
ACTA

ECCLESIASTICA

SLOVENIAE

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PISMA JANEZA EVANGELISTA KREKA

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GRADIVO ZA HISTORIČNO TOPOGRAFIJO
PREDJOŽEFINSKIH ŽUPNIJ NA SLOVENSKEM
PRAŽUPNIJA CERKNICA

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ZAČETKI CERKVENE ORGANIZIRANOSTI
SLOVENCEV V KALIFORNIJI

LJUBLJANA 2004



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SUMMARY:

THE LETTERS OF JANEZ EVANGELIST KREK

In September 1991 in Slovene Institution in Rome Symposium Janez Evangelist Krek (1865-1917) took place organized by Slovene Academy of Theology in Rome and Institute for Church History within the Faculty of Theology in Ljubljana. Next year the syposium anthology was issued on 251 pages. During the first lecture W.Lukan, who wrote doctoral dissertation on Krek, represented also an extensive list of literature on Krek in addition to basic biography data.

Among numerous authors, who wrote about Krek, **Ivan Dolenec** (Sopotnica near Škofja Loka 1884 – Ljubljana 1971) is undoubtedly the most prominent writer, who during 1923 – 1933 published four volumes under the title *Dr. Janez Ev. Krek, The Selected texts*. For this purpose he had been collecting material in any way connected with Krek. During his holidays after secondary school examination 1904 he got acquainted with Krek. He writes about like this: »Among secondary school students of that time a modest organization of catholic thinking youth gathering mostly around Krek already existed. The Ljubljana candidates for the secondary school examination year 1904 have invited me to join them in visiting Krek at Prtovč. On the very first day I got a feeling that Krek lit my life up as nobody before. I was growing up so far in scarcity toiling constantly for school and for bread, but Krek opened my view into the world full of joy, brightness, liberty and – simplicity. Whenever you met him you were delighted as a bedouin in oasis. As superb duty I could do for Slovene people was meant my anxiety to try to retain the reminiscence of him and his doctrine among us in order to leave at least a trace of shadow dawn of the coming glory to late descendants. Krek could have made Slovenes the happiest nation in the world if he had been given longer life and if all Slovenes without exception could have appreciated him properly, of perhaps even better: if he could have been folowed on his way«. Dolenec participated in »social courses«

organised over years by Krek at Sv.Jošt over Kranj pretty regularly. His reminiscences of them are like this: »Krek did not give lectures but he displayed his conceptions with Socrates method in way of leading a conversation. Therefore results of studies stayed in mind permanently. He took care of thoroughness. Every next lesson started with the question, if anybody would like to add something or ask about subject dealt with in conversations hitherto. Lessons were pleasant, breaks too«.

Ivan Dolenec estimated Krek highly and accompanied his work on political as well as on social domain very carefully. He writes:»The longer I have known Krek, the more I am convinced that he needs to be listened to without exception always if I can help. Not even once I left his speech or lecture dissatisfied or thinking I did not find my account in it«.As a pupil of the fourth class Dolenec already started learning German shorthand (at grammar school except Slovene all subjects were taught in German language). On occasion of listening to the enthusiastic Krek speech at a meeting in Železniki in summer 1909 the idea struck him what a pity it was, that he did not write any speech of Krek in shorthand. Next winter he thoroughly set to learning Slovene shorthand, yet at the end he had to find out:»I did not write any of Krek speeches in shorthand, not even one.Years of suffering came upon him, the world war made meetings impossible, and the last letter received from Krek was inviting me to take a job offered as a shorthand writer for Slovene and Serbo-Chroat language in Vienna parliament. This was towards the end of June 1917. I was pleased with setting off for Vienna to be able to learn from near vicinity from Krek work and his company. For different reasons my way to Vienna was postponed until 23rd October, 1917. I saw Krek never again«. Dolenec worked as a shorthand writer for good five years (1917 – 1922) in Vienna and afterwards in Belgrade parliament. Inbetween he worked for three months also at meetings of the first Slovene national government.

