

BOOK REVIEWS

Etbin Bojc. *Pregovori in reki na Slovenskem*. 2. izdaja (Ljubljana: Državna Založba Slovenije, 1980). 406 pp.

Containing ca. 9,000 entries, this attractively printed anthology of Slovene proverbs and sayings continues the tradition of collection and publication begun by Anton Trstenjak, Fran Kocbek in the late nineteenth century, and continued in the main by Ivan Šašelj in our own. In preparation for this expanded and revised edition of his collection, Bojc consulted all previous publications of Slovene proverbs, both in anthologies and in ethnographic studies of a broader nature. He used the Kocbek-Šašelj anthology *Pregovori, reki in prilike* (Celje: Družba sv. Mohorja, 1934) as a basic corpus, but also included more recent proverbs found in Stanko Prek's *Ljudska modrost—trden je most: Slovenski ljudski pregovori in reki* (Maribor: Založba Obzorja, 1972). Thus he was able to assemble an impressive number of proverbs.

In the introduction (7-16) Bojc sketches the history of the collection and publication of Slovene proverbial sayings. Since he considered the traditional, alphabetical arrangement inconvenient, he rejected his predecessors' pattern and devised some fifty categories according to subject matter. Realizing that this was a rather unwieldy arrangement, he combined many until he reached a total of twenty categories. (It should be noted, however, that these are subject to numerous subdivisions; hence the reorganization is somewhat more cosmetic than substantial.)

To give some indication of the breadth of subject matter and the relative number of pages devoted to each topic, the headings are as follows: time (25-32), including hours, days, months and years; man (33-73) his/her spiritual and physical qualities, character, behavior, etc.; work, relaxation and amusement (75-92); society and family (93-106); nature, including vegetation, animals, home and abroad (109-125); contrasts, e.g., colors, sacred vs. profane (127-138); customs, rituals and superstitions (139-148); law, including right vs. wrong, crimes, courts, truth and justice (149-165); food and nourishment (167-173); wealth and riches, poverty (175-187); metaphorical comparisons (189-203); proverbial phrases and sayings (205-248); happiness and unhappiness (241-257); means and matter (253-259); behavior, conduct, and personal qualities (261-274);

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