

New Era

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

Nova Doba

AMPLIFYING THE VOICE OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING MEMBERS



CURRENT THOUGHT A Good Resolution

Lodge No. 106, SSCU, of Davis, W. Va., adopted a unique resolution at its February monthly meeting to stimulate enrollment of new members during 1936.

According to the information furnished by Bro. John Kosanec, member of this lodge, each baseball player of the local branch team is requested to secure at least one new member. Bro. John Kosanec is the organizer of the Mountaineer Baseball Club, subsidiary of Lodge No. 106, which again expects to place a team in the local field of competition when the season opens in 1936.

Members of this lodge are to be commended for adopting this resolution, which is believed to be the first of its kind in the SSCU circles. Particularly so since it invites the member-players to contribute materially toward the growth of the local.

Resolutions urging the lodge member-players to take an active part in "signing up good prospects" is bound to make the members conscious of their responsibility to the local. While in many instances the baseball and basketball players, bowlers, etc., contribute more than their share of agitation, too often the privilege of selling the lodge and the Union to the outsider is left to the lot of non-participants in sports.

Lodges, who meet with difficulty when seeking the co-operation of member-athletes in a membership drive will do well to consider the resolution idea, as set forth in the first paragraph of this editorial.

It is not the aim of such a resolution to place undue stress on those members who represent the lodge on the playing field, although it has been said at times that athletes are a drain on the local treasury, and the money spent for uniforms and equipment had been wasted. A member once said: "Yes, we hold dances to realize some working capital; we are given financial assistance from the sports fund. Then what happens? We spend a lot of money for sports paraphernalia, the member-players are not sufficiently interested in our lodge to make part of it when the playing season comes to an end."

While this situation was true with some locals in the past, experience has taught us all to make necessary provisions at lodge meetings to preclude any more such possibilities. By having an understanding with players that they derive a certain amount of pleasure in playing the game, and the member-players to a lesser degree, and that the lodge has gone to considerable expense to make the team possible—such an arrangement will dispel many mistaken notions entertained by other groups. We have several examples of 100 per cent co-operation of member-athletes within our lodges, who do more than their share in working for the benefit of the local and the Union.

Judging by the reports of individual members published in this week's issue of Nova Doba, duckpin bowling in the state of Pennsylvania again has caught the fancy of SSCU lodges. In 1935 the first national SSCU duckpin tournament was held in Pittsburgh. On May 12 of last year our Union witnessed some thirty teams competing for national SSCU honors. The athletic board of Pennsylvania Federation of SSCU is in charge of the first duckpin tournament, which was with such overwhelming success. Unquestionably the duckpin tournament idea will be repeated this year.

A suggestion to all our English-speaking members, including athletes, when inducing a prospective candidate for membership into our Union:

Consult your local secretary, who will be very glad to explain in detail the three different plans of death benefit certificates offered by our Union, the sick and accident benefits, indemnities, operation benefits and disability benefits.

Your local secretary also has at least three copies available of the booklet "Table of Assessments and Non-Forfeiture Values of Certificates of the South Slavonic Catholic Union," which was prepared essentially to assist members when inducing good prospects to join the SSCU.

In this booklet you will find a detailed explanation of all the plans offered by our Union; the exact non-forfeiture values of the plans "AA," "B" and "C" death benefits applying to each age.

Read the booklet and familiarize yourself with the necessary details.

For Enrolling New Members

What can be accomplished through concerted action was best demonstrated by our members during the year 1935 when our Union realized a net gain of 1437 new members.

Are we going to beat this record in 1936? The answer depends on the response to be given by our members in inducing their friends and relatives to enroll during this year.

Our SSCU offers the following cash awards for securing new members:

- \$4.00 for each new member enrolled for a \$2,000 death benefit.
- \$3.50 for each new member enrolled for a \$1,500 death benefit.
- \$3.00 for each new member enrolled for a \$1,000 death benefit.
- \$1.50 for each new member enrolled for a \$500 death benefit.
- \$1.00 for each new member enrolled for a \$250 death benefit.
- 50 cents for each new juvenile member.

Special Rail Rate From Cleveland to Chicago for SSCU Tournament

Nicke Plate Railroad offers a round trip rate of \$9.40 from Cleveland to Chicago, to Cleveland SSCU members interested in attending the national SSCU bowling tournament which will take place Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19, at Waukegan, Ill.

Train will leave Cleveland at 11:55 p. m. Friday, April 17, and arrive in Chicago Saturday morning 7:35 a. m. From here the visitors can take the elevated to Waukegan.

