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## REFLECTIONS ON A REGIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SLOVAKIA

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The paper deals with development of bibliographic activities in Slovakia. Geographic bibliography is a special example between subject and regional bibliographies. In former Czechoslovakia the geographical bibliography was elaborated by a Commission within Geographical Society. The foundation of the new Slovak Republic offers many possibilities for a reformation and renewal of these activities.

Key words: regional bibliography, Slovakia National Bibliography, factual classification of the regional chapters

National bibliographies and regional bibliographies are important references for the mental and scientific culture of a country and its society. The Slovak Republic is a young state in Europe, but not a newcomer in scientific and bibliographic activities. Since the foundation of the Matica Slovenska in 1863 national bibliographic activities developed and made good progress within the Hungarian kingdom and later within the Czechoslovakian state.

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National bibliographies, subject bibliographies and regional bibliographies are organized bodies of knowledge gathering all printed materials about a subject or a region in context to a country or a state as a national personality. There exist retrospective bibliographies, which give a view over former times, and continuing bibliographies, they are indispensable for a fast information about new literature.

Conventional printed bibliographies are the most important information aids within a library. But by the means of electronic data processing (EDP) the bibliographic work can be intensified and speeded up, and personnel can be saved. Nowadays the institutions of national bibliographies are equipped with most modern computerizing systems, because it is their task to record, arrange and offer new prints as soon as possible.

It is not up to me refereeing about the Slovakian National Bibliography which records the national book production in Slovakia and the international book production in Slovakian language. It is to be compiled in the Matica Slovenská, Martin, since a long time and, in international comparison, it is respected like others. But using a national bibliography by seeking special subject and regional contributions, especially out of periodicals, would be too long-winded.

Subject bibliographies cover certain scientific subjects, for instance geology, history, ethnology, population sciences, linguistics, medicine, technical sciences and so on. We distinguish retrospective and current subject bibliographies. Annotations are helpful, but not necessary, they may delay processing and printing. Indispensable are complete and standardized subject indexes, especially for electronic data processing.

A good example of a regional subject bibliography is Milos Jurkovic "Slovenská lesnícká bibliografia za roky 1939-1943" (Slovak Forestry Bibliography 1939-1943), Bratislava 1945.

A regional bibliography is a comprehensive, multidisciplinary list of references on a territory, a region or a locality, which refers the prints and other media regular, current and complete. In the origins bibliographies of regional history were predominating which contained usually a selection of titles on regional geography. There was also the idea of "integrated local studies" (vlastiveda, "Heimatkunde" in the German terminology).

A good example of a Slovakian regional bibliography is "Bibliografia Liptovska. Knizná a clankova literatura od najstarsich cias do roku 1965" graphy of the region of Liptov. Books and artikels from former times up to the year 1945, elaborated by Pavel Stano with the Matica Slovenska and printed in 1968. This volume ist 798 pages thick and contains 18.483 items.

The table of contents respectively the division of the book in chapters demonstrates the multidisciplinary intention of this cumulation:

0. Všeobecnosti - Generalities

1. Filozofia. Morálka - Philosophy. Moral Sciences

2. Náboženstvo. Cirkvi: - Religions. Churches

3. Spoločenské vedy - Social Sciences

4. Jazykoveda. Nárečia - Sprachwissenschaften. Dialekte

5. Prírodné vedy. - Sciences

6. Užité vedy. Lekárstvo. Technica - Useful sciences. Medicine. Technics

7. Umenie. Architektúra. Film. - Arts. Architecture. Film

8. Literatúra. - Literature

9. Vlastiveda. Zemepis. Životopisy. Dejiny. - Regional Studies. Geography. Bibli-

ography. History.

Geographical bibliographies are something between subject bibliographies and regional bibliographies. Being subject bibliographies they are giving a wide view over all fields of work carried out by geographers. Being regional bibliographies they are giving a performance of important literature about a geographic region.

In former Czechoslovakia the subject bibliographies of geography had been elaborated within the Bibliographical Cabinet of the Geographical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSAV) in Prague under the direction of Dr. Miroslav Strida, CSc. and his collaborators compiled and documented the prints of Czech and Slovak geographers, the literature about the geography of Czechoslovakia respective the Czech lands and Slovakia, and also some titles about neighbouring subjects.

These compilations contained monographs, articles out of about 50 selected periodicals, further articles printed in anthologies, and atlases and maps, both new publications or new editions. Mainly scientific prints had been reported, but not dissertations and habilitations thesis. Photo-illustrated volumes and travel-guides, too, had been registered.

