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St. Vitus Village Progress Report

by STANE KUCHAR

In 1994/95 three parcels of land with four buildings became available for purchase through the Estate of Joseph Smole in the vicinity of St. Vitus Parish, Cleveland, Ohio. The final settlement of the Estate of Angela Perušek during this same period had the majority of proceeds earmarked for the needs of seniors in the same parish. These were the two main events that enabled an idea to provide housing for seniors become a definite and concrete plan.

A new legal entity titled, "St. Vitus Development Corporation," would eventually be established in compliance and approval by the State of Ohio and the Internal Revenue Service as a legitimate and tax exempt, not-for-profit organization.

Over the next five years (1995-2000) architectural plans were prepared and modified a number of times until a definite plan was acceptable. Additional property was purchased with asbestos removed, residents resettled, buildings demolished, and many public and personal meetings held in addition to legislative action that re-zoned this mixed zoning area to a uniform multi-family zoning use.

By July 2000 Bishop Anthony M. Pilla, Diocese of Cleveland, provided final permission to proceed ahead

with construction work on a new three-story European Renaissance style building with 33 living suites that would eventually be named "St. Vitus Village." At the same time Bishop Pilla signed a legal document to guarantee a \$2.25 million loan from Catholic Order of Foresters.

By August 2000 the first signs of this six-year-long planning process began to show visible results as tons of soil were excavated for site preparation regarding initial foundation work. The first layer of thousands of cubic feet of concrete had been poured as hundreds of parishioners, friends, and benefactors attended an all-parish Mass and official ground breaking blessing service on August 27, 2000.

There are not many instances in the life and times of a parish whereby a massive building project is witnessed by many people; and this was one such instance in the 107-year-old history of this first American Slovenian Roman Catholic parish founded in the state of Ohio and Diocese of Cleveland.

More than 400+ persons saw Bishop Pilla bless the ground as he was the first person to turn over the soil along with other attending clergy, members of Pastoral and Finance Advisory Councils, and other invited guests and initial donors for this important community building project.

As months progressed the transformation of old buildings that showed more than its age, began to give way to the first new concentrated housing in the St. Clair Avenue neighborhood in Cleveland in more than 50 years to serve the needs of seniors into the 21st century.

The completion of the foundation and basement gave way to the start of three floors for future residents. By November 2000, masons had nearly completed the walls reaching to the third floor, partitioning off spaces for apartment suites so that in this manner there was a clearer outline of the interior plan. Working closely with the masons were other tradespersons. Cleveland Electric Power installed nighttime security lighting over the construction project.

By December, 2000 snow and cold weather had some-

what slowed the progress of the work. As the weather cleared, however, masons returned to their tasks and finished the east and other wings on the third floor. The trusses and other related materials for the roof had been ordered so that work on this portion of the job could continue.

Throughout January and into February 2000 the roof work continued so much that by mid-February the proposed initial artist rendering

jumped from a drawing to a more evident building. Several notable features of classic style roofs used decades ago displayed themselves on St. Vitus Village, with high peaked decorative dormers, sharp valleys and late Victorian turrets. Several distinctive features also began to appear on the main walls facing Glass Avenue and East 61st Street.

With trusses in place as well as roof sheathing completed, initial roof underlay material, shingles and other type roofing materials were nailed into place. On Feb. 22, 2001 the construction crew of Znid Brothers Construction Co. had the distinct honor to "peak" off the roof with the installation of the top of a small fir tree with both American and Slovenian flags. This customary act signals the end of one phase of work and the beginning of another.

Within the next two-to-three weeks windows and other related materials began to arrive so that by April 3, (Continued on page 5)



END OF A LOT OF WORK – Crew Leader Joseph Znidarsic of Znid Bros. Construction Co. places the Slovenian and American flags on top of a small fir tree for the customary topping of the turret that signals all the roof work is completed. You can still see the flags flying on top of the turret at E. 61 St. The difficult part is climbing up there each morning to water the tree.

Slowind Woodwind Quintet sets Concert at St. Mary's

The Slovene Philharmonic orchestra has a rich musical tradition extending back to its beginnings exactly 300 years ago in 1701. Based in Ljubljana, Slovenia, the orchestra has been under the direction of conductors such as Gustav Mahler, Vaclav Talich, Fritz Reiner and Carlos Kleiber. Clevelanders will have the opportunity to celebrate the 300th anniversary of this great orchestra with a concert by Slowind, a woodwind quintet comprised of soloists from the Slovene Philharmonic.

This outstanding group of internationally recognized musicians will perform a special concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 27, 2001 at St. Mary's Church, Collinwood, 15519 Holmes Ave-

nue in Cleveland. A free will offering will be accepted at the door – suggested donation \$10.00. A reception will follow the performance in the school auditorium.

The Slowind Quintet has toured extensively throughout Europe and participated at festivals in Belgium, Croatia, France, Italy, Austria and Mongolia. They have also performed in the United States in 1999 at Yale University, Swarthmore College in Philadelphia and Trinity Church in New York City.

The ensemble is comprised of Aleš Kacjan - flute, Matej Sarc - oboe, Jurij Jenko - Clarinet, Metod Tomac - horn, and Paolo Calligaris - bassoon.

Turkey, Slovenia Sign Agreement

LJUBLJANA – Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem and his Slovenian counterpart Dimitrij Rupel signed a taxation agreement and a science and technology cooperation accord during a one-day visit by Cem Thursday.

The agreement to avoid double taxation follows on a trade deal between the two countries which went into force last June. Rupel told a news conference after talks between the two ministers.

He said their talks had focused on means of jointly

tackling clandestine immigration.

The two had agreed that an accord to tackle the problem should be formalized as soon as possible, aimed principally at fighting organized crime and returning illegal immigrants to their countries of origin.

Their discussions had also touched on NATO enlargement, enlargement of the European Union, the situation in Cyprus and in the Balkans, he said.

American Home on Web

You can e-mail notices, articles, information directly to the American Home newspaper at ah@buckeyeweb.com

Jim's Journal

By Jim Debevec



Another meeting of the American Home Read Warriors is now in session.

A new wrinkle has been added to the baseball organization in Cleveland. They have opened the availability of tickets for some home games. This marks the first time in about nine years that the team has not sold out all their seats before the season began. This is such an extraordinary phenomenon that the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* newspaper took a photo of a lady sitting behind a window at Jacobs Field selling Cleveland Indians baseball tickets. They put the picture on the front page.

Well, that's nice of the organization. But us true-blue Cleveland baseball fans just have to shake our heads in wonder about all the hoopla.

I remember as a youngster going to the baseball games in the old Municipal Stadium that held some 80,000 people. When the team was hot and in contention for a pennant such as in 1948, there were games that squeezed in 82,000 fans.

But most of the years since then, you would find 3 to 5 thousand people in at-

tendance per game. Personally, I was one of those loyal fans who paid the price of a ticket, took my son along, and we came to enjoy the baseball games.

Since the new smaller stadium was built, the team mostly forgot about us die-hard fans and sold *season* tickets to big corporations who could afford them. They in turn used some of the tickets themselves or gave them away to customers or friends of customers. The rest of us were shut out.

As teenagers, Johnny Turek and I loved to watch the games and we would converse with other fans sitting nearby. You could intelligently discuss the game as it progressed, talk about the players and their batting probabilities, and hitting statistics, and pitchers and their abilities. Those in attendance were black, some not, you were a baseball fan, period.

A few years ago I had my first opportunity to visit Jacobs Field to watch a World Series Game. Before the contest, we walked from center field all around to the right field.

Guess how many black persons we saw in attendance? Two.

While the game was being played, I was shocked to see the difference from the time I had sat at games 10 years ago and now. It seemed that more than 75% of the people were not paying any attention to the activities on the field. It was more of a social event, peo-

ple were walking around, visiting, or concentrating on drinking beer. A lot of folks left early because the home team was losing. Maybe they didn't care because they didn't buy the ticket.

They say there is a lot of support for the Cleveland Indians baseball team, with fans even standing for the entire game. I did not witness any of this, even at a World Series game.

Now that the corporations are not spending as much money as they used to for tickets, the Tribe front office is opening their arms to the ordinary fans.

Well, there are a lot of us loyal fans who supported the team when the corporation types did not think it resourceful. Now that times are not quite so great again, you're asking us back. To coin a phrase, "Nuts." I learned to live without them.

Comments to Jim's Journal, 6117 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103 fax (216) 431-0628; e-mail to ah@buckeyeweb.com

The fresh worker

A young man hired by a supermarket reported for his first day of work. The manager greeted him with a warm handshake and a smile, gave him a broom and said, "Your first job will be to sweep out the store."

"But I'm a college graduate," the young man replied indignantly.

"Oh, I'm sorry. I didn't know that," said the manager. "Here give me the broom - I'll show you how." --Bill Edwards
Phoenix

My 'Invisible' Car

by RUDY FLIS

It has been five months since I picked up my new Mercury Marquis. The odometer shows a little more than 13,000 miles. I love the way my car carries me over the roads. I may see bumps in the road, but I don't feel them; and so it doesn't seem that I've driven so many miles.

If I could change anything on my Merc, it would be its color, "Spruce Green." It looks gray, but I think it's really invisible. Do you know why I think it might be a color which seems to be invisible?

Driving off a car lot in a brand new car is a most cherished feeling to me, which is accompanied with expectations of a happy relationship between me and my car.

Well, it's not been pure happiness like I wanted. On two occasions, once in the month of February and just two weeks past, my heart broke as I looked at the smashed front end of my Merc. Both times my car was stationary when hit.

Both times the drivers of the vehicles which crunched my car, looked back, and then just backed up until they felt a "crunch." Not a good feeling.

The last accident happened as I watched. I saw the young lady put her car in reverse to give a semi-truck room for its wide turn. She turned around, looked in her rear window, did not see me, gave her car gas, and removed part of my grill and bumper, while giving her car a flat tire and right rear fender damage.

Now do you understand why I think my car might be invisible?

As I look at my car in disbelief, I felt sick. The young lady who hit me was apologetic while tears streamed from her eyes.

She had tried to give a trucker a break. Her reward? A traffic ticket and an increase in her insurance.

I looked at her. She made me think of my daughters. I could have said, "Happy Easter," to her, but it didn't come out. What I said was, "Lord, let my car be seen and not hurt."

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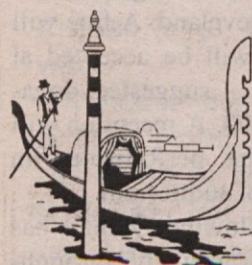
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100 WORDS MORE OR LESS

by John Mercina

The following was sent by a friend who received it via e-mail. Author is unknown.

"Dear Lord"

Every single evening as I'm lying here in bed,
This tiny little prayer keeps running through my head.
God bless my mom and dad, and other family.

Keep them warm and safe from harm for they're so close to me.

And God, there is one more thing I wish that you could do.

Hope you don't mind me asking, bless my computer, too.

Now I know that it's not normal to bless a motherboard,

But listen just a second while I explain to you' My Lord'.

You see, that little metal box holds more than odds and ends

Inside those small compartments rest so many of my friends.

I know so much about them by the kindness that they give

And this little scrap of metal takes me in to where they live.

By faith is how I know them much the same as you

We share in what life brings us and from that our friendship grew.

Please, take an extra minute from your duties up above

To bless those in my address book that's filled with so much love!

Wherever else this prayer may reach to each and every friend,

Bless each e-mail inbox and the person who hits 'send'.

When you update your heavenly list on your own CD-Rom

Remember each who've said this prayer sent up to

God.com.

Amen

Starting Over in America

by ANTON ZAKELJ

translated and edited by
JOHN ZAKELJ

(Continued from last week)

Saturday, Feb. 25, 1956

I signed papers confirming that I will sponsor the Tovornik family when they arrive from Austria.

In the evening, I went to Knaus Hall to listen to Rev. Babnik, an immigrant priest from Belgium. There were 80 people there.

Sunday, Feb. 26, 1956

This evening we went to a concert in the church auditorium.

Monday, Feb. 27, 1956

I dreamed about two snakes - a small one and a large one; I fought with the large snake, but I couldn't hit its head.

I received the second letter from Yugoslavia so far this year - this one from my brother Joze.

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 1956

I bought a used radio to send to my brother Joze. It's better than the one we have. He has sometimes sent me lace, which Cilka sells here (though it's very hard to sell lace here and what we get is not much more than the value of the thread.) Then I buy him things which he can't get in Yugoslavia.

Thursday, March 1, 1956

I worked at the smallest milling machine and, I think, produced a lot of scrap.

Friday, March 2, 1956

Milton says the parts I did are not scrap. Thank God!

This evening, I packed seeds for my brother Stanko and my sister Mici, and then the radio and used clothes for Joze.

Saturday, March 3, 1956

I took the packages to the post office. Ciril writes that they are very happy to get the used clothes I have been sending.

Tuesday, March 6, 1956

I received a first letter from Tovornik and replied immediately.

They are saying our shop will move. Will I lose my job?

Saturday, March 10, 1956

Work has been bad all week. I hurried, but it may have been better if I hadn't worked at all.

Sunday, March 11, 1956

The men in the Holy Name Society went to communion together at this morning's Mass. There were a number of new members, but I haven't joined yet.

We had many friends visiting us at home today, and I became more anxious and nervous. It's not good for me to have too many visitors, but I don't feel I can tell people not to come. This

evening, I took a walk along E. 79 to Superior and back along E. 61 St.

Monday, March 12, 1956

I went to work, but stopped at 10, because I felt too sick. Dr. Ukmar gave me two shots and two kinds of medicine for \$10. I've lost my appetite for food.

Tuesday, March 13, 1956

I slept well and felt better, but I decided to take another day off.

(To Be Continued)

'The Wanderer Returns' to Zarja's Euclid Stage

The Zarja Slovenian Singing Society will have their annual spring concert on Saturday, April 28th at the Slovenian Society Hall on Recher Avenue in Euclid, Ohio.

We extend an invitation to all our friends and family to join us for a happy program of songs. What can be more beautiful than to hear a Slovenian song that gladdens the heart? Slovenes are, indeed, people who love to sing and listen to good music. This is evident if we look around our community. There are many choral groups and orchestras, and we can see that music and song are great witnesses of the love of music which we Slovenians carry in our hearts. Music accompanies us throughout our entire lives.

If you really wish to return to your youthful days, all this will move you most beautifully through music. It will bring you back to your most treasured times when you courted and dreamt of that young maiden, and how you could make her cling to you, even though mama looked at you sideways.

A pleasant program will be presented under the direction of Doug Elersich, accompanied on the piano by Jim Markel, and with the assistance of audio and stage manager Ed Ozanich. Translations of some of the music into English was done by Sophie Elersich and former member Edwin Polsak. This enables the younger

audience to appreciate the story while keeping other music in Slovenian which attracts our elder audience.

You will meet Rudi, our wanderer, who returns home upon the pleas of his mother Marica. Why was she so adamant about his coming back home this year? The plot will unfold during the village's annual Trgatev Reunion. You will meet others who have come from as far away as Australia, the land of Koala bears and dingoes; the gondolier from Venice, Italy. Interspersed throughout the story will be a variety of melodies by Lojze Slak and V. S. Avsenik, and some specialty duets and quartets.

The evening will begin with a delicious dinner beginning at 5 p.m. The program will begin at 7 p.m.

followed by dancing from 8 p.m. until ?, with music provided by the Jeff Pecon Orchestra. Liquid refreshments will be available after the concert.

Tickets for the affair are \$18 and may be reserved by phoning Vicki Kozel at (216) 531-5542; or Barbara Elersich at (440) 257-2540. An answering machine will take your message. Please remember to state your name, phone number and how many tickets you want. Prepayment is requested to assure seating. Mailing details will be given when you call. Tickets are also available at the Polka Hall of Fame and any Zarja member.

All the talented actors and singers hope that you, the audience, will thoroughly enjoy the event. We thank our many friends for your continued support. You help us keep alive and preserve the traditions, music and customs of our Slovenian heritage. And remember, we'll keep singing as long as you keep coming.

