

The topic of my thesis is "The Personality of Karel Engliš as seen by his contemporaries". Only marginally have I touched upon the subject of Engliš's scientific work and economist activities, because I think that they deserve an individual attention, and I have focused primarily on the introduction of Karel Engliš through the eyes of his friends, colleagues and family.

Karel Engliš was an important Czech economist. Although he came from poor circumstances, he worked his way up to the top of the society in the period of the First republic. He was born on August 17, 1880 in Hrabyň, a small village near Opava. After graduating from Opava's grammar school he continued his studies at The Faculty of Law at Charles University. During his studies he had to support himself. It was probably the difficult conditions for his studies (actually as well as for the initiation of his "adult" life) which made him a very hard working and persistent person, who followed perseveringly his goal regardless of personal sacrifice. A large number of important roles, which he was successfully performing, is the testimony of it: Minister of Finance, a governor of ČNB, a dean and rector of the Masaryk's university in Brno. His teaching activities and scientific work at Prague's and Brno's universities frame an important part of his life. Engliš became also involved in several events of social importance. He participated in the establishment of Masaryk's university in Brno. He was the initiator of the transfer of Karel Hynek Mácha's relics from Litoměřice to Prague. But his most important contribution was to the state economy, first of all his insistent effort to stabilise Czechoslovak currency.