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SLOVENIAN MORNING NEWSPAPER

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USPS 024100

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, DECEMBER 30, 1999

ISSN Number 0164-68X

60c

Vol. 101, No. 50



Good St. Nicholas Visits St. Vitus Slovenian School

The St. Vitus Slovenian School students invited Sv. Miklavz (St. Nicholas) to visit their school on Sunday, Dec. 5, 1999. In preparation, they learned and performed admirably part of the famous operetta, *Miklavz Prihaja* (St. Nicholas is Coming). It was written in the early 1940s by Rev. Jerko Grzincic, who was assisted in the lyrics by Rev. Louis Tomtz and Rev. Fargas. Reverends Grzincic and Tomtz both served the Greater Cleveland Slovenian community.

As the forces of good (angels) and evil (devils) were engaged in battle, the herald angels arrived and trumpeted that St. Nicholas was about to arrive. Lo and behold, at about the 4th hour in the afternoon, he came in the inexplicable magnificence and majesty of glory. Upon his arrival, the devils were vanquished and relegated to the back of the stage. The children beheld him with bated breath and fixed, wide eyes.

Of course, some children burrowed into their parents' arms at this pageantry. Parents marveled and remembered fondly of that time long, long ago when, as children, they had beheld Sv. Miklavz in their lives and that glory had swept over them. Although much time has passed, even now, some of their eyes glistened and tingles ran down their spines, too.

Sv. Miklavz stepped forward and kindly greeted all those present. He brought well wishes from Jesus, Mary, and Bishop Baraga. He encouraged the children to obey and be good as well as be diligent in their chores and school work. Then he sat down on his throne, and while his assistant, Sv. Anton, orches-

trated it all, Sv. Miklavz passed out presents that had been brought for the children and some adults who had been good. There seemed to be an awful lot of *shibe* (switches) (sticks) in the presents.

Although the devils had been vanquished, from time to time they were able to break through the hedge of angels and grab some child who may not have been as obedient as he and sometimes she, could have been this past year. On occasion, a child successfully eluded the grasp of the devils, which raised a cheer among all.

After Sv. Miklavz departed, the buzz of excitement continued while presents were opened to shrieks of delight and, in some instances, disappointment. Refreshments were eagerly consumed and then everyone bundled up to go home. Once outside, with happy memories still fresh, shadows were carefully scrutinized and avoided. On the way home, many a child's eye peered at the sky, looking for Sv. Miklavz as he went home to heaven.

Thank you is in order to all the parents and others who assisted in this endeavor. Special thanks to Stan Teskac for producing the beautiful music. Thank you, too, to Jim and Madeline Debevec of *Ameriška Domovina*, Eddy Mejac and Company, Tony Petkovsek, and Tony Ovsenik for your media promotion. If anyone has been omitted, I beg your pardon, and Thank You, too.

On behalf of the school, we hope all of you had a blessed Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

--TL

Feeding Money to Horses

Turning of the Old Century

By Robert M. Debevec

There have been a lot of wild stories about what is going to happen when the end of this century turns into a new one. This is nothing new.

I recall my Dad telling me about the century turnover when he was a young lad and all the excitement as well as fear and trembling that went on in his village in Begunje pri Cerknice, Slovenia.

He said he was amazed to see farmers feeding paper money to their horses as the new year approached. I guess this was to prove to a greater power that they really were not so worldly. There were a lot of processions and public demonstrations and repentances. Of course, nothing really happened except indigestion among the horses.

My point to all this is that even though there are a lot of dire predictions about the millennium, look at the whole thing in perspective. The new century is just another insignificant tick of mother earth's clock.

I did some research on this subject and found some interesting statistics. Try compressing the entire 4.6 billion years of our earth's

existence into a single year. What has happened in that year will surprise you.

By using the compressed year strata and other age determining factors, scientists have concluded that the oldest rocks on our planet date from about mid-March of that year. Using these calculations they have decided that living things first appeared in the sea, about April.

Using radio carbon dating and fossil examinations they feel that land plants and some animals appeared in late November.

As this mythical year progresses we find that the Dinosaurs became dominant in mid-December and then mysteriously all disappeared on the 25th. Adam and Eve and their descendents appeared sometime during the evening of December 31st.

Rome ruled the Western World for five seconds from 11:59:45 to 11:59:50 and Columbus accidentally discovered the North American Continent three seconds before midnight.

So, as you can see, with all those millenniums which have rolled by in the life of Mother Earth, the one coming up in a couple of days is a drop in the ocean of time.

Happy New Millennium!

15-15-50

Thanks to our usual anonymous donor, the American Home is holding a campaign to gain 15 **NEW** subscribers from Dec. 23 to Jan. 15. The price will be \$15.00 for one year (50% discount) for any NEW subscription.

Send \$15 plus the person's name and address, and your name and address to American Home, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103 or fax: (216) 361-4088, or call (216) 431-0628 - e-mail: ah@buckeyeweb.com

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A friend is someone who fills our lives with Beauty, Joy, and Grace
And makes the world we live in a Better and Happier Place.
YOU ARE MY FRIEND, AND I AM HONORED!

✂

Submitted by Lisa Tomsick

Next Edition

The next *Ameriška Domovina* (American Home) will be printed and mailed on **Thursday, January 13**. There will be **NO** paper on Thursday, Jan 6.

Jim's Journal
By Jim Debevec



I have a New Year's resolution. I resolve not to have any resolutions.

A word to the wise is resented.

A man is old when he begins to hide his age; a woman is old when she begins to tell hers.

A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds.

Was reading an interesting item in the daily newspaper recently concerning the ship USS Proteus. A famous sailor on board in 1945 was movie actor Tony Curtis. Just before Christmas exactly 41 years ago I was assigned to that very same vessel.

Then, at Christmastime a year later, I came aboard an aircraft carrier USS Wasp. All the regulars were on Christmas leave, the heating pipes froze making it so cold you couldn't keep your feet on the deck because it was literally frozen with ice. We had to work with our feet in desk drawers. I didn't know anybody, so went to Midnight Mass, sitting on an anchor chain, then turned in, under a slew of blankets. A hurricane came in so we had to leave Boston with half the crew still on shore. It was an interesting first few weeks on board that carrier.

The article below the one about Tony Curtis detailed how the city of North Olmsted negotiated a contract with Coca-Cola for an exclusive 10-year contract with the city. How does that connect with the

ship USS Wasp? Well, as soon as I came on board I was assigned to represent my Division on the Recreation Committee. What we did was also sign a contract with Coca-Cola to supply syrup for our five Coke machines which we had on board.

The first six months that year we sold Cokes for a nickel each. This is why I remember it so vividly. Even though we paid for the Coke and seltzer water and paid for the use of the machines, (but repaired it and re-filled it ourselves), yet after six months we made enough money to purchase a bus, and hire a driver to take us from the ship to the middle of the cities we visited. We had more money left over to set up a recreation hall, panel it, put in curtains, TVs, books, and a dozen lounge chairs and sofas, purchase three nets and a dozen volley balls, and basketballs which we hooked up on the hanger-deck for our use whenever the planes weren't flying.

All that from a nickel Coke. It was a darn good investment.

Sincerest wishes at this time of year for good health, happiness, and may you discover personal and financial opportunities, like Coke, which give tremendous returns.

Comments to Jim's Journal, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103, fax to (216) 361-4088, or e-mail at ah@buckeyeweb.com

The shoe that fits one person, pinches another.

Next Edition

The next Ameriška Domovina (American Home) will be printed and mailed on **Thursdy, Jan. 13.**

There will be no paper on Thursday, Jan 6.

