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*Wielki czesko-polski słownik frazeologiczny* is an ambitious enterprise: not only is it the most sizeable dictionary of Czech and Polish phraseology to date but also and, more importantly, it is a well executed lexicographical task. The dictionary, published in 2009 shortly after the death of the editor-in-chief, Professor Teresa Zofia Orłoś, is as broad in scope as it is clear and consistent in presenting the collected phraseological material.

The dictionary comprises seven sections in all: the introductions written in Polish and Czech (vii–xx) by Orłoś, the bibliography (xxi–xxii) containing both the literature the editor makes reference to in her introductions as well as the dictionaries and sources from which in large part the dictionary material comes, the list of abbreviations and symbols used in the lexicon (xxiii–xxiv), the list of abbreviations employed in the Czech examples (xxv–xxvi), the dictionary itself (1–668), and the index of Polish-Czech phraseological units (669–775).

The introduction to the dictionary is more than just the obligatory tour through the macro- and microstructure of the lexicon. In this part Professor Orłoś addresses several aspects of the language contact between Czechs and Poles, which in one way or another have been translated into the creation of this dictionary. The editor starts with the importance of the political and cultural relationship between the two neighbouring countries, in which the role of the Czech language surfaces on more than one occasion. Apart from the obvious contact between the two European (and European Union) countries, Orłoś claims that interest in the Czech language is evinced by the fact that many young people take up courses in the language at Polish universities and elsewhere. In the Czech Republic Polish courses are also run at university level, with the presence of both languages in the media of the respective countries as well as academic, cultural and political exchange between Poland and the Czech Republic. The dictionary is thus addressed to all those wishing to keep and strengthen these contacts via their improved knowledge of the Czech language: students, translators, interpreters amongst others.

In the introduction the dictionary is presented against a background of Czech-Polish lexicography. This which includes a few dictionaries of phraseological units, as well as the Czech dictionaries, both general and those of phraseologisms, which served the Polish team as the source of the entries.

The adjective in the title *frazelogiczny* ('phraseological') is used in its broad sense, that is the dictionary registers combinations of at least two words with more or less opaque meaning (VIII). However, it needs to be said that in the dictionary we can find expressions which can be classified as collocations, with meanings that are semantically transparent, for instance: *holá/očividná/pustá/vyložená lež, očitý svědek, skryté/tajné přání*. The lexicon can by any standard be understood as a dictionary of idioms *par excellence* as it includes winged words, sayings and proverbs as well. The majority of the examples come from the dictionaries mentioned in the introduction. However, as the editor says (ix), some entries represent phraseological units which have not been yet registered in Czech dictionaries. The latter came from TV programmes and the Internet as well as personal contacts between the editorial team and their Czech friends and acquaintances. The lexicon contains circa 5000 phraseological units. This is an impressive number even if we can find some gaps in the collected material (cf. the lack of *ani za živého boha – za Chiny Ludowe, boj o koryto – wyścig szczurów, být bit jako žito – dostać lanie, být blahem bez sebe – być w siódmym niebie*), which is not so much a criticism as an acknowledgment of the fact that the work of lexicographers is always plagued by the issue of choosing some lexical material over other possible candidates.

In the Polish component of the lexicon, that is the Polish equivalents, the authors used some Polish phraseological sources, amongst which Müldner-Nieckowski's *Wielki słownik frazeologiczny języka polskiego* (2003) seems to be the major authority in establishing the counterparts of the Czech phraseological units.

The macrostructure of the lexicon is arranged around the key words of the phraseological units. That means that each registered phraseologism is placed according to the alphabetical position of the key lexical element. The key words are in the main nouns, although on some occasions the key elements are verbs or adjectives, for example: *někomu spadla čelist* can be found under the key element *čelist*, *jiná písnička* under *písnička*; *říkat si o to* under *říkat*, *vzít to z(v)ostra* under *vzít*, *mlčet jako zarytý* under *zarytý*, *přísně utajený* under *utajený*. In some cases the key word does not belong to any open class of words, such as *sám a sám*, which is located under the lexeme *sám*. This arrangement of phraseological units is, according to the authors, easier to manage than the thematic arrangement found in Müldner-Nieckowski's dictionary. In case of uncertainty, the user is advised to take advantage of the Polish-Czech index of phraseologisms, which refers him to the given entry of a Czech expression.

Many phraseological units in the dictionary have more than one variant, although there are also many phraseological units represented by one form only, for example: *fata morgána, stavět na písku, zdravý nemocný*. The lexicon does not fail to list possible grammatical and lexical variations either, for instance: *bít se / bojovat / bránit se jako lev, mít dobrou hubu / mít hubu pěkně proříznutou, ježkovy oči/voči/zraky*.