Annually a report of current literature of the past year and the addenda of the former years. From 1962 up to 1985 these reports had been printed regular in the "Sborník Československé geografické společnosti"

of the Czechoslovak Geographical Society. Simultaneously the most important items had been announced to the "International Geographical Bibliography" (B.G.I.) in Paris and supplied by short annotations in French language.

In 1986 a separate yearbook "Československa geografická literatura v roce ..." had been founded. Editors were the Geographical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and the Czechoslovak Geographical Society. Chairman of the Redactional Board was the director of the Geographical Institute CSAV. Beside this a Bibliographical Commission had been established with the members Jan Bina, Jiří Klima, Martin Lelhotský, Pavol Podalák, Dagmar Majerová, Jana Runstuková, Miroslav Střida and Věra Vaničková. The edition was 500 prints.

This current bibliography had been systematically arranged like the predecessor. But the structure was very, there were no descriptors for the items, and no indexes had been worked out. This treatment was sufficient in the view of an annual report with some hundred items, but it was not practical for a long-termed cumulation with a plurality of items.

Contents:

Všeobecní geografie a biographie/General geography and biography

- Všeobecní geografie/General geography

- Biografie/Biography

Československo/Czechoslovakia

- Obecné práce/Generalities

- Fyzická geografie/Physical geography

- Geomorfologie/Glomorphology

- Klimatologie, hydrologie, biogeografie, pedologie/Climatology, hydrology, biogeography, pedology

- Sociální a ekonomická geografie/Human geography

- Obyvatelství, sídla/Population, settlements

- Hospodářství/Economics

- Regionální práce/Regional works
- Krajina, prostředí, regionalizace/ Landscape, environment, regionalization
- Turistické mapy a průvodce/Guide-books and maps
- Zahraniční země/Foreign countries

The share of titles about Czechoslovakia respective the Czech lands and Slovakia printed abroad remained low. International reference works had not been evaluated. For Slovakia - for instance - the "Südosteuropa-Bibliographie", elaborated in Munich, would be helpful.

Since 1993, after the separation of the two states, the bibliography of czechoslovak geographical literature is out of print. Two following bibliographies, a Czech and a Slovak one, have not yet been founded. Dr. Strida endeavours to announce some titles of Czech literature to the B.G.I. The situation in Slovakia is unknown to me.

In the last part of my paper I should like to give some informations about the situation in Germany and also give some suggestions for future work. Bibliographical work is hard work and needs competence, patience, a lot of time and some technical tools. Conventional printed bibliographies are useful as usual, but modern information management is stimulated by EDP - regulated data banks. The equipment of a cabinet for bibliography and documentation is very expensive, concerning material tools and staff costs.

In Germany since the 19th century there exists a great interest for the elaboration of geographical and regional bibliographies concerning the German-speaking area. In 1882 the "Central Commission for scientific regional studies in Germany". This organization made it its business to unify regional bibliographies in Germany and to intensify bibliographical work. As early as 1897 the "Bibliotheca Geographica Germaniae", elaborated by P.E. Richter, was published. This attempt and some other attempts lasted only for a short time or failed. At first 1941 Emil Meynen founded the "Berichte zur deutschen Landeskunde", containing a regular literature report up to 1973.

Within the German language area, Austria, Germany and Switzerland, there was always a great interest in areal studies about Western Carpathians, especially Slovakia (or Upper Hungaria in the 19th century). Slovakian scholars visited German universities, for instance Matej Bel was studying at the famous university in Halle; these connections are a good tradition into nowadays. On the other side a famous ethnographer like Professor Bruno Schier had a chair at the Komensky University of Bratislava and influenced the post-war development of Slovakian ethnography and settlement history.

In the Federal Republic of Germany primarily the federal states ("Länder") are the moving forces of our regional bibliographies; the federation is only responsible for the national bibliography, which is elaborated in Leipzig and Frankfurt-on-the-Main together since re-unification. Beside the print-media, i.e. the annual volumes, by means of the EDP data banks have been established, which keep ready all items and reports from several years and decades. By means of descriptors all special items can be recalled about a longer period. Likewise it is possible to read-in complete retrospective bibliographies.

As well there exists an interdisciplinary bibliography of publications on the German-speaking area of Central Europe "Neues Schrifttum zur deutschen Landeskunde". This reference organ had been founded by Emil Meynen in 1941, after World War II it was very intensively elaborated in the "Institut für Landeskunde", Bonn-Bad Godes-

berg. 1973 it was abandoned, 1978 it was renewed again and re-established under my direction under complicated conditions. Now it is carried out in the "Dokumentation-zentrum für deutsche Landeskunde des Faches Geographie", University of Trier. Part of the documentation center is the "Emil-Meynen-Bibliothek", a celebrated library of German areal studies.

