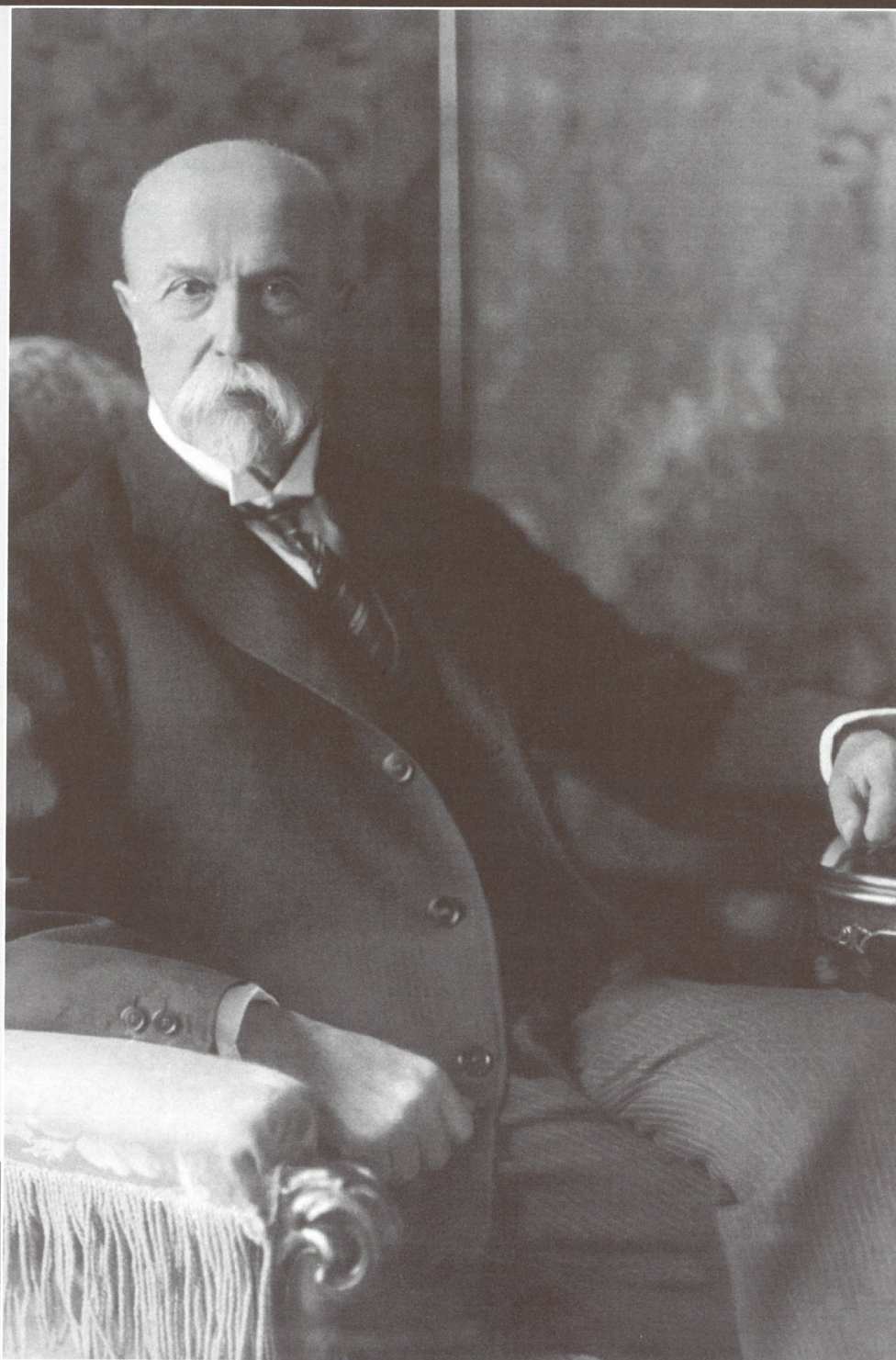


T | G | M

TOMÁŠ | GARRIGUE | MASARYK



**GUIDE TO THE EXHIBITION
AT THE MASARYK MUSEUM, HODONÍN**

MASARYK'S BIOGRAPHY

- 1850** Born in Hodonín, the first-born son of Josef and Terezie Masaryk on 7th March
1861 - 1863 Studied at the Realschule in Hustopeče
1865 Started studying at the German gymnasium in Brno
1869 Entered the Vienna gymnasium
1872 Graduated from the gymnasium. Entered Vienna University
1876 9 articles published in "Moravská Orlice" (Moravian Eagle)
10th March: graduated at Vienna, became M.A.
 Study stay in Leipzig
1878 **15th March:** married to Charlotte Garrigue
14th November: second doctoral work at Vienna University entitled "Suicide as a Mass Phenomenon in Modern Civilisation"
1879 **3rd May:** a daughter, Alice, was born
1880 Publication "On Hypnotism (or Animal Magnetism)"
1st May: a son, Herbert, was born
1882 First lecture at Prague University "Probability Calculus and Hume's Scepticism"
1883 Foundation of the "Athenaeum" magazine
1884 "On the Study of Poetry"
1885 "The Basis of Logic at the Present Time"
1886 Dispute about the authenticity of "The Writings of Dvůr Králové and Zelená Hora"
14th September: a son, Jan, was born
20th December: first issue of the "Čas" magazine (Time) by Herben group
1887, 1888 Travels to Russia, visits L.N.Tolstoi
1891 Became Young Czechs' deputy for Czech Forest Towns in the Empire Council in Vienna
1892 Country deputy
1893 Resignation from both deputy seats
 First issue of monthly "Naše doba" (Our Time)
1895 First issue of the "Česká otázka" (Czech question)
1896 "Karel Havlíček"
1897 Appointed an ordinary professor of Prague University
1898 "Otázka sociální" (Social problem)
1899 - 1900 Hilsner case - struggle against the superstition of ritual murder
1900 Foundation of the "Czech People's Party"
1902 Lectures at Chicago University
1906 **24th January:** meeting at "Helm" where he condemned religion teachers' activities. Persecuted for attacking religion
1907 Elected deputy for Walachian towns
1908 **4th June:** Defends Professor Wahrmund against clerics and freedom of speech at universities.
1909 Engaged in the "Zagreb case", defends 53 Yugoslavians accused of treason.
1910 Friedjung's case
1911 Stay at Capri with Maxim Gorki
1913 "The Spirit of Russia" (first two parts)
1914 Travels to Rome, Capri and the Netherlands
17th December: Departure for Italy with Olga
1915 **15th March:** son Herbert dies of typhus.
6th July: declares struggle against Austria at Huss festival in Geneva.
4th August: Austrian-Hungarian Army Command orders Masaryk's prosecution for treason.
19th October: gives a lecture at King's College in London on the problems of small nations in the contemporary European crisis
1916 **14th November:** Czech Foreign Committee announces the manifesto for Declaration of Czech Countries' Independence
February - Czech Foreign Committee was changed into Czechoslovak National Council.
 Series of lectures: "World and Slavs" in Paris
 Publication of revue "La Nation Tchèque"
 The magazine "Czechoslovak Independence" was mouthpiece of the Czechoslovak National Council from April.
6th April: a special issue with programme of the conference on Czechoslovak associations in Russia.
August: request for British government to support Czech and Yugoslavian endeavour.
1917 **May** - Arrival in Russia
1st July: Battle of Zborov
16th December: France recognises Czech Army as autonomous military unit.
1918 **7th March:** leaves Moscow for the U.S.A.
2nd September: U.S.A. recognises Czechoslovakia as a war power.
28th September: France signs the first document on the sovereignty of Czechoslovak nation.
18th October: Declaration of Independence was given to President Wilson.
28th October: Czechoslovakian Independence was declared in Prague
14th November: T. G. Masaryk was elected President of the Republic at the meeting of the Revolutionary National Committee
21st December: President goes to Prague
1920 Elected President of the Republic for a second time by the National Assembly in which German inhabitants were represented
1921 Visits many Moravian and Slovak towns
1922 **27th August:** meeting of representatives of the Little Entente in Lány
1923 **13th May:** Charlotte Garrigue Masaryk died
1925 "World Revolution"
1927 President of the Republic for the third time
1930 **7th March:** law passed - "T. G. Masaryk gained recognition for the state"
1934 Elected president for the fourth time
1935 **21st November:** resigns
1937 **14th September:** Masaryk dies
21st September: buried in Lány

EXHIBITION T·G·MASARYK

Introduction

We would like to welcome visitors to the exhibition, which opened on the 18th May 1997, in the recently renovated Baroque chateau, the oldest preserved secular building in Hodonín. A 90cm high bronze bust of Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk, standing in the yard, sets the key-note for the exhibition. The author is Vincenc Makovský. The bust is an original on loan from V. Makovský's heirs. Preparations for the exhibition took about 3 years. The creator of this complex work is the academic architect Petr Fuchs. Together with Petr Fuchs, Dr. D. Phil Jaroslav Opat, Director of the Masaryk Institute at the Academy of Science, Prague, and Mgr. Irena Chovančíková of the Masaryk Museum, Hodonín were responsible for the presentation. The exhibits come partly from our own collection and partly from others. The greatest number of exhibits was loaned by the Archives of the National Museum in Prague, the Archives of the Masaryk Institute at the Academy of Science, the Archives of the Office of the President of the Republic and the State Archives in Hodonín. The National Film Archives, Prague, provided film documents. A number of documents came to us from private hands. Some exhibits were presented by T. G. Masaryk's granddaughters, Mrs. Anna and Herberta Masaryk. Unfortunately these generous ladies didn't live to see the opening of the exhibition. Dr. Antonín Sum and Dr. Lumír Soukup, the custodians of the estate, lent other exhibits, including personal items belonging the Masaryk family, especially those of Jan Masaryk. The majority of the written documents and photographs on display are copies, as the long-term display of originals is detrimental to their preservation for the future.

