



JUVENILE SECTION OF "NAPREDEK"

CLEVELAND, OHIO, APRIL 19th, 1939

FORGET IT

If you know of a thing that will
darken the joy
Of a man or woman, a girl or a
boy,
That will wipe out a smile, or
the least way annoy,
Or lightness of heart and good
spirits destroy,
It's a pretty good plan to for-
get it.

VRTEC SNAPSHOT CON- TEST STARTS MAY 1st

Here is the announcement many of you have been waiting to read. The *Vrtec Snapshot Contest* is scheduled to click into action in less than two weeks and I urge all of you, who own cameras or know where you can borrow or can afford to buy one, to prepare for one of the year's most interesting contests.

The rules appear on this page and all of you, who anticipate entering the contest, are asked to read them over carefully before you begin to send in your pictures. *It is understood that all pictures must be taken during the period of the contest*, that is, between the starting and concluding dates, May 1st and July 31st respectively.

Ten cash prizes will be awarded by the Society for the ten best pictures, each of which will appear in the Vrtec Section at the close of the contest. How does that appear to you? Is it worth a try? I'm sure it is and on top of that you'll have loads of fun taking pictures and, if you win one of the cash prizes and later see its reproduction in the Vrtec Section, boy, what a grand and glorious feeling that will be. If you don't think so, take out your camera and try it.

We want snapshots of all kinds but, particularly, are we interested in pictures of our members. Take them while they are at play or work, during recreational moments, busy at some hobby or asleep, etc. Try to catch them unawares for these usually make the most interesting pictures.

There are millions of camera hobbyists in the United States and numbered among them, I'm sure, are many Vrtec members. Our aim is to have as many of you as possible to enter your pictures in this contest, not just for the sake of the prizes, but to afford you an opportunity to develop the art of taking pictures in friendly competition with your fellow members.

Now read the rules over a few times and then make up your

With Our Juniors

By MICHAEL VRHOVNIK,
Director of Vrtec and English Speaking Lodges



SSPZ Vrtec Snapshot Contest

RULES

1. This contest begins May 1st and ends July 31, 1939.
2. Only Vrtec members are eligible to enter.
3. Pictures submitted must be those actually taken by the contestant.
4. Each contestant is limited to ten (10) pictures.
5. A suitable title, the name of the contestant and the number of the Vrtec should be printed on the back of every picture.
6. Preferred pictures are those of members at play, work, picnics, parties, outings, etc. (Try to catch the human interest appeal.)
7. All prize-winning pictures will become the property of the S. S. P. Z.
8. Pictures will be returned only if a request for their return accompanies them.
9. Ten (10) cash prizes will be awarded as follows:

1st prize	\$5.00
2nd prize	4.00
3rd prize	3.00
4th prize	2.00
6 prizes each	1.00
10. All prize-winners will be published in the Vrtec Section.
11. Judges shall be selected by the Supreme Administrative Sub-committee. Their decisions in determining prize-winners shall be final.
12. The official entry blank, or copy thereof, must be filled out, signed by the entrant and accompany the picture(s).

campaign leader this year? These are only a few questions that need be answered, so on your toes everybody and pull off dear old SSPZ by enrolling new members this month, next month and every month for the remainder of the year!

REMEMBER, THE MONTH OF JUNE IS JUVENILE MONTH! DON'T WAIT TO PLAN YOUR CELEBRATION—START NOW!

OUR QUIZ BOX

How many of these questions can you answer without looking them up. Credit yourself with 1 point for each question answered correctly. 8 is average, 10 is good and 12 or more is excellent. The correct answers appear elsewhere in this issue of the "Napredek."

1. What is the full name of our Society in English?

2. What abbreviation is commonly used for the Society's name?

3. Where was the first active Vrtec Unit established?

4. What does the name "Vrtec" mean?

5. The name of our Supreme President is—Vatro Grill, John Kwartich or William Rus?

6. Where will the 1939 National Athletic Meet be held?

7. Who are the present Vrtec Softball Champions?

8. Who won the highest Literary Achievement award in 1938?

9. What is the maximum age at which a juvenile may join your Vrtec?

10. How many different plans of insurance for juveniles does our Society offer? Name them.

11. Who wrote the book "The Native's Return"?

12. Kew'pon is or is not the correct pronunciation of coupon?

13. The Roman numeral for 1000 is—C, M, L or Z.

14. The female of the deer is fawn, ewe, sow or doe.

15. An island in the middle of a river is called—peninsula, holm, isthmus or drumlin?

16. What month of the year is S. S. P. Z. Juvenile Month?

SSPZ VTEC SNAPSHOT CONTEST

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK

I hereby submit the enclosed picture(s) for consideration in the S. S. P. Z. Vrtec Snapshot Contest. I have read the rules of the contest and agree to abide by them.

Vrtec No.

Name of Contestant

Street or P. O. Box No.

City or Town State

Clip and mail to the Director Juvenile Department, 247 West 103rd Street, Chicago, Illinois.

mind you're going to be one of the contestants. You're all invited to enter the 1939 Vrtec Snapshot Contest.

MANY NEW MEMBERS ENROLLED

The opening quarter of 1939, and especially the month of March, has seen the enrollment of more new members than any similar period in the last twelve months. At this writing the most likely winners of the two quarterly cash prizes offered by the Society are Vrtec No. 171, Cleveland, O., (recently organized by lodge No. 120) and Vrtec No.

72 of Sygan, Pa., the latter Unit being a repeater, having won a first prize in 1938. The largest recent gains in our new drive for members are as follows:

Members	
Vrtec No. 171, Cleveland O.	18
Vrtec No. 72, Sygan, Pa.	13
Roznik Jrs., Chicago, Ill.	10
Jugoslavs, Indianapolis, Ind.	9
Challenger Jrs. Strabane, Pa.	8
Comets, Ambridge, Pa.	6

What Vrtec Units will win the second quarter prizes? What Vrtec will be next to reach the 100 membership mark? What Vrtec will win the honor of

BALKAN JUNIORS

SPRING IS HERE! TRIBUTE TO OUR MOTHERS

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — After a restful sleep we awaken on a bright clear morning in the month of April; a wonderful feeling fills our hearts as we gaze out upon nature, its work and creation everywhere, on land, on water, in the air.

The sweet melodious song of the birds filling the air, the tulips, narcissus in the garden blossoming, the trees and shrubs displaying green shoots, the lawn turning a dark green against the blue sky . . . All living things from human beings that walk, animals that run and birds that fly, and those creatures that just crawl, they all show signs of joy in their own way at awakening of new life in nature welcoming Spring into the land.

Spring is often compared to the time of youth, the period we boys and girls are now living in. It is a happy, wonderful age; let us all give a most cheerful welcome to that companion of youthful life: The Spring time.

A few lines of love and devotion for the one we love so dearly, whose name we learn to speak first in our babyhood, who so tenderly cares, watches over us from morning till night, from the time we were born until her last breath is gone. Her name we speak with reverence for she loves us with undying love, she is none other than our dear Mother.

Mother's Day, May 14, ranks in importance above all other days in the year, in sweet devotion to our dear Mothers. And last but not least, another important event to take place again this year of which we speak at our regular Vrtec meeting and which we youngsters are proud of, that is: the Second Vrtec Cultural Festival to be celebrated so appropriately on that day of days, Mother's Day. Our best wishes for its success and attendance! Vrtec No. 33 will have a representation there too.

* * *

Notice to all members of Vrtec No. 33—our new meeting place is above Ripples Shoe Store, 629-631 W. National Ave. Fraternally yours,

Marie Ermenc,
Vrtec No. 33

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—April 1st was "All Fools Day." The custom of playing tricks on April 1st seems to be as old as civilization itself. Some writers tell us that it began when Noah made the mistake of sending the doves out too soon over the waters.

It was the French people who started to follow this custom and they called the person whom the trick was played on, an April Fish.

