Police Applications

Brief aid for the first familiarization with conscriptions

By Pavla Lutovská

Each police application can be divided in three parts:

2. Information about the head of the household and his family

1. Information about moving of the family within Prague

3. Information about the birthplace of the household members, domicile, marriage, etc.

There are also older kinds of conscriptions among applications: they are briefer, having data on moving of family written in upper part, mostly without date, besides members of the family, we can often find in them also names of servants, apprentices or subtenants.

1. Data on moving of a family within Prague:
First, the date of moving is stated.
In the next column we find a house number
and under it a numeral or acronym
denoting a part of Prague. For better
orientation in entries we give overview
of the most frequent kinds of entries:

I – Old Town
II – New Town
III – Lesser Town
IV – Hradčany
V – Josefov
VI – Vyšehrad
VII – Holešovice, Bubny
VIII – Libeň
K, Kth – Karlín
AL – *Alt Lieben*, Old Libeň (Jewish)
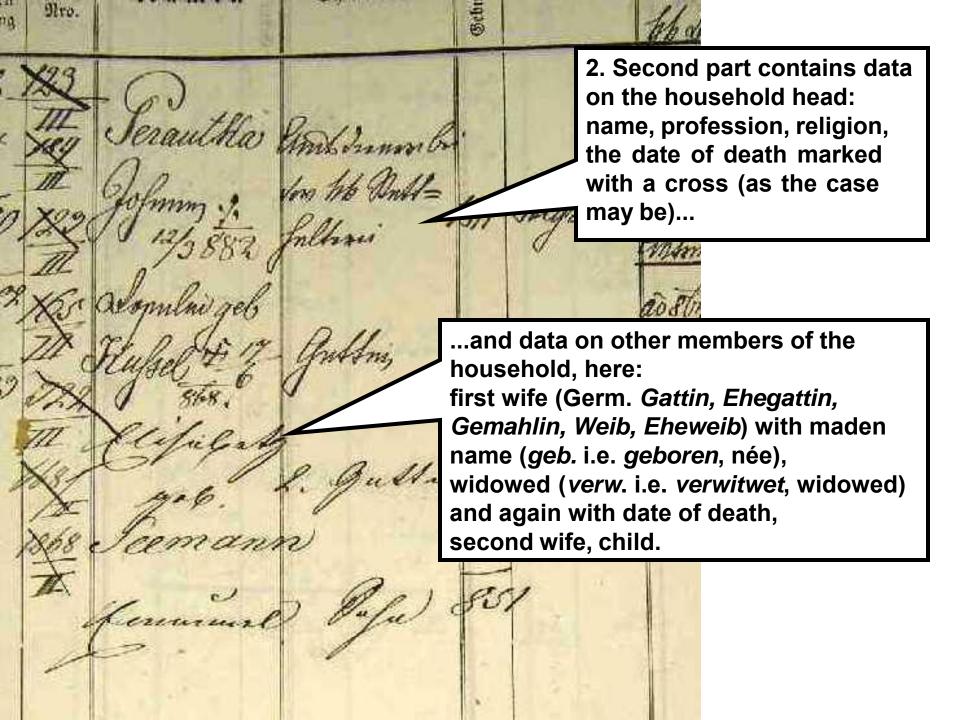NL – *Neu Lieben*, New Libeň
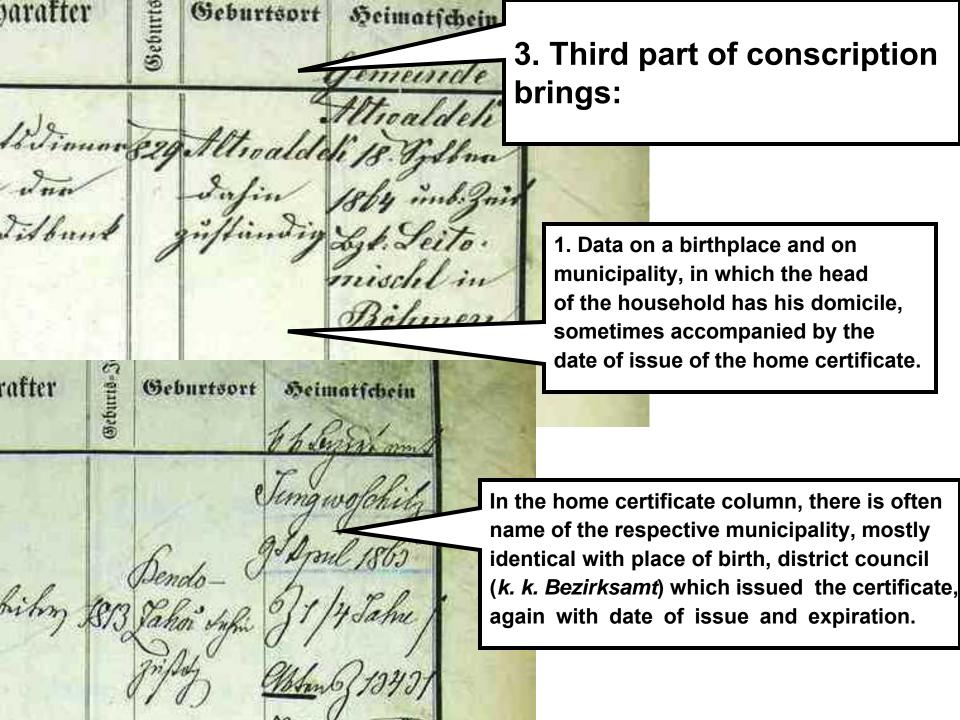GB – *Gross Braunau*, Great Břevnov
KB – *Klein Braunau*, Lesser Břevnov
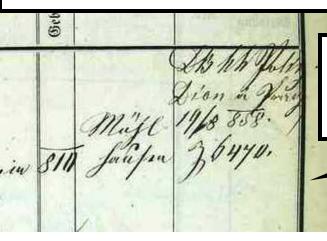Wbg. – *Weinberge*, Vinohrady
Ko. – Košíře
T – Tejnka, nowadays part of Břevnov