--Marion Bocian,
Publicity

Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

The annual meeting of members of the **SLOVENE HOME FOR THE AGED** will be held on Friday, May 18, 2001 at the **SLOVENIAN WORKMEN'S HOME** 15335 Waterloo Road, Cleveland, Ohio

Registration: 7:00 p.m. - Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Members are cordially invited to attend this important meeting. Members, as defined in the Bylaws, are those individuals and organizations who have contributed a minimum of \$25 during the preceding year. For the 5/18/01 meeting, this is the period from 4/1/00 through 3/31/01.

Dr. Mirko Vombergar D.D.S.

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People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want and if they can't find them, make them.

—George Bernard Shaw

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SLOVENE FOLK TALES

by DUŠICA KUNAVER

PETER KLEPEC

(Continued from last week)

He saw a charming girl sleeping in the grass. She wore a long white dress, had long golden hair and a wreath of flowers on her head. The sun was shining straight into her face. It was hot, too hot for the lovely face of the unknown girl. Peter brought some fresh leafy branches and put them around the girl's head as a green roof, to protect her from the sun.

Peter forgot his sheep. He just stared at the sleeping beauty. She was the most beautiful thing he had ever seen in his life. He did not know that the girl was a mountain fairy.

When the fairy opened her eyes, she was surprised to see a green shelter around her face. She guessed that was the work of the shy, silent boy who was standing there, looking at her.

"Thank you, Peter," the fairy said, "you are a kind and gentle boy. What can I do for you? I wish to thank you for your kindness."

When Peter heard these words, he remembered his lost flock of sheep and he remembered his cruel and wicked comrades.

"My wish is great, greater than you expect, good lady," Peter answered.

"Tell me," the fairy encouraged him. "I will do for you whatever you wish."

Peter said: "I wish to be as strong as the other shepherd boys. I wish to be even stronger than those who make my life more intolerable every day."

"Follow me," the fairy said and took him to a big rock, to a spring of water.

"Drink this water," the fairy ordered and offered him water in her cupped hands.

When Peter drank the water, he felt a strange power flow into his hands. There was a birch tree growing nearby. He grasped it and pulled it out by the roots.

The fairy offered him a second draught. When he drank it, he was strong enough to pull a fir tree out of the ground.

After the fairy's third offer of water Peter lifted a huge rock high above his head.

Peter's sincere wish had been fulfilled. Now he was happy. He wanted to thank the lovely, unknown girl, but she had changed into a cloud and disappeared. Now Peter

understood that she was a mountain fairy.

Peter still looked as thin and as weak as before, but he was very strong. He was the strongest and most vigorous boy in all of Slovenia.

Peter found his sheep and went towards the village. He sang on the way down from the mountains. His song was happy, gay and loud. When the shepherd boys heard him, they wondered what had happened. Peter was such a timid, frightened boy, why was he singing so loudly and happily now? The shepherd boys were thirsty. It was hot.

"Where have you been for so long, Peter?" they cried when they saw him coming.

"Bring some water, Peter, quickly."

"You go and get it yourself, if you want to drink," Peter answered. The shepherds opened their mouths in surprise.

"Look here, Klepec. How dare you! Would you like to feel the force of our fists?" They threatened.

"Come here, if you wish to feel mine," Peter answered.

The boys burst into laughter. Is Peter mad, or does he really wish to be beaten? They jumped on him. They caught him and started to beat him. But Peter grasped the nearest boy and swung him through the air. The boys stopped and stared. Where did this strange power come from?

They cried out in fear and ran away. Peter pulled out a birch tree and ran after them waving it back and forth to drive them away, but he didn't hurt them. He was too good at heart to hurt anybody. Even now when he was strong he was no less kind and gentle than before. He forgot all the ugly and insulting words the shepherd boys had said to him when he was weak. He did not think of revenge, nor did he want to be a shepherd any more. He drove the sheep to his master, took his bundle and went off home to his mother and Rogačka.

When his mother saw him, she was scared: "Did your master drive you away?"

"I left him," Peter said, "I will live here with you, Mother. We won't part any more."

"What are we going to live on?" his mother asked, she was worried.

"I am going to clear this land of stones," Peter said, looking at the stony ground around their hut. "We'll sow wheat, I will take the grain to the mill, and you will make white bread. That is how we are going to live from now on."

"How will you clear this land of stones, my boy? You are too weak for such work."

"Look Mother," Peter said as he lifted a huge rock and threw it far away. His mother stared and didn't say a word. She was too happy.

As Peter said, so it happened. He cleared the land of stones and turned it into fertile soil. His mother made good white bread. They were never hungry again. They loved each other and lived happily ever after.

In those days our country of Slovenia suffered terribly. The cruel Turkish troops kept attacking Slovenia. They killed people and burnt their homes. They showed no mercy.

Bonfires lit up the country again. Bonfires (Kres) on the tops of the hills were the sign that warned of the Turkish invasion and attacks.

(To Be Continued)

St. Vitus Slovenian School Mother's Day Program

St. Vitus Slovenian Language School will present its annual Mother's Day program in St. Vitus Church after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 29.

After the program you are invited to the church basement for a social.

Everyone is welcome to the program.



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Did You Know That...

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes. If the horse has all four feet in the air, the sculptor is being considered for sainthood.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

"I am." is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

Hershey kisses are called that because the machine that makes them looks like it's kissing the conveyor belt, and makes a smooching sound.

No NFL team that plays

its home games in a domed stadium has ever won a Super Bowl.

The only two days of the year in which there are no professional sports games (MLB, NBA, NHL, or NFL) are the day before and the day after the Major League All-Star Game.

Nursery rhyme "Ring around the Rosey" is a rhyme about the plague. Infected people with the plague would get red circular sores (Ring around the rosey). These sores would smell very bad, so common folks would put flowers on their bodies so they would cover the smell of the sores. (a pocket full of posies). People who died from the plague would be burned so as to reduce the possible spread of the disease (ashes, ashes, we all fall down).

What separates "60 Minutes" on CBS from every other TV show? -- No theme song.

--Bob Mills
Cleveland, Ohio

CHICKEN CROQUETTES

- 1 cup cream
- 2 cups chicken, chopped fine
- 2 cups bread crumbs
- 4 eggs, well beaten
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon onion juice

Combine cornstarch and butter, -- beat well. Combine with cream in saucepan, and cook until thickened. Add chicken, salt, pepper, onion juice & ½ of beaten eggs, -- mix well. Let cool, shape, dip in eggs and then crumbs; -- and fry in hot oil.

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Slovenia, Indianapolis cagers reach accord

by CONRAD BRUNNER

From:
http://www.pacers.com/.

INDIANAPOLIS – When Donnie Walsh looked across the negotiating table at Radovan Lorbek, in many ways he saw himself.

As General Manager of the Union Olimpija basketball club in Ljubljana, Slovenia, Lorbek fights many of the same battles as Walsh, the President of the Indianapolis Pacers. Like Indianapolis, Ljubljana is a relatively small market trying to compete with some of the world's great cities for both talent and revenue. Like the Pacers, Union Olimpija is trying to develop as many young players as possible to establish a stronger base for the future.

And so Walsh, who first made the trip to Slovenia to meet with Lorbek over the rights of first-round draft pick Primož Brezec, decided to expand the relationship between the two clubs. Lorbek agreed. As a result, the Pacers and Union Olimpija have reached an informal agreement to exchange information not only about player prospects in their respective realms, but about franchise operations in general.

"Because of our selection of Primož, I had the opportunity to meet with the owner and the general manager, Radovan Lorbek, of Union Olimpija," said Walsh. "In the course of our negotiations over Primož we talked about es-

tablishing an informal relationship where we would share information on all aspects of our organization with Union Olimpija and in turn they would share information with us about players in Europe. We'll also keep them informed on players here in America that they could use."

Lorbek was in Indianapolis on Monday and Tuesday to meet with Walsh, Senior Vice President for Basketball Administrator David Morway and other key executives in various departments of the front office.

"What we need is information about (American college) players who have the ambition to be NBA players, but they are on the edge," Lorbek said. "We think the European League is second to the NBA and it is the best place to prepare for the NBA."

"They need the same thing from us - information about talents in Europe. In Europe, we have a good reputation and a lot of talent is looking to come to us. That's where we can help Indiana with information. They are in the same position that we are with the European League - a small city competing with big ones, in our case Athens, Barcelona, Istanbul, Madrid, Berlin, Milan, Belgrade, Moscow and others.

"Like the Pacers, we have to work twice as hard for half as much."

European players have become increasingly prominent in NBA scout-

ing plans in recent years, and will continue to do so as domestic talent continues to enter the league at younger and younger ages - and are therefore less prepared to contribute immediately.

Five former Union Olimpija players (Brezec, Vladimir Stepania, Soumalia, Samake, Marko Milic and Radoslav Nesterovic were drafted by NBA teams in the past four years.

"A player in Europe gains almost as much experience in one season as an American college player does in four," said Lorbek. "I am sure the quality of practice is better than in Europe, but nothing can replace the experience of playing in the games. That's why Europe is coming closer and closer."

Lorbek is also interested in a number of other facets of the Pacers' operations, from the fitness and training regiments of the players to marketing promotions, sales and facilities management.

"We have a lot to learn," Lorbek said. "Above all, we are interested in information."

Lorbek will return with his full staff for the Pacers summer camp July 11-16 and will then accompany the team to Boston for Summer League play.

Thanks to Paul Barbarich of Indianapolis for submitting this article.

St. Vitus Village...

(Continued from page 1)

2001 all the functioning windows had been installed as well as all garage doors for the 11 indoor parking garage spaces (with another 22 outdoor parking spaces to be available).

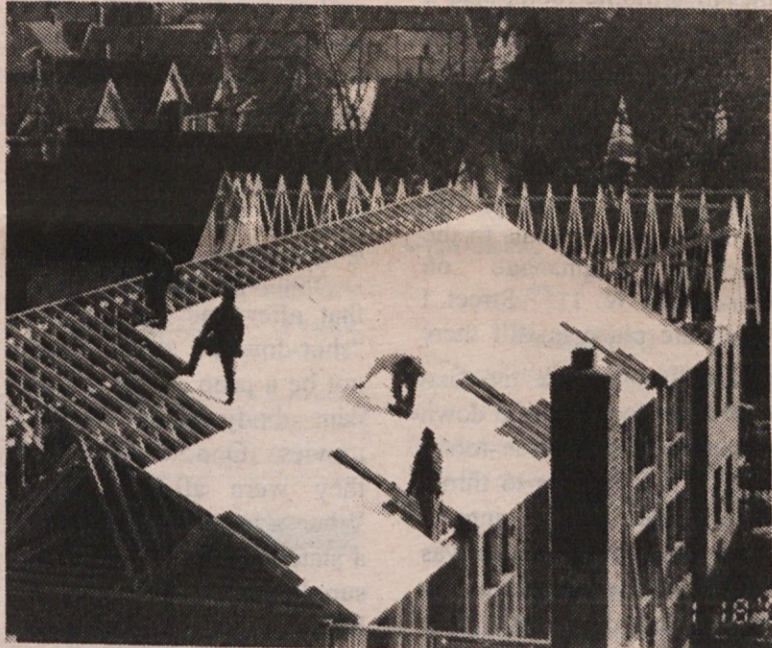
The roughing work for the walls, hallways, and suites have been completed as well as a large portion of initial electrical wiring work. Some of the suites also have the beginnings of drywall sections already installed. Work is continuously progressing ahead with even the construction of an actual and working Slovenian "peč on the first floor.

On September 1 and 2 the parish of St. Vitus is planning a two-day celebration with the official and ceremonial dedication and renaming of Glass Avenue to Lausche Avenue in honor of the late parishioner and U.S. Senator, Frank J. Lausche. This two-day event over the Labor Day holiday weekend is to be a family friendly and home-coming event for many current and former parishioners and friends of

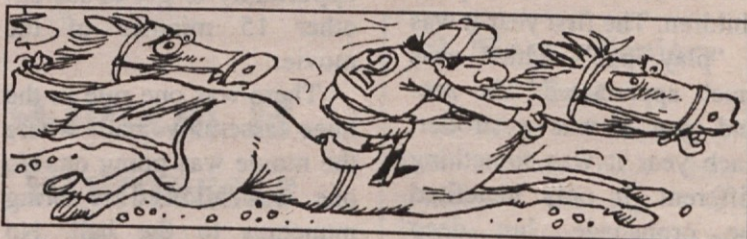
the parish as well as the broader community. There will be much entertainment and well-prepared food. More news will follow in the American Home newspaper. A special treat referred to as the "Josie Godic Dinner Special" is being planned, with the famous red quarter shaped "token" tickets.

The readers of the American Home are asked to continue praying for the safety of all workers, volunteers, and parish staff actively involved.

On a closing note, June 16 is being targeted as "Joining Hands Day" sponsored by the National Fraternal Congress of America whereby parishioners, friends and other like-minded individuals or fraternal lodges/organizations may perform a community service for this parish project. The first group to accept this challenge is the St. Ignatius Adult Men's Group, consisting of 13 professional individuals who will work in the morning on this project. More information on this volunteer day in a future edition of the American Home.



THE ROOF WORK BEGINS – Trusses had been installed and the work of placing sheathing boards began in earnest by early January 2001 on the roof of St. Vitus Village. This was completed by the construction crew of Znid Bros. Construction Co. Trusses and boards were hoisted into place by a three-plus story set of cranes.



The first horse to win racing's "triple crown" was Sir Barton in 1919. The triple crown consists of the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness and the Belmont Stakes.

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Against Cleveland Tax Levy

Editor,
The proposed property tax levy to finance bonds for repairs and renovation of the Cleveland public school buildings won't improve education; it will only perpetuate a failing system. If we want to improve the schools, we will get the government out of education so the free market can provide it. One way to get government out of education is to cut its funding. So let's defeat Issue 14 on May 8.

Under government financing, there is no connection between performance and revenue. No matter how bad a tax-funded school is, it will always receive funds. There are no consequences for poor performance, no competition for education dollars, no incentive to be good. Just more money.

Government schools also make decisions based on politics, not academics; becoming political footballs.

Conversely, if schools must satisfy paying customers, they will have to provide a quality product or go out of business. Thus, meeting the educational needs of customers becomes all important.

The only proper, moral role for government is to protect life, liberty, and property from the abuses of others. Not to provide schools. Not to do for people what they can't do for themselves. Not to try to legislate away risks.

This (or any) tax for education has nothing to do with government's proper duties. Therefore, on May 8 we should defeat the proposed property tax increase to finance the bonds to pay for repairs and renovation of the Cleveland public school buildings. Let's make this defeat the first step in separating school and state.

--Joseph M. Ogrinc
Bratenahl OH

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Well, before the school bell rings, time out for a couple of jokes. A couple went into a pet store to buy a canary. They told the salesman the bird had to be a good singer. They heard a canary singing loudly and remarked, "It's beautiful and it sings great..." But when the salesman took the bird from the cage the couple said, "Hey, it has only one leg." "What do you want?" the salesman asked, "A singer or a dancer?"

OK, one more. The teacher asked the students, "If you had 10 potatoes and had to divide them among 12 people, how would you do it?" One bright child replied, "Mash 'em."

Well, let's get back into the classrooms of John Marshall, my alma mater. While at Marshall, either the first period or the second was what they called "Home Room." In most cases, you had the same Home Room Teacher during the entire four years. My home room teacher was Ms. Pionatowski, the woman gym teacher for the girls. She was good in home room. It seems that most home rooms had a project throughout their four years at Marshall, a project that the Home Room Teacher and the students decided on together.

Our project was to furnish gifts on a yearly basis to the Christian Orphanage on Lorain and W. 115th Street. I think the place is still there today. I got stuck the first two years to go up and down the aisle of the home room, asking the students to throw their loose change into a box. Granted, not much was collected, because kids in those days had very little pocket change to begin with. Fortunately, each day's gross was anywhere from 35 to 60 cents.