All Clevelanders interested in making the trip should get in touch either with John P. Lunka, secretary of Betsy Ross lodge, 15413 Lucknow Ave., or the Nova Doba office.

On its return trip the train is scheduled to leave Chicago at 11:20 p. m. Sunday, April 19, and will arrive in Cleveland, Monday morning at 8:00 a. m.

G. W.'s Meet Friday

Cleveland, O.—Members of George Washington lodge, No. 180, SSCU are urgently requested to attend the lodge's meeting which will take place Friday, March 13, in room No. 2 of the Slovene National Home, starting at 8 p. m.

One of the principal items coming up for discussion shall be the second national SSCU bowling tournament scheduled for April 18-19, at Waukegan, Ill. All bowler-members interested in making the trip and participating in the tournament should be present so that plans can be made accordingly.

According to advance information the SSCU tenpin tournament will be the biggest spectacle in sports undertaken by our Union to date. An elaborate program of entertainment awaits the visitors who will be in Waukegan on April 18 and 19.

Entertainment will follow adjournment of the meeting. Our basketball team, which wound up the current season in the Interlodge league will be honored.

As president I want to take this opportunity to thank publicly Mr. John Bukovnik, neighborhood photographer, for his financial assistance which made the GW, SSCU-Bukovnik Studio team possible.

Our meetings this year have been attended mostly by the members who joined our lodge within the last year or so. Others, who have been in the lodge for several years, have made themselves conspicuous by their absence. It is my earnest desire to see all members present so that we can have record attendances. The progress of the G. W. lodge depends upon the whole-hearted co-operation of all members, and I am sure that we can accomplish most if we have the support of all.

John Kardell, Jr., Pres.

Just Can't Find a Job

Old Lady: If you really want work—Farmer Gray wants a righthand man.

Wanderer: Just my luck, lady—I'm left-handed!

There are 70,000,000 acres of forests in Alaska.

Film photography was made possible only because of the fact that cows eat mustard.

BRIEFS

Ohio Federation Convention Committee on Arrangements for the coming 15th quadrennial SSCU session elected the following officers at the meeting held Wednesday, March 4: John Zalar, president; Joseph Grdina, secretary, and John Kardell Jr., treasurer.

The first national Serbian basketball tournament will take place next Saturday, March 14, in the East High School gymnasium of Cleveland. Ten teams representing various parts of the country will battle it out for national honors, and only players of Serbian nationality will be permitted to compete. First game is scheduled to start at 1 p. m. and will continue until 10:30 p. m., and the survivors will play the following day for the Serbian Federation of Pittsburgh and Cleveland Serbian Unity Federation trophies. The following cities will be represented: Cleveland, Akron, Warren, Massillon and Steubenville, O.; Pittsburgh, Aliquippa, Pa.; South Bend, Ind.; Lackawanna, N. Y.; Chisholm, Minn.; Milwaukee, Wis., and Weirton, W. Va. Nick Radlick, prominent Serb leader of Cleveland, is president of the tournament.

Charles Lausche, member of Cleveland George Washington Lodge, No. 180, SSCU, again hit the bowling headlines when he and Frank Franz rolled 1297 to capture the northern Ohio doubles championship. The events were held last week at Linsz Alleys, Cleveland.

Nick Lalich, stellar performer for the Ohio University basketball squad, was nominated to a center position on the All-Buckeye cage team recently by coaches, officials and sports writers for the Associated Press. He led the league with a total of 135 points scored during the season.

John Erjavec, the Slovene white hope from Biwabik, Minn., moved another step upward in his fistic ambitions when he defeated Mickey McAvoy in a four-round feature bout held in Buffalo. Erjavec is staying in Chicago, where he made an impressive showing in the white hope tournament recently.

Michael A. Pavell of Sheboygan, Wis., has entered the race for alderman in the Fourth Ward in the city's primary election to take place March 17. Mr. Pavell is a member of Lodge No. 82, SSCU. Prior to moving to Sheboygan in 1923, the candidate for city office was sanitary inspector for the Indianapolis, Ind., Board of Health and also instructor in citizenship under the supervision of the board of education of that city.

Just Walking

On a mid-July afternoon a man in Chicago was grumbling about the heat. Said another who had just returned from a trip through the South:

"Hot! Boy, you don't know what hot is. One day this week down in the Mississippi I saw a dog chasing a cat, and both were walking."

Center Ramblers

Center, Pa.—The girl bowlers of the Center Ramblers Lodge, No. 221, SSCU, wish to welcome Helen Reghi, a new member and bowler, into their team. I hope Helen will enjoy the regular Tuesday night bowling as much as the other girls. We would also like to see Ann Unterberger back with us.

