





# New Era

ENGLISH SECTION OF  
Official Organ  
of the  
South Slavonic Catholic Union.

# Nova Doba



AMPLIFYING THE VOICE OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING MEMBERS

## CURRENT THOUGHT

### Dissension

A chain is just as strong as its weakest link. Let but one break and the entire chain is rendered useless, regardless how strong the remaining links may be. The weak section must be repaired, so that its tensile strength shall meet the force of a pull.

In the world of business, where the success of the firm is dependent upon exact execution of detail work by the various departments, the personnel must be capable of meeting equally stress from outside sources. Let one department "fall down the job" and the firm's weakness will soon become evident to the customers, who will readily point out its one shortcoming.

Harmony within a group is not as readily observed by the general public, as one note of discord. Let the information creep and it generally does, that two persons in a lodge or club come to the parting of the ways, for reasons of their own, and soon their troubles shall be the concern of not only the remaining members, but to the outsiders as well.

It is the unusual occurrence which arouses the curiosity of the observing public. An argument which may harm two individuals will find ready listeners. A sound and constructive discussion involving the welfare of a group of members often fall to the wayside, simply because it lacks excitement.

It takes a force of trained engineers to build a bridge. It takes months to plan and construct a sturdy span. But it takes only a few minutes, and very little thought, to blow up a structure.

Now and then we hear about dissension between members of a lodge. Trivial differences that develop into mountains of trouble, simply because the two offending parties refuse to admit their mistakes, but insist on prolonging the ill feeling by petty acts of spite.

Often the unintentional oversight becomes a premeditated act for purpose. "Oh, we just don't have any use for reach other," his latest insult does not surprise me," is a common and usual feeling between offending persons.

Unfortunately, the "hard" feeling between two individuals seeps into the minds of others within the same group. Soon there are two opposing factions, who, instead of pulling together in a common endeavor, are prone to pull separately, and they will cross each other's path. Then, like the house that is divided, the local branch becomes a hodge-podge of petty quarrels that bode destruction.

Let the trouble in the bud before it has a chance to mar the growing plant of harmony, so that the blooming flowers will be a joy of beauty, not a source of ugliness.

Uncompromised differences of opinion within a lodge create difficulties for the officers, who are confronted with the task of dealing opposing factions, and of persuading them to work with the whole group.

When the fiscal year has elapsed, and stock is taken of the accomplishments made during the past twelve months, the membership as a whole is impressed solely with the progress attained—overlooking the small and petty arguments, which have been a contributing factor in retarding the lodge's schedule of activities.

The lodge officers have their hands full executing their duties and the members are solidly behind the branch. Conflicting currents unduly burden the local leaders, who are handicapped by a lack of sufficient co-operation. Small wonder then, in some isolated cases, capable leaders throw their hands in disgust, for their aim is to work for the benefit of the lodge membership—and not to act as judges of private arguments.

Harmony within a lodge is like a chorus of voices that blend as sound as one pleasant chord struck on the piano.

Dissension is like the "barber shop" quartette which has been played too freely, and which emits atrocious discords, much to the disgust and discomfort of others.

### F. E. Vranichar, Supreme Trustee, Wins Prize

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Frank E. Vranichar (3d supreme trustee, SSCU), prominent local insurance man, was among the 1935-36 "President's Club" winners announced by President C. M. Van Wert, Ohio. Vranichar's Mutual Insurance Company of Van Wert, Ohio, to attain membership in the "President's Club," the Company's representatives must perform an outstanding job of selling and this achievement places them squarely in the top rank of the nation's best men in all lines of insur-

Mr. Vranichar is one of the 16 members of the "President's Club" who qualified for their third consecutive yearly Club distinction. He is the only Central Agent in Illinois who won such honors this year.

According to Mr. Vranichar the Companies represented by him have saved his policyholders in Joliet more than \$5,000,000 on their insurance premiums during the past three years and the increase of business for his Agency indicates that conditions locally are considerably improved. He is looking forward to a very bright future for Joliet.

