

lok o oddaji v gospodarjenje gozdov in gozdnih zemljišč v družbeni lastnini in gozdov, na katerih je lastninska pravica na območju občine Postojna, Gozdnemu gospodarstvu Postojna.

Enak odlok je sprejela Skupščina občine Ilirska Bistrica 4. 4. 1966.

Tudi Skupščina občine Logatec je 18. 3. 1967 sprejela sklep, da odda gozdove in gozdna zemljišča v družbeni lastnini Gozdnima gospodarstvoma Ljubljana in Postojna.

Zaradi neujemanja občinskih mej in mej gozdnih gospodarstev je prišlo do spora med GG Ljubljana in Postojna. Spor je bil rešen z odločbo, sprejeto 28. 8. 1967, ki je dodelila GE Ravnik GG Ljubljana, del družbenih gozdov k. o. Kožljek in Bezulak GG Ljubljana, del pa CG Postojna, medtem ko so zasebni gozdovi v k.o. Kožljek in Bezulak v celoti pripadli h GG Postojna.

Novo razmejitve med CG Postojna in Zavodom za pogozdovanje in melioracijo Krasa so opravili že leta 1966.

Mislím, da v kasnejšem obdobju ni prihajalo do večjih sprememb, vsaj kar se imena in mej podjetja tiče.

VIRI:

Odločba OLO Gorica št. 03/27805/1 - 57.

Odločba o Gozdnih gospodarstvih LRS.

Odloki: - Skupščine občine Ilirska Bistrica, dne 4. 4. 1966.

- Skupščine občine Logatec, dne 18. 3. 1967.

- Skupščine občine Postojna, dne 4. 4. 1964.

Odredbi Uprave državnih gozdov Slovenskega primorja, dne 8. 4. 1946 in dne 5. 2. 1947.

Sklepa Delavskega sveta GGP, dne 14. 2. 1962 in dne 11. 12. 1962.

Sklepi: - Skupščine občine Cerknica, dne 19. 11. 1963.

- Skupščine občine Ilirska Bistrica, decembra 1963.

- Skupščine občine Postojna, dne 26. 12. 1963.

Uradni listi FLRJ: - št. 437/62-1946.

- št. 773/106 - 1946.

- št. 46-419/50.

Gozdni gospodar 1973.

Egon Pelikan

International scientific meeting: CAUSES AND EFFECTS FOR THE MIGRATIONS OF PEOPLE FROM SLOVENE ISTRAS AFTER WORLD WAR II. Science and Research Centre of the Republic of Slovenia, Koper, June 9th 2000

On June 9th 2000, an international conference bearing the above title was held by Slovene and Italian historians on the premises of the Regional Museum in Koper. Organised by the Science and Research Centre of the Republic of Slovenia Koper in cooperation with

the Department of Geographical and Historical Sciences of the Trieste University, the Institute of Modern History from Ljubljana and the Littoral Historians Society, it at the same time constituted the concluding part of the work on the European project "PHARE CBC and INTER-REG II, SLOVENIA - ITALY".

Twelve historians took part in a discussion dealing with the complex events within the area of the "movable boundary", i.e. with the causes and effects of various political changes that had an impact on the migrations of people in the Giulia region from World War I till the final delimitation between the two states. The papers read at the conference were geographically focused on that particular part of the Giulia region that today belongs to the Republic of Slovenia, i.e. primarily on the wider districts of Koper, Izola and Piran.

As far as the Slovene historians were concerned, the conference also constituted, as already said, the concluding part of the above mentioned project lasting one year, while to the Italian colleagues it was in effect only its beginning, for the project was indeed entered jointly, but they began to work on it almost a year later (it was not their fault). The Slovene historians thus presented their yearly work on the project, while the Italians acquainted us with the work carried out to date and particularly with the plans for the project in the ensuing year. Apart from this they presented the results of some analyses that had been prepared by their researchers in the last few years and were in terms of their contents in line with the project's framework (Secret census of "nonindigenous" people in the Giulia region in 1939, immigration of Italians from the Italian interior to the Giulia region after 1920, etc.).