- ▶ Hodonín Chateau, where the Masaryk Museum is situated
- ▶▶ Chateau yard

The Smithy

The entrance to the smithy is a simple country gate. This room epitomises the poor environment in which Masaryk grew up. The anvil was formerly in the workshop of the blacksmith, Antonín Beneš, in Čejč, where Masaryk was an apprentice. The bellows, drilling machine and leather aprons were brought in from an old smithy in Blatnice. The other instruments are from the village of Rohatec. Documents relating to the Masaryk family's stay in Hodonín, (where Masaryk was born.) Mutěnice, Čejkovice and Čejč are displayed in the wall cases. At the back of the cases are period land registry maps.

- ▶ The smithy
- ▶▶ Reconstruction of the birthplace of Jaroslav Dobrovolný

Hodonín • The house where Tomáš, the oldest son of Terezie and Josef Masaryk, was born on 7th March 1850, was demolished in the last century. A hostel for students from the German Realschule (a type of secondary school) was built in its place. Now it is a vocational school and so the building is still used for educational purposes. A portal designed by the architect Antonín Blažek decorates the entrance. His other works in Hodonín are the Art Gallery and the school in Mírové Square. V. A. Kovanič, from the village of Hovorany created the bust in the portal. The original bust by Julius Pelikán (a member of the Olomouc Artist Company) was not preserved.

- ▶ Corner house in Masaryk Square, today, formerly a bilingual school
- ▶▶ Small house at the noble court. The Masaryks lived here from 1856 till 1958 and from 1859 till 1861

Tomáš Masaryk's father was an employee (first a coachman, then a bailiff) at the Emperor's manors in Hodonín and at some of the surrounding farmsteads. He was often transferred from one place to another and so the family used to move about a great deal. They would live in different places in Hodonín, on different occasions, and always for a short time. That's why other houses (not all) can be seen in the background of the map. These include the building where Masaryk started school and later his teaching career. There are also some photographs of the Masaryk family's stay in Mutěnice.

- ▶ František Sátora
- ▶▶ Stronghold. The Masaryks came here to visit the family of burgrave Šustr. Here Little Tomáš attended the tutor's lessons, together with the burgrave's son. As a fourteen-year-old boy, he taught here, himself, when the old school was under reconstruction

Čejkovice • A village near Hodonín, where Masaryk spent the longest and most enchanting part of his childhood. Here he went to school and worked as a trainee teacher. The house where the Masaryks lived was reconstructed in Spring, 1990. There is an amateur exhibition of T. G. Masaryk's life in one part of the house; the Czechoslovak Hussite Church uses the other as a house of prayer.

At this point František Sátora, a chaplain, deserves mentioning. He was a friend of Masaryk's and he influenced his national, religious and social opinions as well as guiding his education.

- ▶ Žofka well
- ▶▶ Terezie Masaryková
- ▶▶ Josef Masaryk

Čejč • A village near Hodonín. The Masaryks lived here twice. Here Masaryk was apprenticed to a blacksmith by Antonín Beneš. This was after graduating from the Realschule in Hustopeče, working as a trainee at a school in Hodonín and learning to be a locksmith in Vienna, a training which he didn't finish. He didn't finish learning to be a blacksmith either; one day a teacher from the Hustopeče Realschule, by some lucky chance, met a dirty apprentice going for water to the Žofka well. He recognised his former pupil, the talented Tomáš, and persuaded his parents to let him study. Masaryk started school again, this time in Čejkovice, where František Sátora prepared him for the entrance exam to secondary school. He decided not to do a teaching course but to study at the gymnasium (a type of secondary school similar to grammar school)

Two portraits look out over the smithy room - they are Masaryk's parents Terezie and Josef. The author of the portraits is Masaryk's friend Hanuš Schweiger. Apart from Tomáš, the Masaryks had two sons. Martin died when he was in the army. Ludvík trained to be a bookprinter at Tomáš's expense and later had a printing house in Hustopeče. The copies of the birth and baptism certificates remind us when and where Masaryk was born. The early days and infancy part of the exhibition is closed by a quotation from Masaryk: "I have never considered myself to be more than a worker in this great world."

Studies

We are now in a 19th century university environment, introduced by these words: „Education is not a mere accumulation of knowledge, just as flour, water, salt and yeast piled together aren't batter.“

The university atmosphere is evoked by a reading stand, the original of which can be found in Prague Castle library. "Plato as a Patriot", but the original is now lost. Beside that are copies of the title pages of the first German and Czech editions of Masaryk's second doctoral work: "Suicide as a Mass Phenomenon in Modern Civilisation". Due to this work Masaryk became one of the founders of sociology. The bookcase near the reading stand contains period literature reflecting Masaryk's academic interests - works of ancient and classical thinkers and philosophers.

A collection of photos on the wall opposite the window consists of three basic parts: Moravia, Vienna and Leipzig, thus illustrating the course of Masaryk's studies.

- ▶ Tomáš as a thirteen-year-old

MORAVA • Mrs. Masaryk wanted Tomáš to become a teacher. So after finishing compulsory school attendance he studied at the Realschule in Hustopeče.

After graduating from the Realschule, Tomáš Masaryk was supposed to follow a teacher-training course, but things turned out differently. After a short period as an apprentice Masaryk, having been encouraged by the chaplain Sátora, decided to study at the gymnasium in Brno. As an external student he passed exams at the Piaristic gymnasium in Strážnice and so was able to start straight away in the second school year at Brno. While studying, Tomáš Masaryk earned his living by working as a tutor for a son of the Chief of Police, Le Monnier.

- ▶ Gymnasium where Masaryk studied from 1865 - 1869
- ▶▶ Matěj Procházka

While Le Monnier supported Masaryk materially and allowed him to use his library, the divinity teacher and professor, Matěj Procházka had a special influence on his spiritual life. He showed understanding for his resistance to hypocrisy of official religion and to compulsory confession and through him Masaryk first discovered Christian socialism.

In 1869, Masaryk had an argument with the director of the gymnasium. It was so serious that Masaryk would have been expelled from all institutions under the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy, if it hadn't been for his powerful protector Le Monnier, who intervened on his behalf. Later Le Monnier was appointed to another post in Vienna and he took Masaryk with him. Thus Masaryk was able to finish his studies in the imperial metropolis.

- ▶ Franz Brentano
- ▶▶ The old university in Vienna

VIENNA • In 1872 Tomáš Masaryk passed the school-leaving exam at the academic gymnasium in Vienna. Then he studied philosophy at Vienna University. He dealt especially with classical philosophy, his favourite philosopher being Plato. He was also greatly influenced by the philosopher Franz Brentano. This outstanding teacher was close to Masaryk not only in his disapproval of the Vatican Council and the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope, but also in his criticism of certain philosophers and their doctrines. During these studies Masaryk tried to get close to Czech cultural life. He became a member and later the chairman of the Academic Association. He often visited the home of A.V. Šembera, his Czech literature professor, whose daughter Zdeňka became a friend of his (she was his penfriend for a long time). Here also, he met a number of leading figures in the Czech community in Vienna. Thanks to them he met some of the most influential personalities in the Young Moravian Movement. The Moravians were very close to him and so, logically, his first Czech-written works were published through this movement. Before finishing his studies at Vienna University in 1876, Masaryk was a tutor to the sons of the banker Rudolf Schlesinger. Schlesinger was satisfied with him and so enabled him to continue his studies in Leipzig after finishing university.

- ▶ The house in Keilstrasse in Leipzig where Masaryk lived from 1876 - 1877
- ▶▶ Charlie Garrigue and Tomáš Masaryk after their engagement celebration in 1879
- ▶▶▶ Tomáš Masaryk after gaining a doctorate in 1876

LEIPZIG • When Tomáš Masaryk went to Leipzig he was already a Master of Arts. In Leipzig he became acquainted with Protestantism, and studied philosophy, and theology, as well as concerning himself with Lusatian Serbia and spiritism. Above all Leipzig was the place where Masaryk met his future wife, the American Charlotte Garrigue, a student at the conservatoire. He fell in love with her and decided to marry her. They got married in Brooklyn on 15th March 1878. After the wedding Masaryk changed his name to Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk. Having returned to Vienna the young family faced a life at subsistence level. It was almost impossible for Masaryk to get a job at Vienna University because all the positions were filled and he could only work there as a private docent with no salary. The only help was a financial reward for his second doctoral work. Fortunately there was a new Czech university in Prague and Masaryk, being well-known in Czech academic circles, took advantage of the opportunity to teach in Prague.

On the shelf behind the photographs you can peruse copies of documents concerning Masaryk's academic life - the class register from the Hustopeče Realschule, the undergraduate course unit record, his habilitation thesis application, the doctoral diploma and a diary with remarks about Charlotte. The exhibition in this room is closed by another of Masaryk's thoughts: "Let us look to education because our feelings are blind and must be enlightened by reason."

The Way Forward

The largest part of the exhibition is introduced by a characteristic idea: "What is not true has no greatness." It deals with the years from Masaryk's arrival in Prague, in 1882, to the founding of the independent Czechoslovak republic on 28th October 1918.