Correspondents please take note. ✕



100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

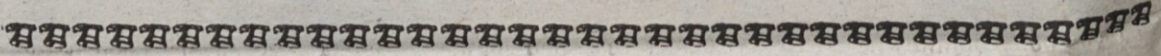
"A MANAGER HAS NOTHING TO DO, EXCEPT..."

- ⇒ to decide what is to be done;
- ⇒ to tell somebody to do it;
- ⇒ to listen to reasons why it should not be done, why it should be done by someone else, or, why it should be done in a different way;
- ⇒ to follow up to see if the thing has been done;
- ⇒ to discover it has not been done;
- ⇒ to inquire why it has not been done;
- ⇒ to listen to excuses from the person who should have done it but did not;
- ⇒ to follow up again to see if the thing has been done, to discover it has been done, but done incorrectly;
- ⇒ to point out how it should have been done;
- ⇒ to conclude that as long as it has been done it might as well be left as it is, even though it is not right;
- ⇒ to wonder if it is time to get rid of a person who cannot do a thing right;
- ⇒ to reflect that any successor would probably be just as bad and maybe worse;
- ⇒ to consider how much simpler and better the thing would have been done if one had done it oneself in the first place;
- ⇒ to reflect sadly that if one had done it oneself it could have been done right in twenty minutes;
- ⇒ to realize that as things turned out one has spent two days trying to find out why it has taken somebody three weeks to do it wrong;
- ⇒ **BUT, TO DO IT ONESELF, WOULD STRIKE AT THE VERY FOUNDATION OF THE BELIEF THAT A MANAGER HAS NOTHING TO DO!**

Thanks to the anonymous PAKO Inc employee for above profound discussion regarding what managers really do.

A PEACEFUL AND LOVE-FILLED NEW YEAR AND A NEW CENTURY TO ALL OF YOU!

Comments: John Mercina, P.O. Box 99251, Cleveland, Ohio 44199



Coming Events

Friday, Dec. 31

New Year's Eve dinner-dance, breakfast at Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., Cleveland proceeds for interior painting of St. Mary's Church. Tickets are \$40 each; call St. Mary rectory at 761-7740.

—Year 2,000—

Sunday, Jan. 2

St. Vitus Choir presents a Christmas Concert at 4:30 p.m. in St. Mary's Church, Holmes Ave., in Cleveland.

Sunday, Jan. 30

Breaded Pork & Roast Beef Dinner at St. Mary's (Collinwood) school hall from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Adults: \$10; children \$5. Sponsored by St. Mary's Slovenian School.

Feb. 4, 5, and 6

Ski Windham, New York. For info. call Ivan Kamin 718 424-2711.

April 8 - 15

Slovenian Ski Week at Whistler - Blackcomb, British Columbia, Canada. For details call Ivan Kamin 718 424-2711.

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(x)

New Year Memories

By Rudy Flis

A Happy and Blessed New Year to you. Turn around and look at all the New Years you have celebrated. Any particular New Year that is vivid in your mind? Now you know I have a vivid memory of a New Year more than just a few years past.

Would you remember as the New year 1950 arrived? It was also a Holy Year for Catholics. A big door got busted down in St. Peter's Basilica and remained open for the entire year as pilgrims passed through this special entrance. Many special graces were prayed for and received.

In January 1954 I stood in front of the "Holy Year Door," now in place and sealed. But mostly, I remember New Years Eve, 1950, at a special "Holy Year" evening Mass.

Ray Mlakar often mentions "Annunciation Church" and that is where my memory of New Year 1950 is housed.

At Mass, with my brother-in-law, Rudy Zak, I remember being a little

sleepy, and that makes me think it was a special evening Mass. I was sitting next to Rudy, trying not to be lulled into a stupor by the devil, when the usher raised the collection basket up in front of me. He didn't raise the collection basket high enough to clear the shoulder of the man in front of me.

The collection basket just rolled over, and emptied completely, into my lap. The devil and the stupor were instantly gone, as I sat with a lap full of envelopes and money. A quick clean up, and Mass continued.

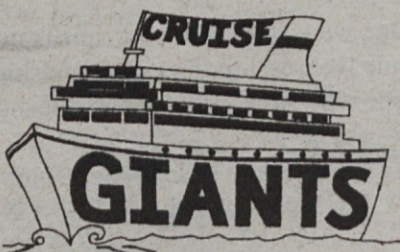
I looked up at my brother-in-law Rudy, and he smiled at me, leaned over and whispered, "Perhaps this means a prosperous year for you."

Klobase, zelodec, ham, potica, strudel and krofe pack my New Years Day memories with loved ones, but sometimes the Holy Year, New Year with the collection basket dump, floats to the top of my memories, and I smile.

May God's blessings be with each of you this New Year, and especially you, dear brother-in-law, Rudy.

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↑ Mlakar's Walk Down Memory Lane

By Ray Mlakar

Time out for a joke. Two shady guys were standing on a corner, one with a knife in one hand, and a gun in the other, and said to his buddy, "I don't know if I should cut across the street, or shoot around the corner."

Okay, one more: Why did Moses wander 40 years in the desert? Because he was a man and he wouldn't ask for directions.

Well, the Annunciation School Bell is ringing, so let's not keep Sister waiting. It seems that in grade school, all of us looked up to the kids in the eighth grade for they "Made the Grade" and so did the Sisters look to them to be examples for the younger ones. The nuns went all out to keep the first graders happy. They encouraged the youngsters to think there was an Easter Bunny which brought the kids their Easter eggs. So they went all out with the help of the eighth graders to make Easter Baskets with small colorful Easter Eggs (Ronald Reagan calls them "Jelly Beans.")

To make it look more authentic, one of the boys in the eighth grade had slues of real young baby bunnies because the family raised them for eating. Sister asked him if he could get permission from his parents to bring in a few. Louie got the permission and on the set day, he

brought in orange crates with the help of his buddies, to bring in some 14 small baby bunnies. He selected white ones, black ones, black and white spotted, brown and white spotted. They were truly a sight to behold.

So Sister sent all the first graders outside to play and while they were out, a dozen of us eighth graders helped Sister put the tiny filled Easter baskets on each student's desk and, we let the bunnies out and roam throughout the room. The little bunnies were in their glory hiding under desks and in the aisles. Sister told us eighth graders to stand by throughout the classroom to insure that when the first graders came in the room, they would not get ram-bunctious and mishandle the young rabbits.

Well the little "shavers" came in and leaped for joy when they saw the tiny bunnies and the Easter Baskets filled with jelly beans. Little did we notice at first that the Easter Bunnies in their excitement dropped a few of their "own little brown or black eggs" on the floor.

Unfortunately, the little kids thought they were small jelly beans that had fallen out of their baskets. It was a blessing that none of them put any in their mouth. Sister was devastated and she yelled, "Don't any of you kids move or touch anything or put anything in your

mouths." She instructed "Louie" to get his orange crates and gather up the bunnies and put them in the crates ... "LIKE FAST." She told the class the bunnies had to go home to their mommies to sleep.

She then told the eighth graders to check all the baskets and those "jelly beans" that may still be on the floor, and check them carefully and those that were not real jelly beans to put them in a special bag and they would go home with the bunnies.

I don't think the kids really realized those dark jelly beans were not really jelly beans. You can rest assured that that was the first and last time the "little bunnies" were ever asked to be brought to school. Fortunately, none of the kids ate any nor got sick.

I guess the lesson that was learned is that "Everything that glitters is not gold." In spite of this, I am sure that when Sister Naomi came to those Golden Gates, she was admitted with high marks because her intentions were good. It was the bunnies fault. Ah well, all is well that ends well.

