

Abstract

The thesis intends to show, using the specific example of Jan and Anna Podlipný, a typical Prague family active in public life on the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. Both the public activities and the private lives of the married couple are described. The thesis introduces the family of both Podlipnýs, particular focus being on the free time activities of the family members; home theatre is of special importance in this context. The core of the thesis is a discussion of the public activities of Jan and Anna Podlipný. Public life of Jan Podlipný is divided in his work for the Prague administration and in various interest groups. Emphasis is placed on years 1897–1900 when he was the mayor of Prague; the thesis also partially discusses his work as a lawyer and a member of the Young Czech Party. Podlipný is also introduced as a member of the Sokol union, the first head of the Czech Sokol Community and a member of the Society for the Construction of a Monument of Master Jan Hus. Podlipný's efforts in the cooperation between Sokol and the Union of French Gymnasts are also mentioned, and briefly also the other organisations he was active in. Anna Podlipná is introduced primarily as a wife and a mother. Emphasis is placed on her activities in the Domácnost' (Household) and České srdce (Czech Heart) societies, and her role in the founding and management of the First Czech Boarding School for Girls in Prague. The thesis shows the two different spheres of public activity of Jan and Anna Podlipný, but also points out how the husband and wife supported each other in their efforts.