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AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA, JANUARY 20, 2005

Why Slovenian Women Emigrated

There are many cases of decidedly female migrations in the history of Slovenian emigration, from the "aleksandrinke" in Egypt and the "slamarice" or makers of straw hats in the U.S.A to the "kostanjarice," women selling chestnuts, in Europe.

Usually women migrated abroad to follow their husbands. From existing documentation we learn very little about these women, their education, their class or their reasons for leaving. Even their names are rarely found on the various lists, yet they played a crucial role in preserving our emigrants' Slovenian identity and roots.

Women expatriates were the subject of a three day international conference organized by the Institute for Emigration Studies at the Scientific Research Center of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) at the end of October. Historians, sociologists, ethnologists, archivists, and guests from abroad took part in the discussion which presented female Slovenian emigrants from many perspectives.

The result was a complex and multi-layered image of female emigration and the role women played in preserving Slovenian culture abroad. According to historian Dr. Marjan Drnovšek, female emigration was mostly connected with accompanying their husbands and less to the women's own wishes and initiative. Cases of exclusively female emigration were mostly confined to one region. Thus the "aleksandrinke," who found employment as nursemaids in Egypt during the construction of the Suez Canal originated from the Vipavska region whereas the "slamarice," who left for America to manufacture hats, all came from Domzale.

Nuns from Prekmurje left for France, while women from the Primorska region moved to Yugoslavia between the World Wars. The so-called slave trade has not yet been researched in detail.

The most common reasons among women for emigrating were to earn their dowry and to help their families. As Dr. Aleksej

Kalc from the Science and Research Center of Koper noted, their going abroad was a family decision made in order to help them recover from poverty though the move was considered temporary.

However, despite the fact that these sisters and daughters left home with a heavy heart and a clear goal in mind, they seldom returned to Slovenia. In their new environment they quickly developed a social network and settled down. This environment was often more progressive and liberal than their home environment. This was most notable in the U.S. where, at that time, the movement for the rights of workers and women was very strong.

Custodians of Traditional Values

The role of women abroad, of course, depends on our point of view, emphasized sociologist Dr. Marina Luksic Hacin. If we regard it from the standpoint of preserving our cultural heritage, their role was crucial. With emigration, the processes which are vital for preserving our identity as Slovenians move from the public into the private sphere, which in a patriarchal society is ruled by women. In emigration, women pass on the main values and symbols of identity to the younger generation. They take care to preserve the mother tongue, usually in the form of dialect and to convey the emotional relationship with their homeland to their children.

However, despite all efforts to preserve them, values change with the second generation. First generation emigrants carry from their homeland things that are most dear to them, things that they can identify with. Because throughout history emigration was most common among the lower and middle classes, the symbols of identity, from music and books to food, comply with their social backgrounds. But for the young people who have not had the opportunity to develop an emotional bond with their country of origin, these symbols seem remote; they therefore, quickly adopt the symbols of



New Year's Eve was a big hit at St. Mary's (Collinwood) Community Center this year. From the delicious dinner and breakfast, prepared by Josie Cerer, to the great music by Veseli Godci, everyone at the celebration had a wonderful time. Pictured here are, (left to right), Lauren Calevich, Kristina Mejac, Monika Zalar, and Sonia Domanko shortly before the midnight, 2005 countdown. They wish a Happy and healthy New Year to all!

their generation in their own environment.

This, of course, does not mean they are neglecting their roots. Often the lack of tolerance older generations show towards a different perception of traditional values displayed by the young is the main reason for the generation gap in Slovenian communities and accelerates the process of assimilation of the young. However, it would be interesting to determine what importance the younger generation places on the original symbols of identity once it gets older, says Dr. Luksic Hacin.

The American Dream

One of the most powerful emigration stereotypes is the conviction that all things abroad are better. Its origins are probably in the early years of the last century in the U.S. and it has been preserved by a collective lie, both by the emigrants themselves and their relatives at home.

In truth, the conditions were bad. They lived modestly, and everything that was sent home was taken out of their own mouths. Sometimes life in America was even harder than at home, but acknowledging this would mean admitting that their decision to go abroad was bad and the sacrifice needless. Joe Valencic from the U.S. remembers his mother telling him about the

time she arrived in America, in 1929 during the Great Depression, when she faced harsher poverty and greater social insecurity than in her native Brkini.

On the other hand, the letters from America of a member of the Slovenian minority in Hungary, presented by Marija Kozar Mukic, show a huge leap in the quality of social status. The young girl was shocked when she moved from the decidedly patriarchal environment of Porabje to America, the land of civil rights and the women's liberation movement. Regardless of the circumstances in which they lived, the emigrants were always fond of displaying their humble fortunes. And sometimes a lavish hat on the head of an immigrant would be enough to stir in the local wives and girls a fervent wish to go abroad.

The case of emigration to the U.S. is also interesting because of the response of the majority population towards individual groups and the pressures on them to integrate. The idea of the famous melting pot, in which the many ethnicities should merge into one common American nation was, in the second half of the 20th century, reversed.

Suddenly it was not enough to be an American, you had to have something

else besides, and that something could only be ancestral roots leading back to your homeland. Nowadays ethnicity is no longer preserved in order to survive, but to retain a sense of meaning.

According to Dr. Mirjam Milharcic Hladnik, who researched the life-stories of Slovenian women in the U.S., America was especially attractive to women in the field of education and employment. But it is interesting that it was in the U.S.A. that women did not have the opportunity to pass their culture on to their children. While they were still mainly employed in the home, society was ruled by the influence of the melting pot and when "new ethnicity" came into being, women were, in general, already employed outside the home, and the children left in the care of public institutions.

Female Emigration Today

The history of female emigration is full of dramatic stories and great sacrifices along with great achievements and many happy moments. Thus Dr. Mihael Kuzmic presented the life and work of the school sisters in Bethlehem and the crucial role they played in educating and preserving the Slovenian culture among the emigrants from Prekmurje from the beginning of the 20th century to the 1970s.

(Continued on page 2)

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No. 3

January 20, 2005

A 'Different' Christmas Gift

by RUDY FLIS

In describing a Christmas gift my wife Therese received this Christmas, I can't use the word "unique," so the word "different" will have to suffice.

Can you picture her? Gray hair, bifocal glasses, a granny apron covering a person loved by all. And what kind of gift would you present to this woman who is heart and soul in our home? And you must understand she has told all, "I don't need anything and please don't get me a gift." How do you overcome that? My oldest son, who is a car nut, with his family did it this way.

They gave Therese a large box. As she unwrapped it, there was a picture on the box. The picture was of hub cap spinners; to be put on the wheels of her car. Do you know what spinners are? Have you seen a car come to a stop, the tires sitting still on the street, but the hub caps are spinning as if the

wheels were turning? Those are called spinners. They serve no useful purpose that I am aware of other than being a little gaudy. But they seem popular. Well, that is what my wife will have put on her car as soon as the weather turns sunny and warm.

One of my young granddaughters said, "Grandma will be the coolest old person in the parking lot." My youngest daughter, Monica, said, "those look so getto, mom." My young granddaughters can't wait for the nice weather to arrive, so their grandma can come over in her car and have their dad install the spinners on her car. Also, grandma can't wait to drive her car with the spinner hubcaps.

They may not last long, but for at least a little while, Therese will be one of the coolest grandmas in town. And the grandchildren will have the first ride with the new spinners with their cool grandma behind the wheel.

Slovenian Women Made Hats in U.S.

(Continued from page 1)

Dr. Zvone Žigon spoke about Slovenian missionaries while Joseph Valencic strolled through American film, presented the first film containing the Slovenian words I love you or "ljubim te" and discovered a film diva of Slovenian origins, Nora Gregor.

He also mentioned the famous young emigrant Melanie, the beautiful bride of Donald Trump. Modern women, however, who choose to emigrate belong to another story, presenting a different image of the female expatriate and her different attitude towards going abroad.

According to Dr. Luksic Hacin, women today certainly do not go abroad in search of lush hats or husbands. They leave mostly to gain knowledge. Their main goals are education, employment and later professional careers, where they are already catching up with the men. For some time now, women have been more successful in their studies than men, thus gaining access to scholarships and opportunities of studying abroad, which in turn leads to better jobs with more responsibil-

ity. If we add the effects of positive discrimination, enjoyed by women in certain social areas on account of their previous neglect, the complete image of her social status is much improved. As

Slovenian women were always great fighters, there are an increasing number of success stories among the expatriates of today.

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100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED...

(Sent by a reader...allegedly written by a medieval Persian poet)

"I'VE LEARNED THAT..."

- We should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for
 - Money doesn't buy class
 - It's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular
 - Under every hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved
 - The Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can
 - To ignore the facts does not change the facts
 - When you plan to get even with someone, you are really only letting that person continue to hurt you
 - Love, not time, heals all wounds
 - The easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am
 - Everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile
 - No one is perfect until you fall in love with them
 - Life is tough, but I am tougher
 - Opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss
 - When you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere
 - I wish I could have told those I cared about that I love them one more time before they passed away
 - One should keep his/her words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he/she may have to eat them
 - A kind word is an inexpensive way to improve your looks
 - I can't choose how I feel, but I can choose what I do about it
 - Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you are climbing it
 - It is best to give advice in only two circumstances; when it is requested and when it is a life threatening situation
 - To give pleasure to a single heart by a single kind act is better than a thousand head-bowings in prayer

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Life in the Refugee Camps 1949

By Anton Zakelj, translated and edited by John Zakelj

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 1949

I slept better last night and I feel better. At 7:15 a.m., we went to Mass in a nearby church which has a Slovenian priest. For breakfast, they gave us milk and bread.

At 8 a.m., I tried going to the library to read newspapers, but it was closed. I can't find any newspapers anywhere.

The clinic gave me some new cream for my sores.

Cilka and I took Janko to a playground, but he was restless. We could have gone on a tour of Pompeii or Capri, but it costs 1,000 Lira.

They tell us that our ship may be leaving on December 11. If everything goes well, we may be in Wisconsin for Christmas.

Thursday, Dec. 8, 1949

Today is the holy day of the Immaculate Conception. I went to Mass at 7 a.m., and Cilka went to a solemn Mass with singing in Slovenian and Latin at 9. After that, we were together all day. We tried cooking some tea, without success. Finally, I went out and bought a quarter liter of wine.

Around noon, they posted a list of people who will leave for America on the "U.S.S. Greeley" on Dec. 11. There are 1,280 people on the list, and we are numbers 617-619.

In the evening, we went to Slovenian litanies at the nearby church, but the priest was not a very good singer.

Friday, Dec. 9, 1949

At breakfast this morning, the staff told us that the men will need to do some work in the camp today. I helped from 8 - 11 a.m. and from 1-5 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10, 1949

I slept poorly. I went to Mass at 7, and then to the clinic at 8:30 a.m. At 2 p.m., the doctor finally determined that I was healthy enough to go to America.

Janko got an ID necklace in case he gets lost during the trip.

The ocean looked stormy all day. Wind and rain. Will the ship leave in this type of weather?

For lunch I opened a can of meat that I had been saving for three years. I didn't feel good after I ate it.

I wrote letters to our sponsors in Wisconsin, to our friend Paulin in New York, and postcards to my father in Slovenia, and our friend Marjan Filipic, who is still in the Trofaiach camp. The postage cost me 250 Lira.

In the evening, there was an announcement that 70 people were removed from the passenger list. That caused a great deal of worry, but it appears there are no Slovenians among those who were removed.

Sunday, Dec. 11, 1949

Most people got up at 3 or 4 a.m., to prepare for departure. I was the last up at 4:30. At 6 a.m., we had breakfast. Then we returned the blankets they gave us when we arrived here, and everyone gathered in the theater. They divided us into groups of 100, and then into groups of 40 to board trucks.

At 11 a.m., we boarded a large ship, the "United States Transport Ship General Greeley." at 1 p.m., we had our first meal on the ship: soup, meat, peas, potatoes, pudding, bread and tea. The portions were small, but good.

Pristavska Noc Banquet

Coming up is the annual Pristavska noc on Saturday, January 22 in the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Avenue.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7:15. Stan Mejac Orchestra will play for dancing and entertainment.

For seating reservations please call Metka Zalar at 440-943-3844.

All members and friends of Slovenska Pristava are invited.

--Milan Ribic

Right to Life March

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Holy Name Society is sponsoring a bus to the annual Right to Life March in Washington, D.C. The bus will leave St. Mary's at 9 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 23 and return late Monday evening, Jan. 24. For reservations please call Lou Koenig at (216) 481-0800.

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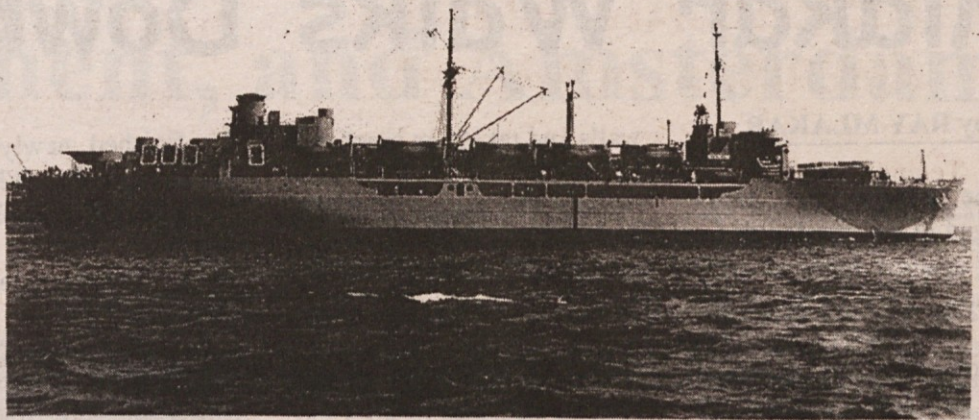
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United States Army Transport Ship General A. W. Greeley. This picture is courtesy of Rudy Flis, who traveled to Europe on this ship in 1953 as an Army private. He remembers being seasick for three days and homesick for the entire cruise. He describes the ship as "a rusting bucket of bolts which somehow defied sinking." The ship was placed out of service in 1955.

At 1:30 the ship left Naples. It had been raining all morning, but by the time we left, the weather had cleared.

Sleeping quarters on the ship are separate for men vs. women and children. It was hard to find the cabin that Cilka and Janko were assigned to. I helped them and we finally found cabin #33, which they have to share with 2-3 Jewish/Polish women. The cabin looked nice, but the Polish women do not seem friendly.

When I brought Cilka's suitcase to her cabin, Janko was crying, "Papa, papa!" so we all went up to the upper deck.

The sea has been calm, but by evening we were all feeling a little seasick.

I am assigned to dormitory F5 which includes 111 beds in the lowest level of

the ship. We share one bathroom with deck E, and it's always occupied. So I use the bathroom near Cilka's cabin instead.