Towards the end of the school semester, we would appoint a committee to go out and purchase something in need for one of the orphan children. The first year it was a "play pen" which was much appreciated. The second year it was a stroller. Each year it was something different. It only benefited the orphanage, but deep down it gave the students a sense of accomplishment, for they had seen that with a

little effort on our part by sharing our pennies, nickels and dimes, we were able to make a difference in some little child's life. Home room was set aside primarily to take attendance, make special announcements of events coming up in the school's calendar of events. It was also in home room that you were able to purchase your school bus passes on Thursdays only and also purchase the daily movie tickets as well as tickets to basketball, football games, and special plays that were put on by the school.

Movie tickets were cheap, only two cents per ticket for watching 15 minutes of a movie during your lunch period. Movies were shown the last 15 minutes of a school's allotted 45 minute school lunch break.

Back in the early 1940s there was no such thing as R-rated movies. By the same token, the teachers who monitored the showing of the movie, did not put up with any shenanigans. If you yelled out some sly remark about some love scene going on in the movie, the teacher yelled out to the projection booth to shut down the movie. That was it. She would say that when you students learn to keep your remarks to yourself, then, and only then will the movies be shown.

You can be rest assured that after one or two such "shut-downs" there would not be a peep out of the student body watching the movies. One would think they were all in church. When a teacher spoke, made a statement, you can rest assured that the student body listened and behaved accordingly.

It seems that the 15 minutes of movie time always went by so fast and it seemed it always ended at a most exciting time and students could hardly wait until the next day for lunch and an opportunity to get to see another 15 minutes of the movie.

There was one rule in the huge assembly hall where the movie was going on. No one was allowed to bring munchies to the hall. No candy bars, ice cream bars, for they felt the school could

not take the time to clean the assembly hall after the movies were shown. And that rule was observed.

I can also recall that throughout the hallways on the three floors, there was never any loose papers, or wrappers on the floor. The reason was there was always some school teacher in the hallway, just watching for such things such as someone throwing papers and wrappers on the floor. You can rest assured that if you got caught, only God himself could help you. You were told to stay after the ninth period and help the custodian sweep all the hallways and no excuses were valid, even if you had an "after school job."

With those rules and punishment, you can rest assured the place was generally spotless.

Well, there goes the bell, time for closing this segment of John Marshall School days. Until we meet in the classroom again in a week or so, "May the good Lord bless and watch over each of you."

First-Rate Healthy Snacks

- Air-popped popcorn seasoned with herbs
- Bagels
- Breadsticks
- Broth-based soups
- Cereals, low-sugar, low-fat
- Cocoa, low-sugar, low-fat
- English muffins
- Fresh fruit
- Frozen fruit-juice bars
- Gingersnaps
- Graham crackers
- Low-fat or nonfat frozen yogurt
- Matzoh
- Milk shake of low-fat milk and frozen fruit
- Pita chips with salsa
- Plain nonfat yogurt with fruit and cinnamon
- Pretzels
- Rye crisps or rice cakes thinly spread with peanut butter or low-fat cheese
- Sorbet
- Tabbouleh
- Vegetables marinated in vinegar or dipped in low-fat yogurt seasoned with herbs
- Whole-wheat crackers.

Remember: Weight control is a learned behavior.

New Bethlehem, PA Police Commissioner is Slovenian

Captain Frances R. Donchez, Jr., of the Bethlehem, PA Police Department was recently named as the new Police Commissioner, succeeding Eugene Learn, who retired effective April 3.

Donchez, 41, joined the Bethlehem Police Department in 1981 after serving as a police officer for several years in Hallertown, PA. He then served as patrol sergeant until 1994 after which he supervised Special Operations.

He was promoted to lieutenant in 1997 and served in the administrative division until named Captain of the Community Services Division in 2000.

He graduated from Freedom High School in Bethlehem in 1977; Northampton Community College in 1979; the Allentown Police Academy in 1980, and Moravian College in 1987 with a Bachelor's Degree in Management.

He is scheduled to graduate in May from the Temple University School of Law in Philadelphia.

The new Commissioner is mainly of Slovenian

ancestry. His paternal great-grandparents were Slovenians who emigrated to the United States from Boreca and Budonci in Prekmurje, and Szechenyifalva and Orfalu, Vasmege in Hungary.

His maternal grandmother came to the U.S. from Dolenci. His maternal grandfather was Croatian and came to the U.S. from Hercegovina.

Donchez and his wife, Beverly (also partly of Slovenian ancestry), are the parents of two sons: Nathan who is in the 11th grade at Bethlehem Catholic High School and Jacob who is in 4th grade at Notre Dame of Bethlehem Catholic School.

His parents are Francis R. and Rose M. (Mandie) Donchez. His paternal grandfather was Frank S. Donchez (deceased) who retired from the City of Bethlehem Police Department in 1964 as Captain of Traffic. After retiring from the City of Bethlehem, he went on to become head of campus security for Lehigh University for 10 years.

His paternal grandmother was the late Julia Sinko.

Change of Address

When moving, please fill out this form and mail it to us so you will continue to receive the American Home uninterrupted and we won't have to pay 60 cents (postage due) for each returned newspaper.

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Address _____

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State, Zip + 4 code _____

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Dan Cosic — Joseph Zevnik -- Directors

Death Notices

ELIO ERZETIC

Elio Erzetic, 67, of Wickliffe, Ohio died suddenly April 19th in South Carolina while vacationing with his family.

He was born in Visnjevik, Slovenia. He worked as a machine set-up man for the Parker Hannifin Corp. in Wickliffe for 40 years before retiring in 1997.

He was a member of the St. Clair Rifle Club, Waterloo Balinca Club, Wickliffe IFA Bocce Club, Slovenian Society Home, and the Primorski Klub.

Mr. Erzetic is survived by his daughter Melissa (Timothy) Connolly of Mentor; grandchildren Sean and Tess, siblings Jelica Kenda, Savina Sfiligoj, and Andrej Erzetic, all of Slovenia.

His wife Marie (nee Longino) and brother Jozef, are deceased.

Funeral Mass was held on Wednesday, April 25 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church. Interment in All Souls Cemetery.

Family received friends at the Dan Cosic Funeral Home.

VIDA SFILIGOJ

Vida Sfiligoj, 89, of Willoughby Hills, Ohio, died April 14, 2001 at the Hospice of the Western Reserve in Cleveland.

She was born in Medana Vas in Slovenia. She lived in Cleveland before moving to Willoughby Hills 43 years ago.

She was a member of the Primorski Klub and the St. Noel Fellowship Club.

Her husband, Vincent, died in 1990. She is survived by her son, Joseph (wife Patricia) of North Olmsted; grandson Eric (wife Shelly); and sisters Olga Simcic of Slovenia and Milka Ruggeri of Italy.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, April 18 at St. Noel Church. Interment in All Souls Cemetery.

Family received friends at The Dan Cosic Funeral Home in Willoughby Hills.

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In Memory of Anna Kokalj

A nice hello from sunny Florida.

My mother, **Anna Kokalj**, passed away on Sunday, January 28, 2001 in Dom Lipa, Canada. She was 91-years-old.

She respected the Ameriška Domovina all her life and it was her friend.

She came to this part of Ontario, Canada in 1954 but because of her age she could not learn the English language. She waited for the Ameriška Domovina every week.

For all who prayed for her and who expressed condolences and attended the Mass for her, we want to thank everyone.

We collected some contributions for the American Home newspaper

from her friends staying in Florida. They are:

Pavel and Slavka Intihar of Wickliffe, Ohio,

Gino and Anica Bremec from Willowick, Ohio,

Marija Brodnik of Willoughby, Ohio,

Marija Hočevar of Richmond Heights, Ohio,

Tone and Cilka Svigelj of Wickliffe, Ohio,

Franc and Tončka Urankar of Richmond Heights, Ohio.

A total donation of \$150.00 is enclosed for the Ameriška Domovina.

Thank you and God bless you all!

--Anna Plosinjak
(daughter)

Sudbury, Ontario
and Florida

Donation

Thanks to **Mrs. Anthony Ravnik** of El Cerrita, CA who renewed her subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mrs. Frances Masar** of Mentor, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus added an extra \$10.00 as a donation in memory of her parents, **Joseph and Frank and Frances Pernach** who are gone, but not forgotten.

She writes, "Always enjoy reading the news of my old neighborhood where I grew up. The articles by the various contributors bring back very fond memories of the "good old days."

In Memory

Thanks to **Joseph and Josephine Baskovic** of Willoughby Hills, Ohio who gave a \$25.00 donation in memory of parents **Joseph and Rose Baskovic and John and Frances Roznik**.

Donation

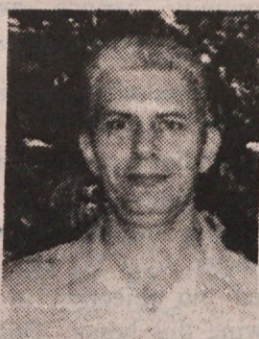
Thanks to **John Dejak** of Gates Mills, Ohio who renewed his subscription plus added a \$30.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Anne Doles** of Euclid, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Frank Doles**.

There is no lesser or greater gift if the gift is love.

In Loving Memory



William H. Plymesser

15th Anniversary
April 28, 1986

We'll meet again someday, I know

Beyond the distant blue
But until then, my dearest one,

I'll always think of you... and
So I live with thoughts of you...

And all you meant to me... and

Always I can feel you near...
If just in memory

Sadly missed by
Wife, Sylvia
Brother, John

In Memory

Thanks to **Joe and Karen Zigman** of Willowick, OH who renewed their subscription plus added a \$30.00 donation in memory of wonderful and beloved parents **Martin and Kathy Guist and John and Mary Zigman**. They wrote a nice note on a *Monet* card, "My husband appreciates his Slovenian heritage and though I am a Transylvanian Saxon, I grew up in the beloved Slovenian neighborhood on St. Clair and I feel as "Slovenian" as anyone whose parents are Slovenian. My husband and I continue to enjoy the paper and all of the articles and stories."

Donation

Thanks to **Jennie Mramor** of Euclid, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation "Towards the ever escalating postage, gas and newsprint prices which you are underwriting. The first thing I read is, "Jim's Journal." Keep it going.

In Memory

Thanks to **Dorothy Zupcsan** of Madison, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$10.00 donation in memory of **Anton and Marjanca Debevec, and George and Julia Grabelsek**.

Donation

Thanks to **Donna Ohman** of Cleveland who renewed her subscription and added a \$10.00 donation!

Donation

Thanks to **Dr. Marieta Jamsek Tehlirian** of West Bloomfield, MI who renewed her subscription plus enclosed a \$20.00 donation with the note, "I enjoy reading the paper with well-balanced content."

St. Mary's Seniors Meet

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Seniors will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 1st at 1 p.m. in St. Mary's School Auditorium on Holmes Ave. Surprise guest speaker.

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In Memory

Thanks to **Bertha Dovgan** of Euclid, Ohio who renewed her subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation in memory of her husband, **Joe Dovgan**.

Donation

Thanks to **France Hren** of Richmond Heights, Ohio who renewed his subscription plus added a \$20.00 donation.

In Memory

Thanks to **Mrs. Florence Mirtel** of Garfield Heights, Ohio who donated \$20.00 in memory of the **Living and deceased members of Branch #101, SWU**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Frank Boh** who renewed his subscription plus donated \$20.00 in memory of **Joseph and Zalka Boh**.

In Memory

Thanks to **Marie Orazem** who renewed her subscription plus donated \$20.00 in memory of parents, **Joseph and Frances Orazem**, and sisters **Frances Novak and Ann Zak**.

In Loving Memory of the 26th Anniversary



John J. Urbancich

Died April 29, 1975

26 years have passed since that sad day
When the one we loved was called away.

God took him home -
it was His will
But in our hearts -
he lives, still.

Sadly missed by:
Wife, Dorothy,
Daughter, Madeline Debevec
Son, John M.,
and families

In Loving Memory

Of the 11th Anniversary
our Mother,
Grandmother, and
Sister



ANNA M. ZAK

Passed away April 30, 1990

Your memory to us is a keepsake,
With which we will never part
Though God has you in His keeping,
We always have you in our heart.

Sadly missed by
Daughter: Betty
Sons: Norbert J. and Michael J.
and other relatives
Cleveland, OH, April 26, 2001

by STANE KUCHAR

Over the past two months I have been approached by a number of people seeking my thoughts and opinion on the proposed honorary doctorate to be given by Cleveland State University to Republic of Slovenia president and Slovenian Communist Party member, Mr. Milan Kučan.

The entire process has been a bizarre event as the actual sequence of events until the last month have been performed in a closed atmosphere by a public institution that is supposed to act in an open manner.

What is the background of Milan Kučan and just what are the facts? There are several basic and general background factors about Mr. Kučan.

Milan Kučan was born in 1941 in the Prekmurje town of Krizevci. While he was a student in the city of Murska Sobota he freely and knowingly joined the League of Communists. Milan Kučan is and remains until this day a member of the Slovenian Communist Party that has changed its name a number of times since 1990 but is currently known under the political party name of "United List of Social Democrats" (Združena Lista socialnih demokratov - ZLSD.)

After his graduation from the Ljubljana Faculty of Law in 1963 (note: law as understood in terms of a Marxist-Leninist society and not as understood in Western civilization) he became primarily involved in politics to the point that he became a member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Slovenia and served as President of the Slovenian Assembly.

By 1982 he returned to political activities of the League of Communists, and in time went to Belgrade, Yugoslavia as one of two Slovenian representatives in the Presidency of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. By the time he returned to Slovenia he was elected (circa 1986) President of the Central Committee of the Slovenian League of Communists. This means that Mr. Kučan had and was a key figure in either maintaining or reforming a totalitarian society that controlled its populace through political mechanisms.

The third fact is that during the so-called purge of "Liberal Slovenian Communists" in the 1970s Mr. Kučan freely did not address

nor request a more open and democratic society in Slovenia. He did not join dissidents, such as Dr. Joze Pučnik, who were exiled from Slovenia or stripped of their rank or position. In contrast, as noted above, Mr. Kučan rose in the Communist Party hierarchy and effectively became one of the high ranking party members who enforced and kept the Party in control of the media, security forces (military and police), economy and other major institutions in Slovenia away from democracy and toward a totalitarian state.

Fourth, Milan Kučan, along with current Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek, have been adamant opponents toward the approval and voted January 1991 enactment to privatize, denationalize and return stolen property to the rightful owners. In remarks made by Lord Harris of High Cross (British Parliament) April 28, 1998, said the following, "Under President Kučan and Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek there have been endless legal delays and administrative procrastination indicating a rooted reluctance to return property that would obviously strengthen the independent enterprise sector and reduce political control of the economy."

The process by the Cleveland State University (CSU) board of trustees, under the leadership of its chairman, Mr. David Hill, LPA, went through the normal process of investigating and wending opinions about bestowing on what is considered as either an academic or community service award but more so when bestowing such an honor to a political person.

In addition to the normal due diligence process, the following individuals were contacted by CSU and provided "no objection" to bestowing this honor. This included US Senator George V. Voinovich (OH), Mr. Dennis Eckart, Councilman Michael Polensek, president of City of Cleveland Council, and Mr. Joseph Valencic. The most locally elected government official by CSU, Councilman Joseph M. Cimperman, Ward 13, was not solicited. He was not considered since the board of trustees of CSU did not know or think he was of Slovenian descent.

By late February and early March 2001 a number of letters were being forwarded to either the attention of Mr. Hill or Dr. Claire Ummersen, president, CSU, regarding questions raised about the reason and credi-

bility toward bestowing such an honor on the head of the former Slovenian Communist Party.

A meeting was arranged on March 30, 2001 with Mr. Hill, Dr. Ummersen, Ms. Sally Florkiewicz, chairperson, honorary degree committee, CSU, Councilman Polensek, as well as Dr. Matej Roesmann, Councilman Cimperman, and myself, and related administrative staff persons, Board of Trustees, CSU, to be allowed to present objections toward the honorary degree for Mr. Kučan.

Mr. Hill informed attendees that a separate meeting would be held immediately after this meeting with individuals in the American Slovenian community who were in favor of bestowing this award. No names were provided.

At the conclusion of both meetings a final meeting with the full board of trustees would be held with a final determination to be made. As of this writing that is where this matter stands.