On Tuesday, March 3, some of the girls bowled better and some not so good. Right, Jennie? Oh, well, that is all in the game. The beginners are still holding their own. Smitty is back up where she was before. For a while she was slipping, but now she is showing us she can still do it. She rolled the high score for last Tuesday of 126. She also rolled the highest average, 110. Pebbles still holds high score of 139 for this season, and Jennie Mozinga the highest average of 123. I am still waiting to see who will beat it. What do you say, girls? I still think someone can do it. Antoinette Mozinga.

Betsy Ross Meets Thursday, March 12

Cleveland, O.—On Thursday, March 12, Betsy Ross lodge, No. 186, SSCU will hold its regular monthly meeting at the Slovene Workingmen's Home, starting at 7:30 p. m.

All members are requested to be present and take part in the discussions. Of particular interest to our bowler-members is the national SSCU bowling tournament which will take place in Waukegan, Ill. on April 18 and 19. At this meeting plans shall be formulated as to what arrangements shall be made for those who wish to participate in the tournament; that is, what means of transportation shall we employ. Shall we travel in a body by rail, or with individual machines?

After the order of business has been disposed, the lodge will follow with a social. Frankie Yankovich, who is well known for his dance music, will play for the members and friends. John P. Lunka, Sec'y.

Michaels Have Big Turnout on Feb. 28 and 29

Claridge, Pa.—The card and bingo party held Feb. 28th went over big as the two floors were crowded to capacity.

Fun was had by all. Watch the subsequent issues of Nova Doba for our next party which will be held soon. Six big prizes were awarded at our last party to winners in cards instead of three due to the large number of tickets sold.

On Feb. 29 our lodge held one of the most successful dances ever held in our town. The committee itself was surprised at the turnout. The three cash prize winners were William Novak of Claridge, first prize of \$10.00; Catherine Moore of Jeannette, second prize of \$6.00; and Anderson of Export, third prize of \$4.00.

The writer wishes to thank all that helped to make this affair a success. Follow the Nova Doba for more of our doings.

John Regina.

As late as 1631 cattle were made to pull crude plows by their tails.

Rollicking Around

With Little Stan

Ely, Minn.—The tide turns, frigid below-zero weather changes and in its stead we have mild, warm weather driven into our fair city by the ever welcome March winds. Soon it will be spring. Mmmm, snow gone, but it is a little too early for Little Stan to turn romantic. Instead he will describe the highlights of the vanishing sport of basketball.

Teams, school, college and local SSCU—are making preparations; in fact are at the minute engaged in championship tournaments. But as Little Stan isn't doing any world-wide traveling, he will stay in his own backyard and tell you what's going to figure in the news.

In the city amateur league, comprised of six local teams, three of them SSCU, the annual championship tournament is scheduled to begin this Wednesday through Friday. It looks like the SSCU is going to repeat. Three strong contenders for city champ honors are seen in the Gophers, Hawkeyes and Rangers. The three teams have been playing somewhat even ball lately. The Kay Jays, first half league leaders, lost a lot of snap during the second half, which, Little Stan might add, followed their winning of the Minnesota Kay Jay championship. As both the Gophers and Hawkeyes beat them by close scores during the past few weeks, and the Rangers eked out one-point wins over the Gophers, and the Hawks kinda evened up—there is no question that the race will be close.

On the other hand, the opposing teams, Italians, Co-ops, are playing fairly good ball, but not consistent. So there you have it. Pick your winners, and Little Stan will just sick back and get the official dope.

And now to indulge in some sense and some nonsense. Lent is here ... and everything is quiet. No dances—lodge affairs at a standstill, excepting that all seven Ely units of the South Slavonic Catholic Union combined efforts in staging a three-act play, "O ta vrazja vdova," at the Washington School auditorium last Sunday. The play, directed ably by Adolph Dolenshak, (juveniles remember him), was a howling success. The cast was headed by Mrs. Mary Rebol and included Joseph Spreitzer Jr., Mary Skule, Jack Smrekar, Frank Likar, Matt Kobe, Mrs. Mary Shepel and Charles Merhar Jr.

Grand entertainment featured the opening scenes, laid in a gypsy camp setting, with Matt Rom, as gypsy leader, heading the list. The audience applauded incessantly as several featured added attractions were presented by the Shepel sisters—Frances, Josephine and Mary; the Harmonica Twisters, comprised of Chester Hillman, Fuddy Glavan and Eino Lasssey; Malji and Elston Nusich, Chisholm, Minn., singers; Peppy Louis Kotzian and accordion, and little Louis Mavetz, young buckaroo singer. Talk about a finished performance! It was grand, entertaining plus! Yes, sir, it takes the SSCU lodges to turn the trick, and kinda help pass away the time during this socially quiet season.

