

ABSTRACT

The aim of this diploma thesis is to scrutinize the story of life of Eleonora Mendlova, the wife of Bedrich Mendl, the first professor of economic history at Charles University. The thesis enables the reader to give a closer look at the Mendl family who, undoubtedly, belongs to the cultural elites of the Czechoslovakia. With the analysis of the extant sources, it is providing a thorough image of the life of Eleonora Mendlova and her family at the background of the dramatic events of the last century.

Eleonora Mendlova, born Mrackova, started her study career at the private comprehensive school Minerva and then she continued with her study at the Faculty of Philosophy at the Charles University which she did not finish. She got married to Bedrich Mendl who worked for the National Regional Institute. His work required visiting various Czech and European archives. Thanks to the travels, we can follow the story of life of a woman in the shade of a big man during the unsettled political situation. The life of Eleonora Mendl was marked considerably by the both World Wars, especially by the death of her husband during the period the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia because of his Jewish origin. She spent her old age living with her three children. She participated greatly on the publication of the unfinished work of Bedrich Mendl.

KEYWORDS

Eleonora Mandlova, Bedrich Mendl, the history of a woman, family correspondence, the history of the everydayness, the Czech cultural elites