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Jerczyński, Dariusz. *Józef Koźdoń (1873-1949): przywódca Śląskiej Partii Ludowej, a kwestia narodowości śląskiej na Śląsku Cieszyńskim i Opawskim w XIX i XX stuleciu (Josef Koźdoń (1873-1949): The Leader of the Silesian People's Party, and the Question of the Silesian Nationality in Teschen Silesia and Troppau Silesia during the 19th and 20th Centuries)*, Zabrze: Narodowa Oficyna Śląska, 2011, p. 290, ISBN 978-83-60540-08-4.

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From the Editor

Hugh L. Agnew

Volume 27, No. 1 (Fall 2013) of *Kosmas* is finally ready to view the light of day, after many delays that have tried the patience of contributors and subscribers alike. I can only apologize, thank all concerned for their support, and promise to continue on the track of bringing the publication schedule of *Kosmas* back into harmony with the actual solar calendar. With that end in view, I am delighted to announce that the editorial team of the journal has been expanded by the welcome addition of Professor Thomas Fudge, University of New England (Australia) to the position of Associate Editor, and of Professor Peter Steiner, University of Pennsylvania, to the post of subscription editor. I am grateful to both these colleagues for their interest in the journal and their willingness to devote time and energy to the task of shepherding it through continued publication. With the supervision of Professor Fudge, plans are underway to mark the six hundredth anniversary of the death of Jan Hus with a special volume of *Kosmas* in 2015. With the many other anniversaries coming around the calendar in this and subsequent years, we expect to have contributions linking up with many significant moments in Czech, Slovak and Central European experience.

The present volume reflects the breadth and scope of that experience in many different facets. Zdeněk David continues his long-running exploration of aspects of the philosophical foundation of Masaryk's thought, this time by examining its relationship to major figures in the Austrian philosophical tradition, Bernard Bolzano and Franz Brentano. The career of the Bohemian-born pioneer of serious music in America, Anthony Philip Heinrich, is the subject of Louis Reith's fascinating article, suggesting the significance of this relatively unknown figure to the history of music in the New World and its ties to the old. Two other papers turn from music to literature: one contribution, from *Kosmas* newcomer Ursula Stohler, explores the position of women writers in textbooks of Czech literature from the communist era to the present (perhaps incomplete) "transition" era. Another article, again from a first-time contributor, Alexander Wöll, explores the themes of surrealism and sexuality in the prose poems of Jakub Deml. Aiming his genealogical energies to the question of Czech American military figures, Mila Rechcigl provides copious evidence in his contribution to revise the assertion that Czechs contributed more musicians than generals to the US military.

Kosmas Book Review Editor Mary Hrabík Šámal shares her memories of a fateful spring at the end of World War II, when her family ended up hosting (willingly or unwillingly) German, Russian and American soldiers. In an engaging essay printed here in the original Czech (contrary to standing *Kosmas* policies, but with an indulgence justified by the fact that it deals, after all, with translating from English into Czech, not just in form, but in spirit and truth) the late Věra Bořkovcová and Jiří Weinberger discuss their approach to translating Ogden Nash into Czech. An English translation of the same essay follows. Slovak literary and cultural history appears in this volume in a fascinating exploration of the theme of the Antichrist in the work of the Slovak Franciscan, Hugolín Gavlovič, written by Gerald Sabo, S.J. Professor Sabo also provides a diplomatic edition of an original

verse treatment of the Antichrist theme by Gavlovič. Tracy Burns, another faithful contributor to the pages of *Kosmas*, shares another piece of her creative writing with thought-provoking subject matter, and the volume closes appropriately with a retrospective essay by Clinton Machann, looking back on his round dozen years as editor of *Kosmas*.

Book reviews of works of Czech fiction, history, Slovak political history, Central European politics and culture, and regional and ethnic politics in Silesia round out the volume. We are grateful to our reviewers, Tracy Burns, Zdeněk David, Susan Mikula, Mila Saskova-Pierce, and Piotr Wróbel for their contributions, which help bring these significant works to the attention of our readers. Suggestions for books to review, as well as offers to write reviews of received books, may be sent to Mary Hrabík Šámal, *Kosmas* Book Review Editor, at her email address, maruska48@gmail.com.