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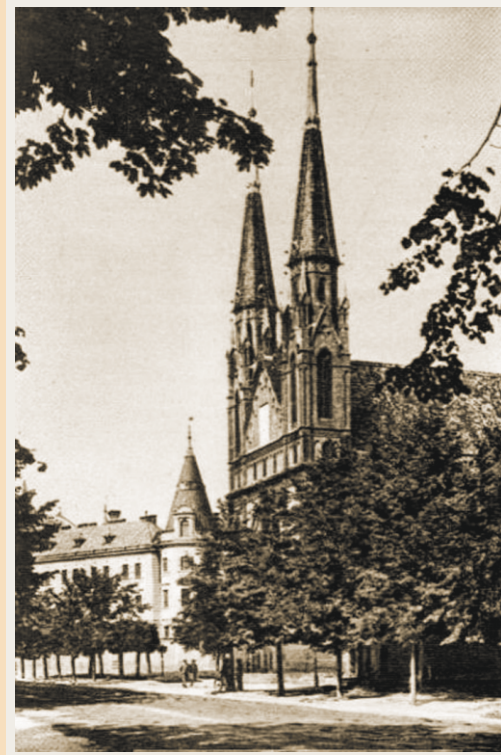
The history of the Jewish community in České Budějovice

České Budějovice gained municipal status in 1265. Several Jewish families lived here since the 14th century and in the 15th, the Jewish community was already quite populous. The Jewish quarter was composed of 13 houses and a Gothic synagogue. In 1505, the local Jews were accused of ritual murder and about 25 of them were burned at the stake; children were taken from their parents. The remaining Jews were shunned from the city. Only one Jewish family was allowed to live in České Budějovice until 1848.

The modern Jewish community was established in České Budějovice in 1859 and a Jewish cemetery was founded in 1866, where around a hundred gravestones were preserved. In 1880, the 969 Jews living in České Budějovice formed 6 percent of the local population. The Jewish population peaked in 1898, when 1972 Jews lived here – since then, the numbers have only dwindled. After the occupation in 1939, the Nuremberg laws were applied to the Jews of České Budějovice as well gradually ousting them from public life. The large Neo-Gothic synagogue built in 1888 was blown up by the Nazis in 1942. Most of the local Jews (909 people) were deported to Terezín and further east in transport Akb on April 18, 1942. The Terezín records tell us 578 of them died due to the Holocaust.

After the war, a synagogue choir was established in České Budějovice and was active till 1970.

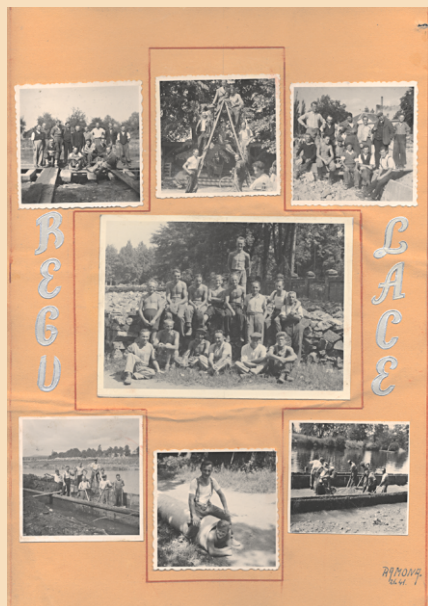
The Jewish cemetery was cleaned in the early 1990's and the remainder of the wall was repaired in 2004. The cemetery building houses a permanent exhibition about the local Jews.



Questions:

- What did the Klepy magazine contain? What makes it remind you of your school magazine?
- Were the editors of the magazine in any danger? What kind?
- How did Mr. Voříšek prove his courage? In what danger was he?
- What were the fates of the children who created the Klepy magazine?

