



Editor's Letter to Vrtec Members

(The editor wrote this letter to you in both languages, Slovene and English, so you can compare the words and expressions and learn how much Slovene you understand. Can you read this letter in Slovene? If not, ask your mother or father to read it. Then write me about it.)

This is the first issue of "Vrtec" for you, young friends of the SSPZ, in the new and handier form which can be taken out of the official organ and read as a separate paper. This really means that you have a paper of your own just like the grown-up folks. This paper, your paper, from now on will be a regular visitor to your homes every third Wednesday in the month. You will read in it little stories and poems, and, of course, there will be articles about Vrtec lodges of the SSPZ and their doings—your own Vrtec lodge among them.

The editor is anxious to have you write to him as often as you can about everything that you do in your Vrtec, how you are getting along, why you like to belong to your Vrtec, or about anything else that you are interested in and would like to tell about it in the Vrtec paper. Just now the summer vacation is ending and shortly you will return to your school. Come on, tell us all about it—how you passed your vacation time, how you enjoyed it, what school you are going to, what you are learning in school, what subjects you like best, and so on. No doubt you have some idea as to what you would like to become when you grow up. Do tell me and the other Vrtec members about it. We are very much interested—all of us!

You will notice that part of the Vrtec paper is written in Slovene, the language that your father and mother speak. Some of you may know how to read Slovene. If you do, read some piece in Slovene to your parents. You'll see how they will like it. And they will be so proud of you! But if you don't know how to read Slovene, then ask your mother or father to read from the Slovene part of the Vrtec paper. I am sure they will be glad to do it for you. Stories in Slovene are just as nice as those in English, and you will learn from them about boys and girls like yourself in the country far across the sea where your father and mother or maybe grandfather and grandmother, lived before they came to America. Oh, it's so interesting! In time you will learn to read Slovene yourself, and just imagine: you will know how to read in two languages! Won't that be something to be proud of?

One more word before I close. Be good boys and girls, listen to your parents, obey your teachers in school and attend your Vrtec meetings regularly. The members of the SSPZ, and there are thousands of them, will be watching the next issue of the Vrtec paper to see how many of you will send articles. So, don't forget to write!

THE EDITOR.

Urednikovo pismo članom Vrtecev

To je prva številka "Vrtca" za vas, mladi prijatelji, ki ste člani in članice SSPZ, in sicer v pripravnejši obliki, tako da list lahko vzamete iz uradnega glasila in ga čitate čisto za sebe. To v resnici pomeni, da imate sedaj svoj list, prav tako kot odrasli člani. Ta list vas bo odslej naprej redno obiskal vsako tretjo sredo v mesecu. V njem boste lahko čitali kratke povesti in pesmice, in seveda tudi dopise in poročila o "Vrtcih" naše SSPZ in njihovih prireditvah—med drugim tudi o "Vrtcu," h kateremu vi spadate.

Urednik bi rad, da mu pišete kolikor mogoče pogosto o vsem, kar se godi v vašem "Vrtcu," ali o čem drugem, kar vas zanima in bi radi povedali v tem listu za člane "Vrtca." Ravno sedaj se bliža konec poletnih počitnic in v kratkem se boste vrnili v šolo. Dajte nam vsem ostalim povedati, kako je bilo—kako ste prebili počitnice, kako ste se zabavali, v katero šolo hodite, kateri predmet v šoli vam najbolj ugaja, in tako naprej. In brez dvoma tudi mislite na to, kaj bi radi postali, ko boste odrasli. Dajte povedati meni in drugim o vsem tem. Nas vse, prav vse, bo to zelo zanimalo!