Well, it is time to sign off and I might suggest this New Year you check each jelly bean before you put it in your mouth. May the Good Lord Bless and Watch Over All of you and Keep You in Good Health.

Allison Blair Oreh in 'Cinderella' Play



Alison Blair Oreh (Delphine) is now appearing in the play "A Kiss for Cinderella" at the Cleveland Play House.

Alison was born on July 21, 1990 in Cleveland. She is a fourth-grader at Pepper Pike School in the Orange School District.

She plays piano and is a past scholarship winner at the Cleveland Music School Settlement. She takes ballet, jazz and tap and has danced in *The Nutcracker* with Cleveland San Jose Ballet.

She attended CPHis Saturday Curtain Puller classes, and summer performance camp.

Alison is the daughter of John and Kim Oreh and the granddaughter of Filip and Ida Oreh.

Donation

Thanks to John and Helen Kozlevchar of Wil-lowick, Ohio who renewed their subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation.

Slovenia Property Owners

Important notice for American Owners for Nationalized Property in Slovenia: Claimants who wish to have their property restitution claims resolved, may send their name, address, claim number, and location of the claimed property to either of the following addresses:

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United States Embassy
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Fax: 011 386 61 200 5555
or

American Owners of Prop-erty in Slovenia
P.O. Box 561
San Ramon, CA 94583
Tel (925) 837-7612
Fax (925) 362-0719

Donation

We received a Christmas card with the following message: "May the Love, Hope and Peace of Christmas abide with you now and throughout the New Year. - With all good wishes for a successful year 2000. Merry Christmas to all. - Lucky Stars Lodge #61 AMLA.

Enclosed was a \$25.00 donation.

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Thankful Thoughts of the Year

Even though I clutch my blanket and growl when The alarm rings, thank you Lord, that I can hear. There are many who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes closed against the morning light as long as possible, thank you, Lord, that I can see. - Many are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off rising, thank you, Lord, that I have the strength to rise. - There are many who are bedridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, and tempers are short, thank you, Lord, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our breakfast table never looks like the pictures in magazines and the menu is at times unbalanced, thank you Lord, for the food we have. - There are many who are hungry.

Even though the routine of my job often is hard, thank you, Lord for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no job.

Even though I grumble and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my circumstances were not so modest, thank you, Lord, for life.

Submitted by:
Lisa Tomsick

Slovenian Radio Club says Thanks

Thanks for the usual good coverage in American Home. On behalf of myself and our Cleveland Slovenian Radio Club (Thanksgiving Committee), we convey our sincere appreciation.

Our Thanksgiving radio festival downtown at the Marriott was another big success.

(Enclosed was a \$100.00 donation).

--Tony Petkovsek
Chairman

Slovenian School Fund-Raiser

The Slovenian School of St. Mary's in Collinwood will hold a Breaded Pork & Roast Beef Dinner on Sunday, Jan. 30. The delicious meal will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Donation is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children.

Everyone is invited to attend this fund-raiser for a worthy cause.

The Visiting Nurse

By Joe Glinsek

The woman was either a county or city employee. She was a registered nurse, and with her black bag, sensible shoes, blue uniform, cap and cape, she looked more military than medical.

If you contacted one of the dangerous contagious diseases of the day, she visited the house after having been notified by the school or doctor.

Her first duty upon confirmation of the diagnosis was to fasten an ominous red sign on your front door. Bold black letters spelled "Quarantine" and the name of your disease. It warned one and all not to visit your house and risk contagion. Diphtheria, scarlet fever and measles were the most common signs, and occasionally the dreaded smallpox.

The quarantine sign was not unusual and the nurse would make visits during the illness to insure that you were following the medical advice and also watch for any complications. Measles required a darkened sickroom and the disease was believed to affect the eyes or even cause blindness if the rules were not obeyed.

I remember measles as being a particular nuisance because I didn't really feel

sick, but still had to stay in bed in a darkened room. I couldn't even read the usual old "National Geographics" that were resurrected during every illness.

Worse yet, we didn't have a small bedside radio at the time. Mom would come up with meals and read a story, but most of the day you were staring at the wallpaper. If you followed the rules, measles were a real trial for a little kid. For many years after my measles I had periods of rapid blinking, a sort of tic that still occurs under stress or fatigue. Perhaps I had cheated and was reading while I had the measles.

One rarely hears of diphtheria or scarlet fever today, and there were other diseases then that are rare today or perhaps have acquired a new name. Tuberculosis was often fatal before and after the war, and is still a serious illness. Dropsy and quinsy are two that were frequently known then but seem to have disappeared, yet they can still be found in a dictionary. Dropsy caused bloating of the lower body and legs and sometimes required amputation of a foot, while quinsy was a very familiar throat infection at our house.

Though I can't even speculate why, my mother was the local "quinsy doctor." Friends and neighbors would come to our kitchen asking for the "quinsy cure." It must have been desperation that brought them to our door, because the tonsils were painted with a potent, burning kind of iodine, not the wimpy variety sold today. I bought some recently and the sting was no worse than "Mercurchrome" used to be. Iodine used to burn like fire and have you hopping around blowing on a little finger cut. It must have been more concentrated than what is allowed today.

The throat painting was done with a wad of cotton on the end of a darning needle. It was dipped in iodine and swabbed on the inflamed and infected tonsils of the victim who tried not to retch while being treated. It would take all their will power to avoid this natural reaction. There was no fee for service nor any malpractice insurance. The iceman next door was an annual patient at mom's kitchen clinic, so I assume it worked for him.

Though I never had the "quinsy paint job," I was blessed with all the childhood diseases except for scarlet fever, but I made up for that with a four-month bout with rheumatic fever when I was 20. The chicken pox that remained under my cast when I broke my leg, was one of the more nasty and long-lasting discomforts that are hard to forget.

As for the visiting nurse, I can say this much for certain. She was always respected and welcomed into our home, and we believed that the quarantine sign she put on our front door was a perfectly reasonable practice.

Bus to Washington

Anyone interested in going on the bus to Washington, DC for the Right to Life March on Sunday, Jan. 23, contact Tony Miklich of St. Mary's (Holmes Ave.) Holy Name Society at (216) 692-0315.

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Birdie, who?
Birdie little gal you got there.
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--Mary Zipperman
South Euclid, O.

NOTE: Thanks, Mary, for renewed your subscription plus enclosing an additional \$20.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to Ed and Milena Gobetz of the Slovenian Research Center of America, Inc., Willoughby Hills, Ohio who sent in a beautiful Christmas card which contained a donation of \$20.00 for the American Home newspaper.

Slovenians Are Cool

In Memory

Thanks to Cecilia Lubey of Cleveland, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus enclosed an additional \$10.00 in memory of her husband, Paul.

She also sent along best wishes for the holidays and the New Millennium.

In Memory

Thanks to Mary Mora of Ford City, PA who sent in a Christmas Card enclosed therein was a \$20.00 donation in memory of Ann Skerjanc who died in Florida.

In Memory

Thanks to Elsie Zalar of Willowick, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a Christmas donation of \$10.00 in memory of her husband, Bernard Zalar.

In Memory

Thanks to Neviah Avzlahar of Euclid, Ohio who enclosed a gift of \$20.00 for the Ameriška Domovina in memory of Drago Avzlahar.

In Memory

Thanks to Frank and Anne Knaus of Punta Gorda, FL who renewed their subscription, plus enclosed a \$10.00 donation in memory of parents, Frances and Val Mavko.

In Memory

Thanks to Steffie Jarem of Euclid, Ohio who donated \$50.00 to the Ameriška Domovina in memory of her wonderful husband, Lojze Jarem.