The Klepy (Gossips) Magazine



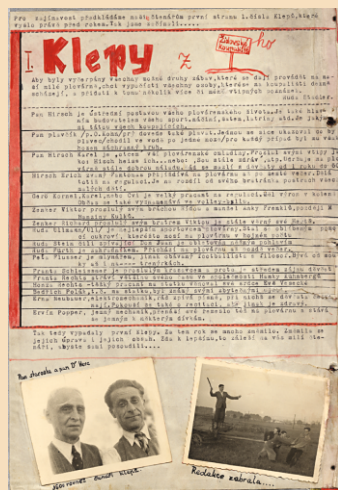
Once restrictions stemming from the Nuremberg laws took effect in České Budějovice and the young Jewish inhabitants were no longer allowed to attend schools, sports societies, cultural societies and other public gatherings, the local Jewish Community managed to rent the so-called “Jewish swimming place” on the Vltava riverbank from Voříšek, a local landlord. The Jewish youth first met here on June 16, 1940. Adults were only allowed to visit the swimming place on Sundays.

The first issue of Klepy – three typed pages – was brought to the swimming place by the sixteen year old Rudolf Stadler in July or August. During the one year that Klepy was made, it grew to forty pages – a single copy of an issue was made approximately every three weeks. Klepy was composed of several pages with hand-drawn illustrations and typewriter text. Starting with issue 12, the magazine contained photographs, too, and the magazine was also enhanced with new articles and reports and both the contributors and the readers grew in number. The original intent was solely to

make the readers laugh, but later, more serious topics were added, such as literary experiments, educational articles about the Jewish religion and history, even reports and photographs from the parents’ forced labour. Regular sections were dedicated to sports and children, for whom puzzles, crosswords and brainteasers were created. There was a group among the ten-year-olds who regularly contributed texts – Jan Freund was one of them.

The magazine was printed for a year and 22 issues were completed. It was probably discontinued following the confiscation of typewriters and cameras, half a year before the deportation of the České Budějovice Jews to Terezín. The last issue was created in October 1941.

Ilsa Stadler, Rudolf Stadler’s sister, obtained the magazine after the war. She never revealed who kept the magazine through the war. Klepy is a unique phenomenon in the Czech Republic – no comparable work is known.





The greatest merit with regard to the Klepy magazine goes to Rudolf Stadler, also known as “Bagr” (“Excavator”). Rudolf, Karel Hirsch (“Karli”, “Hajžumé”, “Žaluzí” or “Ramona”), Josef Friš (“Dlouhej Petr”, meaning “Long Peter”) and Rudolf Fürth (“Fulín”, the magazine’s illustrator) led the magazine till the 20th issue. Rudolf Stadler and Rudolf Fürth were born in 1924, Josef Friš in 1919. The eldest was Karel Hirsch, who was 37 years old in 1940. Not one of them survived the war. They were all deported to Terezín on April 18, 1942, along with most of the city’s Jews. In the same year, Karel Hirsch and Josef Friš were deported to Zamość, Rudolf Fürth to Auschwitz in 1944. Rudolf Stadler was deported to Auschwitz on September 28, 1944 and from there, later on to Dachau. Here, he volunteered for a construction of a road to Litoměřice, in order to be closer to his sister Ilsa, who remained in Terezín. The overseer clubbed him to death with a pickaxe in spring, 1945. Miloš König picked Klepy up after Rudolf Stadler and

managed to issue two more – 21 and 22.

Opening words of Rudy Stadler for the 10th and 20th issues of Klepy:

“We are to prove that we still possess a sound mind and a sense of humour, that we aren’t ruined by the difficulty of the times to the state of not being able to spend our respite with that of higher value, though be it only jokes and humour at times.”

Of the “history” of Klepy:

“One beautiful afternoon in the year 1940, I brought to the Jewish swimming place three pages of typed text. I handed these papers, entitled ‘**Gossip from the Jewish swimming place**’ (‘Klepy ze židovského koupaliště’), to the group seated around the table, and they eyed me with surprise. Someone picked the papers up and began reading: ‘In order to use the full potential of the Jewish swimming place, I decided to write...’ etc., as the first issue of Klepy began.”