- ▶ View of the room
- ▶▶ T. G. Masaryk in 1883

T. G. Masaryk did not hide his dislike of working in Prague. But there was no hope of obtaining a post at Vienna University and he did not want to work at another German university. His contacts in Czech academic circles brought him the post of extraordinary professor at Charles-Ferdinand Czech University. On the panel entitled "From Vienna to Prague", you can see Masaryk when he started teaching at university. Masaryk's signature can be seen, with those of the other professors, in a copy of the minutes of the first staff meeting on 5th October 1882. Masaryk's first days at university are also illustrated by an extract from Masaryk's personnel records.

Masaryk worked with many eminent Czech scholars in the Clementinum Building where the Faculty of Arts was situated. He made friends with the younger element of the professorial staff, especially with the outstanding linguist Jan Gebauer, the physicist and astronomer August Seydler and the historian Jaroslav Goll.

- ▶ A. Seydler
- ▶▶ J. Gebauer
- ▶▶▶ J. Goll

T. G. Masaryk gradually got acquainted with the Prague environment. He gave lectures in the American Ladies' Club, which took place in the house of Vojta Náprstek, the well-known patron. Admiration for American democracy, American pragmatism, and their own outlooks made the two men close. Experience of America also led to a friendship with the poet J. V. Sládek. Masaryk's closest friend was the painter Hanuš Schweiger whom he met three years later.

The world of Czech Prague was not only the world of university and good friends. It was also the setting for a clash of political interests. Masaryk couldn't leave unmentioned the fact that the extreme patriotism of the Czech society was connected with narrow-minded arguments and the mutual accusations of two political groups - the Old Czechs and the Young Czechs. The Old Czechs, a free association, were represented by well-educated and serious, but elderly and conservative personalities such as František Palacký (who died in 1876), Ladislav Rieger and Albin Bráf. The Young Czechs were represented by the brothers Grégr and the politicians Josef Kaizl and Karel Kramář. The newspaper "Národní listy" (National Newspaper) was their platform in the press.

- ▶ F. L. Rieger
- ▶▶ A. Bráf
- ▶▶▶ J. Grégr
- ▶ J. Kaizl
- ▶▶ F. Císař
- ▶▶▶ O. Opočenský

Besides the reopening of the Czech university there were other patriotic events that contributed to a more self-confident Czech society - the opening of the National Theatre, built from public subscription, in 1883, the National Museum in 1891, and a Great Czechoslovak Ethnographic Exhibition in Prague in 1895, which prompted the opening of many new local museums.

The last part of the introductory triptych is the panel "Scholarship or Religion?" T. G. Masaryk was a religious man, brought up by his mother as a strict Catholic. During his studies at the gymnasium he began to question his beliefs. He disliked compulsory confession and the hypocrisies of the Catholic religious life. He opened his heart to Father Matěj Procházka, who showed understanding for the young student and helped him to keep his faith. Later Masaryk protested against the dogma of the Pope's infallibility. His religious development was influenced also by his wife Charlotte Garrigue who was a member of the Unitarian Church. During his holiday stay in Klobouky he decided definitely to convert to the Evangelist Church after his wedding. There he made friends with superintendent Ferdinand Císař, with whom he spent hours debating. Císař tried to discourage Masaryk from converting but he wasn't successful. Masaryk's conversion was accepted in Horní Heršpice by Father Oskar Opočenský on 31st August 1880 as recorded in the Hodonín register and by the Vyškov district executive. Even after that he continued to deal with religion in his philosophy, while the clash of reason and feeling continued to occupy him also, as shown by the title pages of some of his works on display.

The extraordinary professor T. G. Masaryk brought an unusual teaching style to the Faculty of Arts, a style which was completely unknown at that time. He worked and lived in constant contact with the students, he taught them critically to accept new knowledge. Discussions were a standard part of his seminars. Masaryk's first lecture-courses bore such titles as "Probability Calculus and Hume's Scepticism", "Blaise Pascal, his Life and Philosophy" and "The Theory of History according to T. H. Buckle's Thesis", the title pages of which can be seen in the showcases on the left in the introductory section. He dealt with scientific

classification; he gave lectures on the relationship between man and nature, on family, society, and on some provocative themes such as the role of woman, sex, alcohol, work, and religion. He was able to speak openly about everything with the students. He didn't like the isolation of Czech scholarship and the lack of knowledge about world science and culture. For this reason he founded the magazine "Athenaeum", that published professional criticism of Czech and foreign works. You can see the title page of an issue of "Athenaeum" and the contract with the publisher J. Otto about the publishing and financing of the magazine. Masaryk, as a man of restless mind, couldn't isolate himself from social and political life, a fact which is indicated by some of the exhibits, for instance, the Empire deputy's ceremonial hat presented to this museum by Masaryk's granddaughters. He was an Empire deputy for the Young Czechs and later for the Czech Progress Party. The various title pages are from his educational lectures and parliamentary speeches. The open Bible is a present given by T. G. Masaryk to his son Jan Masaryk. Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk became a central figure in various disputes during his lifetime. Two of them were pivotal and influenced his position on the academic and political scene as well as invading his privacy. They are shown on the panel entitled "Fighting for Truth"

Thanks to Professor A. V. Šembera, Masaryk became involved with the problem of the authenticity of the Manuscripts of Dvůr Králové and Zelená Hora, while he was staying in Vienna. The Manuscripts were enthusiastically endorsed by Czech society after they were promoted as monuments to distant Czech history. Those who doubted their authenticity were considered traitors. A. V. Šembera and A. Vašek were among the few who stood up to the majority opinion and they paid for it. A. V. Šembera became alienated from his son due to unscrupulous attacks from the defenders of the Manuscripts, Vašek became seriously ill. T. G. Masaryk was asked by J. Gebauer to publish an article in "Athenaeum" in 1866 to prove the falsity of the Manuscripts by means of linguistic analysis. Masaryk concurred because he didn't believe in the authenticity of the Manuscripts himself and had asked for this problem to be carefully researched. He proved their falsity through aesthetic and sociological considerations, while one of his friends considered the historical aspect. The opponents of the Manuscripts became the targets of a witchhunt, but there was so much evidence against the Manuscripts that there was no way out but to accept the unpleasant truth. Chemical and physical tests, carried out in the 1960s, definitely endorsed the opinion of the opponents.

The Hilsner case became a real trial by fire for Masaryk and his family. It began with Anežka Hružová's shocking murder, which occurred near the village of Polná, in April 1899. Leopold Hilsner, a feeble-minded Jewish vagrant, was accused of this crime and sentenced to death because of a superstition about Jewish ritual murders. Mass hysteria and the strong anti-Semitism in Czech society influenced the trial. Masaryk was shocked by the fact that many, even well educated, people were ready to believe this absurd superstition. He pronounced his opinion in public in his articles, "The Significance of the Polná Case for Ritual Superstition" and "The Need to Revise the Polná Case". He managed to bring about the revision of the trial but the original death penalty was ratified. The Emperor commuted the death sentence to life imprisonment. Hilsner was released in 1918 but he has never been rehabilitated. For a long time T. G. Masaryk had to face personal attacks such as hissing at his lectures by the students, broken windows, and an attempt on his life. Except for some friends (from the magazine "Čas", a former student František Drtina, and the social-democratic press) the whole nation was against him. Dr Karel Baxa, the barrister for the Hružová family, increased his clientele, while Hilsner's barrister, Dr. Zdeněk Auředníček lost so many clients, that he had to move to Vienna. T. G. Masaryk was so disappointed by this case that he thought about moving to America.

- ▶ A. V. Šembera
- ▶▶ J. Gebauer
- ▶▶▶ Jan Kvíčala, first opponent, than defender of the Manuscripts

- ▶ Martin Hattala, defender of the Manuscripts
- ▶▶ The title page of „The Significance of the Polná case for Ritual Superstition“

T. G. Masaryk was always very interested in public affairs. He did his best to ensure that Czech countries were treated fairly in the Austrian-Hungarian Empire. In 1891 he appeared as a candidate for the Young Czechs in the elections to the Empire Council in Vienna and became a deputy for the Bohemian Forest towns. He was disgusted by the Young Czechs' double-dealing policy and by fighting between the parties. Moreover he was conscious of his own lack of political experience so he gave up the mandate in 1893. Then he started studying political literature, Czech history and the whole spirit of Czech culture. He wrote his fundamental works "The Czech Question", "Karel Havlíček" and "Our Present Crisis". For a second time he became a deputy, this time for the Czech Progress Party, founded by him and whose chairman he was, from 1907-1911 and 1911-1914. He represented Walachian towns. In his parliamentary speeches he dealt with education, culture, and freedom of confession. He asked for reforms of home and foreign policy and of the monarchy, drawing attention to the detrimental effect of monarchy dependency on German interests and to the unsolved problems of national minorities. He took part in spy cases; for instance, he proved the untrustworthiness of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs policy in a Zagreb case in 1904, when he rescued 53 supposed traitors from death sentences in a framed case. The magazine Čas (Time) was a significant support for him because it brought his parliamentary speeches before the public and generally reported his activity.

Russia played a significant role in the reflections of Czech politicians on the future relations of Czech countries with other Slavonic nations. T. G. Masaryk assiduously studied Russian literature, philosophy, history and policy. He was an admirer of L. N. Tolstoy but he admired his artistic faculties, not his philosophical ideas. He went to see him twice but he didn't agree with his pacifism and his liking for "muzhiks" (common Russian people). The panel "Seeking Knowledge in Russia" displays his remarks on his stay with Tolstoy in Jasná Poljana. He refused the messianism of the Russian Orthodox church and disapproved of the Tzar's policy but he considered Russia to have a serious importance for the future development of Europe. In his work "The Spirit of Russia" he showed his knowledge of Russian policy but he fell from favour with the Tzar's regime. He didn't return to Russia until 1917, when the Russian government allowed him to form legions in its country.

