

MILAN OBRENOVIĆ IV

Serbian King

Milan Obrenović was born on 10th August 1854 in Manasija to father Miloš Obrenović (the son of master Jevrem who is the brother of Prince Miloš) and mother Maria Catargiu. His mother was Vlach. He got the name of Milan after his godfather – Prince Miloš, who wanted that the former had the name after his (Prince Miloš') brother Milan (the Duke of Rudnik), as well as his (Prince Miloš') son, Milan, who died in his young age.

Miloš Obrenović and Maria separated almost immediately after the birth of Prince Milan. Since Marija was thoughtless, Prince Mihailo became Milan's tutor. He took him in 1863 when Milan was nine years old. Since then, Milan lived in Paris where he was taught by selected teachers, and from 1867, he was studying at one of Paris lyceums. He was a good student, he was the best in gymnastics in his generation.

After the assassination of Prince Mihailo, the question of the new prince was raised. Garašanin wanted the selection of the prince, but Blaznavac did not want it. Early in the morning of 30th May 1868, Blaznavac came to the barracks of the Belgrade Garrison and convinced the officers to "cry" Milan Obrenović as the new prince. Milan Obrenović was brought from abroad by Jovan Ristić on 11th June 1868. The National Assembly was held in Topčider. There were around 500 delegates and, as intervened by Blaznavac, far more army, around 1,600 armed men. Milan Obrenović was as "the single legal successor of the Serbian throne" elected as the new Serbian Prince. Now, he "is the only holder of the great name of Obre-

nović" around which the country could be united. Until 10th August 1872, when Milan Obrenović got to the age of maturity and finally overtook the rule, Serbia was ruled by the Regency. Miloje Petrović Blaznavac (as the Defence Minister), Jovan Ristić, and Jovan Gavrilović were the regents.

It was the time of great political turbulences at the internal political scene. The major conflicts between the parties were about the change of the Constitution of 1868. The liberals were in favour of that Constitution, the conservatives wanted to change it, because it was too liberal. The constant conflicts between Prince Milan and the parties, especially the radicals, existed with regard to that. He was always capable of skilfully getting away with such conflicts. He was very wise in many situations. At the time of the so-called Eastern crisis during the uprising in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1875, he managed to have Serbia outside the war though the leading politicians were in favour of the war.

On 5th October 1875, Prince Milan married Natalie Petrova Keschko. Her father was a Russian colonel who had some large estates in Bessarabia. Her mother was Romanian. Some said that Natalie was the Russian Princess, but she was not. This was not the political marriage, Prince Milan fell in love with Natalie and proposed to her. On 14th August 1876, Princess Natalie gave birth to the successor to the throne, King Aleksandar to be.

On 30th June 1876, Serbia declared the war to Turkey. Montenegro did so two days later. It was how the first Serbian-Turkish war began. Ser-

bia was not ready for the war when it entered it, but the support from Russia was counted on. The Turks began the offensive. After the Serbian defeats, Prince Milan moved from Paraćin to Belgrade. It was especially difficult after the Turkish defeat near Djunis. Along the Morava valley, the Turks could easily reach Belgrade, Serbia was close to the failure, but, luckily for Prince Milan and Serbia, Russia quickly responded. On 31st October, it gave the ultimatum to the Porte and the deadline of 48 hours to accept the two-month truce with Serbia. Thus, on 1st November 1876, the two-month truce was concluded.

The second Serbian-Turkish war 1877–1878 was started by Serbia on 13th December 1877, induced by Russia, which had already been in the war with Turkey. In a short time, Kuršumlija was liberated, whereas the Turkish units left Leskovac. Then, Babina Glava fell, two days after that Sveti Nikola notch and on 24th December Bela Palanka also fell. Somewhat fiercer fights were led for Pirot, but, after the three-day battle, this town was also seized on 28th December. The attack of Niš began on 7th January, and the Turks finally surrendered on 10th January 1878. The Serbian army entered Niš on 12th January. Two days later, Prince Milan was there. Afterwards, the operations continued towards Priština. In the meantime, Vranje was seized (on 31st January 1878), followed by Gnjilane (on 4th February). The victory near Vranje was the biggest victory in this war.

On 31st January 1878 in Adrianople, Russia and Turkey settled the truce. Thus, this war of Serbia and Turkey was finished after six weeks. On 3rd March 1878, Russia and Turkey signed the Peace of San Stefano, with which Serbia was not satisfied. While the war was still lasting, the Serbian government required the Turkish government to recognise the Serbian independence, as well as the attachment of the territory of "old Serbia or current Kosovo vilayet including Vidin". This was not expected by the Russian diplomacy, thus, the Serbian interests were not discussed. The Treaty of San Stefano provided for the independence and minor territorial expansion of around 150 km² for Serbia (Niš, Leskovac, Toplica, the Lab, parts of Novi Pazar and Mitrovica Nahiyah); for Montenegro also the independence and large territorial

expansions (some parts of Herzegovina, the left bank of the Lim, Plav, Gusinje, Bar), in Bosnia and Herzegovina Turkey would have implemented the internal reforms. However, under it, great autonomous Bulgaria should have been created, which would have included Macedonia and south-east parts of today's Serbia (Pirot, Vranje). Due to the objection of other forces, the San Stefano Treaty was replaced with the Treaty of Berlin.

The Treaty of San Stefano completely turned Prince Milan away from Russia, until then, perhaps the greatest Russophile in Serbia. He suddenly turned to Austro-Hungary since he considered that it might impact that Serbia did not sustain big damages as it had been provided for in the San Stefano Treaty. Therefore, from 13th June to 13th July 1878, the Congress of Berlin was held, where the San Stefano Treaty was revised. It was participated only by the great forces – Russia, England, Austro-Hungary, Germany, Italy, France, and it was chaired by German Chancellor Bismarck.

The Congress lasted for one month, from 13th June to 13th July 1878. The two major issues included: solving the destiny of Great Bulgaria (on the one hand) and the destiny of Bosnia and Herzegovina (on the other hand). The issue of the damage for Serbia was of secondary importance at the congress, it was to be solved on the fly.

Under the firm head of German Chancellor Bismarck, the provisions of the San Stefano Treaty were completely revised. Two Bulgarias were created, north of the Balkans mountains the Principality of Bulgaria as the Turkish vassal and Bulgaria south of the Balkans, as the autonomous area within the Turkish Empire, called Eastern Rumelia. Macedonia, Albania, and northern parts of Greece remained in Turkey. Montenegro was recognised the full state independence and it was substantially territorially expanded, it doubled its territory including some restrictions of sovereign rights. Romania also became independent and got some parts in Dobruja, but Bessarabia was deprived of it in favour of Russia. There were also some other decisions only relating to the great forces and some other areas in Europe.

The decision that Austro-Hungary was recognised the right to occupy Bosnia and Herzego-

vina and the right to hold its military detachments in Novi Pazar Sanjak, separating Serbia and Montenegro, were of far-reaching significance for Serbia. Thus, Serbia and Montenegro still remained separated, this time not with the Turkish but with Austro-Hungarian detachments.

The issue of Serbia was discussed on St. Vitus Day, on 28th June. According to the decisions of the Congress of Berlin, the independence from the San Stefano Treaty was confirmed to Serbia and it expanded its territory by four counties (Niš, Vranje, Pirot, and Toplica). It was the territory expansion of 200 km².

From the Congress of Berlin, the direction of the Serbian foreign politics was changed. Turkey was not the centre of all political events any more, but Austria-Hungary became the one, even more because it, due to the support at the Congress of Berlin required and got certain privileges from Serbia, mostly of economic nature.

During the next two years (1878–1880), he rarely appeared in public. Constant frictions in his marriage were getting increasingly serious, which was additionally intensified with the miscarriage of Princess Natalie and the death of just born male child, Sergij, who was buried in the Church of St. Mark in Belgrade.

It was the time of the beginning of the organisation of party activities in Serbia: in early 1881, the National Radical Party was established, followed by the Progressive Party, and on 17th September 1881, the Liberals formally organised Society for Supporting Serbian Literature. One year later, on 17th September 1882, they changed their name into Liberal Party. Thus, in a short time period, Serbia had the radical, progressive, and liberal party.

Enjoying the support of Austria-Hungary, Prince Milan proclaimed himself the King in February 1882. Serbia became the kingdom, and he was the first Serbian King in the recent history. However, already in October of the same year the assassination of the King was committed

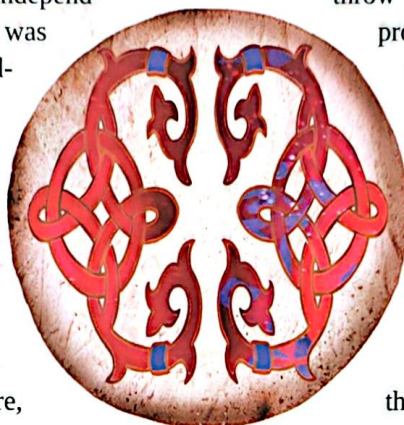
at the Cathedral in Belgrade (he was shot at by Jelena Ilka Marković, the widow of Jevrem Marković, whom King Milan had executed in 1878). The fierce inter-party struggles culminated on 25th September 1883 in the Timok Rebellion, in the villages of Rujšite, Milušinac, and Bogdinac. The rebellion was expanded to Knjaževac, Zaječar, Boljevac, when the radicals tried to overthrow King Milan. The rebellion was promptly curbed, and the activity of the Radical Party was prohibited.

The whole Main Board was arrested, only Nikola Pašić fled and remained in immigration in the next six years.

In September 1885, the Principality of Bulgaria and Eastern Rumelia were united. Serbia considered such event as the distortion of the Balkan harmony and the breach of the Congress

of Berlin. King Milan declared the war to Bulgaria on 14th November 1885. Everything was wrong in this war, from the estimate of the Bulgarian power to the estimate of the Serbian army moral. At the beginning, the penetration of the Serbian army was strong, Sofia was defended by only 2,000 soldiers. Thus, on 4th November 1885, the Serbian army reached 28 km from Sofia, to the place of Slivnice. However, the Bulgarians attacked already the next day and Serbia was defeated and compelled to retreat towards Pirot. It took three days to crash the Serbian army. There were Serbs had around 3,500 killed Serbs, and the Bulgarians around 2,500 killed Bulgarians near Slivnica. Already then, King Milan wanted the war to end. The continuation of the conflict was stopped by the mediation of the great forces, on 16th November, the Bulgarians accepted the truce. The peace was concluded in Bucharest on 3rd March 1886, but it did not result in restoring the Serbian-Bulgarian relations, which had been terminated already in 1884.

Due to all defeats, King Milan was “stirred and exhausted”, nothing of the former “furious and overbearing ruler” was left in him (captain Svetozar Nešić). He was even preparing his abdication. The extent to which the situation was



tense is seen in his decision to take an unexpected move. Namely, on 27th December 1885, the King spoke to Pera Todorović, who was, together with other radical leaders, in jail. The King offered pardon to the radicals provided that they helped him. Todorović accepted and, on 1st January 1886, all of them were pardoned, excluding those who emigrated, among all, Nikola Pašić.

In April 1887, the conflicts between King Milan and Queen Natalie reached the peak. They began their divorce, which was the scandal Europe was amused with. After some great tensions, King Milan and Queen Natalie finally divorced on 12th October 1888.

In 1888, Serbia got the new Constitution. It is considered that it was one of more advanced civil constitutions in Europe of that time. In it, Serbia was defined as "the constitutional monarchy with national representatives", it was the parliamentary monarchy. When the constitution was proclaimed, King Milan brought his son, Crown Prince Aleksandar, to the assembly hall.

At the reception at the court on 22nd February 1889, at noon, King Milan read the proclamation of his abdication. He was the first Serbian ruler of the modern era who lived during all his ruling career, from the beginning to the end, who was not violently replaced or assassinated. In contrast to Miloš Obrenović or Prince Mihailo, who went abroad to their huge estates, King Milan left the throne without any estate and secured income, but in debts. He was leaving poorer than when he had come to Serbia to take the ruling throne. He did not reach the agreement with the government to pay off all of his debts. After the abdication of King Milan, the Regency was established for minor King Aleksandar (1889-1893).

On 16th May 1890, King Milan returned to Serbia in "good health" as reported by *Srpske novine*. Apparently, he wanted to re-gain the national rule: "give me the rule, in any form whatsoever, to clear up this situation" he said to Jovan Ristić.

The conflicts of King Milan and Queen Natalie were continued until April 1891 when it was agreed that King Milan was to leave Serbia, in return, all of his debts would be paid off. Then, the King accepted to denounce his Serbian nationality as well as his belonging to the royal family. The

sum of three million francs was paid to him. Russia was very interested in King Milan's final leaving Serbia, thus, the Russian Tsar gave two million francs from his treasury. On 30th September 1891, King Milan signed the agreement on waiving the Serbian nationality and all of his dynasty rights. The special law was even passed to such regard.

After he had got broke, King Milan returned to Serbia again, through his son, minor King Aleksandar. With the support of the army, through the coupe, he placed his son at the Serbian throne before he reached the age of majority, since he expected that he himself would rule Serbia. Milan was gradually accomplishing his intention. During March, he tried to reconcile with Queen Natalie, and the annulment of their divorce was the introduction to such reconciliation. Afterwards, he enacted the law of 1892 annulling the prohibition of return to Serbia.

His return was not well accepted by Russia, thus, the relations between Russia and Serbia became tense again. Austro-Hungary was not involved in all these moves by the Obrenovići though everyone was questioning its interference in these events.

After King Milan had returned to Serbia, he performed the duty of the commander of the active army (1897-1900) and was a kind of the co-ruler to his son Aleksandar (1894-1901). "General, His Majesty King Milan" was nominated as the head of the army by Vladan Djordjević at the Christmas Eve of 1897. Although many were not pleased about it, it is a fact that, in the next three years, King Milan made a big effort regarding the reorganisation of the Serbian army, he increased the number of armed forces, began holding military manoeuvres. All of the subsequent successes of the Serbian army were the fruit of this activity by King Milan, who had a sense and feeling for working with the army. At various celebrations, he appeared in the uniform of infantry colonel clearly indicating everyone who held the army.

Irrespective of all insults directed to him through newspapers, everyone was afraid of King Milan. He was leading three wars, curbing the rebellions throughout Serbia, the army was faithful to him. Gradually, the political relations in Ser-

bia got so tense, thus, on 6th July 1899, a Stevan Knežević shot at King Milan. The King was only scratched, and his adjutant was shot in arm, but had a slight injury.

King Milan had never approved the marriage between King Aleksandar and Draga Mašin. Their engagement was announced in July 1900 and was the shock for many. It was especially the shock for King Milan, who wanted a foreign princess for his son, as well as for the government President Vladan Djordjević.

The wedding of King Aleksandar and Draga Mašin was performed in Belgrade at the Cathedral on 23rd July. He survived the marriage of his son Aleksandar and Draga Mašin barely for six months, he passed away in Vienna on 22nd January 1901. Six-month mourning was announced and the burial preparations began. King Aleksandar wanted the body of King Milan to be transferred to Belgrade and buried in the Cathedral. However, King Milan had the explicit wish to be buried in a Serbian monastery in Srem. Krušedol was selected.

On 16th February, the mortal remains of King Milan arrived in Srem: "Driving of the funeral procession through the hills of Banstol, from Karlovci to Krušedol, lasted for more than two and a half hours. Thousands of peasants were standing on both sides of narrow crossings towards the Krušedol monastery. The entrance to the monastery was reconstructed as the mourning arc, decorated with the picture of King Milan and the Serbian royal crown. The monastery prior, Archimandrite Anatolije Janković, received the mourning procession participants and saw them to the monastery room". (*Jutarnji list*, Vienna, Sunday, 17th February).

King Milan was buried in the tomb of Princess Ljubica, according to the Austrian court order and at the cost of the Austrian Emperor (at that time, Srem was within Austro-Hungary). He was laid on the hearse in the red general uniform with the star of Miloš the Great, and since he was the hadji (he visited Christ's grave), an icon was put on his chest, and beads were put in his hands.

