SHORT HISTORICAL NOTES V
Anton Gajdoš, Bratislava, Slovakia

Ph.D. Anton Gajdoš born on 1.6.1940 in Dubriniči (today Ukraine) lives most of his life in Bratislava (ex TCH, nowadays SVK). He comes from gymnastics family (his brother Pavel have world championship medals) and he devoted his life to gymnastics. His last achievement is establishment of Narodna encyklopedia športu Slovenska (www.sportency.sk). Among his passion is collecting photos and signatures of gymnasts. As we tend to forget old champions and important gymnasts, judges and coaches, we decided to publish part of his archive under title Short historical notes. All information on these pages is from Anton’s archives and collected through years.

ALOIS HUDEC (CZE, EX TCH)

Born on 12 July 1908 in Račice u Vyškova was the best Czech gymnast before the WWII. His best competitions were Olympic Games in Berlin 1936, where he was the best man on the rings, unfortunately he missed some other medals in team competition, all around and parallel bars, where he managed to be on 4th place. Also both Worlds before and after competition in Berlin were very successful for Alois. In 1934 at Worlds in Budapest he got gold on rings and silver as team member. He was most decorated at Worlds in Prague in 1938, where he received gold for rings and team competition and silver for floor exercise, parallel bars and high bar. In the time before WWII, competitions also included sometimes swimming and track and field disciplines (shot put from WC1938 in Prague). He died 23 January 1997 in Prague.
EUGEN MACK (SWITZERLAND)

Born on September 1st, 1907 and died on October 29, 1978. Eugen Mack was an extraordinary gymnast. At OG in Amsterdam in 1928 he took a gold with Swiss team and on vault, on horizontal bar he was 3rd. Many teams at OG 1932 in Los Angeles (USA) did not competed, the best teams from Europe e.g. Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia stayed at home and missed a moment for even higher sport results. At OG in Berlin in 1936 with the team he earned silver and took also silver in all around, pommel horse and vault, bronze on floor.

At the Worlds, Switzerland started to compete for the first time in 1934 in Budapest. Swiss team took a gold and Eugen was the best in all around, pommel horse, vault parallel bars, second on floor, and rings. His second World Championship in 1938 in Praque (photo is from Praque 1938) was not so succesfull, he remained world title on vault, while he earned silver with the team, on floor and bronze for all around.

His medals on floor were actually on grass.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA TEAM WORLD CHAMPIONS 1938

Czechoslovakia organized world championship in 1938 in Prague. Their gymnasts won the championship and their team consisted of (from left to right): coach Josef Čada, Jan Sladek, Gustav Hruby, Emanuel Loeffler, Jan Gajdoš, Josef Novotny, Jindřich Tintera, Vratislav Petraček, Alois Hudec. Victorious march through Prague.