The ship has 6 passenger

decks, with Deck A being the upper deck, and Deck F being the lowest passenger deck. Below F is another level for storage.

(To Be Continued)



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4 Mlakar Walks Down Memory Lane

by RAY MLAKAR

The weather has really changed in the last day or so, going from a high of sixty and now down in the lower teens with snow. We have certainly had our share of rain, but then perhaps we should be grateful that it was not snow or we would still be shoveling. Some parts of the Greater Cleveland area really got flooded out. Here is hoping it clears up soon.

After waiting for well over a year, I finally got a "paper hanger" to paper the walls in the Master Bedroom as well as paint the basement staircase.

It was odd for some three years ago Josephine and I finally were able to pick out the wallpaper we wanted for the bedroom and the paper had been sitting in a box in the spare room for three years. My sister did have a paperhanger lined up but due to his own backlog, he never showed up, and then in November I decided it is time I look for a new paperhanger.

While I was at water therapy shortly after Thanksgiving, I asked some of the old timers who were in the "spa" if any of them knew of a good paperhanger. Judy, one of the gals there said she knew of a good one and I said, "Great," because I was looking for a paperhanger. She said it is not a guy but a woman.

I said, "I don't know if I would want a woman paperhanger," but she assured me the recommended gal was tops in her field and she would bring me the phone number the next day.

Well, to make a long story short, I did call her, a woman by the name of Kathy and told her that right after the Christmas holidays, I would like the wallpaper to be removed from the Master Bedroom and new paper hung and have the basement hall painted.

She said, "Fine, I'll call you right after the holidays."

Last Monday night she called and said, "Are you ready for the wall papering?" I said, "You bet I am. I have been waiting for this job to be completed for some time". She 'dropped by the next day with one of the girls who generally works with her to see what all had to be done and she gave me a very reasonable price and said she would come by the next morning at 10 a.m. with her crew to start. She said the entire job would take two days.

I was up until late that night, taking pictures off the

walls and taking as much out of the bedroom as I could. I pushed the bedroom furniture to the center of the room to allow sufficient space around the work area. The dresser with the big mirror was now right next to the bed and needless to say I did not get much sleep, for Harry who considers my bed, his bed, seen his reflection in the mirror and was barking all night at himself, thinking it was some other dog intruding on his territory.

I was glad to see the sun rise and soon the crew was here and she brought her daughter with her as well as new nephew. The nephew was unemployed and was glad to work for his aunt and did a fine job scraping the loose paint in the basement hallway and did a fine job painting both the ceiling and walls. In fact, he gave every wall a second coat.

In the meantime Kathy and her daughter started on the back bedroom and although the paper seemed to come off easy, the glue stuck to the walls and so they had to spray it to remove all the residue, then washed down the walls and put sizing on the walls.

By 11:30 a.m., the room was ready to hang the new paper. Watching them, I had no doubts that these were real professionals and as neat as a pin, constantly running their own commercial vacuum cleaner on the floors gathering any loose debris.

Needless to say, they fell in love with Happy Harry and Harry himself felt he never had so much attention for he kept kissing them from head to toe. The woman perhaps could have gotten more done quicker, but the focus was often on Happy Harry.

In spite of it all, they were able to complete a wall and a half when it was time to call it a day, but they said they would be back the first thing in the morning to finish up. I think that Happy Harry heard and understood every word for the next morning he was by the picture window waiting for their panel truck. For when they arrived, he leaped for joy and lost no time in giving them smooches all over for he now felt he was in heaven with the women who really appreciated him.

By two in the afternoon they were done, but before packing up, they washed the woodwork, vacuumed the entire house and put the bedroom furniture back in place. I couldn't believe it and only wished that my wife Josephine was still around to see

the finished newly papered bedroom walls. What can I say, "George Bush's Blue Room has nothing over my newly wallpapered bedroom."

It certainly changed any doubt I had about "Women Paperhangers" for she was tops in my book. I was kidding her and told her that when I hear that Pope John Paul wants to redo his quarters in Rome, I would give him her name as a trust worthy worker and tops in her line of work. I can't say enough about the quality of their workmanship. I asked her if she did other work besides paper-hanging and she said, "Yes, we paint inside and outside of homes, wall-papering as well as do tile work in kitchens, bathrooms, and even lay floor tiles as well as put in formica sink

tops in kitchens as well as vanities in bathrooms. She was saying that although she does not advertise per say, all of her work comes by way of referrals and she has jobs throughout the year.

I don't know who hated to see them leave more, Happy Harry or myself. I was most fortunate for one finds such help like them perhaps by luck only once in a lifetime. Harry keeps checking by the big picture window, just hoping he may see their truck again pull into our yard.

As luck would have it, during their stay here, my hot water tank went, but fortunately I have a good plumber and he will replace the tank next week.

Happy to say Harry and I are sleeping in the New Blue Room.

Well, can't end the column without a few chuckles. Here are some clever bumper stickers:

"If God wanted women to understand men, football would never have been created."

"When the going gets weird, the weird turn pro."

A few more to remember: "It's called 'take home pay' because you can't afford to go anywhere else with it."

"Remember, if you look like your passport picture, you probably need the trip."

"It is OK to let your mind go blank, but please turn off the sound."

"Some people are like blisters; they don't show up until the work is done."

In closing, may the good Lord bless and watch over you and keep you all in good health.

Fuller Brush Party

There will be a Fuller Brush Party at the Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., Cleveland on Sunday, Jan. 23 at 2 p.m. refreshments served.

Good company in a journey makes the way seem shorter. --Izaak Walton

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Touring Bruges, Ghent, and Amsterdam

by PATRICIA COIL
Euclid Travel

Before traveling to Europe, we always spend considerable time reading guide books, conferring with Donna Lucas at Euclid Travel, and planning exactly what we want to do and see on our vacation. We had decided that since we were going to Amsterdam, we should also take the opportunity to visit Belgium. After many e-mail exchanges, we arranged to hire Ingrid van Bijnen of Comfort Tours to take us to Bruges and Ghent in Belgium. She had warned us that it would be a long day, since it was a three-hour drive to Bruges.

Ingrid picked us up at our rented houseboat early in the morning in her comfortable seven passenger van. Just as we were leaving Amsterdam, we saw what looked like a unicorn skin hanging from a light pole. We knew then that we were in for a magical day.

Much of the scenery on the way to Belgium resembled Western Ohio complete with farm animals. The biggest difference along the highway was that the sound barriers in Holland are not made of concrete, but some kind of transparent material like glass.

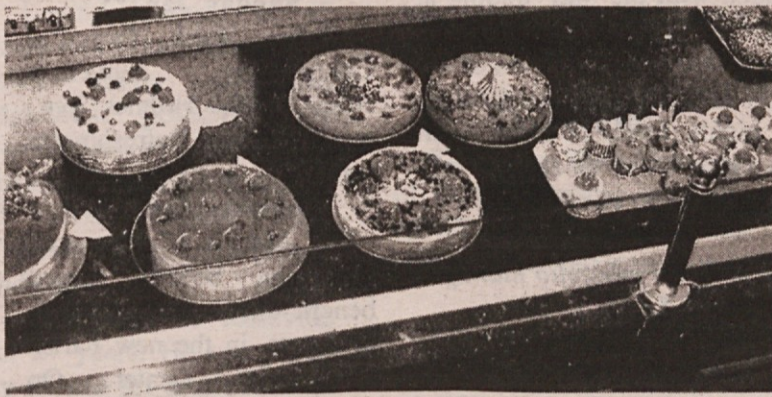
During the drive, Ingrid filled us in on the history of Bruges. She said that Bruges had started as a trading center in the 11th century, specializing in cloth. The city prospered as the middleman in the sea trade between Northern and Southern Europe. By the 14th century the city was as large as London, 35,000 people. Unfortunately the harbor began to silt up and by the 16th century its economy collapsed. Since then it has remained a virtually unchanged Gothic city and has again prospered as a tourist destination.

When we arrived in Bruges, Ingrid took us to one of her favorite small restaurants that specialized in authentic Belgian waffles. There was a choice of 15 different toppings for the waffles. My daughter and I ordered ours with caramel sauce. The restaurant must have had only one waffle iron, because they came to our table one at a time and piping hot. They were definitely the best ones we have ever eaten.

In addition, Ingrid suggested we try the special hot chocolate. We were served a huge mug of hot milk topped with a saucer filled with melted chocolate beans. We then poured the chocolate



Typical scene along one of the many canals in Ghent



Assortment of pastries in Bruges, Belgium



A picturesque canal in Bruges, Belgium



View of a canal in Ghent showing the Spijker house (right) which dates from the end of the 12th century

into the hot milk. Before we left, we purchased freshly made dark chocolate covered orange peels.

Our first stop was the houses of the Beguines, who had been wealthy women of the lay order of Benedictine nuns. These women (often

single or widowed) spent their lives praying and serving the community. When the order died in the 20th century, many of these places became subsidized housing. In Bruges these houses on a tree-filled square are now homes for retired

nuns.

St. Elizabeth's church was located nearby. After touring it, we dropped my husband off at a local brewery, because his back was bothering him from walking on all the cobblestone streets. He spent a pleasant afternoon enjoying Belgium white beer, while we continued on. (My husband and I sampled many kinds of European beer and the most interesting thing we discovered was that each brand of beer is served in a special shaped glass. My favorite beer was served in a glass with 12 sides.)

We continually had to stop and take pictures because every time we turned a corner there was another breathtaking view of old buildings and canals. One of our favorite sights was the Market Square that was filled with old gabled buildings and a bell tower.

We visited the Church of Our Lady which contains the only Michelangelo statue that ever left Italy during the sculptor's lifetime. It is a Carrara marble statue of Mary and a young Jesus.

My daughter and I visited the Town Hall and were given free audio equipment, which neither of us had any luck using. So we just looked around and read the description later in a guide book. We did notice that two of the knights adorning the walls of the Town Hall were wearing very large codpieces. We figured these knights just wanted to impress the towns' people.

The Basilica of the Holy Blood with its upper and lower chapels built at differ-

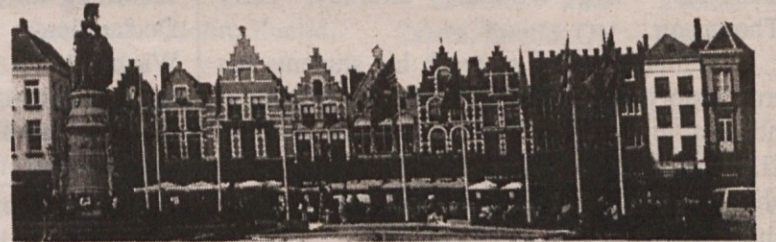
ent times was our final stop. It is supposed to contain some of the blood of Christ that was brought back from the Second Crusade in 1150 AD. We stopped going into churches after this, because they all began to blend together. In fact, we decided that two churches was the absolute limit per day, and one was even better.

Before we left Bruges, Ingrid took us to a little shop specializing in linens and lace and we bought a few Christmas presents. On our way back to pick up my husband, we purchased handmade tiles that show scenes of Bruges. My daughter and her husband picked out a large tile that shows the Beguines houses and trees. My smaller tile is of a scene along a canal. From a distance these tiles really look like paintings.

We traveled the short distance from Bruges to Ghent and got there about 5:30 p.m. Instead of going into any of the beautiful medieval buildings, we simply walked around the looked at them. Ghent also was an important port at one time and has many colorful canals. Bruges, we decided was definitely the more interesting city to visit.

Before we started back, we stopped for dinner and some more shopping. Many of the restaurants that we wanted to eat in were closed on Wednesday, but we finally found one and had an excellent meal. It was almost 11 p.m. before we got back to Amsterdam.

(To Be Continued)



One of the main streets in Bruges, filled with old buildings and new shops.

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Mystery of Up Year Ending in '5'

by JAMES V. DEBEVEC, II

Since 1876, every time the year ends in a five, the United States stock market has been UP.

The average return for years ending in a five is 24.41% which far outperforms the average year. Here is a table of the S&P (data obtained by Robert Shiller's website on yale.edu):

Year	Notes	Return
1885	Grover Cleveland's first year	19.82%
1895	Year before election	0.47%
1905	Teddy Roosevelt's first year	15.64%
1915	Year before election	28.98%
1925	Coolidge took over from Harding in 1923	22.64%
1935	Year before election	40.82%
1945	Truman took over from FDR	32.29%
1955	Year before election	29.74%
1965	1 st year of LBJ's 2 nd term	9.25%
1975	Year before election	32.25%
1985	1 st year of Reagan's 2 nd term	26.02%
1995	Year before election	35.01%
2005	1 st year of Bush 2 nd term	???
Average		24.41%

Why has this indicator worked so well? In a past column, I have written about the 4-year presidential cycle. The powers that be pump up the economy in the year before election to get re-elected. So this explains half of the occurrences. The other half are not as easily explained as it can be the first year of either a first or second term of a presidency. However, for whatever reason, the pattern has worked quite successfully for 129 years.

Getting back to the main point, clearly the XXX5 pattern is off the charts with respect to outperforming a typical year. Is there any evidence which compliments this?

The 252 day Moving Average of the Chicago Board Options Exchange total put/call ratio as of December 31, 2004 was 0.84. I have reliable data for the put/call ratio going back to July 1, 1993. There have been 153 days when the 252 day MA of this indicator has fallen in a range +/- 0.005 points of 0.84 and the returns of the NASDAQ one year later has ranged from 43.02% to 4.22%. So put this in the perfect indicator category as well. The average NASDAQ return when the indicator is around this level is 30.38%. The only downside is this indicator only goes back 11.5 years. Still, this indicator must be placed in the bullish camp.

Last year I wrote two columns recommending buying stocks. On December 31, 2004, the year ended with the S&P trading at its highest level since August 6, 2001. I continue to be fully invested in anticipation of the stock market's rally continuing for the foreseeable future. It is highly likely at some point over the next two years it will be time to sell, but that time does not look to be now.

James V. Debevec II is the portfolio manager of Absolute Value Fund, LLLP.

Declaration of Independence Banned at Calif School

by DAN WHITCOMB

LOS ANGELES - A California teacher has been barred by his school from giving students documents from American history that refer to God - including the Declaration of Independence.

Steven Williams, a fifth-grade teacher at Stevens Creek School in the San Francisco Bay area suburb of Cupertino, sued for discrimination recently, claiming he had been singled out for censorship by principal Patricia Vidmar because he is a Christian.

"It's a fact of American history that our founders were religious men, and to hide this fact from young fifth-graders in the name of political correctness is outrageous and shameful," said Williams' attorney, Terry Thompson.

"Williams wants to teach his students the true history of our country," he said. "There is nothing in the Establishment Clause (of the U.S. Constitution) that prohibits a teacher from showing students the Declaration of Independence."