Masaryk's relations with Slovakia played an important role in shaping his view of the future of little nations in Habsburg monarchy and later, his concept of the independent state. Masaryk's father was Hungarian Slovak by origin. Masaryk spent his childhood in Moravian Slovakia. An exhibition in Turčianský Svätý Martin inspired Masaryk to make a deeper study of the Slovak situation. He got in touch with representatives of the younger Slovak generation, who had formed the Detvan group, with Vavro Šrobár, a medical student, as chairman. Later he contacted Milan Štefánik, also a student. He influenced their activities by his practical approach to patriotism. He changed the character of the "Hlas" magazine (The voice) published by Pavol Blaho in Skalica since

1898. The panel "Return to Slovakia" shows the title pages of "Hlas" containing parts of the articles "How to Work" and "Ideals of Humanism". Masaryk's opinion of the Slovak problem is to be seen in his letter to Dušan Makovický, a Slovak slavophile and Tolstoy's physician. Masaryk's heart-felt sympathy for the "Hlas" people is shown by a card sent to Šrobár to the Ružomberok prison. Even later Masaryk liked to return to Slovakia. He regularly went to his summer residence in Bystrička and he would go to the Topoľčianky chateau later in his presidential years.

- ▶ T. G. Masaryk as a deputy (1892)
- ▶▶ The accused in the „Zagreb-case“

- ▶ Jan Herben, Masaryk's student, writer, publisher and editor-in-chief of the magazine „Čas“
- ▶▶ Gustav Dubský, editor and publisher of „Čas“ accompanied by T. G. Masaryk and Dr. Hess, the leader of Hodonín Czechs with his son in 1909

Masaryk's life and work from 1882 - 1906 is summarised in a short audio-visual programme (in Czech, English and German) projected onto the first of the two gates standing on the way through the exhibition. The gate is book-shaped to show the character of Masaryk's activities in this period. It shows pages from a satiric-political weekly "Šípy" (Arrows) dating from 1894 - 1900, and containing cartoons satirising the unscrupulous political struggles of the parties. There are also pages from "Hodonínské listy" (Hodonín newspaper), dating from 1894 - 1900.

T. G. Masaryk made full use of his experience, knowledge and qualities during the First World War. He had been warning about dangerous tendencies in Austrian-Hungarian and German policies since 1907. After the outbreak of war he stood for the Triple Entente states. Together with Edvard Beneš and Milan Rastislav Štefánik he formed the Czechoslovak National Council seated in Paris. He managed to form one of the basic resistance support systems in exile - the Czechoslovak legions, in areas of Russia, France and Italy. Masaryk's activity was financially supported by the Sokols (Falcons), a P. T. movement, and American citizens, scholars and newspapermen such as Seton Watson and H. W. Steed. A series of exhausting negotiations took place in which

Masaryk tried to convince the Triple Entente states that the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy had to be split up. T. G. Masaryk welcomed the February anti-Tzar revolution, but he condemned the Bolshevik revolution. He went to Russia in 1917 and thence to the USA. Here he delivered the Independence Declaration to President Wilson in Washington on 18th October 1918. The National Council in Prague announced independence on 28th October 1918 and T.G.Masaryk was elected the President of the Czechoslovak Republic on 14th November 1918.

- ▶ L. N. Tolstoy
- ▶▶ T. G. Masaryk speaks to legionaries in Bereznoe, August 1917

- ▶ Pavol Blaho, M.B.
- ▶▶ Vavro Šrobár, M.B.

The objects in the middle showcase by the window illustrate Masaryk's resistance in exile. The suitcase is a replica of Masaryk's wartime suitcase. The counterfeit passport under the name of T. G. Marsden and the death penalty abolition document show the danger inherent in his resistance activities. There is also a letter to Vojta Beneš (Edvard Beneš's brother) about a successful negotiation in Paris. This shows the contact with fellow countrymen, their financial support and some receipts. The flags lent from the estate of Jan Masaryk symbolise the participation of Czech delegations in the post-war negotiations. There is a photograph of resistance representatives at the negotiations on the subject of Czechoslovak independence that took place before 28th October 1918. The text in the showcase comes from the First Message of the First President of the Republic, in which Masaryk reported on resistance activities in exile. The quotations from this document are used in other showcases concerning the war. The riding outfit in the last showcase by the window wall is a replica of Masaryk's favourite one. T. G. Masaryk didn't learn to ride until he was sixty but then he enjoyed it very much.

Uniforms in the tall showcases on the opposite side represent the French Legions and the Italian Territorial Army. The flag with the Latin inscription "Veritas vincit" (Truth conquers) belongs to the Siberian Jan Žižka of the Trocnov regiment and is borrowed from the estate of Jan Masaryk. The last showcase is dedicated to the Slovak Brigade. It shows that the 28th October didn't bring peace. The Czechoslovak frontiers were not ratified by treaty, so there was the threat of losing the frontier regions and Slovakia. The Slovak Brigade was a voluntary unit formed to help Slovakia.

- ▶ T. G. Masaryk with Jan and Alice in Bystrička

The next turning point in Masaryk's life is shown at the second gate, again with a short audio-visual programme (in Czech, English and German). Its ruined appearance symbolises the First World War and the Czechoslovak resistance in exile, led by T. G. Masaryk. The columns beside the gate bear legionary press cuttings, leaflets appealing to soldiers to desert, war news and a message announcing the death of Masaryk's son Herbert in 1915. There are newspapers proclaiming the Declaration of Independence and the President's homecoming. The characteristic feature of this part of the exhibition is a quotation on the wall: "We concentrate all our strength to make our state the stronghold of freedom in the heart of Europe, the vanguard of democracy in the East." After going through the gate and the following door we find ourselves in the President's office.

Presidential Room

The office of the President of Republic is dominated by the life-sized figure in white artificial stone by Arch Petr Roztočil, showing President T. G. Masaryk holding a newspaper and glasses. The statue is on a replica of President's chair, from the library of Prague Castle. The original of the chair was designed by the architect, Josip Plečnik. The desk is of the same origin. The office doesn't look like the original Presidential office, because this room is of a quite different character. The lower shelves of the library carry books from the Masaryk Museum's collection in Hodonín and from the Ethnographic Museum in Kyjov. They show Masaryk's interests. There are several years' volumes of the magazines "Naše doba" (Our time), founded by Masaryk, and "Světovoz" (World View), where Masaryk published his first articles during his studies in Vienna. His tribute to his late friend, Josef Brandejš was published here. There are also several years' volumes of "Přítomnost" (Presence), showing his relations with Ferdinand Peroutka, as well as empire codes from Masaryk's time as a deputy and various dictionaries. The upper shelves contain documents giving an account of the political life in the first republic. This part of the exhibition was based on the book "Prague Castle in the period of T. G. Masaryk" by Jiří Kovtun and Zdeněk Lukeš.

- ▶ Presidential room - view of the room

The first president of the Czechoslovak Republic, T. G. Masaryk, returned home in December 1918. His first stop was in Horní Dvořiště on 20th December 1918 and the next day he entered Prague. He was ceremonially welcomed at Wilson Station, then cheered by large crowds of people as he was driven through Prague. His car was decorated with flowers and accompanied by three rows of legionaries. The texts of the "Washington Declaration" of the 18th October 1918 and the "Nation Manifesto" of the 28th October 1918, in which the Czechoslovak National Committee announced independence, bear witness to the significance of these days. The festive atmosphere is depicted by various small objects - a photograph of the welcome in Prague, waiting-hall tickets from Wilson Station, invitations to Prague Castle, a theatre programme for the gala performance of the opera "Libuše". This opera took place in the National Theatre on 22nd December in honour of T. G. Masaryk. Emma Destinová, the famous soprano, was starring. The first official announcement made by Masaryk was the "First message of the President of the Republic", in which he acquainted the National Assembly with the activities of the resistance in exile and introduced his political programme. T. G. Masaryk had planned to come back to his scientific and teaching work after the war and he wasn't prepared for presidential office. He was aware of the responsibility he would have and that's why he had prepared the principles of his political programme on his way from the United States. It turned out that he was right to expect a lot of work.