In this case the phraseological unit is listed under the first variant keyword, as in *jít na flám/tah*, which has to be looked up at *flam*. Nevertheless, some expressions are not accompanied by all their variants, for instance, the phraseological unit *sbíhají se mu sliny v ústech* has another variant *sbíhají se někomu v puse sliny* and for *dělat/udělat brajgl* we can cite one more verb: *ztropit* (neither is listed in the dictionary).

The microstructural information in each entry contains register and style labels, such as pot. 'colloquial' (which for some reason is not listed in the abbreviations section of the lexicon), iron. 'ironic', wulg. 'vulgar', pol. 'political', publ. 'journalistic' and many others. The authors are also right in stating that certain labels assigned by dictionaries do not always correspond to the users' actual usage of the phraseologisms.

Semantically speaking, each entry is provided with information of two types. Firstly, the meaning of a Czech phraseologism is non-phraseologically paraphrased in the Polish language. This semantic explanation of the sense enables the user to comprehend the semantics of the Czech expression. The explication of the sense of a Czech phraseologism is at the same time a paraphrastic clarification of the corresponding Polish equivalent, be it a phraseologism or a free syntagma or a lexeme. Thus Czech users can simultaneously make sure that the sense of a Czech expression covers the meaning of the Polish counterpart.

The most important part of the dictionary is nevertheless the selection of suitable equivalents. The authors distinguish three types of Polish counterparts. Firstly, in cases when the Czech expression has a Polish phraseological equivalent, the authors opt in the first place for that which contains the same key word as the Czech phraseologism, for instance: *utopit/otrávit červa – zalać/zalewać robaka, přejít od slov/řeči k činům – przejść od słów do czynów, morální políček – być dla kogoś policzkiem*. Secondly, in very many cases the Czech phraseological units have formal and semantic equivalents in the Polish language, which the dictionary duly registers, cf. *désátá múza – dziesiąta muza, duševní pokarm/strava – strawa duchowa, psí život – pieskie życie*. In other cases the lexicon records Polish counterparts that are only semantically equivalent: *vykročit/vkročit do života/světa – stanąć na własnych nogach, mít špičku – być na rauszu, řídit jako tajfun – iść jak burza, noční sůva – nocny marek*. Even culture-bound expressions are matched with Polish equivalents, for instance the Czech phraseologism *lhát jako baron Prášil* has the following Polish equivalent *klamać jak z nut*.

Thirdly, if there is a lack of suitable Polish equivalents, the dictionary cites Polish phraseologisms with related senses: *špívané řemeslo – brudne interesy, mokral/brudna robota, být/pocházet z malých poměrů; vyrůsat v malých poměrech – być/żyć w trudnych warunkach, (musieć) zaciskać pasa; wywodzić się / pochodzić z prostej rodziny / nizin społecznych, být v pohybu – (zmieniać się) z dnia na dzień, być w ciągłym ruchu*.

If a Polish equivalent has the same key word the dictionary registers possible variants as well, for instance: *kam ho sem čerti nosou? – gdzie kogoś diabli niosą, že teź go diabli przyniešli/nadali, sbíhají se mu sliny v ústech – ślinka leci/cieknie! napływał/płynię komuś do ust, (být) bledy / zblednout jako plátno – (stać się) biały!*

*blady jak płótno/kreda/opłatek*. It must be mentioned that some variants of the Polish equivalents were not listed, for instance: *bít (moc) do oči/voči* vs. *rzucić się w oczy* and *uderzać w oczy*.

Each entry is accompanied with examples extracted from the Czech National Corpus, the Internet version of *Lidové noviny* and other sites, as well as various Czech dictionaries. In some cases the phraseologisms are illustrated with examples of the authors' making. Each example is translated into Polish, which shows the contextual – translational – equivalents of the Czech phraseological units. The final element of the entry is a reference to synonymous phraseologisms registered in the dictionary, which allows the user to compare and contrast the given expressions, for example: *vzácný pták = velké zvíře*, *chopit se díla = jít na věc*, *mít buňky na/pro něco = mít něco od pánaboha*.

Concluding, it must be stressed that the dictionary in question is an exceptionally valuable lexicographic achievement. It focuses not only on nominal, verbal, adjectival and adverbial phraseological units, but it also describes propositional phraseologisms, such as sayings, proverbs and winged words, and quantitatively its scope exceeds all the other Czech-Polish phraseological dictionaries. The presentation of the material is executed with clarity and precision, providing the potential reader with all the necessary information regarding phraseological meanings, actual usage, style and register as well as helping him to establish the best Polish equivalents possible. It is undoubtedly as inestimably useful a reference book for students of Czech in Poland as well as Czechs learning Polish as it is an ideal point of reference for lexicographers compiling dictionaries of other languages. In its final form the dictionary is a perfect tribute to the work and legacy of the late Professor Teresa Zofia Orłoś, a fact of which Henryk Wróbel in a short postlude makes suitable mention.