In his biography, the first seven chapters for it were written in 1946, while he was in jail in Novo mesto (it was published in 1973 in Buenos Aires under the title *My growth*). Dolenec is explaining, when and how he started concerning himself with writing about Krek and collecting material

more intensely. He wrote about Krek while he was still alive, especially from 1913, when Krek experienced increasing troubles in political field of work. At that time Dolenec made a decision »at least briefly to mention Krek in any article he was about to write«. Together with assistants Bogumil Remec and Franc Verbic he prepared for the Krek 50th anniversary an extensive supplement with numerous articles about Krek, which was to be published by *Slovenec*, but due to political complications it never appeared. The material collected was latter still enlarged and published in 1917 as a book. In prison in Novo mesto 22nd August, 1946 Dolenec wrote: »While I am now turning over more and less joyous leaves in the book of my life I am contented with the thought, that at the time while the memory of Krek among us was still alive I acquired one or another, who returned Krek friendship, and that I resued from oblivion at least some details about Krek that might have got lost. It was my principal duty towards Slovene culture and history to write about Krek«.

Soon after Krek died Dolenec started preparing selected texts about Krek for publication. In the first place he wrote for Mohorjeva Company an extensive biography of Krek, then he picked up collecting material for more extensive work. By 1922 the first volume was ready and was published a year afterwards. The more extensive second volume, which due to plenty of work at school beeing prepared over a longer period, was published in two parts 1928 and 1929. The third volume was published as a reprint of *Socialism* of Krek, the fourth volume with a subtitle *In the parliament for the first time (1897-1900)* was issued in 1933 in Ljubljana.

After World War II Dolenec was in jail from the 10th May, 1945 till 6th September, 1946 in Novo mesto because »he officialy took part in gatherings and anticommunist meetings and in his speeches he blackened and insulted the Front of Liberation. During the occupation time he politically collaborated and took a job within enemy's authorities and assisted them in fullfilling compulsory measures against the people of Yugoslavia«. Since then he lived at home at his native Sopotnica. While farming and studying he did not forget Krek. Immediately after returning home he continued with collecting material about Krek. He paid visits to acquaintances and everyw-

here took an interest in any writing linked with Krek. He was well acquainted with Krek sister Cilka, who alone also collected material about her brother. Separately he applied to friends of Krek still alive, who were in close cooperation with him in literary, political and social domain above all. His persistent work resulted in collecting nearly ninety-nine (99) letters and three postcards. Letters were studied thoroughly, and assisted by his wife Poldka he arranged them according to addresses and dates. He gathered also various letters written to Krek by different people. Additionally he managed to find a series of writings, mostly in handwriting that directly deal with Krek, or at least indirectly mention one or other of his activities. Everything arranged in envelopes or rolls adequately inscribed was carefully saved at his home in Sopotnica. After the death of Dolenec on 12th February, 1971 the inheritance of Krek was taken over by the nephew of Dolenec, named Jurij Dolenc, who also occupied himself a lot with Krek, and knew the material saved very well. Milka Dolenc, the widow of Jurij, 1993 handed the Krek inheritance over to Capuchin Convent in Škofja Loka for keeping.

It is not easy to read the Krek handwriting. The transcription took a lot of time and accurate work. In letters we can learn a lot »at first hand« about ecclesiastic, economic, social and cultural circumstances of Krek time. They show us directly activities of clergy in these fields. What is very characteristic of him Krek speaks very openly regarding ambition of some priests who endeavour for economic development, better material conditions and spiritual growth of people. On the other hand he points out without any prejudice their mistakes and in individual cases their harmful effect. Words in letters testify his fine ear for democratic way of thinking and treatment, his sense for social work among all classes of inhabitants, among working and rural people. In letters a reader is confronted with a person who knows what he wants, being upright, self-confident and resolute every moment shall it be in Vienna parliament, or while preparing a foundation of an industrial association in some Slovene village. Anyhow, these letters are precious, the so far unknown source to know Janez Ev. Krek and his work better.