But soon it will be Easter! Ah, young men will slick up in brand-new suits. Possibly some of these loud colors in the modern styles which are taking the country by storm! And the ladies, tsk, tsk, Little Stan is anxiously awaiting the joyful clanging of the Easter bells, ringing in the Easter parade of style. Even in these northwoods that little touch of modern style appears. Do we go for it in a big way? Yes, our eyes are wide open!

Little Stan sees by the papah that plans for the national SSCU convention are being set by Chairman Janko Rogelj and Anton Terbovec. Soon lodges will be electing delegates who will participate in this regular quadrennial affair, representing the thousands of members. Little Stan might relocate that little Austin and kinda mosey down that way. Whoops! But that is still rather distant, so we'll still think about it. And by the way, Little Stan heard tell of a new little Audrey story from Betty Boop—Little Audrey's cousin Agatha thought she had a wonderful voice, and wanted to appear on Major Bowes' amateur program. Her daddy, mother, friends and relations tried hard to raise money to send her to New York. After they had raised sufficient funds, they were somewhat skeptical as to Agatha's chances. But little Audrey laughed and laughed, because she knew that Major Bowes would say, "All right, all right." Heh! heh! and with a smile still lingering on his lips, Little Stan will bid you all Buenos Noches!

Stanley Pechaver,
No. 2, SSCU.

ANNOUNCING THE National SSCU Bowling Tournament FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE SSCU

To Be Held April 18-19, 1936, Waukegan, Ill.

Open to all members in good standing 90 days or more prior to April 18, 1936.

Our Union is offering the following cash prizes:

Men's Division		Ladies' Division
\$40.00	Team Champions	\$20.00
\$20.00	Doubles Champions	\$10.00
\$10.00	Singles Champions	\$5.00
\$10.00	All-Events Champions	\$5.00

Entry fee is \$1.00 per member for each event.

Entries close April 1, 1936.

For entry blanks write to:

Louis M. Kolar,
Athletic Commissioner,
6117 St. Clair Ave.
Cleveland, O.

Can Fraternal Societies Pay Funeral Expenses to Undertakers?

By Richard J. Zaveritnik, Chicago, Ill.

Since the organization of fraternal societies among the Yugoslavs in America, the custom prevailed to pay funeral expenses directly to the undertaker. Members of fraternal societies have taken for granted that the benefit certificate and the by-laws give the society the right to pay funeral expenses directly to the undertaker and deducting this payment from the amount due the beneficiary.

One leading Yugoslav fraternal society, whose officers insist that its charter, benefit certificate and the by-laws gives the society the right to pay funeral expenses directly to the undertaker and then deduct this amount from the benefit going to the beneficiary has the following provisions, to-wit:

The charter reads as follows:

"and to provide death, funeral, sick, accident and disability benefits for its members, which said benefits are to be paid from assessments to be levied and collected from its members as provided for in the by-laws of said Society."

The benefit certificate of the society reads as follows:

"A sum not less than Five dollars and not to exceed Two Hundred and fifty dollars can be paid for his or her funeral expenses and deducted from the full amount."

The by-laws of the organization has the following sections:

(1) "Upon the death of any member in good standing, as provided by the by-laws, the Society shall pay from its death benefit a sum not less than \$5.00 and not to exceed \$250.00 for the funeral expenses. In no case shall more than the amount of the death benefit be paid. The secretary of the subordinate Branch shall file with the Supreme Secretary the death certificate, together with the undertaker's bill sworn to before a notary public, before payment of said sum shall be made."

(2) "Benefit Certificates shall be made PAYABLE to members of the family, beneficiaries, blood-relatives, wife or husband, father-in-law and mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, step-father, step-mother, step-children, step-brothers, step-sisters, legally adopted parents, fiancées, to persons on whom the member was dependent."

(3) No person other than designated in the foregoing section of this article shall be qualified as a beneficiary."

A careful analysis shows that the charter, benefit certificate or by-law marked number 1 give the society no right to pay funeral expenses to the undertaker then deduct this sum from the amount going to the beneficiary as no explicit direction is made therein. These provisions give the society the right to label or earmark certain portions of the death benefit fund as a funeral benefit. By-law marked 2 and by-law marked 3 answer the question to whom the money is payable. These two sections definitely state that the money is payable to the beneficiary coming within one of the classes mentioned within the by-laws.

