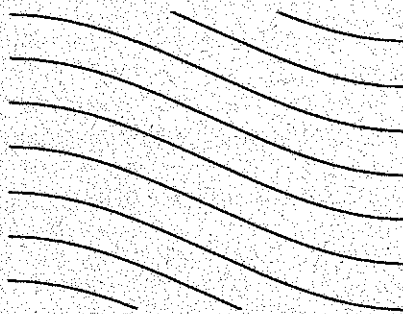




Andragoški center Republike Slovenije
Slovene Adult Education Centre

NOVIČKE



SUMMER 1993



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God's blessing on all nations,
Who long and work for a bright day,
When o'er earth's habitations
No war, no strife shall hold its sway;
Who long to see
That all men free
No more shall foes, but neighbours be.

F. Prešeren: THE TOAST

Slovene national anthem





PROGRAMME BASIS OF NOVIČKE

- Novičke (The News) is a comprehensive information bulletin on adult education in Slovenia. With Novičke we wish to improve the information level of those who work in this area or are in any way connected with adult education and learning in Slovenia.
- Individuals or organisations may use and subscribe to Novičke; those who work professionally in adult education and learning as well as those who do so on a voluntary basis (in professional associations, religious, political and other voluntary organisations).
- We plan to provide the following types of information on adult education and learning in Slovenia and abroad:
 - description and presentation of events and activities in adult education;
 - development, research and other programmes and projects;
 - information on organisations, their needs, plans and activities;
 - information on adult courses and the development of the courses;
 - information on policy and strategies of adult education;
 - the latest news in administration and legislation;
 - statistical data;
 - opinions, viewpoints and proposals;
 - data and information on possibilities and sources for learning;
 - information on forthcoming events, workshops, seminars and conferences;
 - presentations of new books and articles;
 - information on new books in libraries, particularly in the Slovene Adult Education Centre (SAEC).
- Novičke will provide brief, concise, objective and unbiased information.
- Novičke will be published monthly with the material for each issue being compiled until the 15th of each month. To maintain contacts with abroad we will publish a quarterly English language edition of Novičke.
- Users will receive Novičke free of charge. This is a policy we intend to continue, provided we are able to cover the costs of publishing from the public funds allocated to adult education.
- Novičke is edited and published by the Information Centre at the SAEC. In charge of the publication are: Vida A. Mohorčič Špolar - head of the Information Centre and Matjaž Hanžek - editor of Novičke.
- The publisher's address: Andragoški center Slovenije, Šmartinska 134a, 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenija; phone: + 38 61 446 482, fax: + 38 61 445 881



EDITOR'S NOTE

I really do not know what to say, and a statement like this is a bit odd way to start the editor's note. What I am trying to say is simply this - my colleagues and myself are overwhelmed and deeply touched by the letters we received. Honestly, we did not expect them. And, we did receive quite a few congratulating us for the publication of *Novičke* and for the work we are doing.

Believe me letters like these do something to you. They give you a feeling of being someone special, of doing something worth doing. They make you forget all the long hours of hard work, all the worries we had wondering whether *Novičke* would be what we wanted them to be and if they would bring our readers some information on what we are doing here in Slovenia.

Your letters prove that at least we have been successful with the first issue. Our question is what about the second and the third, and all the others to follow? But we hope we shall make it.

Thank you again for everything. Your letters, your sympathy and your support. And thank you for making us feel so special. We shall try to do our best not to disappoint you. And, we do hope that our *Novičke* will be yours as well.

Best wishes and kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Vida A. Mohorčič Špolar
Head of the Information Centre





SLOVENIA - WHAT IS THIS?



Slovenes through the ages

Karantania

It will probably never be known for sure how much was preserved of the former inhabitants of the lands of modern Slovenia, of the Noricij, Illyricij, Venetij, the Celts and the Romans, when they were overwhelmed by the Slovenes during the migration of nations after 500 AD. In the 6th century AD, west Slavic tribes who had come through Moravia into the Eastern Alps, began to dominate the entire area along the Danube between Vienna and Linz and from the High Tauern below Salzburg to Trieste by the Adriatic. Around 200,000 people lived on this territory, three times bigger than contemporary Slovenia. In order to defend themselves from the Avars in the east and the Bavarians in the north west, they united around 620 AD into the Slav Principality of Karantania, centred on the Klagenfurt basin in today's Austrian Carinthia. In 745, they accepted the overlordship of the Frankish emperor and the Christian religion. From 869 to 874, they again lived independently, under their Slav Prince Kocelj, who had his seat further east, by Lake Balaton, and who even introduced Christian worship in the Slavic language and Slavic script; before they were drowned in the empire of Charles the Great and his German successors for a millenium.