Kot vidite, je del "Vrtca" spisan v slovenskem jeziku, to je, v jeziku, ki ga govorita vaš oče in mati. Nekateri izmed vas znate čitati slovensko. Ako znate, čitajte kak kos v slovenščini vašim staršem, boste videli, kako jim bo to ugajalo. In tako ponosni bodo na vas! Če pa ne znate čitati slovensko, potem prosite vašega očeta ali mater, da vam kaj čitajo iz slovenskega dela "Vrtca" lista. Prepričan sem, da bodo to z veseljem storili za vas. Zgodbe v slovenščini so prav tako mične kot v angleščini, in iz njih boste zvedeli o dečkih in deklicah kot ste vi v deželi daleč preko morja, kjer sta živela vaš oče in mati, ali pa stari oče in stara mati, predno sta prišla v Ameriko. O, to vas bo tako zanimalo! Čez čas se boste sami privadili čitati slovensko, in pomislite: znali boste čitati v dveh jezikih! Ali ne bo to nekaj, na kar boste lahko ponosni?

Še eno besedo, predno končam. Bodite pridni dečki in deklice, poslušajte vaše starše, ubogajte vaše učitelje v šoli in hodite redno na seje vašega "Vrtca." Člani SSPZ, katerih je na tisoče, bodo napeto čakali prihodnje izdaje "Vrtca" lista, da vidijo, koliko vas bo poslalo dopise. Torej, ne pozabite pisati!

UREDNIK

Slovenski jezik vam bo prišel prav!

Za "Vrtec" A. Zaitz

Da, dragi moji mali, slovenščina, katero se imate priliko naučiti sedaj v otroških letih, vam bo prišla prav pozneje v življenju.

Poslušajte dve zgodbici, kateri sta resnični. Vlaku je za škripal in se ustavil na podeželski postaji slovenske naselbine. Močilnikarjevemu Nacetu so se ure iztekale. Prišel je na določeno mesto iz starega kraja v tujo deželo. Izstopil je. Sam, popolnoma sam, v tuji deželi, brez znanja jezika se je oziral okrog postaje. "Kje neki stanuje moj stric?" je vprašal mimo idočega železničarja. Železničar je zmajal z glavo ter mu s prstom pokazal na bližnji hrib. To je vse, kar je mogel Nace razumeti. Preklicana smola, si

je mislil Nace, da sem moral med potjo zgubiti stricev naslov! Kako ga bom našel, ko ne morem nobenemu dopovedati, kje stanuje ta moj stric. Zadel je nervozno svojo prtljago na ramo ter odšel v smeri, katero mu je pokazal železničar.

Eno uro je taval po naselbini,

ne da bi našel strica. Ponavljal je sicer ime strica pred vsakim, katerega je srečal, a je vsak zmajal z glavo ter pustil Naceta brez strica. Pošteno utrujen se je vsedel na vogal. Presneti stric! si je mislil, živ krst te ne pozna v tej novi deželi. Si v tem mestu, a živ

krst te ne pozna. Ko je tako mrmral sam pri sebi, se je naveltela gruča otrok skupaj. Cel kolobar jih je bilo hkratu okrog njega ter so se prav pošteno zabavali nad Nacetovimi okovanimi škornji. Nace ni razumel besedice, kaj so govorili, a ker se mu je zdelo že dovolj, je jezno vstal ter zamahnil proti njim.

"Kaj hudimana me gledate, kakor bi ke nikdar nobenega človeka ne videli! Marš domov, spat!" je zakričal.

To mu je pomagalo. V tolikšni skupini otrok je bil tudi eden slovenskih staršev, kateri je razumel, kar je rekel Nace.

"Kam pa bi radi stric?" je nagovoril Naceta. Nacetu je

(Dalje na 2. str.)

Tri želje

Moj oče ima na roki žulje tri. Moje srce si treh čudes želi.

Da bi prvi žulj postal cekin, da bi vrt kupili zanj, da moj oče vsak večer hodil bi počivat vanj.

Da bi drugi žulj postal cvetica,

da bi v vrtu nam cvetela, da začudil bi se oče, kadar bi se vrnil z dela.

Da bi tretji žulj postal nasmeh, da bi ga očetu dal. Rad bi videl vsaj enkrat, da bi oče se smehljaj.

— Mile Klopčič.

volcanic eruptions. It was discovered in 1793 by the navigator, Vancouver, who disregarded the Indian name of Tacoma and named it after Admiral Rainier of the British Navy. It was made part of Mt. Rainier National Park by act of Congress in 1899.