Vidmar could not be reached for comment on the lawsuit which was filed in U.S. District Court in San Jose and claims violations of Williams rights to free speech under the First Amendment.

Phyllis Vogel, assistant superintendent for Cupertino Unified School District, said the lawsuit had been forwarded to a staff attorney. She declined further comment.

Williams asserts in the lawsuit that since May he has been required to submit all of his lesson plans and supplemental handouts to Vidmar for approval, and that the principal will not permit him to use any that contain references to God or Christianity.

Among the materials she has rejected, according to Williams, are excerpts from the Declaration of Independence, George Washington's journal, John Adams' diary, Samuel Adams' 'The Right of the Colonists' and William Penn's 'The Frame of Government of Pennsylvania.'

This article was submitted by **Bogomir Kuhar** of Pharmacists For Life.

Coming Events

Friday, Jan. 21

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 p.m., featuring Bob Kravos.

Saturday, Jan. 22

Pristavska Noc banquet at Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave. Music by Stan Mejac band. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner at 7:15. For tickets call Metka Zalar at 440-943-3844.

Saturday, Jan. 22

Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80 St., Moonlight Bowling, 6:30 p.m. \$25.00 per couple. Includes meal, fun bowling and prizes. For reservations call Tony 440-243-4062 or Anna Mae (216) 341-6136.

Sunday, Jan. 23

Fuller Brush Party at Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave., at 2 p.m. Refreshments served.

Sunday, Jan. 30

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School annual benefit dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the new Parish Community Center. On menu: breaded pork chops, roast beef, home fries, rice, salad and strudel. Tickets available from Slovenian school parents, or at the door for \$12 for adults and \$6.00 for children.

Sunday, Jan. 30

Slovenian National Home, Newburgh pork, sauerkraut and potato dumpling dinner includes roll & butter, dessert and beverage. Serving 12 noon - 2 p.m. Music

from 2 - 5 p.m. by Wayne Tomsic Orchestra. Donation \$10. For reservations call Anna Mae (216) 341-6136 or Florence (216) 662-3339.

Thursday, Feb. 3

Rescheduled meeting of St. Vitus Alumni in Slovenian Room of St. Vitus Village at 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 4

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 p.m., featuring Ray Polantz.

Saturday, Feb. 5

Mardi Gras Dinner/Dance featuring the sounds of "New Generation" in St. Mary's parish center. Donation \$25 includes complete roast pork, chicken dinner. Children \$13. Reservations call rectory office (216) 761-7740 or Elizabeth Zalik (440) 537-1941.

Saturday, Feb. 5

Pustovanje "Slovenian Mardi Gras" at Holy Cross Church, 750 Tahmore Dr., Fairfield, CT. 4:30 Polka Mass followed by Grand Buffet Dinner and Dance at 6 p.m. with "The Polka Quads" of Pennsylvania. Tickets \$20 in advance and \$25 at door. Children 12 and younger admitted free. Reservations call Theresa at (203) 259-5366 or Margaret at (203) 372-4652.

Feb. 11

Dance at West Park Slovenian Hall, 4583 W. 130 St., Cleveland, 7:30 p.m., featuring Joey Tomsick.

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Death Notices



REV. FRANCIS REBOL,

Rev. Francis Rebol, M.M. 79, a resident of the Maryknoll Center in Los Altos, CA, passed away in his sleep on Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2005.

On Sept. 12, 1943, Father Rebol joined the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America. He was ordained a Maryknoll priest and missionary on June 13, 1953. He served mainly in the Maryknoll Mission in Taiwan (Formosa). He was the founding pastor of a mission church called the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mission there.

He observed his 50th anniversary of Ordination in 1953, having served over 50 years in Taiwan.

Father Francis Rebol was the third of four sons born to Frank Rebol and Frances (Sustar) in Smartno pod Smarno goro, Slovenia on Nov. 25, 1925. He has two older brothers, Joseph and Marion (dec.), and a younger one, Anthony. He arrived in Cleveland with his mother and brothers on Aug. 1, 1939, reuniting with their father, a Cleveland resident since 1914. The family was members of the Slovenian parish of St. Vitus in Cleveland.

Visitation at Maryknoll Center on Thursday, Jan. 20. The Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, Jan. 21. Burial at the Maryknoll Center Cemetery there.

He is survived by brothers Joe and Rev. Anthony Rebol; two nephews and 2 nieces; three great nephews; and two great nieces.



RAYMOND ALBU

Raymond Albu, age 59, passed away on Friday, Dec. 31, 2004.

A Memorial Mass will be said for him in St. Vitus Church on Sunday, Jan. 30 at 9:00 a.m.

We hope many of his friends and classmates can come and reminisce the good times we shared with Raymond.

Albu and Azman Families

GARY L. SEIBERT SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

- Gary L. Seibert, respected musician and retired firefighter of Roseville, passed away on January 5, 2005 after being diagnosed with leukemia on December 31, 2004.

Loving husband of 47 years to Phyllis Seibert. Beloved father of Gina McLemore (Robert), Mark Seibert (Angela), and Donna (Brian). Devoted grandfather to Mark, Matthew, John, Thomas, Nicole, Stephanie and Jesse.

A resident of Roseville for 27 years. He was loved by all and his music will go on forever.

A native of Ohio, aged 68 years.

Memorial services were held on Monday, Jan. 10 at 1 p.m. in St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Rocklin. Interment private.



In Memory

Thanks to **John and Helen Kozlevchar** who renewed their subscription and added a \$25.00 donation in memory of the **Champa and Kozlevchar Families**. They write, "Keep up the good work. We both look for the Ameriška Domovina each Friday with all the good Slovenian news and activities. Thank you for a job well done."

In Memory

Thanks to **Albina Mikee** of Bloomingdale, IL who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of **Albin and Toncka Longar**.

Donation

Thanks to **The West Park Slovenian Home** for the \$25.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Anthony Kaplan** of Warrensville Heights, OH who renewed his subscription and added a \$15.00 donation in memory of **Kaplan and Intihar families**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Franc Sever** of Seven Hills, OH who added a \$15.00 donation in memory of **Prof. Janez Sever**.

Donation

Thanks to **Joseph Kastelic** of Canada who renewed his subscription and added a \$35.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Dr. David and Neja Turk** of Broadview Heights, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$40.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Stan Sajnovic** of Orillia, Ontario who renewed his subscription and added a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Elsie V. Zalar** of Willowick, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$10.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Bernard**.

Donation

Thanks to **Tony and Tina Stepec** of Richmond Heights, OH who renewed their subscription and added a \$25.00 donation.

Donation

Thanks to **Jo Svigel** of Euclid, OH who renewed her subscription and added a \$15.00 donation. She writes, "The meager fifteen dollars is a small donation for the enjoyment the paper gives. Thanks. -JS."

Large Donation

A very big THANK YOU to **Daniel Hrvatin** of Willoughby Hills, OH who renewed his subscription and added a generous \$200.00 donation.

In Honor of

Ivana Hirschegger

Thanks to **Rosalia T. Likojar** of Highland Heights, OH who submitted a \$20.00 donation in honor of **Ivana Hirschegger's** 100th birthday.



'Life in Christ' Lecture

'Families in Christ Jesus' presents the Life in Christ Series at Borromeo Seminary, 28700 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, OH beginning Thursday, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m.

The "Life of Christ" series is a course designed to renew your relationship with Jesus, and help develop a deeper understanding of God's call in our lives. The series is open to couples, singles, widows, widowers, and divorced adults.

The discussion format is talks, group discussions, and fellowship. It is approved by the Cleveland Diocese, and it's free. Moreover, it coincides with Lent so you can prepare for the greatest Easter of your life. Come and see what the Lord has for you.

For more information call Milan or Blazena Rihtar at 440-951-0389 or Arch and Marlyn Tunnell at 440-442-7538.

--Anton M. Lavrish

Baraga Day in Florida

Glenn Barry and Herb Wegener, the faithful organizers of the annual Winter Meeting of the Knights of Columbus and Baraga Day in Florida, have chosen Saturday, Feb. 19 for the event in 2005.

Slovenians who enjoy Florida sunshine at this time of year, are invited to gather for the occasion. You are encouraged to spread the information and urge as many friends as you can to make the trip to Holiday, Florida where the event is to

take place as in the past several recent years.

Tentative time for the Mass is 11 a.m., but the definite time has yet to be set with the pastor.

Mr. Frank Urankar can answer any questions about further details.

You may also call me, Father Hribsek, at 941-794-2206.

Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to all, until we meet in Holiday, Florida.

--Father Aloysius Hribsek

Donations

Thanks to the following for their generous donations to the Ameriška Domovina:

- Newburgh-Maple Hts. Pensioners Club**, -- \$15.00
- Frank Gabrovsek**, Thompson, OH -- \$5.00
- Federation of American Slovenian Pensioners**, -- \$5.00
- Olga Veber**, Geneva, OH -- \$10.00
- Lojzka Rutar**, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00
- Ted Horn**, Montgeroy, CA -- \$15.00
- Robert J. Osolin**, Euclid, OH -- \$5.00
- Jim and Louise Sulecki**, Mentor, OH -- \$15.00
- John Oberstar**, Waukegan, IL \$15.00

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Kranjc, Willoughby Hills, OH -- \$15.00

Anton and Maria Lavrish, Cleveland, OH -- \$5.00

Minka Kmetich, Richmond Heights, OH \$15.00

Metod Zerdin, Chicago, IL -- \$5.00

Ivanka Vuksinic, Chicago, IL -- \$15.00

Sergej Delak, Floral Park, NY -- \$5.00

Paul and Margaret Znidarsic, Willoughby, OH -- \$15.00

Ernest and Lillian Centa, Euclid, OH -- \$10.00

Just because the river is quiet does not mean the crocodiles have left.

--Malay proverb

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8 Important role of Slovenian Schools



Učiteljica dopolnilnega pouka slovenščine in slovenske kulture pri slovenski župniji Sv. Vida Jerneja Turk z možem dr. Davidom Turkom in sinom Andrejem.

The Slovenian spirit in the United States of America, if measured solely by the knowledge of the Slovenian language among descendants of Slovenian emigrants, is most alive in Cleveland. We are aware that language is only one of the elements defining an individual as belonging to a nation, but one of the most important, perhaps even the most decisive one in terms of preserving and strengthening the consciousness of national identity.

In the first and second generations of Slovene emigrants in the United States of America, the family held the primary role in preserving the Slovenian language. At home, family members spoke Slovenian. This is understandable: to the first generation, conversation in their maternal language was natural, easier and less contrived than in English which almost none of them spoke upon arrival in America.

Because of the relatively high concentration of Slovenian emigrants in the Northeast United States, especially in the Cleveland area, the Slovenian language spilled into the streets. Even two decades ago the children ran around the streets in the St. Clair neighborhood speaking "In Slovenian."

After the family, the Catholic Church played an important role in preserving the Slovenian language and the Slovenian culture in the U.S.A. It still does. In Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Chicago, New York and some other cities, Slovenian parishes were set up where Masses were conducted in Slovenian and where church choirs sang Slovenian songs. In fact, parish life itself was wholly Slovenian as all religious practices were brought over from their old home, like the celebrations of Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter and so on. Throughout the year parish halls produced plays in Slovenian thus keeping alive the language and national identity.

The wealth of vocabulary of Slovenian emigrants was relatively meager. Therefore, for the second and the following generations, the vocabulary of the family environment became insufficient for normal communication. Even more so as they went to English schools and in public spoke more and more in English.

Eventually, the need arose for supplementary teaching of Slovenian – for Slovenian schools. They were set up in the Slovenian parishes, in "the parallel institutions," so to speak, as it

represented the most integrative factor for the Slovenian community.

In Cleveland today, two supplementary schools of the Slovenian language and culture still operate, one in the parish of St. Vid (Vitus) and another in the parish of St. Mary's of the Assumption (on Holmes Ave.). The St. Vid Slovenian School is now 52 years old. The number of pupils varies, but in the long term it is slowly declining. This year there are 70 students altogether, from nursery school to the 8th grade.

St. Mary of the Assumption school has half this number of pupils. The headmistress of the St. Vid School, Marija Petelin, says this school is not of primary importance. All children attend regular English schools and the Slovenian school is only on Saturdays for two-and-a-half hours.

"But children come from all over," Marija Petelin emphasizes. "Most of them are from the wider area of Cleveland, though there are some from Columbus, from places in neighboring Pennsylvania and from towns on the Canadian border. The school is voluntary and I am so glad that so many children attend, especially as they come from so far away. The youngest ones are taught to count in Slovenian, to name colors and to sing, and we teach them to recite a number of short Slovenian poems. The older ones work at Slovenian grammar, history and geography. Twice a year we stage two central ceremonies, the St. Nicholas feast in December and, just before Easter, a Spring Academy. Every other year we visit Slovenia to see places of interest so that the children get first-hand experience of what they learn at school."

Marija Petelin is already Cleveland born and teaches at a regular English school like most of the seven teachers of the Slovenian school. She told us that most of the

teaching material for the supplementary lessons is prepared by the teachers themselves, though in the last few years they have received some support from Slovenia. But they would like more.

Jerneja Turk, one of the teachers, only came to Cleveland when she married 10 years ago and knows most about Slovenia. She says she comes home every year and buys lots of teaching material, from books and maps to picture postcards of Slovenian towns and villages. She moans though, that despite their teaching, most children cannot actively speak Slovenian. They can only sing. Children who cannot actively speak Slovenian come from families where Slovenian is not spoken at home. Those who do speak Slovenian have parents who use Slovenian among themselves.

"This shows how important the family environment is, even though it is not enough. Their social environment demands that the children attend regular English schools and that their busy parents speak English most of the time. If they themselves do not make the effort to learn after they come home in the afternoon, sooner or later they will lose the Slovenian language," Jerneja Turk says.

American Slovenians like to joke they speak a special mixture called "half-'n-pu" The "half" is English and the "pu" is the same in Slovenian dialect. The role of the Slovenian school therefore is to present to the descendants of the Slovenian emigrants correct Slovenian language.

"I teach the seven children in the fourth grade. We learn reading and writing in Slovenian," said Jerneja Turk. Her four children do speak Slovenian, according to their age. The seven-year-old, Andrej, attends the second grade of the regular English school and the supplementary Slovenian one, and already reads and writes

in Slovenian.

Some credit goes to Jerneja's husband, a medical doctor, urologist David Turk, who was born in Cleveland and is so enthusiastic about the land and culture of his predecessors that he listens to Slovenian polkas while operating. His enthusiasm led him to learn to play the accordion and he performs polkas and waltzes at parties organized by Slovenian societies in Cleveland.