### Pittsburgher Picnic

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Sunday, June 21, marks another milestone in the existence of Pittsburgher Lodge, for on that day Pittsburghers will celebrate their eighth anniversary, by holding a picnic at an Etna picnic grove. A good time is planned for all. Admission is only 25 cents. The members of the lodge will furnish continuous transportation from 2 till 6 p. m. Cars will leave the Slovene Auditorium, 57th and Butler Streets. We cordially invite all SSCU members and their friends to help us celebrate our eighth birthday. Refreshments to your liking will be served and a member of our sister lodge, Electrons, will provide some of the music. We hope to see some of our friends from Center, Cheswick, Claridge and other neighboring lodges. A competent committee has been selected, and I will vouch for it that you will be well taken care of.

At our regular June meeting our genial Bro. J. J. Furar was nominated as our candidate for delegate to the 15th regular convention. Bro. Furar has pledged himself that, if elected, he will do all in his power to further the best interests, not only of Pittsburgher but of the whole SSCU, and when Johnny makes a pledge it means something. We all know him as "good-time" Johnny, but let me tell you that when there is serious business at hand you can depend upon Johnny "Fire" to be among the most zealous.

It is not my purpose to bore you with a lengthy write-up, so I shall again extend to all SSCUers and their friends a most hearty welcome to our eighth anniversary picnic and expect to meet you there.

L. P. Boberg, Pres.,  
No. 196, SSCU.

### Lodge No. 25

Eveleth, Minn.—Members of Lodge No. 25, SSCU, are requested to be present at our next regular monthly meeting which will be held Sunday, June 28. The meeting, which will get under way at 8:45 a. m., at the usual quarters, will include the election of delegates for the coming convention at Cleveland during September. Suggestions for the delegates also will be taken under advisement at this meeting. A complete report of the last session of the Minnesota Federation of SSCU Lodges will be given.

Members are kindly requested to meet the monthly assessments by the 25th of each month.

Frank Urbha Jr., Sec'y.

### Lodge No. 42

Pueblo, Colo.—All members of Lodge No. 42, SSCU, are reminded to attend the lodge meeting which will be held Sunday, June 21. Meeting will begin at 9 a. m., but collection of assessments will begin a half hour earlier. Included in the important lodge business will be the election of a delegate to the 15th regular convention. Any member who fails to attend without a good reason for doing so shall pay 50 cents into the lodge treasury.

Frank Rupar, Sec'y.

## BRIEFS

**Cleveland George Washington Lodge, No. 180, SSCU,** bowed to St. Michael's Lodge, No. 40, SSCU, in softball competition, when the two teams played last Saturday, June 13, at Claridge, Pa. Final score was 4 to 3 in favor of Lodge No. 40. Several out-of-towners attended the 33d anniversary picnic held by the Claridge SSCU branch, including members of Pittsburgher Lodge, No. 196, SSCU, of Pittsburgh, in addition to the Clevelanders. The local committee on arrangements, led by William "Pap" Schmuck, athletic supervisor, certainly turned out to be excellent hosts, providing accommodations for visitors and showing them a real good time.

**Pittsburgher Lodge, No. 196, SSCU,** of Pittsburgh, Pa., will observe its eighth anniversary with a gala picnic to be held next Sunday, June 21, at Krosel's Grove, Etna, Pa. Continuous transportation from the Slovene Auditorium, 57th and Butler Streets, to the picnic grounds will be available from 2 to 6 p. m. Pittsburgher Lodge assures all guests a good time at its anniversary picnic, and cordially invites all members from far and near to attend.

**Yugoslavia's tennis team** surprised the tennis world when it defeated France's representatives in the semi-final round of the European zone Davis cup competition. The victory, which eliminated France from further competition in the Davis matches, was significant in that Yugoslavia, a comparative newcomer, was the first during the last ten years to prevent France, holder of the Davis cup, 1927 through 1932, from participating in the finals. Ferenc Puncce's defeat of Christian Boususs, France's No. 1 player, gave the margin to Yugoslavia, while Josef Pallada earlier in the matches defeated both Bernard Destremeau and Boususs.