2. Second part contains data on the household head: name, profession, religion, the date of death marked with a cross (as the case may be)...

...and data on other members of the household, here:
first wife (Germ. *Gattin, Ehegattin, Gemahlin, Weib, Eheweib*) with maden name (*geb.* i.e. *geboren*, née), widowed (*verw.* i.e. *verwitwet*, widowed) and again with date of death, second wife, child.

3. Third part of conscription brings:

1. Data on a birthplace and on municipality, in which the head of the household has his domicile, sometimes accompanied by the date of issue of the home certificate.

In the home certificate column, there is often name of the respective municipality, mostly identical with place of birth, district council (*k. k. Bezirksamt*) which issued the certificate, again with date of issue and expiration.

Entries on domicile in Prague may vary a lot, we state only some of them:

Mere *Einheimisch*, naturalized, mostly for a native of Prague.

Stamp, confirming obtaining of domicile for household with stating the year.

Entry confirming acceptation into union of Prague municipalities by a decree of the municipal authority.

3. In the third part we can find references to other documents or events in the family:

1. *DB*, i.e. *Dienstbuch*, official book (here issued by *k. k. Poliz. Dion. in Prag*, i.e. *Polizeidirektion in Prag*, Police Directorate in Prague)

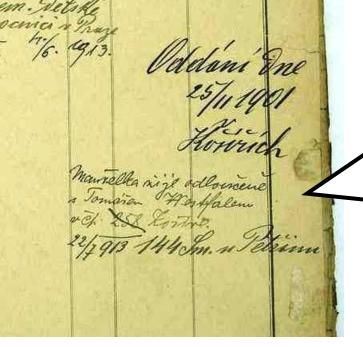2. *Wanderbuch*, wander book (here issued by *k. k. Bezirksamt Neubidschow*, i.e. District Council in Nový Bydžov, valid for two years)
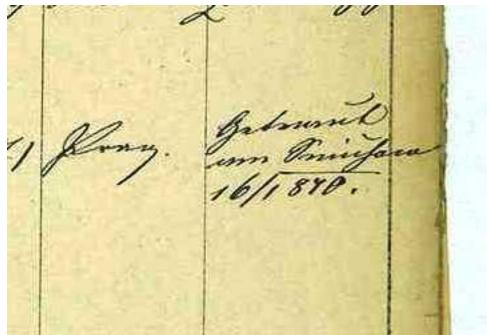
