

ABSTRACT

This thesis focuses on the relationships between Czechs and Germans in České Budějovice during the second half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. The main emphasis is on the influence the church had on the relationships between the two nations in the time and place mentioned above, as they were described in the collected sources and historic literature. This thesis concentrates mainly on these topics: religious life, community life and education. The conclusion of my work is the discovery that the church and the individual congregations did not participate in the national struggle in the town. They only tried to work to the benefit of the town and its citizens. In case they set up organizations such as schools, clubs, hospitals, it was because they were missing in the town or because they did not exist in sufficient numbers for the ever-evolving town of České Budějovice. It did not matter whether it was a school for Czech or German children, for example. Also, the nationality of the members of the church and congregations themselves was not necessarily decisive. Although the knowledge of both Czech and German language in the town was an important prerequisite. More significant problems arose only with the Redemptorist college, which became unintentionally by the congregation a part of the national rivalry in the town. The coexistence of the Czech and German inhabitants of the town ended with the expulsion of Germans from the Czech lands.