The first to appear in front of the gathered historians was Raoul Pupo from the University of Trieste - with the paper entitled Views of the latest Italian historiography on the emigrations from Istra (Orientamenti della più recente storiografia italiana sull'esodo istriano).

In his opinion, the exodus was in fact a constituent part of the process of continental extent and should thus be talked about in the context of the movements of people that took place after World War II and involved millions of people. In order to understand it, we should emplace it in the period beginning with the end of World War I. In the history of the Giulia region, the speaker argued, this was the turning point, the time when the mechanism fell apart that had enabled development of local society and when the period of demographic stagnation began, in which the Giulia region was no longer attractive for potential immigrants but, on the contrary, began to exile its inhabitants.

The speaker further argued that the "exodus" could be basically defined as a phenomenon of a mass banishment of an ethnic group from its original homeland, yet was not caused by official procedures but by persistent pressures of the environment. Even the pace of exo-

dus, he insisted, is different in different periods, although the causes are diverse, for mass migrations occurred every time when the belief began to prevail amongst the Italian population that the Yugoslav supremacy was final. Here we should not neglect the political aspects, for they played the main part in the people's decision to migrate. This is why that particular process should be studied, in which the destiny of the Italians was being decided, as well as the structure, mentality and conduct of the authorities, i.e. at the level of institutions as well as at the level of political parties.

The second speaker, Piero Purini (Trieste), presented his paper entitled Migration movements in the Giulia region after World War I (*I movimenti migratori della Venezia Giulia dopo la prima guerra mondiale*)

The young Italian historian spoke about explicitly strong migration movement triggered off in Trieste immediately after the fall of the Habsburg empire. The German-speaking community, which was composed mainly of civil servants, almost dispersed due to the very numerous departures in the direction of the new Austrian republic and especially Vienna. The emigration of this community was no doubt hastened by certain measures against it, introduced by the new Italian authorities that greatly discriminated the German-speaking merchants.

There were some great pressures on the Slovene and Croatian inhabitants to leave, which eventually caused a mass migration of a very high number of "nonindigenous" people to Yugoslavia and Argentina. A quantitative assessment, however, is unfortunately extremely problematic in this case as well. In the speaker's opinion, the Italian historiography had greatly neglected this phenomenon, while Yugoslav historiography had often used the data for political purposes and thus made a true assessment of this phenomenon very difficult. The official statistical data are also distinctly inadequate, for apart from the fact that those who left were not distinguished according to their ethnic allegiance, they appear as completely non-existent in the 1918-1920 period. During the emigration of the non-Italian population, a mass immigration from Italy was taking place; the speaker expressed his opinion that more than 130,000 Italians (50,000 of these to the district of Trieste) immigrated to the Giulia region between 1918 and 1931.

(This thesis was in fact in contrast to the opinion of the previous speaker, who stated that after World War I the Giulia region become unattractive for potential immigrants.)

The third speaker, Egon Pelikan (Science and Research Centre Koper) presented his paper entitled Secret census carried out in 1933 in the Giulia region by the Primorska clergy gathered in the Convention of St. Paul's Priests. This was the very first presentation of the census carried out in 1933 by the Slovene and Croatian clergy gathered in the above mentioned Convention.

This took place at the time (in the beginning of the 1930s) when the rank organisation of the Primorska (Littoral) clergy had already been united in the Secret Christian-Social Organisation. It originated with a merger of the Slovene Christian-socials political organisation and rank organisation of the Slovene and Croatian clergy (i.e. Christian-social political society "Edinost" and the Convention of St. Paul's Priests in the early 1930s), aiming at a secret national-defence activities with declared irredentist objectives. In the 30s, the organisation was the key element of the national-defence resistance to the denational pressures by fascism in the Giulia region. In 1936, 276 Slovene and Croatian priests were affiliated to the Convention of St. Paul's Priests. It is the only statistics prepared for the Giulia region by Slovenes and Croats during the two wars.

