

Rusínová, Zdenka

Summary

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SUMMARY

The monograph on the formation of Old Czech adverbs represents the first attempt devoted to the problem. Our aim was to describe the basic mechanisms governing adverb formation in the Old Czech period. The material used is restricted by the end of the 15th century.

The material is based on excerpts from Gebauer's Old Czech Dictionary and on its modern follow-up in the instalments of the Old Czech Dictionary (instalments 1—8, partially also 9—10), on the files of the Old Czech dictionary of the Institute of the Czech Language of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, on the manuscript of the Reverse Dictionary of the Old Czech Dictionary, and on complementing excerpts from Old Czech literary texts.

According to their derivative bases, the adverbs have been divided into desubstantival, deadjectival, deverbal, depronominial, deadverbial and denumeral. The chapters of the monograph correspond to this division.

In the chapter dealing with desubstantival adverbs, 24 substantival bases (which include also the namings of place, time and manner) show what kind of semantic and formal changes took place in the transition of the substantive meaning into the meaning of the circumstance of verbal action. In order to make it possible to inquire into the changes in their initial stages of development, the given substantives have been examined in different contexts. An attempt has been made to find out which of the substantives became suitable for the adverbialization of the substantive. An important role was played by the character of the predicate verb. New adverbs have in the long run been judged from the point of view of their integration into the system of analogous lexical items already existing. The formations themselves have served as a basis for the examination of (i) the relation between the preposition and the substantive, (ii) the suitability of cases for adverbialization and (iii) the semantic capacity of the substantive for the generalization or abstraction its meaning, etc.

Deadjectival adverbs represented a different kind of problem. The transition of the meaning of quality into that of the circumstance of verbal action represents a simpler problem in comparison with the transition of substance. The change of the sentence-element validity is accompanied by an almost paradigmatic change of form. Deadjectival adverbs were constituted as the most natural expression of the manner of verbal action. Since the basic structure of Old Czech adjectives has already been described, it was possible for us to compare how the various word-formative types were reflected in the structure of adverbs arisen on their bases. In comparison with the present-day system of word-formative types, the adjectives of the examined period displayed a different structure. Not all the meanings of adjectives proved to be capable of the transposition into the meanings of circumstances. This was especially the case of deverbal adjectives. Participating in this process were the adjectives expressing the quality resulting from being affected by the action. The decisive factor was the character of the base verb, especially its transitivity or intransitivity. The varied character of Old Czech adjectives (and adverbs) has not, however, survived into present-day Czech in its full extent.

Deverbal adverbs were essentially formed in two ways. As their origins served both the participles (active, present, preterite) and the word-roots of the verbs themselves. The process of the development of participles into petrified adverbials was not restricted by the end of the 15th century. This is the reason why during the inquiry the time barrier was shifted by a hundred years. Special attention has been paid to the participles that related to a different subject than the predicate verb. Even these participles proved to play a role in the process of the loosening of the relations between the other participles and the subject, and to raise the proportion of noncongruent forms. In this way the participles became one of the factors that exerted an influence upon the formation of the petrified participial form having the function of an adverb. The formation of adverbs from verbal bases imitated the formation of desubstantival and deadjectival adverbs. The suffixes *-mo* and *-ky*, which are used in deverbal adverbs, display the same morphological characteristics as deadjectival adverbs. Frequently double adverbialization took place: the verbal basis behaved like a noun and a preposition was added to it. In this way the forms like *vnevidky*, *vleže*, etc. came into existence.

Depronominal adverbs represent a special group. As a rule, they are not described in the theory of word-formation and morphology; etymologists paid attention to them in the study of Old Czech. In the history of the language this group played, however, an important role as a pattern (similarly like deadjectival adverbs). The author has tried to present an outline of their structure, both formal and semantic, and to inquire into the analogies that proved to be the main factor playing a role during their formation.

In order to cover the field of adverb formation in full extent, the chapters dealing with deadverbial and denumeral adverbs have been also included. Since their occurrence is low and the repertory of word-formative means is limited, their position in the system of Old Czech adverbs is regarded only as marginal.

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