

Abstracts

■ *Peter Scherber: Peasants and urbanites, Germans and Slovenes. A letter sent from the dukedom of Carniola in 1869*

The contribution focusses on a hand-written letter, which the German director of a factory near Ljubljana/Laibach sent to his brother, who lived near Göttingen. The author of the letter led the paper factory Vevče in Zalog/Salloch, which at that time was Austrian property (from 1870: Leykam-Josefsthal AG). Since 1990, this enterprise has been owned by the Austrian W. Hamburger AG. The letter dates from 1 June, 1869, and its author, from a partial perspective tending to supporting the German side, describes in detail the bitter skirmish between nationally minded Slovenes and members of German gymnastic associations. However, he takes the party of the factory workers, seeing them as a group detached from national „excesses“. The events related by the factory owner are contextualized by means of daily press reports. On the whole, the contribution provides a significant “snapshot” of Slovene social history during the times of national emancipation (1848–1880), which took place in the midst of the campaigns for a “United Slovenia” with its frequent mass gatherings (*tabori*), after the Austro-Hungarian “Ausgleich” (1867).

■ *Marjan Drnovšek: Slovenians in motion: from the mass emigration of the 19th century to the end of the Gastarbeiter period. A socio-demographic sketch*

Emigration from Slovenia represents an integral part of European migratory movements. Slovenia’s strategic geographic position between the Pannonian, Mediterranean, and Alpine worlds as well as the Karst region fostered lively mobility within an ethnically heterogeneous population at the cross-roads of economic and cultural influences. During the twentieth century, the region belonged to several different state and social systems, which triggered both voluntary and forced migration. While Slovenia until the mid-twentieth century was an emigrant country, it became also an immigrant country during the Titoist decades, especially due to the arrival of workers from the other Yugoslav republics. Emigration peaked in the period of mass emigration to the United States during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The main destinations of Slovenian emigrants between the world wars were France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Germany. As a result of the Second World War, many refugees and “Displaced Persons” left or did not return to their home country. The last mass migration occurred from 1965 to 1973 and was directed mainly towards Germany, Switzerland, and Sweden. During the time of the second Yugoslavia, also daily migration to Italy and Austria was frequent. However, during the whole period under examination Slovenian emigrants result ethnically rather unrecognisable, as all three states, i. e. the Habsburg monarchy as well as the first and the second Yugoslavias, statistically classified them according to citizenship rather than to nationality. The same was true for the registration procedures in the states of destination. Only rarely did they ask about

ethnic affiliation or mother tongue. As a result, quantitative analyses of Slovenian emigration prove difficult.

■ *Žarko Lazarević: Continuities and disruptions: The long road towards a Slovene economic history in the 19th and 20th centuries*

The article delineates the development of Slovenian historiography on economic history relating to the 19th and 20th centuries. The author identifies as its fundamental feature the observation that it was, for a very long time, a rather marginalized subject. Research topics were limited, if not restricted, and mainly referred to the topic of industrialisation, while the framework of research and reference focused on Slovenia alone. Hence, the emergence of economic history as a recognisable discipline was also restricted by the given social context. After World War II and until the mid-1980s, economic history was limited by the framework of Communist interpretation patterns. As a realm of study, it began to take shape in the 1960s, the conceptual and methodological basis being of the traditional descriptive-positivist kind. A re-structuring process became fully fledged in the early 1990s and coincided with the ongoing generational change among scholars. The number of researchers doubled, and so did the scope of research. Changes were gradual at both the conceptual and the methodological level, while it is impossible to speak of a prevailing pattern. By means of generalisation two major parallel methodological threads can be identified, one which sticks to the more traditional descriptive-positivist approach, and the other, emphasizing an ambitious problem-oriented treatment of phenomena observed over a longer period of time, and with aspirations towards inter-disciplinarity.