According to the available archival materials, the census was carried out by Slovene and Croatian clergy "on the basis of a survey of parish registers", namely for all, even the smallest settlements in the Giulia region. The priests pooled the data at the level of parishes, deaneries, dioceses and in the end of the entire Giulia region. On the basis of the figures in parish churches in 1933, the statistics shows 545,541 "Yugoslavs" and 455,389 Italians living in the Giulia region. It consists of 5 volumes with lists for separate parishes, thus enabling also a control over the numbers of the Slovenes and Croats separately. The aim of a special chapter in the statistics was to change the ethnic picture in the Church of the Giulia region.

Francesca Krasna (University of Trieste) presented her treatise Observations on the 1939 secret census of nonindigenous inhabitants in the Giulia region (*Alcune osservazioni in merito al censimento riservato degli "allogeni" del 1939*) and gave an account on the last official census carried out by Italians in the same region in 1921, when it still comprised the so-called "nationality section".

Pio Nodari (University of Trieste) read his paper entitled Census of Istran refugees and the state of affairs in the Koper district after World War II (*Il censimento dei profughi istriani e la situazione del Capodistriano nel secondo dopoguerra.*)

Mr. Nodari, who heads the Department of Geography at the Trieste University, presented, as a leader of the Italian part of the project, some basic orientations in the investigations carried out within the framework of the Italian part of the Interreg II Italy-Slovenia programme. The background of research of the Italian colleagues was the census of the refugees from the Giulia region and Dalmatia, carried in 1955 by the organisation "Opera profughi". The statistics are kept in the Central State Archives in Rome and include the carried out census as well as some more or less accurate data on separate refugees (more than 200,000 cases).

As explained by Mr. Nodari, the Italian historians

will survey, during the first part of their research, the lists of refugees from the district of the Koper city council. Their personal data (e.g. age, sex, birth particulars, place of birth, profession, permanent address, etc.) will be gathered in database suitable for computer statistical processing. The database should then be applicable, said Mr. Nodari, for a more detailed and multistratified analysis of the "exodus phenomenon" in the Koper as well as Trieste districts.

Nevenka Troha (Institute of Modern History in Ljubljana) presented her treatise entitled *The measures taken by Yugoslav authorities in Zones B of the Giulia region and Free Territory of Trieste, and the Italians in the Koper district, dealing with the measures by Yugoslav authorities that had an indirect impact on the migration of Italians from the part of the Giulia region that belonged to Yugoslavia*. She asserted that that the Slovene part of Zone B of the Giulia region covered extensive and utterly Slovene districts and that it was only the Koper district that was ethnically mixed (Slovene-Italian) at that time.

With certain limitations (for some international stipulations in respect of the occupied districts were considered), the Yugoslav administration of Zone B took a number of measures to enforce people's power. These were of "class" character but more often affected, due to their social structure, the Italians than the Slovenes or the Croats. Such were, for example, the measures on the deserters' property, on confiscations, abolition of land-tenant relations, agrarian reform, annulment of auctions and forced disappropriation.

While respecting bilinguality and national rights of the Italians, the Military Administration and civil authorities kept dividing people, in the sense of the slogan "those who are not with us are against us", between those loyal to them, i.e. Slovenes and "honest democratic Italians", and between adversaries that were generally called "fascists". In order to make the latter incapacitated, they often chose no means, e.g. arrested them, dismissed from services, took their civil and political rights, made it very difficult for them to enter Zone A. The Italians were also often vexed, largely due to the fact that during fascism the great majority of them living there either openly supported fascism or stayed passive during various measures taken by fascist authorities to thwart national awareness of the Slovenes. Thus some very cold relations and sometimes even hatred existed between the Italian and Slovene (Croatian) inhabitants.

Janez Kramar (Koper) presented his paper entitled *Migrations from Izola during 1945-1956*. He asserted that between the fall of fascism (July 25th 1943) and the national liberation mainly those migrated from this area who feared vengeance due to their deeds against the Istran Slovenes. Amongst the emigrants there were also a number of Italian land tenants. One of the reasons for leaving was also the hatred of the Slovene and Croatian

peasants who for national and social reasons had joined the National Liberation Movement.

After the liberation, many emigrated from Zone B. The Italian emigration, however, depicted this as a flight of the people who had to run, including those who had settled in Izola during the war because of air raids. 882 inhabitants of Izola emigrated to Italy at that time.