The people of Great Britain copied all these customs from

the French, and in Scotland it was the custom to call the person tricked an April "Gawk." (Gawk meaning a simpleton.)

I had a trick played on me. My father said, "That there were two little kittens in the cellar." As I was still in bed, quick as a flash I ran down stairs. When I got down stairs I looked around but I couldn't find any kittens. I went back up stairs and then my father said to me, "April Fool."

April 9th was Easter. It is the time when all the Easter rabbits fill your baskets with goodies.

Our Lord had risen from his death on Easter. This is the holiday dearest of all the year to the heart of every true Christian. All customs and celebrations both old and new, to the Christian are lost in the thought that this day commemorates the day on which our Lord rose from the dead. As we look at the beautiful flowers which have come in the sunlight after their long winter sleep, we think of that much in the way Christ came forth from his tomb.

EASTER TIME

The little flowers came through the ground,
They raised their heads and looked around,
And every pretty bud did say,
Good Christians blessed be this holiday.

The pure white lily raised its cup,
The crocus to the sky looked up,
For Christ is risen they all doth say
Its glory shines on us today.

The white pure lily smells very sweet,
And the crocus bends its neck and its feet,
But as our Lord has risen this day,
This all has made our Easter very gay.

Margaret Ohojak (Age: 12)
Vrtec No. 33

WEST ALLIS, Wisc. — Dear Editor:

I am sending you an article and poem concerning some things which take place this month.

I am trying to write something little for every issue. I am try in gto boost our Vrtec by writing some thing. Our Vrtec would like to have its own page also.

Will you please publish what I am sending in the April issue. Thank you,

Margaret Ohojak,
Vrtec No. 33

EASTER GREETINGS

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Easter is one of the nicest holidays in the year. It is the dearest holiday in the year in the heart of the people.

Easter is a survival of an old Teutonic mythological belief in the goddess of spring, for whom great festivals were held in the spring season.

There are many queer customs and superstitions connected with Easter.

The custom of using eggs on Easter is very old and is said to have arisen from the desire to show that our Lord came again to life out of silence and darkness of the earth just as the chick breaks its way through the shell.

You often see pictures of rabbits on Easter cards. Many wonder why they are there. It came from a very old myth; the hare is an ancient symbol of new life and so it enters into Easter representations.

There is one beautiful custom observed in Greece. When two people meet for the first time on Easter day one says, "Christ is risen." The other says, "Christ is risen indeed."

In early England, the custom was to play ball with colored eggs on Easter. The custom of egg rolling as a favorite sport has its origin in the city of Washington. No Washington child would think of missing the great fun of going to the White House grounds on Easter morning and rolling eggs down the sloping lawn.

All these customs have been going on through all the years and may they continue.

Let us celebrate and think of Easter as a beautiful and happy day.

* * *

Beautiful and happy is Easter day,
When every person should be happy and gay.
The white lilies are everywhere seen,
On Easter day, they too blossom begin.

The bells do ring on Easter morn,
For another Easter day is born,
For Christ has risen the Angels say,
Blessed be this joyous day.

Elsie Ohojak (Age: 14)
Vrtec No. 33

LITERARY HONOR ROLL

Month of March

Valeria Artel Outlookers
Julia Kramzer Vrtec No. 72
Fredy Bashel Outlookers
Marie Ermence Balkan Jrs.
Andrew Elersich .. Spartan Jrs.
Jane Gaspersic Comets
Rudolph Flajs Jugoslavs
Eleanor Ster Outlookers
Angeline Rokavec .. Roznik Jrs.
Elsie Ohojak Balkan Jrs.
Agnes Tekstar Comets
Helen Kastelic Kingsters
Edward Ermence .. Balkan Jrs.
Sophie Colaric Spartan Jrs.
Margaret Ohojak .. Balkan Jrs.
Wilma Gratchner .. Roznik Jrs.
Irene Rovnan Budgets
Margaret Erzen Vrtec No. 72

Hiawathans

NOKOMIS, Ill. — April, Spring! what a time of the year for the poet with a double meaning to all Hiawathans for, as "In Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of live," so was our fancy for the lodge turned into something fine and true when our Vrtec was organized in 1935. It was four short years ago on a rainy Sunday afternoon in April that we timidly watched the process of the election of our officers. The elected officers for Vrtec No. 8 were: Henry Rak, pres.; Justine Hauptman, vice-pres.; Ann Goznikar, sec'y; Florence Kmet, treas.; with Mrs. Frank Kmet, administratrix. It is due chiefly to Mrs. Kmet that our Vrtec was a success. She worked with sincere spirit, gave us her undivided time and ability for which we are most appreciative.

The whole thing was new and exciting and each meeting was followed by entertainment which we recently dropped. Our membership was small, only 17, several of these living out of town; but that was no handicap so far as our success was concerned.

During the course of years we have had several plays, parties and one grand, colossal dance on Oct. 29, 1938.

And so, here we are happy and in our opinion successful. We have less members now due to the advance into the adult department of some and the transfer of Molly Benzina who was one of our most loyal members, but are as faithful as ever with determination for success in the future.

Spring has already arrived—Spring with all its beauties. The robins are here, trees are blooming, Easter lilies are brightening up the dark earth after its long sleep and all the pretty girls can be seen with their chic, new spring outfits. Virginia and Rosella did justice to us in the Easter parade.

"In Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love" and so has happened to Ann, Rosella and Amy. I suppose there just isn't any escape from that sweet sixteen.

It seems as though the calendar likes to slip up on me and I was too late for our last issue, a fact which I hope a few (at least) lamented. However, I expect to be back with you to start the fifth year off right, to let you know what we are doing as we hope to know what you are doing.

Florence

Cheap Skate

"Pa, may I have a quarter to go to the circus?"

"What? A quarter to see the circus, and here only last week I let you go out at night to see the eclipse of the moon! Young man, do you want your life to be one perpetual round of gaiety?"

—Purple Parrot

Life in General

Last May as I watched the Seniors of 1938 practicing for graduation I tried to imagine how I would feel if I were a member of their graduating class. Would I say, "Whee! is it a relief to be out of school," or "I wish I could start all over again"? I need not wonder what I shall say or think because my time has come to experience those few hours of parting. We have followed their footsteps in school, and have experienced their troubles in the same way but now we must make our own paths and face each problem alone.



JULIA C. KRAMZER

This path which I shall call "The Road of Life" is dangerous and yet a wonderful one. It is what we make of it that will bring us the greatest benefit and enjoyment. This road is bumpy, full of thorns and puddles.

JULIA HAS A PLAN

Although many children were seen playing outdoors this winter, spring again invites them to participate in summer exercises. The time has come for us all to take our sleds, skates and winter clothing up into the attic for their summer sleep and to bring down the summer articles such as balls, bats, etc.

While the weather-man can persuade the children to join in outside sports, the question is, what can we do to induce more members to attend their monthly meeting.

I have a new plan in mind which, I am hoping, will work so that many more will attend our meeting. If enough are interested we shall begin a correspondence bureau.

If this won't persuade more members to attend meetings, a new plan must be tried in the near future.

Attention, Vrtec 72 members! Don't forget the meeting on April 21st at 7:00, and every 3rd Friday of the month, hereafter.

Julia Kramzer
Sec'y Vrtec 72.

While we travel thru the road we shall see in the distance a mountain. This mountain is called "Success." It is steep and more dangerous than the winding road. Many of us fail to climb it bravely because we are unfit for the journey. We also try to exceed our ability.

No matter whether we travel on the easy road of life or up the mountain of success, there must be a source from which knowledge can be obtained. Of what value are books? We sometimes say, "Why must we read of the past; that should be forgotten. It's the future that counts." Can we judge our futures? Of course we can't and therefore there must be a way to face problems. We study of the past and its problems in order that we may be better prepared to meet the problems of today.