In the final analysis this decision will be, as I stated to Mr. Hill, the right of CSU. But as Rudy Flis noted in his recent article in the American Home, when you start such a process you had better understand why and whom you honor. This is the million dollar question CSU must answer.

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Coming Events

Friday, April 27

Slovenian Woodwind Quintet concert at St. Mary's Church, Collinwood, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland. Freewill offering; suggested donation \$10.00.

Saturday, April 28

Zarja concert at Slovenian Society Hall in Euclid, Ohio. Dinner 5 p.m. Concert at 7. Jeff Pecon Orchestra provides music for dancing. For tickets at \$18 call Vicki Kozel (216) 531-5542 or Barbara Elersich (440) 257-2540, or visit Polka Hall of Fame.

Sunday, April 29

Holmes Avenue Pensioners Club dinner dance at Collinwood Slovenian Home, 15810 Holmes Ave. Dinner 2 p.m., dance 3 to 7 p.m. Music by Force of Habat featuring Eric Knoltkamper. Donation \$15.00. Tickets call Ann Beekart 1-216-531-2188 or Matt Zabukovec 1-440-943-3784.

Sunday, April 29

Breakfast sponsored by St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School featuring homemade sausage (pečenice), crepe (palacinka), eggs, fruit, bread, juice/coffee. Adults \$6, children \$3. Serving 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Sunday, April 29

St. Vitus Slovenian Language School will present its annual Mother's Day program at St. Vitus Church after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. After the program you are invited to the church basement for a social. Everyone is welcome to the program.

Friday, May 4

Pork, sauerkraut & potato dumpling dinner. \$8 at Newburgh Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland. Serving 5:30 - 7

p.m. Music 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. by Frank Moravcik.

Saturday, May 12

Korotan Concert, Slovenian National Home on St. Clair, Cleveland.

Sunday, May 13

Mother's Day Breakfast Brunch at Newburgh Slovenian National Home, 3563 E. 80th St., Cleveland. Cost \$7. Serving 9 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, May 19

Pevski Zbor Korotan Concert, Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Sunday, May 20

Friends of Slovenian National Home St. Clair Spring Brunch. Doors open 11:30. Members \$10, children \$4, non-members \$14. For reservations call 216-361-5115. Entertainment by Al Batistelli.

Sunday, May 20

St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School Mother's Day Program after the 10 a.m. Mass.

Sunday, June 10

Picnic at Slovenska Pristava sponsored by St. Mary's (Collinwood) Slovenian School with Mass at 12:30 followed by dinner.

June 29 - July 1

Bethlehem, PA festival including Bethlehem-Murska Sobota Sister Cities activities of Slovenians and other nationalities.

Saturday, July 7

Slovenian Octet from Mendoza, Argentina will perform at a concert at Slovenian National Home, St. Clair Ave., Cleveland.

Sunday, July 29

St. Vitus Slovenian School Annual Picnic at Slovenska Pristava.

Saturday, Aug. 18

Tony Petkovsek's 20-40-60 Party at Slovenian National Home, Cleveland.

Come Listen to the Sounds of the Swingtime Big Band

Every First Tuesday of the Month
at the

Willoughby Brewing Company

Listen to the musical arrangements of the famous bands of the past including; Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Woody Herman, Count Basie, Duke Ellington and others.

Starting to Swing at 8:00 PM

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The Willoughby Brewing Company
4057 Erie Street
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– Vesti iz Slovenije –

SLS SKD se bo odločila o nadaljnjem sodelovanju v vladni koaliciji šele po prvomajskih praznikih

Včeraj popoldne so iz stranke SLS SKD sporočili, da so prestavili napovedano sejo glavnega odbora, na kateri naj bi ta najvišji strankin organ odločal, ali naj stranka še ostane v vladni koaliciji ali naj se preseli v opozicijske vrste. Zadeva je aktualna zaradi močnega nasprotovanja v stranki, ker je vlada razrešila s preglasovanjem SLS SKD direktorico Pošte Marijo Ribič in še posebej direktorja velepodjetja Telekom Marjana Podobnika.

Seja glavnega odbora je bila predstavljena na torek, 8. maja, torej po praznikih. Bojažen vodstva SLS SKD je baje bila, da v predprazničnem obdobju se ne bi seje udeležilo veliko članov, ki bi vodstvo sicer podprli, prišli pa bi domala vsi, ki želijo videti stranko v opoziciji. Izvršilni odbor stranke je zasedal predvčerajšnjim in se odločil predlagati stranki, da ni smotrno izstopiti iz koalicije "samo" zaradi dveh kadrovskih sprememb.

Janez Drnovšek na uradnem obisku v Franciji – Pred odhodom je moral v bolnišnico zaradi motnje srčnega utripa

Ta teden se mudi v Franciji na daljšem uradnem obisku premier Janez Drnovšek. Srečal se je z domala vsemi vodilnimi francoskimi državniki, časopisna poročila poudarjajo močno francosko podporo za slovensko članstvo v Evropski uniji in to kot eno prvih novih članic, morda že do leta 2003.

Preteklo nedeljo, pred odhodom v Pariz, je pa moral Drnovšek zaradi dan in pol trajajoče motnje srčnega ritma v Klinični center v Ljubljani, kjer so mu s pomočjo električne konverzije vzpostavili normalen srčni ritem. Po nekajurnem rutinskem opazovanju so ga odpustili domov. V prihod-

njih tednih bo 50-letni premier opravil nekaj dodatnih preiskav, sporočilo pa pove, da doslej opravljene preiskave ne kažejo na bolezenski vzrok in da se motnja ritma, kakršna je bila Drnovškova, ni redka in se lahko pojavi tudi pri zdravem posamezniku.

Zbiranje podpisov za referendum

Pred nedavnim je parlament sprejel zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah zakona o zdravljenju neplodnosti in postopkih oploditve z biomedicinsko pomočjo (gl. poročilo na str. 12). Državljan Dominik Frelih z Bleda je vložil pobudo za referendum, ki bi preprečil uveljavitev tega zakona. Frelihovo pobudo je podprlo 1900 podpisnikov, zakon o referendumu pa zahteva le 200 kvalificiranih podpisov. Tako je predsednik državnega zbora Borut Pahor določil rok za zbiranje podpisov volivcev v podporo zahtevi, ki se začne že danes, traja pa do 21. maja. Do takrat morajo pobudniki podpisati najmanj 40 tisoč volivcev.

Če bo do roka zbranih dovolj podpisov, bo do referenduma prišlo, referendumsko vprašanje pa se bo glasilo: Ali ste za to, da se uveljavi zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah zakona o zdravljenju neplodnosti in postopkih oploditve z biomedicinsko pomočjo, sprejet v državnem zboru 19.4.2001?

Na glasovanju o zakonskih spremembah so zakon podprli iz strank LDS, ZLSD in DeSUS, glasovanje so pa bojkotirali poslanci iz vrst SDS, NSi, SLS SKD in tudi SMS in SNS.

Sprejeta novela bi vsem ženskam omogočila zdravljenje neplodnosti in zagotovila tudi ustrezno kontrolo, ki bi onemogočala morebitne zlorabe oziroma komercializacijo. V izjemnih primerih bi pravico do oplojevanja z biomedicinsko pomočjo priznali tudi ženskam, ki lahko zanosijo, ne glede na to, ali so poročene, živijo v zunajzakonski skupnosti ali pa so same.



V Sloveniji obstaja svet krščanskih Cerkev, ki redno zaseda. Na zasedanju, ki je bilo 20. aprila, je svet odločil predlagati vladi in državnemu zboru, naj postane veliki petek dela prost dan. S tem bi praznični in dela prosti dnevi, kot v drugih evropskih državah, trajali neprekinjeno od velikega petka do velikega ponedeljka. Svet se je zavzel za nedeljski počitek trgovcev in da naj bi posamezne cerkve imele v Slovenski vojski lastne vojaške kaplane. Na fotografiji, zasedanje sveta je bil v Moravskih Toplicah, so z leve proti desni: mariborski pomožni škof dr. Anton Stres, paroh Srbske pravoslavne cerkve v Sloveniji Peran Bošković, škof Evangeličanske cerkve v Sloveniji Geza Erniša in predsednik sveta, evangeličanski duhovnik Geza Filo.

Iz Clevelanda in okolice

SLOWIND koncert—

Ta bo jutri zvečer ob 7.30 v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete. SLOWIND kvintet iz Ljubljane bo nastopil in predvajal klasične in druge skladbe od Mozarta do slovenskega skladatelja Primoža Ramovša. Glasbeniki so solisti iz vrst Slovenske filharmonije. Vstopnine je, predlagani so pa prostovoljni darovi po \$10. Po koncertu bo sprejem v šolski dvorani. To kulturno prireditve sponzorira Slovenian American Heritage Foundation. Vsi lepo vabljeni!

Materinski dan—

Slovenska šola pri Sv. Vidu proslavlja Materinski dan s tradicionalnim programom Materinskega dne zgodaj, in sicer to nedeljo, 29. aprila, v cerkvi po maši ob 10.30 dopoldne. Nato bodo servirali okrepčila v cerkveni dvorani, makor ste vsi vabljeni.

Novi grobovi

Elio Erzetic

Dne 19. aprila je v državi Južna Karolina, kjer je bil na počitnicah s svojo družino, nenadno umrl 67 let stari Elio Erzetic iz Wickliffa, rojen v Višnjeviku, Slovenija, vdovec po Marie, roj. Longino, oče Melisse Connolly, 2-krat stari oče, brat Jelice Kenda, Savine Sfiligoj in Andreja (vsi v Sloveniji), brat Jozef je že pok., zaposlen pri Parker Hannifin Corp. 40 let, do svoje upokojitve l. 1997, član St. Clairskega lovskega kluba, Balincarskega kluba na Waterloo Rd., Primorskega kluba idr. Pogreb je bil 25. aprila v oskrbi Cosicevega zavoda na Chardon Rd. s sv. mašo v cerkvi Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in pokopom na Vernih duš pokopališču.

Anna C. Luzar

Umrla je 71 let stara Anna C. Luzar, hčerka Antona in Anne (r. Zalar), oba že pok., sestra Franka in Anthonyja (oba tudi že pok.). Pogreb je bil 23. aprila s sv. mašo v cerkvi St. Bede the Venerable v Mentorju s pokopom na Kalvarije pokopališču.

(dalje na str. 15)

Sestanek ZOD—

To nedeljo, 29. aprila, ima Zveza Oltarnih društev svoj letni sestanek in to v dvorani pri Sv. Vidu. Ob dveh popoldne bodo pobožnosti v cerkvi, sledil bo daljši sestanek v dvorani. Članice oltarnih društev ste povabljeni, da se tega letnega shoda udeležite.

Koncert zbora Korotan—

Pevski zbor Korotan vabi na svoj vsakoletni koncert, ki bo v soboto, 12. maja, v SND na St. Clair Ave. Pričetek bo ob 7. uri zvečer, po koncertu bo zabava in ples, za katerega bo igral ansambel Staneta Mejaca. Vstopnice so na voljo pri članih zbora, za rezervacijo miz pa pokličite go. Cvetko Rihtar na 216-692-2469.

Občni zbor—

V petek, 18. maja, bo v SDD na Waterloo Rd. letni občni zbor članov Slovenskega doma za ostarele. Registriranje se bo pričelo ob 7h zv., sama seja pa ob 7.30. Član je vsakdo, ki je v zadnjem letu daroval vsaj \$25 v podporo doma, to je v času od 1. aprila 2000 do 31. marca 2001. Na seji bodo poročila o delovanju zavetišča v zadnjem letu, navzoči člani bodo tudi izvolili tretjino direktorija za triletno mandatno dobo. Seja je sicer odprta javnosti, pravico do glasovanja pa imajo le zgoraj navedeni člani.

Spominski darovi—

Ga. Albina Marolt, Wickliffe, O., je darovala \$20 v podporo našemu listu, v spomin na moža Anthonyja. Ga. Ivana Volčjak, Willoughby, O., je darovala \$20, v spomin moža Josepha. G. Joseph in ga. Josephine Baskovic, Willoughby Hills, sta poklonila \$25 v spomin njunih staršev. Ga. Anne Doles, Euclid, O., je darovala \$20, v spomin moža Franka. Ga. Bertha Dovgan, Euclid, je darovala \$20, v spomin moža Joe-a. Ga. Kathleen Bolivar, Highland Hts., O., je darovala \$20, v spomin matere Dolores Kocin, ki je preminula 5. dec. lani. G. Frank Boh je daroval \$20, v spomin Josepha in Zalke Boh. Hvala vsem!

AMERIŠKA DOMOVINA

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No. 17

April 26, 2001

DRAGO OCVRK

"Naš komentar"

Sporazum upanja

Ko je vlada na veliki četrtek sprejela izhodišča za pogajanje s Svetim sedežem, ni razveselila samo katoličanov, ampak vse, ki jim je pri srcu slovenska država, demokracija in visoki standardi varstva človekovih pravic. S predsednikom vlade dr. Drnovškom na čelu je pokazala svojo evropskost.

Prvi korak k sporazumu s Svetim sedežem je razločno znamenje, da se je končno ustvarila zadostna politična volja za odpravo anomalije, ki nas je v mednarodni skupnosti uvrščala med redke posebnosti, v našem primeru še toliko bolj nenavadne, ker je prav Sveti sedež uspešno lobiral za naše priznanje in je do nas posebej prijateljski. V mednarodni skupnosti ima Sveti sedež vlogo, ki je cenjena in potrebna. Pred leti je npr. ameriški kongres sprejel izjavo, v kateri svari države, ki poskušajo izriniti Sveti sedež iz mednarodnih organizacij, naj tega ne počnejo, ker so njegove dejavnosti preveč dragocene, in da bodo ZDA ukrepale proti takšnim poskusom. Še zlasti pa ni v navadi med mednarodnimi dejavniki, da bi se zavračala prijateljska roka in sodelovanje. Zaradi utrjevanja našega ugleda, verodostojnosti in vpliva v mednarodni skupnosti je sporazum s Svetim sedežem potreben in koristen.

Nič manj ni potreben in koristen za utrjevanje demokracije. Ta je po svoji naravi pluralna in so ji tuje maniheistične delitve državljanov na avantgardo in reakcijo, na "ta pridne" in notranje sovražnike. Prav to razločevanje, ki korenini v totalitarizmu in je sicer stalna skušnjava populističnih politikov, je bilo eno najmočnejših orožij za oživiljanje in podžiganje iracionalnosti in sovraštva v zadnjem desetletju. Na to je opozoril generalni sekretar Golobič, ko je zavračal ekstremistična stališča ZLSD: "Potrčev nastop kaže, da ne gre za iskanje najboljšega besedila in željo po ureditvi odnosov s cerkvijo, temveč za poskus nabiranja političnih točk. Kdor želi zavrteti kolo časa v obdobje, ko je bilo moderno delati politiko na račun konfliktov s katero od verskih skupnosti, bo težko sodeloval pri oblikovanju sodobne politike."

Ideološki fundamentalisti, ki poskušajo z vsemi sredstvi ohraniti ozračje državljanske vojne, ribarijo v kalnem, se sprenevedajo in pripisujejo sporazumu razsežnosti, ki jih ni in ne more imeti. Čeprav LDS-ov minister Gantar meni, da je v ZLSD "prišlo do razlik med 'fundosi' in med tistimi, ki so se samo prisiljeno obnašali kot taki", imajo 'fundosi' močno zaledje v Kučanovem dvournem stališču do sporazuma, ki da ni potreben, je pa koristen. Predsednikova mi-

Radio "OGNJIŠČE" povezuje Slovence po svetu

EASTLAKE, O. – Nadvse zanimiv dogodek sem doživel na Veliko noč, ko sem se sprehajal po računalniku in pritisnil na Radio Ognjišče. Bilo je malo po enajsti uri dopoldne, in zaslišal sem poročilo radijskega sodelavca iz Beograda, ki je poročal, kako so letos proslavljali skupaj s pravoslavni verniki Veliko noč. Sledilo je poročilo iz Avstralije in za tem poročilom še eno iz Argentine. Lepo je bilo poslušati ta poročila, ki so govorila o medsebojnem delovanju in o raznih dobroteljskih organizacijah, ki pomagajo rojakom v stiski. Ljubi svojega bližnjega kakor samega sebe je staro pravilo, katerega bi se morali držati VSI Slovenci na tem svetu!