The second period of migrations after that prior to 1945 took place during 1948 and 1952, although to much lesser extent. The empty houses and flats were settled by immigrants.

The period between the end of 1953 and 1956 can be according to the speaker denoted as the time of truly mass migrations from Izola. At the end of his presentation he promised that a list of 7273 inhabitants of Izola would be published, who in accordance with the data from Italian archives left Izola during the fall of fascism and the end of 1956.

Jure Gombač (Faculty of Philosophy Ljubljana) presented the treatise entitled *Migrations from Koper and its vicinity during 1954-1956*. He illuminated the events at the time when a memorandum on the consensus between the governments of Italy, Great Britain, USA and Yugoslavia on the Free Territory of Trieste was initialled on October 5th 1954 after some very prolonged talks, negotiations and threats with clash of arms. A memorandum on the agreement in which the governments of both countries were instructed, in nine articles, how to divide the territory as well as how to deal with the newly annexed land and the people living there was also signed. Namely, on the basis of Article 8 of the memorandum these people were given a year to decide whether to gather their property, leave their homes and leave for a new country, or to stay and try their luck in the places in which they lived.

All those Italians who did not wish to leave their homes and decided to "preserve the Italian language and culture", as promised to them in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and in the 8 articles of the London Memorandum, were invited to build, together with their Slovene and Croatian brothers, socialism in the new homeland. All those, on the other hand, who had been from 1945 on leaving their firesides in Rijeka, Pula, Rovinj, Zadar, Umag, Piran and Koper for unknown destiny, were advised to think it over once more and not to succumb to the propaganda by the CLN.

The majority of the applications to leave the former Zone B of the Free Territory of Trieste for Italy was from October 26th 1954 on dealt with and granted without any major problems, especially if the applicants were of the Italian nationality.

Ivica Pletikosić (Science and Research Centre Koper) wrote and presented his paper entitled *Migrations from Piran during 1941-1956*. He believes that it would be difficult to find, in the history of this littoral town, mi-

grationally more vivacious time as was this period from the beginning of the war to the early 1961.

The author based his research on the sources kept in the Piran town archives, on the materials provided by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia in Ljubljana, and on the materials kept in the Koper city library. He pointed out the following migration waves in the town of Piran:

Even before the fascist forces attacked the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, the inhabitants of Rijeka began to retract to safety, initially those best informed. And some of these made use of the empty Piran holiday capacities.

At the turn of 1943, Piran was reached by a new wave of refugees from Zadar. They must have really been pushed on, for this was the only migration wave in the dealt with period. Until the end of the war, Piran also accepted a mass of refugees from Pula, most of them in the very last two months of the European butchery.

Until the Anglo-American note was issued on October 8th 1953, the majority of the Piran people hoped that the town would be given to Italy. When all hopes were finally shattered on that particular day, the inhabitants began to leave their town in large numbers. In the autumn of 1953, the first great wave (500 people) was triggered off. Over the winter the migrations were then reduced, but culminated again in the summer of 1954 (900 people). The entire story was repeated in the ensuing year (summer wave of 1100 people) and ended in the spring of 1956. Only 500 indigenous inhabitants remained in the town.

By 1961 the consequences of these mass migrations were at least partially mitigated. This was also the period, when the town was Slovenised to the greatest extent (later on it was being increasingly Yugoslavianised).

Boris M. Gombač (Science and Research Centre Koper) is the author of the treatise entitled *Migrations from Monfalcone during 1945-1948*, in which he presented the political background of numerous Italians leaving for Yugoslavia between 1945 and 1948. According to the author, this great migration involved a few thousand Italian souls and affected one of the greater industrial centres in the Giulia region. People were leaving their birthplaces in Monfalcone and surrounding villages of the lowland Friuli in the vice of semifeudal farming conditions and great crisis in shipbuilding to find social justice in the promising country. They were leaving firmly convinced that life over there would be better, that in the country of socialism no poverty would pursue them.

The names of emigrants, their birth particulars, names of their fathers and places of residence are in his opinion an excellent profile of the Monfalcone society of that time.

Sandi Volk (Institute for Ethnic Issues) made his appearance with the treatise *CLNI and exodus from Zone B of the Free Territory of Trieste* (Organisational

proposals to the Italian government for the admission and settling of the refugees from May 1954).