For Klepy: Ruda “Bagr”

From the contents of Klepy:

Klepy No. 8

In the morn of January four
the Jews were given their chore
earlier than others would show
there they were shovelling snow.
Two groups the square
and Sternack's street share
some of whom still shy,
that others his work spy
Have at it, keep moving
all your strength proving.

Reflections and expressions

The world is ugly, rotten and wrought
with power.
We have one lifetime only, a single
shard of eternity
and that we have to struggle against the world.
R. D. O. H.

Serious contributions

We don't deceive ourselves thinking that enlightenment and
humanity could ever be a radical cure to the ills of our nation.
As our homeland is without borders, so is our suffering without
borders.
Pinsker

There are people who judge their neighbours on their persuasions
and opinions. I only distinguish between two kinds of people: good
people and bad people.
Faughton

The human race, and we with it, is on an immeasurably long journey
to perfect humanism. This is why we must let go of the false idea
that through our dispersal we are fulfilling a clear-sighted
vocation, a honorary office which we would rather give up if only
the world could be rid of the insult, "Jew...".



Jan Freund portrayed as a soccer player,
Klepy magazine, No. 15.

Decree:

Jews are not allowed to use electric street railways in České Budějovice. Only in such trains that have a towed car besides the motor car, Jews may use the rear platform of the towed car. In such cases, however, Arian people are not allowed to stay on the rear platform of towed cars.

The management of the electric street railway in České Budějovice shall place on all motor cars well in sight signs saying "Juden Eintritt verboten" - "No Jews allowed". Such signs shall also be placed in the front platforms and the interior of towed cars; rear platforms of towed cars shall bear the signs "Nur für Juden - Personen arischer Abstammung der Aufenthalt verboten" - "Jews only - No Arian persons allowed".
Der kommissarische Polizeidirektor: The commissarial police director.

The following citation of the diary of Jiří Orten is similar to the diary entries of young Jews of the time, regardless of where they lived – be it in Prague, České Budějovice or other Czech or Moravian towns:

"Prohibitions

I had trouble falling asleep last night - I was thinking about all the prohibitions that somehow affect my life, no matter how much. It is Sunday afternoon, it has been snowing for two days in a row now and I still have several hours before I am to go to Košíře, I will write down all the prohibitions I can remember, and when I do, I will leave a large blank space for all those that are yet to come.

I must not leave my house after 8 pm.

I must not find an apartment just for myself.

I must not move anywhere besides Prague 1 or 5, and that only as a tenant.

I must not visit wine bars, cafés, restaurants, cinemas or concerts, with the exception of a few cafés that have been set aside for me."

Decree:

Decree dated September 9, 1940. Jews are only allowed entry to Hotel Arida in the local administrative district, owned by Josef Kypta, and in České Budějovice, Lannova No. 360. Jews are strictly forbidden entry into the remaining accommodations in the administrative district of the České Budějovice police department.

"In April 1942, almost a thousand Jewish citizens were deported to Terezín in a passenger train. Here, in the northern Bohemian town, we were crammed into large halls in barracks – most of us only for a week or two, as we were taken into livestock vans. We were given no food and very little air and shipped to Poland. Those who survived the transport were forced off the train and shot in pits dug specially for this purpose. Only a handful of Jews from České Budějovice remained in Terezín – some were also deported to Auschwitz ... around 35 survived the war."