It is how King Milan was buried.

MIHAJLO PUPIN

Mihajlo Pupin was born on 9 October 1854 in Idvor, a little village in Banat “which may not be found in any map”, as said by Pupin. He was born in the traditional Serbian family. His father was, though illiterate, a very respectful man, thus, he was elected the village mayor several times. In Idvor, Mihajlo finished his primary school with excellent grades, and he finished low grammar school in Pančevo in 1869. He was spending his summer holidays in Idvor keeping livestock with other children. Due to a political caper – he stamped Austrian flag – Mihajlo Pupin had to leave his grammar school, thus, he continued his education in Prague, where he spent one year. After his father’s death, he made a decision to immigrate to America. At that time, he was only fifteen.

He bought the ticket for the “Westphalia” ship from hardly collected money, he even sold some parts of his clothes to venture into this uncertain journey which lasted for fourteen days. At that time, Pupin did not know English, he had no money, he knew no one in America, he had no skills for any craft, thus, his chances to get the immigration permit were very low. Yet, he did it! First, he was working as the keeper of mules at an estate in Delaware. After a few months, when he collected sufficient money, he returned to New York, where he had first docked. Since then, with the minimum knowledge of the English language, he was changing all kinds of jobs: he was arranging cellars, taking coal, etc.

At the same time, Pupin was attending evening schools in Cooper Union on a regular basis,

thus, in 1879, he managed to enrol at the Columbia College. He distinguished himself in learning, as well as in some sport disciplines. He graduated in 1883 and got the scholarship for his further studies of theoretical physics. In that year, he also got the American citizenship. He enrolled at the studies of physics and electrical engineering first in Cambridge (England), and, afterwards in Berlin (Germany). During his stay in Europe, he travelled to Idvor for two months and visited his mother. At Cambridge, he was at the specialisation in mathematics, and he dedicated himself to physical chemistry in Berlin, where he earned his PhD title in 1889 on the topic of *Osmotic Pressure in Its Relationship to Free Energy*.

In 1888, Mihajlo Pupin married Sarah Catharine Jackson, the widow of Frederik Egejt. After he had defended his PhD thesis, he returned to New York to the Columbia College (School of Mines), at the Electrical Engineering Department. He was teaching, but he also dealt with the scientific work. At that time, he published his first paper on the topic of electricity passing through diluted gases. He began acquiring the scientific reputation, he gave lectures upon invitation and one of them was *Practical aspect of the theory of alternating currents*. Since 1901, Pupin was promoted at the position of the Professor of Electrical Engineering. At the Columbia College, he was teaching mathematical physics, then science of heat, hydraulics, and dynamics. He achieved his first scientific successes in the field of examining harmonic sources of alternating current. His patents of that time were used in the field of teleg-

raphy. In early 1896, he made the first successful recordings using X-rays in America.

In 1896, Pupin suffered pneumonia. He was taken care of by his wife, but she got ill from the same illness. After her death, Pupin took care of his daughter. For a while, they were in Norfolk in order for him to recover. He liked the town a lot, thus, he had a big stone house built in this village where he gathered his friends.

After the recovery, Pupin dedicated himself to his lifetime achievement – mathematical solution of the problem of transferring alternating telephone currents through conductors. The work required numerous experiments. The patents were purchased by American Telephone & Telegraph, and German firm “Siemens” for Europe. “With Pupin’s cables, the transfer of telephone signals was made possible at inter-city level, and it was a huge leap in telephony development” (A. Marinčić). According to the statistics, in 1911 125,000 Pupin’s coils were used on 85,000 air miles and 170,000 miles of cable lines. Already in 1926, this number significantly increased: 1,250,000 coils were used on 1,600,000 cable miles and 250,000 miles of air conductors. During 1936, eight and a half million of Pupin’s coils on five million miles of cables and four million air conductors were used. Soon afterwards, Pupin sold its patents in the field of wireless transmission of signal relating to the method of adjusting circuit in resonance and electrolytic detector. All this resulted in Pupin acquiring a true great scientific reputation, as well as high wealth. Therefore, he was free to retire in 1929.

Pupin had 34 patents in the period from 1894 to 1934. Almost all of them were in the field of telegraphy, telephony, and radio engineering. He received numerous recognitions for his work. His publishing activity was also abundant. His autobiography entitled *From Pastures to Scientist*, first published in 1923, remained especially remembered, for which he got Pulitzer Prize in the next year. In America, it was included in school reading. The books *New Reformation* (1927) and *Romance of the Machine* (1930), in which he dealt with the origination of electricity science and development of society under engineering impact should not be forgotten.

Mihajlo Pupin was a significant lobbyist, he played a major role in determining the future borders of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. On 19 April 1919, he personally sent the Memorandum to the American President Woodrow Wilson, with whom he had sincere friendly relations, and directly impacted him to include southern part of Banat, Bled including Triglav, a part of Dalmatia, Medjumurje, Baranja, and a part of the Ohrid Lake within the new state. At that time, Pupin prepared a book for the American market on the monuments of South Slavs (1919). He was the first diplomat of the Kingdom of Serbia to the USA: in 1911, he was appointed as the honorary consul. He had never forgotten his homeland and where he had come from. He organised the Circle of Serbian Sisters in America where the aid for the Serbian Red Cross was collected, he provided support for gathering of volunteers for the war in Serbia, etc. There is a long list of his benevolences and legacies. He was the President of the Federation of United Serbs “Sloga”, through which he organised aid to Serbia and Montenegro during the Balkan wars and the World War I.

After he had gone to America, Pupin was in his homeland eight times. For the first three times it was while he was studying in Europe (1883, 1884, 1886), then in 1892, 1895, 1902. After the end of the World War I, he was in the newly created Kingdom of the SCS in 1919 and 1921. During his last stay, (1921), he was proclaimed the honorary citizen of Bečkerek, today Zrenjanin. After the war, he sent around \$ 100,000 to Serbia for the renovation of Serbian churches, schools, and museums. He provided support to the National Museum, Belgrade and the Art Museum, Zagreb. Also, he established several funds. In memory of his mother Olimpijada, he established the Memorial Fund of \$ 25,000 intended for scholarships to young people, and in 1928 he established the fund for scholarships for students and transferred it to the Serbian Culture Society, Belgrade. Just before his death, he established Pupin’s Memorial Fund with \$ 50,000 from which the construction of the National House of Pupin in Idvor, intended for the education of young people in the field of agriculture, was financed.

Only a few years before his death, Mihajlo Pupin endowed his whole property to the Columbia University, provided that the researches in physics and physical chemistry are funded from the estate income. While he was alive (1927), the so-called "Pupin's Laboratory" was constructed, where several great scientific discoveries were

made in the subsequent years. The construction of the first nuclear battery was initiated there. His students Millikan and Langmuir were the Nobel Prize winners.

Mihajlo Pupin passed away on 12th March 1935 in New York, and he was buried at the Woodlock cemetery, the Bronx.



ŽIVOJIN MIŠIĆ

Serbian Field Marshal

Živojin Mišić was born on 7th July 1855 in Struganik. After he finished six grades of the grammar school, he was accepted at the Artillery School, at 11th class, on 20th September 1874. In December 1876, he got the rank of artillery sub-lieutenant, and was positioned in the Drina corps (Valjevo).

He started his war career in 1876 in the war with Turkey as a commander of the Kolubara Battalion. The second war he participated in was again against Turkey as the commander of the crew at 7th regiment 1877–1878.

In the war of 1885 against Bulgaria, he was the commander of the crew at 5th regiment. He got the rank of a captain on 1st January 1891, and the rank of a General Staff colonel on 6th May 1901. At the time of the Obrenović dynasty fall and the arrival of the Karadjordjevićs, Mišić was also affected by the political clashes. During 1903, he was retired with the group of other officers: "My unreasonable and sudden retirement, as well as the retirement of the above-mentioned officers remained the secret for me even today. I asked no one about the cause, because it did not exist. Most importantly, my conscience was fully clear and there was nothing due to which I deserved such treatment" (Živojin Mišić).

He was retired from 1904 to 1909 when he was re-activated. In the First Balkan War 1912–1913, he was an assistant to the head of the Supreme Headquarters. On 20th October 1912, he became a general. He demonstrated his top military readiness and skill during the Second Balkan War in the battle of Bregalnica. Yet, after this war, he was re-retired.

Before the World War I, Živojin Mišić was re-activated. In the World War I 1914–1918, he was the assistant to the head of the Supreme Headquarters, after which he was the commander of I army (1st November 1914–1915). With this army, Mišić took the magnificent victory in the Kolubara. The Serbian attack began on 3rd December, and Mišić correctly estimated that the Austrians, due to their continuing fights, poor roads, initiated but unfinished troops change, and poor communication, became very vulnerable. All three Serbian armies and the Užice army were started, but the main burden was taken by Mišić's I army.

At the beginning, I Serbian army seized Suvobor (4th December) due to which the penetration to the Austrian line was finished. 16th Austrian corps were crushed there, the corps fled towards Valjevo, which also resulted in the withdrawal of 15th Austrian corps to the left Kolubara bank. Mišić continued the attack, thus, both corps crossed the second Sava bank near Šabac in panic. Thus, the whole VI Austrian army was at the verge of the disaster. At the same time, the Serbian army Supreme Headquarters with its II and III army (11th December) attacked V Austrian army, which withdrew across the Sava and the Danube. After that, the Serbian army entered Belgrade on 15th December.

In this battle, Austria lost several tens of thousands soldiers (more than 42,000 captivated). In a short time, the last Austrian soldier left Serbia. "A terrible depression, I could not stop my tears from falling. So much spilt blood for nothing! It is the work of Potiorek's system", stated Austrian Joseph Redlich. German general Alfred

Krauss commented about this Austrian defeat: "The Serbian army is the strongest of all Austrian enemies; it is satisfied with little, cunning, specifically mobile, skilful in using protection, very well led, spirited for the struggle with hatred and delight, it posed much bigger difficulties than the Russian and French troops."

For his merits in the Battle of Kolubara, Živojin Mišić was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal on 4th December 1914, and this battle was described in almost all military textbooks. During 1915–1916, Field Marshal Živojin Mišić was at the treatment. From 1916 to 1st July 1918, Field Marshal Mišić was the commander of I army, and from 1st July 1918 to the end of the war, he was the head of the Supreme Headquarters.

The role of Živojin Mišić in the penetration of the Thessaloniki front was immeasurable: "The Serbs, led by the one of the most talented generals

of this war, Field Marshal Mišić, penetrated the front with irresistible heroism. The Serbian attack of the enemy which was stuck in the rock above them is the one of the most splendid accomplishments of this war" (the President of the English Government Lloyd George).

Field Marshal Mišić was the professor in ordinaries of the Military Academy in the periods 1898–1902 and 1903–1904 (subject Strategy at the College). He published several books, and, certainly, his most significant work is *Strategy* (1907). He translated Balcks *Tactics* (The Science of Battle) from German. He was publishing his works in *Ratnik* and *Srpska vojska*, which he initiated and edited (1908–1912).

In Belgrade on 20th January 1921: "the greatest soldier of our history, the brave and glorious Field Marshal of our army – Živojin Mišić died" (Tribuna).

STEVAN SREMAC

Stevan Sremac was born in Senta on 11th November 1855, to father Avram, a tailor, and mother Katica, the daughter of affluent merchant Djordjević). When he was three years old, Stevan's mother died and left three sons. He lost his father when he was twelve and the care of him was taken by Jovan Djordjević, the manager of the Serbian National Theatre in Belgrade. He finished the primary school in Senta, and during 1868, he moved to Belgrade where he finished the grammar school. From 1874, he studied at the High School. It was the time of great Svetozar Marković's influence on the youth. However, Sremac rather despised them all. He described them as those who "were going in pants and shirt" and "wearing hats with big brim". Until the end of his life, Sremac was the supporter of the monarchy and the Liberal Party.

When the Serbian-Turkish war broke out 1877–1878, Sremac applied as a volunteer: "it was the biggest shame for me not to take part in the struggle for liberation irrespective of who led me!" In the year when the war was over (1878), after he had finished the High School, Sremac was, based on own desire, appointed as a teacher at the grammar school in already liberated Niš. As he used to say, he preferred speaking with illiterate peasants in Niš to "being bored with the theories of Karl Marx by Pera Popović and Boža Vučković" in Belgrade. Subsequently, he moved to Pirot. At that time, his first short story *Rastko* was published (1882). He was described as a very vivid, handsome, humorous, and attractive. He had the dandy style, he comb his hair in

"larma" style, he always had soft hat with wide brim inclined on the right, pepita trousers, vests and jackets in "the same colour", always wearing good shoes, with cherry wood stick in his hand and cherry wood mouth-piece in his mouth. Women were running out the street to see him, but he was not an easy "catch". He liked his freedom too much, he was constantly in pubs, rotisseries, kebab shops, where he met some interesting people.

The first genuine work, *Vladimir, the King of Duklja* was published by Sremac only in 1888. He signed it with "Senćanin". Then, some other of his historical short stories were published, with which he was rather successful with readers. Yet, he felt that historical short stories were not the field in which he could express himself the best. Actually, he knew that realistic storytelling in which life is presented as it is, as written by Glišić, Lazarević, Ignjatović, had much more advantages than romantically conceived historical stories. Therefore, in 1893, he recorded: "I do not feel like writing historical stories. Our people may not be delighted with a historical story. Now, I write stories from social life."

Since 1892, he was teaching in Belgrade at the Third Male Grammar School. When he published *Ivko's Patron Saint Day* in 1895, he immediately drew attention. It, as he said, portrayed: "The picture from merry and careless days of old Niš, the vanished picture of those days which will never return again, just like our youth." He introduced so much Niš dialect and local colour of the environment in it, so that he feared what kind of

impression it would make. There was no reason for that, it was a huge success: "In *Ivko's Patron Saint's Day*, there is the picture of careless life and joy, true, well expressed, and skilfully made" (Andra Nikolić).

During 1896, he published a longer fictional text, novel by its volume, *Illemonation in the Village* in which he put his skill at the service of the liberals, mocking boisterous propagandists of the Radical Party who were cruising among peasant masses. This fiction work was issued in magazine *Budućnost*, which belonged to the Liberal Party. It is the real piece of art, written by Sremac in a careful and mindful manner.

Novel *Priest Ćira and Priest Spira* (1898) takes place in a Banat village, which is, actually, his hometown of Senta. Basically, an ordinary anecdote was developed into a real humorous novel presenting various local types of people with their distinguished language and environment.

Sremac's very voluminous short story *Vukadin* (1903) is the work portraying a biography. The central character Sremac portrays from his earliest childhood to his mature age is Vukadin. In many places, the writer's comments of autobiographical nature are provided. This short story is among best works of art by Sremac.

In his short story *Zona Zamfirova* (1907), Sremac presented the conflict of old rich country family and young class of craftsmen. He describes the time immediately preceding the liberation of Niš, when some new people rose up, and old families mostly weakened or failed.

All of collected Sremac's short stories were included in four collections. He published the historic fiction in several separate booklets, but all of them have the same title *From Historical Books*. Many political articles, satires, and chats, published in the Liberal Party magazines are included there.

Stevan Sremac was the conservative and traditionalist. He was especially inclined to the

national history though his literary work in this branch is not of any special quality. He remained unbeatable in his narrative and humorous accomplishments. He did not devise them, he described what actually happened: "Why am I to devise topics since the life is full of them, as well as itself has got them in abundance and people who since I see them in streets and pubs every day."

In the literature, Sremac provided what is required of fine literature. It is, indeed, a nice amusement, above all, pleasant and useful. His books are capable of giving a good mood and laugh. He pointedly noticed some funny details and narrated about them in a nice manner. Though he was writing at the time when the Serbian literature was overflowed with the wave of pessimism, all of his short stories have got a happy ending, there is no tragedy in them. Perhaps, it

was the reason why he was so successful with the audience.

