

Abstract

This thesis deals with Josef Bohumil Souček, one of the leading protestant intellectuals in the postwar Czechoslovakia. Czech protestants were undoubtedly one of the groups, that had an influence on the public opinion, although it wasn't a huge group. If it is written about any great protestant figure from this era, it is usually about J. L. Hromádka and other important members of Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren remain in his shadow. This text should thus go about one of Hromádka's younger colleagues, who had in postwar Czechoslovakia also an important place.

J. B. Souček was a person of great importance already during protectorate, when he led half-legal theologian courses. After World War II he worked as a professor on an evangelical theological faculty, in 60s he became it's vice dean and then also a dean. Besides his theological, exegetical and teaching activities he entered public space also via journalism. Between 1946 and 1949 he was an editor-in-chief of Christian revue, but he wrote articles also for other periodicals.

The aim of the work is to make this figure a part of a wider intellectual field between 1945 and 1948, find the things which had Souček's world of meanings in common with discourse of his period and which differed. On the basis of source research thesis seeks an answer for the question, how Souček's experience from previous turbulent years influenced his sight on other development and which were the other main forming influences. Postwar years were definitely a time of rebirth and an open future for the republic. Another important question is, how was Souček limited by the boundaries of the period-specific discourse and how he had to adapt his opinions in the public space.