In Memory

Thanks to Mrs. Olga Kalar of Euclid, Ohio who donated \$20.00 to the Ameriška Domovina in memory of her wonderful husband, Ludvik Kalar.

In Memory

Enclosed is a donation of \$25 in memory of "Our beloved granddaughter Katie" from Grandma and Grandpa Oreh.

In Memory

Thanks to Angela Hutar of Euclid, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus enclosed an extra \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, Matt Hutar.

Of the 10th Anniversary of



June Jean Ambrosic

passed away Jan. 3, 1990

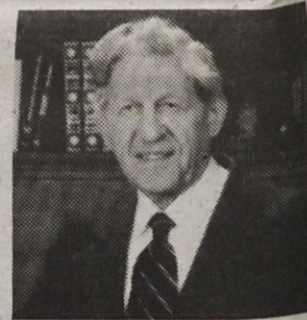
God looked upon His garden and found an empty place. Then He looked down upon His earth and saw her smiling face. He put His arm around her and lifted her to rest.

God's garden is beautiful, because He has the very best. Though her smile is gone forever, and her hand we cannot touch; We will always have sweet memories of the one we love so much.

Deeply loved and missed
Ambrosic Family



In Fond Remembrance 1st Anniversary



Charles A. Tercek

Passed away Jan. 3rd, 1999

One year ago on this sad day, the one we loved was called away. God took him home; it was his will, but in our hearts he lives, still.

Sadly missed and deeply loved

Loving wife Ann and sisters Jennie Skerl Sister Mary Luke Amelia Habjan Josephine Reagan

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— Vesti iz Slovenije —



BETLEHEMSKA LUČ MIRU V SLOVENIJI – Na predvečer zadnje adventne nedelje in po mači v do zadnjega koticčka polni Alojzijeve cerkvi v Mariboru je simbolična betlehemska luč miru začela pot po Sloveniji. Akcijo sta v Sloveniji letos že četrty zapored organizirala Zveza tabornikov Slovenije in Zveza slovenskih katoliških skavtinj in skavtov. Približno 400 mladih je program začelo že popoldne v škofijski dvorani, na maši pa jim je mariborski škof dr. Franc Kramberger govoril o miru. Uvodoma je opisal izjemno mesto in pomen stvariteljskih besed "zgodí se...", ki jih prvič izreče Stvarnik, drugič pa ustvarjeni človek. Ta ima prvič v zgodovini usodo življenja in zemlje v svojih rokah. Po škofu Krambergerju je to znamenje Božjega zaupanja, vednar tudi velika nevarnost. Medtem ko po škof Krambergerjevih besedah "še dihamo" dve svetovni vojni, pred prihodnostjo stojimo v strahu, kot da bo tudi tretja. Če bo, bo ta poslednja, meni škof, ker bo človek uničil vse človeštvo. Po škofu Krambergerju sodijo med temeljna vprašanja našega časa tudi ta: Zakaj se človek boji človeka? Zakaj narodi živijo v strahu pred drugimi narodi? Zakaj je potrebno 3,5 tona eksploziva na vsakega zemljana? Zakaj v 32 državah dajo več za oborožitev kot za izobraževanje in zdravstvo skupaj? Zakaj se več govori o smrti kot o življenju? Za mir, ki je božji dar, smo po škofu vsi odgovorni in ga dolžni pokloniti drugim, naj bo to doma, v šolah, v občestu ali v narodu. (Nedelo, 19. dec.)

Deveta obletnica plebiscita in dan slovenske samostojnosti

Kot poroča STA 26. decembra: Dan samostojnosti, 26. december, v Sloveniji obeležuje dan, ko so leta 1990 uradno razglasili izide plebiscita, na katerem so se prebivalci Republike Slovenije 23. decembra 1990 z veliko večino glasov odločili, naj Republika Slovenije postane samostojna in neodvisna država.

Plebiscita o samostojnosti in neodvisnosti Slovenije se je udeležilo 93,2 odstotka volilnih upravičencev, za samostojno in neodvisno državo pa jih je glasovalo 88,2 odstotka. V skladu s to odločitvijo je slovenska skupščina 25. junija 1991 sprejela temeljne osamosvojitvene akte in dan kasneje tudi razglasila neodvisnost. Temeljni osamosvojitveni akt je bila Temeljna ustavna listina o samostojnosti in neodvisnosti Republike Slovenije.

Razglasitvi neodvisnosti je sledila desetdnevna vojna, v kateri je Slovenija zmagala, ljena sprejeti brionsko deklaracijo, s katero je zamrznila nadaljnje izvajanje osamosvojitvenih aktov. Po izteku moratorija iz deklaracije je Slovenija 8. oktobra 1991 dokončno začela ravnati kot povsem neodvisna država. Uvedla je lastno valuto, vzpostavila

nadzor na vseh svojih mejah ter sprejela novo ustavo in zakone.

Nova ustava Republike Slovenije, sprejeta 23. decembra 1991, je prinesla pomembne spremembe v obliki, organizaciji in pristojnostih parlamenta. Nov ustavni zakon je uzakonil državno ureditev, značilno za večstrankarske politične sisteme. V letu 1992 se je vzpostavila in utrjevala slovenska državnost; Slovenija je postala mednarodno priznana država, članica OZN in številnih drugih mednarodnih organizacij. Decembra 1992 so bile najpomembnejši dogodek predsedniške in parlamentarne volitve, ki so pomenile dokončno slovo od starega političnega sistema."

Pranovanje Dneva samostojnosti

V četrtek, 23. decembra, so se poslanci državnega zbora zbrali v dvorani parlamenta in poslušali govor predsednika DZ, Janeza Podobnika. Mdr. je Podobnik poudaril zasluge Demosove koalicije. Sledila je osrednja proslava Dneva samostojnosti, ki je potekala v Cankarjevem domu. Premier Janez Drnovšek je poudaril, da so Slovenci postali aktivni soustvarjalci svoje in evropske zgodovine, v kratki, a odločilni vojni uspelo jim je ubraniti Slovenijo in uveljaviti suverenost. Najboljša pot v prihodnost je v združenju Evropi, je še povedal Drnovšek.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Koncert božičnih pesmi—

To nedeljo, 2. januarja 2000, vas vabi pevski zbor pri Sv. Vidu na koncert božičnih pesmi in sicer v cerkev Marije Vnebovzete na Holmes Ave. Koncert se bo pričel popoldne ob 4.30. Vstopnine ni Pridite – vam res ne bo žal!

LILIJA ima sestanek—

Dramsko društvo LILIJA ima svoj redni mesečni sestanek v ponedeljek, 3. januarja novega tisočletja, to je leta 2000, ob pol osmih zvečer, v Slovenskem domu na Holmes Ave. Člani lepo vabljeni!

70. rojstni dan—

Zvesta naročnica tega lista in zvesta podpornica mnogih slovenskih ustanov ga. Veronika Janežič iz Mentorja, Ohio, je v krogu družine in številnih prijateljev dne 26. decembra praznovala 70. rojstni dan. Slavnostno kosilo je bilo v prostorih Lutheran Brethren Social Hall v Mentorju. Slavljenki čestitajo in ji ob življenjskem jubileju želijo vse najboljše, še veliko zdravih in srečnih let z res srčnim voščilom: Bog Te blagoslovi!