**Nikola Tesla's 80th birthday** was fittingly observed by the Yugoslav government with a special postal stamp issue of two denominations. Born in Smitjan, Lika, in what is now Yugoslavia, Tesla emigrated to the United States at the age of 27, was naturalized and first employed in the Edison plant at Orange, N. J. In his experimental research he discovered the principle of the rotary magnetic field, which later made possible the alternating current motor and transmission of power by such current. Long distance telephony today would be impossible without Tesla's discovery.

**Slovene section of Nova Doba** carries in this issue a picture of four generations of Slovenes, headed by Mr. and Mrs. John Shega Sr., who on June 1 celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Both are members of Lodge No. 200, SSCU, of Ely, Minn.

**Anton Vidmar, 38,** of Cleveland, O., was killed last Sunday when the automobile in which he was returning from a holiday excursion with his wife and two children collided with

### Center Ramblers

Center, Pa.—The date set for the next Western Pennsylvania SSCU Federation meeting is fast approaching. It will be held at the Slovene Hall, White Valley, Pa., Sunday, June 28, and is scheduled to begin promptly at 1 a. m. Any local branch which has not as yet elected representatives to this meeting should do so at the June meeting. This probably being the last federation meeting before the 15th regular convention, the by-laws will be an important subject of discussion. The delegates should realize the importance of this meeting and come prepared to take part in all topics of discussion.

An item of importance taking place at the June or July meetings of the lodges is the election of delegates to the 15th regular quadrennial convention which will be held in Cleveland during the month of September. Since the English-speaking element will no doubt play an important roll at this convention, it is therefore necessary that the members select a delegate who will take an active interest in the affairs of the organization, so as to make as much or more progress as has been made in the past.

On Saturday, July 4, a joint picnic will be held at Center Beach, located on Route 80. This picnic will be sponsored by the Center Ramblers Lodge, No. 221, in conjunction with the senior SSCU lodge, No. 33, of Center, Pa. All nearby lodges are requested to reserve July 4 for the joint picnic at Center Beach. Plans for this picnic are not as yet complete and further details will be published in the Nova Doba at a later date.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Center Ramblers for the lovely flowers which they sent me while I was in the hospital.

Anne M. Erzen.

another on a curve on State Route 85, in Lake County. Mrs. Vidmar suffered a broken left arm, while the two children and the five occupants of the second car suffered bruises.

**Two Slovene girls,** Alice Pate, 10, and Helen Blaznik, 11, both of Cleveland, drowned in the St. Clair Bathhouse swimming pool last Friday, June 12. The two victims were members of a party of 50 to go swimming in the popular recreation center. Vera Kushlan, supervisor, Fred Bozie, an assistant, and the fire rescue squads worked valiantly over the motionless bodies, but to no avail.

**Police motorcycle accident** caused the death of John Gorencic, 53, widower, of Cleveland, father of seven children, when the deceased was hurled about ten feet after walking into the path of Patrolman Bare's motorcycle last Friday. Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 9. Mrs. Jean Margo, oldest married daughter, who is a member of George Washington Lodge, No. 180, SSCU, as well as Frances, the 20-year-old daughter, could not understand how the accident occurred, since their father always was so cautious about crossing streets.

### FRANK SLAVEC



In this country only five years, yet Frank Slavec, pictured above, has managed to complete eight grammar school grades and a course in high school to boot.

This brilliant mind of 21 years gives due credit to Rose di Paulo, instructor of the Morley (Colo.) school, for her splendid assistance in enabling him to learn the English language and go through eight grammar school grades, all in one year.