Even under the charter, benefit certificate and by-laws of this Yugoslav society, funeral expenses must be paid direct to the beneficiary. It only illustrates to us that supreme officers may come and go, yet each succeeding managing board will make the mistakes of its predecessors as to interpretation of the by-laws of its society.

Now let us review this problem from another viewpoint. Let us assume that the benefit certificate and the by-law marked 1, explicitly read that the society has the right to pay funeral expenses to the undertaker and has the right to deduct this sum from the money going to the beneficiary. Let us assume, further, that sections marked 2 and 3 remain the same. This would give us a situation where the benefit certificate and the by-laws are in conflict.

(Continued in Next Issue)

Ramblers' All Star Team Victorious

Center, Pa.—The Center Ramblers bowling teams were challenged by the KSKJ Booster Club of Pittsburgh, and the result was match games played Sunday, Feb. 23, at the Lawrence Recreation Alleys. Our All-Star team won by a margin of 192 pins, coming from behind and taking the third game by 205 pins.

CENTER RAMBLERS

F. Yearn	162	162	170
F. Mozinga	114	189	217
J. Yearm	114	92	
T. Skerl	147	149	191
I. Oblock	147	173	160
Hrvatnik			184
Totals	684	765	920

KSKJ BOOSTERS

J. Stosic	155	97	126
F. Henrica	209	132	149
R. Bezjak	97	159	118
F. Lokar	159	162	153
S. Hudak	124	168	169
Totals	744	718	715

The ladies and Rinky Dinks dropped their match to the Boosters. Talk about strikes and spares: Juke started with a triple, then Al broke loose with four straight, while Skerl took the one-pin spares. Fishey and Shine were holding their own. Juke Mozinga took high honors, bowling 520, and Fishey Yearm came second with 514.

SSCU RINKY DINKS

P. Kron	139	134	
A. Mozinga	111		156
L. Arno	140	140	131
J. Oberch	192	156	106
J. Shanta	121		156
V. Yearm		155	
J. Oberch		123	
Spanyo			113
Totals	703	708	662

KSKJ BOOSTERS

A. Fabec	163	149	104
M. Budiks	206	116	147
J. Smerdel	207	130	129
H. Mrovine	88	151	149
P. Encimer	166	212	102
Totals	826	758	631

Those Rinky Dinks started off like a house on fire for the first five frames, but the razzing got the best of them.

Poor old Brother Smitty and Fuzzy wandered from the alleys and got lost when returning home the next day. It seems as if Fishie had to do all the bowling to keep the team on top, as Juke and I drank coffee, while Dizz and Al were singing "The Music Goes 'Round and 'Round." Pebbles did not fare so well, as she was out too late. Jennie's wonder ball wandered all over the alleys, while Fats and the rest of the girls had their minds on the fellows.

The Center Ramblers bowling team has open dates for match games. All interested write to: Ignatz Oblock, R. D. 1, Turtle Creek, Pa. Telephone Unity 9035-J.

Ignatz Oblock, Athl. Supvr., No. 221, SSCU.

American Citizenship

Barberton, O.—The court's procedure of making aliens into bona fide American citizens is a serious matter and dignified enough, but now and then something happens that causes smiles and even laughter. Take for instance a man whom I know for years. He was getting fairly well with his replies to questions put to him by a federal examiner, until he was asked whether he believes in bigamy. Yes, came the reply. The examiner suspecting that he does not know the meaning of the word bigamy, simplified the question by asking, how many women does he love. Three, came the reply again. By this time the examiner became impatient and asked him in an angry tone: You love three women? Who are they? The applicant became confused, but finally told him meekly that one of them is his wife and that the other two are his daughters. To love his own wife and his own children is of course not a crime, is not against any existing law but a man's virtue. The applicant was then commended as a good husband and father but a poor student of English and told to go back to school.

Now let us look at a scene in judge Oscar Hunsicker court room in Akron, O., where I served as a character witness sometime ago. Before the judge stood a group of applicants for citizenship. One after another they renounced allegiance and fidelity to their former country and their former rulers, and promised that hereafter they will be true to this United States of America. That they will respect our flag, our laws and government. When all official work was done, the judge and all those in court stood up. The judge then made a short speech in which he said: "As you now stand before me, so my father stood some years ago before another judge, taking oath in becoming an American citizen. I must tell you that I am very happy that an opportunity was given me, a son of an immigrant to administer the same oath to others. To you, now new American citizens," the judge went on and named the town and country his father came from. Of how he first learned to talk in his father's language before he knew any English. He said that the first thing he learned in his father's language were the prayers his mother taught him. He then recited said prayers, probably for the benefit of those present that understood what was said, or because he wanted us to know that he is proud of his father and not ashamed of his language. Now if any of you American-born brothers or sisters feel unlucky or less an American because one or both of your parents happen to be foreign born, think of judge Hunsicker, who is well liked and respected. Yes, how much better and happier this great country of our would be, if all men in public places would be like this judge.