Jan Freund

OBĚTI HOLOCAUSTU 1939-1945 Z ČESKOBUDĚJOVICKÉ ŽIDOVSKÉ OBCE			
ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE			
ADLER VILEM	GOITLIEBOVÁ META	LEDEREROVÁ MALVINA	SAPHIR KURT
ADLEROVÁ JOSEFA	GOITLIEBOVÁ OLGA	LEDEREROVÁ MARIE	SAPHIROVÁ RŮŽENA
ADLEROVÁ MARIE	HAHN ARNOŠT	LEDEREROVÁ MELITA	SATYMOVÁ OLGA
ADLEROVÁ MARTA	HAHN BEDŘICH	LEDEREROVÁ OLGA	SCHICKOVÁ EMA
ARNSTEIN JOSEF	HAHNOVÁ ARNOŠTKA	LIEREN ERVIN	SCHLADNICH ROBERT
ARNSTEIN JOSEF	HAHNOVÁ TIIA	LIERENOVÁ ADELA	SCHLADNICHOVÁ LEOPOLDA
ARNSTEIN KAREL	HAHNOVÁ MARKÉTA	LOBL MOŘIC	SCHLEISSNEROVÁ ANNA
ARNSTEINOVÁ ANNA	HÁJEK KAREL	LOBL VILEM	SCHMOLKA ARNOŠT
ARNSTEINOVÁ ANNA	HAJDOVÁ ANNA	LOBLVÁ HELENA	SCHNEIDER BERNARD
ARNSTEINOVÁ ENA	HAJDOVÁ RŮŽENA	LOEFFLEROVÁ ELIŠKA	SCHNEIDEROVÁ MARTA
ARNSTEINOVÁ MARKÉTA	HANNAVALDOVÁ OTILIE	LÖWENSTEIN HANUS	SCHULZ ALOIS
BAKKUSOVÁ VILEMÍNA	HARTHOVÁ JINDŘEKA	LÖWENSTEINOVÁ IDA	SCHULZ JINDŘICH
BAKHOVÁ SARINA	HAURON ADOLF	LÖWENSTEINOVÁ MARTA	SCHULZ JOSEF
BEJEROVÁ MARIE	HAUSENOVÁ MARIE	LÖWY FERDOLD	SCHULZOVÁ ELIŠKA
BEHAL JOSEF	HAUSER ABRAHAM ABISCH	LÖWY LEO	SCHWARZ ADOLF
BEHAL KAREL	HEBÁKOVÁ BERTA	LUKESCHOVÁ IRMA	SCHWARZ ARNOLD
BEHALOVÁ HILDA	HEBÁKOVÁ LUDV	MARKOVÁ OTILIE	SCHWARZ BEDŘICH
BENISCH RICHARD	HELLER KURT	MASSAREK BEDŘICH	SCHWARZOVÁ ELSA
BERMANN HANUS	HELLER MAX	MASSAREK JINDŘICH	SCHWARZOVÁ HELENA
BIEGLER EMIL	HELLEROVÁ IRMA	MASSAREKOVÁ MARIE	SCHWARZOVÁ ROZALIE
BIEGLER JINDŘICH	HERLINGEROVÁ LENA	MAYER BEDŘICH	SCHWEINBURG EUŽEN
BIEGLEROVÁ ELIANA	HERZ DAVID	MAYER ERICH	SCHWEINBURG MAX
BIEGLEROVÁ GERTA	HERZ LEO	MAYEROVÁ BEDŘEŠKA	SCHWEINBURGOVÁ MARIE
RIENENFELD JOSEF	HERZIG OTA	MAYEROVÁ EDITA	SIMONOVÁ PAVLINA
SIRANSTEIN JOSEF	HERZOVÁ MARIE	MAYEROVÁ MARIE	SINKOVÁ IDA
SLACK ADOLF	HIRSCH ARNOŠT	METZL ALFRED	SPATHOVÁ MARIE
SLACKOVÁ HANA	HIRSCH ERICH	METZL JAN	SPATHOVÁ REGINA
SLACKOVÁ OTILIE	HIRSCH KAREL	METZL KAREL	SPATHOVÁ VALERIE