Sremac was very favourable, a real common man. He socialised the most with merchants and craftsmen. Since he was single all his life, he spent a lot of his time at pubs, the pubs he specifically chose. Those were the inns where gentlemen did not come around, he did not feel well among them: "I feel kind of stiff there." He was a bit of an odd fish, special, but always bashful when he was among women. It seems as if he did not cope so well in his own life. Because of that, he was always said to have two jokes, but only one coat. Outwardly, he was a jolly fellow, he was very modest: "he did not like anyone reading his stuff before it was published, and he even less liked those who forcefully wanted him to get married" (Ž. Mladenović).

He was exceptionally popular, and when he went to inns to fried pork, he was gazed at as if he had been a miracle, because they had an opportunity to see the creator of exceptionally popular characters. He was never touched by it, he preferred being in background and having peace, avoiding any parade. He had no desire for any showing off or elevation, he was griev-



ing about the past times. He suffered varicose veins. However, he did not pay much attention to it, he even did not want to speak about it. At the end of his life, he was increasingly overcome by melancholy.

Through his works, Sremac created a whole gallery of vivid characters, he showed the faults of the old and past times. The final evaluation of his work would be as follows: "The most distinguished representative of the Serbian humoristic fiction, including Nušić, the greatest magus of laughter in the Serbian literature" (J. Deretić). Though he was not so appreciated by critics, to-

day, it may be said that they were wrong, Sremac was not just a comedy writer for the audience, he provided the poetry of life, tackled some serious issues of his time and the moments of national self-awareness and criticism.

He was given a great recognition when he was selected as the member of the Serbian Science Academy on 3rd February 1906. Unfortunately, he was not there to give a speech since he died of blood toxication in Soko Banja on 12th August. *Dnevni list* wrote: "Sremac was bigger than his epoch." He was buried in the tomb of his uncle Jovan Djordjević at the Belgrade New Cemetery.

STEVAN STOJANOVIĆ MOKRANJAC

Stevan Mokranjac was born on 28th December 1855 in Negotin. He studied the grammar school in Zaječar, Negotin, and Belgrade. After he had finished the grammar school, he enrolled at the High School, and on 8th October 1879, the Belgrade Choir selected him as its student and sent to Munich to music studies. Due to some frictions, he returned to Belgrade in 1893, and became the conductor of "Kornelije" Choir. At that time, he composed *The First Garland* and *Requiem in G Minor*. During 1884, he moved to Rome, then to Leipzig (1886–1887) where he studied composition. Upon his return to Belgrade in August 1887, he got the position of a music teacher at the First Belgrade Grammar School. In the same year, he was nominated the choir conductor of the Belgrade Choir and remained at that position until his death. He travelled throughout Europe with the Choir: Thessaloniki, Skopje, Budapest (1894), Sofia, Constantinople, Plovdiv (1895), Petersburg, Moscow, Nizhny Novgorod, Kiev (1896), Berlin, Dresden, Leipzig (1899), Trieste, Rijeka (1911).

During 1889, he founded the String Quartet which was active until 1893. Also, in 1899, Mokranjac founded the Serbian Music School in Belgrade (today Music School "Mokranjac") and was its life-long director. He founded the Association of Serbian Choir in 1903, and during 1907 the Association of Serbian Musicians, where he was also the President. Due to all of his merits in the field of music, in 1906, he was selected as the correspondent member of the Serbian Royal Academy.

Mokranjac dealt with recording of both folk songs (around 460 records) and the Serbian chant. During his life, he published *Folk Songs and Dances with Melodies from Levač* (1902), *Octoechos* (1908) as the text book of chant and prepared *Foreign Chant (General Chant)* for printing, which was published in 1935.

Yet, the composing activity of Stevan Mokranjac is the most important. It is not big in terms of volume and it is mostly related to choir compositions. Mokranjac almost exclusively dealt with arranging folk, secular, and sacred music, giving it the artistic expression. The collection of folk songs called *Garlands*, total of 15 of them, show "the extent to which he was able to immerse in the essence of folk music and to find its hidden harmonic basis which was suggested from melodic line and text" (K. Manojlović). They are the example of not only the harmony and measure in connecting various songs but also of the balance and taste with which, based on some excellent contrasts, he made a single unit.

It is possible to clearly follow the activity stages of Stevan Stojanović Mokranjac. Most of all, he advanced in sacred music in which he first reached his style.

Mokranjac, though the original composer, did not exert such a great influence onto the historical development of the Serbian music with his original composition, as he did with the arrangements of folk songs. He was present among people listening, checking, and recording folk melodies in the ambient in which they had originated as well as the circumstances in which they were developed. Yet,

he did not directly overtake them, he treated the melodic tonality in psychological sense, rejecting any strict obedience to it. "A significant characteristic of Mokranjac's *Garlands* is the selection of material. In the countless abundance of folk songs, finding the deepest and true ones expressing the life and feeling of people is the task which may be solved only by the artist who feels the social reality of his era, i.e. – a realist. Mokranjac possessed these very characteristics" (Vojislav Vučković). *Coastal Melodies* are similar to the *Garlands* which were inspired with the coastal music.

Mokranjac's most significant work are his *Garlands*, and the most powerful is *The Tenth Garland*. As stated in the literature: "it is a magnificent song about love, sorrow, and youth escape". As such, it inspired many domestic composers, "further living as the nationwide motif and motto of our music creation".

From sacred compositions of Mokranjac, perhaps, the best known and the most appreciated is *Liturgy. Octoechos* (1908) and *Foreign Songs* (1914) are true beauties. He was capable of skilful leading of voices, expressing their noble beauty and compiling them into harmonically rich sound architecture with exquisitely pure style.

Mokranjac in his preface to *Octoechos* said that he omitted "any ornamentations and exaggerated throat play in certain tones, which had been readily used by our old singers". Then, he explains it as follows: "At that time, almost not any tone was purely sang in terms of its value,

but, every quarter, even every octavo at its beginning, and at its end, included various throat plays. By raising and lowering throat, holding off tone in throat, leading tone through nose, mouth, etc., they performed the effects which were adored at that time, for which one used to say: singing and groaning, singing and crying, singing and laughing. The time deleted such effects."

Historically speaking, the line of Mokranjac's life was almost parallel to the rise of Serbian middle class, including all those political changes in Serbia of that time. He was creating the art music of a special kind. The middle class sacred music in Serbia was not created in the same manner as it was the case in Europe. Secondly, it was the mixture of town and village, Serbian orthodox and oriental characteristics. This is exactly the kind of Mokranjac's music. He is not a romanticist, but, though much closer to realism, he is not the complete realist, either. His music is focused to people and their song from where he was drawing anything of value. Dying out of romanticism and the birth of realism are reflected in Mokranjac's music.

Stevan Stojanović Mokranjac passed away on 16th September 1914 in Skopje where he was buried. His remains were transferred to Belgrade by the Belgrade Choir on 29th September 1923. On that day, many choirs from all parts of Serbia settled in Belgrade. His *Memorial* was issued then, and Uroš Predić painted his portrait. On 18th April 1926, the First Belgrade Choir revealed his monument, the work by sculptor Petar Palavičini.

STEPA STEPANOVIĆ

Serbian Field Marshal

Stepa Stepanović was born on 28th February in Kumodraž near Belgrade, to father Ivan Stepanović and mother Radojka, as the third son, and the fourth child. When he was a child, he was keeping livestock, and he finished the primary school, which, at that time, lasted for three years in villages, in Kumodraž, and he finished the grammar school in Belgrade. After he had completed six grades of the grammar school, in 1874 he enrolled at the Artillery School. He finished the Military Academy and general staff preparation (1886–1888). Already as a cadet, in 1876, he participated in the war against Turkey for the first time. In the Second Serbian-Turkish war 1877–1878, he was the commander of the National Army battalion.

From 1880, Stepa Stepanović served in Kragujevac, where he met his wife to be Jelena whom he married on 25 July 1881. Already at that time, he demonstrated the characteristics which he had all his life: he did not drink alcohol beverages, he did not smoke, he did not gamble, but he did not regret spending money on nice suite and footwear. He was always tidy and clean which was his everlasting characteristic. He was smallish but of a very strong built, agile, healthy, typical athlete, a good speaker: "Clever. He shows that he is gifted in general and especially Serbian history. He has got a firm and entrepreneurial character and rather vigorous nature. He easily understands and quickly sets to act (takes an action) with good results.



A very good rifleman, rider, swimmer" (official mark from 1880).

In late November 1882, he got the rank of a lieutenant and was allocated to Užice from where he was, in February 1883, returned to Kragujevac at the position of an adjutant of Šumadija Infantry

Regiment. He took part in the Serbian-Bulgarian war in 1885 as a commander of the First Battalion of 12th regiment. This war left a difficult impression on him: "The comedy goes on; what they are going to play it with – I do not know! Defective and non-cleaned rifles; no one wanted to take care of setting the position, they even left the non-demolished bridge. Recently, the divisioner was walking here and did not order anything serious. May the merciful God protect us" he wrote in his Diary.

After the war had been finished, he returned to Kragujevac where he stayed until 1886. In the period 1886–1888, he was a trainee at the Main General Staff. At that time, he had already had the rank of II class captain. Since 1888, he was the adjutant of the General Staff Chief (1888–1889), after that the acting chief of the Drina Division Staff (1889–1892). It was when he served in Valjevo and had I class captain rank. In September 1892, he became the commander of 5th battalion in Užička Požega. Although it was the worst battalion in the whole state at that time, Stepanović managed "to develop the activity and trained his battalion at the highest satisfaction of

his commanders". He was promoted there to the rank of General Staff Major.

In August 1893, he returned to Valjevo, where he was appointed the Head of the Drina Division Area General Staff (1893–1895). Since 1895, he was, for a while, the commander of 7th battalion, afterwards, he was the Head of the Defence Ministry General Staff Office (1896–1897). From 30th March 1897, he was the acting commander of 6th infantry regiment. Since then, he had taught as the professor of war history at high course of the Military Academy. In May 1897, he was promoted to the rank of the General Staff Lieutenant Colonel and since then he had also been the regiment commander. During 1898, he became the Chief of the General Staff Unit of the Active Army (1898–1899).

In August 1901, he got the rank of the Supreme Headquarters Colonel and, in the same year, became the assistant to the head of the Active Army Command. From late 1902, he was the assistant to the Main Headquarters Head (1902–1903). At the same time, he taught at the Military Academy and edited the military magazine *Ratnik*. It was the time of the May Coupe, when the Obrenovićs were overturned and the Karadjorđevićs returned (May 1903). Stepanović was appointed at the position of the General Army Unit of the Ministry of Defence, from where he was, after one month, sent to the position of the Commander of Šumadija Division Area.

In the spring of 1906, the so-called "corporal conspiracy" occurred in Kragujevac – some consider that Stepa Stepanović was the main person to be blamed for it, because of his "needless and cruel stringency, as well excessive pedantry".

During 1907 Stepanović was promoted to the rank of General, and in April 1908 he became the Defence Minister. At this position, he did not demonstrate farsightedness: he did not want to introduce machine guns as the armament: "I prefer a platoon of shooters to your machine guns. Please, do not preach that a machine gun may replace a whole platoon of the infantry". There is no doubt that he was supporting Dragutin Dimitrijević Apis and his conspirators. Because of that, in early 1909, he was ousted from the ministerial position, and in March 1911 he was re-positioned. At that

time, the secret organisation "Union or Death" was organised. The organisation officers were almost omnipotent, they even solved some personnel issues. Before the beginning of the First Balkan War in 1912, Stepa Stepanović was, again, dismissed as the Minister. In return, he got the command over the Second Army. When the war began, he headed it towards Kyustendil. The first army was headed by Crown Prince Aleksandar towards Kumanovo and Skopje. The war was won immediately at the beginning. On 23rd and 24th October, the Serbian army defeated the Turks near Kumanovo and entered Skopje on 26th October.

In I World War 1914–1918, Stepa Stepanović supervised the mobilisation and concentration of the whole Serbian army. He was the commander of the Second Army which took victory over the Austrian Army in Cer in 1914. For this victory, he was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal on 29th August 1914. The Battle of Cer was the first major battle in the World War I and, at the beginning of the war, it was the first great victory of Serbia, as well as the first victory of the allies. The scale of the Austrian disaster was enormous: "The area in which the bitter battle has been led in Cer and Jadar is now the stinking morgue. From the shadows of the forest, terrible stench make it unimaginable to get closer to Cer. The number of corpses is so big and 2nd army was forced to, due to lack of resources and time, abandon the burial activity. The slaughter is also terrible in front of 3rd army where, only on one terrain bend, 694 Austrian corpses can be found. It is so all along the Serbian front, the battle resembled the slaughterhouse" (Anri Barbis, the correspondent of *Paris Journal*).

With his army, he participated in the further battles and also presided the historical meeting of the commanders of the Serbian armies in Peć, when he was in favour of retreat of the Serbian army through Albania. In Corfu, Field Marshal Stepa reorganised the Serbian army, afterwards, he was the commander of the Second Army. Until then, Crown Prince, Aleksandar, removed Field Marshal Stepa from the Supreme Headquarters, because of the suspicion that he was the supporter of the "Black Arm".

The breakthrough of the Thessaloniki Front was Stepa's "battle of his lifetime". On 14th Sep-

tember 1918, the allies' cannons bombarded the enemy's positions, and on 15th September, the Second Army, commanded by Field Marshal Stepa, made an assault. Over 600,000 alliance soldiers, around 2,000 cannons and 200 planes, were concentrated there. Joint German and Bulgarian forces were somewhat weaker. In Dobro polje and Kozjak, the enemy front was penetrated, and Bulgaria capitulated on 29th September. Thus, the route towards Serbia was opened.

Field Marshal Stepa took part in all six great wars after which the union of that time was completed. He was in Kumanovo and Adrianople (1912), defended Pirot (1913), won in Cer (1914), defended Mačva and was in Kolubara (1914), and then in 1918 he was breaking through the Thessa-

loniki Front. He is the second who got the rank of Field Marshal in the Serbian army, after Radomir Putnik. There is no doubt that he was the one of the greatest field marshals in the World War I.

Since 1918, Stepa Stepanović was in Sarajevo as the commander of the Second Army. After its demobilisation, he became the commander of the Sarajevo Military Area. In the autumn of 1919, he retired and lived in Čačak. "From the Thessaloniki Front, he brought his military dismantling table and his chair, and placed them in shade, where he spent many hours during summer, all alone. He visited no one, and rarely anyone accepted his visits" (S. Skoko – P. Opačić).

Stepa Stepanović passed away on 27th April 1929. He was buried in Čačak.

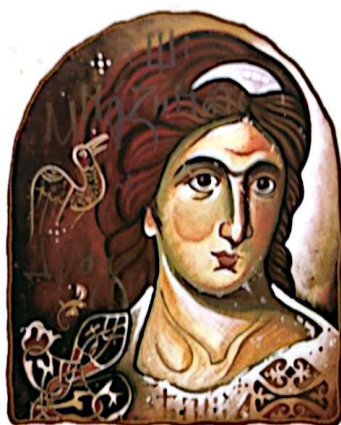
NIKOLA TESLA

Nikola Tesla was born on 10th July in Smiljan, near Gospić (Lika) to father archpriest Milutin, the Orthodox priest, and mother Djuka, maiden name Mandić. He was the fourth child in his family, he had sisters Milka and Angelina and brother Dane. According to some statements, their descendants came from Western Serbia, and they used to have the surname of Draganić.

In 1863, his family moved to Gospić, where Nikola finished four grades of the primary school, and in 1870, they moved to Rakovac near Karlovac, where he finished High School in 1873. In his early age, he showed interest in physics and, during his education in Rakovac, studying of this science had the decisive role on his future decisions. Although Tesla was expected, like the many from his family, to choose the clerical or military profession, he, barely getting over cholera, convinced his parents to, instead of studying at the Seminary, study technics. In Graz, he enrolled at Johaneum, at that time, one of the best colleges in Europe, then he studied in Prague.

For some time, he worked as an engineer of the Telephone Company, Pest, then with Edison's Continental Company in Paris and Strasbourg. Already at that time, he had several revolutionary inventions and patents, but he failed to find investors for the implementation thereof.