- ▶ President T. G. Masaryk in Horní Dvořiště on 20. 12. 1918
- ▶▶ Triumphant march through Prague

Unrest in Slovakia and the Hungarian desire to maintain Slovakia as a part of Hungary were real threats to the young Czechoslovak state. The interim government was elected on 4th November 1918. The head was Vavro Šrobár, the members, A. Štefánek, Ivan Děrer and Pavol Blaho. The first session of this government took place in Hodonín. The interim government had practically no real power, because Slovakia was still occupied by the Hungarians. The National Committee and exile government agreed that the situation required firm handling. The National Committee passed a law instituting emergency measures in Slovakia and consequently the Ministry for Slovakia headed by Vavro Šrobár was founded. The ministry's task was to keep law and order, as well as to consolidate and secure the regular running of the state. Later, offices and schools were Slovakised; Slovak was introduced as an official language etc. Immaturity of Slovak political life and a lack of educated people, however, made it impossible to form an autonomous state, as was wanted by some Slovak representatives, on the basis of the Pittsburg Agreement of May 1918. The concept of "Czechoslovakism", which was accepted by a number of politicians has had more than one interpretation. T. G. Masaryk had the idea of one Czechoslovak nation as a political entity and considered the Czechs and Slovaks as one state-forming unit. The next development showed that although this concept was positive in strengthening the Slovak political position, it would not lead to the future development of two nations. Even though the Slovak political scene was incomplete, a lot of Slovaks influenced the Czechoslovak governmental activities from ministerial seats. Milan Hodža was the Minister of Agriculture and Education and then from the period of the 5th November 1935 to 4th October 1938, he was Prime Minister. Josef Tiso, who was to become the President of Slovakia, was the Minister of Health in 1927 - 1929. Nevertheless some Slovaks were influenced by separatist tendencies of Andrej Hlinka's Slovak People's Party, and they were disappointed that the Pittsburg Agreement was not fulfilled in respect of the point that "Slovakia will have its own authorities, council and lawcourt." Andrej Hlinka and Vojtěch Tura secretly took part in the peace conference in Paris where they called for Slovak autonomy. Because of that they were interned, which served as an excuse for separatists' activities. Hlinka's Slovak Peoples Party acted as an opposition party, apart from during the years 1927 - 1929, when it became a part of the government coalition. The separatists had a strong presence at the Pribina feasts in Nitra on 12th-15th August 1933. They achieved a certain success after the Munich Agreement. But this sort of success was, of course, relative. The post-Munich atmosphere in Slovakia is shown by the photograph of Slovak refugees in front of Masaryk school in Hodonín.

- ▶ Vavro Šrobár
- ▶▶ Josef Tiso
- ▶▶▶ Milan Hodža

- ▶ President T. G. Masaryk speaking to Andrej Hlinka on their way to Štefánik's monument in Bradlo

T. G. Masaryk worked according to his political programme, built on principles of democracy and humanity. To be able to apply these principles consistently he considered it necessary to reform the state executive and parliament. The 1920 Constitution didn't give him much power - it limited the presidential function solely to its representative aspect. That's why he proposed changes to strengthen his authority - e.g. the right to take part in governmental sessions and to speak in the Parliament. Although his power was limited by the Constitution he was a strong president thanks to his strong personality. Some photographs of official hearings show the representative nature of the presidential office- the official visit of T. G. Masaryk to the French President Millerand in Paris in 1923 and others. The president appointed and dismissed ministers, decided on their numbers and determined their areas of responsibility. T. G. Masaryk had clear ideas about tasks and aims of particular state departments and formulated these ideas briefly in letters of appointment for new ministers in the form of various references. During his term of office he appointed 14 governments and he tried to appoint experts to key positions. He used his power to convene and dissolve the National Assembly three times in accordance with the parliamentary majority. Documents concerning the presidential jurisdiction are displayed. Although Masaryk was not happy to see his powers limited by the Constitution, he was, none the less, in favour of it. The constitution secured liberty and equal rights for all citizens, irrespective of language, race or religion, it introduced direct, general, and secret ballots and the equal right to vote for women. You can see parts of the constitution from February 29, 1920 on the panel between the windows.

- ▶ Yugoslavian King Alexander I. on a visit to Láňy
- ▶▶ T. G. Masaryk on an official visit to French President Alexander Millerand in Paris in 1923

During Masaryk's period in office, Prague Castle became a real centre of democratic government. Although the Election Act, securing proportional representation for all parties in Parliament, tended to split the political scene, there was remarkable political stability. After the first elections in 1920 there were 14 political parties (only 3 of them had more than 10%), in the last election in 1935 there were also 14 parties and 4 of them with more than 10% - the Agrarians, Henlein's Sudeto-German Party, the Social Democrats and the Communists. No political party was in so strong position as to be able to govern by itself. Coalition governments were a frequent phenomenon in the first republic. The pre-election atmosphere in the first republic is evoked by leaflets of the National Fascist Party, Communist Party, National Party of Work and Czechoslovak National-Socialist Party from various years, a list of Parliamentary and Senate candidates from Hodonín, a photograph of Parliament and a plan of the Senate. Assorted documents represent the presidential election - voting slips from 1934, a seating plan of the Vladislav hall and the next room on election day, May 24, 1934, Masaryk's thanks for congratulations on his re-election in May, 1934, Masaryk's identification cards from 1935 and a photograph of Masaryk going to the second election accompanied by General Pellé and General Inspector Svatopluk Machar, together with a photograph of the President with members of the National Assembly in the Castle Yard after his election in 1934.

- ▶ President T. G. Masaryk and his wife after the first election (April 1920)
- ▶▶ President with members of the National Assembly in the Castle Yard after his election in 1934

Masaryk's co-operation with representatives of the five most influential political parties began during the post-war crises. The destructive activities of German political parties had caused social problems in the early post-war years, culminating in the general strike of December 1920 and the internal crisis of the Social Democratic Party which caused a split in the party and the formation of the Communist party from the radical wing. After the abdication of the government headed by the Social Democrat, Vlastimil Tusar, a new caretaker government was nominated. The new Prime Minister Jan Černý, can be seen in the photograph on the lower shelf. The position of the new government was adversely affected by the selfish behaviour of the parliamentary parties. This led to an agreement between the chairmen of the Agrarian Party (Antonín Švehla), the Social Democratic Party (Rudolf Bechyně), the National Democratic Party (Alois Rašín and after his assassination, Kramář), the People's Party (Jan Šrámek) and the National-Socialist Party (Jiří Stříbrný) about a common programme. A group called the "Five" was formed which controlled the Czechoslovak political scene till 1925. Photographs of the "Group of Five" and members of the first Czechoslovak government are displayed. Masaryk co-operated with all of them but most and best with Antonín Švehla. The "Group of Five" brought to politics that ability to compromise, which is the hallmark of a coalition. T. G. Masaryk spoke about the "Group of Five's" activity in his speech to the National Assembly early in 1922. He said that democracy couldn't work without able, educated and appropriate experts, workers and scientists.

- ▶ Antonín Švehla
- ▶▶ Legionary congress in Prague on June 29, 1924
- ▶ The Sokol festival in Hodonín in 1934
- ▶▶ The Sokol festival in Hodonín in 1934

When referring to Masaryk, his adherents and close circle, the journalists used the word "Castle" They would also speak about the "Castle Policy". Masaryk's closest associates were his son Jan, daughter Alice, Dr. Edvard Beneš, Dr. Přemysl Šámal, the chairman of the President of the Republic's Office, Josef Schieszl, a department chairman, Kamil Krofta, the historian and diplomat, and Jaroslav Preiss, the Trade Bank director - all of them are in the photos. Legionaries and the Sokols belonged to a broader group around Masaryk. The Sokols are represented by photographs of all their festivals, among them a photo of the 1930 festival in Hodonín. Masaryk said about the "Castle Policy": "There is no "Castle Policy" as such: "I and the people around me do not carry out any policy other than that prescribed by the Constitution and Parliament. I have my own political convictions, as has each citizen, and, as president, have duties defined by the Constitution. I have never hidden my convictions and I have understood my duty to speak openly to the Government and political party leaders about our common concerns. Sometimes they persuade me, sometimes I persuade them. That is the Castle Policy in its entirety."

Prague Castle was not in good enough repair to be a suitably stately seat of government for a democratic state. The President of the Republic's Office had credit for its renovation taking on, as it did, control of the Castle. The President of the Republic's Office was established by law on December 5, 1919. T. G. Masaryk nominated Dr. Přemysl Šámal as Chancellor. Copies of the law and the letter of appointment are on show in the exhibition. The aim of the Office was to arrange the President's meetings with the Government, Parliament, various institutions and the public. The members of the Office were all experts; the President was not interested in their party adherence. The Office controlled the Castle administratively. However, the appearance of the Castle was entrusted to an outstanding Slovenian architect Josip Plečnik. He can be seen, on the displayed photographs, during his reconstruction of the Castle. Masaryk's concept of the Castle's appearance is to be seen in the copy of his will from 1925.

- ▶ Architect Josip Plečnik
- ▶▶ The renovation of the Castle

T. G. Masaryk soon felt the limitations of the presidential office: not only the loss of his private life but also the inability fully to air his opinions in public. He solved this problem partly by writing anonymous articles of current interest which were published in Ferdinand Peroutka's "Přítomnost" magazine, the rise of which he supported financially. Several volumes of the "Přítomnost" can be seen in the library and Ferdinand Peroutka also has his place in the section devoted to journalists, artists and the "Friday" men. As the founder of two magazines and the author of many books and articles, Masaryk was close to journalists but he was also attracted to interesting and creative people of various professions. He met these people regularly in the flat of the writer and journalist Karel Čapek, always on Fridays - that's why they became known as the "Friday Men". You can see Masaryk's meetings with them, and particularly with Karel Čapek, in the photographs and in Adolf Hoffmeister's cartoons. Other photographs show his meetings with American film stars: Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks in Láňy Château.

- ▶ "Friday Men., by Adolf Hoffmeister
- ▶▶ T. G. Masaryk and Karel Čapek (Bystrička 1931)
- ▶▶ T. G. Masaryk, his children Alice and Jan and Karel Čapek (Bystrička 1931)

This section deals briefly with the German problem. The Germans didn't recognise the Czechoslovak Republic and claimed the right to self-determination and separation from Czechoslovakia for the German inhabited regions. Soon they learned to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Constitution and from 1919 German political parties took part regularly in the elections. Moderate parties were especially successful and their representatives gained some ministerial seats. Photographs and letters of appointment of Franz Spina and Ludwig Czech can be seen here as an example of this trend. The activities of the German nationalists started to increase especially after 1933, when Adolf Hitler became the German Chancellor. In this section can be seen photos of German nationalists in this country - Konrad Henlein and K. H. Frank as well as the rough draft of Masaryk's statement "Congress and the Language Question" showing Masaryk's attitude to minority languages.

