

NEW PUBLICATIONS IN SLOVENE STUDIES

FOLKLORE AND ANTHROPOLOGY

- Vesna Bučič, *Meščanska skrinja v Sloveniji*. Ljubljana: Narodni muzej, 1984.
- Janez Kajzer, *Obljubljeni kraj*. Ljubljana: Založba Borec, 1984. pp. 199. 56 photographs.
- Dušica Kunaver, *Slovenska pesem v besedi in glasbi*. Ljubljana: Dražavna založba Slovenije, 1984. pp. 298.
- Alenka Goljevšček. *Mit in slovenska ljudska pesem*. Ljubljana: Slovenska Matica, 1982. 223 pp.
- Mirko Hrovat. *Človek v zrcalu pregovorov*. Trst: Založništvo tržaskega tiska d. d., 1983. 320 pp.
- Dušan Rešek. *Šege in verovanja ob Muri in Rabi*. Druga, dopolnjena izdaja, Murska Sobota: Pomurska založba, 1983. 207 pp.
- Slovenska ljudske molitve*. Zbral, uredil, predgovor in opombe napisal Vilko Novak. Ljubljana: Družina, 1983. 560 pp.

Bučič' booklet on Slovene chests (*skrinje*) is actually the catalogue for an exhibit at the Narodni muzej in Ljubljana. Yet it is more complete than many museum catalogues, and the author has provided a sixteen-page essay on the development of the role and decoration of chests in Europe, and a four-page introduction devoted specifically to chests in Slovenia. Both discussions are accompanied by sketches (drawn by Blado Stijepič and Roman Hribar), and by essential bibliographic sources for those interested in learning more. The forty-six chests in the exhibit are illustrated by clear, black and white photographs, and given detailed discussion of their origin, design, artistic representation (carving, painting, etc.) and other relevant data. In its wealth of information and illustrations, this eighty-page booklet is a notable contribution to the study of Slovene culture.

Kajzer's *Promised Land* depicts present day life of four generations of Slovene immigrants to the United States, who now live in Cleveland and Euclid, Ohio. His goal is to dispel the stereotyped images of Slovene-Americans commonly found in Slovenia ("pol pa half" language, "polka in potica," etc.). Over the course of a five-week visit, he met and observed all aspects of the lives of various members of these communities. He describes their homes, stores, workplaces, social clubs and their facilities and activities. This is not an exact sociological study; but read in the context of its aim, to explain Slovene-American life to Slovenes who have not been to America, it will be interesting not only to its primary audience, but to Slovene-Americans who are curious as to how their lives are perceived in "stari kraj."

Kunaver's collection of folksongs is likewise not intended for scholars, but is a fine collection which generously illustrates the variety and wealth of Slovene folk music. The range of songs includes those devoted to Slovenia as a whole, those praising specific regions (Bela krajina, Dolenjska, Gorenjska, etc.), ritual calendar songs (*Jurjevanje*, *kresovanje*, *koledovanje*, etc.), love songs, wedding songs, those of

professions (*kmet, mlinar, lovec*, etc.), drinking and joking songs, songs about animals (horse, fox, mouse, etc.), about flowers, laments and songs from recent political events, especially World War II. Each is provided with musical notation; there are illustrations in the form of reproductions of *panjske končnice*. The collection is broad in coverage and will be suitable both as a classroom supplement and as a book of songs for anyone interested in Slovenia and her music.

Goljevšček's *Myth and the Slovene Folksong* is a scholarly examination of the history of Slovenes since the Middle Ages, archaic social structure, Slovene mythology and folksongs, and an esthetic evaluation of the songs themselves. Her research leads to the conclusion that the richest source of mythology in Slovene folksong is found in religious and drinking songs.

Mirko Hrovat's collection of some 4,500 Slavic and non-Slavic proverbs from Afghan, Albanian, Arabic, etc. through Thai, Tibetan and Vietnamese (to give an example of the range) is accompanied by a general introduction to proverbs and proverbial expressions, and is arranged according to an alphabetical list of topics; and a similar index listing all the instances found in the collection is provided as well. There is also a list of sources, and each expression is accompanied by an indication of its national origin and the page where it is found in the printed source. While the book is intended for a general audience and makes no pretense toward being a scholarly study, it is a handy collection for those interested in human society as reflected in proverbs the world over.

Customs and Beliefs along the Mura and Raba Rivers is the second edition of Dušan Rešek's compilation of reminiscences of the older generation's habits and customs. While, as such, it is not a scientific study, Professor Vilko Novak has provided an excellent introduction (pp. 5-24) to previously published materials concerning this region; thus the book offers a convenient starting point for those interested in customs ranging from birth, marriage, death, illness, etc., through calendar customs (Christmas, New Year's, Pust, and other spring, summer, fall and winter customs), to those dealing with occupations, i.e., farming, animal husbandry, and various aspects of the villagers' daily lives. There is also a list of informants with their birthdates, and a glossary of local words and expressions.

