significant step forward in the development of modern Slovene language materials. Compared to what was previously available, they herald a sea change and usher in a new era in Slovene language learning.

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The genre of dialect dictionaries ranges considerably: from mere word-lists meant to bridge the gap between local variation and an exalted standard language, to rich compendia containing not just lexical equivalencies, but a hoard of linguistic and anthropological knowledge to be examined perpetually—as exemplified in the Slavic-speaking world by V. I. Dal's *opus vitæ*, the *Tolkovyj slovar* 'živogo velikorusskago jazyka*, first published in the 1860s. On this continuum, Francek Mukič's *Porabsko knjižnoslovensko-madžarski slovar* (henceforth *PKMS*) lies somewhat closer to the latter than to the former, despite the author's modest statement that the compilation is intended primarily for "everyday practicality, readability, and comprehensibility, in short, usefulness, even for the linguistically less-educated native Slovene speaker from the Rába Valley" (iii). Mukič's reasons for the work are practical and timely, given that the Rába-Valley dialect—the subdialect of Prekmurje Slovene that remained in Hungary after the 1920 Trianon partition—teeters on the brink of language death, both owing to demo-graphic attrition as well as the everyday dominance of standard Hungarian rather than standard Slovene (henceforth *SSI*). As Mukič points out, Rába-Valley speakers are more likely to code-switch into Hungarian than *SSI* when they lack vocabulary for a given topic (iii). In the years since the (de)parting of the Iron Curtain, which effectively separated Rába-Valley Slovenes from their nearest linguistic relatives in Slovenia, Rába-Valley Slovene (henceforth *RVS*) has become more frequently elevated as a standard language in its own right, as reflected in texts published on the Internet (for example, one may read the *Porabje* newspaper at http://www.porabje.hu or take lessons on everyday *RVS* at http://www.vendvidek.com). In line with promoting *RVS* as a written medium, by way of introduction the author presents a two-page hortatory text in the dialect titled "Poštij mater(no rejč)" 'Respect your mother (tongue)' (v–vi)—and he gets extra points from this reviewer for invoking mother-guilt, always an effective motivator.

The design and layout of *PKMS* exudes practicality. Its cover and pages are plain but legible, without artistic pretense. Each page is arranged in a grid with three columns, from left to right: RVS (based primarily, but
not exclusively, on the speech of the author's native village of Gorenji Sinik/Gornji Senik/Felsőszőlnök\(^1\)—Slovene—Hungarian. Headwords are given in boldface and supplied with editorial accents, acute for long and grave for short stress, followed by basic inflectional data. Many of the entries also include examples of usage; the entry for the headword *šteti* ‘to want’ (346) is reproduced below with English glosses added:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em>šteti</em> škén ['to want']</th>
<th><em>hoteti</em> Hočeš iti?</th>
<th><em>akar</em> Akarsz menni?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Škēš titi?</em> ['Do you want to go?']</td>
<td><em>Kaj je hotel?</em></td>
<td><em>Mit akart?</em> (férő)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Kâ je stô?</em> ['What did he want?']</td>
<td><em>Zakaj ni hotela priti?</em></td>
<td><em>Miért nem akart eljönni?</em> (nő)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Zāka je nēj stējla priti?</em> ['Why didn't she want to come?']</td>
<td><em>Hotel je vše premoženje zase.</em></td>
<td>A vagyont magának akarta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Stō je cējlo bogāstvo za sē.</em> ['He wanted the whole fortune for himself.']-&gt;</td>
<td><em>Pojdi domov! – Ko bom hotel!</em></td>
<td>Menj haza! – Majd ha akarok!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Íđi domāu! – Čē mo stō!</em> ['Go home!' – 'If I want to!']</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PKMS deals admirably with the difficulties of representing the sound system of RVS. In addition to sharing most of the phonemic inventory of Slovene, this dialect also contrasts front plain vs. rounded vowels (*i*—*ü*, *e*—*ő*) and displays co-variation in the (historically) long vs. short low vowels *a*—*ā*. However, in contradistinction to German and Hungarian, from which this structural innovation originated through contact, RVS has inherited lexically-assigned (i.e., “unpredictable”) stress, which must be indicated in an adequate lexicographic representation. This confluence of structural points inevitably reveals the weakness of the current state of desktop publishing (and Microsoft in particular), which even in the third millennium deals poorly with stacked diacritics. Thus, the nonnative user must know some essential rules of stress for RVS in order to predict stress placement where the stress diacritic could not be placed for typographical reasons. For example, in the entry *dâti* dán ‘to give’ ‘I give’ (49), the infinitive form is short-stressed on the first syllable. This information is recoverable only if one knows that (a) all long-stressed words