- ▶ Ludwig Czech
- ▶▶ Franz Spina
- ▶▶ General Milan Rastislav Štefánik

The problem of state security arose through initial uncertainty in the new state and continued because of the dangerous developments in neighbouring Germany. There were two needs: the conception of a clear foreign policy and the formation of a republican army. T. G. Masaryk, as a practical politician, realised the importance of the army for the new state. His attitude to this problem is represented by some thoughts quoted in this section. The foundation of the army was provided by the legions, comprising 55 000 men in Russia, 20 000 in Italy and about 10 000 in France. Their existence was one of the significant reasons for recognition, by the Entente powers, of Czechoslovakia as a war state. In his message of December 22, 1918, Masaryk spoke about the legions as being a rich educational inspiration for our future generations. In the passage dealing with the army are photographs of Masaryk's visit to legionaries in Bereznoe in the Ukraine and of a legion march-past in front of the Hotel des Invalides in Prague. The first Minister of Defence was appointed. He was M. R. Štefánik (see photo), who had organised the formation of the legions. He didn't take up office because he died in a plane crash when returning to Slovakia. So the first active Minister of Defence was Václav Klepáč (his photograph is among those of the members of the first government in the other part of the room), his outstanding successors were František Udržal and General Jan Sirový. The General Inspector of the Czechoslovak military force was the poet, Josef Svatopluk Machar, a controversial figure in our history. Photographs of T. G. Masaryk on various manoeuvres and in march-pasts demonstrate the seriousness of Masaryk's attitude to military problems. The photographs of the oath of the Slovak Brigade in Hodonín 1918 and the VIIth Infantry Regiment in Masaryk Square in Hodonín, 1928 show Hodonín inhabitants' sense of patriotic duty. Data concerning the paramilitary duties conferred by the National Defence Act of 19th March 1920 and the first page of the Disciplinary Order of the Czechoslovak Army can be seen here.

- ▶ Prague garrison parade on the army training ground in front of the Hotel des Invalides. 26th January, 1919
- ▶▶ Strikes in Hodonín
- ▶ Alois Rašín

The social question was one of the pressing problems. T. G. Masaryk continued his 1907 social programme. He considered provision for ill health and old age to be necessities. It wasn't a question of philanthropy, but of justice, in his opinion. Although a lot of reforms were instigated in comparison with neighbouring states, the Social Security system wasn't perfect. Because of some unsolved problems there was unrest culminating in a series of strikes. The strike in December 1920, was the biggest and the most dangerous. Hodonín was one of its centres. Photographs of Hodonín strikers may be seen in this section. The tragedy of these events is illustrated by a text with information about the biggest strikes and their victims and by facsimili of news articles. These items report not only the loss of blood, during the breaking of the strikes, but also tragedies with social consequences, such as the collapse of the badly built Centrum hotel in Prague, where tens of people died. Social problems affected Masaryk greatly. His social feeling is expressed in his quotation from 1933: "I am ashamed in each suppliant's presence and I feel humiliated by each petitioner. I give what they ask me in order to be rid of the living memento of our unresolved social problems. I buy off my remorseful conscience." The first republic saw several cases of attempted assassinations. The attempt on the life of the Prime Minister Karel Kramář in January 1919 fortunately failed. But the attempt on the life of the Minister of Finance, Alois Rašín, who was wounded when shot by a young Communist fanatic, had tragic consequences. Alois Rašín died on 18th February. There are letters of condolence from T. G. Masaryk to the wives of both politicians, samples of period press and E. Beneš's ticket to Rašín's burial. T. G. Masaryk was deeply worried by all acts of inhumanity during the period of the first republic and showed it on every possible occasion. As a reaction to the death of Alois Rašín he said, in an announcement addressed to the Prime Minister, that violence didn't belong in a civilised state and labelled the violence done to Dr. Rašín as inhuman and un-Czech. His ideal was democracy based on honour and love for everybody.

Family room

The room dedicated to Masaryk's family closes the autobiographical part of the Masaryk Museum. T. G. Masaryk lived with his wife Charlotte (20-11-1850 - 13-5-1923) in a happy and harmonious marriage that lasted 45 years. They had four children. Their photos and dates of birth may be seen in the first part of the panel by the window. The oldest Alice (3-5-1879 - 5-11-1966) studied philosophy and sociology and, after the death of her mother, took on the office of First Lady. She gained recognition for the foundation of the Czechoslovak Red Cross and in February 1919, she became its chairwoman. One son, Herbert (1-5-1880 - 15-3-1915) was a talented painter but his life was cut short when he died of typhus in the First World War. He left two daughters Anna and Herberta. The other son, Jan (14-9-1886 - 10-3-1948) had a successful diplomatic career. He worked as the Czechoslovak ambassador in London and Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Affairs. His tragic death will, probably, never be explained. Daughter Olga (25-5-1891 - 24-9-1978) married a Swiss physician Dr Henry Revilliod. They had two sons, Leonard and Herbert. Leonard was a volunteer in the Czechoslovak Air Force in England in World War II. He died in a plane crash in 1944. Herbert never recovered from his war sufferings and he died a year later. The fifth Masaryk's child is mentioned on the panel, a daughter Eleanor, but she died at the age of several months.

The family tree in the lower part of the panel shows that Masaryk came from a very old Slovak farming family. The photographs placed on the other side of the panel show Masaryk's favourite pass-time, horse-riding, which he didn't take up until he was sixty. However, he made up for lost time by continuing to ride until he was a ripe old age.

- ▶ T. G. Masaryk and his family before World War I.
- ▶▶ The President riding his horse, Hector.

The panel at the door is dedicated to Masaryk's stay at the Lány chateau after his resignation on the 14th December 1935, when he said: "The office of president is hard and responsible and requires one's full faculties. I realise that I can't keep up the necessary pace and that is why I am resigning. I was elected President four times and I hope that that gives me the right to ask you and the whole Czechoslovak nation, as well as citizens of other nationalities, to remember that states can persevere in those ideals from which they were born." As well as photographs of the resignation and the first official visit of the newly elected President of Republic, Dr Edvard Beneš, an aerial photograph of the Chateau at Lány may be seen, together with photos of T. G. Masaryk sitting alone in the chair or accompanied by daughter Alice and grandsons Leonard and Herbert. Your attention is drawn to Hoffmeister's cartoon of Masaryk with a paralysed arm and a signed menu from Lány.

- ▶ The first visit of the second President, E. Beneš to Lány
- ▶▶ Lány chateau

Various small items from the family estate, lent by Dr. Antonín Sum, are displayed in the showcase under the window. There are badges and sports trophies belonging to Olga, who was a good tennis player. The medals were Jan's and grandson Leonard did the pastel drawings, at the age of 18. There is also Leonard's sketchbook. The copy of Masaryk's diplomatic passport comes from the Masaryk Institute Archives in Prague. The original of the displayed Native Homicide Certificate belonging to Mrs Charlotte

Masaryk can be seen in the National Museum Archives in Prague. A precious exhibit is the plaster cast of a hand of Charlotte Masaryk, by Jan Štursa, the sculptor. It is a gift from Mrs Herberta Masaryk - Poche, granddaughter of T. G. Masaryk. The movable scrolls on both sides of the entrance door allow visitors to see the connection of events in Masaryk's life with outstanding dates in world history. The power of Masaryk's democratic ideas is expressed by Jiří Kovtun's quotation from 1966 shown on the black background between the panels. At the end of the room is a wonderful quotation from Čapek's "Talks with T.G.M.": "I am bold enough to say that everything in which I believed in turned out to be right, so that I didn't have to dilute my belief in humanity and democracy, my search for the truth, or the highest moral and religious command to love my fellow men".

Heritage of TGM

The room next to the biographical part of the exhibition is dedicated to the relationship between President Masaryk and his native country and, above all, to the enduring nature of Masaryk's spiritual and moral legacy.

The showcase under the window contains medals with T.G.Masaryk's portraits. Silver medals from 1937 and a bronze medal are works by the outstanding Czech medallist Otakar Španiel. The medal by French medallist Lucien Bazor comes from Jan Masaryk's estate. An interesting exhibit is the album with its dedication page: "Jan Masaryk to the region where the President - Liberator was born. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of T. G. Masaryk's birthday, Hodonín 1850". A tiny publication about the first National Pilgrimage to Hodonín refers to the second raising of T. G. Masaryk's monument in Hodonín. At the back of the showcase can be seen the cover and record of Masaryk's speeches from the 10th anniversary of the 28th October, 1918. There are also plates showing Masaryk's portrait as an expression of naive folk admiration for his personality, the embroidered flag of Hodonín International Rotary Club and various postage stamps and postmarks from 7th March 1930. The menus at the front are from Masaryk's visit to his native town in 1924.

After this there is a panel dealing with Masaryk's visit to his native region. It shows photographs of the event. The panel is headed by a quotation from Masaryk's speech to Hodonín citizens on 18th June, 1924. The revolving stand next to the panel shows quotations by various public figures; scientists or men of letters.