SLOCH ADOLF	HIRSCH ROBERT	METZL RICHARD	SPINKA ARNOŠT
SLOCH BEDŘICH	HIRSCHAROVÁ OTA	METZL RUDOLF	SPINKOVÁ ADELA
SLOCH JULIUS	HIRSCHOVÁ ANNA	METZL VIKTOR	SPINKOVÁ FRANTIŠKA
SLOCHOVÁ GERTRUDA	HIRSCHOVÁ RŮŽENA	METZLOVÁ HERMÍNA	SPINKOVÁ GERDA
SLOCHOVÁ PAVLA	HOFFMANN ALFRED	METZLOVÁ MARIE	SPINKOVÁ KAROLINA
SLUM JINDŘICH	HOFFMANN ALFRED	METZLOVÁ MARTA	SPINKOVÁ RŮŽENA
SLUM ROBERT	HOFFMANN JOSEF	MÜLLER JOSEF	SPUTZ OSMAR
SLUMOVÁ ANNA	HOFFMANN JULIUS	MÜLLEROVÁ LYDIA	SPUTZOVÁ LANA
SLUMOVÁ REGINA	HOFFMANOVÁ KATEŘINA	MÜLLEROVÁ MARIE	SPUTZOVÁ MARTA
SOHMOVÁ IDA	HOFFMANNOVÁ MARKÉTA	MATHANSONOVÁ IKEMA	STADLER JIRI
SOHMOVÁ OLGA	HOFFMANNOVÁ RŮŽENA	NEUBAUER ARNOŠT	STADLER RUDOLF
SKAUCHOVÁ ANNA	HOUTAS LEOPOLD	NEUBAUER ARNOŠT	STADLEROVÁ ALŽBĚTA
SKAUCHOVÁ MARIE	HOUTAS PAVEL	NEUBAUER BEDŘICH	STEIN ARTUR
SKAUCHOVÁ PAVLA	HOUTASOVÁ EDITA	NEUBAUER JINDŘICH	STEIN LUDVÍK
SKUML MAX	HOUTASOVÁ FRANTIŠKA	NEUBAUER KURT	STEIN MAX
SKUMNER BEDŘICH	HOUTASOVÁ HERMÍNA	NEUBAUER MOŘIC	STEIN OTAKAR
ČERVENKA JOSEF	HOUTASOVÁ TĚRA	NEUBAUER REINHOLD	STEIN PAVEL
ČERVENKOVÁ EVA	HOLZBAUEROVÁ HILDA	NEUBAUER RUDOLF	STEIN PAVEL
ČERVENKOVÁ HEDVÍKA	HOLZER ARNOŠT	NEUBAUER RUDOLF	STEIN RUDOLF
ČERVENKOVÁ ZDENKA	HOLZER GUSTAV	NEUBAUEROVÁ ELIŠKA	STEIN VIKTOR
DEUTSCHOVÁ JOSEFA	HOLZER ROBERT	NEUBAUEROVÁ FRANTIŠKA	STEINEROVÁ ANTONIE
DISKANTOVÁ ŽOFIE	HOLZEROVÁ EVA	NEUBAUEROVÁ HERMÍNA	STEINMÜLLEROVÁ OTILIE
DVOŘÁKOVÁ SYLVIA	HOLZEROVÁ FLORENTINA	NEUBAUEROVÁ MARIE	STEINOVÁ ALŽBĚTA
EISNER ADOLF	HOLZEROVÁ GERDA	NEUBAUEROVÁ OLGA	STEINOVÁ EDITA
EISNER FRANTIŠEK	HOLZEROVÁ HELENA	NEUGRÖSCHL ARNOŠT	STEINOVÁ ELIŠKA
EISNEROVÁ EMILIE	HOLZEROVÁ IDA	NEUGRÖSCHL KAREL	STEINOVÁ FLOKA
EISNEROVÁ OLGA	HOLZEROVÁ IDA	NEUGRÖSCHL RUDOLF	STEINOVÁ HERMÍNA
ENGLOVÁ OLGA	HOLZEROVÁ MARTA	NEUMANN ARNOŠT	STEINOVÁ IRMA
FALLUDJ ALEXANDER	HOLZEROVÁ RITA	NEUMANN FRANTIŠEK	STEINOVÁ KAMILA