No, kar me je nadvse razveselilo, je bil glas prijatelja in rojaka Tone Ovsenika, ki ima vsaki teden ob sobotah ob 9. uri zvečer oddajo na kratkovalovni in izredno močni postaji WCPN 90.3FM. Tone tudi redno sodeluje na oddajah Radia Ognjišča v Ljubljani. Lepo je Tone poročal o praznovanju velikonočnih praznikov med tukajšnjimi Slovenci, to je pri farah Sv. Vida in Marije Vnebovzete. Čestitam te, Tone, kar tako naprej!

Po Tonetovem poročilu je še sledilo poročilo zastopnika iz Kanade, kjer je preživel velikonočne praznike z rojaki škof Alojz Uran.

Možna povezava Slovencev po svetu je danes zares čudovita, saj sem slišal živa poročila preko telefona zastopnikov Radia Ognjišče v dobri pol uri iz Beograda, Avstralije, Argentine, Združenih držav in Kanade. Svet resnično postaja oz. je že postal majhen!

Dušan Maršič

Izpod zvona sv. Marije Vnebovzete

CLEVELAND, O. - Tri dni nas je vabil misijonski zvon in kar lepo število vernikov se je udeleževalo skrbno pripravljenih govorov o potu našega življenja. Vsakič je bila dolga vrsta pri spovednici, kjer smo odložili vsa nesoglasja in prejeli božji mir. Hvala g. Franciju Trstenjaku za njegovo velikodušno skrb, rešitev naših duš.

Cvetni petek in sobota sta bila zelo delavna. V šolski kuhinji so se delali in cvrli krofi, v skrbi članic Oltarnega društva, v cerkveni dvorani so se delale pa butare pod nadzorstvom učiteljstva slovenske šole.

Bila je lepa, cvetna ne-

delja, ko smo se zbrali pred župniščem k blagoslovu zelenja, nato pa v procesiji odšli v našo cerkev. Otroci slovenske šole so zelo lepo brali Pasijon; hvala vam. Bilo je veliko narodnih noš, tako čisto malih kot še malo večjih otrok, mladine in tudi starejših. Hvala vam vsem, ki ste pomagali, da je bil slovesen vhod v cerkev.

Ves Veliki teden smo skrbno sodelovali pri vsem bogoslužju. Častili smo sv. Rešnje Telo na veliki četrtek, poljubljali križ na Veliki petek, prinesli hrano k blagoslovu in zvečer sodelovali pri blagoslovu ognja na Veliko soboto.

selna akrobacija prižiga zeleno luč fundamentalistom za vztrajanje pri partijski logiki. O tej je Kocbek – najbolj kristalen primer koristnega, izkoriščenega in nazadnje zavrženega nebodigatreba – zapisal: "Partija je pozabila, da smo v Evropi, da mora imeti več ozira na mnogovrstnost življenja in duha kakor v Rusiji, (...) da pozablja na pomoč svojih zavznikov, da brede v brutalnost in vulgarnost najprimitivnejših, da v intelektualcih ustvarja demoralizacijo in sterilnost, da na podeželju uvaja brezmejne strasti (sovražstvo, sila, laž, osebni eksces)." Nismo več leta 1946, a vse, kar se je spočelo v tistih letih, še ni preseženo, in prav to ogroža našo državo in demokracijo, ne pa mednarodno primerljiv sporazum s Svetim sedežem.

Sporazum je v resnici še en kamenček v počasnem postavljanju pogojev za demokratično kulturo in kulturo človekovih pravic. Ne živimo namreč v praznem prostoru in nismo od danes. Za nami je "brezobziren boj proti krščanstvu in humanizmu", čas, ko je tudi "spoštovanje pravic, človekovih pravic" veljalo "za parole reakcije, za njihov manever, in jih je torej kot škodljive odbiti", je še zapisal Kocbek.

(dalje na str. 12)

In že je napočila Velika nedelja. Zopet se je zbralo kar lepo število narodnih noš, ki so spremljale Vstalega Jezusa po cerkvi in okrog nje. Hvala vam vsem, ki ste prišli v tej lepi obleki in pomagali, da je bilo vse zelo veličastno. Tudi pevci so se zelo potrudili, da je bilo velikonočno jutro zares zmagoslavno. Pa tudi rože so pomagale k slovesnosti in vse delo in skrb za čim lepšo božjo hišo – hvala vam, g. župnik. Te dni je bil med nami mons. Franci Petrič, tako, da je g. župnik imel pomočnika. Hvala vam, g. Petrič, za obisk.

Na belo nedeljo je bila v naši cerkvi Prešernova proslava. Na svoj način je bil predstavljen Krst pri Savici, kar so pripravili člani Dramatskega društva Lilije, združeno s filmskim posnetkom. Bilo je zelo lepo združeno. Hvala vam vsem, ki ste vse pripravili in izpeljali.

Prihodnja nedelja je zadnja v aprilu, ko se vsako leto sestanemo članice Zvez Oltarnih društev. Letos se bomo sešle pri Sv. Vidu. Ob 2h bo v cerkvi molitev pred Najsvetejšim, po pobožnosti pa gremo v dvorano, kjer bo sestanek. Na sporedu je branje poročil o preteklem letu, sklepanje o izboljšanju ter prijateljsko srečanje s članicami. Pridite to nedeljo k Sv. Vidu ob drugi uri popoldne, drage članice Oltarnih društev.

Že smo blizu meseca maja. Naša sv. maša ostane na prvo nedeljo, tj. 6. maja, ob 10. uri, kot običajno. Molitvena ura s sestankom pa bo že v petek, 4. maja, po 7.45 sv. maši. Zabeležite si na koledarju, da ne pozabite na molitveno uro na prvi petek.

Želim vam vsem prav lepe dneve, ko se cvetje na drevju odpira soncu in so drevesa kot veliki šopki na naših vrtovih. Bog z vami in Devica Marija!

Lavriševa

**Joseph L.
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SVETOVNI SLOVENSKI KONGRES

Ljubljana

TABOR SLOVENSKIH OTROK PO SVETU

Jezerko, od 29. julija do 5. avgusta 2001

"Daleč tam na severu Ljubljane, kjer ločijo nebotični vrhovi Kamniških planin solčno Kranjsko od gorate Koroške, leži majhna deželica, čisto samosvoja, obdana krog in krog od višjih gora, Jezerko."
(I. Muri, R. Andrejka)

Obogateni z izkušnjami pri organizaciji taborov mladih iz Slovenije in slovenskih rojakov iz tujine v preteklih letih, bo Slovenska konferenca Svetovnega slovenskega kongresa tudi v letu 2001 pripravila taborjenje mladih, ki bo potekalo na Jezerskem.

Datum in kraj:

od 29. julija do 5. avgusta 2001, Zg. Jezerko

Otroci bodo bivali v šotorih. Za primer slabega vremena bodo prenočevali v bližnji osnovni šoli.

Namen:

Tabor je namenjen druženju mladih slovenskih rojakov iz zamejstva in po svetu, starih od 12 do 16 let, z vrstniki iz Slovenije, medsebojnemu spoznavanju in povezovanju. Čez nekaj let bodo mladi Slovenci iz tujine in domovine sodelovali pri oblikovanju skupnih kulturnih, znanstvenih in gospodarskih projektov, poznanstva, sklenjena na taborih, pa jim bodo lahko pri tem v veliko korist. Udeleženci iz tujine pa bodo tudi potencialni ambasadorji naše dežele po svetu.

Udeleženci:

Načrtujemo taborenje približno 60 udeležencev, 45 iz tujine in 15 iz domovine. Tabor bo vodil Davor Karničar – človek, ki je prvi smučal z Everesta.

Vsebina:

Spoznavanje in odkrivanje slovenske kulturne in naravne dediščine,

- vesela šola slovenskega jezika
- spoznavanje Jezerskega, okoliških krajev in njihovih zanimivosti ter običajev
- gorska šola z Davom Karničarjem
- navezava stikov z domačini
- obisk muzeja
- zbiranje virov o izseljencih z Jezerskega in okoliških krajev v tujino

- pogovori na temo: *Če bi živel tu, bi ...*,
- delavnice na temo problematika mladih,
- priprava zbornika

Prosti čas bomo zapolnili s športnimi igrami, s planinskimi pohodi in taborniškimi šegavostmi, večere pa popestrili z veselimi druženjem ob tabornem ognju.

Prijave in prispevki za udeležnino:

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Jana Podobnik

Kaj se dogaja v Sloveniji? Berite Ameriško Domovino in boste vedno zelo na tekočem!

**SEZNANJAJTE NAŠE BRALCE O
AKTIVNOSTIH VAŠIH DRUŠTEVI!**

Kako končati agonijo Slovenske izseljenske matice?

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 23. aprila) – Za marsikoga presenetljivo in zlasti za mnoge Slovence po svetu težko razumljivo je lani po 49 letih nepretrganega izhajanja najprej "ugasnil" koledar. V letošnjem jubilejnem letu ga bo predvidoma nadomestil poseben tematski zbornik in v njem naj bi avtorji iz izseljenskih vrst, zgodovinarji, literati in drugi poznavalci tega področja pripravili pregledne prispevke o slovenskem izseljenstvu. Kako bo s kontinuiranim spremljanjem izseljenskega utripa v obliki takih publikacij, kakršna je bila skoraj pet desetletij koledar, ta čas seveda ni jasno.

Poglavitno težavo pri tej in drugih zadregah na SIM je bila že dlje časa pomanjkanje denarja in ni razlogov, da tega ne bi verjeli. Navsezadnje so verjetno še v spominu tovrstne polemike, ko so s SIM pred dvema in tremi leti prejšnji državni sekretarki na uradu za Slovence v zamejstvu in po svetu Mihaeli Logar celo zagrozili s tožbo zaradi neupoštevanja pogodbenih obveznosti.

V sicer že dlje časa zaostrjenih finančnih razmerah se je število zaposlenih zmanjšalo tako rekoč za polovico. Danes to združene predstavlja pet zaposlenih in to pri njih označujejo za strokovne službe.

Pred kratkim je začel delati novi glavni tajnik Željko Popovič kot vršilec dolžnosti; v uredništvu je kot urednik novinar redno zaposlen Ivo Cimerman – omenjajo, da je tik pred upokojitvijo. Pogodbena sodelavca sta dva urednika, in sicer Vida Gorjup-Posinkovič, ki je odgovorna urednica *Rodne grude*, in Branko Maksimovič kot odgovorni urednik revije

Slovenija v angleščini; predsednik prof. dr. Anton Bebler in podpredsednik SIM Peter Kovačič Peršin svoji funkciji opravljata nepoklicno.

Pomanjkanje denarja je torej ena poglavitnih težav, a nikakor ne edina. Dogodki zadnjih dni so pokazali, da so številni nesporazumi med vodstvom SIM, se pravi predsednikom Antonom Beblerjem, prejšnjim v. d. tajnika Janezom Rogljem in tudi nekaterimi člani izvršnega in nadzornega odbora izbruhnili s vso silovitostjo na sestankih teh organov in znotraj kolektiva.

V nasprotju z veljavno prakso so bili trije zaporedni sestanki izvršnega odbora SIM, ki se sicer redko sestaja, zaprti za javnost, toda zvedelo se je, da so na srečanjih burno razčističevali (ne)aktivnost in napake posameznikov in posameznih delovnih teles oziroma njihovih članov.

Že dolgo je očiten spor med predsednikom Beblerjem in donedavnim v. d. tajnika Janezom Rogljem, ki mu je že drugič poteklo vedejstvo, močno napetost pa je čutili tudi med zaposlenimi v strokovnih službah, ki se počutijo "ustrahovani, in kljub čedalje večjemu obsegu dela podcenjeni ter, glede na osnutek novega statuta, ki ga je kolektivu predstavil predsednik Bebler, v vse večji negotovosti"...

Sodeč po polemičnih nastopih spor med Rogljem, ki je po novem odgovoren za stike z javnostjo, sodelovanje pri pripravi letošnjega jubilejnega srečanja in drugo, in predsednikom Beblerjem še ni zglašen in s tem bodo imeli člani pristojnih delovnih teles – verjetno izvršni, nadzorni odbor in naslednji občni zbor, ki je sklican za 18. maja – še veliko dela.

Seznam Beblerjevih obtožb predvsem glede vodenja oziroma organizacije dela v strokovnih službah je dolg, enako je z odgovorom oziroma pojasnili. Na zadnjem sklicanem sestanku občnega zbora je bila izražena pobuda za nezaupnico sedanjemu predsedniku SIM, a ker niso bili sklepni, to nima teže, pomeni "kakor da se ni zgodilo"...

Toda to je le na videz zgolj "njuna zadeva"; spor se je zaostрил "po naravi

stvari" med ključnima funkcijama; v urejenih razmerah bi morale biti jasno razmejene pristojnosti, delitev dela za navznoter, nastopanje navzven, pretok informacij, ki bi verjetno pomagal k homogenosti kolektiva.

Ena od presenetljivih stvari v delovanju SIM je dejstvo, da zaposleni v strokovnih službah, kamor verjetno sodi vse od arhiva, tekočega pošiljanja gradiva društvom po svetu in vsa operativa, povezana z obiski, gostovanji in drugo, niso bili nikoli povabljeni, naj bolj aktivno sodelujejo, denimo na seje izvršnega odbora, na katerih se oblikujejo letni programi.

Večkrat je bilo že slišati, da so "ti v marsičem že zastareli", da so na SIM morda v prejšnjih desetletjih, ko je vse teklo nekako samoumevno, spregledali, kako se je današnja izseljenska scena spremenila.

Seveda je drugače tudi doma, kjer se s tem področjem poleg SIM ukvarjata še SSK in društvo Slovenija v svetu. Druga zgodba je, da med sabo ne le ne sodelujejo, temveč so si zlasti z gostovanji dolgo konkurirali v lastno škodo.

Za SIM je povsem očitno, da se mora v vseh pogledih temeljito reorganizirati, vprašanje je le, ali bodo vsi skupaj zmogli toliko modrosti in energije, da bodo to res opravili. Poleg drugega se je namreč tudi izvedelo, da so nekateri člani izvršnega in nadzornega odbora protestno odstopili.

Navsezadnje pa se za več kakor dvestočlanski občni zbor prav tako utemeljeno zastavlja vprašanje, ali so sploh pripravljeni resno delati, če se jih – ne glede na to, da gradiva niso dobili pravočasno – izvoli sestati enkrat, morda dvakrat na leto, kakor denimo tokrat, le 37.

Dragica Bošnjak

Tudi preko e-maila—

Tistim, ki uporabljajo e-mail, lahko posredujejo dopise in krajše vesti po tej poti tudi za slovenski del AD. Le v angleščini je treba omeniti, da je dopis za slovenski del. E-mail naslov za AD je:

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Liberalno-levičarska večina v Državnem zboru dosegla svoje

Kljub bojkotu zakon "oplojen"

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 20. aprila) – Državni zbor je po celodnevni razpravi sprejel spremembe zakona o zdravljenju neplodnosti in postopkih oploditve z biomedicinsko pomočjo, ki sta jih predlagala poslanca LDS Cveta Zalokar Oražem in Jelko Kacin. Predlagane spremembe so podprli predstavniki poslanskih skupin LDS, ZLSD in DeSUS, glasovanje pa so bojkotirali poslanci SDS, NSi, SMS, SNS in SLS SKD.

Spremembe zakona bodo vsem ženskem omogočile zdravljenje neplodnosti in hkrati zagotovile tudi ustrezno kontrolo, ki bo onemogočala morebitne zlorabe oziroma komercializacijo. V izjemnih primerih bodo pravico do oplojevanja z biomedicinsko pomočjo priznali tudi ženskam, ki lahko zanosijo ne glede na to, ali so poročene, živijo v zunajzakonski skupnosti ali pa so same. Upravičenost do teh postopkov bo ugotavljala posebna komisija.