- ▶ Visit to Hodonín on 18th June 1924
A little girl is welcoming T.G.M. in front of the school, which stands on the site of his birthplace.
- ▶▶ T.G.M. and his classmates in Hodonín on 18th June 1924

The panel and the revolving stand deal with the history of Masaryk's heritage. The panel "The Fate of Masaryk's Democracy after 1937" demonstrates events of World War II in Hodonín. These were typical of what happened in other parts of the country. The German army occupied Hodonín on 15th March, 1939. The first mass arrests took place after the attack on Poland on 1st September, 1939. A lot of citizens joined the anti-fascist resistance; either the "Defence of the Nation" or "Moravian Equality" groups. The arrested rebels were deported to concentration camps. A transfer camp was in the near-by village of Svatoborice. Apart from other adversities, Hodonín suffered a bombing raid by the Allied Forces on 20th November, 1944, in which 179 Hodonín citizens lost their lives. The liberation came on 12th - 13th April 1945. The photographs on the panel show the atmosphere in Hodonín in 1939 and 1940, a visit by the Empire Protector Neurath, who hunted in the Hodonín woods and the queue for food coupons for meat, sugar, bread and margarine. The photograph of Czechs expelled from Slovakia is sad evidence of the tragic end of the republic. Part of the panel shows photographs of Hodonín in ruins after the Allied Armies' bombing raid in November, 1944, and Masaryk bridge, destroyed by the retreating Germans. The end of the war is illustrated by photographs of Soviet officers and the Town Commander, Cpt. Iljuchin, after the liberation of Hodonín and of the farewell to the IVth Romanian Army that passed through Hodonín. The fall of Germany is announced by a humorous obituary.

- ▶ Konrad Neurath hunting in Hodonín woods
- ▶▶ The House of Arts destroyed by bombing raid

The information on the next revolving stand continues the theme of the previous panel. It is entitled: "What we were like" and is introduced by the motto: "We can cast out the devil by the revolution, but if we don't change our hearts, thoughts and morals, Beelzebub will rule instead." The introductory page of the revolving stand contains a facsimile of period press cuttings and photos representing turning points in our recent history (years 1945, 1948, 1968 and 1989). Next there is a section called "T. G. Masaryk's legacy to his native town" showing the changeable attitudes of the ruling regimes to T. G. Masaryk and the fate of Masaryk's monument in Hodonín. In 1926 the Council for Raising the T. G. Masaryk Monument in Hodonín was formed in response to the Czechoslovak Legionary Corporation. It managed to collect almost 400 000 Czech crowns. A competition for the artistic project was announced and the winner was Alois Bučánek. The foundation stone was laid in 1928 (see photograph), the unveiling of the statue took place on 28th September, 1931 in the presence of the Minister, Ivan Dérer, whose portrait can be seen here. The next photograph shows the appearance of the statue in the 30s. The notice in front of the monument, dating from the beginning of the war says that decorating the statue with flowers is illegal. The monument was taken down in 1940 for the first time, as may be seen from the photograph. By order of Protector Konrad Neurath (15th July 1940), all items evoking Czechoslovakia's adherence to constitutional law were to be removed. All the statues of Masaryk were deposited in Prague - Smíchov (see photograph). The second unveiling took place on the last day of the first Pilgrimage to Hodonín (6th September, 1945) in the presence of Prokop Drtina, chairman of the President of the Republic's Office (and known under the nickname of "Saint Paul"). Snaps of the festival are displayed. The photograph from the late 50s / early 60s shows the monument with its renovated reliefs. The 50s, however, weren't kind to Masaryk's monuments. The culmination of the antagonism to the monument was the affixing of a libellous article, in 1960, (see photo) and then the building of a fence around it. Finally the statue was taken away to an unknown place on 22nd February, 1961 and the granite pedestal and the bronze reliefs were removed. Relaxation of the political situation in 1968 brought an attempt to re-erect the monument. On 25th October, 1968 the monument was put up again, in spite of protests from the commander of the Soviet Army, which was then present. The statue was not, however, in its original form as the bronze reliefs had been broken. The festive atmosphere of these days can be seen in the photographs displayed. The eventful history of the monument wasn't over yet. On 23rd March, 1977 the third removal took place. For the fourth, and perhaps last time, the monument was put up in the original place intended by Jaroslav Jurčák in May, 1990. The displayed photos show the preparation of the statue in the yard of the House of Arts, and the installation. The festive unveiling of the monument took place in the presence of President Václav Havel and other outstanding visitors on 7th March, 1990. There are several photos of the ceremony - the thronging 17.lístopad-Square, President Václav Havel putting a bunch of flowers in front of the statue and the renovated statue.

- ▶ The monument of T. G. Masaryk in Hodonín in its original shape
- ▶▶ 1940: removal of the monument
- ▶▶▶ President Václav Havel places a bunch of flowers at the monument of 7th March 1990

At the end of the room is a bust of T. G. Masaryk, a work by Alois Bučánek, the author of the monument. There is a quotation above the door saying:

"No violence, but mildness, no sword, but the plough,
no blood, but work, not death, but life -
this is the answer of Czech man, this is the sense of our history
and our ancestors' heritage."

Besides the Masaryk exhibition can be found a room called "The Democracy Classroom". This is a real classroom, where a blackboard, milk glass and a school desk are in evidence. A 25-minute-film on Masaryk is projected here. An old globe, stove and portraits of T. G. Masaryk complete the atmosphere of the classroom. The drawing by J. Prokop and the oil painting by Bedřich Hess are of the best.

The Hodonín Room

The history of Hodonín is revealed in the next room. We go back to the days of Masaryk. The titles of particular parts of the exhibition correspond to periods in Masaryk's life.

Hodonín in the period of Masaryk's presidency • News of the declaration of the independent Czechoslovak Republic reached Hodonín on 29th October, 1918, in the morning, and sparked off tremendous enthusiasm among the Czech inhabitants. The presidium headed by chairman Fritz Redlich resigned immediately. The newly formed National Committee elected Eduard Krajiček as chairman. The National Committee took a series of measures to preserve calm in town. These were the issuing of effective announcements and the formation of the Czechoslovak People's Guards from former soldiers. A portrait of Eduard Krajiček and some of the afore mentioned announcements are displayed in a showcase. Hodonín became the seat of the provisional

Slovak government headed by Vavro Šrobár in the revolutionary days. Because the situation in Slovakia was still dangerous, the voluntary military units called "The Slovak Brigade" were formed to secure peace and quiet. The beginnings of the First Republic in Hodonín were marked by social unrest, which culminated in the December strike in 1920. In spite of these troubles the town kept and even extended the economic structure formed before 1918. The Slovak Stock Brickfield, an outstanding factory in the town and the biggest of its kind in the Republic with about 1500 workers, was operational. Other factories were a sugar factory, Lignum, a wood-working factory, the Khon parquet factory, the Maryša and Moravia food factories, coal and oil companies, some little firms such as Frankl's tannery, a distillery, a steam-mill and a scales producing factory. A large number of craftsmen and tradesmen worked in Hodonín. In 1932 there were 868 different businesses. On display are some exhibits linked to industry in Hodonín, such as a mandolin, a price list for musical instruments, advertisements, and shoemaker's and book-binder's tools.

- ▶ Eduard Krajiček
- ▶▶ The oath of the Slovak Brigade in the square in front of the town-hall
- ▶▶ The Hess Road (today National Road)

The town fostered cultural and educational activity. The Choir of Moravian teachers and the Hlahol Choir often gave concerts. The Association of Moravian Artists was known even outside the region. The Masaryk Museum renewed its activity as well as the Podlužan Academic Society and Amateur Actors Club. The Radio Club was founded. The activities of the Sokols, Orels, Workers' P. T. Unit, Tourists' Club, Rowing Club and Scouts and Girl-Guides contributed to the cultural life of the town. All the activities can be seen in the displayed photos, invitations, and membership cards.

- ▶ The House of Arts
- ▶▶ Men exercising at the Sokol festival, Hodonín, 1934

Hodonín during Masaryk's Youth and Early Infancy • The town emerged from feudal isolation in this period. Ferdinand's Northern Railway Line was in operation (the first train went through Hodonín on 1st May, 1841) as well as the roads to Brno or Petrov. The post-office and telegraph services were also running. The Empire Estate and tobacco factory had an economically dominant position. The beginnings of the tobacco factory date back to 1793. Emperor Joseph II sold the water chateau to the state which converted it into the tobacco factory. The change of social circumstances after 1848 influenced the town's development. The consequences of the revolutionary year, 1848, were the first municipal election in 1850 and the cancelling of statutory labour. Hodonín was gradually becoming a town. The Empire Estate moved to Čejkovice. In 1852, Mauthner's Malting House was opened, in 1856, the square was paved over, and in 1859, gaslights were installed. The relatively successful economic development was interrupted by the Prussian - Austrian war. The Prussian Army occupied the town and after they had left cholera spread. Nevertheless progress continued. In 1860, the Slovak Stock Brickfield was opened and 10 years later the Redlich family bought it. In 1865, the first sugar factory and, in 1881, the foundry and the machine works started work. Financial institutes were established, especially saving banks. A new school, meetinghouse, barracks and municipal slaughterhouse were built. In 1894, the Czech Realschule was opened, which was the first secondary school in Hodonín. The director was nominated: F. A. Slavík, the historian. In 1899, electricity was installed, two years later a new cemetery with the Neo-Gothic chapel was opened. In 1902, the hospital was built. The new town hall, in the style of the Nürnberg secession, has stood in the square since 1904. In 1913, the fish factory started up. Photos of some of these enterprises and buildings in their original form are the oldest photos of Hodonín - the old sugar factory, Realschule, tobacco factory, Redlich's Mill, barracks etc. Besides the photographs in the showcase, there are period objects and small printed items, e. g. notebooks with tobacco prescriptions, a German-Czech market order, butcher's scales, an old-fashioned telephone and the bilingual metal street sign from Franz Josef-Square (today's Masaryk Square).

