

191

CZECH BAND MUSIC

FOELLER'S ILLINOIS STATE ALUMS & FRIENDS PLAY

CZECH BAND MUSIC

Side 1: Novaček: Castaldo Marsch, also called 28ern Regimentsmarsch; written in 1890 and dedicated to Col. Rudolf Castaldo; Na zdar naši výstavě (Good luck to our exposition); Náš druhý milión (Our million comrades); Pozdrav ze Sofie (Greetings to Sofia, Bulgaria)

Obruča: Krásná naše domovina (Our beautiful homeland); Volga, composed in 1924 and named after the river; Slovanský pochod (Slawischer-Marsch), Slavic March composed in 1901; Pochod župy Masarykovej (March from Masaryk's district); Mikuláš Zrinský, named for a Hungarian count and prominent national personality

Side 2: Řehoř: České děti pochod (March of the Czech children); Šafářův Dvoreček (March on a national theme); Huzel-Marsch; Staří kamarádi (Old comrades)

Leopold: Balaton, op. 74, a Hungarian march, probably named for the Hungarian lake; Bolek, a Polish march; French Patrol, op. 42; Avia pochod, op. 50; 10 Let!, op. 36, a triumphal march, dedicated to Czechoslovakian president T.G. Masaryk

RECORDED 1985

RUDOLF NOVÁČEK (1860-1929) Nováček was born in Bela Crkva (of today's Yugoslavia) of Czechoslovakian parents. He studied at the Vienna Conservatory, as well as in Budapest. In 1879 he joined the military band in Pilsen under bandmaster Karel Komzák Sr., as solo violinist. In 1882 he succeeded Komzák as bandmaster. In 1885 he became bandmaster of Infantry Regiment 28 stationed in Prague - a regiment dear to the hearts of the Czechs. His military career ended in 1890, when he ran away to Russia with the wife of another man. After his father's death, the couple settled in Temešvár, taking over the senior Nováček's music institute, which Rudolf directed for about 30 years. He died on April 12, 1929, and was buried in Prague.

RUDOLF OBRUČA (1874-1941) Obruča was born at Pačlavice, the son of a military bandmaster. He joined the band of Infantry Regiment 12 at Komárno in 1891 as a pupil. After study at the Vienna Conservatory, he was appointed bandmaster of this band in 1904. With the collapse of the Austrian Empire in 1918, Obruča became a bandmaster in the Czechoslovak Army. He died on August 29, 1941, at Prague.

JOSEF ŘEHOŘ (1885-1960) Řehoř was born in 1885 at Blatná, and entered the Military Music School in Vienna in 1901. He served in several military bands, as well as played in several theater orchestras. He conducted the Royal Guard Band at Belgrade, and the town bands at Gospič and Sušak. After returning to Czechoslovakia he played in various Prague orchestras. He died in Prague on May 20, 1960.

BOHUSLAV LEOPOLD (1888-1956) Leopold was born in 1888, and later became a member of the military band stationed in Budapest. He was concertmaster of various orchestras, and after World War I formed his own ensemble which travelled abroad, spending considerable time in Egypt. Upon returning to Czechoslovakia, he became active in music publishing, arranging, and composition. His works - generally all in short forms - include much folk material. He died on May 12, 1956.