3. *Arb. Buch*, i.e. *Arbeitsbuch*, working book (here issued by *GAmt. – Gemeindeamt – Hajan Bez. Blatna*, i.e. issued by municipal council in Hajany, Blatná District)
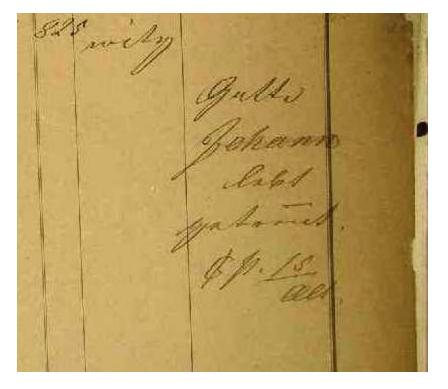
4. *Reisepass*, passport (here issued by *k. k. Bezirksh. Hohenmauth*, i.e. District Hetmanship in Vysoké Mýto, valid for three years)
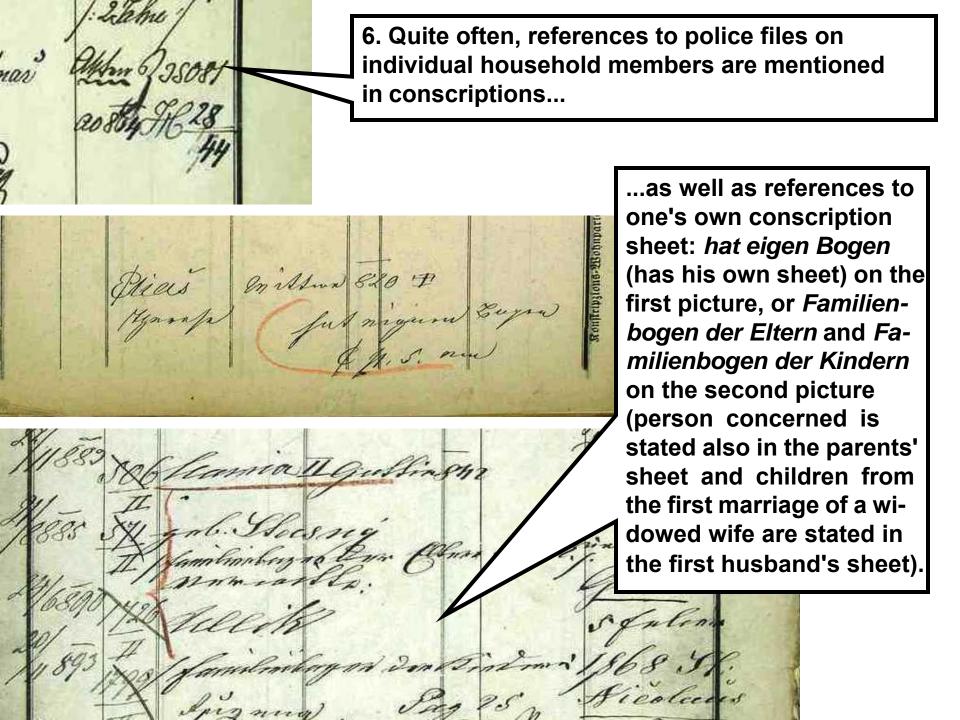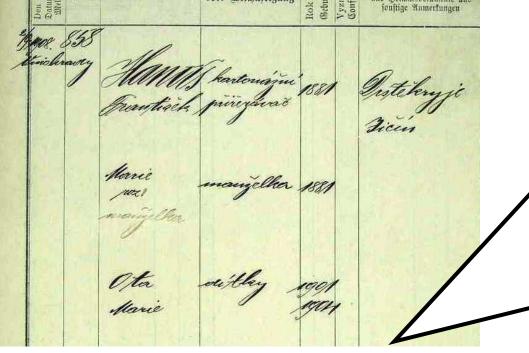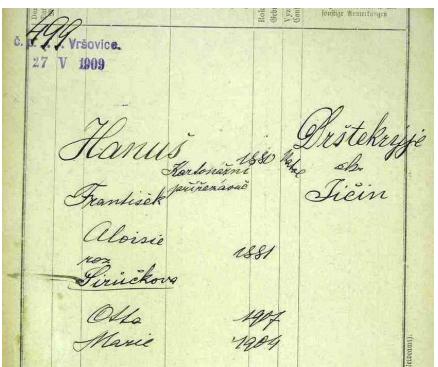
5. Data on marriage, breakup or divorce of the head of the household with his wife (in German *getraut*, married, *lebt getrennt*, i.e. living apart, *gerichtlich geschieden*, judicially divorced).

6. Quite often, references to police files on individual household members are mentioned in conscriptions...

...as well as references to one's own conscription sheet: *hat eigen Bogen* (has his own sheet) on the first picture, or *Familienbogen der Eltern* and *Familienbogen der Kindern* on the second picture (person concerned is stated also in the parents' sheet and children from the first marriage of a widowed wife are stated in the first husband's sheet).

Lastly:
Police applications can bring lot of interesting data, however, we have to point out that they do not have to be always accurate (see years of birth counted according to the age stated, gotten by subtraction to the day and month of appli-cation, mangled or wrongly transcribed names and surnames, sometimes also places of birth).
More applications can be linked to one family, and, as in case of duplicate applica-tions on the left, they have to be verified and compared because despite all efforts of the then clerkship, data may mysteriously differ.