Zadnjič v tem tisočletju—

Ta številka AD je seveda zadnja v tem letu, stoletju in tisočletju, ne glede na ugotovitve strokovnjakov, da bo za slednja dva datuma prelomen čas šele 1. januar 2001. Prihodnji teden AD ne bo izšla, tako da bo naslednja številka natisnjena v četrtek, 13. januarja 2000. Ob zaključku te številke vam vsi pri AD želimo srečno praznovanje to soboto zvečer, ki utegne biti res enkratno doživetje!

Sestanek MZA—

V nedeljo, 9. januarja, bo sestank MZA. Ob 2. uri pop. bodo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete pete litanije z blagoslovom, sledil bo sestanek združen z božičnico v šolski dvorani. Vsi sodelavci misijonov lepo vabljeni.

Dobrodelno kosilo—

V nedeljo, 16. januarja, bo v dvorani pri Sv. Vidu kosilo v dobrobit godbe višje šole sv. Ignacija. Serviranje bo od 11. dop do 1.30 pop., za nakaznice (\$12 oziroma \$6 za otroka), pokličite tel. 216-459-1098. Kosilo se bo moglo tudi vzeti domov (takeout).



MAKSIM GASPARI – "SREČEN BOŽIČ" – V zadnjih letih je v Sloveniji opaziti, vsaj zdi se tako, vedno večjo uporabo božičnih kartic in dopisnic. Med številnimi, ki so končale letos na urednikovi mizi od sorodnikov, znancev in prijateljev v Sloveniji, je bila tudi ta M. Gasparijeva.

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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA (USPS 024100)

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AMERICAN HOME (ISSN 0164-680X) is published weekly for \$30 per year by American Home Publ. Co., 6117 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44103-1692. Periodicals postage paid at Cleveland, Ohio. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AMERICAN HOME, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103-1692.

No. 50

December 30, 1999

SLAVA BOGU IN MIR DOBRIM LJUDEM

Advent, božič, razglašenje. Dnevi, ki zaznamujejo dobo, v kateri se prevesi staro leto v novo in nas prevzame razpoloženje, da se obrnemo vase in nagnemo k drugim. V vseh, tudi tistih, ki ne morejo sprejemati resnice o nadnaravi, se budi pričakovanje ter jih obdaja veselje in zaupanje. Kristjanom daje adventni čas priložnost za poglobljanje in očiščevanje, božič budi vesel spomin na nastop odrešenitvenega dejanja, Gospodovo razglašenje pa kliče k sodelovanju za razširjenje veselega oznanila tudi v sedanjem času.

Po svojem temeljnem pomenu ta čas vabi k zaupanju in pogumu. Praznike ob koncu leta imamo za družinske praznike. Po stari navadi si voščujemo blagoslova, miru ali vsaj veselja za božič in sreče v novem letu. Tega ne delamo z mislijo na pretekle naloge, ampak v upanju na prihodnost, zase in za vse, ki jim želimo dobro.

Upanje pa nam je treba ohranjati vedno, tudi kadar vidimo pred seboj negotovosti in zaplete. Z upanjem se budi pogum, ki se usmerja k zavzetostim za odstranjevanje ovir in k načrtovanju pobud za osebno in skupno napredovanje.

Poživimo si torej v tem času zaupanje med seboj, ne poslušajmo in ne razširjajmo sumničenja in obsojanja. Zaupajmo slovenskim ustanovam, ki naj žive tudi po naši prizadevnosti. Ne plašimo se pred spremembami v okolju in ogibajmo se črnoglednosti. Z zavzetostjo spremljajmo tudi razvoj Slovenije, ki ga presojujmo stvarno, brez grenkobe in ne z vnaprejšnjim nezaupanjem.

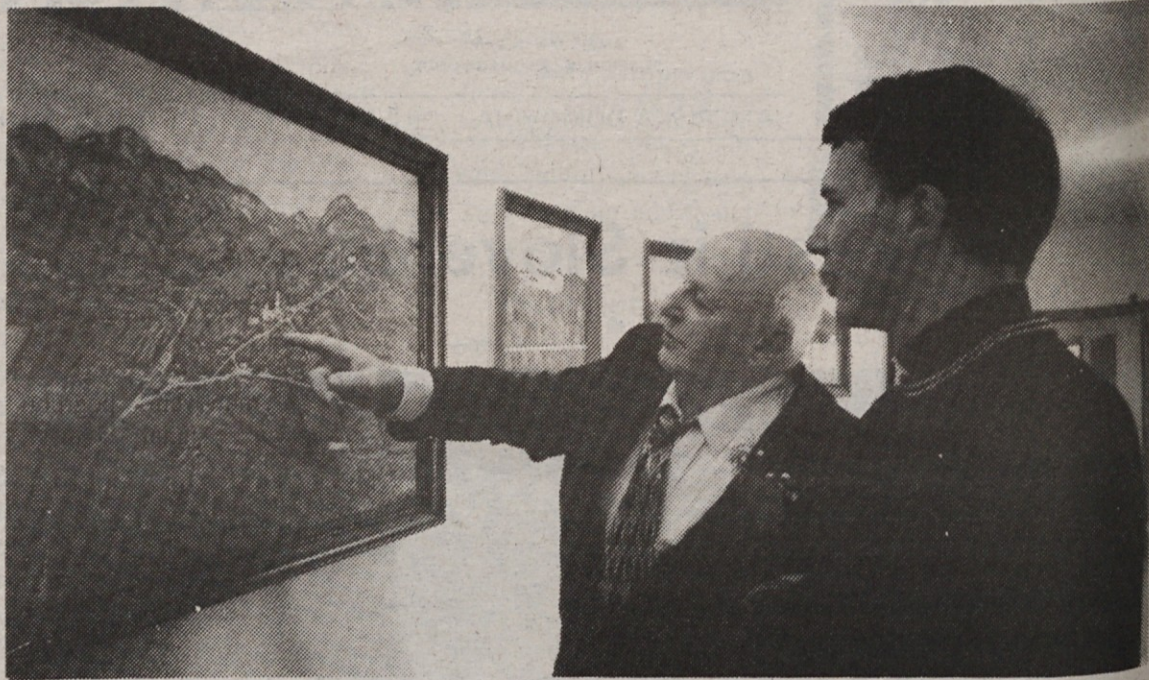
Potem pa storimo, kar nam je mogoče, da se ugodni razvoj pospeši. Z zaupanjem stopajmo v novo dobo, ki se odpira pred človeštvom. Bliskoviti civilizacijski dosežki so lahko v mnogočem zaskrbljujoči in si je težko predstavljati, kakšna po prihodnja družba. Morda je pred človeštvom srečnejša doba, kot je bila naša do zdaj. Upajmo!

Ob vsem pa zaupajmo, da je nad nami roka, ki drži veselje in ki tudi ljubeče spremlja vsakogar od nas.

B.F.

STIK, Glasilo Slove
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Leto XVII, št. 81, September-December 1999

Ob 4. obletnici Slovenskega kulturnega centra v Lemontu hkrati odprtje umetniške razstave



Samorastnik FRANK MARKOŠEK razlaga patru PETRU LAHU svojo sliko "TEHARJE" (1993), sicer olje na platnu.

WHEATON, Ill. - Štirinajstega novembra smo slavili četrto obletnico našega Slovenskega kulturnega centra. Istočasno je bilo odprtje samostojne umetniške razstave našega rojaka, Štajerca, ki je že dolga leta del čikaške skupnosti. Vsi ga poznamo, njena in njegovo družino. Sedaj pa je prilika se seznaniti s Frankom Markošekom – umetnikom-samorastnikom!

Frank Markošek je bil rojen v Teharjih pri Celju, odraščal na kmetiji in končal šolanje v Sloveniji. Kot mladenič je nastopal na odrih kot igralec in telovadec. Risanje, barve in delo z lesom ga je zanimalo in pritegovalo že od mladih let.