Anton Okolish, Char. Jud. Comm. SSCU.

Here, Rover, Here!

"Yes," the teacher explained, "quite a number of plants and flowers have the prefix 'dog.' For instance, the dog rose and the dog violet are well known. Can you name another?"

There was silence, then a happy look illuminated the face of a boy at the end of the class.

"Please, miss," he called out, proud of his knowledge, "colie-flowers!"

Lodge No. 120

Ey, Minn.—All members of lodge No. 120, SSCU are cordially requested to attend our meetings more regularly. On March 15 we will elect three representatives to the Minnesota Federation meeting scheduled to take place March 29, at Eveleth, Minn. As this is the year when our Union shall hold its regular quadrennial convention, it is the duty of all members to attend our meeting, and to voice their opinions on the by-laws.

Rose Svetich, Sec'y.

Gowanda Pathfinders

Gowanda, N. Y.—Pathfinders lance held on Feb. 22d was a great success, and a big surprise to all of us to see such a nice attendance on a cold night. I believe it was one of the biggest, if not the best, attendances of the Pathfinders' affairs. Both halls were packed with people. In the main hall we had Oklahoma Hanks six-piece orchestra playing the popular American numbers; while in the lower hall we enjoyed Slovene music of polkas and waltzes provided by "Loche" Klancar and his accordion.

We had many out of town visitors from Buffalo and Cleveland. Time and space do not permit the mention of the host of visitors. I don't know them all, and like the Irishman who said, "if I only knew where I was to die I would never go near that place." Brother Frank Drobnich and Frank Sodnikar, both from Cleveland, appeared to have a great time at the lance with the Gowanda girls. All the more power to you boys, but just watch out so the kidnapers don't get you. It's leap year, and anything may happen. In last week's issue I noticed an article contributed by Jennie Anderson. She surprised me with her unique style, and for a minute I thought she picked up the Ethiopian language from the Mussolini's Ethiopian war. Keep it up, Jennie, for it is O. K. I wouldn't mind learning that language myself.

Bro. Martin Matekovich is in the hospital where he underwent an operation for the removal of appendix. Bro. Matekovich is secretary of our senior lodge, St. Joseph, No. 89, SSCU. Let us all pay him a visit and cheer him up during his period of recuperation. I am sure he will appreciate it. We all wish Bro. Matekovich a speedy recovery. We can hardly wait for the time when he will be with us again. I hope that I have not offended anyone with this article as this thought is farthest removed from my mind.

Joseph Zummer, No. 222, SSCU.

Lost the Shells

A little boy was carrying home some eggs from the store and dropped them.

"Did you break any?" asked his mother, when he told her of it.

"No," said the little fellow, "but the shells came off some of them."

Costs Too Much

Spinster: Why don't you get married, Mr. Oldbach?

Oldbach: Why marry a woman when I can buy a parrot for \$5?

Spinster: Yes, that shows once more how the men have the advantage of us women. We can't buy any kind of a bear for less than \$200.

Water is now being used in the gold fields of Central Australia as a means of barter or a form of currency—due to the excessive drought.

Vesna Club

Lorain, O.—This is the final notice of the lecture that the Vesna Club is sponsoring on Sunday, March 15 at the Slovene Hall. There will also be a musical entertainment and refreshments will be served after the lecture.

Those on the committee of arrangements are: Jennie Primozic, Chairman, Mary Kanotic, Mary Spanick, Helene Urbas, William Bresak, John Rozanc.

We want to see a large attendance at this affair, so tell your friends about it, for we don't want anyone to regret being absent.

Will be seeing you at the lecture, Sunday, March 15.

Martha Kumse.

Cupid vs. SSCU

By Stan Progar

Springdale, Pa.—From authentic sources comes the flash that during Leap Year the SSCU will witness the marriage of four of its well-known members. In a special interview arranged with Dan Cupid, it was revealed that four romances have already bloomed into wedding plans and a few more seeds had been planted in the garden of bliss. It is Cupid's unbiased opinion that Leap Year is responsible—you know, the hunted turning hunter. Where, Oh, Where...