V nadaljevanju splošne razprave je France Cukjati (SDS) nasprotoval predlaganim spremembam, da bi pravico do umetne oploditve dobile tudi samske ženske. Na ugovore, da so tudi ženske alkoholikov pravzaprav samske, pa je odvrnil, da je "v zakonski ali zunajzakonski skupnosti ob tragediji enega zakonca ali partnerja še vedno 50 odstotkov možnosti, da bo drugi partner ostal trezen in dajal otroku nekaj več zaščite."

Janez Drobnič (NSi) je bil prepričan, da bo, če bo zakon sprejet, to zgolj zaradi politične prevlade, saj mu nasprotuje tako medicinska in pravna stroka kot tudi strokovnjaki s področja etike.

Tudi Jožef Jerovšek (SDS) je trdil, da gre pri obravnavani problematiki izključno za politikantstvo. Ivan Mamič (NSi) je dejal, da naj bi bil otrok spočet po naravni poti kot sad ljubezni dveh, saj je le takšen otrok zaželen.

Ivan Štemberger (SMS) pa je opozoril, da gre za diskriminatoren zakon do moških in otrok, ki naj bi jim vnaprej vzeli pravico do očeta samo zato, da bi ustregli pravicam samskih žensk.

Nasprotno je Aleksander Merlo (LDS) menil, da glede predlaganih spre-

memb ni večjih nesporazumov v stroki.

Janez Podobnik (SLS SKD) je ponovil predlog, da bi bilo sporne zakonske spremembe bolje obravnavati po rednem kot po hitrem zakonodajnem postopku. V razpravi namreč še niso našli odgovorov na tri vprašanja.

Prvo je, ali bi bilo omogočeno zdravljenje in postopek umetne oploditve tudi, ko sta neplodna oba partnerja. Drugo vprašanje je vezano na uvoz spolnih celic, tretja pa je pravica, da se omogoči vsem ženskam, tako plodnim kot neplodnim, da dobijo to možnost.

Predlagateljica predloga Cveta Zalokar Oražem pa je navedla seznam držav, ki poznajo predlagane zakonske rešitve. To so Finska, Češka, Velika Britanija, Španija, Nizozemska, Danska, Italija, Belgija, Izrael, Avstralija in ZDA. Poudarila pa je, da pri spremembah in hitrem postopku ne vztrajajo zaradi politikantskih razlogov, temveč zaradi biološke ure, ki se izteka številnim ljudem v stiski. Poslance SLS SKD pa je spomnila na zavezo iz koalicijske pogodbe, po ka-

teri bi morali zakonsko spremembo podpreti.

Minister za zdravstvo Dušan Keber je povedal, da je stroka presegla okvire svojega delovanja, ko je določila, da pravica do umetne oploditve pripada samo parom. S tem je posegla na področje družbenih vrednot. Ni namreč dokazljivo, da bi bila zakonska skupnost oziroma življenje v paru naravno, ampak je to le družben dogovor.

Pravica do postopkov biomedicinske pomoči in zdravljenja neplodnosti v Sloveniji že dlje časa obstaja, veljavni zakon pa je iz te pravice izločil določeno populacijo. Bistvo demokracije pa je, da se pravice zagotovijo vsem državljanom. Razdeljenost javnosti pri temeljnih vprašanjih tega zakona pa se zdi razumljiva, saj gre za družbene vrednote, za prevladujočo katoliško tradicijo in s tem za politično vprašanje in ne le za vprašanje medicinske stroke, je končal minister.

Po dolgi in polemični splošni razpravi so se poslanci lotili druge obravnave zakonskega predloga. Dopolnila sta vložila izključno odbor DZ za delo, družino, socialno politiko in invalide in vlada, poslanci koalicije pa so jih brez izjeme tudi podprli.

Med sprejetimi so bila tudi dopolnila, s katerimi so v predlagano besedilo vnesli določbe, ki zdravljenje neplodnosti in postopke oploditve z biomedicinsko pomočjo poleg parom v zakonski ali zunajzakonski zvezi omogočajo tudi ženskam brez partnerja, pri katerih ni ugotovljena neplodnost.

Proti koncu druge obravnave je na vrsto prišlo še dopolnilo, s katerim je vlada predlagala, da bi iz predloga naslova pred besedo oploditev črtali besedo umetno.

Pred glasovanjem pa so Andrej Bajuk, v imenu NSi, France Cukjati v imenu SDS, Sašo Peče v imenu SNS in Peter Levič v imenu SMS na podlagi poslovnih določb napovedali obstrukcijo, nato pa zapustili parlamentarno dvorano. Poslancem vladne koalicije je kljub precejšnjemu "osipu" v parlamentarni dvorani uspelo zbrati zadostno večino, s katero so potrdili spremembo v naslovu zako-

Mlada Slovenija – podmladek stranke Nove Slovenije

Ljubljana (Delo fax, 23. aprila) – Na slovensko politično prizorišče stopa nekaj manj kakor eno leto po nastanku matične stranke tudi podmladek Nove Slovenije (NSi). Na današnjem ustanovnem zboru v Ljubljani so mladi – podmladek nosi ime Mlada Slovenija (Msi) – soglasno sprejeli statut in temeljno programsko listino, s katerima je že prej soglašala matična stranka, izvolili organe podmladka in vodstvo z omejenim mandatom do predvidoma konca leta, ko bodo pripravili prvi redni volilni kongres. Na "čelo" podmladka stranke je bil soglasno izvoljen Jernej Pavlin, edini kandidat za to funkcijo, ki je med drugim povedal, da hočejo biti programska in kadrovska gonilna sila stranke.

Imajo se za "slovensko mlado desno sredino", zavzemajo se klasične konservativne vrednote, med drugim nedotakljivost človekove osebe od spočetja do smrti, vendar pa so hkrati dojemljivi za napredek in se vidijo kot del nove generacije. Mlada Slovenija, ki si je za geslo izbrala "Prihodnost je naša", spodbuja ljubezen do domovine, narodni in državljanski ponos, idejno pa izhaja iz bogate dediščine Demosa in vrednot slovenske pomladi. STA

Sporazum upanja

(nadaljevanje s str. 10)

Vse to je pustilo v ljudeh in družbi trajne sledi, zlasti strah, pasivnost in brezbržnost do skupnih zadev. Pomembno za premagovanje teh škodljivih občutij in vedenje je ustvarjanje novega ozračja in odnosov, podprtih z zakonodajo in instrumenti za njeno aplikacijo. Sporazum s Svetim sedežem pelje v to pozitivno smer, obenem pa ima tudi močan simbolni, povezovalni in spraven naboj. Katoličanom se namreč kaže kot konkreten korak države k preprečevanju slehernega zapostavljanja in šikaniranja zaradi vere, posameznika ali skupnosti. Vse druge verske skupnosti pa lahko vidijo v njem rehabilitacijo religije kot takšne, kot priznanje njene človeške in družbene koristnosti, kot obet naklonjene ureditve odnosov tudi z njimi. Nič manj pa ne zavezuje Cerkve, naj s svojim delom za kulturo človekovih pravic med drugim poostreje skrb za enakost vseh teh skupnosti skladno z ustavo in pospešuje dialog z vsemi.

DRUŽINA, 22. aprila 2001

na, s čimer je bila druga obravnava končana.

V tretji obravnavi novih dopolnil ni bilo, zato je zboru preostalo le glasovanje o predlogu zakona v celoti. Preden je DZ glasoval, pa je Janez Podobnik v imenu poslanske skupine SLS SKD zahteval pol ure odmora za posvet. Po odmoru je navzočim v dvorani povedal, da so poslanci te stranke ves čas podpirali tiste rešitve v zakonu, ki so upoštevale razvoj medicinske znanosti, in rešitve, po katerih so zdravljenja neplodnosti upravičene tudi samske ženske, saj v stranki izraza "samska ženska" ne razumejo v negativnem smislu. Prav tako so s svojim predlogom, da bi drugo in tretjo obravnavo zakona opravili po rednem postopku, želeli biti konstruktivni.

Ključno vprašanje, ki pa mu SLS SKD nasprotuje, je dajanje enakih pravic plodnim in neplodnim ženskam. Zato takšnega zakona ne bodo podprli. Podo-

bnik je še opozoril, da je sicer navzoča večina zmogljiva doseči vse, kar hoče, uspelo ji je tudi izsiliti obravnavo te točke pred zahtevno proračunsko sejo. Ob tem je Podobnik še napovedal da poslanska skupina ne bo sodelovala pri glasovanju o zakonu.

Za mikrofona je nato stopil predsednik DZ Borut Pahor in vodje poslanskih skupin povabil na delovni posvet.

Po posvetu je v skladu z napovedjo zapustila dvorano še poslanska skupina SLS SKD, "preostanku" vladne koalicije pa je v dvorani uspelo zbrati 46 poslancev; ti so nato sprejeli zakon o zdravljenju neplodnosti in postopkih oploditve z biomedicinsko pomočjo v celoti.

Matjaž Albreht,
Marko Jakopec

V BLAG SPOMIN

OB 8. OBLETNICI SMRTI
NAŠEGA DOBREGA
MOŽA, OČETA IN
STAREGA OČETA



MATIJA HUTAR

ki ga je Gospod poklical
30. aprila 1993.

*V miru božjem zdaj počivaj,
dragi, nepozabni nam,
v nebesih rajsko srečo uživaj,
do svidenja na vekomaj.*

Žalujoči ostali:

Angela, žena
Mimi, hčer; Mark zet
John, sin; Lisa snaha
Brian, Jonathan in Eric, vnuki
Annie in Claire, vnukinji
Jože, brat; Marija Simonič, sestra; oba v Sloveniji
nečaki in nečakinje ter ostalo sorodstvo v Ameriki in Sloveniji.



Smučali smo v Skalnatih gorah, v kraju Telluride, Colorado

CLEVELAND, O. - Považili naših rojakov iz mesta New York na smučarski izlet v Kolorado smo se zopet z veseljem odzvali in to na prvem tednu tega meseca. Tokrat smo poleteli na smučišča Telluride, v jugozahodnem delu Kolorada, v gorovje San Juan. Mesto leži 8745 čevljev nadmorske višine. Rudniki srebra in zlata so dali rast in ekonomsko hrbtenico temu mestecu vse do nedavnega razvoja turizma. V preteklosti je bil sneg v nadlogo, sedaj pa je kraju v ekonomski podviti.

Pot od letališča Montrose do Telluride nas je kratkočasil voznik lokalnega prevoznega podjetja z zgodbinami o zgodovini in razvoju tega dela ZDA. Vožnja je trajala dobro uro, njegovo navajanje pa dve – vsaj tak je bil moj občutek po celodnevnom potovanju, saj se je ura že bližala deseti zvečer.

Tudi letos nam je bilo vreme naklonjeno. Sonce je sijalo z pomladansko močjo in nas opominjalo, da naj se pogosto zaščitimo proti ultravijoličnim žarkom. Nekaterim nam je ta zaščita sorazmerno prvič uspela. Lokalni smučarji so izrabili te tople sončne dni za sončenje v kopalkah in skupinsko slikanje, nam pa nudili polno smeja.

Jutranje smučanje je bilo polno hreščanja zmrznjenega snega. Bolj popularne proge so dnevno zravnanje z valerji in nudijo brezbržne zavoje vse križem snežnih poljan, to sicer v prvih jutranjih urah.

Telluride ima zelo različne terene. Nekateri proge so tako strme, da je težko verjeti, da se sneg sploh obdrži. Ni čuda, da so se v tem delu sveta pogosto sprožili snežni plazovi in zasuli cele naselbine s prebivalci vred. Leta 1905 je sto ljudi izgubilo življenje zaradi plazov.

Na splošno so proge zelo odprte in široke. Po par dnevih že več, kaj te spodaj čaka. Tako se s korajžo poženeš v dolino kot da bi te sto medvedov podilo in, če te noge vzdržijo, se obrneš v hrib in zamrmraš z nasmehom: Ta je pa dobra!

Večkrat se vse ne izteče tako gladko. Naš kolega Janez Sodja je strmino meril z valjenjem v dolino, ker pa se je prehitro vrtil,

je pozabil šteti vrtljaje in tako ima dober razlog za povratek in ponovno štetje.

Seveda ni nujno, da padeš na strmem terenu. Moj padec na dirkalni progi je pretresel vse celice v telesu, posebno še v glavi, in me prepričal, da se take stvari brez čelade ne dela. Hvala Bogu, da smo vsi prišli celi in zdravi domov.

Proti koncu tedna nam je narava podarila en čevljev novega snega v višjih predelih, tako da smo lahko vsi poizkusili spomladanski prsič. Tekom jutra smo tudi to obvladali.

Zadnje popoldne sva se Janez Košir in jaz posvetila "snowboarding". Zgodilo pa se je obratno. Snowboarding nama je posvetilo, kar nama ni bilo jasno in sicer to, da vsaka šola nekaj stane. Padci so bili tako pogostni kot snežinke, ki so padale tisto popoldne. Da ne bi cepala neprestano, sva šla na čaj, ki se je spremenil v vino. S to oporo sva se zopet podala na položno strmino vse do vrha dve milj dolgega hriba in zaključila popoldne z zadovoljivim uspehom v tej za naju novi panogi.

Po par dnevih prilagajanja na višinsko razliko smo se zopet pomerili v tradicionalnem veleslalomu pa "Nastar" pravilih. Dvakrat se zapodiš po dirkalni proti in boljši čas v sorazmerju s profesionalnim časom odloča medaljo. Telluride vodstvo nas je pohvalilo kot najhitrejša skupina, ki je letos tam tekmovala.

Med nami so se najbolje uvrstili fantje iz New Yorka, takoj za njimi fantje in možje iz Toronta. Sledili smo mi iz Clevelanda. Najhitrejši med moškimi je bil Jordan Jan s časom 22,08 sekunde, med dekleti pa je bila najhitrejša Mojca Branc, s časom 27,86 sekunde.

Smučanje na ameriškem zahodu ni popolno brez pozdrava naše ptice srake, ki nam obuja spomine na našo deželo Slovenijo. Tudi letos nas je pozdravila prav na vrhu gore pri restavraciji Giuseppe, kjer ji je delal konkurenco tudi Gray Mountain Jay (latinsko genus Perisoreus), ki je iz rok jemal ljudem piškote in podobno in to na višini 12.000 čevljev.

Na poti v Telluride sva se Frank Toplak in jaz udeležila National Nastar



Zgoraj: Nekateri udeleženci smučarskega izleta v kraju Telluride. Spodaj: Mira Kosem iz Clevelanda s svojo medaljo. Spodaj so navedeni vsi prejemniki medalj.

tekmovalj v veleslalomu na smučišču Beaver Creek. Tekmovalci prihajajo iz vseh predelov ZDA s plasiranjem med tremi najboljšimi na svojih lokalnih smučiščih. Midva sva se plasirala na smučišču Windham v New Yorku. Proga je bila bolj zahtevna, ker je časovno osnovana na sposobnosti svetovnih smučarjev. Prvi za to tekmovalje je bil Chad Fleischer, ki se letos pogosto plasira med desete najboljše na mednarodnem nivoju. Prisostvujočih tekmovalcev je bilo kar 650. Z dvodnevnom prisostvovanjem sva si pridobila srebrno medaljo.

Smučarske izlete na zahod ZDA organizira nekdanji Clevelandčan Ivan Kamin. Zopet nas je popeljal v lep del ameriških gor, kjer smo se razvedrili duševno, fizično pa izpopolnili, za kar mu izrekamo prisrčno zahvalo.