SUMMARY

MATERIAL FOR THE HISTORICAL TOPOGRAPHY OF SLOVENE
PARISHES BEFORE THE TIME OF JOSEPH II

The contribution brings the material for the history of Slovene parishes before the time of Emperor Joseph II's reforms, their filiation and territorial spread, their principal and succursal churches and chapels, all in certain systematical order. The volume published here contains the territories supposed to have belonged to the ancient parish (*Urpfarre*) of Cerknica. The major part of the data origins from medieval documents and the 1711 and 18th century bishops' visitations. The data are arranged as follows:

1. The parish territory by settlements,
2. the earliest mentions of the place of the parish seat,
3. the first mentions of the parish church and other more interesting data,
4. a brief outline of parish history (filiation and origin),
5. the data on canonical rights (*ius confirmandi*, *ius praesentandi* and patronage, advocatship),
- 6.–8. a list of succursal churches, chapels and monasteries within the parish boundaries. The author supplies primarily the data that are relevant to the history of individual church buildings.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG

MATERIALIEN FÜR DIE HISTORISCHE TOPOGRAPHIE DER
VORJOSEPHINISCHEN PFARREN IN SLOWENIEN

Der vorgelegte Beitrag bringt Materialien für die historische Topographie der vor-josephinischen Pfarren in Slowenien, und zwar für das Innerkrain, welches hypothetisch durch die Urpfarre Cerknica bedeckt war. Die Angaben sind nach dem folgenden System eingeordnet:

1. Der territoriale Umfang der Pfarre nach Ortschaften,
2. früheste urkundliche Erwähnungen des Ortes mit dem Sitz der Pfarre,
3. früheste urkundliche Erwähnungen der Pfarrkirche mit weiteren Angaben,
4. kurzer Abriß der Pfarrgeschichte (Ursprung, Filiation),
5. Angaben über kanonische Rechte (*ius confirmandi*, *ius praesentandi* mit dem Patronat, Vogtei),
- 6.–8. Verzeichnis der Filialkirchen, Kapellen und Klöster innerhalb der Pfarrgrenzen. Die Angaben stammen weitgehend aus mittelalterlichen Quellen und bischöflichen Visitationen des 17. und 18. Jahrhunderts, dabei vor allem diejenigen, die für die Baugeschichte der Kirchen und Kapellen relevant sind.

SUMMARY

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE CHURCH ORGANIZATION OF SLOVENIANS IN CALIFORNIA

The paper deals with the earliest period of the Slovenian emigration to California, with the Nativity Slavonian Parish in San Francisco and within the Catholic community of the San Francisco Archdiocese in general. According to the recent research the first Slovenians settled in California in the years of the golden rush. The largest group of the Slovenians found their new home in the Golden State in the last two decades of the 19th century and in the years before World War I. At the very beginning they joined church communities of other national groups. Occasionally, they were visited by priests from the 'old country'. They started to work for an independent Church institution in cooperation with the Croats after 1894. A complete failure proved the attempt of Fr. Peter Jeram who tried to organize a Slovenian Colony in the years 1896 and 1897. A Slovenian parish and a parish school were also integrated in his plans. With a strong support of Archbishop Msgr P. W. Riordan who helped many ethnic groups to found their own parishes Slovenians and Croats also established their church community. It was founded in 1902 being the first Catholic Parish on the Pacific coast for the Slavic emigrants; it was called 'the Slavonian Parish'. Fr. Francis Turk, he was in charge of the parish between 1903 and 1939, is considered to be the founder of the parish. He built several church buildings and with the help of the community he successfully overcame the consequences both of the earthquake and of the fire of 1906. After Fr. Turk's death in 1939 the future of the parish of the Nativity was under discussion. Thanks to the efforts of Archbishop Msgr John J. Mitty who tried to find a new pastor among the priests in Slovenia the Slavonian parish in San Francisco continued its mission.