

## **Application of the Decrees of the President of the Republic in the Semily District**

Existing legal history literature deals, to a considerable extent and in general terms, with the questions of decretal rule-making. On the other hand, it only marginally deals with the practical application of these regulations under specific time and local conditions. One of the most severe regulations of this historical stage of Czechoslovak law was Decree No. 108/1945 Coll. on the confiscation of enemy property. The aim of this work is to describe and analyse the application of this regulation. The description of the practical enforcement of confiscation under this Decree on the example of the municipality of Rokytnice nad Jizerou and its vicinity settled by Germans is to reveal the course and extent to which the practice of the national committees observed the then valid confiscation law.

Firstly, it was necessary to focus more extensively on the applied Decree *de lege lata*. Hence, the first part of the work on the above subject provides a summary of brief regulations which apply to property relations and deals in greater detail with the legislative preparations of Decree No. 108/1945 Coll., its scope of powers and interpretation. The second part of the work directs attention to the characteristic features of confiscation in terms of procedure. One of the objectives of the work was also to demonstrate, using individual cases of confiscation in terms of procedural and substantive law, the conditions in which confiscation decisions impacted on specific groups of people affected by the Confiscation Decree. Such groups were German-speaking Jews, German anti-fascists and others.

Knowledge for the first part of the work was drawn from secondary literature to decretal rule-making and contemporary internal manuals of the ministry of interior. The more practically focused second part is the result of work in archives and research of individual files.

The output of the above-described research is several fundamental findings. Among the most serious are the illegal and often unprofessional decision-making of the national committees in individual causes and the marked politicization of their activities already apparent in the first post-war months.