Med drugo svetovno vojno je bil vojak, ujetnik in begunec. Svoja ujetništva je preživel v enajstih različnih taboriščih. Leta 1946 je imel priložnost, da se pridruži beguncem v taborišču v Italiji. Tam je spoznal Antonijo Purkart iz Velikih Lašč in se z njo poročil. Iz taborišča sta se izselila v Argentino, leta 1960 pa sta prišla z družino v Združene države in se za stalno naselila v Chicagu.

Ni se šolal v umetniški vedi, temveč se je razvijal v tej stroki popolnoma prosto. Občudovanja je vre-

dno, da ima Frank to veliko notranjo potrebo do ustvarjanja. Ob večerih, po službi, se je zatekal v svoj svet, svoje atelje, in pozabil na dejanski čas in delal dolgo v noč. Poglobil se je v spomine in risal pokrajine in dogajanja, dostikrat tudi s humorjem. Predvsem opeva lepote Slovenije, ki mu je vedno pri srcu.

Sedaj, ko je v pokoju, ima čas za risanje. V kleti si je uredil svoj kot, svoje atelje, kamor se zateče v svoj svet, kjer se ob glasbi radija sprosti, pozabi na čas in s čopičem in oljem izraža svoja čustva.

Zelena barva mu je posebno ljuba – vpliv mladostnih spominov iz časa, ki ga je preživel na kmetiji in na popotovanjih po zelenem štajerskem hribovju.

Erika M. Bajuk

Brezposelnost v Sloveniji rahlo upada

Trst/Gorica – V Sloveniji brezposelnost že nekaj časa postopno upada. O gibanjih na tem področju objavlja nekaj podatkov nova številka *Ekonomskega ogledala*, ki ga izdaja državni urad

za makroekonomske analize in razvoj.

Več zaposlujejo velika javna podjetja kot tudi manjše gospodarske družbe v zasebnem sektorju. Vendar je stopnja brezposelnosti še vedno previsoka in znaša, glede na število aktivnega prebivalstva, pri moških 7,2% in pri ženskah 7,9%.

Vlada je skladno z zakonom o zaposlovanju in varovanju za primer brezposelnosti sklenila, da se upokojenci, študentje, dijaki in udeleženci izobraževanja ne morejo upoštevati kot brezposelne osebe.

Pri tem pa intenzivno izvajajo program izobraževanja brezposelnih oseb, da bi jih usposobili za zaposlitev in delo v različnih dejavnostih, zlasti tistih, kjer je povpraševanje po novih delavcih oz. uslužbencih največje.

Pri tem največjo skrb namenjajo predvsem mlajšim brezposelnim osebam brez poklicne oz. strokovne izobrazbe ter osebam, ki sicer imajo tako izobrazbo, vendar ne morejo dobiti zaposlitve in so prijavljene kot brezposelne že več kot šest mesecev.

V letu 1999/2000 se dodatno strokovno izobražuje po lani začelih programih 3 tisoč brezposelnih, dodatno pa so v razne izpopolnjevalne programe vključili še 4.300 oseb.

Za postopno rast zaposlovanja kažete tudi podatka, da se je v Sloveniji število zaposlenih prebivalcev povečalo od lanskim 654 tisoč na 676,4 tisoč v prvih devetih mesecih letošnjega leta.

Novi glas, 16. dec. 1999

- S E M I N A R -

V nedeljo, 9. januarja, ob 4. uri popoldne, bo v cerkveni dvorani na 611 Manning Ave. v Torontu seminar s sledečim programom:

Dr. Branka LAPAJNE:

Utrinek iz slovenske zgodovine

Dr. Peter URBANC:

Poročilo o slovenskem gospodarstvu

Razgovor bo vodil: **Stanko Šajnovič.**

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PO SMRTI DR. FRANJA TUĐMANA

Hrvaška na razpotju

JURIJ PALJK

S smrtjo predsednika dr. Franja Tuđmana se za Hrvaško odpira novo obdobje, saj bo morala mlada država prestopiti iz obdobja, ki ga je s svojo močno osebnostjo in avtoriteto, ki je mejila že na trinoštvo, označeval Tuđman, v novo obliko demokratično urejenih družbenih odnosov.

Kam bo Hrvaška šla in katero pot bo ubrala, pa bo vsaj deloma jasno že po 3. januarju prihodnjega leta, ko bodo parlamentarne volitve, katerim pa bodo sledile še predsedniške; le-te bodo najverjetneje v začetku februarja.

Kdo je bil pravzaprav dr. Franjo Tuđman? Rodil se je 14. maja leta 1922 v družini znanega aktivista Hrvaške kmečke stranke. Tuđmanov oče Stjepan je bil tudi član ZAVOH in AVNOJ-a, a so ga leta 1946 umorili, in sicer zaradi kritik tedanje jugoslovanske oblasti.

Franjo Tuđmanu je mati umrla, ko mu je bilo sedem let, eden od bratov pa je padel med drugo svetovno vojno kot partizan.

Tuđman je mlad sodeloval v demokratičnem nacionalnem gibanju in so ga zato leta 1940 zaprli, od leta 1941 pa je sodeloval v narodnoosvobodilnem boju na Hrvaškem; po vojni je v Beogradu dokončal višjo vojaško akademijo, bil v samem vrhu poveljstva JLA, postal izjemno mlad general leta 1960, a se je že leto kasneje na lastno prošnjo upokojil.

Od takrat dalje se je posvečal svoji drugi ljubezni – zgodovini. V Zagrebu je ustanovil Inštitut za zgodovino delavskega gibanja, katerega direktor je bil do leta 1967, bil pa je tudi eden glavnih sodelavcev slovitih *Jugoslovanske vojaške enciklopedije*; leta 1965 je doktoriral iz zgodovinskih znanosti na zagrebškem vseučilišču.

Leta 1967 so ga izključili iz Komunistične partije, l. 1971 ga prvič obsodili, leto kasneje zaprli. Leta 1981 so ga obsodili še na tri leta zaporu, ki ga je prestajal v zloglasnem zaporu Lepoglava.

Veliko je pisal predvsem iz vojaške znanosti, zgodovinskih ved in politologije ter filozofije zgodovine.

Leta 1990 je s svojo Hrvatsko demokratsko zajednico (HDZ) zmagal na volitvah, bil leta 1992 in spet leta 1997 z veliko večino glasov izvoljen za hrvaškega predsednika.

Hrvaški narod ga ima za očeta sodobne države, tuji opazovalci pa so mu očitali samodržstvo in pretiran nacionalizem; zaradi znamenite protiofenzive Oluja-Nevihta proti srbskim silam leta 1995, ko so Hrvatje sami spet osvojili svoja ozemlja (predvsem Krajino in del Slavonije), je postal za Hrvate tudi vojaški junak. Slovenci se ga spominjamo kot trdega in nehvaležnega sogovornika, ki do nas ni gojil simpatij.

Franjo Tuđman je tri leta bolehal za neozdravljivim rakom, umrl pa je v bolnišnici Dubrava v Zagrebu 10. decembra 1999.

“Naša domovina je žalostna, mi pa smo zbrani v molitvi za dušo umrlega predsednika,” je dejal 12. decembra zagrebški nadškof Bozanić, ki se je še najbolj umirjeno spomnil pokojnega Tuđmana. Na Hrvaškem so namreč oklicali ob smrti svojega predsednika tridnevno žalovanje, pred parami, na katerih je v Predsedniških dvorih ležal pokojnik, pa so se vile desetisočglave množice Hrvatov, ki so se klanjali njegovemu spominu.