Having realised that Europe was not interested in his work, in 1884 he went to America with the recommendation for Edison. Though his



system of direct currents did not efficiently ensure remote transmission, Edison did not accept Tesla's multi-phase engines of alternate current and they separated. That year was not easy for Tesla, thus, in 1885 he was considering to return to Europe: "I have lived through some terrible agonies and bitter tears, and my suffering was intensified with scarce

funds" (Tesla). Yet, he stayed in America and, already in the next year he opened "Tesla Electric Company" and, in its laboratory, researched his ideas of polyphase system of alternate currents, tested induction and synchronous engines, generators, transformers, etc. In less than three years, until October 1887, Tesla filed 40 patents and held a series of lectures, which is considered the beginning of the second electric revolution.

Tesla began all his lectures as follows: "My faith is the faith of my father, remember, any man, regardless of his origin, culture and education level, holds a little piece of Holy Spirit in himself and is capable of accepting truth. Because, every eternal soul springs from the Source of life radiating the vital spiritual force giving sense and consecrating every man coming to the world. Every man strives to get knowledge and advancement and every man has a powerful instinct for life, creativity, and spiritual forward movement. All of the specific features and characteristics are rooted in various talents provided by Holy Spirit. Specific cultures and specific characteristics of each individual under this Sun originate from them. Eve-

rything an individual and people hold in themselves is rooted in the original spiritual forces in man. They connect man's spirit with his Creator as well as with the whole world. God and secrets brought by Him to this world are revealed through them." (A. Marinčić).

In May 1888, Tesla held the lecture before the American Society of Electrical Engineers about new engines and transformers of alternate current. He left a great impression and inventor and industrialist George Westinghouse invited him for cooperation and purchased individual patents. Their cooperation had a decisive impact on Tesla's future scientific life since Westinghouse enabled him to implement the majority of his ideas. With his financial support, from 1896 to 1899, Tesla dealt with the construction of, at that time, the largest world generators for the hydro power plant in Niagara Falls, where his poly-phase system of high scale, etc., was implemented for the first time.

According to the agreement, Tesla had a percentage of the operations entered into by Westinghouse based on his patents, but Westinghouse went bankrupt since he owed a huge money to Tesla. Then, Tesla did a magnificent thing which was described so many times – he tore their mutual agreements and released Westinghouse of his debt: "Dear Westinghouse, you have been my friend, you have believed in me when others have not. You have been courageous enough to make an advance move and pay me one million dollars when others lacked courage, you supported me when your engineers have not been capable of seeing huge things seen by you and me. You treated me like a friend. The benefit the civilisation will have from my poly-phase system means more to me than the money currently in question. Mr Westinghouse, you are going to save your company to be able to spread my inventions. Here is your agreement, I shall tear them both, and you will never again worry about my royalty. Is it enough?" (Tesla *Autobiography*).

During 90s of XIX century, Tesla intensively dealt with high frequency currents. He was experimenting a lot, in addition, he was continually giving lectures in the USA and Europe. In 1892, he travelled to Europe and visited his ill mother in Gospić. The magnificent welcome was

arranged to him with the highest honours (2nd-3rd June 1892).

The following was written in *Srbobran* about Tesla's arrival: "Tonight, the young and old are getting ready to welcome a great compatriot scientist, Nikola Tesla. Nikola Tesla arrives at 10 p.m. by high-speed train from Pest to Belgrade. Our dear guest will be welcomed by Academic Choir Obilić with flag, fanfare with performers, Municipality President and representatives, management of the Civil Engineering Association, and various societies... Having been obviously excited, Tesla said: 'All the glory I have, especially recently, experienced in London and Paris means nothing to me, it is tiny in relation to your honour, gentlemen. The base of my grandfathers, the Kingdom of Serbia, the capital of the Serbs, invites me, it is the honour so great to me, and nothing will in my life be more precious to me than this honour. I am happy for being a Serb and I shall be proud of that name forever.' Tesla was delightfully welcomed, and the next day, accompanied by the Municipality President, Mr Klerić, he went to visit the Education Minister, Mr Andra Nikolić. The former introduced him to King Aleksandar, who decorated Tesla with the medal of St. Sava of the First Rank. Tesla visited the High School, reviewed cabinets and museum, and in his response to rector Alković, he addressed the hall full of youth saying: 'Brothers, thank you for such attention and honour. I see young Serbs in you, who are to deal with the general task of all Serbs. You are the future of the Serbianship. As you can see, I have remained a Serb even overseas, where I deal with researches'. A great banquet was prepared in his honour, and Jovan Jovanović Zmaj welcomed him reciting his verses" (*Srbobran*, 1982).

Tesla's arrival in Belgrade had a decisive impact to the fact that Serbia was among the first countries in the world which introduced alternate currents in practice. It was the time when Tesla was interested in other science fields, too – finding new ways of using energy from environment: "All of us run through an endless space with an incredible speed, everything revolves, moves around us, we are surrounded with energy. There must be some direct access to this energy. With the light received through medium, through energy which we derive from it, with many forms of energy

obtained without any effort and endless and non-exhaustive source, the mankind will advance with gigantic steps" (Tesla, *Autobiography*). Also, Tesla intensively dealt with the applications of high frequency currents for electric lighting. He applied tubes with diluted gas, etc., which is, actually, the forerunner of contemporary fluorescent lamps. In these researches, he got in touch with "invisible" rays, but he did not tackle them, subsequently, it was explained by Röntgen (1895).

In addition to his scientific research, Tesla spent a lot of time in discussions with businessmen and liked participating in social life. In 1895 in Chicago (400 years of the discovery of America), at the famous Columbian Exhibition, Tesla's alternate current was used for lighting all of the pavilions. The exhibition was seen by 25 million Americans in 6 month. Tesla had a special booth where induction engines, revolving magnetic field models, mechanical and electrical oscillators, bulbs filled with diluted gas were displayed. Partly due to this exhibition, Tesla got an opportunity to equip the large hydro power plant in the Niagara with the first two generators, where the works lasted in the next three years (until the spring of 1896).

In the peak of his major works, on 13th March 1895, his laboratory was burned, everything was destroyed, complete documentation, correspondence, the collection of 400 induction engines, unknown number of apparatuses, etc. Since nothing was insured. Tesla was on the verge of failure. Yet, with the support of his rich and influential friends, he continued his work. In the following years, he mostly dealt with x-rays, artificial lighting, he was improving electric oscillator for therapeutic and other purposes, remote control of automated machines. But he also began his work of wireless energy transmission. He announced it during the opening of the hydro power plant in Niagara on 12th January 1897.

The urban environment did not fit the experiments made by Tesla, therefore, he moved to Colorado Springs. The spectacular experiments performed by Nikola Tesla in the hills of Colorado Springs, from 1899 to 1900 have been unsurpassed up to date. He installed broadcasting station, constructed transformers producing up to 12 million volts and the current with the frequency of several tens of thousands of Herz. It was followed by further research in the field of wireless trans-

mission. In 1901, Tesla began project "World Telegraphic System" and the construction of a large radio station with high antenna tower in Long Island (the tower was demolished in 1917).

In the period from 1900 to 1902, he applied a series of patents regarding radio technique, and from 1909, he turned to inventions in the area of mechanical engineering: he was very successful in inventions of completely new turbines, speedometers, and other practical devices.

On the occasion of his 75th birthday, Tesla received a large number of greeting cards from the whole world, from the most renown people, such as e.g. Albert Einstein, and the New York magazine *Times* published his picture on its front cover.

Besides, in Colorado Springs he was researching numerous phenomena of high frequency currents and exceptionally high voltages. He used these inventions for remote control of radio waves, as well as for robotics. It was the time when his text "The Problem of Increasing Human Energy" was published. For many people, it is the odd text anticipating technical miracles in the future, unusual photographs presenting electric discharges like lightning aroused sensation. Many did not understand him.

With the support of J. P. Morgan, his big laboratory and famous high tower in Long Island called "Magnifying Receiver", actually, high voltage transformer, were built. The construction began in 1901. There, he lived in a small wooden cabin, but the main funds provider, Morgan, waived this project, thus, Tesla had never finished his "World Radio Station". At that time, many people who believed in his visions lost their confidence in him. From 1904 to 1907, he had continuing financial problems and high debts. Though he managed to sell many of his patents, the difficulties remained and he did not manage to deal with his major ideas. Even his big antenna in Long Island was demolished to settle the creditors.

During his life, he received high honours from many states (among all, Serbia, Montenegro), he was the honorary doctor of many universities in the world, he received countless number of scientific recognitions from scientific institutions from the whole world, and after his death, he was included in the House of Fame in the USA. From 1937, he had been the member of the Serbian Science Academy.

Tesla's scientific and research work has not been fully studied and clarified even today. His major contributions were in three fields: electrical engineering, in the field of high frequency currents, and mechanical engineering. Nikola Tesla was the scientist who devoted all his life to the quest of secrets of the nature in order to tame and make them available to man. At the age of thirty, he became the citizen of the world, but he had never forgotten his roots and century long sufferings of his Serbs due to which he writhed and always endeavoured to help them. He was a deeply humane person who, with his example, his dedicated and successful work, and altruistic love of the whole mankind, contributed to the civilisation development. He required nothing for himself, either money or glory, he strived towards high goals and he accomplished many of them.

Nikola Tesla invented, or at least theoretically imagined, almost all of technical devices used nowadays. Every time we turn on computer, the ideas of the greatest scientist in the history are materialised, because alternate current is produced in Tesla's three-phase generator, it is transmitted through Tesla's high voltage network, Tesla's coil provides voltage for image on screen, and wireless mouse operates through radio waves first produced by Tesla. Yet, it is only a part of the legacy of this great engineer who had 280 patents in 26 countries of the world (Reference: *Nikola Tesla's Patents*, The Nikola Tesla Museum, Belgrade 2006). The discovery of Nikola Tesla's alternate current is the framework of production, transmission, and electric power use and of the complete current industry. Alternate current changed the world giving it light and energy. Browsing the term or name of Nikola Tesla on the Internet, over

2,000,000 pages, mentioning the greatest Serbian and one of the greatest world scientists and inventors in the history, occur. He invented and patented: principle of rotating magnetic field; telephone amplifier; induction engine, high frequency current generator (Tesla's currents); Tesla's wireless communication coil; radio, fluorescent lights (Tesla's arc), and hundreds of other inventions without which the today's world would not be as it is. Nikola Tesla may be considered the pioneer of wireless telegraphy and radio communications, because he made the first wireless control system and remote signal transmission.

Tesla was a famous campaigner of peace and advancement of the mankind, he dreamed of weapons which would, due to fear, refrain people from conflicts and end all wars. There are not many scientists who were, for their contribution to science and mankind, given with such reward as the honour that a unit in the standard of measures is named after them. Only fifteen scientists have such an honour. Tesla was included among great men such as Weber, Herz, Ohm, Volt, Ampere, Kelvin. Those were grandiose men who fundamentally changed the previous way of life and understanding of the universe.

Nikola Tesla passed away on 7th January 1943 at the age of eighty seven. Around two thousand people, including a large number of inventors, Nobel Prize winners, world renowned names in the field of electrical engineering and the representatives of the Yugoslav Government, gathered in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. The remains of Prometheus of Lika and cosmic genius are in the Nikola Tesla Museum in Belgrade (established in 1952), in the urn of ideally spherical shape.

UROŠ PREDIĆ

Uroš Predić was born on 7th December 1857 in Orlovat, Banat. His father was a priest from Karlovci, and his mother was from the priest family of Ilijević from Crepaja. He finished the German primary school in Crepaja (1866), and in Pančevo (1867) he finished the fourth grade of the German primary school, the so-called "über schule". In 1876 in Pančevo, he graduated i.e. he finished German seven-grade High School. He began painting since his very young age. In 1877, Matica srpska granted him the scholarship for education from Šišman's fund. He finished the Art Academy in Vienna where he spent nine years, from 1876 to 1885: 6 years as a student, and 3 years as a teaching assistant. That he was a great talent was confirmed by the Gunder award he received in 1879.

During 1885, he returned home in Orlovat, but already next year, after his travel throughout Italy, he moved to Belgrade. Then he made a series of realistic paintings from the life of Banat Serbs. These paintings, *Marry Brothers*, *Under the Mulberry*, *Around the Well*, *A Little Philosopher*, *The Swineherd of Orlovat*, and other, show his striving to have moralistic effect in his paintings. Some of them, *A Little Librarian*, *An Orphan on Mother's Grave*, *Bosnian Fugitives*, *At the Fountain*, etc. were made for King Milan.

The first exhibition which was a breakthrough for his further activity, Predić had in 1888 in "Local Casino" in Belgrade. He displayed the sketches for the church in Smederevo, which were seen by representatives of the parish of Stari Bečej, thus, they ordered an iconostasis for their

church. This iconostasis is considered by many the peak of Predić's church painting. He did it for five years, and when he finished it, he thought that he would never do any similar thing, because, as he said, "my intention was not to become an iconographer" (Predić, *Autobiography*). But, it was not so.

From 1894, he lived in Orlovat. Next 15 years, he mostly dealt with church iconography and portraits. He said that in Orlovat "he spent best 15 years of his life, next to his mother, free from any obligations of town life and wasting time. Fulfilment of human duties provided him a dear reward for abandoning his youth ambitions". Because of his work, he travelled a lot, most often to spas and resorts. Yet, the sufficient time was always left to him to visit various museums and numerous exhibitions. Predić's iconostasis for the chapel in the Patriarchy Residence in Sremski Karlovci for the colours of which he stated that none before had been so "nice, soft, warm, fresh, clear, and powerful, as in the pictures of such elegant chapel"), for the chapel of Vladimir Nikolić in Sremski Karlovci, and the chapel of the Dimitrijević's in Melenci, and the Radosavljević's in Pančevo, were from that period. The monumental iconostasis in the Grgeteg Monastery painted from 1900 to 1902, followed by the iconostasis in the church in Ruma, should also be mentioned. With his opus, Predić created a specific school of artistic church painting with the Serbs, but "church iconography broke his strong and mighty character, full of flaming artistic feeling, it tamed a furious lion. We may lament, from our heart, what was

lost; lament for his not having been able to work more freely in the nature and resolve its truths, and get closer to it" (Nadežda Petrović).

Another, less known part of his creation should also be mentioned. He made cover pages for various magazines and diplomas: cover of calendar *Craftsman* (1890), drawing for short story of J. Jovanović Zmaj *Vidosava Branković* (1899), heading for *Serbian Sion* (1891), diploma for the Society for the Serbian National Theatre (1899), cover for book *Memorable Serbs of XIX Century* (1900), cover for calendar *Srbobran* (1900), etc.

Predić was one of the founders and long-lasting President of the first Serbian Art Association "Lada" established in the honour of the First Serbian Uprising, in Belgrade in 1904. From 1909, Predić was in Belgrade, painting portraits. From this period, the portrait in which Patriarch Lukijan prays for the ship of the Serbian church on tempestuous high seas is especially known. It is his only picture of larger format (around 5 × 2 m). Many of his portraits are from that time: Field Marshal Živojin Mišić, Djordje Vajfert, Dositej Obradović, etc. During 1920, he finished his famous painting *The Kosovo Maiden*, in 1921 painting *St. Sava Blesses Serbian Children*, in 1928 *The Girl at the Fountain*, in 1930 painting *St. George Kills the Dragon*, in 1932, *St. Nicholas Saves the Castaways*, and in 1934 *St. Sava and King Aleksandar*.

It is considered that around 1930, Predić experienced his creative peak. He himself thought quite similar thing: "I cannot give anything new, I now only repeat myself".

Nowadays, Uroš Predić is considered the first Serbian representative of the realistic direction in the Serbian painting. On 3rd February 1910, he was selected the regular member of the Serbian Science Academy.