The treatise deals with those standpoints of the CLNI - National Liberation Committee for Istra (Comitato di liberazione nazionale dell'Istria) - that refer to the solution of the problems arising due to the arrival of Istran refugees. The author analysed the document from May 1954 kept in File No. 65 in the *Commissariato Generale del Governo v Archivio di Stato di Trieste*, with which the CLNI presented its proposals regarding the settling of refugees from Zone B, who began, after the American note issued on October 8th 1953, a mass migration to Zone A of the Free Territory of Trieste. In this 24 pages long typescript the problem is presented comprehensively and in great detail. Proceeding from the assessment that the measures to solve the refugee problems were from 1945 on unsystematic and improvised, the CLNI laid down a number of suppositions: delay in settling the refugees will not dissuade the Italians from leaving Zone B and will bring certain political advantage only the Yugoslav side, the communists and "independists"; temporary solutions and measures must have as short-term character as possible and must be directed towards a final solution of the refugee problem; to achieve this, a considerable intervention by the state will be needed, and the state means must be used primarily to stop the strong Italian nuclei in the Trieste and Gorizia districts; as many refugees as possible must be settled in Trieste or as near to Yugoslavia as possible, or as near to the Free Territory of Trieste as possible. Making of the entire settling plan must be ceded to a special office within the government's presidency itself, while its actual implementation must be left to the following three institutions: *Ente Tre Venezie* (Institution for Three Veneto regions) that would attend to the settling of farmers, *Consorzio nazionale fra cooperative pescatori e affini* (National consortia of Fishing Co-operatives) that would take care of the fishermen, and *Opera per l'assistenza ai profughi giuliani e dalmati* (Institution for the Aid to the Istran and Dalmatian Refugees) that would attempt to find jobs for tradesmen and small merchants as well as to solve any other problems regarding all Istran refugees. The final aim of this plan was, apart from the ultimate solution of the refugee issue, to preserve the refugee communities and their social structure.

The author asserted that this CLNI plan soon became a kind of a guidance for the Italian government in the attempt to solve the refugee problem, for its directives and some actual proposals were approved already at the meeting held on August 7th 1954 in Rome by the representative of the Ministerial Council, the CLNI and the above mentioned institutions. Although not in full and with some not negligible deviations, this plan is still recognisable in all measures and actual solutions that the Italian government accepted in the ensuing years for a final solution of the refugee problem.

The last historian to appear at the conference was Alessandra Argenti Tremul (Koper) with her paper entitled *An analysis of migrations from northwestern Istra on the basis of official papers published at that time*. The sources upon which she based her research were the papers published in Italian language by the Yugoslav authorities between 1945 and 1956. The authoress believes that with an analysis of the articles published at that time it can be assessed that the responsibility for the exodus (mass migration by the Italian population from northwestern Istra) was being ascribed to the Italian government, which functioned primarily through CLNIs. As the main reasons for this exodus, the Yugoslav papers stated "the loss of their privileged positions inside the society", "political irredentic activities and Italian propaganda", "national feelings of the Italians", "strong kinship and economic ties between the littoral belt and Trieste" and "reinstatement of the socialist order in Yugoslavia".

In a long discussion that followed, the following historians also took part: Milica Kacin Wohinz (Institute of Modern History Ljubljana), Jože Pirjevec (Trieste-ZRS Koper), Roberto Spazzali (University of Trieste), Anna Maria Vinci (University of Trieste), Milan Gregorič (Koper), Nevenka Troha (Institute of Modern History Ljubljana), Egon Pelikan (ZRS Koper) and a number of other people.

Amongst the most interesting appearances during the long discussion was no doubt that of Jože Pirjevec, who with his lifelong experiences called attention of the present to the fact that the Italian project of counting the emigrants from the Giulia region would probably come across the same cases as was the case of his father. Namely, in the list of optants that the statistics will reckon among "esuli" there will appear the Slovene Pierazzi from Sezana who first of all had had his surname changed with a decree by the fascist authorities and then retreated, under the communist rule, to Trieste as a successful merchant. It thus will not be possible to simply reckon all the refugees among Italians - "esuli" - merely on the basis of the names Italianised by the fascist authorities. And if there were up to 30% of emigrants of Slovene and Croatian nationality among them, the myth about "merely Italian exodus" of course quickly changes not only in quantitative but also in contentual sense.

