

Abstract

This bachelor thesis is a case study and its main aim is to analyse the entrepreneurial activities of a German entrepreneur and the so called “king of the railways” Bethel Henry Strousberg in the Zbiroh region. Strousberg bought the manor farm estate Zbiroh in 1868. He intended to build a large railroad centre in this area which would later be called “Czech Manchester.” His ambitious business activities (refurbishment of already existing factories and building of new ones, railways construction) collapsed during the depression of the 1870’s. This thesis deals not only with the basics of the entrepreneurship and its development but predominantly with the causes of its fall. Standard methods of business history and regional history were used to write this thesis.

Key words

Strousberg, railway, iron industry, entrepreneur, entrepreneurship, Zbirožsko, manor farm estate Zbiroh, gründerzeit, Great Depression