Why mention music? Because Slovenian country music is one of the important elements that goes into the building of the American Slovenian identity. Even though it may sound very strange to the Slovenians at home. It is a paradox, but more and more often Slove-

nians of the third and fourth generation do not speak the language any longer but they attend Slovenian celebrations, ceremony and religious events, and they sing Slovenian songs even though they might not entirely understand the meaning of the words.

Language is the most important extraneous expression of national identity but it certainly cannot be said that those who for various reasons cannot speak Slovenian any longer lost their claim to Slovenian identity. There are other values which make up the culture of a nation in a wider sense of the word.

—Ivan Merljak
Slovenija - Svet

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All stockholders are invited to attend the meeting. Your attendance will be greatly appreciated.

—Evelyn Pipoly, President



– Vesti iz Slovenije –

Slovenija naj bi ratificirala novo evropsko ustavo 1. februarja – Glasoval bo državni zbor ob navzočnosti veleposlanikov v Sloveniji držav Evropske unije

O glasovanju je odločil kolegij pri predsedniku DZ Francu Cukjatiju. Izredna seja naj bi trajala pet ur (po 10 minut razprave na poslansko skupino in po minuto na poslanca), za ratifikacijo mora glasovati najmanj 60 poslancev (od vseh skupaj 90 poslancev parlamenta). Evropska ustavna pogodba je bila podpisana 29. oktobra 2004 v Rimu. Do 1. novembra 2006 morajo pogodbo ratificirati vse članice EU. Litva in Madžarska sta to že storili. V desetih državah bodo odločali o ustavni pogodbi na referendumih, zadnja bosta spomladi 2006 na Danskem in v Veliki Britaniji. Trenutno so komentatorji prepričani, da bo ustavna pogodba ratificirana v vseh državah.

Janeza in Marjana Podobnika naj bi čakala ječa na Hrvaškem

Sodnik za prekrške v Umagu je ducal slovenskih državljanov kaznoval (po 2000 kun), med njimi brata Podobnik iz SLS, ker nista imela identifikacijskih dokumentov, ki so bili vpeleteni v predvolilni mejni incident 22. septembra lani pri mejnem prehodu Sečovlje.

Podobnika sta izjavila, da kazni ne nameravata plačati. Slovensko zunanje ministvo trdi, da "Republika Slovenija na ozemlju omenjenega dogodka ne priznava hrvaške jurisdikcije, zato odločitve hrvaških pravosodnih organov smatra kot neobstoječe oziroma nične".

Letos po Sloveniji samo 18 kilometrov novih avtocest

Letos naj bi Slovenija dobila 17,7 kilometra novih avtocest (lani 70 kilometrov) od 107,4 kilometra, kolikor jih gradijo oziroma jih bodo začeli graditi (55 km). Za voznike je najbolj pomembna novia, da bo še pred turistično sezono dokončan odsek Trojane-Blagovica, tako da bo prevozna stranica avtocestnega križa od Maribora do Kopra.

Sto slovenskih vojakov v BiH – Slovenski policisti pa v treh državah

Prva motorizirana četa 20. motorizirane bataljona Slovenske vojske (poveljnik Boštjan Močnik) je odšla v Tuzlo na mirovno misijo Euforja (od decembra skrbi za mir v BiH namesto Sforja). To je prva večja enota (122 mož), ki jo Slovenija pošilja (6-mesečni mandat, urili so se eno leto) na mirovne operacije, tokrat na nemirno območje v BiH. Zamenjali so 10. motorizirano četo iz Ljubljane. Slovenska vojska ima poleg Euforja še enoto vojaške policije na Kosovu in izvidniško enoto v Afganistanu.

Na policijskih misijah v Jordaniji (pet mož z enoletnim mandatom), Makedoniji (3 možje v misiji Proxima) in BiH (2 policista v misiji EU) se bodo slovenski policisti izmenjali med 18. januarjem in 1. februarjem. Slovenija še vedno ne sodeluje v vojaških ali policijskih ali drugih operacijah v Iraku.

Kmalu zdravniki s Češkega in Slovaškega? – Prva zasebna klinika v mešani lasti

Ker v Sloveniji manjka zdravnikov (samo v Murski Soboti, kjer jih imajo 100, jih manjka več kot 30, v vsej državi več kot 700), naj bi manjko reševali z uvozom zdravnikov iz EU, zlasti iz Češke in Slovaške. Ni pa še jasno, koliko zdravnikov iz drugih držav (bilo naj bi jih okoli 200?) zdaj dela po slovenskih krajih brez licence (predvsem zaradi pomanjkljivega znanja slovenščine).

V Domžalah naj bi leta 2006 dogradili prvo zasebno kliniko (8000 kv metrov, ortopedija, nevrologija, dnevna ginekologija in internistična služba) v mešani slovenski-tuji lasti (40-odstotni delež avstrijskega Humanomeda in 60-odstotni delež družbe Klinika Ljubljana). Med okoli 180 zaposlenimi naj bi bilo 90 odstotkov osebja s slovenskega trga dela, pacienti pa naj bi prihajali iz vse Evrope.

Tečaj tolarja – Tečajnica Banke Slovenije za 18. jan. = 1US\$ – 183,59 SIT; 1\$Kan – 150,16 SIT; 1 euro – 239,76 SIT.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

Fr. Anthony Rebol umrl—

V torek je nenadno v svojem spanju umrl v Maryknoll Centru v Los Altosu, Kalif. Rev. Francis Rebol, M.M., v starosti 79 let. Rojen je bil v Šmartnem pod Šmarno goro in je prišel v Cleveland z mamo in brati l. 1939, oče je bil že tu. Leta 1943 je bil posvečen v duhovnika in postal misijonar, dolga leta je služil na Tajvanu (več kot 50 let). Zapušča brata Rev. Anthonyja in Josepha, dva nečaka in dve nečakinji. Po vrnitvi v ZDA je živel pri Maryknollcih v Los Altosu. Pogreb bo jutri, v petek, v Maryknoll Centru v Los Altosu s pokopom na tamkajšnjem pokopališču.

Velika podpora—

G. Daniel Hrvatin, Willoughby Hills, O., je ob obnovitvi naročnine poklonil še dar \$200 v podporo našemu listu. Iskrena hvala za velikodušno pomoč!

Novi grobovi

Helen M. Trebec

Dne 16. januarja je umrla 83 let stara Helen M. Trebec, rojena Hutter, vdova po Johnu, mati Darrella in Gene-a, 10-krat stara mati, 10-krat prastara mati, 1-krat praprstara mati, sestra Lillian Hill, Sophie Williams in že pok. Johna. Pogreb je danes v oskrbi Brickmanovega zavoda, kjer bodo tudi pogrebni obredi. Družina bo hvaležna za darove v pokojničin spomin Mt. St. Joseph Nursing Home, 21800 Chardon Rd., Euclid, OH 44117.

Louis Jurecic

Umrl je 87 let stari Louis Jurecic, mož Mollie E., roj. Drobnik (poročena sta bila 61 let), oče Roberta, Davida, Anne-Marie Mozzicato in že pok. Tereze Jurecic, 4-krat stari oče, 2-krat prastari oče, brat Mary Ferrolli, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski, z ženo sta lastovala in vodila Acme Dry Cleaning na E. 152 St. 31 let, član sv. Jožefa št. 169 KSKJ. Pogreb je bil 7. januarja s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete s pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin St. Mary's Building Fund, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

Prof. Vinko Lipovec—

To soboto, 22. januarja, bo praznoval svoj 90. rojstni dan prof Vinko Lipovec, ki je bil urednik slovenskega dela Ameriške Domovine skoraj 30 let, do svoje upokojitve junija 1979. Ob tem visokem življenjskem jubileju mu čestitamo in želimo še naprej leta veselja in dobre brega zdravja. Več v naslednji AD.

Kosilo šole pri M.V.—

Slovenska šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti ima svoje letno kosilo v nedeljo, 30. januarja, v župnijski dvorani. Serviranje bo od 11. dop. do 1. pop. Nakaznice za kosilo dobite pri starših šolskih učencev in v župnišču. Cena kosilu je \$12 za odraslo osebo in \$6 za otroka. Kosilo se bo tudi lahko vzelo domov.

Letna seja SND—

Slovenski narodni dom na St. Clairju ima svojo letno sejo v nedeljo, 6. februarja, s pričetkom ob 2h pop., v Kenikovi sobi (vhod zadaj). Vabljeni so vsi lastniki certifikatov in zastopniki društev, lastnikov certifikatov, pa tudi vsi, ki se za to ustanovo zanimajo. Poleg poročil odbornikov bodo volitve za direktorje.

Tudi vsi drugi narodni domovi v naši širši clevelandski skupnosti imajo ta čas svoje letne seje. Vsi sicer imajo svoje težave in zaslužijo podporo, saj je lani prenehal delovati narodni dom v Lorainu, med organizacijami sta pa prenehala tako pevski zbor Jadran kakor Progressivne Slovenke Amerike.

Spominski darovi—

Ga. Frances Mole, Cleveland, O., je darovala \$20 v podporo AD, v spomin na moža Louisa. Ga. Anne Knaus, Sarasota, Fla., je darovala \$15 v spomin moža Franka ter njenih staršev Valentina in Frances Mavko. Ga. Angela Hutar, Euclid, O., je darovala \$10, v spomin moža Matta. Ga. Mary Znidarsic, Kirtland, O., je darovala \$15, v spomin moža Staneta. G. Franc Sever, Seven Hills, O., je daroval \$15, v spomin na prof. Janeza Sever. Ga. Ann Krizman, Willoughby, O., je darovala \$15, v spomin moža Josepha. Ga. Albina Mikec, Bloomingdale, Ill., je darovala \$15, v spomin Albina in Tončke Longar. Najlepša hvala vsem!



POGLED NA JEDILNICO SLOVENSKEGA DOMA ZA OSTARELE V CLEVELANDU – Zunaj časa, ko servirajo ali zajtrk, kosilo oz. večerjo, uporabljajo nekateri stanovalci zavetišča in tudi njih svojci ta prostor za kramljanje, razne igre ipd. V Domu biva običajno 150 stanovalcev, katerih mnogi so še vedno slovenskega porekla.

Za boljše razumevanje sedanjih težav v Evropi

Evropske sanje ob evro-islam

Trst – V Evropi je kar lepo število muslimanov, ki si verovanje prikrajajo nekoliko bolj svobodno. V mošeji molijo, v politiko pa se ne vmešavajo. Darujejo svoj dar, a so do ostalega rahlo oddaljeni. Za razliko od krščanstva islam ne pozna "religiozne kritike", kot tudi ne religioznih struj. Če si kdo kaj takega upa, ga običajno ubijejo ali pošljejo v izgnanstvu. (Čeprav v bistvu podpiram splošno gledanje tega pisca, seveda ne drži, da v islamu ni struj, saj ravno danes v Iraku ogromno slišimo o šitih in sunijih; in še druge oz. drugačne verzije o "islam" obstajajo po svetu. V pogovoru pred nekaj leti z neko poznavalko etničnih skupnosti v ZDA, mi je dejala, da od vseh teh se najpočasneje asimilirajo, ali v mnogih posameznih primerih tudi nikoli ne, predvsem muslimanci in še najmanj ljudje arabskih korenin, ki sledijo svoji islamski veri. To sicer kot anekdotični dodatek tekstu, ki je tu ponatisnjen in po mojem ima svojo relevantnost tudi našim ameriškim razmeram. Ur. AD)

V evro-islam gre predvsem za to, da bi se islam moral odpovedati nekaterim delom korana, kot tudi Mohamedovim izrekom, ki niso več primerni času. Sem spadajo npr. verzi o vojni v Koranu, dovoljenje za mnogoženstvo, strahovanje žene, neakopravnost ob ločitvi, o dedovanju ipd. Ker pa so po učenju vsi verzi v Koranu Alahove besede, se to ne more spremeniti. Evro-islam pa je mišljen prav za tiste muslimane, ki živijo svojo vero le po imenu. Za pravega muslimana je evro-islam krivoverstvo ali vera brez bista. Ker muslimanski teologi ga ne sprejemajo, ta postopoma razpada.

Vsi ti problemi so se nakopičili predvsem v Nemčiji, kjer je islamski verouk v nemščini z željo, da se poučuje po šolah, ne po mošejskih dvoriščih, kot se običajno to sicer dela. Muslimani vztrajajo, naj bo pouk islama po šolah, namesto tečaja o koranu. Zavedajo se, da tečajev Korana ni mogoče prepovedati, ker so istočasno tudi tečaji Svetega pisma. Poučevanje islama po šolah pa lahko poteka samo pod pokroviteljstvom muslimanskih združenj, tako pa se ogroža avtonomija državne šole. Mnogi muslimani želijo imeti pouk islama po šolah tudi zato, ker se bojijo vpliva ekstremnih islamistov. Če bi ta pouk bil po šolah, bi pod ta vpliv ne prišli, kot lahko pridejo na dvorišču džamije.

Ob tem je stanje zaskrbljujoč. Milijoni muslimancev, ki so razseljeni po Evropi, ne sprejemajo ustav teh držav. Zanje obstaja smo Alahov zakon. S tem se že osnuje evropska islamska družba, ki je za Evropo lahko zelo nevarna in tudi vprašljiva.

Ambrož Kodolja
Novi glas, Trst, 23. dec. 2004

Sprememba naslova

Ko se selite, trajno ali začasno, ste lepo naprošeni, da naši pisarni posredujete pravočasno tako Vaš nov naslov kakor sedanji. To omogoča, da boste brez prekinitve dobivali naš list, prihranili boste pa pisarni strošek 60 centov, ki jih računa pošta za vsak povrnjen oziroma ne dostavljen izvod lista. Uporabljajte ta obrazec za posredovanje potrebnih informacij.

Nov naslov

Ime _____

Naslov _____

Mesto, Država, Zip _____

Star naslov

Star naslov _____

Mesto, država, zip _____

Pozabljeni del slovenske preteklosti: čigav je dr. Anton Korošec?

Na najvidnejšega slovenskega politika med obema vojnama so ohranili spomin le v Beogradu, kjer so obnovili njegov kabinet, ki sedaj nosi ime Cerkvica

Pozabljivi zaradi politike, zgodovine, nekulture, govoric ...

Peter Potočnik iz Beograda

Ekonomski inštitut v Beogradu se drži stavbe srbskega parlamenta. V njegovi neposredni okolici sta nekdanji kraljevski palači, v prvi je zdaj sedež predsednika Srbije, v drugi mestnega župana in skupščine. Vsak obiskovalec inštituta najprej opazi in preizkusi dvigalo, ki ga je pred 70 leti postavilo neko dunajsko podjetje in še danes brezhibno deluje.

Med zanimivosti velja omeniti bogato knjižnico, ki je dobila ime po vodji srbskih radikalcev Nikoli Pašiću (1845—1926), ki je kot premier vlade Kraljevine Srbov, Hrvatov in Slovencev do svoje smrti izvajal velikosrbsko, centralistično politiko, posebej pa sejno dvorano, ki danes nosi ime Cerkvica, ker je bila nekoč kabinet slovenskega politika in duhovnika dr. Antona Korošca.