Slovenski jezik vam bo prišel prav

(Dalje iz 1. str.)

odleglo, kakor da bi ga nekdo pobožal, ko je slišal slovensko besedo.

"Kam?" se je nasmel prav po gorenjsko, "k stricu Smoletu, ako ga poznaš," je odgovoril. "Sure, kar z mano!" reče deček. In čez par minut sta že bila pri stricu. Nace ni mogel pozabiti dečka, kateri ga je rešil iz zagate. Spominjal se ga je pozneje v življenju.

Druga . . .

Veliko verižno trgovino Sears and Roebuck poznate vsi. Družina v mali naselbini je slišala, kako se vse poceni dobi iz te trgovine po pošti. Kako pisati, ker ne znajo angleščine, da bi ne bilo treba prositi tujce. "Bom pa po slovensko pisal," se je ujezil rudar Matevž ter napisal. V veletgovini se ob prejemu naročila tekali sem in tja. Naročilo je bilo za dvajset dolarjev, pa bi jih neradi izgubili in vrnili kupcu's tujo pisavo. Mobilizirali so cel štab uslužbencev ter jih spraševali kdo bi razumel. Ni ga bilo med njimi.

Pa se nekdo spomni rudečelične knjigovodkinje v prvem nadstropju. "Da, še oni nesite!" je ukazal poslovilja. Cilka Brezovec je bila edina Slovenka, uposlana v tej trgovini, katera je znala, dasi tu rojena, čitati in pisati slovensko. Naročilo je bilo izpopolnjeno in poslano Matevžu. Matevž je bil vesel. Cilka pa še bolj, ker so ji povišali plačo in potem marsikatero slovensko naročilo izpolnila, kar nobeden drug ni mogel.

Vidite, tacih slučajev je nebroj, vse kar znaš, ti pride prav v življenju. Jaz vem, da vsi ljubite svoje starše, mnogo vas je že odrasčenih in služite svoj kruh daleč od doma. Ali si morete predstavljati veselje očeta ali mamice, ako bi jim pisali v jeziku, katerega razumeta, v slovenščini. Takole na primer za god, za praznike ali druge važne dni bi jih razveselili bolj s par vrsticami v slovenščini kot s še tako dolgim in lepim pismom v angleščini.

Poskusite z vajami takoj. Pišite slovenske dopise v Vrtec. Pričnite! Starši vam bodo gotovo radi pomagali.

Better go hungry to bed, than stay in debt.

He who helps a poor man, lends to God.

You can't buy Rome for a nickel, if you haven't a nickel.

No bread without effort.

Here is a dandy stunt to have the young folks try at a party or some similar gathering. The performer has to be quite agile, of course, or he will likely upset his "apple cart" for an embarrassing spill. The only material needed for the stunt is a stout kitchen chair and a handkerchief or some small piece of cloth or paper. The performer places the chair in the center of the room and facing the front of the chair, places the handkerchief at the rear of the seat with just a little of it hanging over the rear edge on the left side. Then grasping the chair back he proceeds to lie down on the seat of the chair. In this position he must try to creep around the back of the chair and attempt to get the handkerchief with his teeth and return to a sitting position without tipping over the chair. During this performance he must not touch the floor with any part of his body, but he can hold on to the chair in any way he thinks best. The secret of success, however, is to keep as much of the body weight in the front of the chair as possible.

NOW IT'S "CODE BALL"

Code ball is a new game played on an outdoor course similar to a golf course, but no clubs are used. A ball about the size of a soccer ball is used and the only legitimate stroke is a healthy kick with the foot. In other words "code ball" is golf with a kick in it.

—The Pathfinder

Ciciban



Ciciban teče v zeleni dan. Ptičica znanka v goščavi vsak dan lepo ga pozdravi: "Ciciban, Ciciban, Ciciban, Ciciban, dober dan!"

Ciciban, kaj pa je danes, čuj! Kaj ti to ptička prepeva? Po vsej dobravi odmeva: "Cicifuj, Cicifuj, Cicifuj, Cicifuj, fej in fuj!"

