VINCENT HLAVINKA AND HIS SIGNIFICANCE FOR CROATIAN GEODESY AND CZECHOSLOVAK-CROATIAN RELATIONSHIPS

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Vincenc Hlavinka (1862–1934)

- He was born in Vincencov by Prostejov
- Studies:
  - secondary school in Prostejov
  - cultural engineering at High School of Soil Culture in Vienna and University of Technology

1887-1888: an enginner at Agricultural Council in Prague
1889 - he left for Croatia (for 23 years)
First activities in Croatia

- State government in Zagreb - planning soil improvement works in flood areas (Gacka river, Vinkovci, Županja and Mitrovica)
- designing strategies for drainage of huge marshy lands
- designing water tanks for the town
- work on use of water power of Sava river
- work on construction of Gospić water supply line
- management of currents in the area of Senj
In 1896 - VH was appointed a permanent state official and moved to the County of Bjelovar and Križevci

- his main focus: regulation of Glogovnica river
- A member of Association of Engineers and Architects in Croatia and Slavonia (since 1891)

In 1903: VH was assigned a task to propose the establishment of High Technical School in Zagreb

In 1899: VH was appointed a professor of geodesy and engineering sciences at the Economical-Forestry School in Križevci

- The head of the Forestry-Geodetic Office (1900-1911)
- The dean of the Economical-Forestry School in 1910/1911
- The head of the Committee for State exams in Geodetic Course (1911)
Educational activities in Croatia

- Geodesy, Civil Engineering and Cultural Technique
- Lectures:
  - Geodesy (1899-1911)
  - Forest Plan Drawing (1899-1911)
  - Technical Mechanics (1899-1900)
  - General (Forestry) Civil Engineering (1900-1912)
  - Wharf and Dam Construction (1900-1909)
  - Flood Regulation (1900-1903)
  - Forestry Transport (1909-1912)

In 1908 - the special Geodetic Course at Forestry Academy

(the lectures supplemented by student’s practical work, e.g. construction of roads in forests of Ogulin region and construction of foret railway Staro Petrovo Sel-Tisovac-Babja gora in Gradiška region).
RETURN TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

professor of soil improvement works, water engineering and canalization systems in Brno
dejan of the cultural engineering department (In 1912/1913)
dejan of the civil engineering department (1915/1916)
leader of the civil engineering department (1929/1930)
rector for academic year 1919/1920
THE PROJECTS

- a canalization plan for Třebíč
- a water supply design in Ostrava
- an industrial water supply design for the factory Baťa in Zlín
- A construction of water supply for Radhoště hotel
- a waste water treatment plant systems from sugar refineries, leather factory Budišovka or Baťa’s factory
- Establishing a high standard institute at his cultural engineering department
Agramer Zeitung

Croatian journals: Vijesti Društva inžinira i arhitektah, Šumarski list, Jutarnji list, Hrvatska, Pokret, Ustavnost, Obzor

Czech journals: Technický obzor (Prague), Věstník pro vodní hospodářství (Prague-Pardubice), Věstník Československé akademie zemědělské (Prague), newspapers: Venkov, Lidové noviny

In 1905–1910: editing Vijesti Hrvatskog društva inžinira i architekta

in 1903: participating in publishing a book for the 25th anniversary of the Society of Engineers and Architects in Croatia and Slavonia
The publications

- **NAUKA O MELIORACÍCH, ÚPRAVÁCH TOKŮ A HRAZENÍ BYSTŘIN** (1927-1928, the three volume literary work)

- **VODÁRENSTVÍ, STOKOVÁNÍ MĚST A ČIŠTĚNÍ ODPADNÍCH VOD**
- After returning to Brno, he was:
  - the president of the Committee for Cultural and Civil Engineering
  - a member of the city council for eight years
  - a member of the National-Economic and Water-Economic Federation or
  - a member of the Federation for Protection of Nature and Homeland of Moravian-Silesian region.
  - the founder of associations such as Academic Mensa, Moravian-Silesian Committee for Nature Conservation
  - an editor of Technicky obzor SIA;
  - a member of Masaryk Work Academy, Czechoslovak Agricultural Academy, Jugoslavija Committee;
  - the founder and president of the Czechoslovak-South Slavic League.
The tradition of Czechoslovak-Croatian relations

- 886: the Methodius students came to Dalmatian Croatia from Great Moravia
- The Czechs and the Croats together inside the Habsburg Monarchy for centuries
- 19th and 20th century:
  - Personal contacts at agricultural, ethnographic and art exhibitions
  - Tourist visits, anniversaries celebrations
  - Sokol festivals, students and other congresses
  - The Czech colonizaton of Slavonic rural areas (officers, craftsmen, technical experts, teachers, musicians, ...)
  - Establishing and running tourist accommodation at Croatian Adriatic seaside
  - Host programmes of the Czech and Croatian artists
  - Czech financial institutions, the business and the Czech capital
- 1918: newly created states – SHS Kingdom and Czechoslovakia
- 1920: the constitution of the Little Entente
Tomáš Garrique Masaryk and his significant authority in Croatia
Czech capital and investments - strong position in Croatia
The Czechs focused on establishing the coastal resorts
The tradition of Sokol festivals
Czech professors at Croatian universities
The Czech literature and theare in Croatia
1919 - the Southslavic Committee in Prague - intensification of the Czechoslovak-Yugoslavian relations by non-political means
the system of divisions in majority of big cities

Support by the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education

Promoting contacts between the nations and their states

In practice: public enlightenment (language courses, founding of the libraries), cultural activities (exhibitions, excursions, movie screening), the Adriatic seaside tourism expansion

Journal publishing: *Czechoslovak-South Slavic League* in 1920’s, *Czechoslovak-South Slavic Revue* in 1930s
South Slavic-Czechoslovak leagues in Yugoslavia

An unknown organisation in SHS Kingdom for a long time

Problem: the internal policy in post-war period (mainly caused by the fight between different groups of Yugoslavian elites and opposition of the Croatian and Slovenian political parties against the centralist policy of the Serbian parties)

Establishment: firstly in Slovenia - Ljubljana, Maribor and Celje (1921), in 1922 in Belgrad

1925: the leagues unified into the Union of the South Slavic-Czechoslovak Leagues

Croatia: 1926 Crikvenica, 1927 Zagreb and Split

The membership: the Czechs and Slovaks in Yugoslavia and bigger representation of intelligentsia
Particiation in founding of this League in Brno

He was respected as a university professor - first president of the League in Brno

Supervising all associational sections

Organizing individual and group excursions from Yugoslavia

Promoting South-Slavic minorities in Italy (proclamation, a special letter to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Prague)

Important role in connections between the division in Brno and the Croatians living in southern Moravia (Frelichov, Dobré Pole nad Nový Přerov)

Contribution to the establishment of the South-Slavic Campus in Srbska street in Brno
The significant features in Brno

- In Brno - „pro-Croatian“ orientation (despite the centralization effort from Prague, the official picture of the Southslavs and Yugoslavia in Czechoslovakia - pro-Serbian oriented picture)

- Supporting Croatian minority in Moravia

- Preferring translations of Croatian authors and production of Croatian drama in Provincial Theatre in Brno

- Plenty of contacts with the League in Zagreb and Crikvenica

- Organizing tours to the Adriatic Sea

- Students exchange oriented to Croatian areas

- Important role of Vincenc Hlavinka - his personal contacts in Croatia an his life there
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