As to the whereabouts of the four happy couples, we were lost. Once again we turned to Cupid. "My dear little fan, just where are your victims from?" To which Cupid replied, "Oh, yes, I completely forgot to tell you. You see, I was so happy over the four perfect hits that it slipped my mind. It was this way. I visited the Electrons and saw two possibilities. My hits were perfect, and so two weddings for the Electrons. On my way to Ely, Minnesota, my intuition told me to stop at Pittsburgh. Upon spotting a certain Pittsburgher I scored another bull's eye and so there shall soon be a newlywed for the Pittsburghers. I then hurried out to Ely, where my next victim was awaiting. He was the easiest of the four because of his size. There you have it. The fourth is to be in Ely."

"Just a minute please, Dan," I interrupted, "who are the victims?"

"Sorry, but I can't tell," rejoined Dan; "you will just have to wait for a while. You will find out in due time."

East Meets West
"Oh, yes, before I go I must tell you this. Two of the happy couples are planning to honeymoon to Cleveland during the national SSCU convention. One couple will hail from Ely and the other is to be one of four Electronites. I must go now, for I've said more than I expected to. Good day, sir."

Thanks a lot, Danny, for all the information. Here's wishing you luck and more hits during Leap Year.

A Suggestion
There you have it, girls. Leap Year and Cleveland. There's no time like the present, so get the boy friend in a serious frame of mind. They tell me that furniture is cheaper than ever this year and a raise in price is predicted for next year. A perfect honeymoon suggestion: "Spend your honeymoon in Cleveland and enjoy yourself at the Cleveland fair." Get the lowdown on your best friend, the SSCU, at the convention. For more information write to Louis Kolar, care of the Nova Doba, or the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce.

Stan Progar, Pres., No. 228, SSCU.

Blood and Battle Field

A World War Chronicle
BY IVAN MATIČIĆ

From the Slovene by
VALENTINE OREHEK

(Continued from last issue)

The Third Battalion spends the night in the village of Wierzan, where my platoon undergoes another strenuous session in a field the following morning. At last the bugle sounds a welcome half and we drop wearily on an expansive meadow to await the coming of our rations. We are sprawled on the grass, each man absorbed in thought, when the sun suddenly dims in the heavens. To us at that moment it seems an omen surely foreshadowing disaster.

We are brought to our feet presently and started on no one knows whither. Only by the fast dying sun can we reckon that we are being hurried toward the north. The journey like our marching columns is endless. It is well toward midnight before we stop to lie down in the pitchy darkness.

We are marshaled out at 5. While we wait the regiment numbering six thousand men, together with eighteen companies, piled up together around us. There seems no end nor limit to those still coming. When we resume our march the Russian peasants whom we pass stare panic-stricken at our prodigious numbers. They cross and recross themselves in the shadow of the doorways from whence they observe us, while their women and children whimper behind them. Gradually their fears lessen, and taking courage at our harmless bearing and willingness to be friendly, they venture a little from their dwellings. Soon they are bold enough to emerge with jugs of water, black bread, potatoes, fruits and other foods which they offer and place at our disposal.

Our rests are not as long and numerous as we would desire, so we put every halt to good use. The final and last stop for the day occurs just before nightfall. The officers confide that "three corps of Russians have broken over the border and that the Cossacks even now pound the Galician steppes. And from this time on they order us to keep our guns primed for immediate action. Bullet-tipped cartridges are passed out and for the first time we realize that we are part of a real war and not merely parties sent to "entertain bridges or grace the city streets of Lvov. We are also to learn that we are not the corps' reserve force, as had been the implied understanding, but part and parcel of the first line to enter fire. Up before dawn, we are off on our endless way... over boundless steppes and wheat fields, through impoverished villages, over perpetual prairie land.

Tears of pain smart our eyes and we stare vacantly before us. Our arms and hands have grown bruised with bloody callous and hang stiff and heavy at our sides. Our legs are even in worse state and we can hardly drag them as we go. Only the truer shouts of the officers keep us moving toward the unknown goal. It is 1 in the morning before we finally come to rest. The mules carrying our rations draw up and we sit down apathetically to a cold and cheerless meal. It is meager enough, too, for only a fourth of a regulation portion comes to each man. After this we stretch out along the road we have been traveling and go to a troubled sleep.