One of the critics (or rather observations) expressed at the conference by a number of participants was that Croatian historians should be also present at the meetings of this kind. This is of course true from the contentual as well as professional standpoints, although it should be taken into consideration that in this case we were dealing with a Phare programme which stipulated cooperation between Italian and Slovene historians (as also evident from the title of the conference). It is hoped, however, that an opportunity will arise in the near future to organise a meeting at which our Croatian colleagues could also take part.

We, the organisers, sincerely hope that a conference will be held soon, at which our Croatian colleagues could take part as well. Namely, it has to be underlined that the issue of migration from Croatian Istra and Dalmatia is a problem with quantitatively very different dimensions. And it would probably be very useful if the Italian public as well as politics are made to understand this. It is therefore perhaps even right that we, the Slovenes, are occupied primarily with historical problems that concern us directly. In this sense, let me say that Slovenia can deal with migrations from its today's territory that was relatively small, with minority (without rights) that after World War II remained in the Republic of Italy and a number of times "overpaid" the number of emigrants who declared themselves, when leaving its territory, Italian nationals.

At the end let me mention a couple of facts and questions that are indeed relative to the historical profession merely as the latest historical issues and were not an actual subject at the conference but were raised in the ensuing discussion.

During the discussion, the Koper journalist Milan Gregorič agreed with the introductory speaker that the Istran exodus should be placed into a wider context of European migrations, which were caused by World War II, but that the present political comparison should then be observed in the light of the European context. According to his words, a comparison with the Sudeten exodus would be most eloquent. While from some two hundred to two hundred and fifty Istrans left their homeland in a ten-year period (from 1945 to 1956) mostly with the option to chose the nationality in accordance with the international stipulations, some three million Sudeten Germans were exiled in a little more than a year. The plans for this exile were made prior to the war; they were published in a special memorandum by the Czech government and were given a concrete political support by the Allies. All this mass of people was robbed, virtually overnight, of the citizenship with a decree issued by the President of the Czech Republic, while the exile itself was organised by the Czech government. In the autumn of 1946, some thousand railway compositions were prepared to leave for the West. A similar case was the exile of 32,000 Germans from Brno to the Austrian border, except that these exiles had to leave on foot. During the journey a few tens of these unfortunate people died each day of hunger, illness, revenge, etc. In this sense it should be pointed out, said the speaker, that the Istrans had their movable and partially unmoveable property at their disposal. Prior to the departure they were able to sell their real property, and in cases when nationalised real estates were in question, Yugoslavia had enacted the principle of indemnity, although the optants were not satisfied with it. The Sudeten Germans, on the other hand, were completely expropriated. They lost everything and even had to give

away their securities, precious metal, pieces of art, etc.

Apart from it all, Germany fully resigned, with a legal deed, from all property claims as well as from any indemnities, while Slovenia and Croatia have been under a constant pressure in connection with the property of the optants, for which they have been scrupulously paying the indemnity ...

The speaker also pointed out that the thesis about the ethnic cleansing and the "Balkan manners" has been supported even by the moderate Italian politics; in this respect he called our attention to the standpoints of Rocco Buttiglione in the European Parliament and his "appeal" to the President of the Slovene Republic.

If I myself am allowed to make a comparison with the events in our immediate neighbourhood, the exodus of the Istran Italians (or Sudeten Germans, or "Slovene" Germans) seems to me, in a historical perspective and in some aspects, truly comparable with the present course of events in the Balkans. The "Balkan manner" of the exodus can be in the historical perspective seen also in a more instructive way. The exodus of Italians (from Istra and Dalmatia) as well as of Serbs (from Kosovo, Slavonia, Dalmatia, etc.) or German ethnic minorities took place - from historical perspective - only when statesmanly, cultural and political elites of the majority nation that were infatuated with their own superiority abused their minorities as an instrument for their own imperialistic purposes. In the case of our western neighbour, this happened, after World War I, through the annexation of territories densely populated by the Slovenes and Croats and, in World War II, through the aggression on the neighbouring country. The theory, according to which, for example, the colloquial language of the tenuous higher stratum of a littoral town implicitly defines the state allegiance of entire regions had after all led to Mussolini's conviction (he brought the idea to a logical conclusion) that the "righteous Italian border would run along the Dinaric ridge above Dalmatia...". And one of the very well known slogans, according to which "Serbian land spreads in all those places where Serbian graves are", was in effect derived from a very similar standpoint.