Opportunity knocks but once! If the children of the common people had the opportunity to go to college and gain higher education, they would use it to the best of their ability. But since some people have most of the money and some have little or none, there is only the slightest possibility for those who want and need college education to have it given to them.

What the future has in store for us graduating from high school and into life, no fortune teller can tell us because only time and experience can tell.

Julia C. Kramzer,
Sec'y Vrtec 72.

opportunity to stress certain activities during the past years.

Since spring is on its way our mushball players are again planning a better team this season. We hope to become 1939 softball champs.

During the past years of our existence we have had only a few social affairs, such as parties and dances, but in years to come our activities will double in number as will the membership.

Every year we are visited by Brother Vrhovnik, the Director of the Juvenile Department. Again we welcome you, Brother Vrhovnik, on April 29. A play entitled "His First Shave," directed by Antonia O'Korn. This is another feature of this yearly program. To complete the show there will be dancing after the movie and play, all for the small price of 15c for adults but no charge for children. Hope to see all our friends old and new, on April 29 at 7:30 at Sygan Hill. I'll be back again next month with more Vrtec news.

Elsie Prosen
Vrtec 72.

BRO. VRHOVNIK VISITS SYGAN

We, the members of Vrtec 72 and lodge 89, welcome you, Bro. Vrhovnik, as you visit us again, this year, on April 29. Members of neighboring lodges and other

Challenger Juniors Spartan Jrs. To Hold April Meeting

STRABANE, Pa. — On Thursday, April 6, the Challenger Juniors held their regular monthly meeting. Since it was announced that our Juvenile Director, Mr. Michael Vrhovnik would show movies of Slovenia and of the Softball Tournament at Bridgeville, Pa., plans were discussed as to what sort of entertainment would be most enjoyable. Since other Vrtec lodges are putting on plays, we decided to have something different. So those planning to attend, will have an opportunity to hear one of Western Pennsylvania's most popular juvenile entertainers, Miss Grace Vivian Betone. Grace Vivian will give several vocal renditions, also a tap dance or two. You'll also have an opportunity of seeing Grace Vivian's sister, Betty Jane, do a lot of twisting and tumbling during her acrobatic performance. A number of others you'll enjoy hearing will be Miss Helen Kress and Jennie Tomsic, also two of our youngest comedians, Babe Davis and Frankie Fazzalore, giving their imitation of "Pick and Pat"—also a number of musical selections. So with all this entertainment, plus movies, you're assured a most pleasant evening.

Our administratrix, Miss Frances Vrhovnik, had a real Easter surprise, when she was presented with a 5-pound Easter egg. The Easter egg was a token of fond appreciation from the girls' knitting class, which is under the supervision of Miss Vrhovnik. Mrs. Helay also, presented Miss Vrhovnik with a lovely bouquet of flowers.

With the approach of Spring the Juniors will turn their attentions to the out-door sports of baseball, and softball. I know that they're anxious to form a softball team. Due to the fact that we haven't had any new boys admitted into our Vrtec, we'll probably have the same team as last year. So you Juniors that were too young to play last year, will have a good chance to make the team this season.

In order to boost our treasury we've decided to give away a 7-tube Ivory Radio Set. So Juniors get those tickets sold. Remember the person selling the most tickets will receive a cash prize.

I wish to take this opportunity in extending an invitation to all Vrtec lodges to attend a Beneficial

With the aid of our talented youngsters, a program has been planned which will include a one act comedy "His First Shave." To make this show complete, there will be dancing afterwards. The cost of admission will be 15c for the adults, children being free. So remember, if you want to laugh, dance and have a good time, it's Sygan for you on April 29, at 8. Secretary, Vrtec 72.

Vrtec No. 5, Spartan Juniors will hold its regular monthly meeting tomorrow, Friday, April 21. The time is set at 7 p. m. We have much unfinished business.

As you all know Vrtec No. 5 is called Spartan Juniors. Provision is made in the ritual and program of the juvenile department of the SSPZ for the selection of an Anglicized name. The ritual also suggests selection of a club motto, color or colors, and a flower. The mottos need be only a few words or even only one word. The group may select a motto, colors, and flower. The motto should symbolize the fraternalism of the lodge.

We will again discuss the possibilities of a complete page in the Vrtec.

We must organize a baseball team. Their will be no league, but this shouldn't keep us from going out and beating the Outlookers (maybe).

We have purchased a sketch entitled "Photograph Reveries." We will work on this skit and see what we can do about putting on. We may if we can possibly swing it, put this skit on for the program of Lunder-Adamic at their 30th anniversary.

Now we come to a field where we are entirely lacking in cooperation. Many of our members may not realize it, but we haven't had a single entry in either the Vrtec or the photography contest. Our administratrix Miss Vera Candon is trying to organize a group in printing and developing film.

Spartan Jr. Party After Meeting

After the party we will have a party with plenty of entertainment. Just exactly what will be served as refreshments is still a secret.

Andrew Elersich,
Spartan Juniors

Passerby — Well, young fellow, what are you doing?

Huck — Fishin'.

Passerby — Got anything?

Huck — Yep.

Passerby — What?

Huck — Patience.

fit Dance, April 22. This dance is sponsored by the Challenger senior lodge, and all benefits will be turned over to Mr. Mike Helay. So your attendance will be greatly appreciated by the Challengers and Mr. Helay. Music for this occasion will be furnished by John Boles and his orchestra. Polkas and American tunes will be played. Admission to the dance will be 40 cents; place, SNPJ Hall, Strabane, Pa.; time, 8:00 to ?

In closing I wish to extend an invitation to our parents and friends to attend our program on Sunday, April 30 at the SNPJ Hall, Strabane, Pa.; time, 7:00 p. m. Will you be there?

Junior Reporter



The Outlookers Corner



"Outlookers' Corner", published as a section of the Napredek's Vrtec page. The Junior Editors are:

Editor-in-chief - Valeria Artel
News Editor - Josephine Kovic
Feature Editor - Fred Bashel

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

HEADLINE FLASHES

By Valeria Artel

Spring is definitely in our blood, for by taking a quick glance at our page, you can see all the articles are very light and highly imaginative. And so, since variety is the spice, etc., etc., I shall be just a bit more serious in this article.

First headline of the month is the bowling tournament of last week. In answer to my wish (that some of our Vrtec members would brave the distance to Cleveland) came five very active and very friendly Indianapolis Jugoslavs. (I should say four, as one is now graduated to the senior lodge, and may object to being classed with us young 'uns) They were Melvin "Red" Scott (who was the quietest, but who beat us very badly at Chinese Chess), Johnny Praprotnik (who was probably very disappointed because I hadn't been able to find a beautiful young damsel to entertain him), Frankie Zakrajsek (who's certainly going to "wow 'em" at the baseball meet this summer — especially the girl spectators), Tony Bajt (who was so terribly busy between not feeling up to par and looking up the girl friends that he didn't have time to do more than stop by for forty-five seconds, give me just enough of a glimpse of a highly magnetic personality to last until the athletic meet, flash a typical Tony Bajt smile, and dash on back to Indianapolis), and — Frankie Mivec, (just as good a sport, as strong an unbeliever of my "choicy untruths," as big a teaser, and as much fun as ever).

It certainly was good to see Brother Vrhovnik. I don't suppose any of us can picture an SSPZ affair of any importance without having him present.

Everyone was apparently having a grand time. It's moments like these when we'd like to tell Father Time to lie down and take a bit of a snooze.

* *

What happened to all the girls at our last meeting? There were only six girls present to 23 boys. Suppose we try and get the numbers more equally balanced. It seems to me we could have more fun if we did so. Meetings are still the first Friday — our next one being May.

* *

Don't forget to hold June 11 open for a combined picnic of

SUB-DEB COLUMN

Love comes with Spring and so does Easter. And Easter brings forth perky hats, kneeless coats, heeless shoes, and not only this, folks, but brought out our gay debs, and glamour boys. The Outlookers cameraman snapped a neat photo of one of our more charming debs, Miss Valeria Artel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Artel of Park Grove, coming down the piazza steps escorted by the Viscount de Istanbul.

