

the working force and to the benefit of the amount of leisure. Only after passing a certain barrier probably represented by the lawful working time for civil professions (46 hours per week) it can be presumed that the greater part of the time, and later all of it, will be to the benefit of leisure.

Karel Mácha: Tönnies' Conception of Human Relations

The importance of Ferdinand Tönnies became evident with the lapse of time. A number of sociological authors such as Talcott Parsons, Ch. P. Loomis, Don Martindale, Erich Fromm etc. based their research efforts on his ingenious work *Gemeinschaft und Gesellschaft*, the anniversary of which falls on this year. It may be said that especially American sociology fully felt the influence of Tönnies' theory and that — together with M. Weber, Th. B. Veblen, S. Freud and K. Marx — Tönnies belongs to its most important sources. The application of Tönnies' theory on the European scale is not quite as unambiguous, nevertheless, even here we could record a number of trends based on his conceptions.

Tönnies' anticipation of the fundamental human problem of the modern era — i. e. the splitting of the social climate into conventional and natural relations — laid the foundations to a new, relational conception of the human factor. In defining the features of sociability (*Gesellschaft*) Tönnies grasped the fact which methodically placed his theory on one of the foremost places, i. e. that sociability involves the character of individualization. On this basis it became methodically possible to deal with the phenomenon of alienation as a symptom of a secondary (created) polarity of human relations. Tönnies ascribed individualization as a characteristic feature to the actual situation: this is, above all, a significant historical element of his conception of man. His conceptual system thus transcended from an outline of the structure of social relations to an analysis of really existing relations.

This remarkable proximity of Tönnies' social theory to the present situation of the human individual in an industrial civilization, Tönnies' sense for the plasticity of social conditions concerning the individual, gave rise to the first complete system of relatively exact concepts expressing the dichotomy of the life situation of the individual existing on the border-line of two different spheres of the social.

This fundamental sense of Tönnies' conception is a valuable source of contemporary theories of social and human relations for any conceptual system aspiring to become the Science of Man.

Ladislav Sobotka: Contribution to Some Problems of Sociology in Medicine

The paper deals with mental diseases and cancerous growth owing to the fact that

these diseases are very intensively studied even from the sociological point of view both abroad and in Czechoslovakia, which makes it possible to arrive at a certain synthesis and some conclusions.

In recent years, some phthisiologists' attention was drawn to the reduced mortality from phthisis and, on the contrary, to the increased mortality from cancer of the lungs. This fact called forth a number of theoretical and empirical studies, some of which are mentioned here.

As cancer of the lungs attacks also non-smokers, it is evident that some other factors than smoking may contribute to its origin. Special carcinogenes intensively promoting the origin of the disease arise in some working areas (e. g. the so-called "Jáchymov cancer of the lungs").

The author then pays attention to large-scale medico-sociological researches carried out abroad to solve these problems and points out that the way of life and the structure of the environment have not been studied intensively enough with respect to the occurrence of pulmonary carcinoma. Due attention should also be paid to social factors engaged in the formation of the habit of smoking.

It is necessary, too, to give these researches a more general medical orientation (e. g. genetics) without neglecting psychological relations. These researches revealed the fact that the use of tobacco refers to psychological and sociological desires of the individual and that, in a certain sense, smoking may also be regarded as a socialization process.

Another kind of diseases which, to an increased extent, may be conditioned by sociological factors are mental diseases.

First of all, attention should be drawn to those areas that could be studied from sociological viewpoints: existential frustration and suicides, paedopsychology and paedopsychiatry, deprivation in childhood. So far there are no reliable data on these diseases, their occurrence in separate countries and reasons for their differentiations. Dealing with these problems in more detail, the author affirms that the problem of frustration is narrowly connected with both social and especially individual values. In persons who had attempted suicide it was found that their social interaction, their sense of their existence etc. are unsatisfactory, impaired or at least endangered.

With respect to paedopsychology it is the environment the child lives in, the capacity of this environment to mediate to the child interactions with the external social environment, on which the interest of sociological research is focussed. The incapability of the environment to perform this function impairs the development of the child's personality and to a great extent reduces its socialization. It is, therefore, necessary for child psychiatrists as well as for sociologists to devote their attention primarily to the child's family environment. Most important studies dealing