Ciciban misli: "Zakaj Cicifuj?" Takrat si roke zagleda pa se domisli: "Seveda, danes se nisem umil še, fej, fuj, danes sem res Cicifuj!"

Bister potoček se vije čez plan, preko kremenov se lije. Ciciban v njem se umije, ptička zapoje spet: "Ciciban, Ciciban, dober dan!"

— Oton Župančič.

Youth without red cheeks is like spring without blossoms.

You can easily break a twig from a young tree; from an old one you must chop it.

Hay fever sufferers, who fall ill each year after inhaling plant pollen to which they are extremely sensitive, now have a new remedy to try. The American Journal of Diseases of Children recommends a treatment developed by Drs. J. B. Graeser and A. H. Rowe, of Oakland, Cal. It consists of inhaling vaporized epinephrine hydrochloride, a compound formerly administered hypodermatically for the relief of the disease.

A FOUR-POUND DEER

Among a number of specimens of animal life from the Indo-China jungles recently acquired by the American Museum of Natural History was a deer that weighed but four pounds and stood only eight inches high. The little creature is known as a "mouse deer," or chevrotain, and in spite of its size is fully grown. Also, it actually is a deer and is closely related to the ordinary deer, giraffe, cow, etc., of today, all of which evolved from small primitive animals not greatly different in size from the modern chevrotain. It is hard to imagine these frail chevrotains as being closely related to the great buffalo that used to thunder over the American plains. But the former apparently were not affected by that process of nature which tends to steadily increase the size of animals—which developed giant dinosaurs from little reptiles weighing a few pounds—which made whales from land living mammals no larger than a fox, and which, more recently formed modern horses from primitive animals about the size of a whippet. All of this was done, of course, with the aid of millions of years of time.

WATERMELON NOT A NATIVE

Many jokes have been made at the expense of the colored man's love for watermelon. As a matter of fact, the black man was probably eating watermelon long before the white man ever heard of it. It is a native of Africa and may be found growing wild on plains south of the Sahara where it is an important part of the diet of deer and antelope of that region. It is believed the Pilgrims brought the first watermelon seeds to America for in less than 10 years after their coming, melons were plentiful in Massachusetts. It found favor with the Indians at once. By 1665 the Florida Indians were cultivating it and 10 years later tribes of the West.

RAINIER ONCE A VOLCANO

Mount Rainier, rising to a height of 14,400 feet in the Cascade range to make it the highest peak in the continental United States, is the result of

The material needed for this trick consists of a bottle, some corks, some forks, a plate, a coin and a needle. Place a cork in the bottle, push the eye of the needle down into this cork with the point of the needle pointing straight up. Now make a slot in the small end of another cork and force a coin into it. Then stick two forks into this cork, one on either side just above the edge of the coin. Finally resting the lower edge of the coin on the point of the upright needle and letting go carefully they will balance there. And if you are careful you may be able to revolve the forks. Try it anyway.

A variation is to use the plate in the place of the coin, and four forks instead of two. After the needle has been placed in the cork in the bottle two other corks are split in two lengthwise. A fork is stuck in each piece of cork on the flat side about a half inch from the end. These flat corks are then hung over the edge of the plate at equal distances apart. Then place the plate on the needle point and adjust first one fork and then another until plate and forks balance.

HENS LAY TRICK EGGS

If we were at all partisan and wished to offer some good advice to the Democrats we might suggest that they watch those Kansas eggs. We do not know whether they have any bad "eggs" in Kansas or not, but hens in the Sunflower state are now producing trick eggs with personal messages inside them in the place of yolks. These are not trick hens but ordinary bibbies that live on the farm of the State college in Manhattan. Their otherwise perfectly normal eggs have messages neatly inclosed inside the shells. But there is nothing mysterious or supernatural about their little stunt. Rather it is the result of science and experimentation. Then hens do not lay such eggs of their own free will. They need the help of science in the form of a painless operation in order to produce such curiosities. How to get hens to lay personal message eggs was discovered by Robert E. Phillips, a graduate student in poultry husbandry at Kansas State college. The messages, written on paper, are placed inside of a small piece of hollowed out cork. Then the hen is gassed and an incision made in her egg producing apparatus. A yolk about to become part of an egg is removed and the cork substituted for it. The incision is sewed up, the cork moves down the egg duct where a shell is formed around it, and in due course of time the egg containing the cork and message is laid.



