

Abstract

Transformations of Kladno in the Period of Industrialization and the Great Depression

Key words: Kladno region, industrialization, The Great Depression, Poldi Hut, Kablo, railways, coal mines, historical geography, industrial landscape

This bachelor thesis deals with the transformation of Kladno region since the second half of the 19th century to present. The main objective of this work is to evaluate the extent to which the Great Depression has affected the development of the mining and metallurgical center in Central Bohemia, the territory of Kladno region and society in this area. For this reason, much of the work is devoted to the development of the area from the second half of the 19th century to the economic crisis. The Kladno region has developed and expanded rapidly to the surrounding landscape, as it has become dominantly industrial due to social changes due to its originally agricultural area.

The economic crisis manifested itself in the Kladno region in 1932. The settlements ceased to penetrate the surrounding landscape and support the families of the unemployed from urban budgets. However, there was a problem with insufficient infrastructure and social care in front of Kladno municipalities.

The economic recovery helped to prepare for the next world war. The Kladno industry began to employ more and more unemployed people and was slowly getting into shape before the crisis. During World War II, Kladno became an important industrial center that wanted the Nazi leadership of the district to transform into a representative site of the local NSDAP cell. The occupation administration attached to the town of Kladno its closest surroundings and created the so-called “Velké Kladno” – The Big Kladno, which after the war broke down into the original villages, but as early as 1948 it was once again united into one whole and lasted until today.