Prvi občutek ob vstopu v Cerkvico je bil tak, kakor da sem zašel v nekakšno grobnico. Vse je v črnini, nekaj belega je mogoče videti le na stropu. Ko pa se oko privadi na mrak, mu skrbno obdelane stenske obloge iz masivnega hrastovega leta ponujajo pomirjajočo pašo.

"Čudovito," pravi beograjski nadškof in metropolit mons. Stanislav Hočevar, ko s častnim kanonikom Antonom Rojcem poslušamo pripovedovanje znanstvenega svetnika inštituta prof. dr. Jurija Bajca o obnovi Koroščevega kabineta, pri kateri so ohranili tudi spomin na nekdanjo kapelico, v kateri se je najvidnejši slovenski politik v stari Jugoslaviji posvečal svojemu duhovniškemu poklicu.

Za vedno duhovnik

Nadškof in kanonik mi pripovedujeta o njegovi otroški pobožnosti. Marijina slika je bila poleg slike njegove pokojne matere edini okras Koroščeve skromne spalnice v ulici Kralja Milana v Beogradu, kjer je 14. decembra 1940 umrl za srčno kapjo.

Dan poprej je po telefonu povprašal v Ljubljano, kakšno je vreme v Sloveniji, kamor se je odpravljajal na obisk, nato pa je v beograjski operi obiskal predstavo *Pikova dama* Petra Iljiča Čajkovskega. V svoje stanovanje se je vrnil pol ure pred polnočjo.



Zjutraj ga je njegov osebni brivec in sluga našel v postelju že v globoki nezavesti; trije zdravniki so nato potrdili le smrt.

Med prvimi se je pokojniku poklonil kraljevski namestnik knez Pavle. "Z njim nisem izgubil samo velikega državnika, temveč velikega prijatelja," je povedal knez.

Zagrebski *Katoliški list* je ob njegovi smrti zapisal tudi tole: "Čeprav je bil dr. Korošec desetletja vprežen v močan politični boj in delovanje, je ostal vedno duhovnik s polno ljubeznijo do Cerkve in verskega cerkvenega življenja."

Tedanji ljubljanski škof dr. Gregorij Rožman, ki mu je bil Korošec v veliko oporo, pravzaprav njegova desna roka, mi je pojasnil nadškof mons. Hočevar, je ocenil: "Prav je, da so mrtvega predsednika senata in prosvetnega ministra odeli v mašniško obleko in da ga kot duhovnika položili k zadnjemu počitku, saj prav v duhovništvu korenini njegova veličina, kakršno mu brez zavisti priznava vsakdo – tako

njegov pristaš kakor politični nasprotnik."

Govorice o umoru in protihrvaskem delovanju

In nasprotnikov ni bilo malo. Ko so ga nekoč prijatelji svarili, naj se varuje, ker se ga hočejo njegovi politični nasprotniki znebiti, je dr. Korošec zamahnil z roko in dejal:

"Ne bojte se zame! Noben atentator mi ne more do živega, ker me varuje sv. Mala Terezija." V telovniku je namreč nosil njene relikvije, ki mu jih je ob neki priložnosti podarila sestra svetnice.

Ni pa znano, ali je oltar njegovega kabineta krasila podoba Matere božje ali pa sv. Terezije deteta Jezusa. So se pa do današnjih dni ohranile govorce, da najvidnejši slovenski politik med obema vojnama ni umrl naravne smrti, češ da je bil strup celo v šopku, ki ga je kot predsednik senata in jugoslovanski prosvetni minister prejel v beograjski operi po ogledu *Pikove dame*, o čemer ni otipljivih dokazov.

Natanko 49 let po njegovi smrti mu je celo veliki kritik slovenske politike v medvojni in povojni Jugoslaviji dr. Franjo Tuđman v svojih *Brezpotjih zgodovinske resničnosti* (Naklada Matice Hrvatske, Zagreb 1989), na str. 476 priznal velike zasluge za obstoj slovenskega naroda.

"S svojo pragmatično politiko je (dr. Anton Korošec, op.p.) uspeh za Slovenijo pridobiti pomembne koncesije, zasnovane na sodbi, da je glede na biološko ogroženost slovenskega naroda

(dalje na str. 13)

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Leto velikih tektonskih premikov v Sloveniji

Leto 2004 je bilo za slovensko politično prizorišče v marsičem prelomno, saj je v njem Slovenija doživela nekaj velikih tektonskih premikov. Slovenija je z vstopom v EU in NATO dokončno postala del zahodnega evropskega sveta, slovensko vlado so po veliki zmagi na volitvah prevzele pomladne stranke, dobila pa je tudi novega nadškofa in metropolita.

(Pregled je bil objavljen v tedniku Demokracija 6. jan. 2005 in je sicer selektiven, op. ur. AD)

JANUAR

Duh "izbrisanih" še naprej straši

Začetek leta je zaznamovala predvsem vroča politična razprava o "izbrisanih", to je ljudeh, večinoma pripadnikov nekdanjih jugoslovanskih republik, ki leta 1992 kljub pozivom ministrstva za notranje zadeve niso pravočasno zaprosili za slovensko državljanstvo, zaradi česar jih je ministrstvo prestavilo v register tujcev.

Razprava je potekala predvsem v dveh smereh, ki sta se nekako začrtali že v letu 2003. Poslanci LDS, ZLSD in DeSUS so menili, da mora državni zbor uresničiti odločbo ustavnega sodišča (slednje je odločbo sprejelo še v letu 2003) in vsem "izbrisanim" oziroma "prestavljenim" za nazaj izdati odločbo o stalnem prebivališču v Sloveniji, opozicija, predvsem poslanci SDS, NSi in SNS pa so bili prepričani, da je treba odločbe izdajati selektivno.

Menili so namreč, da je med "izbrisanimi" veliko špekulantov in ljudi, ki so sodelovali v agresiji na Slovenijo, zaradi česar bi bilo treba vsak primer posebej preučiti.

Ker vladajoča koalicija temu ni bila naklonjena, je opozicija še naprej vztrajala pri svoji zahtevi, ki jo je v parlament vložila že v letu 2003, naj državni zbor razpiše referendum o t. i. tehničnem zakonu o "izbrisanih" pri tem pa je zeleno luč dobila tudi od ustavnega sodišča, ki je konec januarja odločilo, da zavrača zahtevo poslancev LDS, ZLSD in DeSUS, naj presodi, ali je odlok državnega zbora o razpisu referenduma (referendum je bil najprej razpisan za 15. februar)

v skladu z ustavo, državnemu zboru pa naložilo, naj določi nov datum izvedbe referenduma.

FEBRUAR

Interpelacija zoper Rada Bohinca in Dušana Kebra

Razprava o "izbrisanih" se je nadaljevala tudi februarja. Za največ vroče krvi v zvezi s tem je v začetku meseca poskrbel notranji minister Rado Bohinc, ki je javnosti sporočil, da je ministrstvo odločbe "izbrisanim" začelo izdajati neposredno na podlagi odločbe ustavnega sodišča.

Bohinčeva odločitev je bila toliko bolj nenavadna zato, ker je Bohinc še pred nekaj meseci v javnosti zagovarjal teorijo,

da je mogoče z izdajanjem odločb začeti šele potem, ko bosta sprejeta sistemski in tehnični zakon o "izbrisanih". Čeprav zakona do začetka februarja nista bila sprejeta, je ministrstvo odločbe vseeno začelo izdajati. Pravno podlago za to je našlo v pojasnilu ustavnega sodišča, da je odločbe mogoče izdati tudi neposredno na podlagi odločbe ustavnega sodišča.

V naslednjih nekaj tednih je tako Bohinčevo ministrstvo izdalo okoli 4.000 odločb, s katerimi je prav tolikim "izbrisanim" povrnilo status stalnega prebivališča za nazaj, Bohinc pa si je za takšno potezo prislužil interpelacijo, ki so jo v parlament vložile SDS, NSi in SNS.

Bohinc pri tem ni bil osamljen, saj sta SDS in NSi skoraj hkrati vložili tudi interpelacijo zoper ministra za zdravje Dušana Kebra. V njej so mu očitali zlasti nekatere nepravilnosti, ki naj bi se bile zgodile pri prodaji zgradbe bolnišnice Trnovo, projektu nove pediatrične klinike in nabavi diagnostične in terapevtske opreme.

Poslanci so razpisali tudi nov datum za izved-

(DALJE na str. 14)

AVSTRIJSKO USTAVNO SODIŠČE...

O slovenščini kot sodnem jeziku – Ne

Dunaj (Delo fax, 13. jan.) – Avstrijsko ustavno sodišče je 12. januarja razsodilo, da pred okrajnim sodiščem v Celovcu ni dopustna raba slovenščine. Odločitev je utemeljilo s premajhnim deležem tamkaj živečega slovensko govorečega prebivalstva.

Celovski odvetnik Rudi Vouk, ki je pred ustavnim sodiščem zastopal koroškega Slovenca, ki je sprožil tri leta trajajoči sodni spor o rabi slovenščine, je odločitev avstrijskega ustavnega sodišča označil za "kruto, a logično argumentirano".

Avstrijsko ustavno sodišče je v obrazložitvi razsodbe zapisalo, da je za priznanje slovenščine kot uradnega jezika pred sodišči odločilen delež slovensko govorečega prebivalstva v sodnem okraju. Pri tem se je, po besedah Rudija Vouka, oprlo na predhodni razsodbi iz leta 1987 in 2000, v katerih je, poenostavljeno rečeno, odločilo, da je petodstotni delež manjšinskega prebivalstva premajhen, več kot desetodstotni pa že zadošča za uveljavitev manjšinskih pravic.

Da bi bilo celovško okrajno sodišče primorano poslovati tudi v slovenskem jeziku, bi moral biti delež slovensko govorečega prebivalstva v sodnem okraju Celovec višji od petih odstotkov oziroma se gibati znotraj nejasno definirane meje med petimi in več kot deseti odstotki.

Popisi prebivalstva kažejo, da to ni tako. Med zadnjim ljudskim štetjem leta 2001 je v sodnem okraju Celovec živelo 2,2 odstotka slovensko govorečega prebivalstva. Leta 1951 jih je tam živelo 6,8 odstotka, leta 1961 pa pet odstotkov.

Nizki delež slovensko govorečega prebivalstva v tem sodnem okraju je deloma posledica vpliva koroške prestolnice Celovec, ki svojim 90.000 večinsko nemškimi prebivalci prevlada nad višjimi deleži slovensko govorečega prebivalstva v okoliških manjših krajih.

Odvetnik Rudi Vouk je upanje, da bo s pritožbo

pred avstrijskim ustavnim sodiščem uspel, črpal iz dejstva, da sta sestavni del sodnega okraja Celovec tudi občini Bilčovs (Ludmannsdorf) in Žrelec (Ebental), ki sta uradno priznani kot dvojezični občini. Njunji prebivalci smejo komunicirati v slovenščini z občinskimi organi, zato ni videl pravega razloga, zakaj ne bi smeli komunicirati tudi z okrajnim, to je, s prvostopenjskim sodiščem v Celovcu.

V podobnem položaju kot koroški Slovenci, ki upravno spadajo v sodni okraj Celovec, so tudi pripadniki manjšine, ki spadajo v sodna okraja Velikovec in Beljak. Tudi ta dva vključujeta uradno priznane dvojezične občine, vendar njihovi prebivalci pred okrajnim sodiščem nimajo pravico govoriti slovensko.

To pravico imajo le tisti pripadniki manjšine, ki upravno sodijo pod okrajna sodišča v Železni Kapli, Pliberku in Borovljah.

Po besedah dr. Rudija Vouka je odločitev avstrijskega ustavnega sodišča, kot že citirano, "kruto, a logično argumentirano". V vsakdanje, praktično življenje koroških Slovencev ne prinaša nič novega, ampak le ohranja obstoječe stanje – z vsemi nelogičnostmi avstrijsko-koroškega vsakdanjika.

Konkretno: koroški Slovenec, ki prebiva v občini Bilčovs, sme govoriti slovensko pred občinskim uradom v Bilčovsu; sme govoriti slovensko pred okrajnim glavarstvom v Celovcu; sme govoriti slovensko, celo ko komunicira s koroško deželno vlado; ne more pa govoriti slovensko pred celovskim sodiščem.

Matija Grah

Z globoko hvaležnostjo v srcu se spominjamo naših dragih staršev ob obletnici njune smrti

N E M E C

50. obletnica



očeta

ANTONA

21. jan. 1955

25. obletnica



mame

ANE

28. nov. 1979

Hvala Vama za vso skrb, ljubezen in dobroto.

Življenje naše

- EN SAM UTRIP
- EN KRATEK HIP
- EN SAM POGLED - v dolino solza
- EN SAM KORAK - pred Sodnika, Boga

Vaše hčerke: Kati, Ani, Helena z družinami, vnuki in vnukinje Jereb, Knez, Gorshe in Nemeč.

Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija

Blagajniško delo opravljata:

Helena Nemeč
1019 E. 171 St.,
Cleveland, OH 44119

in

Marjanca Tominc
407 Snavely Rd.,
Richmond Hts., OH 44143

P. VENDELIN ŠPENDOV

Lemont, IL

LEMONTSKI ODMEVI

Srečno novo leto – 2005! "Da srečno novo leto bo, / le sveto vsej živimo! / Podpira Jezus nas z močjo, / da vredno ga častimo. / Naj vse nam odpusti Gospod / in varuje nas novih zmot, / pristrčno Ga prosimo."

Na novega leta dan je v bogoslužju slovesni praznik Marije, božje Matere: "Bogorodica presrečna, / ki deviško si Boga / nam rodila in Gospoda, / sad presvetega Duha, / ko na zemeljska je pota / stopil Rešenik sveta."

Naša revija s to številko stopa v 97. leto neprekinjenega izhajanja.

(Ur. AD: To številko smo prejeli v pisarno 15. januarja.)

Vsa ta leta je *Ave Maria* prinašala tehtno duhovno hrano našim rojakom, za kar so si, od prvega – p. Kazimirja Zakrajška – vsi uredniki zvesto prizadevali. Taka dolga doba izhajanja revije je znak, da so jo rojaki v ZDA in Kanadi in drugod po svetu z veseljem in uspehom prebirali in podpirali.

Večkrat dobimo sporočila in pismene zahvale za bogato in globoko versko vsebino, in zanimivosti iz vesoljne in slovenske Cerkve in slovenskega kulturnega udejstvovanja. Marija Pomagaj bedi nad našo revijo, zato jo prosimo, naj po njeni priprošnji Bog še vnaprej

varuje in blagoslavlja urednika, in vse, ki so nam v pomoč pri upravi.

