

Abstract

Rudolf Jedlička belongs to the most important Czech doctors of the beginning of the 20th century. After finishing his studies he engaged, under the influence of his favourite professor Karel Maydl, in surgery. Nevertheless he was very soon interested in X-ray science and radiology - the science branches, which were just newly being formed, and whose pioneer in the central Europe he became. Jedlička was often consulted as a diagnostic and operator thanks to his many-sided medical skills. He connected his life with the Faculty of Medicine of the Czech Charles-Ferdinand University, respectively Charles University, where he was engaged as an educationalist - creator of so called Jedlička school, which became bearer of his medical heritage. He reached the top of his career in 1921, when he was designated as regular professor of surgery and simultaneously head of the II. Clinic of Surgery. Rudolf Jedlička did not limit his activities only to medical theory and practice, but he was also initiator and organizer of many medical and social projects, the most important of which was the foundation of Prague sanatorium and neighbouring Jedlička foundation. Prague sanatorium was opened in May 1914 as a general hospital covering all specializations except of infectious and mental illnesses. The sanatorium arrived at the greatest prosperity during the period of the first republic – that time the II. Clinic of Surgery and the II. Clinic of Gynaecology were here established. Jedlička foundation was constituted in April 1913, when it began to admit the first disciples – physically crippled, but mentally normal children. The purpose of the existence of this foundation consisted in treatment and at the same time in professional education of the handicapped children with the aim to facilitate their involvement in job market.