Eleanor Ster made her debut this Easter with a most surprising outfit. Orchids given to her by an unknown admirer.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bratina made his appearance with the well-known daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Parku Karcusonthe-parkbench.

Miss Olga Zaubi, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Z. Zaubi (of the late Czarovitches) strolled down Hunt Mere with her dog Count Pooch.

Now! those hats! Did Miss Sophie Bohinc get the feathers from Australia or where? Boy, that hat looked like a ?? (Ed. note: no words can explain the hats of Miss 1939).

A sight to see was Prof. Frederick J. Bashel of the Holy Rollers' University, watering the plants on the hats of all female passersby.

Easter comes but once a year and let this column come but once a year.

Two Debs Al and Jo.
(You know we're crazy)

OUR PERSONALITIES

By Fred Bashel

As I approached the residence of 16203 Arcade Ave., I heard the soft strains of Beethoven issue forth from the low vibrations of a base viol. Then, suddenly, this heavenly music stopped and the rapid fire rhythm of Quaker City Jazz came blasting over the quiet evening air. Looking in the window, I saw Stanley Slejko leaning over his base viol (dog house to you jitterbugs). As I stood by the window, not knowing whether to disturb him or go away in silence, he glanced up and saw his unannounced listener, (meaning yours truly) gaping, with open mouth, thru the window. Slightly embarrassed, by getting caught in such a predicament, I closed my mouth, and with a determined look on my face, walked up to the front door. No sooner reaching the door, I was greeted by my host, with a firm hand clasp. After beating around the bush, so to speak, I finally explained just our Vrtec 11, and our parent lodge, Združene Bratje. More about that later. Members, try to sell your raffle tickets as soon as possible.

So long until next month.

WHO'S WHO IN THE ZOO

As the one and only Vrtec cage-keeper, I felt it my duty to give my beasts a half day off. So I did, but never again; for the results were dreadful:

Ally Bashel, our restless parrot, got whacked over the bean by an unknown creature. Got all her feathers inside of her head knocked out of place. For some reason or other, somebody didn't like the way she sang "Hold Tight." Yes, I confess, it sounded like a war cry. All she sings now is "Deep in a dream." (Operation due soon. I'm doing the butchering. Think she'll be normal again? Well, I don't.)

Val "she-bull" Artel got a screen test. Guess whom she acted with—that lady's man, that well-known, good-looking actor, F. J. "He-cow" Bashel. We believe that the couple will soon rise to the best-liked stars in my studios. They have recently signed a contract (their death warrants) to play in the great picture, "Ferdinand Rides No More." Val will play the role of the escaped convict who shoots Ferdinand and Bashel because he loves another woman.

J. "Tigress" Kovic almost devoured some of my pets. No wonder. We have just discovered that she possesses a mystic left eye (watch it). She gets her free meals by looking at the animal, and draws him right to her dish where she feasts with the greatest of ease. (The hog.)

S. "Giraffe" Slejko has recently written some poetry. One of his poems is:

The Taller The Better
"The taller you are, the more you are seen;
The more you are seen, the more you are known.

It doesn't hurt to be big or small,
But I prefer to be tall
Because the taller I am,
The more man I am."
Personally I don't believe it. Because one day I saw Stanley dragging on a nipple bottle. Stanley is a baby. Tra la la. Or maybe I am crazy.

Mouse Gacnik had a splendid time when he visited the limburger cheese factory. No sir, mouse didn't need a gas mask because he can take it. But he became careless and almost got into a scrap with a rat trap. But a love bug bit moose and saved him in time. It sent him flying home to his lady love. Watch out moose. You almost lost your man moose. Then people would say: "The rat had it coming to him."

The Cage Keeper

why I had paid him this unexpected visit. Laying aside his bass fiddle bow he cracked his contagious smile and before I knew it I felt completely at ease. I wrote down the following notes as we started our question-answer conversation:

(Continued on page 5)

TRIP TO THE MALAY

By Eleanore Ster
PART II.

A week had already passed, but it only seemed one day to me. Mr. Bradshaw had already started to get supplies for our trip, that of course was to explore the place where the elephants were supposed to die. While Mr. Bradshaw was getting our supplies I was taking notes about the country. I had already found out that the inhabitants include Malays, Chinese, Siamese, and other races. Their climate is mostly hot and damp. There are magnificent forests—which of course is ebony, teak, sandal-wood, palms, tapioca, rubber, few spices, and camphor. The Malays are quite short, brown in color. The food of the people is rice. Their chief industries are cotton and silk cloths, silverware and some china. Mr. Bradshaw told me of course much more, that I could keep on writing forever. Well, we were ready to start, but before sunset we had all our natives we wanted. The leader, whom I called Spotty, because of a white spot on the tip of his nose, appointed himself as our valet, cook, or almost anything you could think of. He was quite mannerly, or maybe just when he was around us, but Mr. Bradshaw told the natives they were free to do what they wanted to a certain limit. If they would behave well, they would all be warded when we got back, if not, a surprise would await them. That was clear to them. The next morning we rented two large elephants, Squanto and Squato. The natives walked, while Mr. Bradshaw and I rode. Squanto was the older and seemed to rule the other elephant a great deal. But one day while riding the elephants I heard a train whistle. Before I had time to think what has happened, I found myself lying in the mud, for my elephant got frightened and ran away into the Jungle. So I had to ride with Mr. Bradshaw all the way. About a quarter of a mile we made camp on the shore of the Kedah river. At daybreak we were on our way again. A month was passed and no sign of our destination. Spotty told us the people who went in that elephant's grave never came out again. I got frightened from that time on, but Mr. Bradshaw felt as calm as if he had never heard a thing. I seemed to admire Spotty a great deal. He would always tell me of his experiences in the jungle. Once he told me that when out in the center of the densest part of the jungle he came in contact with a cobra, deadliest, poisonous snake that ever lived. I believe he said it was twenty feet long. Spotty broke off a limb of the tree that made such a crack the

(Continued on page 5)

INDIANAPOLIS JUGOSLAVS

IT'S HERE AGAIN

The softball season is here again and Indianapolis is already buzzing with its fever. The Vrtec No. 9 will again have a team and will bid for the Junior championship. Being runners-up last year has put the team in a spirit that will carry them to the finals again and also bring them a championship.

The team had a few practices during the spring vacation. The team looked fairly well for the first week of softball. Some of the players showed signs of midseason form. The team lost two members of last year's diamond squad by graduation. The two are, Sam Stanick and Frank Mivec. Frank Cerne will be out of the line-up due to the fact that he is out of the state. To replace these, Paul Cenden and two new members will be placed on the team. Paul has returned to the game after an absence of one year. The two new members of the squad are Bill Komlance and Louis Dragan.

In the practices that were held, Gabby Komlance showed well in hitting. Gus Zupancic

had his fast ball working very smoothly.

For the coming season the team shall depend for their pitching on three players, namely, John Praprotnik, with his smoke ball, Louis Znidarsich, with his mixed array of hooks and curves, and "Little Abner" Zupancic, with his convincing fast ball.

The catching department consists of Melvin Scott and Bill Komlance. The infield will be intact by such able performers as Adolph Flajs, Chuck Milharcic, Louis and Martin Dragan and Babby Komlance. The outfield shall be patrolled by Paul Cenden, A. Armin, Albin Turk, Tony Bayt and Frank Zakrajsek. The hopes of a good team lay with these players.

Tony Bayt and Martin Dragan were elected as captains for the coming season. The mascots that were elected are the Klavich twins, Rosie and Mary.

The team will be ready to mow down all opposition.

Following is an added attraction dealing with the ball players.