V Zagrebu, kjer je mesto umrlega predsednika začasno prevzel predsednik hrvaškega parlamenta-sabora Vlatko Pavletić, se je zgrnilo na tisoče ljudi, prispele pa so tudi brzojavke z izrazi sožalja z vseh koncev sveta.

Omenimo še, da se je kot eden prvih tujih politikov spominu umrlega v Zagrebu poklonil slovenski predsednik Milan Kučan, svoje sožalje pa so med drugimi poslali tudi italijanski predsednik Ciampi in italijanski premier D'Alema, srbski predsednik Slobodan Milošević in domala vsi politiki in predsednika sveta.

Pogreba v ponedeljek, 13. decembra, pa se je

udeležilo izjemno malo pomembnih političnih predstavnikov iz razvitega sveta, še posebno iz Evropske unije. Slovenijo je zastopal slovenski premier Janez Drnovšek, bila pa sta prisotna tudi njegova kolega iz Bosne in Hercegovine ter Makedonije, Madžarsko pa je zastopal predsednik države.

Politični opazovalci na Zahodu so mnenja, da je bila odločitev za tako majhno in simbolično udeležbo na Tuđmanovem pogrebu nedvoumen signal Hrvaški, naj že končno stopi na pot resnične demokracije.

Ameriški veleposlanik pri Organizaciji Združenih narodov in veliki pogajalec na Balkanu Richard Holbrooke, ki je hrvaškega predsednika dobro osebno poznal, je ob novici, da je Tuđman umrl, dal tole izjavo:

“Brez njega ne bi mogli podpisati mirovnega sporazuma v Daytonu, vendar pa je njegov nacionalizem veliko prispeval za vojne na Balkanu, pa čeprav je glavna odgovornost za omenjene vojne na strani Slobodana Miloševića.”

Še ne osemnajstletna nova hrvaška zvezda v svetovnem alpskem pokalu Janica Kostelić je 12. decembra zmagala na drugi slalomski tekmi v tej smučarski sezoni v italijanskem kraju Sestrieres. Po zmagi je na vprašanje časnika, kaj bi rekla o smrti hrvaškega predsednika, odgovorila preprosto, a iskreno takole: “Veliko mi je pomenil dr. Franjo Tuđman, bil je naš predsednik, oče naše države. Brez njega tudi mene danes tukaj ne bi bilo.”

Seveda se sedaj odpirajo nove težave na poti v večjo demokratizacijo hrvaške države, ki bo morala na pot večjega odpiranja Evrope.

Za prihodnje in skorajšnje volitve v hrvaški sabor 3. januarja leta 2000 napovedujejo zmago opozicije, ki pa je razpršena. HDZ naj bi izkoristila prav to in pri tem uporabila ves “medijski kapital”, ki so jim ga slovesnosti ob Tuđmanovi smrti prinesle.

Težko je napovedati izide volitev, še težje, ko potekajo te na Balkanu. Zgovoren pa je že podatek, da se bo na bližnjih hrvaških volitvah predstavilo 35 strank in 14 različnih političnih koalicij ter 20 neodvisnih kandidatov...

NOVI GLAS
Trst/Gorica, 16. dec. 1999



Nadškofove najboljše želje za božič

Ljubljana – Ljubljanski nadškof in slovenski metropolit Franc Rode je v božičnem voščilu, ki ga je prebral na Radiu Slovenija, med drugim vsem zaželel “obilje notranjega veselja, mir srca, medsebojno razumevanje, ljubezen v družinah in med sosedi ter prijatelji, za prihodnje leto 2000 pa da bi med nami zavlada edinost, sreča in sprava”.

Nadškof Rode je v voščilu med drugim dejal: “Božič nas spominja na nekaj

zelo lepega. Bog prihaja med nas, da nam razodeva svojo ljubezen vsakemu izmed nas. V svoji dobroti se sklanja k nam in nam ponuja mir in odpuščanje. S svojim prihodom nas vabi, da ustvarimo med seboj odnose, ki bodo temeljili na pravičnosti, dobroti, razumevanju in medsebojnemu spoštovanju,” je še poudaril nadškof Rode.

Sicer pa je ob tej priložnosti pozdravil tudi člane srbske in makedonske pravoslavne cerkve, ki obhajajo božič nekaj dni pozneje, pa tudi člane vseh drugih verskih skupnosti, ki so v Sloveniji. Pozdravil je tudi pripadnike italijanske, madžarske in hrvaške narodnosti.

STA

Nedelo fax, 26. dec. 1999

O sedanjem stanju Elana

London (Delo, 11. decembra) – Ugledni londonski tednik *Economist* piše o usodi tovarne smučič Elan v Begunjah. Tednik najprej ugotavlja, da je Elan, ki je v lasti neke hrvaške banke, “edina jugoslovanska blagovna znamka, ki je preživela razpad skupne države”, nato pa poudarja, da je begunjska tovarna, katero ime je v svet ponesel verjetno največji smučarski as vseh časov, Šved Ingemar Stenmark, danes “majhno, ranljivo in podkapitalizirano podejetje”. Ogrožajo jo velikani smučarske industrije, kakršna sta francoski Rossignol in avstrijski Head.

Avtor članka Elanu priznava, da je veliki inovator (pred enajstimi leti so v Begunjah denimo zasnovali in izdelali t. i. smučko carving), a zgolj inovatorstvo je premalo, saj je poleg tega treba vlagati veliko sredstev v prodajo in oglaševanje; ti dve področji pa sta Elanovi šibki točki, je prepričan *Economist*.



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"SVETA NOČ, BLAŽENA NOČ" ...

smo zadnjič zapeli v tem tisočletju. Ko se pripravljamo na NOVO LETO – to soboto –, ki se bo pisalo 2000, "SVETO LETO", Vam vsem iz srca želim, naj bo blagoslovljeno! Da bo leto božjega usmiljenja; da bo luč za nas in okolico in za svet, v katerem še ne plamti ljubezen do Boga in bližnjega.

"Hvalimo Bogu za učlovečenje njegovega Sina in za dar svete vere. Obenem prosimo prav goreče in vztrajno za vse tiste milijone ljudi, ki še niso doživeli krščanskega božiča, to je srečanje z živim Bogom, ki je ljubezen.

Naj nebeški Oče razlije prav poseben blagoslov na vas in vse, ki so vam dragi, in Mati božja naj bo z vami vse dni novega leta, da bo srečno in mirno. Bog vas blagoslovi. To vam vsem iz srca želim v imenu MZA sodelujočih, sr. Andreja Šubelj, usmiljenka."

Tedniku *Ameriška Domovina* želim blagoslovljeno novo leto zadovoljstva ter uspehov polno v tretjem tisočletju,

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Mirota Celestina



Umrli dne 3. januarja 1997.

*Tihe misli preteklih let
povezujejo dragocene spomine brez konca
neviden, neslišen si vedno med nami
ljubljen, odsoten, vedno drag in blag.*

žalujoči:

žena Mari
sinovi: Peter (Barbie), Jože (Terri),
Marko (Joanne), Andrej (Annette),
Charles (Traci), in Tomaž
hčerka Mary Ann Krevh (Erik)
vnuki in vnukinje.
sorodniki v Ameriki, Kanadi in Sloveniji.