It was back in 1931 that Frank Slavec, a member of Lodge No. 21, SSCU, of Denver, Colo., arrived in the United States for the first time. Before this he attended the public school in Knezak (Notranjsko), Venezia Giulia, which is now under the Italian flag, and here, of course, he was taught in the Italian language.

During his second and third years in the States he attended the high school of Trinidad, Colo., and when his family moved to Lafayette, Colo., he transferred to the local high school. Here he graduated with honors this spring and was awarded a four-year scholarship to the University of Colorado, located at Boulder, Colo. This university is reputed to be one of the ten best colleges in the States.

Due to the peculiar situation confronting the Slovenes who are under the Italian flag since the World War, all Slovene students are taught through the Italian language, and there is no such thing as being taught in the Slovene language. Which means that Frank Slavec had to learn a foreign language in his early years. So when the young scholar came to the States, he turned this knowledge into a decided asset, and as a result learned English by means of contact with Miss Rose di Paulo, who was familiar with the Italian tongue.

When we consider the difficulty encountered by American-born students in their mastery of the English language, the accomplishments of Frank Slavec, who has learned Slovene, Italian and English, arise in wonderment.

The entire Slavec family is enrolled in the SSCU. Victor Slavec Sr., father of the brilliant student, represented Lodges Nos. 140 and 201 at the 14th convention held in Indianapolis.

### Slight Error

**Citizen:** So you were fired from your last job merely for making a mistake? That hardly seems fair. What was the mistake?

**Tourist:** I told my boss that he could not get along without me.

### Coming Events

"The farmer takes his wife,  
The farmer takes his wife,  
Heigh-ho the Merry-o,  
The farmer takes his wife!"

Gowanda, N. Y.—And not only his wife, dear readers, but also his sons, daughters, neighbors, friends. Takes them where? To the Pathfinders' annual Field Day picnic!

Elaborate plans are well under way to make July 11 and 12 "big days." Patrons have many surprises in store for them, so why not plan to attend our annual frolic at Mentley's Grove?

For instance, there's dancing both days. "Looch" and his trusty accordion will furnish music, ranging from polkas to the "Stein Song." For Sunday the Silver Leaf Orchestra has been engaged. These young men have earned quite an enviable reputation as rhythm "go-getters" around Buffalo. Their music library is complete with fox-trots, rumbas, polkas, or what-have-you?

Then there are games 'n' games where young and old can display their athletic prowess. Races for the kiddies, such as egg rolling, relays and dash, are bound to be exciting, to say nothing of the hilarious peals of laughter a fat man's race evokes.

And an amateur show! Everybody is welcome to compete. Prizes of \$10 and \$5 are offered. Be on hand to cheer along your favorites, be it singer, imitator, dancer or musician. The scheduled amateur show is the feature of the picnic. Out-of-town entries may send their names to Harry Smith, who has charge of presenting the show. And Harry is a very competent man for the job. You're bound to be delighted.

"For it's always fair weather when good fellows get together." We're expecting a representative group of visiting enthusiasts, and we're all prepared to greet you royally so that you'll always remember Gowanda and make you wish you could stay two years instead of two days. Ask President Louie. He's working hard, and everybody knows how hard Louie does work, to assure visitors a grand 'n' glorious time.

To the visiting young ladies, may I add that Gowanda fellows are making rapid headway in training their hair to stay in place. And Gowanda's tailor shops are swamped with orders for new suits.

So you can see how eager we are to assure you pleasant memories. Come one, come all!

Mrs. Jenny Anderson.

### Lodge No. 114

Ely, Minn.—Members of Slovene Lodge, No. 114, SSCU, are requested to attend the regular monthly meeting to be held Sunday, June 21, at the Yugoslav National Home. The meeting, which will start at 7 p. m., will include election of delegates to the 15th quadrennial convention and other important lodge items. Members who have not attended any of the previous meetings are urgently requested to attend the Sunday assembly. Entertainment committee will serve refreshments after meeting is adjourned.

Peter Skradski Sr., Sec'y.