WITH OUR JUNIORS

By Michael Vrhovnik, Director of Vrtec and English Speaking Lodges

Our Active Vrtec Units

Since the establishment of our FIRST ACTIVE VRTEC UNIT at Forest City, Pa., three years ago, 32 additional units have received their baptism of activity for a grand total of 20 per cent of all Vrtec Units comprising the Juvenile Department of the Society.

In comparing the number of active units with the active ones, one must not overlook the fact that this field of development, among the Slovene fraternal societies, is still in its infancy and that our Society was the first among them to ratify its adoption and actual set-up.

As the Director of our Juvenile Department, I feel confi-

dent that a broad expansion in this particular branch of work is necessary and should take effect as quickly as plans for the up-building are formulated and officially approved by the Supreme Board.

Below, are listed, all the ACTIVE VRTEC UNITS, their location and the number of members enrolled in each. You will notice, also, that a quota has been set, to be attained by December 31, 1936, for each Vrtec unit. Let's see how many of you can reach your goal, or exceed it. Let's all climb on the S. S. P. Z. WAGON OF PROGRESS and ride merrily along to success, happiness and safer protection.

it is, however, attractive and opportunity to display their will furnish our youngsters an adeptness as athletes.

Angy Pevc Expected To Attend Meet

Angeline Pevc, secretary of Vrtec No. 1, Pioneers, who made such a grand impression on everyone at the 3rd National Athletic Meet at Cleveland last year, is expected to be present at the coming event as a guest of honor and representative of all the Vrtec Units. Angy, if you recall, was the winner of first place in the last Vrtec Membership Contest by enrolling the largest number of

new members. By virtue of this achievement, she automatically became entitled to a choice of either a free round trip, plus two dollars and fifty cents per day, to the 9th Regular Convention at Milwaukee, or to the 4th National Meet at Chicago. Needless to say, Angy chose the latter, so we are happily looking forward to greeting her again and helping make her visit a very enjoyable one.

Campaign Awards Now In Effect

The PROPOSING MEMBER will be paid 50 cents for each new juvenile certificate written-up.

The ENTIRE COST of each medical examination will be paid by the society. All such bills must be submitted to the Supreme Office before payment is approved.

A BEAUTIFUL GOLD-PLATED AND ENAMELED EMBLEM, with the letters S. S. P. Z. and the name JUNIOR on it, will be given free to each new member.

All new members, officially accepted as of August 1, 1936, or later, are eligible for the above awards.

List Of Active Vrtec Units... Is Yours Among Them?

Vrtec No.	Locality	Membership as of June 30, 1936	Membership as of Dec. 31, 1936 (?)
5	Cleveland, O.	177	240
1	Forest City, Pa.	78	100
10	Strabane, Pa.	73	100
11	Cleveland, O.	72	100
3	Slovan, Pa.	48	70
44	Ambridge, Pa.	44	70
101	Burgettstown, Pa.	44	70
139	Chicago, Ill.	41	70
9	Indianapolis, Ind.	39	60
34	Reading, Pa.	37	60
2	Butte, Mont.	36	60
67	Herminie, 1, Pa.	33	50
160	Chicago, Ill.	33	50
118	Library, Pa.	32	50
12	Palisade, Colo.	31	50
76	Denver, Colo.	30	50
77	Center, Pa.	26	40
108	South Forks, Pa.	25	40
16	De Pue, Ill.	25	40
121	Russellton, Pa.	24	40
13	Madison, Ill.	23	40
103	White Valley, Pa.	21	30
140	Pierce, W. Va.	21	30
6	Donora, Pa.	19	30
123	Avella, Pa.	17	30
110	Massillon, O.	17	30
61	Brewster, O.	16	30
8	Nokomis, Ill.	15	30
126	Power Point, O.	15	30
60	Johnston City, Ill.	13	20
43	Aguilar, Colo.	10	20
4	Alliance, O.	9	20
7	Herminie, 2, Pa.	7	20

