

Abstract

The research into the student hall of residence founded in 1907 thanks to the impulse, plans, personal effort, and mainly to the large donation of Josef Hlávka has so far left out the fact that there was a long tradition of student halls of residence in Prague and elsewhere beforehand. The author of the thesis attempts to prove that some aspects of Hlávka's project, particularly its charitable and nationalist motivations, existed much earlier. However, unlike other charity institutions of this kind, Josef Hlávka aimed to provide talented and hard-working but evincibly underfunded Czech students with education in foreign languages and with additional education in upper class etiquette including fencing lessons. What may have been support to Czech students and enhancement of their opportunities came to be, after the foundation of Czechoslovakia in 1918, an old-fashioned and outlived part of education of new academic juveniles.