PLAYER — NICKNAME	HOBBY	AMBITION
Melvin Scott — "Red"	Riding (car)	Interior Decorator
John Prapotnik — "Prop"	Yodeling	To be a second "Clark"
August Zupancic — "Gus"	Playing Poker	Golf Professional
Allgerd Armin — "Al"	Playing Sports	Clerk
Charles Komlance "Gabby"	Skating	Baseball Star
Louis Znidarsich — "M. P. O."	Playing Cards	Printer
Adolph Flajs — "Lefty"	Skating	Writer
Rudolph Milharcic "Chuck"	Writing	Office Clerk
Martin Dragan — "Bra-gen"	Flirting	Confirmed Bachelor
Louis Dragan — "Louie"	Basketball	Office Worker
Paul Cenden — "Lilks"	Roaming (streets)	Football Star
William Komlance — "Bill"	Skating	Printer
Albin Turk — "Beany"	Golfing	Artist
Frank Zakrajsek — "Zakar"	Penny Pinching	Millionaire
Anthony Bayt — "Tony"	Making Love	Salesman
Anthony Kos — "Scorekeeper"	Making Trouble	Mechanic
Marcellus Rinani — "Snell"	Making Noise	Printer
		Martin Dragan, Vrtec No. 9

VRTEC NO. 9

Indianapolis, Ind. — Well, here we are again as always. We attended the last meeting and were disappointed at not seeing more of our members present. Now that the weather is turning warmer all of you should be able to attend our meetings regularly. The more members present, the more business matters we can discuss. So much for that.

The meeting was called to order on the first Sunday in April in the Slovenian National Home at 10:00 o'clock. As always, the meeting was called to order by our faithful president, Adolph Flajs. Our loyal secretary, John Praprotnik, was absent for the first time. The main discussions were in regard to the baseball suits and the election of the mascots. The twins, Rose and Mary Klarich, were elected. After the meeting was adjourned, the administratrix passed out a little token to all of the members.

Don't forget we will be expecting to see you at the next meeting.

—A Member.

STRENGTH STUNT

An ordinary paper napkin is the only material needed for this after-dinner stunt. The performer rolls the napkin loosely, then twists the roll tightly into a long, rope-like strip. Thus prepared, he hands the napkin to someone and asks him to tear it in half by pulling on it. If properly rolled and kept tightly twisted, the napkin has the strength of a stout rope and is almost impossible to tear.

After various persons have tested their strength on the twisted paper without success, the performer can prove his claim to extra-ordinary strength by taking it and quickly pulling it in half. The secret: while the others are testing their strength on the napkin, the performer dips his finger into a convenient glass of water. When he takes back the napkin he grasps its center between his wet finger tips. Slightly moistened, even the tightest twisted paper napkin will tear quite easily.

SLOVENE PROVERBS

Woe to the house without a master, woe to the army without a chief.

Outlookers

EASTER PARADE

By Valeria Artel

8 a. m.: Awake to the sound of the front door bell ringing incessantly. Find my sister looking out the window without doing anything about it. Big argument as to who's to go down and tell him a few things.

8:05: Find strange man putting key, which he found in milk-box, into lock. Very embarrassing for both parties. Discover he is the florist, and all is forgiven at the vision of a corsage. Go back to bed.

8:10: Decide to go to 9:30 mass. Start singing "Go down, Moses" as a serenade to Sister Elsie.

9:10: Decide to go to 10:30 mass.

10:10: Mother decides for me that I shan't go to 12:00 mass. Spend twenty minutes looking at my pancake hat at all angles. Am convinced that I am thrillingly beautiful. Sister tells me otherwise.

10:40: Come panting into church slightly en retard. Am excitingly thrilled when I am told there is a seat in the first row. Step on about six pair of feet while crawling in.

10:50: Infant brightens up atmosphere by excitingly pointing to the priest and yelling: "Who d at man?" Second infant follows by dashing up the aisle. Pleased mother follows rapidly. Struggle ends too abruptly. Sermon goes on.

11:15: Mass over. Decide not to wait for benediction. Climb over the six pair of unyielding legs. Discover I have forgotten gloves and climb back. Take one look at happy, smiling faces of six sunshiny worshippers. Decide to wait for benediction.

12:00: Dinner. Nothing exciting.

12:30: Dishes. Elsie announces she will wash. Am astounded.

12:55: All dishes done except pots, pans, and silverware. Sister develops astonishing case of not feeling very well. Sympathetic mother tells her to leave dishes and lie down. Valeria washes pots, pans, silver.

Afternoon: Passes swiftly. Eat too much chocolate bunny. Feel as if they were coming out of my ears. Resolve not to eat more bunny till next year. Eye catches marshmallow rabbits in dish. Break resolution.

Evening: Visit a friend who is medical student. Hold human skull in hands, pretending to be interested dreadfully. Am dreadfully something or other, but feel a bit funny inside.

10 p. m.: Hop into bed. — Dream about munching chocolate skulls and rabbit skeletons.

And people say "Happy Easter"!!!

Injustice laughs by the table while injustice weeps behind the door.

OUR PERSONALITIES

Continued from page 4

Born: May 28, 1921, (you mathematical whizzes will, without batting an eyelash, know that this nearly totals up to 18 years) in a quaint little house somewhere on 61st near St. Clair, Cleveland, Ohio. A little later they moved to his present residence, 16203 Arcade in Collinwood, Ohio.

Height and weight: 6 ft. with 145 lbs. covering his stature. Although slim for his height, he is very wiry and sinewy.

School: Attends Collinwood High, where he takes a music major and plays the tuba and the bass viol.

Activities: Being considered one of the most talented musically inclined persons in Cleveland, he plays in several of Cleveland's better known bands, such as Hal Lynn, Fred Radkin, and George Marks.

Sports: Although not engaged in any sports at the time, he spends his leisure and recreation periods in swimming and archery.

Looking at my watch, I saw that more time had elapsed than I expected. I abruptly ended my infernal chatter and asked him to play a number for me. Bidding him goodbye, I left with the soothing notes of Beethoven's immortal "Sonata" traveling on the evening breezes. — Adios.

TRIP TO THE MALAY

(Continued from page 4)

cobra came closer and closer. He got so scared he climbed a tree. He gave out a yell like elephants coming, which the cobra did not like and went back into the jungle. But I didn't know whether I should believe him or not. But all went well when I told Spotty that I believed him. He smiled, thanked me, and went back to work.

On June 30, Mr. Bradshaw told me we had only 150 miles to go.

(To be concluded in next month's Vrtec page.)

QUIZ BOX ANSWERS

1. Slovene Progressive Benefit Society.
2. S. S. P. Z.
3. Forest City.
4. Little Garden.
5. John Kvartich.
6. Indianapolis.
7. Vrtec No. 72, Sygan, Pa.
8. Valeria Artel.
9. 15 yrs., 6 mos.
10. Four—20 Year Endowment, 20 Payment Life, and two "Term to Age 18" plans.
11. Louis Adamic.
12. The correct pronunciation is koo'pon.
13. M.
14. Doe.
15. Holm.
16. June.

The Big Day

By Rudolph Milharcic
(Vrtec 9)

It was only ten hours before the 500 mile race was to begin, and Ted Rex was still working on his racer, the Arturo Special, named after his son, Arthur. He wasn't working to get more mileage per gallon, because there was no limit on gas or oil this year. He was working on a special built head, which someone had damaged the previous night with the purpose of keeping him out of the race.

"About one more hour and we will be finished," said Ted to his mechanic, "and then we can get some shut eye. My uncle will be here soon and he will guard the racer until the race tomorrow. I am going to win that race if it's the last thing I do. The prize will bring me more than enough for that chicken farm I wanted to buy for so long a time."

"And I can use my share too," said his mechanic, "for my brother's operation. He wants to be a big time race driver like Ralph De Palma. I hope nothing happens to the racer tonight."

"I would like to get my hands on the guy who broke her up last night. I wonder who it was and why he did it," said Ted.

"So would I," responded Mike, the mechanic, "we've been in the game only four years and because we make good someone wants to stop us when we get our big chance."