Academician Novak's *Slovene Folk Prayers* is interesting in that it includes not only Catholic prayers devoted to Jesus, the Virgin Mary, St. Catherine, the Lord's Prayer and other Christian subjects, but also offers abundant magic prayer-charms (pp. 39-80) used in an attempt to prevent hail, storms, the harm caused by persons with the power of the evil eye, and other afflictions. Most of the prayers were collected in the 19th century, but many are from the 1970's. Each prayer is accompanied by notes indicating the source, whether previously published or recently recorded from living informants. Equally important, Novak has written an informative, and scholarly essay to introduce the collection, and has provided a short list of sources and other works for the interested reader.

Joseph L. Conrad

HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Zbornik za zgodovino naravoslovja in tehnike, Zvezek 7, Bleiweisov zbornik (Ljubljana: Slovenska Matica), 1983, 297 pp. Between the 1840's and 1870's Janez Bleiweis played a central role in Slovene public life. The interest in Bleiweis shown by this periodical is justified by the fact that he was both a scientist and a propagator of improved agricultural technology. His medical dissertation was followed by treatises and textbooks in veterinary sciences as his interest turned to this field. In his capacity as a teacher at the Ljubljana veterinary school, he contributed significantly to the progress of animal husbandry. His publishing (*Novice*) and political activities actually served as a means toward achieving his primary aim, that of raising the educational and technical level of a society which was still heavily dependent on agriculture for its support.

All these aspects of Bleiweis' multifaceted personality are treated in essays contributed by appropriate specialists. Thus, essays by Vasilij Melik and Peter Vodopivec treat Bleiweis' role in Slovene political life and the economic and social views of his circle, respectively. His work as scientist, educator and popularizer of modern agricultural methods are covered in essays by Janez Batis, Milan Dolenc, Srdjan Bavdek, and France Adamič. His influence on Slovene literary language and Slovene cultural institutions is examined in essays by Martina Orožen, Velimir Gjurin, Štefan Barbarič, Stane Granda, and Dušan Moravec. Other, shorter contributions are by Franc Rozman, Bojan Štih, and Mirko Kambič. Also included is a bibliography of Bleiweis' publications, which consists of 341 items; and an index of persons and a subject index, both for the entire volume.

Toussaint Hočevar

ARCHIVAL SOURCES

Two recent archival collections published by the Zgodovinski arhiv Ljubljana will be welcomed by students of modern Slovene political and economic history. The first of these books is Marjan Drnovšek, *Arhivska zapuščina Petra Grassellija, 1842-1933*, Ljubljana: Zgodovinski arhiv Ljubljana, 1983, 522 pp. (Gradivo in razprave, 6.) It contains papers of Peter Grasselli (1842-1933), who was active as mayor of Ljubljana (1882-96), and as a member of the Vienna Imperial Council (1882-85), of the Carniolan Provincial Diet as well as of many Slovene cultural organizations. In shorter periods he edited the German-language weekly *Triglav* (1869) and the Slovene-language newspaper *Slovenski narod* (1879-81). The introduction contains a thematically organized biography of Grasselli and a discussion of his papers, which are divided in the following sections: (A) Personal Documents, (B) Correspondence, (C) Organizations, Publishing, Economic and Political Activities, (D) Manuscripts, Printed Materials, and Pictures. Documents in each of these sections are further subdivided and consecutively numbered. Each entry includes basic information about the item and either the complete text of the document or a summary. There are also a good many reproductions of the originals. At the end of the book, an extensive commentary provides the necessary background information to individual entries or groups of entries. Further one finds a chronological listing of letters addressed to Grasselli, an

index of titles of plays and other literary works referred to in the documents, and an index of persons, organizations, and places.

The second, less voluminous collection of sources is entitled *Zorka Skrabl, Hranilništvo na Dolenjskem in v Beli krajini*. France Štukl, *Hranilništvo v Škofji Loki*, Novo mesto—Škofja Loka: Mestni arhiv Ljubljana, 1983, 143 pp. (Gradivo in razprave, 5.) Skrabl covers lending cooperatives in Bela krajina (the counties of Črnomelj and Metlika) and in two additional counties of Lower Carniola, namely those of Novo mesto and Trebnje, while Štukl focuses on lending cooperatives in the county of Škofja Loka. For Lower Carniola basic historical data were drawn from the records of the Novo mesto district court, with which the cooperatives had to register. Two municipal savings banks (*regulativne hranilnice*), those of Novo mesto and of Škofja Loka, are also included. Detailed information on those institutions whose records have been preserved includes income statements, and for the municipal savings bank of Škofja Loka information on total assets, for various years.

In most cases researchers will be able to use both books as substitutes for the actual archives.

Toussaint Hočevar

HISTORY

Garth M. Terry, *Yugoslav History: A Bibliographic Index to English-Language Articles*. Nottingham: Astra Press, 1984. xxxii + 144 pp.

This bibliography lists 3000 articles contained in English-language journals, Festschriften, conference proceedings and collected papers from 1945 to the present, on the historical, diplomatic, political, social, economic, legal, intellectual and religious development of Yugoslavia and its peoples. Arrangement is by subject, within four main headings: Yugoslavia (General), Yugoslavia (to 1945), Yugoslavia (1945—), and History of Individual Republics. There is a full name index.

Letter to Editor