Uroš Predić did not marry, he lived a lonely life, and it is remembered that he was: "pleasant and kind in his behaviour, interesting and meaningful in his presentations and observations, always humorous and ready for a joke" (M. N. Milutinović). Mihovil Tomandl also described him in a nice manner (1923): "Whenever I met

Predić, I was impressed with his dignified behaviour and communication, as well as gentle and warm look in his radiating all the beauty of his soul and goodness of his heart. He was a very educated man, therefore, one could discuss everything with him. He presented his thoughts in a simple and clear manner with silent pronunciation he was naturally gifted with. He spoke slowly and was very skilful in mother tongue". Veljko Petrović said about Uroš Predić that "he is the most intellectual Serbian artist."

He was very modest, and quite disappointed with his life: "And then, it is said: Life full of work, but, it is not life at all, it is prison. Life is when you live it, when it is intensively felt that one lives, and it is not given to everyone. Many people, especially those who are praised and exemplary, working hard on the achievement of some ideas, delay the days of joy for "some later time" until they, suddenly, notice that they are good for nothing but riding their wooden horse." He said about himself: "I had less of life, I shall be less sorrowful when I say goodbye."

He left numerous works, between 1,600 and 1,700 oils and watercolours. What distinguishes them is conscientiousness: "I have never took anything for granted." Milan Kašanin commented that the Serbian painting includes psychologically deeper and more expressive painters, there are those who are, in terms of painting, finer and more powerful, but there are no more physically authentic portraits than those of Predić. Such expressive illusion of objective reality is not provided even by the most successful photographic record, which is the feature which even highly gifted painters lack. Predić said about it (1921): "The positive value of my works lies in the effort made in them, and the solid technique, and their artistic value is indefinite, in relation to the indefiniteness of the critique evolving in parallel with art. Whether my judgement will be in agreement or in conflict with the judgement of expert critics will be seen in the future unless I am silently overrun by it."

Uroš Predić passed away on 11th February 1953.

PETAR BOJOVIĆ

Serbian Field Marshal

Petar Bojović was born on 16th July 1858 in the village of Miševići, nearby Nova Varoš. His father Perut and mother Rada, nee Pešić, had six children (five sons and one daughter). Petar was the youngest son. He was nine years old when his family moved to the village of Radaljevo near Javor. His parents were farmers.

Petar attended the primary school in Ivanjica, and he finished the first grade of the grammar school in Užice. He did not have any means for his further education and failed to get the scholarship. Then he lived in Belgrade with lieutenant colonel Kosta Janković, an adjutant of Prince Mihailo. In return, he was helping in many household works. His elder brother Luka was also with him then. Both of them were good students and finished the grammar school with excellent grades. They enrolled the Artillery School in 1875.

During his education, he met Stepa Stepanović and Živojin Mišić. It was the first meeting of the glorious Serbian army generals to be.

He stopped his education, because of his participation in the First Serbian-Turkish war in 1876, when he got the sub-sergeant rank. He was a scribe at the Supreme Headquarters of the Serbian army, then he was an orderly. He served in the second Serbian-Turkish War, 1877–1878, with the rank of sergeant, at the Drina Artillery Brigade battery. When the war was over, he continued his education at the Artillery School.



During 1880, he got the rank of the artillery lieutenant. Already at that time, he dealt with theoretical work and translation (*Observation about Railways and Patrol Leader*).

His translation of the book *Armament of States and Armed Camps* was published in 1883.

After completed education, he served in Belgrade, he was promoted to the rank of cavalry lieutenant on 24nd December 1883 when he was transferred to cavalry.

Petar Bojović was the participant of the Serbian-Bulgarian war in 1885 as a corporal in the Second Squadron of the Second Cavalry Regiment. He participated in the struggles in Vrapča, Ploča, Slivnica (the region of Aldomirovci), Dragomanski tesnac, Neškov vis, and Pirot.

From December 1885 to February 1886, he was an Acting Head of the Headquarters of Šumadija Squadron, then he was again at the Guard Brigade.

He was continually promoted, thus, upon his return to Serbia, he made preparations at the Chief of Staff, and in late 1888, he was appointed an adjutant to the Head of the General Chief of Staff, then in July 1890, he was transferred to the chief of staff profession. In the same year, he was appointed the commander of the First Squadron of the Third Cavalry Regiment.

For some time, he was preparing for the diplomatic service, he should have become a consul in Pljevlja, however, it was not realised.

In the summer of 1891, he was appointed as the Acting Head of the Morava Squadron Chief of Staff in Niš, where he officiated for five years. He was promoted to the rank of Chief of Staff I class Captain on 30th August of the same year. In the meantime, he passed the examination for Chief of Staff Major in June 1893 before the commission presided by Colonel Radomir Putnik, and already on 2nd August he was promoted to the rank of the Chief of Staff Mayor.

In the autumn of 1896, he was transferred to the position of the Head of the Headquarters of the Timok Squadron area. He held this duty for six months, and in the spring of the next year, he was nominated as the Acting Head of Mobilisation Department of Operations Unit of the Chief of Staff.

Already at that time, he had different theoretical views regarding bayonet fighting from Pavle Jurišić Šurm. Perhaps, it was the reason that in the autumn of 1897 he was transferred to the infantry. From that year, he was also the infantry lieutenant colonel and he officiated in Zajčar.

He was assessed as an educated man ready to become an officer.

Having been close to the court, in 1900, Petar Bojović was appointed the Commander of the Eleventh Infantry Regiment of Queen Natalie. He was promoted to the rank of the Chief of Staff Colonel on 6th May 1901 and was appointed the Commander of the Morava Infantry Brigade in Niš. During all that time, he received various medals. He published several books about military issues.

He was not affected by the May Turn in 1903. In the summer of 1903 he was in Belgrade, he changed several duties, and, in December of the same year, he was appointed as the Commander of the Morava Squadron Area. From January 1905, he was the Assistant to the Head of the Chief of Staff.

From May 1906, he performed the duty of the Head of the Chief of Staff since General Radomir Putnik became the Defence Minister again. For the full two years, they administered the complete life of the Serbian army, selection and procurement of weapons and armours, development of plans for the army mobilisation and concentration.

In the spring of 1908, he returned to Niš. From the spring of the next year to the outbreak of the First Balkans War, he was the Commander of the Cavalry Squadron.

In the First Balkan War, Bojović was the Head of the First Army Headquarters, and, after the Battle of Kumanovo and Bitola, he was promoted to the rank of General. Though, in terms of formation, he was the Head of the Army Headquarters, which was commanded by Crown Prince, Aleksandar Karadjordjević, Bojović had the supreme responsibility, because, in accordance with the decree, he actually commanded the army.

In the Second Balkan War, he was the Head of the First Army Headquarters which won in the battle of Bregalnica, and, after the war, he was the Commander of the troops of the New Areas in Kosovo and Macedonia.

In the World War I, he was the Commander of the First Army. He participated in the final operations of the Cer Battle, and upon the liberation of Šabac he insisted to cross the Sava with his Unit in early September and to penetrate Srem. Then, he was wounded in his ankle, thus, he was ousted from the position of the Commander.

From November 1914 to November 1915, General Bojović was re-activated. He became the Commander of the troops of New Areas, and in December 1915, he was appointed as the Head of the Supreme Headquarters. Already in June 1918, he resigned due to the disagreement regarding the expansion of the Thessaloniki Front. Then, he was re-appointed as the Commander of the First Army, which he also commanded in the battle of Dobro Polje.

Due to his war merits, on 13th September 1918, Petar Bojović was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal. Before him, Radomir Putnik (1912), Stepa Stepanović (1914), and Živojin Mišić (1914) were promoted to this rank.

After the war, Petar Bojović became the commander of the First Army Area and he remained at such position until December 1920. He was appointed the Head of the Chief of Staff of the army of the Kingdom of the SCS in January 1921. In December of the same year, he was made available, and he was retired soon. There are numerous controversies regarding his dismissal, but none of it was proven. During his days in retire-

ment, he wrote the memoirs which have never been published.

He regained his service in 1941 and was appointed the Supreme Inspector of the whole military force of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

During the April War and since King Petar II was minor, in accordance with the Constitution, he was appointed the assistant to the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Yugoslav Army, and after the army capitulation, he set himself in house arrest where he was until the end of the war. He rejected fleeing to England by plane. Likewise, he rejected any invitations to cooperate with the occupier during the war. He himself required that the guard was set in front of his house who prevented him from leaving his house. He was treated as a prisoner of war.

Upon the liberation of Belgrade, he was arrested by the Unit for the Protection of People. He was tortured in the custody, after which he was

released. Soon, he died in his house in Belgrade on 19th January 1945. The new authorities had a poor relation to him, probably, because of the letter which he sent to Draža Mihailović in 1942 in which he supported the Yugoslav Army in the homeland.

Field Marshal Petar Bojović was buried at the New Cemetery in Belgrade, and the prohibition of participation in his burial was announced on the radio. For a long time, it was unknown where his grave was, on which the bust was set only in 1989.

He was married to Mileva Jovanović (1872–1956), the daughter of Nikola Jovanović, a merchant. They were married on 4th June 1893 at the Cathedral in Kragujevac. He had six children with her, four sons – Božidar (1894–1962), Vojislav (1895–1915), Dobroslav (1898–1971), Radoslav (1904–1906), and two daughters Jelica (1896–1955) and Rada (1900–1959).

PAVLE PAJA JOVANOVIĆ

PaJa Jovanović was born on 16th June 1859 in Vršac. His father was a professional photographer. He started painting from his earliest childhood. He finished his primary school in Vršac and his grammar school and fine arts Academy, according to his father's desire, in Vienna. Paja Jovanović remembered that, when he was a student, the date he entered the premises of the Academy was the happiest day of his life. For some time he was the student whose scholarship was provided by Matica srpska from which he received 200 forints until August 1883. He was especially influenced by professor Griepenkerl "the advocate of Roman form and Venetian colours". The influence was described by Jovanović: "our teacher's quest was to awake the feeling of beauty, rhythm, and harmony of ancient sculpture in us, he pointed out the fine feeling of the Greeks for line, referred us to Homer, and, in addition to Homer, to the huge literary and unique culture of the ancient Greeks". His first drawing – *Hera Ludovisi* remained his "beauty ideal throughout his life".

During his studies, Paja Jovanović was in Vienna and Munich, where the so-called realist painting school was prevailing. Paja Jovanović studied under its influence and adhered to this painting style until the end, and became one of the most powerful representatives of realism in the Serbian painting. Coming naturalism and impressionism had an insignificant impact on him.

It was also the time of great interest in the Balkans and Balkan people, in the East and Orient, which is testified by the topics of paintings of our young artist. Already during his studies, he often travelled throughout Montenegro, Primorje,

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Southern and Eastern Serbia. For his painting *The Wounded Montenegrin*, Paja Jovanović was awarded at his final examination in 1883. The painting was immediately purchased by "National Casino" in Budapest. At the same time, this reward brought him the three-year imperial scholarship which was granted only to artists from Hungary.

Encouraged by the success achieved with painting *The Wounded Montenegrin*, Jovanović made a series of paintings on the national topic and displayed them at a gallery in London. With such paintings, he drew such great attention of the audience, thus, he was offered by famous merchant Wallis to make paintings in such genre for the famous gallery "French" in London in the next ten years. Thus, his paintings were, through the agency of this gallerist, sold in England, America, Australia. Having been financially provided, he was able to travel (North Africa, Greece, Turkey, Italy, Spain) and work.

It was the so-called "first stage" in the creation of Paja Jovanović. At that time, his paintings, *Fiddler*, *Fencing Game*, *The Story about Kosovo*, *Vendetta*, *Albanian Guard*, *Montenegrin Inn*, *The Cockfight*, *The Herzegovian Needlewoman*, *Decorating of a Bride*, *Dying in Blood* (which is claimed by many to be his best from that cycle), etc., were created. Some of the most popular paintings were painted by the author in several versions, thus, "unfortunately, nowadays, it is not possible to evaluate in detail the abundant painting opus, even more because Jovanović repeated many of them several time, sometimes even nu-

merous replicas did not wear down the painter's inspiration, thus, the appearance of the actual final solutions may only be guessed" (Dejan Medaković). Jovanović turned out to be an expressive master of figural compositions, and such canvases include many characters, many details, which were made with high precision, in the *Decorating of a Bride*, for example, thus, everything resembles calligraphy a bit.

From 1884, Jovanović lived in Munich, and in 1886, he moved to Paris. He frequently travelled to Italy, Constantinople, Egypt, Caucasus; in 1864 he became the member of the Serbian Scientific Society, and in 1888, he became a member of the Serbian Royal Academy.

Since 1895, he lived in Belgrade again. Then, based on the commission of Patriarch Branković, he made his famous painting *The Migration of the Serbs under Čarnojević*. The painting was intended for marking 1000th anniversary of the Hungarian state in Budapest (1896), for the so-called Millennium Exhibition. After the celebration, the painting was transferred to the Patriarch's residence in Sremski Karlovci. According to the original idea, the painting should have presented Patriarch Arsenije III Čarnojević holding a cross in his hand, and Isaija Djaković next to him (both on their horses), holding Leopold's invitation diploma, and Duke Monasterlija with well-armed soldiers. In the final version of the painting, the character of Arsenije III Čarnojević was replaced with the face of Patriarch Georgije Branković.

During 1900, Jovanović was also making his famous canvass, *The Coronation of Emperor Dušan*, intended for the World Exhibition in Paris. There, Jovanović got the title of Officer d Academie. The painting was immediately purchased by the Serbian Royal Court. In relation to the pre-

vious painting, this one is far more complex, so that an impression is gained that the final scene is from a well-directed play.

At that time, Jovanović painted large decorative canvases the most. In addition to two above-mentioned paintings, they include *Triptych* for the town of Vršac, *Harvests*, and *Sunday Markets in Vršac*, followed by his canvases *Los Barbaros* (in Santiago, Chile), two iconostases (in Dolovo and in the Cathedral in Novi Sad). Two historical-clerical topics were painted in the Novi Sad Cathedral – *St. Sava Crowns the First-crowned* and *St. Sava Reconciles his Brothers* (the replicas are in the Cathedral in Sremski Karlovci). For the Cathedral in Sremski Karlovci, he made painting *Burning of St. Sava's Relics*. All of these pictures are the peak of the so-called "historical painting" and belong to the second stage of Paja Jovanović's creativity.

Paja Jovanović's paintings were always present at the world painting exhibitions in Paris, Vienna, Berlin, London, Rome, etc. Yet, he was exhibiting the most at the Paris Exhibition. After the World War I, in Belgrade and Bucharest, Paja Jovanović made several distinguishing portraits of members of ruling families. Now, those are the paintings of the third stage of his work, which formally began in 1906, when he was painting numerous portraits. At his time, he was the popular portraitist among the circles of European aristocracy. Painting the so-called parade portraits, he created the distinguished style, openly flattering the vanity of his models. However, he was the master, he had an excellent drawing, lightness of character setting, and omni present sense of decoration.

Paja Jovanović passed away in Vienna in 1957. Based on his wish, the urn with his ashes was transferred and lain down in Belgrade.

VOJISLAV ILIĆ

Vojislav Ilić was born in 1860 in a well-known, old Belgrade family. His father Jovan was a known poet and politician, even a Minister for some time. Vojislav's health had always been fragile, because of which he did not attend school on a regular basis. He left his Grammar School, and studied at high school on an extraordinary basis. Thanks to his father Jovan, he was early acquainted with poetry: "Our father, whose authority of upbringing immensely impacted all of us, more than school and the society itself, felt an unusual disgust to anything which is vulgar, especially to lyrical poetry, where subjectivism – personal I, was stressed everywhere" (Dragutin Ilić). Besides his father, his two elder brothers were also poets, and the younger one was the translator of Shakespeare and journalist. Many writers and poets were guests in their house. "All of our writers of 70^s and 80^s were guests at that house" (Branislav Nušić). They were visited by Djura Jakšić whose daughter Tijana was later married to Vojislav. A great problem in Vojislav's life was his fragile health, which he made even worse with his inordinate life, after the death of his wife and children, at pubs, consuming alcohol and gambling.