Next morning, which is the fourth day, we awaken to find ourselves a bundle of tortured nerves. To make matters even worse, our officers forbid us under pain of punishment to accept food or drink from non-combatants. They contend that the stuff is poisoned because these people, as they say, are nothing but traitors anyway. They herd us up and we stumble on once more. Though it is Sunday, they keep us on the march from dawn till dark without an interval of rest. The whip lashes among us, rumbling caissons din their racker into our ears, and the beat of horses' hoofs thunders over all. On every road and as far as eye can see the endless columns move. We halt in Boberk, where we buy ourselves bread, chocolate and Galician wine. We find this town swarming with Jews, who draw aside in groups and observe us covertly and with ill-concealed distrust.

We obey the order to erect our tents with alacrity, for it means rest; and in truth our sleep is sweet and dreamless. It is only with the greatest difficulty that we are aroused. Speaking for myself, I know that I have never found it so hard to attend to a similar command before. Rubbing the sleep out of my aching eyes I note that there is considerable confusion in camp. I don't know what to attribute it to and haven't much time to consider, for we are told to break camp without a moment's delay and to be prepared for instant departure.

The march that ensues proves the worst of all that has gone before. The narrow roads are tight-packed with straining and groaning masses. Men tangle up hopelessly with mules and wagons, and automobile transports honk and trumpet to drive one to insanity. From intense fatigue I have twice given way, and slipping, struck a mule in the rump so that it kicked out from behind. I have made several ineffectual attempts to snatch a moment's rest beside the road somewhere, but each time a particularly malevolent officer discovers and sends me warmly

on my way. At last when almost in despair of finding relief, Lieut. Stenbends a sympathetic ear to my complaint and, pointing to a deep clump of grass, advises me to lose myself within it. Before I leave him he takes a small apple out of his pocket and squeezes it into my hand. I make way to the spot indicated and am soon asleep. I am not here long before an automobile draws up out of the dense crowd in the road and stops close by. Its occupants are most probably members of the high military staff, for I hear one remark heatedly, "Dammed! That ship—not a head among 'em all. The army command, the corps command, the all run by mangled dogs! Why, the haven't slept decently for a week, the food... At this rate the week's got to take everything! And we supposed to engage the enemy with a regiment like that. Whatever happens I give up my share of the responsibility!"

One of this group, casting about for his flashlight, spies me. "Oh, here, have we here? Come out of there, bound! Out, do you hear me?" I hear him well enough, and he, him, too, for he emphasizes his command by hitting me a stinging blow over the head with a bull-whip. His stimulation wondrously knocks my thoughts of weariness from my mind. I scramble to my feet with a special amazement in itself.

"What regiment are you from?" "The 27th." With these words he grab up my haversack and lose myself in the battalion.

For another two days we jostle along and then on the 26th of August, we light upon the Russians near Przemyśl. Entrenched in triple rows, we have been awaiting us for days. The encounter that follows they expect and pepper us right soundly. Incidentally, our regiment and the entire Corps receive their baptism of fire at this instance. In an astonishingly short time all our tremendous plans and preparations are set at naught. A few hours previous we had been firm in conviction that all was in best possible order, now everything is topsy-turvy. Men lie everywhere about you squabbling and twisting in their gathings, blood, and their howls and screams hideous to hear. I am terrified. In my wildest dreams I have never pictured war to be like this and the officers never described it thus; in fact they themselves did not know, for they as painfully surprised as we and they lost their heads completely. They drew us almost from the start and leave commands to callow young cadets, most as stupid as themselves.

So this is the snobbish and disordered Austrian army, which was so certain would level before it, which boasted that it knew no retreat, whose officers repeatedly dinned into our ears that we would crash on and on and never would withstand us, who never mentioned the word retreat.

In a few short hours our regiment is scattered and the Third Corps shattered to its soul. The casualties are enormous and our morale shattered. We sets in and our troops begin to retreat in a hasty retreat. By virtue of this the fact that we are overthrown and beaten, we are firmly convinced that the war is over and that we can return to our homes. That the Austrians have emerged victorious is displeasing to us, for we have no illusions as to our regard for Austria. We reckon too soon and do not realize that the 33d Marching Battalion is coming up to re-enforce us. We know that our regiment will only be wiped away once or twice and thirty times before this war of horrors ceases.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Illi Star Flashes

Chicago, Ill.—With improvement in the industrial conditions in Chicago, the Illini Stars of 211, SSCU are again showing signs of new life which will lead to new achievements. Brother Frank Andreas, who became our member last year, and who our secretary for this coming year, has gotten two new members who will be admitted at the next meeting. Several other prospects, and it appears that we will double our membership during the next three months. Our meeting night has been changed to the Third Tuesday of every month. And the place, Kastner's Hall, 2458 South Crawford Avenue. Our next meeting will be held on March 18th, which will be followed by a social. Every member is invited to attend.

John Zvezich, Sec.

