

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Papers on Slovene Topics

Tom M. S. Priestly (University of Alberta), "Linguistic Variations in the Sele Fara dialect of Slovene: (Psycho-)sociological factors." IIIrd Balkan and South Slavic Conference, Bloomington, IN, 1 April 1982.

Linguistic variation, at all levels, is extremely noticeable in the Sele Fara dialect. Although some of the instances of variation can be explained as "dialectal" (i.e., strictly geographic), or as "stylistic," most often the linguist has to turn to extralinguistic factors for explanations. In this paper, examples of these extralinguistic factors are related to a taxonomy of speech situations. Also discussed are language attitudes, and various kinds of "code-switching."

Irma M. A. Ožbalt (P.S.C. Language Training Centre), "Case Frequency in Standard Slovene: Implications for Foreign Learners." IIIrd Balkan and South Slavic Conference, Bloomington, IN, 1 April 1982.

Memorizing paradigms of the four noun declensions presented in Slovene grammar books is not only difficult for a foreign learner of Slovene, it is also meaningless. In a textbook of Slovene as a foreign language intended for basic communication purposes (not for linguists who study Slovene as part of comparative Slavic philology), the noun cases (forms) should be introduced as the need for them arises out of daily situations a foreigner might encounter on his visit to Slovenia. The analysis of authentic exchanges in such situations shows that the frequency of case occurrences in spoken, everyday Slovene does not follow the order of the paradigms. After the nominative, the most frequently used case is the locative (needed for asking for and giving directions and locations); it is followed by the accusative (shopping, ordering meals), then follow the genitive, the instrumental and, finally, the dative. In a course of Slovene as a foreign language the noun forms should, therefore, be introduced gradually, intermingled with other grammatical concepts; this provides the opportunity for reinforcement, recycling and the expansion of the usage, i.e. new functions and new prepositional phrases. The

analysis of the noun cases and their order of occurrence in oral Slovene corresponds to the findings of an analysis of 50,000 words of written/printed Slovene (fiction, non-fiction, newspaper, correspondence), except that in written Slovene the accusative, not the locative, is the most frequently used case after the nominative.

Future Conferences

The SSS Program Coordinator, Mr. Metod Milac (Syracuse University), reports the following panels on Slovene topics at the national meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (October 14-17, 1982, Washington, DC):

THE SLOVENES OF FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA (Saturday, October 16, 9-11 AM, Executive Suite) (Sponsored by the SSS). Chairperson: James C. Davis (U. of Pennsylvania). Papers: "The Impact of Economic Change upon the Slovene Population in Devin-Nabrežina County, Trieste Province." Aleš Lokar (Università degli Studi di Ancona, Italy). "The Slovenes of the Trieste Area—A Sociological Approach." Emidij Susič (U. of Trieste, Italy). "The Slovenes of the Trieste Area—An Historical Approach." Jože Pirjavec (U. of Trieste, Italy). Discussants: Bogdan C. Novak (U. of Toledo) and Toussaint Hočevar (U. of New Orleans).

LITERATURE IN A MULTINATIONAL STATE: THE CASE OF SOUTH SLAVIC LITERATURES—A ROUNDTABLE (Saturday, October 16, 11:15 AM-1:15 PM, Presidential Ballroom). Sponsored by the Association for Croatian Studies, North American Society for Serbian Studies and Society for Slovene Studies. Chairperson: Vasa D. Mihailovich (U. of North Carolina). Participants: Ante Kadić (Indiana U.), Rado Lencek (Columbia U.), Irma Ožbalt (PSC Language Training Centre, Montréal), and Ralph Bogert (Harvard U.).

TOPICS IN SLOVENE STUDIES (Sunday, October 17, 9-11 AM, Ohio Room). Co-sponsored by the Society for Slovene Studies. Chairperson: Joseph Velikonja (U. of Washington). Papers: "The Slovene Immigrant and His Stay-at-Home Counterpart (A Case History)." John P. Nielson (New York U.). "Accentological Classes in Slovene." Lew R. Micklesen (U. of Washington). "Semiotics and Slovene Ethnic Studies in Cleveland." Irene Portis Winner. "Folklore of an Area Along the Kolpa (Kupa) River." Joseph Conrad (U. of Kansas).