Enoletna naročnina na Ave Maria je \$20, izven ZDA pa \$25. Naslov za naročitev: Ave Maria Printery, 14246 Main Street, P.O. Box 608, Lemont, IL 60439-0608.

Sobratje umrli v januarju: p. Marko Hočevar (4. jan. 1977); p. Lovrenc Grom (12. jan. 1992); br. Akurzij Somrak (14. jan. 1960); p. Gracijan Heric (16. jan. 1957); p. Bonaventura Borgola (19. jan. 1996); p. Kazimir Zakrajšek (27. jan. 1958). Naj počivajo v Bogu.

Šolskim sestram sv.

Frančiška Kristusa Kralja na Mt. Assisi v Lemontu je 4. novembra 2004 Bog odpoklical sestro M. Moniko Lindic, OSF. Rojena je bila leta 1923 v Clevelandu, Ohio, krščena v cerkvi sv. Lovrenca, kjer je tudi dokončala osnovno šolo. Nato se je izobraževala na več krajih in bila 16. avgusta 1941 sprejeta kot novinarka v samostanu Šolskih sester v Lemontu, kjer je 16. avgusta 1945 položila večne zaobljube.

"Vse za Jezusa" je bil njen življenjski moto, zlasti v pripravah in poučevanju v šolah.

Bolezen ji tudi ni prizanesla, ni ji pa odvzela volje do dela, niti nasmeha z obraza in njene dobre volje: "Vse za Jezusa". Na pokopališču sv. Alfonza v Lemontu počiva med sosestrami sv. Frančiška Kristusa Kralja. Naj s. Monika počiva v miru in božjem objemu. Sožalje častitim Šolskim sestram na Mt. Assisi, sorodnikom in prijateljem.

Kakor v preteklih letih bomo tudi to leto vsak mesec opravili sv. mašo za žive in rajne naročnike.

Za letošnje leto – 2005 – je večina naročnikov že poravnala naročnino, nekateri že za nekaj let naprej. Tisti, ki so zakasneli, pa vemo, da bodo v kratkem uredili. Bog plačaj!

Za vpisane v Apostolat sv. Frančiška vsako leto darujemo 100 (sto) sv. maš. Rajni, ki so vpisani, so deležni iz leta v leto milosti vseh sto sv. maš. Da za vpis v Apostolat naj bi bil vnaprej – \$20.

Museum of Science and Industry v Chicagu že nad petdeset let vključuje v program božičnega časa Christmas around the World – božične navade in glasbo najrazličnejših narodov (letos 38). Slovenski dan, predstavitev slovenskih božičnih navad in pesmi je bila v soboto, 27. novembra. Predstavljaljo so učitelji in učenci Slomškove slovenske šole v Lemontu.

Prireditev je bila pod vodstvom Ivanke Markun; božične pesmi pa so podali mlajši člani pevskega zbora pri Mariji Pomagaj v Lemontu. Slovenska skupnost v Chicagu in okolici pripravlja

to božično predstavo s krašenjem božičnega drevca že nad 40 let. Čestitamo in Bog daj vztrajnost še v bodoče.

Dve leti je poteklo, kar je škof Metod Pirih blagoslovil Slovenski kulturni center v Lemontu. Za obletnico je bila 14. novembra sv. maša v dvorani, ki jo je s somašniki daroval dr. Peter Lah, S.J., sledil je program gostov iz Hamiltona, Kanada in banket. Žal nam je, da smo med sv. mašo, tudi med petjem in pridigo slišali pogovarjanje navzočih v drugi polovici dvorane.

Mnogi slovenski starši v ZDA nudijo svojim otrokom možnost študija na univerzah. Med redkimi, ki se odločijo za študij slovenskega jezika in slovenske kulture, je Marija Kristina Arko, poročena Klemenc. Marija Kristina je hčerka dr. Lojzeta in Kristine Arko, rojena leta 1974 v Chicagu.

Od mladih nog je njena ljubezen glasba, predvsem slovenska glasba. Zato ni čudno, da jo je smer študija pripeljala do doktorskega naslova, ko je 16. maja 2004 na univerzi Kalifornije v Berkeleyju uspešno zagovarjala doktorsko disertacijo z naslovom "Arranging the Nation: Slovenian Choral Singing and Folk Song Arrangements", ali, po naše, "Slovenski zbori in priredbe slovenskih narodnih pesmi".

Obširno delo predstavi slovensko zborovsko umetno pesem, nakar se popolnoma posveti ljudski-narodni pesmi in njihovim priredbam v zadnjih treh stoletjih. Med zbiratelji in zapisovalci narodnih pesmi je posebej znan dr. Karel Štrekelj.

Nekateri so melodiji darovali še izvirno harmonijo, kakor so jo prepevali na deželi. Drugi so prevzeli melodije in jih prirejali. S tem so dali zborom možnost izvajanja. Med najbolj znanimi so bili: Janko Žirovnik, Oskar Dev, Zdravko Švikaršič, Stanko Vraž (pesmi iz Prekmurja), Marko Bajuk, Emil Adamič, France Marolt, Matija Tomc; med mlajšimi pa Pavle Merku, Tomaž Čopi, Damijan Močnik in Lojze Lebič.

(dalje na str. 13)

V ZAHVALO IN DRAG SPOMIN

V globoki žalosti in vdani v božjo voljo naznanjamo, da je 14. novembra 2004 Bog k sebi poklical našo ljubo mamo, staro mamo in sestro



1907

2004

FRANČIŠKO KOSEM roj. MAJDIČ

Naša draga mama je bila rojena 29. januarja 1907 v Beričevem, fara Dol pri Ljubljani. V Ameriko je prišla z družino leta 1949.

Pogreb je bil 17. novembra 2004 iz Cosic pogrebnega zavoda v cerkev Marije Vnebovzete na Holmes Ave., od tam na pokopališče Vernih duš na Chardon, Ohio.

Pogrebno sveto mašo je daroval sin Frank Kosem v spremstvu č.g. župnika Janeza Kumšeta. Somaševalo je lepo število clevelandskih duhovnikov. Pristrčna zahvala vsem duhovnikom za somaševanje. Posebna zahvala č.g. Kumsetu za vodenje rožnega venca v pogrebni kapeli, ter za molitve za pokojno.

Najlepšo zahvalo naj prejmejo članice Oltarnega društva za molitve in sodelovanje v procesiji ob krsti pokojne. Posebna zahvala KSKJ #169 za molitve v pogrebnem zavodu. Iskrena hvala zboru Marije Vnebovzete pod vodstvom Ed Ferrazzoli in zboru Fantje na vasi ter pevskeemu zboru Korotan, ki so pod vodstvom pevovodje Janeza Sršena tako ganljivo zapeli.

Ljubi Bog naj stotero poplača vsem, ki so darovali lepa mašna plašča, prekrasne cvetlice, za sv. maše, v dobrodelne namene in dar cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete, v njen spomin. Lepa hvala tudi vsem nosilcem krste, in pogrebnemu zavodu Cosic za vso postrežbo in skrbno vodenje. Zahvaljujemo se tudi Julki Zalar in njenim pridnem pomočnicam za pogrebščino, in vsem, ki so prišli na pogrebščino in nam bili v podporo.

Zahvalne kartice so bile razposlane vsem, ki so se nas in naše mame spomnili v teh težkih dneh. Ako smo morda pri tem koga izpustili, naj velja ta javna zahvala tudi Vam. Bog plačaj!

POČIVAJTE V MIRU DRAGA MAMA!

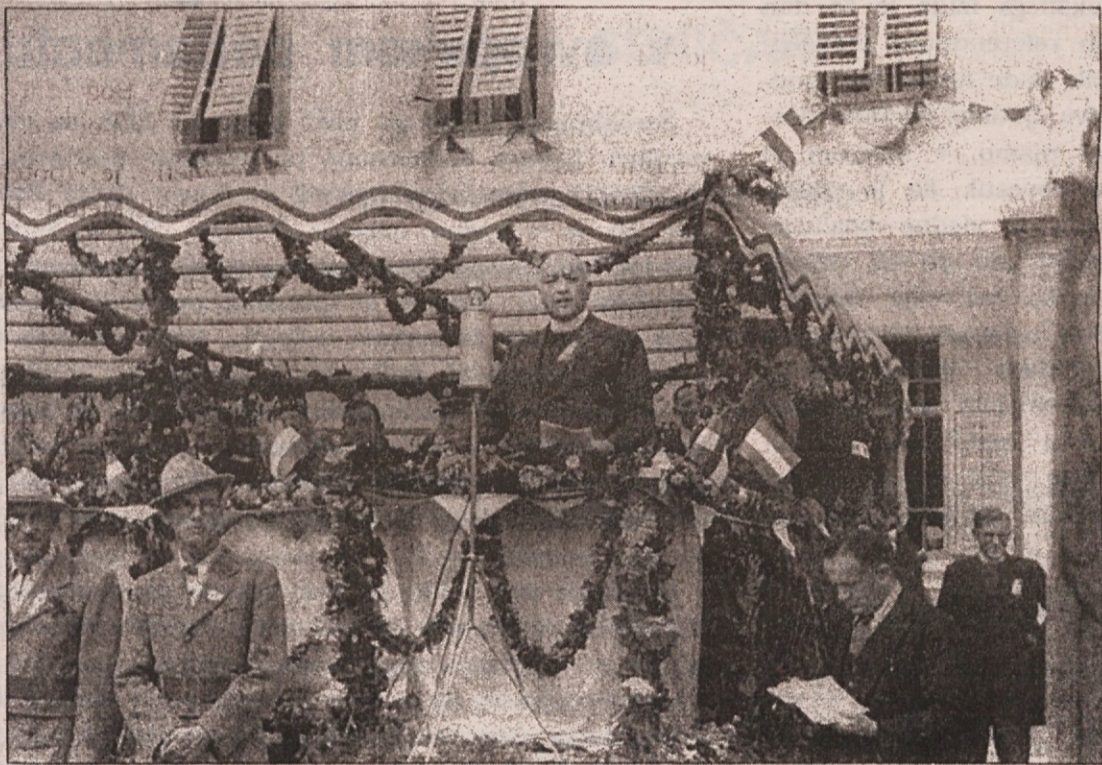
Spomin na Vas je naš zaklad,
Saj vsak od nas Vas imel je rad

pri Bogu se veselite,
a v srcih naših Vi živite!

Žalujoči ostali:

Rev. Frank in Marjan – sinova
Zofi, Mari por. Celestina in Urši por. Štepec – hčerke
Mira – snaha
Vnuki, vnukinje, pravnuki in pravnukinje
Sestra Kati Mihelič in ostalo sorodstvo v Sloveniji

Slovenski politik dr. Anton Korošec



Dr. Anton Korošec za govorniškimi odrom ob proslavi 70-letnice prvega slovenskega tabora v Ljutomeru, 9. avgusta 1938

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

pred nemškimi in italijanskimi imperializmom – najbojša rešitev za Slovenijo pravzaprav najslabša Jugoslavija.

Tako spoznanje je prevevalo vse slovenske politične tokove – vse do popolnoma spremenjenih mednarodnih okoliščin v sodobnem svetu, v katerih evropskim narodom – in tako tudi ne slovenskemu – ne grozi več nevarnost takšnih imperIALIZMOV.

V takih geopolitičnih in zgodovinskih okoliščinah se je pogojevalo svojevrstno slovensko razsojanje v hrvaško-srbskih odnosih v revolucionarnih letih in v povojnem razdobju. Ali povedano drugače, iz izjemnega položaja slovenskega naroda je izhajalo obnašanje slovenskih predstavnikov do hrvaškega konfederalizma in velikosrbske državnosti.

Dr. Gjuka Kuntarić iz hrvaške Požege je v svojih spominih na dr. Korošca, ki jih je 21. decembra 1940 objavil *Slovenec*, zapisal, da pokojnika niso privlačila le hrvaška mesta, temveč tudi podeželje:

“Hrvaškimi kmetom je bil zelo blizu. Rad se je pogovarjal z njimi, v svojih nastopih ni nikdar žalil svojih političnih nasprotnikov iz drugih hrvaških strank. In še danes se ga radi spominjajo kmetje zlate Požeške doline, tako tisti, ki so obiskovali njegove sestanke, kakor tudi tisti, h

katerim je zahajal. Hrvaško in ljudi iz Hrvaške je poznal kot redko kdo. Poznal je naše razmere in naše težave. In tudi deloval je za hrvaštvo.”

Zasluge za slovensko univerzo, akademijo ...

Naši predniki so dolgo sanjali in si od leta 1870 prizadevali ustanoviti univerzo, kar se je udejanjilo šele leta 1919.

“Dr. Korošec nam je izbojeval popolno univerzo, Akademijo znanosti in umetnosti, Glasbeno akademijo – skratka naše najvišje kulturne ustanove, s katerimi se je slovenski narod dokončno uveljavil kot narod in stopil na pot neoviranega kulturnega razvoja,” je ob njegovi smrti izjavil tedanji tajnik akademije dr. Gojmir Krek.

LEMONT...

(nadaljevanje s str. 12)

Zborovodje slovenskih zborov gotovo poznajo večino teh imen, saj so njihove skladbe in priredbe ljudskih-narodnih pesmi priobčene v marsikateri pesmarici. Obenem pa je ljudska pesem znak slovenske duše in slovenske narodnosti, zlasti še v zamejskih predelih.

Iskrene čestitke, Marija Kristina Arko-Klemenc, Ph.D., glasba, za temeljito znanstveno delo na polju slovenske narodne glasbe. Naj Bog še vnaprej blagoslavlja Tebe, Tvoje delo in Tvojega moža Matijca.

AVE MARIA
JANUAR 2005

Ledeno mrzlo je bilo tistega torka, 17. decembra 1940, ko je kakih 40.000 premraženih ljudi med ljubljansko stolnico in Navjem s 15.000 pogrebci pospremlilo dr. Antona Korošca k zadnjemu počitku.

Pogrebne slovenosti je vodil mariborski škof dr. Ivan Tomažič, spremljala pa sta beograjski nadškof dr. Josip Ujčić in ljubljanski škof dr. Gregorij Rožman. Med pogrebom so se spomnili na Biserjane, majhno vasico v občini Sv. Jurij ob Ščavnici, kjer se je 12. maja 1872 rodil dr. Anton Korošec.

Umri je reven kot cerkvena miš

Dovolj razlogov za premislek, kako malo damo Slovenci na velike može, med katerimi je bil vsekakor tudi dr. Anton Korošec.