FALLUDJOVÁ BEDŘEŠKA	HORNER JINDŘICH	NEUMANN GUSTAV	STEINOVÁ MARKÉTA
FANTL SIMON	JAKOBS-HERMINEENTHAL ELIŠKA	NEUMANN JINDŘICH	STEINOVÁ MARTA
FANTLOVÁ BERTA	JOLESCH ARNOLD	NEUMANN KAREL	STEINOVÁ OLGA
FANTLOVÁ ERNA	KALITZOVÁ KAMILA	NEUMANN KAREL	STEINOVÁ OTILIE
FANTLOVÁ JANA	KAFKA GUSTAV	NEUMANN OTA	STEINOVÁ ZDENKA
FANTLOVÁ TEREZIE	KAFKA RUDOLF	NEUMANN ROBERT	STEINSEEROVÁ DORA
FARKAS SAMUEL	KANTOR ARNOŠT	NEUMANNNOVÁ KAROLINA	STRASSOVÁ LEOPOLDA
FEDERER OTA	KANTOR PAVEL	NEUMANNNOVÁ ZOFIE	STRASSOVÁ VILEMÍNA
FEDERER ROBERT	KANTOROVÁ EMILIE	NEUKIRCH BEDŘICH	STRASSOVÁ EMILIE
FEDEREROVÁ IDA	KANTOROVÁ KAMILA	OFNEROVÁ JOSEFINA	STRICKER GUSTAV
FEIGL SIGMUND	KANTOROVÁ MARTA	OKHOLZOVÁ JULIE	STRICKEROVÁ FRANTIŠKA
FEITLER OSMAR	KATZ ARNOŠT	OKNSTEIN EMANUEL	STRICKEROVÁ KAMILA
FEITLEROVÁ ANNALISA	KATZ RUDOLF	OKNSTEIN JOSEF	STRICKEROVÁ MARIE
FEITLEROVÁ BERTA	KATZOVÁ OLGA	OKNSTEIN RUDOLF	STRICKEROVÁ MATILDA
FERDA RUDOLF	KAUDEROVÁ MARIE	OKNSTEINOVÁ ALŽBĚTA	STRANAD EGON
FERDOVÁ PAVLA	KAUDEROVÁ JULIE	OKNSTEINOVÁ ARNOŠTKA	SUCHARIPÍ OTA
FINK RICHARD	KAMPMANN LEO	OKNSTEINOVÁ LUDMILA	SUCHARIPÍOVÁ ANNA
FINKOVÁ FILIPINA	KAUFRIZOVÁ HERMÁNA	OKNSTEINOVÁ OLGA	SUSCHINA MARIE
FISCHER ADOLF	KENDE ERICH	OKNSTEINOVÁ RŮŽENA	SUSICKÝ KAREL
FISCHER ADOLF	KENDE HARRY	PEČENÁ FRANTIŠKA	SVOBODOVÁ HELENA
FISCHER ARTUR	KENDE JOSEF	PENÍŽEK ERVIN	TAUSSIG GUSTAV
FISCHER ERVIN	KENDE VILÉM	PENÍŽEK FILIP	TAUSSIG KAREL
FISCHEROVÁ ALOISIE	KENDE VITĚSLAV	PENÍŽKOVÁ ANNA	TAUSSIGOVÁ GERTRUDA
FISCHEROVÁ ARNOŠTKA	KENDEOVÁ HELENA	PENÍŽKOVÁ ELA	TAUSSIGOVÁ REGINA
FISCHEROVÁ IRMA	KENDEOVÁ VALERIE	PENÍŽKOVÁ KAROLINA	THIEBERGEROVÁ FLORA
FISCHEROVÁ KATHI	KIKS MOŘIC	PENÍŽKOVÁ MARIE	TROŠILOVÁ IDA
	KIKS EMIL	PENÍŽKOVÁ MARTA	ULLMANN JINDŘICH
	KIKŠOVÁ MARIE	PENÍŽKOVÁ ŽOFIE	ULLMANN RUDOLF
	KLAUBER ERVIN	PENTLICKOVÁ ELIŠKA	ULLMANNNOVÁ ANNA

Holocaust victims (1939 – 1945) from the České Budějovice Jewish quarter.