"Hello, Ted and Mike," shouted Henry, Ted's uncle, as he came into the garage on "Gasoline Alley." "Almost finished? Do you know who did it?"

"Hello, Henry," the two responded simultaneously.

"Yep, all we got to do is tighten up the bolts and we'll be finished," said Ted. "No, we don't know who did it, but if we did . . ."

"Think she'll still rip off 115 with the old head?" asked Mike.

"Sure, I hope," answered Ted with a determined look.

"By the way, Uncle Henry," said Ted in the enthusiastic voice, "we decided to bunk here for the night, just in case something happens."

On getting the job finished the two worn-out workers went to bed, and Henry guarded the racer. In spite of their fatigue the two fell asleep immediately.

Outside there was shining a bright moon, for Indianapolis has a bright moon around the last and first parts of the month.

So it happened, that inside the garage, light was coming in through a window in the back of the garage. However, this light was just bright enough to see yourself about in the garage. There was a door in the rear of the garage and a double-door in front.

Everything was quiet. The only thing Henry could hear, while on guard, was the early arrivals to see the race. They had been coming for hours. All of a sudden Henry heard a noise at the front door, and immediately he became tense and ready for anything that might happen. With all of Henry's attention at the door, he didn't hear the back door being opened, probably with a home-made key. He didn't even hear the intruder's footsteps approaching, until the intruder accidentally kicked a bucket which Ted had forgotten to put away. As he heard the noise he turned with a start, only to see a shadow bringing down the butt of a gun on him. He was too late. He felt a severe pain and all went black.

Hearing the bucket as if in a dream, Ted woke up just in time to see his uncle get slugged. Quick as a flash he was out of bed and to the rescue. But even quicker was the intruder, for he was away as soon as he had seen Ted move. Ted did not give chase for he knew it would be useless. He turned on the light, woke up Mike, and then telephoned for an ambulance. After Henry was taken to the hospital, he investigated his racer. There was nothing wrong for the intruder did not have time to do anything.

The next morning Ted learned that Henry was still unconscious, but that his case was not very serious. He climbed into his racer, to give it a trial with the old head. When he came into the pits he informed his mechanic that it was perfect. In spite of his confidence, however, he was nervous because of the previous night.

The race finally began. It was an eventful race, with only two crashes and no deaths. It was a great record in the history of the track. Ted Rex was in third place for the first hundred or so miles when he got a low tire and dropped off to fifth place. He regained the third position before the 300 mile mark, but he had to go to the pits for fuel and change his tires. Now he dropped to fourth place. He soon captured the second position. Suddenly he heard a crash behind him, the wreckage almost hitting him. As he passed his pit his helpers signaled to him that it was Tony Flip, the Italian driver in first position. From thereon the race was in Ted's hands. When he came in on his extra lap he was all smiles and was soon surrounded by an excited crowd.

Ted almost fainted when he saw his uncle in the crowd. Thus when the occasion arrived his uncle told him all about it.

"Well, Ted," began Henry, "I was released from the hospital with the doctors permission and arrived at the track just about the 400th mile. It happened that I met O'Leary, the gasoline alley detective, and we

Kingsters

DELMONT, Pa. — Here is one of the Kingsters reporting again folks! First of all I want to inform you of a few new officers. These new officers were elected because our former ones were transferred to the Evening Stars. The new officers are: Vice-president — Frank De Biase, secretary — Helen Mladenick, treasurer — Edwin Sabec.

The above mentioned were elected at our last monthly meeting, March 19, 1939. We have confidence in them and we know that they will perform their duties to the best of their abilities, just as our former ones have done.

Our meeting was very well attended. After adjournment, we had a Farewell Party which was held in honor of our transferred members: namely, Mary Laurich, Josephine Barber, Helen Sabec, and Julia Kosmach. We all enjoyed our delicious refreshments; yes, even Moxie!

I wish to remind our friends of a social affair which is to be held at the White Valley Hall Sunday, April 30, 1939. This is going to be our Farewell Dance. I advise all our SSPZ boosters to draw a big red circle around that date. Then around the circle write enough words to remind yourselves that the evening is to be spent at White Valley. Dancing will begin at precisely eight o'clock. Admission is 25c and Frank's Trio will furnish the music. There musicians are well-known for their fine rendition of both American and Slovene tunes.

Friends, you will not regret started to walk around listlessly and we wandered to the very last row in the grandstand. A few minutes before Tony Flip's crash a familiar figure caught my eye and I brought O'Leary's attention to it. I was sure it was the man who attacked me. He was carrying a violin case and he stopped at a large pillar and pulled out a rifle with a silencer on it. Before we could get to him he shot toward the direction of the track and we heard a loud crash. Later we found out that it was Tony Flip. O'Leary took the man, who gave his name as Muslin, to headquarters.

"Later he phoned me at the garage and told me the man confessed. That shot was meant for Ted, said Muslin, but I am glad I got Tony instead. I wanted revenge anyway. Tony wanted Rex to lose so his man could win the race and fame. And that's not all, he wanted the farm on which his agents discovered oil a few days ago. By Rex's loss he could have bought the farm."

"Well, I'm glad he was caught," said Ted, "and if there's oil on the farm, we will split three ways. You, Henry, Mike and I. Boy, we'll be rich!"

having come to our dance. We promise you an enjoyable evening.

Helen Kastelic,
President, 103

WHITE VALLEY, Pa.—Here I am back again. First of all I want you all to know that our new secretary is Helen Mladenick; she took the place of Julia Kosmach. We hope you'll do just as well, Helen. And our new treasurer is Edward Sabec. Our vice president is Frank De Biase. Here's hoping they are as good as our former officers.

And now a few words about the dance for the girls that left us. They are, Julia Verna Kosmach, Josephine Barber, Mary Lavrich, Helen Sabec. The date is April 30, 1939. Music by Frank Trio, dancing starts at 8:00. Won't you all try and come and make it a success. The girls would be glad to see all of their friends back again. What do you say Kingsters? Let's show the girls that the Kingsters are still going to write an the Napredek. That means Hilda, Stanley, Helen, Frank, Anna, Penner, Dorothy and all you others. You can do it! So till April 30th, I'll be seeing you, you, and I do mean you.

Edith Barber,
Vrtec 103

"Concordians" Make Bow in Cleveland

A new Vrtec, Concordians, No. 171, has been organized by Složne Sestre, No. 120 SSPZ.

The first meeting was held April 12th. Despite bad weather, we had a large attendance. As it was an open meeting several parents also were present.

We elected the following members to serve on the executive committee:

Florence Zitko, president
Olga Kacic, vice president
Mary Menich, secretary
Angela Pevec, treasurer
Patsy Maple, serg. at arms.

The name Concordians was elected unanimously after an explanation that the parent lodge name "Složne Sestre" meant "Concord Sisters" in English.

Our regular meetings will be held the first Wednesday of every month at 7 o'clock in room 2 of the Slovene National Home, 6411 St. Clair Ave.

Now that we have gotten off to a grand start with 42 charter members, let's keep up this spirit and live up to our name and the ideals that the SSPZ stand for.

Fraternally,

Marge Jeric,
Administratrix No. 171.

Appropriately Christened

"Yasah," said the colored boy, "I've named fo' my parents. Daddy's name was Ferdinand and mammy's name was Liza." "What then is your name?" "Ferdiliza."

Power Point Rainbows

PLEASURE AT HOME

POWER POINT, O. — This time I am going to write something little different than I have been writing so far. I am going to write what I do when I come home from school at night.

We do not live on a farm, but we have a cow that you might call wild. We also had pigs but we butchered them. Every night my brother and I have to take the cow to water which is not far from our house. Then I have to give her some hay to eat and clean the stable. Sometimes when it is a nice day our cow tries to run away from me, but she hardly gets a chance to because I have a chain hitched to her. If she tries to run away from me I let go of the chain and she tramps on it then she cannot run very well because the chain holds her back. One day she got away from me and ran down to the pasture where we keep her in the summer time. The other day when she was coming in through the gate she ran toward the garden, but I held on to the chain and she couldn't get away from me. Then she started to jump up in the air like a wild horse.