He was reading a lot and knew Pushkin's creation very well since he was influenced by it. He was also influenced by Zhukovsky and Lermontov. He read all of them in original. In addition to Russian, Vojislav also read ancient and contemporary European writers. His interest in English and German writers should be specifically emphasised. It seems that "the Russian lit-

erature is more significant in the role of mediator than in the role of inspirer" (M. Pavić).

When he was seventeen, Vojislav was almost a developed poet, his first work was the translation of children's poem *A Little Bird* by poet Tumansky. He published it in newspapers *Golub*. He published his first original poem in newspapers *Otadžbina*. Until the age of eighteen, he wrote several good poems: *Prayer*, *Shepherd*, *Elegy*. During 1880, *Nedeljni list* published his dark poem *Homeland*, and Jakov Ignjatović, as the editor of the newspapers, hoped that the poet's gloomy prediction would not be fulfilled and that he would subsequently create merrier poems.

Ilić's attempt to be the writer for theatre also failed. Namely, he provided play *Radoslav* to the Manager of the National Theatre, but the latter returned it to him to correct it in some parts. However, Ilić immediately burnt the whole manuscript. Ilić also had some attempts in fiction, but all of them are poor. Above all, he was the poet.

Vojislav Ilić also wrote some texts of political nature, as well as reviews of individual literary issues. He also left a couple of epic poems, but they are less significant in relation to his lyrical poems: "Already in his first poems, Ilić turned out to be a master of verse, who fully developed rhythm and poetic diction, he especially liked six metre verse – hexameter and five metre verse – pentameter, because they include something dignified, which suited his nature, especially his topics of classic content" (Ž. Mladenović).

In late 1885, his wife Tijana and both children died: "The death of Tijana left a deep trace

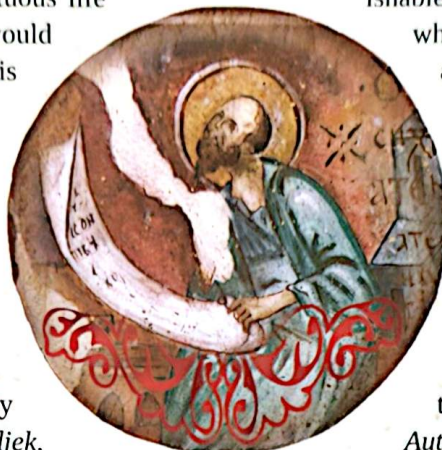
in Vojislav's life, and, for some time, he was even thinking about suicide. He struggled with such feeling for a long time, finally, because of that, he had some excesses of unorderly life. Until then, he had been moderate in any respect, now he began living a tempestuous life hoping that, in such way, he would forget what he had lost" says his brother Dragutin.

During 1885, he participated in the Serbian-Bulgarian war as a volunteer. Since he had been disappointed after the war, he became an oppositionist. Since then, his texts could be frequently seen in the opposition, radically socialist newspapers like *Odjek*, *Ćosa*, *Grbonja*, etc. Yet, he published the most in the newspapers *Otađbina*, and, subsequently, he also wrote for *Stražilovo*, *Zvezda*, and *Srbadija*.

From 1887, Ilić worked as a proof-reader at the National Printing Company. In the same year, his first collection of poems was published. During 1889, the second edition of this book was published, and in 1892, also the third, expanded one. At that time, it was unprecedented that a book of poems was published three times, one after another. Since then, Vojislav Ilić had become a famous poet in Serbia, he was proclaimed the greatest Serbian poet and he was compared to Pushkin.

With his aestheticism and formalism, he opened up the way to quite unknown poetry in Serbia: "the poetry where the most important moment is care for oneself, for own artistic being" (J. Deretić). In such manner, he exerted a great influence on subsequent poets: "The most powerful and beneficial influence of Vojislav Ilić is refining of poem. Under his influence, our poets began paying higher attention to verse smoothness. Excessive poetic freedoms, misused to a high extent by romanticists, were abandoned" (Ž. Mladenović).

Vojislav Ilić managed to elevate his personal grief to the level of general poetic motif. In almost all of his poems, grief, presented in a



gentle and unobtrusive manner, only as a hint, is felt; almost as a rule, he describes cold autumn, gloomy evening, waste field over which the dark has spread, wilted leaves, drizzle and, necessarily – solitary sound of bells. Everything is perishable, not only human life, but the whole mankind. Ilić's poetry was, actually, his life, never-ending pain which only restores and intensifies whenever it gets in touch with nature and people.

The basic motif of Ilić's poetry includes descriptions of the nature. He introduces many fine arts elements in them, as if he was painting them with a brush. In his poem *Autumn* which fascinates with its plausibility and splendour, the poet compares the autumn atmosphere to human life: every image of the nature reflects mood of man and his life. In his poem *Evening*, gentle colours of shadow and light are interwoven with the silent rhythm of country life slowly sinking into sleep. For Ilić, the nature is never dead, it may always be revitalised with the moods of soul (e.g. in poems *Winter Morning*, *Winter Idyll*, *Evening*, *Autumn*, *In Late Autumn*). Such descriptions of the nature are never goal, they are just the background for an idea or feeling which is the essence of poem: "the poet's Self appears not only in his intimate but also in his descriptive poetry, landscape becomes subjective, in addition to previously predominant visual, fine art impressions, now, music sensations appear" (J. Deretić).

During 1888, Vojislav Ilić re-married, this time to Zorka Ilić. He had three children with her. Due to his difficult financial situation, he was considering moving to Montenegro, but he abandoned it, and since 1892 he had been employed as the primary school teacher in Turn Severin. He was dissatisfied with his job: "I live like this, I do not know how to say it. Unless I was compelled due to the circumstances, I would never accept this job. Some days, I get so anxious so that any sound hurts, yet, I have to work with children here." After one year, he returned to Belgrade, and got the job of a notary at the Ministry of In-

ternal Affairs. He was appointed the Vice-Consul in Priština in 1893.

Already at that time, he was very ill: "He had deep-set eyes, his lips were pale, and his hands were often seen through. The expression of an ill man not able to get over his illness was outlined in his face, which did not let him all the way to his hearse" (Branislav Nušić). In time, his health was getting worse. In November 1893, Ilić was so depressed that he rejected his medicines. The face of his deceased wife Tijana, calling him to come to her, appeared to him: "His hands shaking and hanging over his bed like broken wings; death was reflected in the depth of his darkened eyes" (Branislav Nušić). In late November 1893, he was moved to Belgrade, and died on 19th January 1894.

It is not sufficient to say that Ilić is the founder of the Serbian realistic poetry, he elevated it to classical heights, both in terms of verse and richness of its content. It may be readily said that Vojislav Ilić created Serbian modern poetry. "Ilić had an inborn feeling for beauty, he had excellent knowledge of language and poetry skill, because of that, he managed to elevate the Serbian poetry to the artistic height where it had never stood before him. He was especially distinguished by the feeling of verse melody. Musicality of our language had never been as expressive with any other poet as it was with him. Above all, he was the poet of musical harmony. While reading his verses, we have a pleasant feeling as if we were listening to a merry or sad music, according to the feeling he expressed in his poem" (Ž. Mladenović).

JANKO VESELINOVIĆ

Janko Veselinović was born on 1st May 1862 in Salaš Crnobarski, Mačva, from father Miloš and mother Jelisaveta who came from the family of priest. In addition to Janko (the second son), they had eight more children. The family plan was that Marko would be a priest, but he paid more attention to literature. He finished his primary school in Glogovac, and four grades of the grammar school in Šabac. He studied at the Teacher College in Belgrade but did not finish it. Yet, in 1880, he worked as a teacher in Svileuvi. He also married there.

Already at that time Veselinović got to like the country life. Having seen only more beautiful side in it, he was exaggerating about it in his short stories. Almost all of them have got the happy ending, they end with marriage or another celebration. Of course, the real life was not so idyllic, but he liked village so much so that he wrote: "Because of my joy, I am not capable of storytelling, like no one can do." He emphasised the role of cooperative in life of Serbian peasant, he considered it primarily from the idyllic side and emphasised its strength and richness. He showed it as a reality of village, any deviation was interpreted by him as an anomaly, and he was bemoaning the vulnerability of cooperative as the destruction of moral and culture values.

In 1881, he wrote his first short story *The Origination of Cheating*, after that several more, and he wanted to publish them in the magazine *Thoughts*, where he was advised to abandon writing: "They almost killed me as if they had a mallet", he commented afterwards. He almost burnt all of his manuscripts.

Upon his return from Vienna telegraphic course, which he did not finish, since he had nothing to be sustained from, he took his short story *Spinning Evening Party* to *Šabački glasnik*. He was immediately paid three ducats and asked for more short stories. They were published for a while, and, according to the author's request, without his name, he signed only his last name.

During 1886, his first book, the collection of short stories *Pictures from Country Life* was published, and in 1889, the second one under the same title, as well as *Fighters* were published. "He did not watch people and events outside himself, but presented them as the content of own life. Because he was a part of that life, because he experienced what he wrote and presented only what happened or which could happen, his works give the impression of reality though, when he created them, he deviated from the realistic direction, and, though being one-sided, they were taken from the real life" (Živomir Mladenović).

Those were the years when Janko Veselinović had already accepted the ideas of Svetozar Marković, he held speeches at gatherings, and – ended up in prison. During 1890, he published *Wild Flowers* and *The Pictures from Teacher's Life*. From 1892, he worked as a teacher in Šabac.

During 1892, he wrote an exceptionally popular musical *Djido*. Music was composed by Davorin Jenko, and Veselinović was rather involved in the creation of this music: "Janko could not let the choir at the premiere without his presence having been afraid that his song of Mačva could lurch. He wore his peasant clothes, mingled in the choir in the first act, at the spinning evening party,

and sang with the choir, then, after the first act, he took off his peasant and wore his civil, teacher's suit, and appeared in his uncle's loggia as the author" (Branislav Nušić).

During 1895, he wrote his second theatre play *The Chase*. The music for it was also composed by Davorin Jenko. It also had a long life-cycle, it was performed more than 50 times at the National Theatre in Belgrade.

Since 1896, Janko Veselinović lived in Belgrade and worked as the assistant editor of *Srpske novine*. Then, his *Heaven Souls* (1893), *The Peasant Woman* (1893), *Green Outbuildings* (1895), *Old Acquaintances* (1891–1896) were published.

Certainly, Veselinović's major literary work is his historical novel *Haiduk Stanko* which was completely published in 1896. At the beginning, it was not accepted by critics, but, subsequently, thanks to Skerlić, it was much appreciated. On the other hand, as the years went by, this novel acquired a huge popularity with people.

From 1897, he began publishing novel *The Hero of our Days* in sequences, which he did not finish, but, because of which, he ended up in prison. In it, he supported the National Radical Party and the ideas of Svetozar Marković.

Because of politics, he was arrested in 1899 and dismissed from his service. Therefore, until 1901, he was the editor of the magazine *Zvezda*. Already at that time, he felt that he lacked strength: "my imagination is not abundant any more: the time and life tore the feathers from its

wings, so, it may not raise further than earth, there is no more arrogance in it, and I do not see God any more behind the shining star." During 1902, his *Short Stories* were printed.

Janko Veselinović published total of 127 short stories, two finished novels (*The Peasant Woman* and *Haiduk Stanko*), two unfinished ones (*Fighters*, *The Hero of our Days*), two novels that he began writing (*The Mašićs*, *The Peasant Woman*), two theatre plays (*Djido*, *The Chase*).

Nowadays, his works have got the highest value due to their ethnologic content. He described the picture of Mačva village like no one before him, he wrote using the language and style of that area: "his story telling is characterised by all of nice features of popular speech, especially compactness, content, and humour" (Živomir Mladenović). The diction in all of his stories is natural, fresh, and consistent. All this results in straight forwardness and gives impression that the author transferred it directly from the popular speech into his book. Therefore, it is no wonder that Slobodan Jovanović noticed: "I also think, quite seriously, that, at this moment, not any of current writers write more Serbian than Mr Veselinović."

In addition: "Janko recognised so many times: that not anything, any event, any character in his short stories was imagined, built or tailor made. Whatever is in his stories lives in his village and its vicinity" (Milorad Pavić).

Janko Veselinović passed away on 14th June 1905 in Glogovac.

MILOVAN DJ. MILOVANOVIĆ

Milovan Milovanović was born on 17th February 1863 in Belgrade. Though he was rather restless as a child, he was a good pupil, thus, his father – an old cavalry officer, and, after that, judge, minister, and counsellor – sent his son to studies in Paris. Milovanović lived there with the delegate of that time, Marinović. In Paris, he got European education, acquired the unmistakable social tone which was subsequently admired by many. He got his PhD title in Paris, his dissertation on guarantee agreements was much appreciated. Since 1888, he was the professor of national and international law at the High School in Belgrade. From that year, he was also the member of the Radical Party. As the Secretary of the Constitutional Board, he intensively dealt with the constitution of 1888, and, subsequently, he was involved in drawing up the laws which accompanied the Constitution, especially the Law on Elections for the National Assembly. When he was only 26, he held the most important positions at the Serbian administration. King Milan liked him not only because of his education and knowledge, but also for his cheerful nature. Old delegate Ristić did not stand him, because he fiercely criticised his *Memoires*. Milovanović's writs do lack elegance, because he was better in French than Serbian, many believe that he was thinking in French. In return, he was an exceptional speaker, whose speeches were published even by European press.

He was in focus of the public on the occasion of expulsion of Queen Natalie from Serbia (1891) after he had published brochure *Removal of Queen Natalie Does not Breach the Constitu-*

tion. At one time, the complete Serbian public was against him, because it could be considered that he was the one removing her. After this event, he became the Head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs until he was dismissed by the Liberals in 1892. From 1893, he was at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs again, as the Head. Since he defended Aca Stanojević in the so-called Čebinč Affair, King Milan, as a revenge, removed him from his position. Yet, in 1896, he became the Justice Minister in Simić's government. Upon the return of King Milan to Serbia, during 1897, Milovanović was re-dismissed.

In Paris, he became fond of theatre and maintained his habit of going to performances in Belgrade. There he met Vela Nigrinova, a beautiful actress, who came from Ljubljana and who, very quickly, became popular in Belgrade. Yet, in Vienna in 1897, he married Maria, a Romanian woman from the well-known family of Germani: after her mother, she was the granddaughter of Jovan Marinović and the great-granddaughter of Miša Anastasijević. She was not so beautiful, she was thin, dark, with stressed nose, and big eyes. Having been of calm, aloof nature, she had an exceptional education, she read a lot, knew languages. Though she was living in Belgrade for a long time, she never learnt Serbian. She brought great dowry to her husband and gave birth to son Dimitrije and daughter Ana. Dimitrije died when he was a boy in 1911, due to a difficult brain inflammation. While he was ill, in order for him to spend his time in peace, stray was spread in front of his house in Svetogorska street to muffle the clatter of carriages through the cobble. Milova-

nović's wife Maria, after her husband's death in 1912 lived in Russia for some time and was the witness of the October Revolution. She returned to Crikvenica, where she had a little church risen. Subsequently, she returned to Bucharest and died there at a very old age.

Skilfully disposing of his obtained dowry, in a short time, he managed to, by investing in bonds in Europe, acquire substantial capital. Since his existence was provided, he could freely, without any conditions, deal with politics. His life philosophy, which he stated in his notebook immediately before his death, was simple: "Success is everything. It justified everything, everything bows to it. Reputation and shame depend on it. The one who succeeds is great, the one who does not succeed has been worth nothing. "His idea confirms the words of Jovan Cvijić who said about Milovanović that he was the cleverest politician in Serbia, but that he lacked character. Overall, he was not devoted to anyone, but himself and his ambition. He wanted to reach the peak of social hierarchy and managed to do so.