- ▶ Realschule
- ▶▶ A backwater of the Morava River
- ▶ The town hall
- ▶▶ The tobacco factory
- ▶ The brewery around 1910
- ▶▶ The railway station in 1877

Clubs thrived in the town. The club of readers and singers called Svatopluk is considered the oldest club in Hodonín. The Sokols have been in operation since 1872. In 1893 the Club of Amateur Actors and Actresses was founded. The activity of Hlahol, a choral society contributed to cultural life. The ethnographic exhibition in 1892 was a great impetus for further development of cultural life in Hodonín. It resulted in the formation of the Foundation, which initiated the Czech Realschule in 1894. The idea of founding the Slovak Museum Club wasn't realised until 1903. At the turn of the century, the Orel movement (another P. T. organisation) and the Czech Rowing Club started up. The Association of Moravian Artists, founded 1907, was an outstanding organisation, assembling such figures as Joža and Franta Úprkas, Antonín Frolka, Alois Kalvoda, Stanislav Lolek, Ludvík Ehrenhaft and Martin Benka. The House of Arts opened on 4th May, 1913 and, designed by Antonín Blažek, became the main arts centre in Moravia. An art gallery is situated in this important building. The first World War severely interrupted club activity. For instance a Turkish hospital was set up in the House of Arts. In the showcase you can see exhibits illustrating the cultural life in Hodonín; Hodonín Foundation constitution, invitations, the oldest photos of Hodonín clubs (the Sokols, choirs etc.), marionettes whose owners bear famous names in this field, such as Flaxa or Berousek.

- ▶ The Hodonín Sokols
- ▶ The Sokol drummers

Hodonín before 1850 (Before Masaryk was born) • This section covers a far longer period than the two previous ones. The central exhibits are a scale model of the water chateau, with the tower clock machinery placed above it. The water chateau used to be where the tobacco factory is today. Earl Břetislav I. had it built as a watchtower guarding the borders from Hungarian attack and securing trade routes. The Earls of Lipá had it rebuilt as a Renaissance chateau and Emperor Joseph II. sold it to a tobacco company. The chateau was gradually rebuilt to meet tobacco factory's needs and it lost its former character. Only fragments of cellars, the coat-of-arms of the Earls of Kunštát and the displayed tower clock were preserved. Around 1030, the settlement was developing around the castle. Queen Konstancie of Hungary bestowed various privileges on it in 1228. There are still arguments about the authenticity of these documents and scientists tend to believe that the documents are 10 years younger. Only some of the original documents were preserved. The oldest of them showed the confirmation of privileges by margrave Jan Jindřich in 1350. The displayed copy is a confirmation of the privileges granted by King Jiří of Poděbrady, in 1460. We have chosen this confirmation for display because the earls of Kunštát were related to Jiří of Poděbrady and granted privileges to Hodonín over several generations. The atmosphere in the town was one of religious tolerance, which was good for production and trade. Owing to its position on the border, Hodonín became the scene of many diplomatic negotiations between Czech and Hungarian rulers. In 1301 Hodonín played host to King Václav II and the Hungarian delegation, led by Matúš Čák Trenčianský. Václav II was offered the Hungarian Crown of St. Stephen here. He refused it and proposed his son, Václav III, as the Hungarian king in his place. In 1347, Karel IV negotiated with Brno townsmen here. He visited Hodonín again, to negotiate the marriage of his son, Zikmund and a Hungarian princess. In the showcase you can see casts of Czech kings' seals. But the border position of Hodonín had its dark side. It often became the target for attacks and because of the marshes and large numbers of mosquitoes it was not a pleasant place to live. It often fell into foreign hands and gradually awareness of its allegiance to crown got lost. On 31st December 1512, Vilém of Pernštejn bought it for his son as can be seen from the displayed facsimile of the document, saying that King Vladislav II is transferring the Hodonín castle as hereditary property to Vilém of Pernštejn.

Jindřich of Lipá moved the administration of the House of Lipá estates in South Moravia to Hodonín castle, which resulted in economical boom in the town. Hodonín suffered badly in the thirty-year-war. It was confiscated from the Catholic Earl Zdeněk Žampach of Žampach and Potenštejn and it became the property of Jindřich Matyáš, Earl of Thurn, a commander of the Protestant army, whose portrait is displayed. The armies waging the war left such destruction that an epidemic of the plague ensued. Only two inhabited houses are said to have remained in the square and the number of inhabited estates sank from 160 to 80. After the forced re-conversion to Catholicism in the region, only Jews were tolerated in town. The Anabaptists, Utraquists, Czech Brethren and Lutherans had to leave. The frequent wars in this region are symbolised by a medieval sword and irons. Jewish monuments represent the chequered history of tolerance. These are, however, rather more recent. Earl Bedřich of Oppersdorf tried to encourage economic development in the town. He refused to confirm the old privileges of the earls of Lipá but he and his wife Kateřina of Oppersdorf bestowed new liberties on the town in a document dated 28th September 1651, in Hodonín. The facsimile is displayed. Records of the first Hodonín guilds date from this period. The guild insignia are displayed. This encouraging development was interrupted by another war, this time the Turkish-Tatarian raids. The frequent destructive attacks and battles on the borders led to the next change of owner. Marie Antonie Czobor of Liechtenstein changed the historical image of the town by commissioning the building of church monuments such as the Plague Column of St Mary in the square (1716), statues of St Jan of Nepomuk and St Sebastian (1713 - 1715) and the Baroque Chapel of St Cross in the former cemetery (1720). Views of the town are depicted in the vista, a copy of which can be found in this part of the exhibition. It can be seen that Hodonín was situated on islands surrounded by water and moorland. Four gates opened into the town. The path going to Holíč is not depicted here, because people went through Rybáře at that time. Behind the red bridge is a little château (today's Masaryk Museum), the brewery and the Jewish ghetto and synagogue. From here the road went to the square over a bridge and by St Jan's statue. In front of the old town hall stood symbols of the town's power - the pillory, the gossips' cage and the scaffold. The butcher's and baker's shops stood where the town hall is today. St Lawrence's church is shown as it was before the Baroque reconstruction. The view of its surroundings is hidden behind the rectory, but it is known that there was a cemetery for rich townsmen around the church and a statue of St Sebastian at the entrance. The Plague Column of St Mary is extant. At the end of the town the street names "Upper and Lower Mound" were preserved. The mansion can be seen and the near-by cemetery chapel. In the distance you can see the gallows.

- ▶ The former Cemetery Chapel of St Cross in the park by the Winter Stadium (1720)
- ▶▶ St. Mary's Plague Column in Masaryk-Square (1716)
- ▶▶▶ St. Sebastian

A son of countess Anna Marie Antonie Czobor, the heir of the Hodonín demesne, was known for his prodigality and he went bankrupt. Hodonín was bought by František Štěpán Lotrinský, husband of Marie Terezie for 1 005 500 Rhenish guildens. So Hodonín became Habsburg property and ceased to be the centre for the demesne. In the showcase are facsimiles of the first and last pages of the purchase contract, a portrait of F. Š. Lotrinský, some rifles, a powder magazine and a carafe decorated with a hunting motif, for Hodonín was primarily used as a hunting ground for the Habsburgs.

- ▼ Part of the vista (1728)

The black kitchen

Entering this part of the exhibition can be quite a surprise after the previous rooms. The name reflects the appearance of the kitchen; it really is black here, cooking taking place, as it did, over an open fire. An oven was discovered here when the little château was reconstructed. This room is the smallest of all, but the National Trust cares for it because it is the nearest to the original form. The prehistoric exhibition is placed here symbolically.

The first material evidence of human occupation here comes from the late Stone Age (2500 - 1800 BC). The bell jar people buried their dead here. In the Bronze Age (1800 - 800 BC) trade blossomed here as evidenced by the findings of bronze bars of the Únětice culture and Věteřov type. The bronze treasure found near the gamekeeper's lodge at Zbrod in 1900 belongs to the Middle Danube Mould Culture (1500 - 1300 BC). The four Celtic drachmas come from the La Tène period (500 - 0 BC). Roman coins and a German urns are from the Roman period (0 - 400 AD). The finding of Langobard burial places around the village of Lužice is evidence of a settlement in the period of demographic migration (400 - 600). The Slavs settled Moravia at the end of this period and the outstanding centre of Great Moravia grew up in the near-by village of Mikulčice. Exhibits borrowed from the Moravian Country Museum in Brno and the Archaeological Institute of the Science Academy in Brno are displayed. The bronze necklace with a buckle, coins, an axe, jars and a whorl come from the Bronze Age. They were found in Kyjov. The La Tène period is represented by a bronze necklace, a talc head and pottery. The latest discoveries (with regard to their discovery date as well as to their real age) come from Langobard burial places in Lužice and Velké Pavlovce - a javelin spike, decorated pottery, whorls and copies of gold coins and brooches.

- ▶ The black kitchen

The black kitchen closes the exhibition at the Masaryk Museum, Hodonín. Our aim is to contribute to a better knowledge of T. G. Masaryk, a figure transcending place and time and the most outstanding son of Hodonín. But also, we wanted to show the place where he had his roots. If we have succeeded in exciting your interest in this great man, then the exhibition has fulfilled our dearest hopes. We'd like to thank you for your visit and hope that you enjoyed it.

**THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MASARYK-MUSEUM IS DEEPLY INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING,
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MASARYKOVO MUZEUM
V HODONÍNĚ

T.G.MASARYK. GUIDE TO THE EXHIBITION AT THE MASARYK MUSEUM, HODONÍN

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