Eni bi radi izbrisali spomin nanj zaradi njegovega jugoslovanstva, zaradi česar se ga bržkone sramujejo v stranki, ki je prevzela ime po njegovi Slovenski ljudski stranki, drugi zaradi avtonomistične in klerikalne politike v prvi Jugoslaviji, tretji... Ni laško govoriti o dr. Korošču kot politiku, ki je bil tudi jugoslovanski premier in notranji minister, še prej pa v graškem deželnem zboru in državnem zboru na Dunaju, kjer je koval novo zgodovino Slovencev, Hrvatov in Srbov, ki jo je začel 30. maja 1917 v državnem zboru na Dunaju, ko je kot predsed-

nik jugoslovanskega kluba prebral majniško deklaracijo o združitvi vseh slovanskih narodov dvojne monarhije v eno državno enoto.

“Sledi 22 let neprekinjenega dela našega voditelja – zdaj na parlamentarni klopi, zdaj na vladnih ministrskih mestih, zdaj pri samem krmilu države ... In kadar je šlo za Slovence in slovenske narodne interese, potem Korošec ni bil več strankarski politik, ampak samo še oče vseh ... Iz skrbi za svoj narod se je tudi pokojni Korošec tako vztrajno boril za našo narodno samoupravo in avtonomijo

... Videl je, da se brez samouprave Slovenci nikoli ne bomo mogli ne politično, ne gospodarsko in ne kulturno primerno uveljaviti,” je dan po njegovi smrti zapisal *Slovenec*.

Zapustil ni nobenega premoženja, z lastnim denarjem je pomagal marsikomu in marsikateri ustanovi. Mož, ki je razpolagal z milijoni, je umrl skrajno ubog in siromašen. V Beogradu so spomin nanj ohranili vsaj s Cerkvico, kakor so poimenovali njegov kabinet na ekonomskem inštitutu. Kaj pa pri nas?!

NEDELO

2. januarja 2005

RAZMIŠLJANJA ...

Izgubljene stvari

CLEVELAND, O. – Neko dekle je v čakalnici velikega letališča čakalo na svoj polet. Ker se je čakanje zavleklo, si je kupila knjigo, da bi ji čas hitreje minil. Kupila si je tudi vrečko piškotov. Usedla se je v čakalnico za VIP-goste, da bi lahko v miru brala in se odpočila.

Poleg nje se je usedel mož, ki je odprl revijo in začel brati. Ona je mirno nadaljevala z branjem in si postregla prvi piškot iz vreče. Takoj je tudi mož poleg nje vsel enega. Postala je nejevoljna, toda rekla ni ničesar. Pomislila je: Kako je nesramen. Če bi bila bolj odločna, bi mu prisolila eno, da bi si zapomnil za vedno.

Vsakič, ko je vzela piškot, je tudi on vzel enega. Bila je tako ogorčena, da sploh ni vedela, kaj storiti. Ko je v vrečki ostal samo še en piškot, je pomislila: Kaj bo pa zdaj ta brezobzirnež? Mož pa je razdelil zadnji piškot na dva kosa in ji pustil polovico. Začela je pihati od jeze. Zaprla je knjigo, pograbila stvari in odšla v prostor za vkrcanje.

Ko se je v letalu, umirjena že, udobno namestila v svojem sedežu, je odprla torbo in z začudenjem zagledala še zaprto vrečko piškotov... Bilo ji je pošteno sram, ko je doumela svojo zmoto. Pozabila je, da je piškote dala v torbo ... mož pa je z njo delil svoje piškote, ne da bi postal jezen, živčen, nejevoljen ali vznemirjen, medtem ko je bila ona vsa iz sebe, ker je mislila, da je delila svoje piškote z njim. Zdaj pa ni bilo več časa za razlage in opravičevanja.

Kolikokrat v življenju jemo piškote drugih in se tega ne zavedamo?!

Preden si ustvarimo mnenje, raje dobro premislimo.

Morda stvari niso čisto take, kot si jih mi predstavljamo. Ne mislimo o drugih, česar ne vemo.

V življenju so štiri stvari, ki so za vedno izgubljene:

- kamen, ki smo ga vrgli;
- beseda, ki smo jo izrekli;
- priložnost, ki smo jo zapravili;
- čas, ki je potekel.

F.O.-L.

Katoliške šole v Clevelandu

Iz *buletina sv. Vida*, 16. jan. 2005: “Ali ste vedeli, da je v clevelandski škofiji 152 katoliških osnovnih šol in gimnazij? V osnovnih šolah od otroškega vrtca do 8. razreda je vpisanih skoro 41.000 učencev, v gimnazijah pa 14.000. Katoliške osnovne šole konča 100% učencev, v gimnazijah pa 99,8%. Od slednjih jih gre 97% v višje šole.”

Leto velikih tektonskih premikov v Sloveniji

(nadaljevanje s str. 11)

bo referendum o t. i. tehničnem zakonu o "izbrisanih", to je 4. april, znameniti falcon (tj. vladno letalo, op. ur. AD) dala v zakup.

MAREC

Razne težave LDS

Marec je minil predvsem v znamenju nadaljnega upadanja podpore največji parlamentarni stranki LDS in naraščanju podpore njeni največji tekmi SDS, kar so javnomnenjske ankete začele zaznavati že v januarju. Tako je po večini javnomnenjskih anket SDS za LDS zaostajala le še za odstotek.

Prav slednje je bilo verjetno največji razlog, da slovesnost, ki jo je v Festivalni dvorani na Bledu 12. marca ob 10. obletnici svoje ustanovitve pripravila LDS, ni minila v pretirano optimističnem razpoloženju. Tako so na njej mnogi v stranki ugotavljali, da je padec podpore priljubljenosti stranke zaskrbljiv, in za prihodnje mesece napovedali protiofenzivo, s katero bi si povrnili priljubljenost pri volivcih.

Namesto protiofenzive, ki naj bi jim vrnila nekdanjo priljubljenost, so v LDS dočakali ofenzivo znotraj lastne vlade, saj je ena izmed koalicijskih partneric, SLS, napovedala, da bo podprla interpelaciji zoper ministra Bohinca in Kebra.

Po nekaj posrednih Ropovih grožnjah, da bi jo v primeru glasovanja za obe interpelaciji utegnil vreči iz vladne koalicije, so v SLS svoja

stališča nekoliko omilili, vendar je stranka kljub temu podprla interpelacijo zoper ministra Bohinca (pri Kebru se je glasovanja vzdržala).

Čeprav glasovanje ni odločalo o ničemer, saj sta imela Keber in Bohinc dovolj podpore med poslanci LDS in ZLSD, so v LDS takšno potezo ocenili kot nedopustno soliranje ene izmed koalicijskih partneric in napovedali resen razmislek o nadaljnjem sodelovanju z njo.

APRIL

Ustanovljen Kučanov Forum 21

Na dan, ko se je vsa Slovenija podobno kot vsako leto smejala prvoaprilskim šalam, je svoje novo poslanstvo začel nekdanji predsednik Milan Kučan. Skupaj s kakšnimi 200 ljudmi iz slovenskega javnega življenja, večinoma je šlo za t. i. rdeče direktorje, je v Cankarjevem domu ustanovil nekaj časa napovedovani Forum 21, ki naj bi po uradnih napovedih deloval kot društvo, ki bi se ukvarjalo s političnimi, z gospodarskimi in etičnimi vprašanji, po mnenju političnih analitikov pa naj bi poskušal predvsem uveljavljati interese zbranega kapitalskega lobija in Kučanove politične interese.

Da slednje drži, se je izkazalo že na ustanovnem zboru, na katerem so njegovi člani sprejeli posebno resolucijo, s katero so volivke in volivce pozvali, naj se ne udeležijo za 4. april napovedanega referenduma o t. i. tehničnem zakonu o "izbrisanih".

No, referendum je, čeprav sta podobno pozivala tudi Janez Drnovšek in Anton Rop, uspel, še več, proti uveljavitvi zakona se je izreklo skoraj 95 odstotkov njegovih udeležencev, kar je pomenilo velik poraz dotedanji politiki LDS in ZLSD.

Očitno tudi pod vtisom takšnega izida je že dan po referendumu predsednik vlade Anton Rop vodstvu ljudske stranke poslal pismo, v katerem jo je obvestil, da je izključena iz vladne koalicije. Nekaj dni po tej odločitvi so vsi trije ministri SLS odstopili, Rop je na njihovem mestu predlagal, državni zbor pa imenoval pet novih ministrov. Tri, ki so nadomestili ministre SLS, in dva, ki sta, potem ko je gospodarska ministrica Tea Petrin odšla na veleposlaniško funkcijo v Haag, minister za evropske zadeve Janez Potočnik pa za komisarja v EU, zasedla obe izpraznjeni mesti.

MAJ

Slovenija nova zvezda Evrope

Le slab mesec po sprejemu v članstvo zveze NATO je Slovenija doživela še en pomemben zunanje- in notranjepolitični dogodek. 1. maja je skupaj s še nekaterimi evropskimi državami postala polnopravna članica EU.

Ob tem dogodku so po vsej državi pripravili niz kulturnih, družbenih in športnih prireditev, osrednji državni proslavi pa sta na predvečer 1. maja potekali v prestolnici in Novi Gorici.

V Ljubljani je zbrane nagovoril predsednik države Janez Drnovšek in ob tem dejal:

"Slovensko državo smo oblikovali tako, da bi v njej v čim večji meri veljala evropska pravila skupnega življenja: demokracija in uspešno tržno gospodarstvo. In danes smo pred ciljem. Sanje iz leta 1991 postajajo resničnost. Ob polnoči bodo padle meje. Skupaj s 24 državami bomo sto-

Janez Potočnik govoril v evropskem parlamentu

Strasbourg – Odnosi med Unijo in ZDA so nezamenljivi, bilanca sodelovanja pa globalno pozitivna, je poudaril komisar za raziskave in razvoj Janez Potočnik, ko je v imenu odsotne kolegice Benite Ferrero Waldner evropskim poslancem govoril o pomenu čezatlantski zvezi. Čeprav se poročila medijev osredotočajo na minula razhajanja o Iraku, Unija in ZDA uspešno sodelujeta na Balkanu, v Afganistanu in Ukrajini. Odnosi med partnerkama se morajo prilagoditi spremenjajočemu se varnostnemu okolju, krepitev skupne zunanje politike razširjene skupnosti pa bo povečala tudi odseg in intenziteto sodelovanja z ZDA, je dejal Potočnik.

Obstajajo tudi velike razlike, denimo glede vprašanja klimatskih sprememb ali nekaterih aspektih človekovih pravic in mednarodnega prava. Velikega pomena za nadaljnje odnose pa gotovo prinaša obisk ameriškega predsednika Georgea Busha v Bruslu (22. februarja), je sklenil Potočnik.

Božo Mašanovič

Delo fax, 13. jan. 2005

pili v evropsko prihodnost."

Veliko manj slovesno kot na proslavi ob sprejemu Slovenije v polnopravno članstvo je bilo v državnem zboru, kjer so v nadaljevanju meseca politične strasti znova razvneli "izbrisani". Opozicija, predvsem SDS in NSi, je z vlaganjem novih pobud za predhodni zakonodajni referendum o sistemskem zakonu o "izbrisanih" želela preprečiti sprejetje t. i. sistemskega zakona, vladajoča koalicija pa je vse njihove pobude zavračala.

Pri tem se je opirala na odločitev ustavnega sodišča, ki je aprila zavrnilo referendumsko pobudo za razpis referenduma o sistemskem zakonu, poleg tega pa državnemu zboru "sporočilo", da lahko takšno pobudo zavrne tudi sam, če meni, da je njen namen zavlačevanje izpolnitve odločbe ustavnega sodišča. Zadnje takšno pobudo je vladajoča koalicija zavrnila na izrednji

seji, ki so jo poslanci sklicali na zadnji dan meseca maja.

JUNIJ

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Na isti seji, končala se je prvi dan junija, so poslanci posebno pozornost namenili razpravi o sumu korupcije, klientelizma in pranja denarja, s katerim naj bi bili po mnenju njenih predlagateljev, SDS, NSi in SLS, tesno povezani predvsem vladajoči LDS in ZLSD.

Na seji, ki je postregla z nekaterimi novimi primeri korupcije (Janez Janša je s pločevinko WD-40 predstavil primer domnevne korupcije predsednika novomeškega odbora LDS Miloša Kovačiča), so poslanci dodobra obnovili vse znane primere korupcije, v katero so bili vpleteni visoki člani LDS in ZLSD (banka SIB, Rdeči križ, vladno letalo), na koncu pa vlado pozvali, naj pripravi več poročil, v katerih

(DALJE na str. 16)

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Z diplomatskih opazovalnic – Cleveland

piše IVAN SENIČAR

– II. del –

Prva srečanja, tudi s policijo

(Spominski članek Ivana Seničarja o svojih letih v Clevelandu kot jugoslovanski konzul se nadaljuje. Še vedno držijo kritične pripombe o njegovem pisanju, ki sem jih imel pred začetkom prvega dela, je pa njegovo gledanje po svoje tudi zanimivo, kajti izraža v glavnem takratno mnenje njegovih predstojnikov, tako slovenskih kot najbrž precej tudi jugoslovanskih. Ur. AD

Cleveland je središče okraja Cuyahoga (po reki, ki pomeni kačjo obliko), industrijsko, trgovsko in prometno središče, ki je privabilo številne priseljence. S 30 predmestji šteje nad dva milijona prebivalcev. Cleveland je znana po univerzi Case Western Reserve (od 1826), po eni od največjih splošnih knjižnic v Ameriki, po kliniki in filharmoniji. Središče mesta je ponoči opustelo, ulice vznemirljivo nevarne, svoboda je tako izrazita in nasilje tako pri roki, da zjutraj ne več, ali boš zvečer še živ.

V predmestjih smo občudovali stavbarsko razkošje: palače s stebrički, pravljicne hiške, tudi takšne s steklenimi stenami, da vidiš skozi, ali s strehami do tal kot indijanski šotori. Čudili smo se čistejši travi, kot je pri nas solata, nobenih gredic s čebulo, česnom in paradizniki.

Odkritje so nam bila nakupovalna središča s kačjimi hodniki, na obeh straneh kot seski trgovine, bifeji, igralnice, restavracije, multikino, kjer v desetih dvoranah grmijo filmi od jutra do večera, ljudje prihajajo ali odhajajo med predstavo, jedo, se mečkajo, pogovarjajo ali spijo, skratka – nezaslišano, čeprav se glasno sliši.

Naloga konzulata so gospodarsko, kulturno, turistično in drugo sodelovanje s tujino, v Clevelandu pa še posebno delo z izseljenci, skrb za

njihove povezave s starim krajem, za dediščine in seveda za njihovo podporo državi.

Z dobrim kančkom očesa in pameti pa je bilo treba oprezati tudi za politično emigracijo, posebno hrvaško.

Po srečanju z županom in nekaterimi člani mestnega sveta sem se oglasil tudi pri enem od šefov clevelandske policije.