Now I will stop writing about this. Maybe I will write more about it the next time if I have some new adventures with our cow.

I have read in the Napredek that Bro. Michael Vrhovnik is going around for six months showing moving pictures. I hope he will not forget our town, because I want to show him what I do around the farm. Now I will conclude; my brains are getting tired and they can't think any more because they need some rest.

Frances Tauchar, Sec'y
Vrtec No. 126

POWER POINT RAINBOWS

LISBON, O. — Hello, brothers and sisters! It's about time I write in the Napredek again.

I sure was surprised to see my letter in the paper about a month ago. So now I'll tell you some more about the pleasures of farm life.

Our sow had eighteen little pigs and she couldn't keep them all, so my mother and twin sister and I each took one and started to raise them on bottle and nipple. But now they can eat out of a pan.

Boy, I wish the weather would change its mind. It snows one minute and rains the next.

We haven't much time to ride our horses now because my brother and dad take turns about working them with the two old ones. But we will ride them when we get time. Sunday is the best time to ride them.

My brother makes us water and brush them; he always says, "Well, they are your horses." But we don't mind it at all. When we bring them back

from water they always know that we are going to clean them.

The reason my brother does not like to water our horses is that they run away from him. He has to chase them all over the farm before he can catch them and since the farm has 156 acres, you can imagine what a run that is. We are the only ones that can catch them. So he makes us water them.

Well, folks, I'll have to quit because I'm running out of words. I'll try to write more the next time.

Agnes J. Lesjak,
Vrtec No. 126

LISBON, O. — Hi! folks! Here I am again with a little news of farm life.

We surely have changing weather out here. First it rains, then it turns to snow, for a few minutes the sun is shining, but it never gets a chance to shine all day.

I surely hope it makes up its mind to stay nice so I can ride my horse. We don't have much time this year for my brother and dad are working them on the field. I don't like to see them work out on the field where it gets so hot when the sun comes out, but they can't stay in the barn all the time.

Gee, was I surprised when I came into the barn. For our sow had 18 pigs. It sure was a big bunch.

Mother said the sow couldn't keep them all so we took three into a little shed near the house. We fed them on bottle and nipple and, boy, do they go for it. We kept them on bottle for two weeks, then we got them to drink from a pan. They surely are growing fast. They are five weeks old. All together we have 25 pigs. We all try to get out of it so we won't have to feed them. But, when my dad butchers them we all go for the meat. Yep, that's the way it goes.

Was I surprised when I received 50c from Brother Vrhovnik. I thought my letter would not be fit to be printed in the Napredek. And when I saw it got a prize I could hardly believe it. So come on, members, step up and write, maybe the same thing will happen to you. I want to thank SSPZ for the 50c, it sure came in handy.

I guess I will have to quit for it is time to water my horse. So long, brothers and sisters, I hope I will get a chance to meet you all some day.

Anna Lesjak,
Vrtec 126.

SLOVENE PROVERBS

An ox is an ox even if you knock off his horns.

*

Many a beech furnishes the handle for the axe that cuts it down.

POWER POINT, O. — Hello, everybody! Here I am again. With a couple of verses this time, by the name:

THE HAYLOFT

Through all the pleasant meadow — side

*The grass grew shoulder—high,
Till the shining scythes went far and wide*

And cut it down to dry.

These green and sweetly smelling crops

*They took in wagons home;
And they piled them here in mountain tops*

For mountaineers to roam.

Here is Mount Clear, Mount Rusty-Nail,

*Mount Eagle and Mount High;—
The mice that in these mountains dwell,*

No happier are than I!

*O what a joy to clamber there,
O what a place for play,*

With the sweet, the dim, the dusty air,

The happy hills of hay!

I guess that's the end of it. Well, Annie, where's your article this time? Are your brains still weak from the last time? Maybe that's why there wasn't any article from you this time. Oh yes, where is yours, Agnes? Are your brains weak too, like your sister's? — Well, I hope to see all members at the meeting, March 26.

Stephie Tauchar
Treasurer Vrtec 126

STEPHIE PIŠE TUDI SLOVENSKO

POWER POINT, O. — To je prvič, da pišem slovensko v Napredek, zato ne vem, če bom vse besede in črke pravilno zapisala.

Moj oče in mati sta oba člana SSPZ, ki spadata k društvu št. 126. Imam dve sestri in dva brata, ki so člani mladinskega oddelka.

Jaz sem že večkrat pisala v Napredek, ampak še nikoli prej po slovensko. Upam, da so vsi člani čitali dopis, ki ga je napisala za Napredek članica našega Vrta, Anna Lesjak, in je dobila nagrado zanj.

Zdaj moram pa odložiti pero in prijeti za metlo. Potem že veste, kaj bo.

Stephie Tauchar,
blagajničarka Vrta št. 126

ZAKAJ NAS ŽUŽELKE PIKAJO

Indijanska legenda

Čeravno so nekatere žuželke prav majhne in neznatne živalce, vendar morejo včasih prav občutljivo pičiti. Rdečkožci pripovedujejo o tem zelo staro pripovedko, ki vam jo hočem tudi jaz povedati:

Indijanci si predstavljajo ustvarjenje sveta tako, da je nastalo vse življenje na zemlji takrat, ko sta sklenila sonce in zemlja večno prijateljstvo. Kmalu po tej zvezi je nastal tudi prvi človek "Isnaehage," ki je

bil podoben velikanu. Živali so ga gledale z občudovanjem in spoštovanjem, ko je postavljaj v gozdu svoj ogromni šotor, imenovan tee-pee. Ta prvoustvarjeni človek je razumel govoricu živali in rastlin in rade so priznale njegovo nadvlado in se uklonile njegovi volji. Ker prvi človek ni hotel biti sam, je vzel iz velikega prsta desne noge koščico in izoblikoval iz nje dečka "malega moža", da bi mu delal družino.

Unktome, pajek, ki je bil zelo hudobna žival, pa je vedno sejal prepire in nezadovoljstvo med živalmi. Nekega dne so torej živali, nahujskane od pajka, sklenile, da bodo uničile "malega moža" in so mu napovedale vojno. Prvikrat na svetu je oborožil "Isnaehage" svojega brata z lokom in puščicami. Nato je vrgel v zrak štirikrat kos apnenca in po vsakem lučaju je zrasla iz tal okoli šotora skalnata stena.

"No, sedaj je pa vrsta na tebi, da se braniš!" je rekel nato bratcu.

Bivoli in severni jeleni so se s kričanjem bližali utrjenemu bivališču človeka, tuljenje volkov se je mešalo z grozovitim gromom, ki je z neba dal znamenja za pričetek boja. Krti in vsi drugi glodalci so pričeli pod zemljo glodati skalnate stene, da bi jih zrušili, medtem ko so druge živali plezale po strmih obzidju. Prvikrat na svetu je izstrelil deček svoje puščice in ranil mnogo živali, ki so ga hotele napasti.

Nenadoma je zakril gost oblak nebo. Bile so to žuželke, ki so v veliki premoči napadle dečka in ga mučile s svojimi strupenimi piki. Tedaj mu je prihitel "Isnaehage" na pomoč. Udaril je z batom po skali, iz katere je skočilo nešteto isker, da je naenkrat vsa trava v okolici zajela ogenj. Oblak črnega dima se je dvignil visoko v zrak. Mnogo žuželk je poginilo, ostale pa so bile prisiljene bežati.

