

Abstract

The aim of the dissertation is to understand the formation and development of the market for construction materials (cement, lime and bricks) in Cisleithania and Czechoslovakia. Emphasis is placed on market trends (changes in consumer habits, new technologies), market monopolisation, state interventionism and institutional changes in business activities (capital inputs of the banking sector and the spread of capital companies). The dissertation concentrates on the basic market conditions and market structure, as well as the strategies of the market players. The market performance (the impacts of the construction materials industry on the Cisleithanian and Czechoslovak economies) is also included. The research is limited by the period of the so-called Great Depression (construction materials began to be produced on the industrial basis) and the turn of 1938/1939, marking the instrumentalization of the Czech lands in favor of the German economy. The dissertation is based on methods of industrial economics (Structure-Conduct-Performance paradigm), economics, economic geography and traditional methodology of economic history (especially business history, hermeneutic and statistical method).