Our regional bibliography is organized crosswise under regional and subject classifications, by this we can use some hundred entries. The regional classification comprehends about thirty chapters on several scale levels from Central Europe as a whole down to the "Länder" (federal states). Deeper levels like smaller administration units or natural regions can be implanted without difficulties. Beside this the locality-related publications are organized in an alphabetical order in relation to the place names and linked with the nationality sign, postal number, and subject signature.

The subject classification had been developed in correspondence with the Emil-Meynen-Library, by this it is similar to other regional bibliographies. There are nine main chapters, each chapter contents nine sub-chapters. Deeper divisions are possible, indeed, but not practical, for it is more useful applying a descriptor-index.

Factual classification of the regional chapters and the locality-related publications

1. – General
2. – Physical Geography and Earth Sciences
3. – Population, Society, Culture
4. – History, Political Life
5. – Law, Administration
6. – Economy
7. – Settlement and Housing
8. – Regional Planning, Environment
9. – Description of Geographical Regions and Localities
  - An example for the sub-division
  - 7. – Settlement and housing
    - 7.1 – General
    - 7.2 – Settlement Systems and Networks, Central Places
    - 7.3 – Rural Settlement
    - 7.4 – Conurbations, Cities, Urban Geography
    - 7.5 – Architecture, Buildings
    - 7.6 – Preservation of Monuments, Urban and Village Renewal
    - 7.7 – Urban and Settlement Planning
    - 7.8 – Housing, Settlement Policy
    - 7.9 – History and Development of Settlements and Towns

Our regional bibliography is to be published in three numbers per volume. The first number contains only articles published in periodicals. The second one contains books, dissertations, anthologies and articles in anthologies. The third number contains locality-related publications. Author index is published separately. Each volume contains 11-13.000 items per anno.

The input is carried out by the system LIDOS. By this a modern data bank with nearly unlimited capacity, is created. Though with a growing number of items the classification and/or the descriptor system must be refined and intensified. Also other



diciplines beside geography can introduce their concepts and terms.

I would give the recommendation to the Slovak Academy of Sciences together with the Matica Slovenska to give increased attend to regional bibliography and documentation. The foundation of the new Slovak Republic offers many possibilities for a reformation and renewal of the instiutions. Bibliography and documentation are distinguishing features of the academic culture in a country.

Especially the Slovak Geographers are called by building up modern geo-information-systems not to forget to establish the Slovak geographical bibliography and to contribute for the Slovak regional bibliography I know, indeed personal and equipment are very expensive, but neglections in the beginnings can not be caught up for a long time. So you can learn by the experiences of other colleagues. A further cooperation with Czech colleagues and also with colleagues in other European countries should be us eful for international standardization.

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## POZNÁMKY K REGIONÁLNEJ BIBLIOGRAFII SLOVENSKA

Slovenská republika je mladým európskym štátom, ale rozhodne nie je nováčikom vo vedecých a bibliografických aktivitách. Už od založenia Matice Slovenskej v r.1863 sa dosahoval pozoruhodný rozvoj bibliografie, či už v rámci vtedajšej Rakúsko-Uhorskej monarchie alebo v rámci neskoršieho československého štátu. Počas dlhodobého vývoja je možné sledovať viaceré bibliografické práce na úrovni národnej, špecializovanej, ako aj regionálnej.

Konvenčne vytlačené bibliografie sú najdôležitejšou pomôckou pri hľadaní literatúry. Využitím moderných počítačových systémov sa bibliografická práca výrazne intenzifikuje a inštitúcie (resp. kolektívy), ktoré bibliografie vydávajú, sú schopné zachytávať, triediť a vydávať informácie o novej literatúre v pomerne veľmi krátkom čase.

Geografická bibliografia sa nachádza na rozhraní medzi špecializovanou a regionálnou bibliografiou. V rámci Československa sa geografická bibliografia spracúvala na pôde Geografického ústavu ČSAV v Brne a v rokoch 1962-1985 bola pravidelne publikovaná v Sborníku Československé geografické společnosti.

V r. 1985 sa vytvorila osobitná Bibliografická komisia pri ČSAV. Tento kolektív vydával v r.1986-1991 samostatnú ročenku "Československá geografická literatúra v r. ...". Ročenka bola členená na tri hlavné časti - všeobecná geografia a biografie, Československo a zahraničie. Práce zaoberajúce sa územím Československa boli podrobnejšie členené na práce všeobecného charakteru, fyzickú geografiu, sociálnu a ekonomickú geografiu a regionálne práce. Po rozdelení štátu od r.1992 ročenka prestala vychádzať.

V rámci slovenskej geografie by sa v žiadnom prípade nemalo zabúdať aj na rozvoj a systematické spracúvanie bibliografických informácií o geografických prácach.

Resumé vypracoval Peter Podolák