Zdaj je prišlo med ljudmi in četveronožci do mirovnih pogajanj. Vse živali so obljubile človeku, da mu bodo za njegovo življenjsko vzdrževanje prispevale meso, za oblačenje pa kože. Le žuželke se niso hotele sprijazniti s pogoji, temveč so postale od tistega časa mučiteljice človeka. Ptice, prijazne ljudem, so bile ogorčene zaradi tega zadržanja žuželk, zato so sklenile, da bodo kaznovale žuželke. Temu sklepu so ostale zveste še danes, zato od tistega dne neusmiljeno uničujejo te neprijetne živalce.

SLOVENE PROVERBS

Nothing is better than a good conscience.

*

The closer to the church one lives, the oftener he is late for mass.

*

Man is harder than rock and more fragile than an egg.

*

Truth pricks the eye.

COMETS' NEWS

AMBRIDGE, Pa. — How are all you Vrtec members from far and near? I hope you are all feeling fine and are progressing more than ever.

Before I go any further, I wish to express my thanks to the contest judges for the prize I have received for my contribution to the "Progress." It was greatly appreciated.

The attendance at our meeting was very good. Keep it up you Comet members! After the meeting a fine program was presented by some of our members. The program included the following:

A song by Sophie Tekstar.

Stanley Uhernik sang a song. (Boy, he sure can swing it.)

Edward Uhernik did a number of imitations even though we had a hard time persuading him.

Valeria De Maccio played a piano solo which I know was enjoyed very much.

A trio which was composed of Alberta and Marion Vlastic and Margie Tekstar sang "God Bless America." (They sure can sing.)

Last but not least were the Comet lads Joe Sumrok, Bill Bona, Ignazia Bova, Harry Knafelc, and Rudy Rosenberger who sang a couple of songs. It was really a surprise to see these boys get up enough courage to face the audience. We'll be glad to have you entertain us again soon.

After the program, games were played and refreshments were served to all who were present. Dancing was also enjoyed by our members. I am sure all who were present had a grand time.

Flashes

Did the wallet really fall apart, Iznazia or was it just a gag to tease the girls?

Congratulations to Jane Gaspersic for coming through in winning style in her literary contribution.

Keep the wheel of Progress turning!

James Sekanik was initiated into our Vrtec. We hope he'll enjoy being with us.

Joe Sumrok and Rudy Rosen-

berger celebrated their birthdays this month. All the Comets wish them a "Happy Birthday."

Was Joe Sumrok's face red when he discovered what the package contained which the boys had won.

Our Vrtec has enrolled quite a number of new members. Frances Rosenberger has enrolled three new members lately. Good work Frances! We are sure you all have friends who would like to be members of this wonderful organization, the SSPZ. It offers many opportunities to its members.

On May 6, we will have the great pleasure of having with us none other than Mr. Michael Vrhovnik, the Director of the Juvenile Department of the SSPZ. Mr. Vrhovnik will show us movies about Slovenia and also of the events held by the SSPZ.

The Comets wish to express their deepest sympathy to the Posega family in the loss of their beloved father. Mr. Posega has been a member of Lodge 41 for many years.

The Comets will hold their next monthly meeting on Friday, April 28, at 7:30 p. m. Be sure to be present at this meeting.

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Slovene Home will hold a dance on Saturday, April 22, at the Slovene Home. All the members of the adult lodge and also of the Vrtec are cordially invited to attend this dance. Music will be furnished by Kiaser's Orchestra. For a good time be present at this dance.

I will be signing off but I'll be back again next week with more details.

Agnes Tekstar, Rec. Sec'y
Vrtec 44

COMETS' BITS

AMBRIDGE, Pa. — Well, this is my first article in the Vrtec section and I am sorry I did not write sooner.

Our last meeting was held March 24 and was fairly well attended. Refreshments were served and we played games and danced.

Mr. Vrhovnik is scheduled to

STAMP COLLECTING

James M. Mead, Congressman from New York, writing in "The Union Postal Clerk" says:

During my 20 years of service in the House of Representatives I have been a member of the Post Office Committee. Despite this, it is only in the last few years that I have taken up the saving of stamps in earnest.

My collection really began with the stamps I procured for my son, who at that time was a little shaver in whom I was trying to arouse an interest in geography and history by buying foreign stamps.

Then, as I went around to postal meetings in different cities, every once in a while someone would come up to me and say: "Here, Jim, give this stamp to your boy when you get home."

I did not realize, however, that I was on the road to becoming a philatelist until one day I overheard my son—who by that time had shot up into a young man—saying in reply to a query about his stamps: "Oh, you mean my father's collection, don't you?"

So, to you I say: "Beware, for you may be next on the list to be drawn into this inner circle."

Deep down in every collector's heart is the hope that he will run across one of the rarities in the stamp world. Perhaps it will be the inverted air-mail stamp, which is worth more than \$3,500. That stamp was first placed on sale at the Washington Post Office on May 18, 1928.

Perhaps it will be the western Australia four-pence blue that we will be lucky enough to stumble upon, with its graceful swan upside down—a \$5,000 bird in philatelic circles, I am told.

Collecting stamps, begun as a hobby, has become a business so profitable that there are more buyers than there are sellers. If you had one copy of every stamp listed in the World Catalogue you would be one of the world's six richest men.

This stamp-collecting game is the occupation, a form of investment, or the hobby of one out of every 14 persons. Being a newcomer into the field, naturally I wanted to learn more about it. What is philately? How long has it been going on? How long have we had stamps? Those visit us May sixth. We are all looking forward to it.

Tippy Sees All Knows Nothing:

Agnes and Frances are going in for play directing—The boys are learning to dance—They seem to be pretty good—Where did Willie get that "klobuk"?—Could he have bought it at a fire sale?—How about more new members?—Valeria, a new member, seems to enjoy belonging to the Vrtec—Don't forget our next meeting, April twenty-eighth—All the Vrtec members extend their sympathy to Mary Posega and her family in their recent loss.

Until next time—

Frances Rosenberger, Pres.
Vrtec 44

and dozens of other questions occurred to me, and to satisfy my curiosity I did a little research work.

The term "stamp collector" was clear enough, but if I was in danger of becoming a philatelist I wanted to know what it meant. Looking it up, I was relieved to find that the term merely means "one who likes stamps."

Now we come to the stamp itself. What is it and why is it?

A stamp is a receipt for postage paid—a bit of gummed paper to which we are so accustomed that we pay scant attention to it as a rule, unless our eyes have been opened through collecting. Yet this small piece of gummed paper is usually an authentic piece of art.

It costs only about six one-thousandths of a cent to make a stamp, but into it go the products of our mines, our forests, our fields, and all the skill of the artist. Uncle Sam manufactures enough stamps each year to reach from the earth to the moon, enough to girdle the globe more than 10 times at the Equator.

We are so accustomed to the convenience of stamps that it is difficult to realize that they have been in use for a little under a hundred years.

In 1840 Great Britain adopted the use of adhesive stamps as a receipt to show that the postage had been paid, and issued the first stamp, known as the "Penny black." Stamp collecting began immediately.

Seven years later America followed Great Britain's example.

Shortest Battle

A battle involving a single cannon ball occurred during the War of 1812. At Sackett's Harbor, Lake Ontario, an English ship appeared and shot a ball at an American fort. The missile fell short and rolled at the feet of an American soldier; the latter immediately put it into his cannon and shot it back at the British boat. The boat was raked by the ball, 14 men were killed and 18 wounded. That ended the battle. — Fact Digest.

Fingernail Growth

Fingernails not only grow more in the summer than in the winter and twice as fast as toenails, but each is believed to grow at a rate based on the length of the finger. The nail growth of the middle finger is fastest and that of the little digit is slowest. — Iago Galdston, M. D. in Collier's.

Smiles vs. Frowns

Prof. Paul Thomas Young of the University of Illinois has been conducting a series of novel "smile" tests among students. He has found that smiles and laughter are four-hundred times more prevalent than scowls, tears, and frowns. — Omaha World-Herald.

What is harder than to repress the truth?

*

Gray hair is the beauty of age.



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