

Abstract

The thesis *Dr. Jan Herben – Journalist and Politician (1857-1936)* maps the life of this distinguished journalist and politician of the late 19th and early 20th centuries from his studies till the end of his professional career. It is based on literature about Jan Herben or about the period of turn of the century, on periodicals of that time, and archive materials found in the Museum of Czech Literature in Prague and in Herben's summer house in Hostišov. It focuses mainly on the period of publishing the *Čas* periodical which under Dr. Jan Herben became the main daily of the Realist Party of Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, on affairs linked to the publication of *Čas*, including the disputes over the authenticity of two ostensible early medieval Czech manuscripts, a wave of protests following publication of the first editorial *Our Two Questions* by Hubert Gordon Shauer, the Hilsner affair, or Dr. Jan Herben's accusation of embezzlement of funds collected for orphans in the town of Most. The thesis also briefly describes Herben's post-war journalistic career in *Lidové noviny* daily, in the humour weekly *Nebojsa* and in *Národní práce* daily, his career as a writer as well as a politician, MP and Senator. The introduction describes the period in which Dr. Herben lived and worked, the media situation and media legislation of that period together with characteristics of political parties in which Dr. Herben was active.