Metod Ilc



Smučarski izlet na smučišču v Telluride, Colorado Medalje so si priborili sledeči:

BRONASTA

Mira Kosem, Cleveland

Janez Mavretič, New York

Mojca Branc, New York

Andy Resnik, Toronto

David Yuratovich, New York

SREBRNA

Matej Branc, New York

Anton Branc, New York

Dan Krandel, New York

Marion Kosem, Cleveland

Rudi Lužar, Toronto

Vinko Resnik, Toronto

John Sodja, New York

ZLATA

Metod Ilc, Cleveland

Jordan Jan, New York

Anton Kacinik, Toronto

Ivan Kamin, New York

John Košir, Cleveland

Miloš Lužar, Toronto

Gabe Puc, New York

Jože Škof, Toronto

Andy Stajan, Toronto

Frank Toplak, Cleveland



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Dr. ANTON JAMNIK

Toronto, Kanada

Sprava: proces osvobajanja in dejanje poguma

Slavnostni govor na občnem zboru Kanadskega slovenskega kongresa 25. marca 2001 v Torontu, Kanada

– I. del –



Med znamenji, "ki so lahko zelo primerna za to, da moremo živeti odlično milost jubileja z večjo poglobljenostjo", našteva bula o napovedi svetega leta 2000 *Incarnationis mysterium* (29. novembra 1998) tudi očiščenje spomina.

"To očiščenje je proces osvobajanja osebne in skupnostne vesti od vseh oblik sovražnosti ali nasilja, ki jih je pustila za seboj dediščina preteklih napak; gre za prenovljeno zgodovinsko in teološko ovrednotenje dogodkov, ki naj – če je pravično – vodi do ustreznega priznanja napak ter prispeva k resnični poti sprave. Takšen proces lahko pomembno vpliva na sedanost... in pomeni dejanje poguma in ponižnosti", je zapisano v uvodnem delu dokumenta "Spomin in sprava: Cerkev in napake preteklosti", ki ga je pripravila posebna Mednarodna teološka komisija na predlog njenega predsednika kardinala Ratzingerja.

V že omenjeni napovedi svetega leta papež Janez Pavel II. dodaja: "Kot Petrov naslednik prosim, da bi Cerkev močna v svetosti, ki jo prejema od Gospoda, v tem letu usmiljenja pokleknila pred Bogom in prosila odpuščanje za pretekle in sedanje grehe svojih otrok."

Namen dokumenta ni raziskovati posebne primere iz zgodovine, marveč pojasniti predpostavke, ki utemeljujejo obžalovanje preteklih napak. "Le pred njegovim (Božjim) obličjem je mogoče priznavati krivde tako preteklosti kot sedanjosti, če naj prejmemo spravo od Njega in z Njim v Jezusu Kristusu, edinem Odrešeniku sveta, ter postanemo sposobni ponuditi odpuščanje tem, ki so nas žalili."

Dokument torej poleg tega, da poudari pomen odgovornosti za storjene napake in s tem priznanje krivde, izpostavi pripravljenost ponuditi odpuščanje za vse krivice, ki so jih pretrpeli kristjani. Jubilejno sveto leto je tako priložnost za očiščenje spomina in s tem za spravo, ki pomeni nov začetek.

Naš namen tukaj ni, da bi podrobneje analizirali dokument Teološke komisije, saj je njegova vsebina tako bogata in zgoščena, da jo je težko povzemanj v skrajšani obliki. Prav pa je, da je za vse nas spodbuda in odlično vsebinsko izhodišče, da razmislimo o spravi v našem prostoru in času, in to na zelo različnih nivojih.

Kar spreleti nas ob misli, česa vsega je človek sposoben. Blaise Pascal, ki je kot malokdo poznal človeško dušo, je o človeku zapisal: "Kakšna pošast, kakšna zmeda, kakšen nosilec protislovij, kakšno čudo! Sodnik nad vsem, nemočen črv zemlje; čuvar resnice, kotišče negotovosti in zmot; slava in izmeček veselja!"

Kdor gleda na tega človeka skozi očala dogodkov tega stoletja, zlasti dogodkov izpred petdesetih let, je njegov pesimizem upravičen.

Toda sveto leto nam iz tega obupa in pesimizma odpira nova vrata: to so vrata vere v odrešenje, v moč sprave in odpuščanja. Ta vrata nam je odprl Bog, ki "nas je prvi ljubil", ki nam je v Kristusu prvi ponudil roko sprave. Oznani nam je evangelij miru in spravil svet z Bogom. Prišel nam je pokazati pot iz začaranega kroga ali bolje: hudičevega kroga vračanja enakega z enakim. Jezus ni odpravil postave

(pravičnosti), ampak jo dopolni z zapovedjo ljubezni, usmiljenja in odpuščanja, ki gradi novo civilizacijo. Od tlej je mogoče presekati dvigajočo se spiralno maščevanja.

Kdor trdi, da sprava ni možna, je obupal nad človekom. Poudarek jubilejnega leta je ravno v tem, da je sprava možna zato, ker je najprej Božje, potem šele človekovo delo. Odpuščanje ima odrešenijske korenine: obstaja namreč samo eno resnično in pristno odpuščanje, to je Božje odpuščanje. Za kristjane je torej odločilnega pomena, da vanjo pritegnemo Boga in da upremo pogled v Kristusovo smrt in vstajenje.

To pa nikakor ne pomeni, da tisti, ki so drugačnega prepričanja, ne morejo stopiti v ta proces sprave. Dostojanstvo vsakega človeka, njegova vest, ki je odprta za resnico in prizadevanje, da bi v življenju ravnal tako kot je dobro in

V BLAG SPOMIN

9. OBLETNICE SMRTI
NAŠE MAME, STARE
MAME, PRASTARE
MAME IN TAŠČE



MARY STRANCAR
1902 — 1992

Umrta 28. aprila 1992

*Devet let je že minilo,
odkar Te več med nami n.
toda ljubeč spomin na Tebe,
draga...*

*ostal bo nam do konca
naših dni.*

*Lahko naj Te zemlja krije,
spavaj mirno in sladko,
luč nebeška naj Ti sije,
mir in pokoj naj Ti bo.*
Žalujemo:

Mary Zipperman, hčerka
Donald Zipperman, zet
Robert in Paul Zipperman,
vnuka
Maureen Meilus, Lori Pope,
Donna Flynt, vnukinje
pravniki in pravnukinje

Špegeljeva resnica o krvavem razpadu Jugoslavije I. 1991

Ur. AD: V Delo fax-u z dne 23. aprila je dopis o predstavitvi v Zagrebu knjige spominov nekdanjega hrvaškega obrambnega ministra in med vojno v Sloveniji poveljnika Zbora narodne garde Martina Špegelja - Spomini vojaka. V sicer daljšem poročilu izpod peresa večletnega Delovega novinarja v Hrvaški Petra Žerjaviča, je bil tudi sledeč zanimivi odstavek:

Špegelj opisuje tudi orožarske posle s Slovenijo. Ker je po vojni Sloveniji ostalo ogromno orožja, so po dogovoru z obrambnim ministrom (Janezom) Janšo do 24. julija 1991 iz skladišč JLA prepeljali na Hrvaško nekaj sto tisoč ton različnega materiala, največ streliva za minomete, 20-milimetrske topove, topništvo velikega kalibra, protitankovske mine, cele vagone eksploziva. Od 24. julija naprej je Janša, tako piše Špegelj, od Hrvaške zahteval plačilo orožja po tržnih cenah. Opisuje tudi, kako je bil, potem ko je poleti 1991 zaradi sporov s (Franjom) Tuđmanom odstopil z vseh funkcij, izgnan iz Hrvaške. Z lažnimi dokumenti se je za teden zatekel, ob pomoči Janše in Igorja Bavčarja, na Bledi in pozneje v Nemčijo.

prav, so tista najbolj splošna antropološka (filozofska) izhodišča, ki so skupna prav vsem, ki imajo resnično voljo in pripravljenost za spravo. Krščanstvo ta izhodišča postavlja na temelje razodetja in jim po daru vere daje še nove razsežnosti.

Sprava torej pomeni novo spreobrnjenje in s tem novo kvaliteto bivanja tako na osebni kot tudi na družbeni ravni: "Slovenski narod se ne bo dvignil in moralno ne bo ozdravel, dokler se ne bo soočil z vsem zlom, ki se je nakoščilo med nami, dokler ne bo skušal obrisati vseh solza s trpečih obrazov in poravnati vseh krivic, ki smo jih prizadeli drug drugemu. Narodna sprava je ena najbolj nujnih nalog, pred katerimi stojimo... je cena za slovensko prihodnost. Brez sprave smo narod brez prihodnosti", je zapisal nadškof Rode.

Pri tem razmišljanju ne bomo analizirali konkretnih dogodkov, ampak bomo pod teološkim in filozofskim vidikom poskušali podati nekatera načelna izhodišča in vsebinske poudarke, ki morejo biti osnova za spravo.

Pri tem se bomo osredotočili na osebno raven, na tisti notranji kozmos človeške duše in srca, na tisto "človekovo najbolj skrito jedro in svetišče, kjer je človek sam z Bogom", kot pravi koncil (CS 16), iz obličja v obličje s svojim Stvarnikom, kot tudi na družbeno raven, saj to osebno dogajanje pomeni tudi novo kvaliteto medsebojnih odnosov v prizadevanjih za plemenitejšo življenje.

1. Kaj sprava ni?

Besedo sprava se uporablja v zelo različnih pomenih, kontekstih, na različnih področjih, zato pogosto prihaja do napačnih razumevanj in napačnih interpretacij. To se še posebej dogaja, ko gre za spravo na družbenem področju, oziroma za poravnavo krivic, ki jih je trpela določena skupina ljudi. Gre za poenostavljena pojmovanja, ki se morda v kakšni točki le približajo pravemu pojmovanju sprave, toda istočasno popačijo njen pravi pomen. Kaj torej sprava ni?

a) Sprava ni nek na hitro in poceni dosežen mir

Prva in najpogostejša oblika napačnega razumevanja sprave je ta, da poskuša kdo nasilje, ki se je zgodilo, izriniti iz spomina, oziroma govori o spravi čisto mimo dejstev, ki so se zgodila. To, da se noče soočiti z dejstvi, oziroma jih pogosto preprosto ignorira, opravičuje z izgovorom, da je treba preteklost pozabiti, da je treba začeti na novo, brez traymatičnih spominov.

Seveda se za tako obliko "sprave" navdušujejo tisti, ki so nasilje ali krivice povzročili ali so z njimi na kakršenkoli način povezani. Želijo, da žrtve nasilja pozabijo, kar je bilo, in da odpustijo, kar se je zgodilo. Tako pojmovana sprava, kot nek hitro dosežen mir, ki se ne želi soočiti z dejstvi in resnico, je seveda daleč od resničnega očiščenja spomina.

Tako se poskuša narediti trpljenje žrtv za nepomembno ali ga celo ignorirati; s tem se ponižuje tistega, ki je krivico trpel; ti-

(dalje na str. 16)

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Na okopih slovenstva

Sergij Pahor – za obnebjje kulture



Od leta 1976 predseduje Društvu slovenskih izobražencev na Tržaškem, ki ima redne večere s predavanji in pogovori (doslej jih je priredil več kot 700). S krogom najbližjih sodelavcev prireja tradicionalno Drago, s kateri si je tržaško zamejstvo pridobilo veliko zaslug v zadnjih štirih desetletjih tako na kulturnem kot na političnem področju širšega slovenskega prostora.

S svojo družino živi Pahor (rojen 1934 v Trstu) v Repnu. Oče je bil pomoščak, doma s komenskega Krasa; osem let pred Sergejevimi rojstvom se je družina preselila v mestno središče v Trstu, vendar pa so tudi po preselitvi ostali tesno povezani z domom v Komnu. Praznike in počitnice je mladi Pahor preživel na Krasu, ki mu je bil domač kot rodni kraj. Družini njegovih staršev sta bili globoko zasidrani v slovenstvu, mamima tudi v katolištvu, saj je dala Cerkev kar štiri duhovnike.

V Trstu je spadaj v župnijo sv. Antona Novega, kamor je po vojni, potem ko je v Rimu postal doktor teoloških znanosti, prišel duhovno oskrbovat slovenske vernike Jože Prešeren (nekdanji tajnik ljubljanskega škofa dr. Gregorija Rožmana); z dr. Ivanom Vrečarjem sta začela zbirati mladino ter jo povezala v dijaško zvezo. V njej je manjša skupina mladih dobila dovolj trdno osnovo in vzgibe, da je pozneje odigrala pomembno vlogo v slovenski politiki in kulturi na Tržaškem.

Pripadal je temu krogu izobražencev, ki sta ga navdihovala Prešeren in Vrečar; ob njunem zgledu si je osvojil tiste vrednote, ki so mu omogočale zavzetost za delo v slovenski skupnosti in zanje. Sodeloval je

pri ustanavljanju škofijskega pastoralnega sveta, predvsem pa pri organizaciji škofijskega zborovanja *Kristjani iz oči v oči*.

Pahor se je izobraževal na slovenskih šolah v Trstu, že v prvih povojnih letih se je vključil v Slovensko dijaško zvezo, kmalu postal tudi član odbora Slovenske prosvete; poldrugo desetletje je bil član Radijskega odra, od leta 1971 časnikar Radia Trst, član uredniškega odbora *Mladike*, v kateri objavlja glose in članke o aktualnih političnih in kulturnih vprašanjih. Uredil je tudi nekaj zbornikov predavanj v Dragi. Četrto leto predseduje Svetu slovenskih organizacij, ki povezuje veliko večino slovenskih društev in skupin v Italiji.

Temeljito povezan z vsakoletno Drago

Vsakoletna Draga, ki je zaživela na pobudo dr. Prešerna, je tudi pod Pahorjevim vodstvom zanimiva, slovenska in kulturna. "Zavedati se moramo, da se v Dragi zbiramo predvsem zato, da bi na pragu tretjega tisočletja poiskali napotkov – za jutrišnji dan!"

Ta namen je bilo treba kar naprej ponavljati, ker so se tudi napadi na Drago kar naprej ponavljali. Draga je bila vselej trn v peti slovenskim partijcem v kulturniških krogih, tisk je bil prepoln ostrih napadnih nanjo.

"Le čemu služijo ti ponavljajoči se napadi, ki so višek prisiljene polemike ljubljanskih kulturniških krogov? K nam na Tržaško so odmevali dokaj provincialno, kot nerazumevanje za našo trdo manjšinsko stvarnost, da bi se kot Slovenci ohranjali v sovražnem okolju ... Ali nimamo tudi sami pravice povedati svoje mnenje in dati svoj prispe-

vek za večjo kakovost slovenske družbe v celoti, ne glede na meje, ki so nam jih vsilile usodne zgodovinske okoliščine?" (Pahor, *Družina*, september 1982).

Skupaj z drugimi, predvsem katoliškimi izobraženci, si je prizadeval, da bi z Drago dosegli tako raven govornice, ki je za vse tako razumljiva in sprejemljiva, da bi vodila k večji strpnosti. "Zame bi to pomenilo samo normalne, sproščene odnose, ki so velikokrat izjema celo med enako mislečimi Slovenci. To bi nam končno omogočilo, da bi začeli razmišljati o slovenski državi v smislu nekega nacionalnega programa, v katerem bi bili mesto in skrb tudi za slovenske manjšine zunaj meja."

Tankočuten je bil za odnos do narodnostnih vprašanj, kar je razpoznavno iz njegovega odmevnega predavanja (Draga 1979).

Opozoril je: "O svojih zadevah se moramo torej pogovarjati konkretno in kritično, kajti v nasprotnem primeru ne bomo mogli ugotoviti niti sedanjega stanja in potreb, kaj šele, da bi se mogli odločati za sredstva, ki bi to stanje popravila."

Zase "ugodno okolje" si morajo Slovenci ustvarjati sami: "Okolje si narod doma gradi sam, v zamejstvu si ga mora priboriti, v zdomstvu je odvisno od podjetnosti in povezanosti izseljencev."

V Sloveniji so "povojno dobo krojili isti ljudje, z vsemi obremenitvami medvojne in povojne revolucije", po lastnih interesih so urejali vse zadeve (politika, kultura, šolstvo, vzgoja), družbene anomalije je razkrinkovala le katoliška Cerkev, zato so v njej videli "največjega nasprotnika režima"; od vojne naprej se je bil brezkompromisen boj: iztisniti Cerkev iz "kulture, znanosti, umetnosti, iz javnega življenja sploh", odpraviti vse, "kar bi dišalo po Cerkvu in veri"; zelena luč je bila prižgana le "nadržni atelizaciji".

