

Zsilinczar, W.

ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS STUDIES - A NEW APPROACH TOWARDS THE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN AUSTRIA

The increasing concern about local, national, and global environmental conditions in the late sixties, which had affected especially young people in the USA, in Western and Central Europe, most of them students and the "intelligency", had its consequences - after a certain time - lag - also at the universities.

The first initiatives towards environmental education were made at institutes of technology, where a 4-semester postgraduate course "Technical Protection of the Environment" had been installed. The study concentrates upon two optional fields of interest: 1) air and noise protection and 2) water pollution and waste control. Great emphasis is laid on practical experience.

At the traditional university level the internal discussion had prevented the institutionalisation of special environmental education as long as winter 1990 when an irregular study of "Environmental Systems Studies" with a duration of 10 semesters started. Although it was planned at the beginning that the access to this new study should be opened to all disciplines of the faculty of natural sciences it was finally reduced to students in the fields of geography, physics, chemistry, political economy and business studies.

The "studium irregulare" is going to be completely restructured, although no definite concepts have been presented so far.

Kunc, J.

THE REGIONALLY GEOGRAPHICAL VIEW OF LABOUR MARKET IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

At the beginning of the 90s, the Czech Republic once again met with the phenomenon of unemployment and with the term of labour market since they did not exist in this country in the form conforming to market economy more than forty years. The article starts with a brief commentary to the course of years of transformation, to the most significant changes and oscillations occurring on the Czech labour market. Attention is also paid to some aspects resulting as a rule in labour market imbalance, whose impacts and spread are to a greater or lesser extent influenced by regional differentiations. The author wished to reveal and study these aspects, to point out the related problems and to attempt at a deduction of possible future consequences.

Demek, J. - Kopecký, J.

MT. KRÁLICKÝ SNĚŽNÍK (CZECH REPUBLIC): LANDFORMS AND PROBLEM OF PLEISTOCENE GLACIATION

Mt. Králický Sněžník (Polish Snieznik, 1423.7 m a.s.l.) is situated at the frontier between the Czech Republic and Poland. The Czech part of the mountain takes up 76 square km. Up to 1990 the knowledge of denudation chronology of the mountain group was very limited. In the last ten years new data about the geological and geomorphologic situation in the given territory were collected by both - the Czech and Polish parties (Jahn - Kozłowski - Pulina, eds. 1996; Gawlikowska - Opletal eds., 1997; Demek - Kopecký, 1997). Mt. Králický Sněžník was a prominent mountain group already in the Neogene Period. In the Pleistocene Period reached European Continental Glaciers at least twice the northern foot of the mountain group. It is therefore rather surprising, that no glacial erosion forms were found in the mountain group. On the other side, deposits were found in the Czech part, which can be classified as deposits of glacial complex. This is why the authors propose a hypothesis of the presence of cold-based Pleistocene glaciers in the mountain group of Mt. Králický Sněžník.

Musil, R.

CHANGES IN THE LONGITUDINAL AND TRANSVERSAL SECTIONS OF THE LOESS WREATH AT MODŘICE NEAR BRNO

Dedicated to the memory of the first specialist dealing systematically with the study of loess deposits and their stratigraphy in Czechoslovakia, Prof. RNDr. Ing. Josef Pelíšek, DrSc., from whose birth ninety years will elapse in 1999.

In studying the loess deposits stratigraphic conclusions are drawn from the present beds of loesses and fossil soils so as if the described section expressed all climatic oscillations of the given time. It is often forgotten that the described section need not at all be complete, that in the longitudinal and the transversal directions of the loess drift considerably great changes can occur, not to speak of sedimentation hiatuses and that the inclusion of beds present at that time into the employed stratigraphic scheme can be erroneous. A document thereof is the exposition of the brickworks at

Modřice, several km south of Brno (Moravia, Czech Republic). The brickworks at Modřice is one of the few loess expositions, if not the only one in this country, at which it is possible to document changes both in the fossil soil horizons and in the loess beds, and in their number, as they were recorded by J. Pelíšek in the years 1941-1967. The brickworks is founded in the loess wreath and the respective changes were documented on the one hand in the face haulage wall, i.e. in the direction into the slope (transversal sections through the loess cover), on the other hand perpendicular to this direction (the northern and the southern walls of the brickworks in W-E direction, i.e. the longitudinal sections through the cover). This paper is above all based on the rich documentation of the late Prof. J. Pelíšek which is now kept in the archives of the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno. The long-term documentation of the loess exposition at Modřice shows how deceitful the stratigraphic evaluation can be for only a short space of time. The number and a different development of beds of soil horizon as well as the imperceptible coalescence of time different layers of loesses into one bed need not be any exception also at other expositions.

Munzar, J.

HISTORICAL FLOODS IN BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE YEAR 1598

It became quite evident after the disastrous floods in Moravia, Silesia and eastern Bohemia in July 1997 that there is no relevant information available for the territory of Moravia (unlike for Bohemia) that would facilitate a comparison with historical cases occurring before the year 1900. Therefore, the extent and number of floods in the whole territory of the Czech Republic is assessed on the example of the year 1598. The year was characterized by two flood periods in both Bohemia and Moravia: the spring period resulting from the rapid snow thaw (12th-3th March) and the summer period resulting from August rainstorms.

However, there were additional floods in Moravia in the autumn 1598, during the rainy period that started before 21st September and lasted until 28th October with minor breaks in between. Chronicles in Brno mention drownings in the overflowing Svatka River on 1st November. And there is a total of 5 floods registered in the Brno surroundings from January to 5th November, 1598, the annual balance in the catchment of the Dyje (Thaya) River being 6 floods for this year.

Causes, course and consequences of these floods that occurred 400 years ago are discussed as related to newly discovered sources and their regional occurrence is being compared with analogical data from Poland, Germany and Austria.

REPORTS

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Nováček, V.: 150 YEARS OF GAS MANUFACTURE IN SOUTHERN MORAVIA

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REVIEW

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