

Aktuárské vědy

Editorial

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sažen válkou a okupací. Obnovením tohoto časopisu chceme přispět podle svých sil k tomu, aby se naši pracovníci mohli opět zařadit do světového úsilí o vědecký pokrok, který je na tomto poli úzce spojen s pokrokem v hospodářské a sociální organisaci.

Naše odborná veřejnost byla po dobu okupace téměř bez styků s rychle se vyvíjející světovou literaturou. Hodláme proto v příštích číslech upozorniti na nejdůležitější práce vyšlé za války a pak ovšem sledovat v recensní části časopisu další vývoj, pokud to dovolí omezený rozsah časopisu.

Prosíme své přátele, aby nám pomohli pokračovat na cestě, kterou jsme nastoupili.

EDITORIAL

The cultural life of Czechoslovakia was deeply affected by the German invasion and occupation during the years 1939—45. Her friendly relations with other countries were severed, the press came under Nazi control, and the publication of the Journal „Actuarial Science“ (Aktuárské vědy) as well as many other periodicals was discontinued.

Its editorial staff was dispersed and brutally persecuted. The Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Emil Schoenbaum, Professor of Applied Mathematics at the Charles' University in Prague, went into exile and was active as Adviser to the Czechoslovak Government in exile and to the International Labour Office cooperating with the Governments of nearly all Latin American countries.

The Managing Editor Dr. Vilém Havlík was arrested for participation in underground activities, put into a concentration camp and died there in 1944. The Associate Editor Dr. Rudolf Polák perished as a victim of racial persecution, and Dr. Jaroslav Stránský, one of the contributing editors, former secretary of Professor Schoenbaum, was executed in the Terezin concentration camp in 1942. We especially regret the loss of Dr. Alfred Tauber, professor of Vienna University, and one of our principal contributors, who was executed in Oswiecim at the age of 76.

Many of our subscribers and readers became victims of Nazi persecution and we shall remember for ever all those who perished during that time of terrible oppression. Fortunately, some of our contributors, among them Dr. Ota Fischer, Dr. Jaroslav Podlipský and Dr. Antonín Zelenka returned home, after long detention in concentration camps. Many subscribers and friends were also interned.

Czech contributors to the review were for six years cut off from contact with abroad and were, consequently, unable to follow the developments of science in other countries. In spite of all these material and moral privations

caused by the war and the occupation, coupled with the closing down of the Universities and Scientific Libraries, a few remarkable works appeared during the war and some others, written during that period, are being published now.

After the end of the war, Czechoslovakia saw the revival of activities also in those fields, which are dealt with in our review. They centred especially around the Charles' University and the Technical University in Prague which were reopened after an interruption of $5\frac{1}{2}$ years.

After his return, Professor Schoenbaum, in a series of special lectures, acquainted his students with the great progress made abroad in mathematical statistics, econometrics and insurance mathematics. Thanks to the kind assistance of many mathematical institutes, scientific societies and prominent scientists in USA, Great Britain, Switzerland and other countries, he succeeded in bringing with him many important publications and books in this field of science.

It will take a certain time, however, until we can catch up with all that was neglected during the interruption forced upon us. Personal contact and contact by correspondence between scientists as well as the obtaining of the most essential technical literature still encounter considerable difficulties as far as transport and foreign exchange transactions are concerned. The republication of the journal „Actuarial Science” — after nine years of enforced interruption — is one of the measures by which we are trying to find our place again in the field of mathematics applied to different branches of science.

We are of the opinion that during the years of its prewar existence this Journal made valuable contributions to the development of applied mathematics in the fields of statistics, insurance mathematics and econometrics. Our aim is as before, to publish in the world's main languages articles by Czech and foreign authors on mathematical statistics, calculus of probability, actuarial science and econometrics, thus giving Czech students an opportunity to be up to date in current questions in this field of science as well as acquainting foreign scientists with the works of our specialists. In view of the rapid development of mathematical statistics and econometrics we shall pay special attention to these branches. The reviews of literature and short reports designed for home purposes will be published in Czech and Slovak.

The first number of the new issue of „Aktuárské vědy” is now being sent out. May we ask all our readers to receive it kindly and with the same favour which this review used to enjoy before the war, at home and abroad. We invite our friends abroad to help us to attain our aims by kindly sending us their scientific works, articles and reports, to be published in our review.