Every Vrtec Should Be Active

If your Vrtec Unit is not listed among the active Vrtec Units shown above, find out what obstacles lie in the path of active organization and then proceed to eliminate them. If your problem is lack of leadership of the responsible type within the organization, then the thing to do is to go outside the organizational limits and induce someone, with leadership ability and aggressiveness, to join the ranks of the SSPZ. If your problem is lack of mem-

bers, you will be forced to do the same thing.

Every normal, healthy boy or girl should belong to a fraternal unit composed of youngsters of their approximate age. They are naturally delighted to be active in an organization of their own. Those that don't must be taught to like and understand the great value of fellowship and organization for mutual protection. That is one of the aims of our Vrtec movement.

Vrtec Representation Assured At National Athletic Meet

With the 4th National Athletic Meet less than two weeks away, two Vrtec Units have already signified their intention of participation by sending in their entry blanks. They are Vrtec No. 9 of Indianapolis, Ind. and Vrtec No. 139 of Chicago. Both Vrtec Units will be

represented with ball teams. More entries are expected later. Incidentally, this marks the beginning of Vrtec competition in our annual athletic meets. Although, the Vrtec program is not nearly as elaborate as that arranged for our adult members,

With only a few short weeks left before our youngsters hear that old familiar ring, we older members, who have been out of school for a number of years, reminiscence in happy retrospect as pictures of school days pass before our eyes. Yes, those were the good old care-free days; but, as is true of most of our boys and girls, today, we didn't realize it then. This little poem, which I have dug-up from the dust of time, is intended to serve as a re-

minder of what is to come and what has been . . .

*School days, school days,
Dear old Golden Rule days;
Readin' an' 'ritin' and 'rithmetic
Taught to the tune of a hickory stick.
I was your queen in calico,
You were my barefoot bashful beau;
You wrote on my slate "I love you so."
When we were a couple of kids.*

Are You Guilty?

When you're invited out to a party, I'll bet your mother doesn't have a bit of trouble getting you to wash your face and hands real clean and put on your best clothes; and when you get there, you talk in your nicest tones and use your very best manners. In fact, you try to be your best in every way, because you feel that you are among people you may not know very well. But, when you're at home, with the people who you know best and love you most, what do you usually do? . . . Well, you probably forget to wash behind your ears, don't bother combing your hair, talk loudly and cross-like and

forget all about good manners. Your conduct is too often the worst you know instead of the best.

Now, don't you think it foolish to save all your best manners for the people who don't mean much to you and give the worst to those who really love you, and whom you really love?

. . . Wouldn't it be far better to use your "Party" or "Company" conduct at home, too? Try it, will you? . . . The aim of every Vrtec member should be to try to do at least one good deed every day, and to always be a gentleman or lady, whether at home or away.

Three Mountain Peaks

How many of you boys and girls know the meaning of the three mountain peaks in the heading of our Official Organ? . . . The mountains, of which these three peaks are a part,

are located in Slovenia, not far from Ljubljana, its chief city and largest Slovene center in the world. In Slovene they are called "Triglav," meaning the

(Continued on page 4)

The Légend About King Matjazh

(From Louis Adamic's "The Native's Return")

The favorite and most ancient legendary messiah in the Slovene popular imagination is a peasant king called Matyazh, who, long, long ago, reigned over Slovenia wisely and justly. A friend of the people's, he always strove to be at peace with all the neighbor nations, so that the peasants in his domain were able to work their fields and raise their families in calm and contentment. But just as everything was beginning to run smoothly in Slovenia, powerful forces of evil, which originated in distant lands, suddenly swooped down on the little country and King Matyazh and his small army were overwhelmed.

