

CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

Papers on Slovene Topics

At the AAASS conference in Washington, D.C. (October 14-17, 1982), Professor James C. Davis (History, University of Pennsylvania) chaired a Symposium on the Slovenes of Northeastern Italy.

I. In his paper, "Slovene Nationalism in Trieste, 1848-1982," Professor Jože Pirjevec (History, University of Trieste) traced the struggles of Slovenes to escape—sometimes through political negotiation, sometimes through armed revolt—the oppression of various dominant powers: the Habsburgs, the Savoy Kingdom, the Fascists, the Anglo-American Military Government and, more recently, Italy. Though varying in the degree of oppression and in the means taken to assimilate or eradicate the Slovenes as a political or cultural entity, from the relatively benign Habsburgs to the virulent Fascists, all these factions were less than enthusiastic about Slovene national consciousness; the Slovene struggle for full rights and freedoms continues.

II. Alessio Lokar (Economics, University of Ancona and Urbino) gave a paper on "The Impact of Technological Change on a Bilingual Community: The Case of Duino-Aurisina/Devin-Nabrežina, Italy." Due to a variety of economic changes (a flourishing marble industry gave way to a building/contracting boom which has, in turn, been supplanted by tourism and retail commerce) and due to heavy Italian immigration to the area, the Slovenes are now a numerical minority. But because of the high cultural and educational level of the Slovene population, the socio-economic differences between the Slovenes and the Italians are relatively negligible, and consequently the Slovenes are not as "dominated" here as they are in other parts of northeastern Italy. The "degree of discrimination" that does exist has an "ethnic" rather than a "social" basis.

III. Emidio Sussi (Sociology, University of Trieste) summarized five surveys given in northeastern Italy between 1968 and 1980 designed to discover how Slovenes, Friulians and Italians view themselves and each other. His paper, "Psycho-Sociological Aspects of Relations Among Three Ethnic Groups: Slovenes, Italians and

Friulians,” draws the conclusion that “a type of integration which is characterized by the presence of cultural and ethnic pluralism is taking place.” But this “pluralism” is also characterized by a “remarkable yielding of Slovene in favor of . . . Italian” and by “an inclination towards pluri-language use in the family.” According to Professor Sussi, the “ethnic peculiarity” of Slovenes (also of Friulians) can be preserved only if they become “structurally organized with a full series of institutions: associations, schools, mass-media, economic organizations, etc.”

The papers, with an introduction by Professor Davis and comments by Professor Toussaint Hočevar (Economics, University of New Orleans) and Professor Bogdan C. Novak (History, University of Toledo), will be published in the Fall 1983 issue of *Nationalities Papers*.

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 22-26, 1983, Kansas City, Missouri).

THE ROLE OF LOUIS ADAMIC DURING WORLD WAR II: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION. Chair: Joseph Velikonja (University of Washington). Participants: Bogdan C. Novak (University of Toledo), Henry Christian (Newark College of Arts and Sciences), Ivan Dolenc (Ontario, Canada), Rudolph M. Susel (Euclid, Ohio).

TOPICS IN SLOVENE LINGUISTICS. Chair: Rado L. Lencek (Columbia University). Papers: Herbert Galton (University of Kansas), “Imperfective and Perfective Past Tense in Slovene: a Definitely Non-Binary Approach.” Ronald Feldstein (Indiana University), “Reflexes of Nasal Vowels and *Jat*’ in Slovene Dialects.” William W. Derbyshire (Rutgers University), “Foreign Borrowing in Slovene.”