\(^1\) Unfortunately, this means that the village-to-village micro-variation, such as that reported by Vratuša, is not captured. This can of course be overlooked, given that the dictionary does not set out to collect dialectal variation within Prekmurje Slovene.
are already marked for stress placement by an acute or the presence of a diphthong (which is necessarily stressed), and that (b) short stress never occurs in the final syllable of polysyllabic words. Given that the intended primary user of the dictionary is a native speaker of the dialect, who knows this information intuitively, such a quibble can hardly count against the work. Moreover, the author explicitly claims that he is unconcerned with precise transcription, but, rather, aims to gather as much lexical material as possible (iii). In light of this, the consistency and relative precision with which the transcription is treated is most laudable.

The dissimilarities between Prekmurje Slovene (henceforth PSI), which includes RVS, and the (essentially) Carniolan-based standard language, which constitute one of the main reasons that the rapprochement between RVS speakers and the standard proceeds per aspera (as we say in Kansas), also highlight the reason for which the dialect is worthy of the Slavist’s attention. Namely, this is a variety of Slavic that is at once archaic and unique, providing evidence of an older transitional zone between South and the West Slavic, of language contact with German and Hungarian dialects, as well as linguistic individuality (retention of archaisms or local innovations). To illustrate, PSI requires the clitic order 3sg-AUX + NEG + verb/modal adverb, e.g., S tākšnimi gīnci je nēj trbēj dēlo mēti (128) ‘One needn’t have anything to do with such jackasses (lit. oxen)’ in contrast to SSI S takimi voli ni treba imeti opravkov [sic] (loc. cit.), which has innovated by fusing the negative particle to the left of the auxiliary (ni < *ne je). In this case PSI is closer to the Czech and Slovak pattern, where the negative particle occurs directly before the verb and after the auxiliary, cf. Czech to je netreba ‘this is not necessary’. With regard to language contact, PSI trends towards the SOV word-order typical of Hungarian, as is evident in the contrast between PSI Vora [S] je rānc pānāuc [O] vēmlāila [V] vs. SSI Ura [S] je pravkar odblila [V] polnoč [O] ‘The clock just struck midnight’ (404) (A toronyora [S] épp éjjelt [O] üttött [V]). Or compare this calque from German: Tāu ne slišǐes (330) (≈ Es gehörnt nicht dazu) ‘This doesn’t belong here’. As far as regional individuality goes, PSI gičati is the neutral verb meaning ‘speak’ (127) (found throughout the Slovene Pannonian dialect, including also Slovenske Gorice, Prlekija, and Haloze) and is a shared Proto-Slavic dialect innovation found only in Bulgarian and Central Russian dialects (see Schallert and Greenberg 2007). One might also point to valuable archaisms found in RVS, absent even in closely related Prekmurje local variants to the south. For example, PKMS demonstrates the variation between st- Šk- (< *xēt- ~ *xēt-) found in stēti, škēn ‘to want’, ‘I want’, which elsewhere either appears with a different outcome or is lost (cf. Cankova stēila ‘she wanted’, šēfr ‘I want’ [Pavel 1909: 85, 146]; Old Literary PSI štēti, štēm [Novak 2006: 740]). Each of these points could be illustrated many times over with material found in PKMS.
Because of the treasure-chest of value for Slavic historical linguistics and dialectology that the dictionary represents, PKMS makes an important contribution to Slavic linguistics, regardless of whether or not this was the author’s intention. The representations of the dialect material are consistent and matters of detail that are implicit can be established easily enough by consulting published resources on related dialects (in particular, Avgust Pavel’s unsurpassed description of the closely related dialect of Cankova, Pavel 1909). On this score alone, PKMS is a success and a work worthy of emulation. By meeting its primary intention, serving as an intermediary between PSI and the Slovene and Hungarian standard languages, PKMS will serve as a tool to help forestall or, one hopes, reverse language death in the Rabá Valley. Yet, should PSI succumb to the tsunami of the dominant languages surrounding it, the value of PKMS as a repository of cultural and linguistic knowledge will remain.

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Works Cited

Novak, Vilko. 2006. Slovar stare knjzene prekmurščine. Ljubljana: ZRC SAZU.


Slovenia 1945 is a well-crafted blend of personal memories, historiography, and eyewitness accounts. The result is moving narrative that avoids the turgidity and dryness historical studies may fall prey to, as well as the indulgent emotionalism of some memoirs. The starting point for the volume was the letters written by John Corsellis, a conscientious objector working in the Friends Ambulance Unit in Austrian Carinthia from 1945 to 1947. This material was fleshed out with several dozen interviews, a diary by camp survivor France Pernišek, and the journalist Marcus Ferrar. Although