But the good king did not die. Defeated, he collected the scattered remnants of his troop and marched them into the cavern of a great mountain. There are dozens of mountains all over Slovenia in which King Matyazh and his soldiers are said to have taken refuge. One of these mountains, called Krim, is about an hour's walk from Blato, and I remember that I was told about King Matyazh in my earliest boyhood and heard of him till the time I emigrated to America.

The legend has many versions. The one I remember hearing as a child has it that the cavern into which the old king and his men escaped is a vast one, ample to hold a small army. In the center of it is a marble table, where sits King Matyazh, his gray beard winding itself around the table legs. He is old and weary from the long reign and the terrible war against evil, and sleeps most of the time. Off and on he stirs a little, looks at the faithful warriors who guard him, smiles at them, then dozes off again...

Some day, however, King Matyazh will rouse himself, rise from the marble table, order his army to re-form, come out of the hollow mountain, vanquish evil that now still dominates the world and Slovenia,

and resume his reign of peace and good-will, under which the peasant will once more have the opportunity to quietly work at his ancient and necessary business with the soil and raise children.

How that day will come is variously prophesied in the different versions of the legend. One version maintains that the old boy will awaken after his beard has wound itself around the legs of the marble table nine times. How he will disentangle himself from the table is not stated.

Another version says that he will emerge from the cavern when the Antichrist comes and starts sowing money in the fields instead of corn, rye, and wheat.

A third rendering tells about an immense sword which hangs on the wall of King Matyazh's cavern and a powerful young hero—sometimes a native Slovene and sometimes a foreigner—who some day will find the entrance to the cave, go in, and pull the sword out of its sheath, which somehow will cause the sleeping king to bestir himself and, with the aid of the young man, lead his army against the forces of evil.

I have heard a fourth version, which is the most elaborate of the lot. It seems that on a Christmas night, with snow all around, a tall, green linden tree will suddenly spring out of the ground in front of the entrance to King Matyazh's cave. It will bloom for an hour, from midnight till one, its sweet scent filling the air all over Slovenia and beyond the borders of Slovenia, causing winter to pass and give way to spring. At one o'clock the tree will begin to shed its blossoms, whereupon the King will come out with his army, vanquish evil and bring back peace, justice, and good times. . . . "But that day," the narrator of the legend usually adds, "probably still is far off." . . .

DRUŽINA

Udje ene in iste družine imajo na umu korist vseh, ker se ljubijo in ker so vsi deležni skupnega imetja. Nikogar ni v družini, ki ne bi delal zanj po svojih močeh, po svoji razumnosti, po svojih posebnih zmožnostih. Ta dela to, oni kaj drugega; toda delo vsakega koristi vsem in delo vseh koristi vsakemu. Če je družina ubožna ali bogata, vse si delijo po bratovsko; ni razlike pri domačem ognjišču. Starček in dete, ta, ki se ne more več ali ne more še truditi, in oni, ki se vrača s polja ves v znoju, pomoči tu

ustnice. Njih veselje, njih trpljene je skupno. Če kdo oslabi, če zboli, če postane s starostjo nesposoben za delo, ga drugi žive in mu strežejo in ni nikoli zapuščen.

Oče, mati, otroci, brat, sestra, kaj je svetejšega, slajšega od teh imen!

Kar je družina v malem, to je država v velikem. Ker so država posamezne družine, podpira državo, kdor dela za družino. Kakor pomagajo udje ene družine drug drugemu, tako podpirajo udje ene države drug drugega.

Dobro delo

Delavec je stopal po cesti v velikem mestu. V roki je nesel tajinstveno zavit ovoj. Majhna, dvanajstletna deklica ga je spremljala. Videlo se je obema, da sta bila jako žalostna, posebno otrok je komaj zadrževal solze. Naposled začne ihteti in oče reče deklici: "Dobro! Če boš jokala, se obrneva domov!" — "Ne, oče!" odgovori. "Ne bom več jokala, ker je to za mamó."

Gresta zopet dalje. Oče pogleduje zdaj pa zdaj malo ubožico, ki siloma skriva solze.