V BLAG SPOMIN



Anton Adamič
1899-1982

Letos na Silvestrovo
bi praznoval
svoj stoti rojstni dan



Pavla Adamič
1913-1997

Tvoj duh živo še v nas
plamti,
Tvoj vzor nas nenehno
plemeni

Vajini ljubeči otroci:

Pavla Dolinar, Mira Kosem in Tone Adamič
z družinami ter družina Veider

Praznovanje 80. obletnice priključitve Prekmurja Sloveniji

V nedeljo popoldne, 21. novembra, smo se zbrali v zelo lepem številu v cerkveni dvorani Marije Pomagaj, da proslavimo 80. obletnico priključitve Prekmurja Sloveniji. Lojze Žižek nas je, pod pokroviteljstvom društva Večerni Zvon, obogatil z lepim programom. S pesmijo, skioptičnimi slikami in besedo nas je povabil v ono majhno, lepo deželico, razpeto med Muro in Rabo, objudeno z ljudmi dobrega in gostoljubnega srca.

Proslava se je začela s kanadsko in slovensko himno, katero sta zaigrala Matija Lebar in John Kolanko.

Jože Hozjan je pozdravil veleposlanika Slovenije dr. Božota Cerarja, častnega konzula Jožeta Slobodnika, častito duhovščino in vse navzoče prijatelje. Nato je podal nekaj besed. Njegov nagovor navajamo v celoti:

"Dober dén! Bog daj, dragi Prekmurci!

Mislil sem že, da bo 80. obletnica priključitve Prekmurja Sloveniji nekako šla tiho mimo vas kanadskih Slovencev, ko me je prijetno presenetilo vaše vabilo prekmurske skupnosti na današnjo slovesnost.

Prekmurški Slovenci so bili v preteklosti, še posebno pod Štefanovo krono, izpostavljeni silovitemu raznarodovanju. Kljub vsemu pa madžarski vladarji niso mogli zatreti prizadevanj narodno ozavešenih rojakov, med njimi je bilo tudi več duhovnikov, ki so se stoletja ločeni od matičnega narodovega telesa, med Muro in Rabo, prizadevali za ohranitev svoje slovenske identitete in celo več.

'Prebivalci Slovenske krajine slovesno izjavljamo, da smo vsekakor bili in hočemo biti in ostati Slovenci. Mi hočemo biti združeni s Slovenci na drugi strani Mure v Združeni Sloveniji' je v Bogojinsko resolucijo ob koncu I. svetovne vojne zapisal tamkajšnji župnik Ivan Baša. To željo je dokončno potrdil mogočni ljudski zbor v Beltincih avgusta 1919.

S sklepi Pariške mirovne konference in kasnejšo Trianonsko meddržavno pogodbo so prekmurški Slovenci (južni del) prvič ne samo državnoopravno temveč tudi jezikovno in civilizacijsko kulturno zaživel skupaj z ostalimi deli slovenskega naroda. Konec I. svetovne vojne pa je prinesel slovenskemu narodu tudi veliko bridkosti, saj je bil razdeljen med štiri države. Izgubili smo četrtino etničnega

ozemlja na Primorskem, Koroškem in tudi slovensko Porabje.

Tudi čas po priključitvi matičnemu narodnemu telesu ni vedno prinesel le zadovoljstva, ampak marsikdaj tudi razočaranje in težko življenje. Zaradi tega so se Prekmurci izseljevali ne samo v druge dele Slovenije, ampak tudi čez mejo, tudi v Kanado. Za prekmurskega človeka, ki je izredno navezan na svojo rodno zemljo, ta ločitev ni bila lahka. Velikokrat sem od marsikaterega prekmurskega govornika slišal: 'Prekmurje je doma, Prekmurci pa smo po celi Sloveniji in po vsem svetu.'

S samostojno Slovenijo se je marsikaj spremenilo na bolje in prepričan sem, da bo to veljalo tudi za naše Prekmurje. To postaja vse bolj razviti del Slovenije, ki ga odlikuje narodnostni, kulturni verski pluralizem, multikulturalnost in spoštovanje razlik.

Dovolite, da se vseh tistih Prekmurcev in ostalih, ki so k temu prispevali, spomnim s sledečimi besedami:

**"NA VEKE ŽIVÉ, ŠTERI
ZA DOMINO MERJÉ"**

Temu toplemu in poučljivemu pozdravu je sledil dvodelni program, katerega so vodili Jože Hozjan, Agata Žoldoš, Miha Zakoč in Marjanca Padar.

Program se je začel s pevsko skupino pod vodstvom Lujza, ki je zapela Račičev Oče naš, ganljiv pomurski napev in Kleklovo (Srčen) Slovensko Krajino, katero je uglasbil dr. Cigan.

V stvarno preteklost in značaj te majhne deželice nas je povedla Ftičarjeva pripoved, katero je podal g. Žižek v sočni prekmurci "rejči". Slišali smo izpoved S. Zvera "Daleč od doma... Slovenska krajina", katero so prebrali Marjanca Padar, Milan Vinčec in Lujz Žižek.

Črtico nemirnega popotnika in plodovitega pisca Evalda Fliserja, "Prekmurje, moj dom" je prebral Miha Zakoč. Štefan Ritlop pa je za konec prvega dela programa prebral oznanilo o osvoboditvi, "Prekmurkim Slovincem na znanje", katerega je objavil v tedniku *Novine* njegov urednik in ustanovitelj Jožef Klekl st., pet dni po priključitvi Prekmurja Sloveniji 17. avgusta 1919. *Novine* so postale temelj novi pismenosti, ki se je razvila v prekmursko književnost in umetnost.

Po kratkem odmoru nas je pevsko skupina spet po-

zdravila s svojimi lepimi glasovi in prislunhli slovenski prekmurški ljudski "Vsi venci bejli", in slovenski narodni "Kje so tiste stece".

Pesnika Jožefa B. nam je predstavil Miha Zakoč, njegovo pesem "spomn" pa je recitirala Lidija Fotivec. O dr. Vilku Novaku in njegovih zaslugah je spregovoril Miha Zakoč, Lojze Žižek pa nam je seznanil z njegovo pravico "80 let svobodnega Štefan Ritlop je prebral rahovo zahvalno pesem posvetilo slavnim možem Prekmurja.

Zaključek programa pričel z "Venčkom okrogline slovenske", ki je zaigrala glasbena skupina: John Kolanko, Silvo Kolarič-Ovčjak, Marjan Kolarič in njihov vodja Matija Lebar. Temu venčku sledila najprej Lujzova zahvala vsem tistim, ki so korkoli pripomogli pri oblikovanju in izvedbi te plemenite obletnice deželice na levem bregu Mure.

Njemu pa se je zahvalil Jože Hozjan ob navdušenem ploskanju množice in povabil vse navzoče na dobrote, ki so jih pripravile in postregle mlade roke dobrih prekmurških žena, da si ob njih izmenjamo prijazen pozdrav in besedo.

Še predno smo se ozvali temu povabilu, nam je pevsko skupina zapela slovo tri pesmi, v srce so gajoče melodije "San se s tao...", Edna ftica priletejala in Šou san gor po Büköji" ...

Pokojni Oton Županec je po svojem obisku Prekmurja v maju 1934 zapisal v potopisu med drugimi spoznanji naslednje: "Slovenska nija mora poznati tudi svoje obrobne pokrajine, ak hoče poznati sebe... In Slovenijo v celem mor biti važno tudi to: 'kaj kje pece štrk na dimnikih, kaj meljejo mlini na murskih ladjah'."

Ta spoznanja je skupina, ki je pripravila to slovesnost, na svojstven način uprizorila in prikazala svoj domači kraj. Prekmurje je doma, Prekmurci pa posod po "s v e j t i".

Čestitamo!

Iz ljubezni do Prekmurja kjer sem se vzgajala življenje v rani mladosti,

Cvetka M. Jakus

BRALCI

AMERIŠKE DOMOVINE
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