■ *Miran Hladnik: Strategies of social conduct in the Slovene historical novel*

Several strategies for the national body's behaviour in historical situations can be found in the Slovene historical novel since its beginnings in the 19th century: among others, these are the elimination of an enemy, the belief that there is no such thing as an enemy, and finally the recognition of a superior alien, as well as the acceptance and adoption of his values. Due to the fact that the Slovenes as a "non-historical nation" did not possess a military of their own, the first option has rarely been advised to literary heroes. On the contrary, the pretention that an alternative (hence hostile) culture does not exist at all is symptomatic for popular fiction, while the major works of the national canon propose the most risky attitude towards the dominant Other: its adjustment to the specific needs of one's own. The option of accepting a foreign force and subordinating to it remained beyond the scope of Slovene literature, and so did a potential assimilation of the Other. The paper discusses the variety of metaphors in dealing with the national historical destiny, and includes France Prešeren's *Krst pri Savici* (1836), Jožef Žemlja's *Sedem sinov* (1843), Fran Levstik's *Martin Krpan*, Ferdo Kočvar's *Mlinarjev Janez* (both 1859), Josip Jurič's *Jurij Kozjak* (1864), Ivan Tavčar's *Visoška kronika* (1919), and Vladimir Bartol's *Alamut* (1938).

■ *Petra Svoljšak: The social history of the Soča/Isonzo region in the First World War*

The Great War touched almost every Slovene family. Its outbreak in August 1914 called about 30.000 men from the Slovene lands to Austro-Hungarian arms; during the whole period of the war about 160.000 Slovene men were mobilized, and about 35.000 of them died for “God, the Fatherland, and the Emperor”. The Austrian military reports describe them as brave and loyal soldiers. In May 1915, Italy entered the war on the side of the Entente, after long negotiations that were concluded with the secret Pact of London in April 1915. The western margin of the Slovene ethnic territory became a part of the frontline between Austria-Hungary and Italy. This new battlefield affected the lives both of the population in the immediate war zone and of the people living further inland. Everywhere civil life was subjected to military laws, and the so-called war absolutism became even more rigorous. The Austro-Hungarian authorities ordered the complete evacuation of the villages along the frontline; 80.000 Slovene refugees were transported inland. While 50.000 of them could stay in Carniola and Styria, the rest was disseminated in refugee camps all over the Empire. The territory east to the frontline was occupied by the Italian army. The Italian authorities also ordered an immediate evacuation of 12.000 Slovenes, and had them transported to Italian towns. Italian was introduced as the official language – school lessons, personal names, surnames, the names of rivers, villages and mountains were turned into Italian. On the other hand, the authorities tried to assist the population with medical care, social subsidies, and regular provision supplies. Yet these measures only concealed the aim of gradually introducing the people to the planned annexation to the Kingdom of Italy. The 12th Soča offensive in October 1917, with the severe defeat of the Italian army near Kobarid/Caporetto, interrupted such endeavors for a year. Afterwards, the then victorious Italian army reoccupied the region, and for a much longer time.

■ *Bojan Godeša: Social and cultural aspects of the historiography on the Second World War in Slovenia*

The paper deals with the basic characteristics of Slovene historiography on World War II, which were largely conditioned by their social significance. The post-war authorities in Slovenia and Yugoslavia (1945–1990) legitimized themselves by directly referring back to the events during the occupation (1941–1945). Socialist historiography on World War II remains valid with regard to its relative reliability concerning the facts. The interpretation of the whole, however, was fundamentally deficient, as it was undertaken exclusively by leading politicians and ideologists. Only after the fall of communism, Slovene historiography started to pay more attention to more complex and pluralist interpretations of the past, attempting at eliminating ideological stereotypes and taboos. New research questions include those about the legitimacy and legality of the communist resistance movement, about interwar violence and post-war killings, about the essence of the Slovene variant of World War II (civil war – yes or no), about the number of war victims and who caused them, about the various faces of collaboration. In addition, Slovene historiography began to inquire into the hitherto neglected aspects of social, economic, and everyday history of the Second World War. On the whole, the period between 1941 and 1945 remains one of the most contradictory issues within Slovene historiography.

■ *Dušan Nečak: Forced Migration in the areas inhabited by Slovenes during and after the Second World War*

In the course of the Second World War, several ten thousands of Slovenes were expelled from the German and Italian occupation zones, and transported to Germany, Serbia, and many concentration camps. Slovenes in the Hungarian occupation zone (Prekmurje) were faced with a similar fate and deported to inner Hungary. In 1941, the so-called Kočevje Germans were transferred from the Italian occupation zone to the German one, to houses owned by deported Slovenes. A year later, it was the Carinthian Slovenes' turn, and after the Italian capitulation the Litoral and Istria saw the first emigrant wave. A second category of forced migration from the areas inhabited by Slovenes pertains to those who left at the war's end or shortly afterwards. The majority belonged to the collaborationist *domobranci*; about 10.000 found their death in extrajudicial show tribunals. From the war's end to 1955 also almost all ethnic Germans, once a strong minority (25.000 people), were expelled from Slovenia. The Istrian "exodus" was used by the authorities in Italy to "italianize" those areas mainly inhabited by Slovenes. Out of ideological reasons the Hungarian communist government, after 1948, refused to let those opposed to Tito settle in Hungary. Forced migration in the area inhabited by Slovenes stopped in 1955, even though illegal crossing of the borders because of varying political motivations continued until 1961, when the Yugoslav borders were opened.