Žalostni prizor je zapazil mimo idoč človek, ki je že nekaj časa stopal za delavcem in njegovo hčerko. Naposled postojita oba pred prodajalnico stari-narja v predmestju. Vstopita. Trgovec odveže ruto, ki je bil v njej zavit dragocen ovoj. V njem so bile lepo vezane knjige z zlato obrezo.

V prodajalnico pa stopi tudi človek, ki je šel za njima. Z enim pogledom je razumel vse.

OČE IN MATI

*Ljubi oče, ljuba mati
čuvata me dan in noč.
Kaj se treba meni bati,
saj sta vselej mi v pomoč.*

*Vse mi dasta, česar prosim:
sadje, kruh in med in sok;
suknja topla, ki jo nosim,
dar je tudi njiju rok.*

*S čim naj neki ju zahvalim,
da bo prav obema všeč?
Če ju slušam in ne žalim,
to je menda prva reč.*

—Anton Funtek

Ubogi mož je imel naprodaj vse te lepe knjige, ki jih je dobila deklica v šoli za darilo zaradi poslušnosti, delavnost in marljivosti. Mati pa je bila bolna. Denarja ni bilo več v hiši, vse je bilo zastavljeno, vse prodano, vse — razen darila ubogega otroka — svet spomin, za katerega so se odločili v skrajni sili, da ga prodado. Žrtev je bila huda za mater, za očeta in za otroka.

Neznanec, ki ni bil mož brez srca, je čutil vse to in je sklenil, da hoče storiti dobro delo. Kupi darilo, ki od njega deklica ni mogla oči obrniti, da kupnino očetu, prime knjige, jih vrne otroku in ga objame, rekoč: "Vzemite te knjige nazaj, draga mala, zakaj zaslužila si jih dvakrat. Bodi tudi v bodoče dobra in poslušna ter vedi, da krepost ne ostane nikoli brez plačila."

In plemeniti človek odide, ne da bi bil poslušal genljivo zahvalo ubogega očeta in dragega otroka.

PAMETNE BESEDE

Po slabi družbi rada glava boli.

Resnica oči kolje.

Kdor dolgo leži, kosilo od njega beži.

Kakor si boš postlal, tako boš spal.

Kar človek mlade dni zamudi, ne popravi vse žive dni.

Kako te, šola, rad imam, kako me veseliš!

Karkoli vem, karkoli znam, ti vsega me učiš.

Kjer srce k srcu govori, tam ni prevare, ni laži.

WITH OUR JUNIORS

(Continued from page 3)

three heads. Used in the heading of the NAPREDEK, each peak represents a branch of our Society. The highest peak represents the Slovene-speaking lodges which are still in the majority; the next highest stands for the English-speaking lodges, and the lowest for the Vrtec Units. Of course, this isn't meant to be permanent for, someday, the E. S. Lodges and

Vrtec Units will overcome the lead of the Slovene Lodges and then the peaks will represent each branch accordingly. A rising sun, directly behind the mountain peaks, brightens the future progress of the S. S. P. Z. . . . Now, are you convinced that the heading of our Napredok embodies a beautiful as well as noble meaning?

Let's Play

LAUGHING GAME—Divide the children into four groups. Let each group represent a certain town, these towns to be named by the administrator. Have all players form a circle. One player stands in the center and throws a handkerchief into the air as high as he can and starts laughing. Everyone must laugh with him until the handkerchief touches the ground, when there must be perfect silence. Anyone laughing after the handkerchief touches the ground must leave the circle. At the end of ten minutes or more, depending on the time limit you have set, the town losing the fewest of its citizens in this

manner is declared the winner.

STATUES—One child is "It," and he calls out, "I'll choose the prettiest," or "The ugliest," or "The funniest." He swings each of the others around in turn, and when he lets go the player swung falls into some position and remains in it, representing a statue. After all have taken position, "IT" chooses one as the best statue. This player is "It" for the next game.

(NOTE—Administrators and Vrtec members! If you know of a game you think will interest other Vrtec groups, send it to me and I'll see that it will be inserted under "Let's Play.")