"Draga je postala sinonim neke opozicije, ki je sicer pripravljena na dialog, vendar ne za ceno svoje identitete in svobode," je Pahor zapisal v uvodu k jubilejni Dragi.

"V glavnem pa moramo priznati, da nas niso razumeli ne v domovini ne v emigraciji: Ljubljana je hotela, da bi zaprli usta emigrantom, ti pa so nam očitali kompromisarstvo in pri-

pravljenost na paktiranje. Kljub temu smo vztrajali, s prostovoljnim delom premostili finančne težave, doživeli marsikak krivičen napad in Slovencem dali na razpolago trideset izvedb študijskih dni in več sto priložnosti javnega nastopa na predavanjih, okroglih mizah in diskusijah, ki so iz naše prireditve naredile do zdaj po pluralizmu in svobodi še neprekoračeno tribuno slovenstva in demokracije. Kdor je imel kaj povedati, je pri nas dobil priložnost."

Novo obdobje političnih odnosov do slovenske manjšine v Italiji se je začelo ob sprejetju zaščitnega zakona. V naporih zanj so različne slovenske smeri v zamejstvu nastopale vzajemno.

"Želimo si, da bi Slovenija bolj pozorno sledila našemu razvoju; veliko pričakujemo od vstopa Slovenije v Evropsko zvezo, ko bomo spet povezani z naravnim zaledjem, od koder si obetamo dotok svežih sil.

Kar se da normalne razmere si želimo tudi v skupnosti kristjanov, ki smo manjšina v manjšini. Potrebni smo novega optimizma, da bomo zmogli premostiti sedanjo splošno krizo vrednot v družbi. Zato iščemo pomoč tudi v velikodušnosti Cerkev na Slovenskem, da bi nam zaupala nekaj svojih človeških sil, s katerimi bi zagotovila nekaj prepotrebne zagona."

Jani Ravenko

DRUŽINA

Velika noč 2001

Op. ur. AD: Kot predavatelj na Dragi leta 1987 sem bil tudi sam deležen izredne prijaznosti in gostoljubnosti g. Pahoraj, zato sem vesel, da morem ta članek bralcem posredovati.

NOVI GROBOVI

(nadaljevanje s str. 9)

Edward J. Kocin

Umrli je 79 let stari Edward J. Kocin, mož Zore, roj. Tintor, oče Karen Agnic, Deborah Suhy, Cheryl Horwood in Edwarda, 10-krat stari oče, brat Jo Modenbach, Mary Kump, Adolpha, Josepha ter že pok. Franka in Isadore-a, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski. Pogreb bo v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda jutri, v petek, zj. ob 9.15, v cerkev Marije Vnebovzete ob 10., od tam na pokopališče Vernih duš. Ure kropljenja

bodo danes pop. od 2. do 4. in zv. od 7. do 9. Družina priporoča darove v pokojnikov spomin St. Mary Church, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110.

Emily Straka

Umrli je Emily Straka, rojena Dvorak, vdova po Elmerju. Pogreb je bil 21. aprila v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s pokopom na Hillcrest pokopališču. Darovi v pokojničin spomin Slovene Home for the Aged Foundation bodo s hvaležnostjo sprejeti.

Cyril Traven

Umrli je Cyril "Cy" Traven, mož Mary, roj. Kobal, oče Dale-a in L. Max-a, 3-krat stari oče, brat Anne Swaney ter že pok. Max-a in Antonije Zobec, veteran 2. svetovne vojne, v kateri je služil v ameriški vojski. Pogreb je bil 21. aprila v oskrbi Želetovega zavoda s sv. mašo v cerkvi Marije Vnebovzete in pokopom na pokopališču Knollwood. Darovi v pokojnikov spomin St. Mary Church Endowment Fund, 15519 Holmes Ave., Cleveland, OH 44110 oz. Hospice of the Western Reserve, 5786 Heisley Rd., Mentor OH 44060 bodo s hvaležnostjo sprejeti.

KOLENDAR

MAJ

12. – Pevski zbor Korotan priredi koncert v SND na St. Clair Ave. Pričetek ob 7. uri zv. Po koncertu ples, igra ansambel Staneta Mejača.

20. – Slov. šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti praznuje Materinski dan s programom po sv. maši ob 10. dop.

27. – Društvo SPB sponzorira spominsko sv. mašo ob 12. uri opoldne pri Lurški Materi božji na Chardon Rd.

28. – SKD Triglav, Milwaukee priredi Spominski dan piknik, na Triglavskem parku.

JUNIJ

10. – Slov. šola pri Mariji Vnebovzeti priredi piknik na Slovenski pristavi. Sv. maša ob 12.30 pop., sledi kosilo in nato piknik.

16. in 17. – Tabor DSPB priredi spominsko proslavo na Slovenski pristavi ob 56. obletnici spomina na padle domobrnce.

24. – SKD Triglav, Milwaukee priredi prvi piknik, na Triglavskem parku.

Z AMERIŠKO DOMOVINO
S E VEDNO NA TEKOC

Misijonska srečanja in pomenki

1375. Kristus je vstal od mrtvih in živi!

Radujmo in veselimo se! Prenovljeni v duhu in v pričakovanju lepih, cvetočih spomladanskih dni smo začeli nov dan, ki nam ga je podaril Gospod. Velikonočna doba pa traja vse do Binkošti, tj. prihod Svetega Duha.

Naš zvesti prijatelj in dopisovalec, misijonar Vladimir Kos, je podaril velikonočni dar vsej MZA ter bralcem Ameriške Domovine in sicer:

Tokijska velikonočna vinjeta

Še dobro se je spominjam, Velike noči po končani vietnamski vojni. Japonska pomlad je dehtela celo v našo ubogo kapelo na tokijski periferiji. V tem delu velemestne prestolnice so že od nekdaj živeli ne-japonski Azijci. Med drugo svetovno vojno je njih število naraslo: japonska vojska jih je s silo iztrgala iz azijske celine za prisilno delo. Največ jih je bilo s Koreje. Toda po vietnamski vojni se je prebivalstvo povečalo z vietnamskimi begunci. S tistimi, ki se jim je posrečilo doseči Japonsko na ladjah.

Za velikonočno vigilijo je bila kapela polna. Z obredi je še šlo. Najbrž smo se podzvestno ravnali po bodočem obredniku, ki bo nekoč nosil naslov "Za begunce različnih jezikov". Najbolj nam je spodrsalo pri petju. Že pred leti nam je bil crknil harmonij. Naši japonski verniki so zato reagirali po posluhu – s tisto kitico, ki so se je spominjali. Vendar je tudi to pripomoglo k prazničnemu vzdušju. Pri "Gloriji" smo krepko zvonili. Zvok je mednarodni jezik, ki so mu vsi z veselimi očmi pritrdili. Eden od otrok je iz radovednosti snel prtič, ki je pokrival razne dobre stvari v kotu kapele za po maši. Zadišalo je po bananah in (že malce toplo) vzdušje je postalo še bolj praznično.

Najbolj smo se seveda vsi razveselili središča svete Daritve: Gospod je vstal iz Groba in je prišel tudi k nam na periferijo! In potem je vsakogar izmed nas osebno obiskal k sv. obhajilu! Enega izmed Vietnamcev – nekdanjega vietnamskega vojaka – so vojaki podpirali na poti k svetemu obhajilu. Namesto rok je imel dva valja, pritjena na to, kar je od zgornjih mišic še ostalo. Tudi noge je bolj vlekel za sabo.

Po sv. maši smo zagnili oltar in pred njim posedli na rogoznice. Človeku brez rok so prijatelji pomagali pirhe in banane med kavla, s katerima je potem spravil jed do ust. Po tolmaču sem mu dal vedeti, da visoko cenim njegovo žrtev v boju za svobodo. Nasmehnil se je: v lazaretu, kamor so ga s fronte rešili, je spoznal Kristusa; živi Kristus mu je vrnil življenje; živi Kristus ga tudi zdaj krepi. "Hvala," je rekel po japonsko. Dvignil sem prst pod nizki strop, od koder je bilo daleč do Nebes. In vsi so me razumeli, tudi dete v povojih – nekalo hlipeti.

Tudi nas, ki nam je MZA pri srcu, bo nas, v Nebesih živeči Gospod, obiskal na Veliko noč. Čisto osebno. Lahko mu bomo čestitali k čudoviti zmagi nad smrtjo, glavno služabnico pekla. Lahko se bomo z Njim veselili te večne zmage. Lahko ga bomo osebno zaupno prosili. Za toliko stvari. In tudi za ogromen misijonski svet. Brez Njegove vs-tajenjske moči ga ne bo mogoče spremeniti. Spremeniti v pravo, resnično ljubezen.

Obilje velikonočnih milosti vsem, prav vsem!

Z iskrenimi vstajenskimi voščili ostajam vdani misijonar,
Vladimir Kos

Iz Slonokoščene obale se je oglasil misijonar Janko Kosmač: "... V imenu vseh treh misijonarjev tj. bratov Ivana Bajc in Pavla ter Sandi Skapina se prav iskreno zahvaljujem za velikonočna voščila. Naj vas vse Vstali Kristus napolni z mirom in močjo v premagovanju vsakodnevnih težav. Vse mašne intencije, ki ste jih poslala meni in obema bratoma, sem že vestno opravil.

Misijonar Ivan Bajc pridno gradi. Vsem MZA sodelujočim sodelavcem in dobrotnikom, živim in rajnim, vračam molitveni spomin. Seveda ne pozabimo gorečega apostola pok. g. Wolbanga. Ostanimo povezani v molitvi in molimo drug za drugega. Toplo vas vse pozdravljam hvaležni Jan-ko Kosmač."

Darove so poslali sledeči: Neimenovana družina iz Illinoisa \$100 za misijonarja Jožeta Šomna za učni projekt mizarstva v Kongu; neimenovani iz Monterey, Kalif., \$300 za mis. Janeza Mujdrico za pomoč študentki Emily Mwale;

Stana Oven \$200 za mis. Šomna; Antonija Gregorin za najbolj potrebne \$150; Marija Petelin \$10. Tisočeri Bog plačaj za vaše plemenite darove in skrite žrtve darovanja. Potrdila za "income tax" pošljemo čimprej. Žal mi je, da smo pozna z objavo darov, včasih se to kaj rado zgodi.

Priporočam v molitev vse starejše in bolne dobrotnike. Prav tako pokojne, ki so se v zadnjih mesecih poslovili od svojih dragih. Naj se spočijejo v Gospodu.

Poverjenica MZA Joliet je sporočila, da so pripravili prodajo peciva na cvetno nedeljo in pridelali \$1250 za misijonarje, ter po njih za uboge. Srčna zahvala predsednici Mariji Jeretina za njen trud ter vsem, ki so pomagali k uspehu.

Poverjenica iz New Yorka je sporočila, da bodo imeli misijonsko prireditev v farni cerkvi sv. Cirila in Metoda, to v nedeljo, 20. maja.

Ob tej priložnosti se iskreno zahvaljujem vsem, ki so se oglasili z iskrenimi velikonočnimi voščili.

V molitve vključimo vse sodelujoče in vse one, ki se priporočajo, da naj bi za nje molili. Misijonski pozdrav vsem...

Sonja Ferjan

79 Lunness Rd., Toronto, Ont.
M8W 4M7 Canada

Sprava: proces osvobajanja in dejanje poguma

(nadaljevanje s str. 14)

stemu, ki je slabo dejanje povzročil, pa se onemogoča, da bi mogel v soočenju z resnico začeti novo življenje.

Zahtevati od tistih, ki so trpeli, naj pozabijo ali preprosto spregledajo svoje trpljenje, pomeni, da se s tem nasilje nad žrtvami na nek način nadaljuje, saj jim tisti, ki to od njih zahtevajo, posredno dopovedujejo, da njihovo trpljenje ni pomembno in so potemtakem tudi oni (žrtve) v tem procesu sprave nepomembni.

Razvrednotiti in ignorirati spomin, pomeni tudi razvrednotiti in ignorirati človeško identiteto, pa pomeni poniževati in jemati neresno človekovo dostojanstvo. Zaradi tega je sprava kot nek poceni dosežen mir pravo nasprotje resnične sprave. S pozabljenjem trpljenja je pozabljena žrtev, s tem pa

ostajajo zakriti in nerešeni tudi vzroki trpljenja.

Sprava kot nek poceni dosežen mir se torej poskuša izogniti temu, da bi analizirali vzroke trpljenja. Če ti vzroki niso kolikor toliko opredeljeni, se trpljenje v določeni obliki nadaljuje; začarani krog nasilja se nadaljuje in vedno več ljudi je zaradi tega prizadetih. Sprava torej na more biti nekaj, kar se na hitro in samo deklarativno zgodi, ampak zahteva svoj čas in vsebinsko osnovo.

Takšna oblika sprave, ki skuša mimo dejstev in soočenja z resnico in se sklicuje na to, da je treba preseči preteklost in preprosto pozabiti na tisto, kar se je zgodilo, je torej daleč od resnične sprave in pravega miru. Zatiskanje oči pred preteklostjo, ignoranca in tlačenje spomina ne pomenijo konec nasilja, ampak samo podaljševanje njegovega destruktivnega delovanja.

Sprava pomeni predvsem vrniti dostojanstvo človeku, tako tistemu, ki je bil žrtev krivic, kot krivcu, ki ima dovolj poguma in moči, da prizna svoje slabo dejanje. To je zahteven in postopen proces, ki zahteva osebno pripravljenost in odločenost, da življenju vrne temeljno kvaliteto bivanja.

b) Sprava ne more biti nek pogajalski proces

Resnična sprava se včasih poskuša nadomestiti, oziroma se jo včasih pojmuje kot neke vrste pogajalski proces, katerega namen je odpraviti konfliktno situacijo ali to vsaj nekoliko ublažiti. V tem primeru je sprava zreducirana na določen proces, v katerem skušajo večši pogajalci posredovati med strankama, ki sta v konfliktu, s tem da ocenijo njihove interese in poskušajo s pogajanjem priti do najugodnejših rešitev. V takšnem pojmovanju je sprava zreducirana na proces trgovanja in pogajanj, v katerem želi vsaka stran zavarovati svoj interes.

Takšno pojmovanje sprave kot pogajalskega procesa, ki sloni predvsem na interesu, ima kaj malo opraviti s krščanskim pojmovanjem sprave. Vse skupaj je zreducirano na nekakšno trgovino, ki pogosto ostaja daleč od resnice in resničnih vrednot.

Težava je v tem, da je sprava tu pojmovana samo kot nekaj človeškega in pušča ob strani vidik, ki je bistven za krščansko pojmovanje sprave: pobudnik sprave je najprej Bog, človek mu s svojimi prizadevanji in dejanji skuša samo slediti.

Drugi problem pri takšnem pojmovanju sprave pa je v tem, da je le-ta zreducirana na raven tehničnega-pragmatičnega razuma; sprava postane samo določena večšina, oblika pogajanj, ki pa ne morejo rešiti osnovnega konflikta, zaradi katerega je potrebna sprava.

Omenili smo samo dva vidika, kaj sprava ni. Mor-da bo nadaljnje razmišljanje zaradi tega nekoliko bolj jasno, ko bomo spregovorili o nekaterih vidikih, ki so pomembni pri spravi.

(Konec 1. dela; se nadaljuje)

Misijonska Znamkarska Akcija (MZA)

Catholic Mission Aid (CMA)

je javna, nepridobitna, dobrodelna misijonska organizacija. Ustanovil jo je Fr. Charles A. Wolbang, CM.

Registrirana je v mestu Columbus, Ohio, ZDA.

Za pomoč slovenskim misijonarjem zbira finančno pomoč za njih delo med ubogimi v misijonskih deželah ter za vzdrževanje bogoslovcev za domači misijon.

Hvaležni bomo za vsak dar, ki ga boste darovali v ta namen.

Spomnite se misijonarjev in ubogih v svojih oporokah. Za vse prejete darove izdamo potrdilo za "Income tax".

Uradni naslov:

MZA – CMA

17826 Brian Ave., Cleveland, OH 44119

Glavni odbor MZA-CMA, Cleveland