Milovan Milovanović, being punchy, was not of such a good health. He liked eating, even more drinking thinking that "diet by itself is a means for slight extinction". He was not afraid of joke about him, he did not want to remove stains on his tail-coat, because these stains were his "sweet memories". It was said that in 1911, when he was the Government President, he terminated a meeting after he had seen a lad brining catfish to his house, and chased to see how to the fish would be prepared. He disputed this story, having said that he was not justly accused, but, if it had been so, "if such fish had been carp", he would more easily stand such a lie. Milan Stojimirović remembered him well: "He was of a medium height, plump, the way people with a bit of chicken breast are fat, a bit paunchy, but light. He usually wore jacket, and on the opening of his vest, he wore snow white "cuff", insets which were out of fashion after 1918. He never went without his stick, and he walked quickly though he was palish lacking freshness on his round face. People felt sorry for him, because, at the time when he was at the peak of his personal career, he lost his only son, and his daughter was sickish" (Milan Stojimirović).

During 1899, he was sentenced to two years in prison, because some notes in which he wrote some negative statements about King Milan were found in his house. Those were the trials relating to the Assassination on Midsummer Eve. Milovanović did not take part in it, but, as the radical, he suffered because of his opinion. Therefore, while living abroad, he was writing against the Obrenovićs in many newspapers. After King Milan had left Serbia, King Aleksandar gave pardon to everyone sentenced for the participation in the Midsummer Eve Assassination, thus, Milovanović was pardoned, too.

During 1900, he was a delegate in Bucharest, and in 1901, he was the Minister of National Economy. He was one of the editors of the Constitution of 1901. He had great merits for the fusion of the Progressive and Radical Party. During 1902, he was the Finance Minister, and after that, the delegate in Rome until 1907, when he entered Velimirović's government as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, which he was until 1912.

Though Milovan Milovanović was not liked by Belgrade whose people criticised him to a high extent, no one disputed that he was a gifted, excellent lawyer, hardworking and diligent, always excellently informed, restlessly intellectually active, agile and sensitive in all discussions, and he responded at many attacks of him with a joke. He was always ready for compromises, which was only the evidence that he lacked strong ideological attitude or convictions. Because of that, he was insensitive to the criticism relating to his ambition.

The annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 5 October 1908 rather affected Serbia. Under the influence of Russia, the foreign policy of Serbia, where Milovan Milovanović was the Minister of Foreign Affairs, remained powerless. In the note of protest, Milovanović required territorial indemnification for Serbia from the European forces through "an appropriate compensation". He considered that the territory in Polimlje should have belonged to Serbia, based on which it would have had the direct connection with Montenegro, but, in such case, Austro-Hungary would have been cut off from south, because of which Milovanović's proposal was not accomplished. With his proposal, he drew great hatred by the Serbian

public, especially by the officers from the future organisation "Union or Death". He was declared the traitor of national interests. He was especially attacked by the magazine of "Black Arm" *Pijemont*, which wrote that Serbia, thanks to Milovanović, "waived all of its national aims", that he "is fatal for Serbia", that, together with the people "like him, he was the tomb of Serbia and Serbianship" (*Pijemont*, 12th January 1912). It was followed by grave insults such as that he was "totally bad politician and infamous politician", "man of weak character", "morally perverse". He was almost stoned at a rally. It was considered that the war should have been waged with Austria, instead of selling parts of the Serbian territory. Nikola Pašić understood Milovanović's proposal as "abandoning of the terrain of moral and justice" i.e. that the acceptance of the compensation meant the same thing as the recognition of the annexation.

Milovanović was required to reply to the accusations, but he never did so. His rationale was as follows: "My legs are bloody, because of the wicked thorns of human malice and evil; poisonous arrows of disgusting human badness and nihilation fly around my soul, my heart trembles many times in front of the difficulties of the way I have to take. Yet, in a faraway horizon, I see a shiny, heavenly glaring point, the future of the Serbianship" (*Samouprava*, 19th June 1912).

The new government led 1911 by Milovan Milovanović from 25th June, was primarily focused to the agreements with Bulgaria. He was reasoning in a very intelligent manner: "I do not think that Russia will ever be willing to take an initiative and advocate for the achievement of Great Serbia. It is not and it will not be the programme of the Russian Balkans politics. Besides, it is not so only for Serbia and the Serbs, Russia does not have any intention whatsoever and does not think that it might have an interest in the Balkans if it created a big and powerful Slavic or non-Slavic state." Out of all Balkan allies, he considered Bulgaria to be the most important for Serbia: "The Serbian-Bulgarian solidarity is the first, most necessary deal which may not be compensated with anything else, for the independence of the Balkan Peninsula and the solution of the Balkan issue on the basis of: the Balkans to the Balkan people"

(Milovan Milovanović). Though Bulgaria was, in principle, in favour of the Balkan alliance, the two states, besides numerous meetings of Serbian and Bulgarian politicians, could not agree about the division of Macedonia, mostly because of Bulgarian aspirations. The negotiations which were led for several years could not be moved from the beginning, and the following events solved all these issues at once.

There was no single opinion about how to divide Macedonia with Bulgaria even in Serbia. The Radical Party, headed by Pašić, fully disagreed with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Milovanović, and the secret organisation Union or Death headed by Dragutin Dimitrijević Apis was involved in it.

The negotiations were utterly difficult and distressing, but Milovanović had a great support by Russian delegate in Belgrade, Nikolai Gartvig, who came to Belgrade in 1909. Gartvig took sides with Serbia in the negotiations with Bulgaria. Many claim that he did so in contrast to the instructions which he received from Petersburg, having been resentful to the Russian diplomacy which hesitated to finally settle things with Turkey. Right at the time of these negotiations, the people from the Black Arm movement got in touch with Milovanović. Milovanović used the "Black Arm" because of his conflict with Pašić. At that time, he needed the support of the army. The timing of the negotiations prior to the First Balkan War was excellent for the people involved in the Black Arm movement. Now, they were treated by Milovanović almost as his equal partners in the negotiations about the alliance with Bulgaria. Milovanović used them as his enforcement authority, he was making payments to them, in return, they were his spies throughout Macedonia and fought there. The opinion that Milovanović got the idea about the collaboration with Bulgaria from the "Black Arm" is exaggerated, but the question remains how powerful they would have been unless their "Young Friend" as they called Milovanović provided support to them in his secret correspondence. They acquired "a great influence in Serbia thanks to their close relations with a Serbian politician, whose early death before the Balkan War, meant the real political disaster" (Seton-Watson).

Pašić was not spoiling Milovanović's deal, but he did not provide him support either. Actually, it was the clash within the party, Pašić admitted that he said the following to Milovanović: "You are leading this politics, Milovan. If you make a success, glory to you, if you fail..." According to the opinion of the Black Arm member Čedomir Popović, the borders demarcating Serbia and Bulgaria in Macedonia were drawn by Dragutin Dimitrijević Apis with the support of colonel Živojin Pavlović. Namely, the alliance with Bulgaria was important to the Black Arm, borders were of less importance and "there should be no big deal about the size of the territory which would belong to Bulgaria since the union of the Bulgarians and Serbs is unavoidable". Yet, after the Balkan wars, they, like Pašić considered that nothing should have been given to Bulgaria. However, no one knew the full content of the agreement between Serbia and Bulgaria, but Milovanović, Nikola Pašić, King Petar, and Crown Prince Aleksandar.

The Serbian-Bulgarian Agreement was entered into on 13th February 1912. Apparently, Milovanović signed it on his own, and did not ask Pašić as the Radical Party President about anything. The agreement with Bulgaria included two parts: one about the alliance, public, and another, secret, called "Addendum" (12th May 1912). Basically, it was the defensive alliance – in the event of Austro-Hungarian attack of Serbia, Bulgaria would have provided military support: "Both parties committed to provide support to each other with all their might in the event that any great force annexed, occupied, or seized with its army, even temporarily, any part of the Balkan territory under the Turkish rule if any of them considered that it was opposite to its vital interests and as *Caus belli*" (Art. 2 in the Agreement). For such support, Milovanović promised and gave a lot to the Bulgarians. It is actually – the "Addendum", the secret agreement which, in the event of internal disorders provided for the war operations against Turkey. The division of Macedonia was also provided for, it was the zone in the north and west of Šar mountain, and the area east of the Rodopi and the Struma river. Those were the so-called "non-disputable" areas. The central area in Macedonia

remained unsolved, alternatively, autonomy was stipulated, and unless it occurred, the area was to be divided. The criteria were determined for such division, but the Russian Tsar should have had the final decision.

Milovanović did not groundlessly sign the agreement with Bulgaria. Namely, he was aware of the secret agreement between Bulgaria and Austro-Hungary of 1908 under which these two states should have attacked, conquered, and divided Serbia. Also, he knew that Bulgaria made decision to wage the war with Turkey at any cost. Milovanović realised that the alliance with Bulgaria was the method of self-defence against Austro-Hungary. The goal for Serbia were Sandžak and the territory of today's Albania, which were also the Austrian interests, whereas Pašić considered that the division of Macedonia should have been the goal of Serbia. It was the direct attack of Turkey, which included Macedonia. Austro-Hungary remained in the background. Milovanović was afraid of that, too. He tried to prevent Bulgarian-Austrian attack which would have inevitably occurred unless Serbia had made the alliance with Bulgaria. He wanted Bulgaria to support Serbia, therefore, he rather gave in to the Bulgarians. Pašić never agreed with the possibility of huge territorial concessions to Bulgaria. He used the first opportunity and broke his promises. If Milovanović had been alive during the negotiations after the Balkan wars, he would have fulfilled his promises. Pašić did not do so. Perhaps, Milovanović was poisoned because of that. Besides all this, Milovanović did not have the confidence in the Serbian army, he considered the Bulgarian army to be much more powerful.

There is another thing which was advantageous for Pašić. Nationalism was prevailing in Serbia, everyone wanted to attack the southern parts, because old Serbian territories, old Serbian monasteries were there. Milovanović thought, that although the ambitions of Great Bulgaria and Great Serbia were clashed in Macedonia, it belonged neither to Serbia or Bulgaria. The population of Macedonia is of the Slavic origin, but it is neither of Serbian or Bulgarian ethnic origin. His basic ideas were that "Serbia must have reached the Aegean coast, and that the Serbs may have the

Bulgarians facing them only on the eastern, but not at all on the southern side". Famous Jovan Cvijić also participated in these discussions. On 14th June 1911, Cvijić told Austrian Joseph Baernreiter that he would have preferred seeing Serbia attached to Austro-Hungary than to the alliance with Bulgaria since it had some great ambitions in Macedonia, and its appetites reached as far as Constantinople.

Pašić dared not break down Milovanović and his negotiations. Milovanović was supported by Russia, and Pašić, if he removed him from the power, must have continued where Milovanović stopped. Besides, Milovanović was supported by the whole Independent Party, quite many members of the Radical Party, and the "Black Arm". Also, he knew that Austro-Hungary would have, if Serbia had been supported by Bulgaria, hardly made decision to attack Serbia.

It is how the spinning wheel began turning. After the agreement between Serbia and Bulgaria, they were soon followed by Bulgarian-Greek (29th May 1912) and Serbian-Montenegrin (27th September 1912) agreements. In such manner, the final shaping of the Balkan alliance was finished, which was called in European press as "the seventh great force".

Though the negotiations were secretly made, Russia was aware of the details, France knew some things, which was sufficient that its President called the Alliance as the "weapons of the war". Germany was also notified about it through the

"Black Arm", the organisation which was probably supported by this European force. This assumption is also supported by the fact about the existence of the special relations Apis had with Germans. Due to its fear that the Austria could interfere in the future war conflicts, which would result in the European war, Russia endeavoured to restrict its war to the assaults in the Turkish territory, within the Balkan borderlines.

Soon after signing the Agreement with Bulgaria, in March 1912, Milovan Milovanović died on 18th June of that year. Three days before his death, he had been healthy – he held the speech at the National Assembly. His death is a great mystery – there were suspicions that he was poisoned. He used strychnine in small quantities to improve his heart activity, but it is hardly probable that he committed suicide. There were some suspicions regarding his chef, probably the Vienna agent. It was said that the same chef subsequently poisoned Russian delegate Gartvig. There is no doubt that Austria did not have any bigger enemy than Milovan Milovanović. His creation, the Balkan Alliance, should have become active now, which happened, but not as he imagined: "Milovanović would have been startled if he had been alive hearing that the army headed towards the border with Turkey with a serious intention to have the liberation war and that everything was settled so that the great forces did not interfere in the dispute" (M. Protić).

BRANISLAV NUŠIĆ

Branislav Nušić was born on 8th October 1864 in Belgrade. His father Djordje Nuša gave his son the name of Alkibijad. This family had three more sons and a daughter. Subsequently, Alkibijad took the name of Branislav, he went to the primary school in Smederevo where he lived with his family. Here, Branislav first got in touch with actors and theatre, where, on an occasion, he was almost tragically killed. Namely, in a theatre play, a filled firelock, for which no one knew that it was filled, fired and gravely injured his mouth. Because of that his mouth was bent, which may be noticed on some of his photographs, but he skilfully disguised it with his moustache and French beard.

In 1874, Nušić enrolled at the grammar school in Belgrade. He repeated the first grade of the grammar school since he was more interested in theatre than in school. From 1882, he was studying law and graduated in Belgrade in 1886. During his studies, he was travelling to Graz. Before the end of Nušić's studies, in 1885, the Serbian-Bulgarian war began in which Nušić participated as a volunteer.

During 1886, his collection of short stories *Short Stories of a Corporal*, describing the events from the previous war, was published. Because of the satirical poem *Two Servants*, which he wrote as a member of the Radical Party, during 1887, he was sentenced to two years in prison, but he was pardoned after one year. From 1888, he was an editor of *Male novine*.

During 1889, Nušić's comedy *Protection* was performed. In the same year, his collection

of short stories – chats *Notes* was published. He was waiting for thirteen more years for the performance of *The Member of the Parliament*, which he finished in 1883. He wrote *The Suspicious Person* in 1888, which was performed only after thirty five years.

From 1889, Nušić was the civil servant at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, thus, he often changed the place of his stay. Until 1900, he first worked at the Serbian Consulate in Bitola, then in Thessaloniki, Skopje, and Priština. In 1893 in Bitola, he married Darinka Djordjević with whom he had two daughters and a son. From an opponent, he became a man of the regime, he was not the social writer any more, but amusement writer.

At the same time, he actively dealt with literature. First, in 1891, he became the editor of magazine *Preodnica*. During 1896, *The Member of the Parliament* was performed on stage. In 1898, he published his second collection of short stories *The Nights of Ramadan*, describing his impressions from Turkey. From 1899, he was one of the editors in the magazine *Zvezda*.

He became the Secretary of the Ministry of Education in 1900, afterwards, he got the position of playwright and Deputy Manager of the National Theatre in Belgrade. At the same time, he was the editor of *Pozorišni list*, and his *Prince Ivo of Semberija* (1900), *Lily and Spruce* (1901), and *In Old Age* (1903) were played.

There is no doubt that Nušić's work is under the exceptionally high influence of Jovan Stejka Popović, whose depth he had never reached, and Kosta Trifković, which he admitted: "...after

Sterija and Trifković, I am the third comedy playwright in the Serbian literature.” Sterija, through his comedy, endeavoured to teach and enlighten, and Nušić only wanted to make the audience laugh and to, through caricature, present the dark side of life, he neither judges nor criticises anyone. He overtook local comedy of manners from Milovan Glišić. He was also impacted by Gogol though he does not support the grotesque, morbid spirit of this great Russian writer. Nušić was focused to light comedy of humorous type the basic objective of which is to result in laughter. He always said about himself that he was a humourist, not a satirist. Contemporary critics never accepted him, they criticised that he fell into low, vulgar humour, however, the views of subsequent critics were different: “Fierce, lucid, satirical invective and simple verbal sallies; and serious tragic and grotesque situations and “gags” from burlesque; and theatrical figures and vivid and complete characters commonly live next to each other in his most precious comedies” (Josip Lešić).

To his contemporaries, Nušić, at first, seemed too frivolous, then too bitter, and snappish. Nowadays, he is considered one of the greatest Serbian playwrights. In time, he outgrew himself and his literary significance and value were increasingly lifted up. Slobodan Jovanović said that he had a devilish skill to set the scene. It was so even more, because his comedies dealt with reality, which was almost always banal and prosaic.