Birth of a nation

During this thousand years, the land was subjected to constant German pressure towards the south, to the warm Adriatic sea. By the 15th century, the northern Slovene national boundary had already had to retreat to a little above the Drava river. In fact, even in the 15th century, within the framework of the German empire, then already under the Habsburgs, they wanted to achieve greater independence within the Duchy of Celje from the valley along the Savinja in the centre of modern Slovenia, without in the end any success. The house of Habsburg held sway over the entire Slovene lands and Slovenes remained subject to the emperor in Vienna until the fall of the house of the two-headed eagle in 1918.

So the Slovene national consciousness was formed in conflict with the Germanic. Not militarily, there could be no sense in arguing thus with the giant to the north. The conflict was about language, education, about books, so it was conducted of course not by military leaders but by scholars, above all by ecclesiastics. Slovene protestant clerics published fifty books in Slovene between 1550 and 1600, the great majority of a religious

nature but also a Slovene grammar. Two hundred years later, the first history of the Slovenes was published by the free-thinker, Anton Tomaž Linhart, followed by the first modern Slovene grammar, by the monk, Marko Pohlin. In the following century, after the European "spring of nations" of 1848 when the Slovene intelligentsia published the first political programme, "United Slovenia", it expanded into a hard spiritual hinterland, in which the most powerful personality was France Prešeren, a poet on a par with the most spiritual of the European Romantics.

Before this, at the end of the Middle Ages, in common with the rest of Central Europe, Slovenia experienced great peasants' revolts, which several times laid siege to almost every Slovene town, and were put down only after really major battles. Together with Croatia, it protected the soft underbelly of Europe against the Turks, who had conquered Serbia and Bosnia, from where the tribes living there raided across the Croatian War March into Slovene lands as far as their northern border.

In the last quarter of the 19th century, the Slovenes also entered the era of modern politics. Three main political currents developed: the conservatives, who relied confidently on the loyalty of the Slovene nation to the Catholic church; the liberals, who were too often limited to opposing the interference of the church in politics, and the very weak socialists, modestly trying to catch the industrialisation of Slovene lands and the emergence of a working class.

At the turn of the twentieth century, Slovene politicians in the Vienna parliament initiated closer links with representatives of other Slavic states in the southeast of the monarchy, with Croats and with Serbs from Croatian lands and Vojvodina. They were united by the notion of an independent state unit of South Slavs within the monarchy: the Vienna two headed eagle should become three headed - Austro-Hungarian-South Slav.

However, Vienna, which was struggling with similar demands from Bohemia on the other side of the far flung Empire, showed no disposition to allow the Slovenes, split among four duchies: Styria, Carinthia, Carniola and Gorizia, to unite in a common state, and to give them, together with the Croats and the Serbs from Vojvodina, Bosnia and Croatia, the same independence as Hungarians had enjoyed in Austro-Hungary. Even during the first world war, Slovene politicians demanded only autonomy, although Slovenes paid a high blood tax on the Soča front, one of the biggest of the war. When they were subsequently left empty handed, the mood of the Slovenes inclined toward an independent state of South Slavs which were then under the Vienna crown: it was to have consisted of the present Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. In political documents and popular language, it began to be called Yugoslavia.

The First Yugoslavia

This state was declared on 27 October 1918 as a State of Slovenes, Croats and Serbs, with its capital in Zagreb and the Slovene, Anton Korošec, as president of the provisional parliament. The neighbours, though, cared little for Wilson's principles of national self-determination: Italy marched into Slovenia and conquered a third of it; from Croatia it took Istria and began to conquer Dalmatia and the Adriatic islands; while Croatia was squeezed on the other side by Hungary, and Slovene Styria by German remnants of