■ *Marta Verginella: Women's and gender history in Slovenia*

Since the late 1970s, Slovene social science has been developing an increasing interest in gender studies. It was mostly political groups of feminist women who initiated the academic interest in topics related to women, acting in various Yugoslav contexts, but most of all in Belgrade, Zagreb, and Ljubljana. The increased sensitivity towards gender issues did not yet reach the historiographic field. Only at the end of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s, with already numerous initiatives within the humanities and social sciences under way, some changes occurred also in historiography. The first studies dedicated to the history of women were promoted by historians like Darja Mihelič, Sabina Žnideršič, Neda Pagon, and Peter Vodopivec. As a matter of fact, it still were mainly the sociologists, political scientists, and philosophers who more consistently investigated the history of women, proposing it as a subject for university courses and promulgating important editorial initiatives. During the last decade, however, quicker and more profound changes occurred. First of all, the number of young female academics interested in social, economic, and cultural history and in the presence and agency of women in the various historical periods increased. But also the general historiographic context has opened itself towards an increased attention to women's, and subsequently gender, history.

■ *Mitja Velikonja: Titouage – Nostalgia for Tito in Post-Socialist Slovenia*

27 years after his death and 16 years after the collapse of socialist Yugoslavia, images of its president Josip Broz Tito can be found in different places and at different levels of social life in all ex-Yugoslav states. Opinion polls also show a mostly positive evaluation of his historical role. The study deals with social, ideological, and cultural aspects of this – for his critics –

unexpected and widespread phenomenon, which among different groups and for different reasons assumes very diverse forms, intensities, and further elaborations. These will be interpreted within a broader framework of post-socialist nostalgias, which are manifest as both public discourses and mentality patterns.

■ *Tatjana Petzer: Halgato. Feri Lainšček's ethnological view on the Romanies in Slovenia*

What constitutes a Romani (human)? The name of one hero in Feri Lainšček's novel "*Namesto koga roža cveti*" (1991; Instead of whom does the flower bloom) is Halgato, the Hungarian word for a melancholic instrumental piece. By evoking the music of the Gypsies, Lainšček's novel approaches the melancholy and violence in the life of the Romanies; it registers stereotyped perceptions by others as well as the pride of the social outsiders, it traces the social advancement through education and the process of estrangement from family and origin. Considering the social history and the aggravating situation of the Romanies in Slovenia, the paper discusses the tension between the ethnic minority's integration into society and their social exclusion, as it can be deduced from the realm of artistic representations.

■ *Jože Pirjevec: The Slovene statehood and dealing with the past*

The question of Slovene statehood has its origins in the Second World War, when it became obvious that the Yugoslav state did not live up to the confidence and the loyalty with which the Slovenes had joined it. The discussion on the future fate of the Slovene nation developed both in the clerical camp and in the camp which had gathered around the liberation front. Subsequently, the Yugoslav option prevailed and was intended to be based on federalism and on a Slovene autonomous republic, including the right to secession. In the framework of such a scheme the liberation front, during the war, introduced a series of administrative measures and important decisions which became the pillars of Slovene statehood (e.g. an independent army). Although the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, after it had taken over in 1945, attempted to shape the Yugoslav federation according to the principle of "democratic centralism" as it had been coined by Lenin, it did not fully succeed in oppressing the autonomist tendencies present in Slovenia. Eminent Slovene communists themselves supported such tendencies. They became all the more obvious after the split between Tito and Stalin in 1948, when Yugoslavia embarked on multifold inner reforms. The Slovene political and intellectual elites proved quite convinced and determined to pursue their autonomist goals, and soon found themselves in conflict with the Belgrade more centralist ideas. It was this conflict that proved to be a leitmotif throughout the existence of Tito's Yugoslavia, and it was one of the central reasons for its demise.