Sprejel me je prijazno, mi pokazal nekaj pištol in pušk, govorila sva o varnosti konzulata in sodelovanju, predvsem pa je pohvalno govoril o svojem delu, o policiji in Ameriki.

In ko je videl, ako sedim pred njim z oblečenimi gumbi, a poln občudovanja, je rekel tako kot vsi pred njim in vsi vsa leta za njim:

"Torej, kako vam je všeč Amerika?" In je hitro dodal, skoraj ganjen: "Verjetno so to najlepša leta, ki jih boste kdaj preživeli."

Presedel sem se, pogledal po pištolah v omari in povedal, da sem res navdušen, nad vsem, posebno nad ljudmi, tako odprti so in prijateljski, toda – sem rekel: "Nekaj pa me le moti." Kar otrpnil je. "Kriminal," sem priznal. "V Clevelandu je na teden več umorov kot v moji državi z 20 milijoni v enem mesecu."

Vstal je, šel okoli mize in prikimal, kot da smo si sami krivi. "Ja, to je zato," je rekel, "ker ste tako revni. Ko boste razvitejši, bogatejši in bolj prosti, bo drugače."

Vstal sem še sam in mu zatrdil, da bomo vsekakor nekoč razvitejši, tudi bolj demokratični v zahodnem smislu, a da bomo zares bogatejši le, če bomo preprečili razmah kriminala. Glasno se mi je smejal: "Videti ste razsoden človek, toda nimate prav. Kar pripravite se!"

V nadaljevanju sem mu povedal, da sem Slove-

nec. Potem je pohvalam svoji policiji in Ameriki dodal še stavek: "Slovenci so dobri ljudje, Slovenci so v Clevelandu med najboljšimi."

Bilo mi je prijetno, saj se mi je zdelo, da hvali tudi mene, pa si nisem mogel kaj, da ga ne bi vprašal: "Zakaj pa so tako dobri? Se razlikujejo od drugih?"

Kar poskočil je: "Seveda. Dobri so, ker plačujejo račune, elektriko, plin, telefone, dolgove – tudi pretepajo se ni. Drugi – Poljaki, Madžari, Srbi ali ta črni – jih ne, nekateri pa se redno pretepajo. Slovenci so najboljši." V konzulatu sem takoj preveril, ali smo poravnali vse račune za tekoči mesec.

Odnosi z ameriško policijo so bili vsa leta dobri in prijateljski. Za to je bilo tudi več priložnosti. Zaradi groženj politične emigracije so me večkrat spremljali. Kadar

sem odhajal na prireditve v javne dvorane ali izseljenske centre, so si po prireditvi ogledali avtomobil – od strani, od spodaj, odpirali so mi vrata.

Nikoli pa niso ugotovili, kdo je streljal na konzulov avto pred našim prihodom. Začuda, ni me bilo strah zase, bal pa sem se za sina, ki je vsak dan odhajal v šolo v Lakewoodu in smo ga pozno popoldne nestrpnost čakali doma.

Nekoč so me poklicali na policijo in mi povedali zgodbo. Po hitri cesti, ki je tekla mimo Clevelanda iz Chicaga v Pittsburgh, so zaradi prehitre vožnje prestregli avtomobil. Vozilo je ustavilo, trije potniki pa so zbežali v bližnji gozd. Ko so jih prijeli, so ugotovili, da so naši politični emigranti, vendar neslovenskega rodu. Pri enem od njih so odkrili seznam ljudi, tudi emigrantov, z oznakami od 7000 do 10.000 dolarjev.

Imena prvih treh so bila prečrtana. Policisti so mi povedali, da so prečrtani že mrtvi, drugi pa najbrž še niso, in da imajo torej v rokah sez-

nam ljudi, ki jih namestijo emigranti pobiti.

Zahvalil sem sem se za obvestilo in jim svetoval, naj se obrnejo na veleposlaništvo v Washingtonu, saj se konzulat ne ukvarja s političnimi vprašanji. Policist, zdaj že stari znanec, se je pohahtal: "To smo že storili, čudimo pa se tako visokim vsotam. Ali so ti ljudje tako pomembni? Saj sami veste," je dodal, "da lahko za 500 dolarjev v Clevelandu naročite umor skoraj kogar koli."

V naslednjih letih sem večkrat slišal, da se ločenci tako poceni otresajo obveznosti, ki jih imajo do svojih razvezanih žena.

V dveh mesecih sem srečal vsaj sto lokalnih veljakov, do kongresnikov pa je bilo težje priti, razen če oni niso prišli k tebi. Nekoč se je na prireditvi v Slovenskem narodnem domu na aveni St. Clair sredi Clevelanda pojavil znan senator neslovenskega rodu.

Izseljenci, ki so me sicer vedno radovedno in spoštljivo obkrožali, so se v hipu s kozarci pretočili k njemu. Poskušal sem priti do senatorja,

(DALJE na str. 16)

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Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1554. Sestra usmiljenka, ki urejuje naše darove

za misijonarje v nekaterih predelih Afrike in dela v zakristiji Marijine cerkve v Parizu, je poslala zanimive vrstice:

"... Pred adventom smo imeli v mestu Parizu kongres evharistije. Po vseh cerkvah v mestu so bile pobožnosti v ta namen in povsod se je spovedovalo po cele dneve. Zdi se, da se začenjajo ljudje zbujati, cerkve so bolj obiskane in ni dovolj spovednikov za vse. Daj Bog dobrih poklicev, ki bodo znali razumeti modernega človeka, ki je pozabil Boga. Danes, 12. decembra, je bila iz naše kapele prenos sv. maše po televiziji, kar bo mnoge ogrelo. Zanimivo je, kako Marija pritegne mlade može in fante; vedno več jih je, ki prihajajo. Pri nas je vedno veliko ljudi, posebno pa še ob praznikih. Upajmo, da bo Marija privedla nazaj vse tiste, ki so v svoji naivnosti zašli na stranško pot.

Naši misijonarji bolj poredko gredo skozi Pariz, ker imajo kar neposredno pot. Vsi so zelo zaposleni in prav lepo delujejo. Najbolj težko in nevarno življenje imajo štiri sestre, dve v Burundiju in dve v Ruandi. Te so vedno ogrožene radi notranjih razmer. Sestre so kljub temu korajžne in iznajdljive, večkrat so tudi okradene vsega, kar se da odnesti. Spomnite se jih v molitvi, jo zelo potrebujejo pri svojem delu.

Vam vsem, ki delate in zbirate, naj bo Bog najboljši plačnik, jas pa vas vse izročam v Marijino varstvo!"

Misijonar p. Stanko Rozman, ki deluje v Malaviji, je poslal listič "Iz sončne Zambije", kjer je v naslovu napisano: "Blagoslovljen božič in srečno novo leto 2005 vam voščimo slovenski misijonarji iz Malavija in Zambije." Po dveh uvodnih odstavkih piše: "Med revnimi ljudmi Afrike je življenje drugačno, drugačen tudi božič. Ni sto tisoč lučk, niti bogatih obdarovanj, celo jaslice boš našel le na tržnici in so namenjene za prodajo morebitnim bogatim kupcem iz razvitega sveta.

Zato pa v tem delu sveta najdeš za božič Kristusa, ki živi v revnem otroku, ki se je rodil v slamnati koči vaškega kmeta z eno samo njivo koruze in številnimi otroci. Najdeš ga v otroku, ki stoji na ulici in prosi vbogajme, ker nima staršev, da bi zanj skrbeli, mu dali hrano, obleko in toplo zavetje. Najdeš ga v stotisočih revnih, bolnih, osamljenih in na rob družbe potisnjenih ljudeh, ki nimajo niti preprostega pastirskega hleva, kamor bi stopila njihova noga in kjer bi našli snop slame za svoje ležišče in počitek.

Vse te slike gleda vsako leto za božič misijonar in želi tem ljudem pomagati. Njihova vera v Odrešenika vseh ljudi, ki se je rodil zato, da deli dobrote ljudem, mu pomaga lajšati težave tem, h katerim je poslan. V njihovih stiskah vidi novorojeno Dete Božje, ki steguje k njemu drobne ročice, da ga vzame v svoje naročje. Tudi njemu vera v tega Otroka daje moč za izpolnjevanje njegovega poslanstva. Ve, da v tem poslanstvu ni sam. Za njim stoji množica dobrih in plemenitih ljudi, ki želijo v svojem srcu pripraviti prostor za Odrešenika, in prostor za pomoč bližnjemu v stiski.

Dragi prijatelji, ko se boste letos za božične praznike ob družinskih jaslicah in pri polnočnem bogoslužju v vaših župnijah veselili novega rojstva Božjega Sina, se spomnite tudi na nas in na naše vernike. Naše letošnje božično voščilo za vas je vzeto iz stare cerkvene božične pesmi, ki pravi: *Eno je Dete v hlevu rojeno in v skromne jasli položeno, a če se ni rodilo tudi v tvojem srcu, je vse izgubljeno...* Božji blagoslov, zdravje, sreča in mir prihajajo k vam iz Betlehemskega hleva. Naj vas in nas Novorojeni Božji Sin osrečuje in varno vozi skozi to življenje, pa tudi v Novem letu 2005."

Hvala vam, misijonarji, za vse vaše delo za blagor bližnjega in za vaše poslanstvo v božjem kraljestvu. Naj vas vedno spremlja naša molitev, velika zakladnica v težkih trenutkih.

Ko boste načrtovali razne prireditve ali sodelovanja, ne pozabite na kosilo Misijonske Znamkarske

Akcije, ki bo v nedeljo, 27. februarja, v naši novi dvorani pri sv. Mariji Vnebovzeti.

Prav lep misijonski pozdrav od vseh sodelujočih in
Marice Lavriše
1004 Dillewood Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44119

Z diplomatskih opazovalnic – Cleveland; piše Ivan Seničar

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 15)

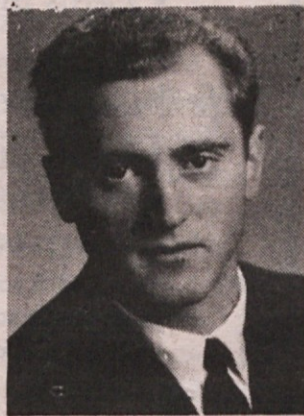
vendar ne s prerivanjem, temveč mirno in dostojanstveno, a mi takoj ni uspelo. Ko je po nekaj minutah že odšel in se je široko smejal, sem mu pomahal iz množice.

Naslednjega dne, v soboto, ko je bil prost dan, sva z ženo odšla na bližnjo tržnico in tam nakupila zelenjavo. In v trenutku, ko sva se rinila proti parkirišču, mi je nekdo položil roko na ramo.

Previdno sem se umaknil: pred mano je stal sam sinočni senator. Čeprav sem imel polne roke, me je zgrabil za rokav, se mi predstavil in povedal, da hodi po tržnici, ker ga skrbi, kako se počutijo njegovi volivci.

"Lahko kar koli storim za vas?" se je široko smejal. Spustil sem vrečke z rdečo papriko, korenjem in zeljem na tla, da sva se lahko rokovala: "Seveda," sem rekel,

V ljubeč in nepozaben spomin Ob 31. obletnici



IVAN CUGELJ

Umril 21. januarja 1974

*Na nebu noč zvezde prižge,
v vetru vrhovi smrek zašume,
v grobu temačnem naš Ati
leži,
v srcih pa naših zanj lučka
gori.*

Vечно samo Tvoji žalujoči:

Žena Minka Cugelj
rojena Blatnik
Sin Ivan in žena Debbie
Hčerka Marija z družino
V Sloveniji bratje in sestre
ter ostalo sorodstvo.

Cleveland, Ohio, 20. januarja 2005.

"še naprej tako skrbite za svoje volivce jugoslovanskega rodu!"

Predstavil sem se mu in mu povedal, da sem ga sinoči zaman lovil v Slovenskem narodnem domu. "No, zato sem pa prišel na tržnico," se je samovšečno odrezal. Ko smo se poslovili, se je zakadil v skupino žensk, ki so si ogledovale fefrone.

❖

Domotožno sem se spomnil, kako drugače je doma. V Ljubljani in Beogradu so bili državni in politični predstavniki bolj dostojanstveni in osamljeni, niso se kar tako prerivali in mešali z drugimi po tržnicah, tudi na sprejemih so se držali skupaj v posebnem kotu, pili so posebne pijače in jedli posebne prigrizke, v narodne domove, ki jih sicer ni bilo več, pa tudi niso zahajali.

Vpraševal sem se, ali mislijo Američani resno ali pa se tudi v politiki predvsem zabavajo, senator volivce, oni njega, policija pa vse druge. Bom najlepša leta svojega življenja res preživel v Ameriki?

Konec II. dela
(nadaljevanje prihodnjč)

LETO 2004 V SLOVENIJI

(NADALJEVANJE s str. 14)

naj državnemu zboru poroča, kako se je spopadla s primeri korupcije.

Koliko je omenjena razprava vplivala na izide volitev slovenskih poslancev v evropski parlament, ki so potekale 13. junija, je težko reči, nedvomno pa je vsaj delno pripomogla k temu, da so na njih presenetljivo zmagale stranke slovenske pomladi, ki so tako v evropskem parlamentu dobile štiri od sedmih slovenskih mandatov.

Še večje presenečenje je bil uspeh NSi, ki je predvsem po zaslugi Lojzeta Peterleta prehitela LDS in postala zmagovalka volitev.

Takšen uspeh je v pomladne stranke prinesel zelo pozitivno ozračje; tega je bilo mogoče čutiti tudi na prvi javni tribuni, ki jo je 23. junija v Cankarjevem domu pripravil Zbor za republiko. Na zboru je več kot 1.000 politikov, kulturnikov in intelektualcev napovedalo nov veter, ki bo zavel po jesenskih volitvah.

Konec prvega dela, naslednjih šest mesecev leta 2004 bo predstavljenih prihodnjč

Pregled leta sta za tednik *Demokracija* 6. jan. 2005 pripravila Aleš Kocjan in Gašper Blažič



Seznajte naše bralce z aktivnostmi vaših društev!

V BLAG SPOMIN

Ob petnajsti obletnici smrti naše ljubljene žene, mame in sestre



MARY ŠEMEN

ki je umrla 24. jan. 1990.

*Preteklo petnajst let je že,
ko hladna zemlja krije Te.
Sedaj vse prazno je pri nas,
Tvoj se več ne sliši glas.*

*Oh, grenko je spoznanje to,
da Te med nami več ne bo;
čeprav v hladnem grobu spiš,
v srcih naših še živiš.*

Žalujoči:

Janez, mož
Dori in Janez Tominc,
Maria in Barbara, hčerke
Janez sin; Maryann, snaha
Vinko in France, brata
ter ostalo sorodstvo
v Clevelandu in Sloveniji