All these problems should of course be a matter of the past, a matter of history and historians. And this is why we are happy to expect cooperation by our Italian colleagues, who have been tackling these problems with historical distance and professional responsibility at the same time.

However, the politics of our neighbouring countries (Italy and Austria) is often the reason why even I, a historian, sometimes think about these issues with mixed feelings. The myth about Austria, as the first victim of the Nazi Germany, as well as the myth about the "resistenza" that should cover all stupidities committed by the Italian state in the previous century on its eastern frontier are today showing us, with their political conse-

quences, how short is the way from the historical mythology to the political reality. In the historical profession, the myths can in a moment by far surpass the mere question of "hygiene in this profession" and become a wider or even general social phenomenon or trend. For this very reason it is also us, the Slovene historians, who should be especially concerned with them, not only with our own but also with the foreign ones. Czech historians are probably in a much better position - they are lucky, for example, that their mighty neighbour has faced history in an utterly different way than our neighbours - and this is good for us all.

Vesna Gomezel Mikolič

SLOVENSKI SLAVISTIČNI KONGRES V KOPRU.
5. - 7. oktober 2000.

Kot za večino slovenskih slavističnih kongresov doslej je tudi za letošnjega, ki je potekal v Kopru od 5. do 7. oktobra v organizaciji Slavističnega društva Slovenije in Slavističnega društva Koper, bila značilna množičnost, tako z vidika predavateljev in drugih sodelujočih kot obiskovalcev. To je v uvodnem nagovoru in izčrpnem poročilu o delu Slavističnega društva Slovenije v zadnjem letu poudaril tudi dosedanji predsednik tega društva dr. Zoltan Jan, ki je bil na občnem zboru pred začetkom kongresa po dveletnem mandatu razrešen te funkcije in na čigar mesto je bil izvoljen dr. Marko Jensešek s Pedagoške fakultete v Mariboru. Tako je na zborovanju sodelovalo kar 48 referentov, od tega 23 doktorjev znanosti; na številnih prizoriščih, kjer so potekale različne dejavnosti zborovanja, in sicer v Kristalni dvorani Hotela Koper, koprskem gledališču, Osrednji knjižnici Srečka Vilharja, knjigarni Libris, galeriji Loža, v prostorih Italijanske skupnosti, Kosmačevi hiši v Piranu in še kje, ter na strokovnih popotovanjih po koprskem mestnem jedru, zaledju Slovenske Istre, Krasu in Tržaškem pa je bilo vedno dovolj obiskovalcev.

V uvodnem delu sta zbrane goste poleg dr. Zoltana Jana pozdravila tudi koprski župan Dino Pucer, ki se je s kratkim nagovorom v narečju lepo zliil z eno izmed osrednjih tem letošnjega kongresa, in dr. Lucija Čok, tedanja direktorica ZRS Koper in v.d. dekanice fakultete za humanistične študije v Kopru. Podelili so tudi nagrade Slavističnega društva Slovenije, ki so jih za svoje zaslužno delo na področju slovenistike prejeli: dr. Agnieszka Bėdkowska-Kopczyk, dr. Mihaela Koletnik, prof. Marija Končina, prof. Vinko Omerzel in prof. Magda Stražišar. Za častne člane društva pa so razglasili: akad. prof. dr. Janka Kosa (ki se sicer na imenovanje ni odzval in ga v Koper ni bilo), prof. Silva Faturja, prof. Janeza Gradšnika in prof. dr. Zinko Zorko. Po uvodnem predavanju akademika prof. dr. Borisa Paternuja o pogledih