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Abstracts

ANDREJ TÓTH, The microprobe into the social history of Czech and Slovak society after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire: attitudes toward disabled children in the First Czechoslovak Republic, 1918-1938

From a historical perspective, the state's attitude toward physically disabled children and young people can be viewed as one of the indicators of the maturity of a society. One of the objectives of this research was to analyze improvements in the care and education of physically disabled children and young people in the First Czechoslovak Republic, which was established after the dissolution of Austria-Hungary in 1918, and which was generally known for its inclination toward democratic, humane, and progressive ideas. The development and distribution of institutions and schools according to the individual parts of the socio-cultural, economically, politically and ethnically heterogeneous Czechoslovak state was monitored. It was examined whether the new state tried to properly eliminate the differences in care and education of disabled individuals in different parts of the country with different economic and social backgrounds. It was also examined whether the state ensured equal access to health and social services for all nationalities. The subject of interest was therefore also the question of whether the state ensured equal access to the inhabitants of all nationalities in this area of health and social issues, or whether the better position of the stateforming Czechoslovak nation, or the western, most developed half of the Czechoslovak Republic, was also valid in this respect, i.e. the neglect of national minorities and their needs in the area of health and social issues, or the eastern, less developed half of the state.

Keywords:

First Czechoslovak Republic Health and Social Policy Physically Handicapped Children