůčková and extend our best wishes on the occasion of her 70th birthday.

Milada Franková and Iva Gilbertová
BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE PUBLISHED WORK OF
DOC. PHDR. LIDMILA PANTŮČKOVÁ, CSC.

Abbreviations: BSE Brno Studies in English, ČMF Casepis pro moderní filologii, PP Philologica Pragensia, SPFFBU Sborník prací filozofické fakulty brněnské univerzity, U Universitas

MONOGRAPH


ARTICLES


The Newgate School of Romance and its Place in the English Literature of the Eighteen-Thirties. BSE 1. 1959. 103-17.


Několik poznámek k Nerudově vzrůstu k Shakespearovi [Some Notes on Neruda’s Relationship to Shakespeare]. Jubilejní ročenka Kruhu moderních filologů při ČSAV, Prague 1986. 54-8.


BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES AND OBITUARIES


BIBLIOGRAPHY OF THE PUBLISHED WORK OF DOC. PHDR. LIDMILA PANTŮČKOVÁ, CSC.

Associate Professor (Docent) Jessie Kocmanová, M. A., PhD, CSc.: A Seventieth Birthday Tribute, BSE 16, 1985, 163-6.
In Memoriam: Associate Professor Jessie Kocmanová, PP 29, 1986, 95-6.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES
Soupis prací univ. prof. dr. Karla Stěpaníka, DrSc. [Bibliography of the Work of Prof. dr. Karel Stěpaník, DrSc.], ČMF 50, 1968, 164-6.
Bibliography of the Published Work of Jessie Kocmanová, PhD, CSc., PP 17, 1974, 213-5.
Bibliography of Professor František Chudoba’s Works (with Jana Mikulášková), BSE 14, 1981, 95-105.
Addenda to the Bibliography of Professor František Chudoba’s Works [Published in Brno Studies in English, vol. XIV], BSE 15, 1983, 137.
Bibliography of the Published Work of Jessie Kocmanová, M. A., PhD, CSc., BSE 16, 1985, 167-70.

REVIEWS AND ESSAYS
Nový pokus o hodnocení Thackerayo na Západě [A New Attempt at Assessment of Thackeray in the West], CMF 38, 1956, 301-5.

REPORTS
Cooperation in reports on linguistic and literary research carried out in the Department of West-European Philology and Phonetics, SPFFBU A3 and D2, 1955, 102-8, 186-90.
Návštěva z Polska [A Visit from Poland], SPFFBU D6, 1959, 141.
Návštěva z Velké Británie [A Visit from Great Britain], SPFFBU D25/26, 1978-79, 163.

LECTURE NOTES
English Literature from Chartism to Fabianism, part II. (with Jessie Kocmanová). SPN, Prague, 1960, 169 pp.
The publication of the twentieth volume of *Brno Studies in English* is an event that should not perhaps pass quite unnoticed and it would be sheer ingratitude not to recall the name of Professor Josef Vachek on this occasion. The first volume of *BSE* appeared at a time when English studies were not exactly in the good books of the authorities. Nevertheless, thanks to the initiative of Professor Vachek and the support of the Editorial Board of the Brno Faculty of Arts (Faculty of Philosophy, as the literal translation of the official name runs), the first volume of *BSE* appeared in 1959.

The idea of founding a series devoted to English studies had been suggested to Professor Vachek by the existence of the series *Prague Studies in English*. In its turn *BSE* served as a model for two other series now published by the Brno Faculty of Arts: *Brünner Beiträge zur Germanistik und Nordistik* and *Etudes Romanes de Brno*.

In principle, *BSE* is open only to present and former members of the Brno Department of English and American Studies. Exceptionally, invitations have been extended to scholars closely linked with the Department in regard to the departmental research programmes, and on special occasions even to other scholars. One such occasion was the preparation of the homage volume in honour of Professor Vachek's sixtieth birthday (*BSE* 8), another that of the homage volume in honour of the sixtieth birthday of Docent Josef Hladky (*BSE 19*). The Vachek hommage volume was truly international in character. In addition to contributions by Czechs and Slovaks, it contained contributions by Marian Adamus, Olga Akhmanova, Rolf Berndt, E. J. Dobson, D. B. Fry, M. A. K. Halliday, Klaus Hansen, Boris Ilyish, Gustav Kirchner, W. R. Lee, Simeon Potter, Margaret Schlauch and C. L. Wrenn, a veritable galaxy of scholars indeed. The Hladky homage volume brought contributions from the English Departments of the Czech and the Slovak Faculties of Art (Prague, Brno and Olomouc; and Bratislava and Prešov).

*Habent sua fata libelli*. This is well instanced by the Vachek homage volume. In this connection, special mention should be made of two contributions published in it: those of Professor Gustav Kirchner and Dr Svatopluk Stech. The two scholars showed their esteem towards Professor Vachek by writing their papers under circumstances requiring the utmost self-denial and courage. In spite of rapidly failing health they spared no pains in working at the papers against time. They succeeded in submitting them, but did not live to
TWENTY VOLUMES OF BRNO STUDIES IN ENGLISH AND PROFESSOR JOSEF VACHEK

see their publication. Dr Stech's contribution to the Vachek homage volume is also the photograph of Professor Vachek facing the title page. It was taken in the researchers' reading room in the Brno University Library in the early sixties.

As the volume also contained contributions by scholars who stayed abroad as émigrés after the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968, it was blacklisted in the days of 'normalization' and the copies of it that were still in print were ordered to be shredded. Thanks to the bravery of Dr Libor Štukavec, Chief Librarian of the Brno Faculty of Arts, and two of his collaborators, Mrs Iva Mandelíková and Mrs Marie Skarková, this order was not complied with. When after some years the book was taken off the blacklist, they were able to continue its distribution. It is now out of print.

Professor Vachek himself has contributed a number of studies to BSE. They are the following:

(1) 1959. Two chapters on written English. BSE 1. 7-38.
(2) 1961. Some less familiar features of the analytical trend in English. BSE 3. 9-78.
(3) 1964. On peripheral phonemes of Modern English. BSE 4. 7 to 100.
(8) 1989. Professor Josef Vachek - founder of the linguistics section of the English Department of Masaryk University. BSE 18. 109-11.

The appearance of the twentieth volume of BSE almost coincides with Professor Vachek's eighty-fifth birthday (1 March 1994). The members of the Department of English and American Studies of the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University, join all the colleagues who congratulate Professor Vachek on his achievements in the fields of English, Czech and general linguistics, express their gratitude to him and extend to him their heartfelt wishes for all his further work and for him personally.

Jan Firbas