During 1902, Nušić conflicted with the authorities: first, he was insulted, because he was not appointed as the theatre manager, because of his protest, he was retired, then he was appointed as a postal-telegraphic inspector, the duty he rejected to accept, due to which he was retired again. Yet, in 1903, he became the Head of the National Propaganda, but after the fall of the Obrenovićs during the May Overturn, he was retired again.

From 1904 up to 1906, Nušić was the Manager of the Serbian National Theatre in Novi Sad.



During 1906 he got the position of the deputy playwright of the National Theatre in Belgrade. During that time, his plays *Under Clouds* (1904), *People* (1906), *Bloody Tribute* (1907), *Hadži Loja* (1908), *Autumn Rain*, *Behind God's Back* (1909), *The Trip around the World* (1911), *The Member of Parliament* (1912) were performed.

During all that time, he was publishing in several newspapers (*Dnevni list*, *Borba*, *Samouprava*, *Beogradske novine*, *Ćosa*, *Brka*), he was the editor at *Smederevski glasnik*, *Male novine*, *Preodnica*, *Pozorišni list*, and in *Politika*, he was publishing humorous texts alias Ben Akiba (1904–1907), which were subsequently published in three books. They were especially admired by A. G. Matoš: “Nušić is a born journalist, who in the recent, the most topical type of our literacy includes kind and amusing way of chatting, joking, fantasy, where journalism becomes a part of literature, and literature becomes journalism, turning a trifle into an event, and an event into a trifle, creating an everyday report from feuilleton, chronicle, note about current human comedy, which, through a journal, enters the tragedy of the world history.”

During 1912, he was appointed as the county head in Bitola, but already in 1913, he was the manager of the National Theatre in Skopje, where he edited paper *Srpski jug*.

Overall, it is seen that he was very busy, he did not have time to read, he barely found time to write. Nušić liked socialising, he even more liked women, and he continually had relations with them. He was a bohemian a bit, but he had never been an alcoholic. Yet, he was a perfect husband, father, and host. His wife Darinka, nee Bodi, was an exceptionally hard working and decent woman. Though she was socially very active at various women's associations, she successfully ran and maintained the house, enabling her husband to deal with literary work. Nušić got up early, drank a strong coffee, and in his short gown, he sat at his desk and began writing: “In such manner, I take away these first hours in day from other obligations of mine, because I was fresh and the

most collected. When I shave, have breakfast, and put on my clothes, I go out of my house, and then, whatever remains from my spiritual freshness, it belongs to the world, for I shall not squander it on unimportant things from early morning."

He was always elegant, he wore only the nicest neckties, hats, shoes, as well as jacket, and especially the so-called overcoats. Yet, he was not the slave of fashion. He smoked too much and suffered from asthma, because of which he liked overheated rooms. He was remembered as an exceptionally kind man, he always received his guests in a joyful manner, imposing humorous communication, and he was laughing more from his throat than his opened mouth. His two brothers and father, old Nuša, were also witty. The sense of humour was their family trait. Contrary to them, Branislav Nušić's son – Strahinja, very handsome, with excellent manners, somewhat picky, was not witty.

During 1915, the Nušić family experienced a family tragedy: son Strahinja got killed. The mother had never again took off her suit of mourning. With the Serbian army, Branislav Nušić crossed Albania, then he went to France, Switzerland, and Italy.

After the World War I, Nušić was the manager of the National Theatre in Skopje and the head of the Art Unit at the Ministry of Education. At that time the following plays of his were performed: *Two Thieves* (1919), *Sniffer*, *A Suspicious Person*, *The World War* (1923).

He conflicted with the Church because of his *Sniffer*, thus, he was anathemised in 1922. In the next year of 1923, he was retired again, but in 1925 in Sarajevo, he was appointed as the National Theatre manager. His famous *Autobiography* was published in 1924.

During 1929, he was a librarian at the National Assembly, and he was retired in the same year. It is the time when the following plays were performed: *Mrs Minister*, *Passion Week* (1929), *Preface*, *Mr Dollar* (1932), *The Mournful Family*

(1934), *Angry Man*, *An Illiterate Pig* (1935), *Dr* (1936), *The Decedent* (1937).

In these comedies, which are among his best creations, it is seen that laughter is the basic and important characteristic of his works. "His comedy is not abstracted from reality, therefore, it is not abstraction or fiction, it is rather the skill of a master in a kind of spiritual juggling. It has the colours of the environment, it has its breath, smell, tone, it is by itself a datum about it. Almost all of the motifs in Nušić's works revealed something intimate, close, known, the echo of something already seen or heard, experienced, something which we could already laugh at somewhere and at one time" (Milan Bogdanović). Several splendid characters remained remembered like Jovanča Micić (*An Ordinary Man*, *The Trip around the World*), Jevrem Prokić (*The Member of the Parliament*), Minister Živka (*Mrs Minister*), etc. All of them are real characters from the contemporary Serbian society. Those are urban, bureaucratic characters. The focus of event in all of Nušić's comedies is family, and the plot always takes place in the present time. It may especially be seen in *The Mournful Family*, in which the writer presented the collective portrait of a big family whose members endeavour to get hold of the deceased's property.

The popularity of Branislav Nušić could never be observed in a narrow manner, he was not temporarily in, from his first literary performances further on, up to date (today even more than before), he is closely related with any environment and period. He was contemporary at his time, and he is contemporary even today. Djordje Jovanović wrote: "Nušić, with his continuing and voluminous work, passes through the new historical periods, he has mostly been contemporary through all these periods."

He was elected as the member of the Serbian Science Academy in 1933. In the same year, his novel *Haiduks* was published.

Branislav Nušić passed away in Belgrade in 1938.

JOVAN CVIJIĆ

Jovan Cvijić was born on 12th October 1865 in the family of merchants in Loznica to father Todor and mother Marija. He was the third of six children. He finished the Primary School in Loznica and the grammar school in Šabac and Belgrade. Subsequently, he used to say that teachers Ranko Petrović (physics) and Vladimir Karić (geography), both from Šabac embedded the ideas which he adhered to all his life. Among all, those were socialist ideas: "But socialist books were the main thing. Their ideas were aligned with the idealism I had after my mother. Everything else, apart from my ideas of the happiness of the mankind, became of secondary importance to me" (Jovan Cvijić).

In 1888 in Belgrade, he finished the studies at the Mathematics and Science Department of the High School. Already at that time, he made geographic researches and surveys throughout Serbia (in July 1885 in Cer and the Valjevo Mountains, next year in the vicinity of Belgrade), then, also throughout other areas of the Balkan Peninsula. His main attention was focused to morphological, hydrographic, and tectonic issues. In the summer of 1887, his first scientific paper *Appendix to our Geographical Terminology* was published. Subsequently, he expanded his focus to antropogeographic, ethnographic, and ethno-psychological researches.

First, he taught geography at the Second Belgrade Grammar School, and already in 1889, on 22nd January in Vienna, he acquired his doctoral title in geography and geology with his thesis entitled *Das Kartsphanomen*. He returned to Belgrade and became the professor at the High School, where he worked for 34 years, until 1927.

In 1894, Jovan Cvijić established Institute of Geography, the first geographic institution in South-Slavic countries, within which he developed the so-called geographic seminar. During 1910, he established the Serbian Geographic Society, the first geographic society on the Balkan Peninsula. Only two years later, magazine *Glasnik Srpskog geografskog društva* started to be published, which is published on a regular basis even today.

Cvijić was very appreciated within the international scientific circles. At the Charles University in Prague, he was selected as the professor in ordinaries of physical geography in 1902, but he did not accept the invitation. During school year of 1907/8 and 1919/20, he was the rector of the University of Belgrade. As an appreciated expert, he was selected as the President of the Serbian Royal Academy of Science and the Institute of Geography in Belgrade, he was the honorary doctor of the Faculty of Philosophy of the Czech University of Prague, as well as of Sorbonne in Paris, honourable and correspondent member of numerous geographic, ethnographic, science, and other expert scientific societies.

For his scientific researches and works, the Geographic Society, London, honoured him with the gold medal of the English King, the Geographic Society, Paris, honoured him with the gold and silver medal, the Geographic Society, Washington, honoured him with grand gold medal, etc. He rejected many honours. In the period from 1921 to 1927, he was the President of the Academy of Science.

Jovan Cvijić also took part in the political life of Serbia of his period, more intensively from

the May Overturn in 1903. He welcomed the overturn with great hope, thus, in a letter he says that in Serbia "such moral purification has occurred, thus, it is now easier for us and we see brighter future". Since then, he was involved in individual diplomatic missions (London 1906 and 1915, Paris 1915 and 1916–1920), and, as the President of the Ethnographic Board of our delegation, he took part at the Peace Conference in Versailles in 1919/20, where he played a role in setting out the borders. At the time of the World War I, he was in Switzerland, teaching at Sorbonne in Paris, etc. He wrote around dozen articles about the current political events (the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the creation of the new state, etc.). At the time when the St. Vitus Day Constitution of 1921 should have been enacted, up to one hundred of coaches and cars of numerous politicians coming to consult him could be seen in front of his house. He did not use several opportunities to be the Government President; he even rejected to be the member thereof.

Cvijić's works had a significant impact on the development of geography in Serbia. During his life, he issued numerous works. He was constantly interested in the morphology and hydrology of karst, about which he published as many as 47 articles and studies. The first of his works of such kind is *Knowledge about Karst of Eastern Serbia* (1889). His doctoral dissertation *Karst. Geographic Morphology* (1893), and other works on these topics, e.g. *Karstic Fields of Western Bosnia and Herzegovina* and *Geography of Calcareous Terrains*, which is his last paper in the series, are very significant.

Cvijić's discoveries of glacial trails on the Balkan mountains were the real scientific sensation. Namely, Cvijić proved that the Balkan mountains were glacialised during the Pleistocene, which was rather unknown. He published several papers about it, first *The Traces of Old Glaciers in Rila* (1897), the first national glaciological work. Cvijić went to Rila mountain for 27 times, and in July 1896, he got the confident results. It was followed by the paper *Glacial and Morphological Studies about the Mountains of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro* (1899), followed by *The Ice Age in the Prokletije and the Surrounding Mountains* (1913). His complete

knowledge about the glacialisation of Lovćen, Šara, Jakupica, and Perister were synthesised in *The New Results of the Glacial Age on the Balkan Peninsula*.

Cvijić's hypotheses about the Pannonian Lake and the origination and development of the strait on the Balkan Peninsula are also interesting. His paper *The Lake Plastics of Šumadija* aroused some controversies. He claimed that the Pannonian Lake was drained towards the east through today's Djerdap, and, subsequently, he was searching for the hydrographic connection of the Pannonian and Aegean Lake. He wrote about the origination of Bosphorus and Dardanelles on three occasions. The essence of his hypothesis was described in great detail in his paper *Geomorphology II* (1926).

He wrote the scientific papers about the Balkan lakes, and the most distinguished ones include *Bases for the Geography and Geology of Macedonia and Old Serbia*, *The Atlas of the Lakes of Macedonia, Old Serbia, and Epirus* – the theses of these papers were "the basis of the limnological knowledge about the large tectonic lakes, as well as of the knowledge about the tectonic lakes in the territories of Greece and Albania". In those studies, Cvijić was focused to Dorjan, Ohrid, and Prespan lakes. *The Atlas of the Lakes of Macedonia, Old Serbia, and Epirus* has, up to date, remained a unique work in our scientific literature, similar work "has, so far, not been issued by any scientist, any hydrological science and research institute" (S. Stanković).

He said many times that the geomorphology was his greatest preoccupation. With it, he started his scientific route (doctoral dissertation), and he also completed it with the geomorphology after he had published two manuals *Geomorphology I* (1924) and *Geomorphology II* (1926). Both books are voluminous, the first has 588 pages of text, 12 maps, 420 sketches, 94 photographs, etc.; the second has got 506 pages, 436 photographs and maps in the text, and 156 maps and photographs in the Appendix.

Many consider that Cvijić's three-volume monograph about Old Serbia and Macedonia (total of 1.272 pages) is, actually, his work of the lifetime. Here, our scientist "did not only display the geography and geology of numerous Balkan

areas, but he provided the comprehensive scientific monograph – the encyclopaedia of European Turkey of that time. Not any huge unit of Yugoslavia or the Balkan Peninsula disposes of such work" (R. Lazarević).

Hard-working Cvijić also left around dozen voluminous antropogeographic works, and the first was *The Antropogeographic Issues of the Balkan Peninsula* (1902). He exposed in it the broadest methodological basis of the research of migrations and origin of population: "I was thinking about them the most, they were the focus of all our studies, the majority of our work at the Geographic Seminar related to them, the correspondence with associates primarily relates to them" (Jovan Cvijić).

Among all, Cvijić made a clear difference between the types of village and country settlements, regarding understanding of village. In a very clear manner, he singled out several types of villages (Old Vlachia, Vlasina, Skopje, Mačva-Jasenica, Čitluk). Twenty years later in his work *The Balkan Peninsula and South-Slavic Countries*, he expanded the typology to several other types of village settlements. Also, first time in the Serbian geographic science, he considered houses in detail, as the basic units of any settlement. He took photographs of many houses, described them; in the meantime, some types have vanished.

Jovan Cvijić was a rare visionary. He clearly warned that, for centuries, the Serbs expanded their ethnic area, thus, they mixed with the Croats, and in some areas with the Slovenes. They scat-

tered in the central and western Balkan countries, distanced from their home country, transferred their Shtokavian speech and a series of folklore characteristics. Because of their migrations, they emptied their historical origin: Kosovo, Metohija, and Stara Raška. These areas were mostly taken and penetrated by the Islamised Albanians, towards east, north-east, and north through them. Cvijić warned that the front "towards the Albanians is the weakest side of the Serbian people and, in general, the Slavs of the Balkan Peninsula". Contrary to the Serbs, the Bulgarians did the best thing: they maintained their ethnographic areas, and they have benefit from "not being in contact, almost anywhere, with physically so strong people like the Albanians".

Cvijić also researched and wrote about the psychological features of South Slavs, which had not been discussed by anyone before him. With his works, he set the foundations to a new science – ethno-psychology. In such researches, he singled out individual psychical types – Dinara, central, East Balkan, Pannonian – varieties and groups.

As a writer, Cvijić is, probably, the greatest stylist we have had. He was a skilful speaker, he is considered as the one of the most talented speakers in the Serbian history. Due to all of his features, he "seems solitary, like a huge forest oak, a glant, we return to from some grove, admiring his height and strength" (M. Stojimirović).

Jovan Cvijić passed away in Belgrade on 16th January 1927.

MIHAILO PETROVIĆ ALAS

Mihailo Petrović Alas was born on 6th May 1868 in Belgrade. His father Nikodim was the Seminary professor, and mother Milica was a priest's daughter. He had three brothers and a sister. His father died soon, thus, he was educated by his mother's father Novica Lazarević. He finished his primary school in Belgrade in 1878, and the grammar school in 1885, then he finished the High School, Department of Science and Mathematics. He finished lisans of mathematical sciences at the University of Paris in 1892, lisans of physics in 1893, and defended his doctoral dissertation in mathematical sciences in 1894. Already at the age of 26, Mihailo Petrović had an exceptional education.

Upon his return from Paris to Belgrade, he was selected as the mathematics professor at the High School, and at the newly founded University of Belgrade in 1905, he was appointed the professor in ordinaries in the theory of mathematics. Since 1900, he was the member of the Serbian Royal Academy and of several foreign science academies and a large number of scientific societies. He received numerous honours. He did not have family, he lived with his sister Marija and her husband Živojin Perić, the professor at the Faculty of Law, Belgrade

The life of Mihailo Petrović was very simple, without any major leaps or changes. Some contemporaries claim that he was very modest, almost an ascetic. In his study, he had an iron military bed, a desk, and several "master letters" (diplomas) on the wall. He equally treated all people, at the faculty, some doormen often did not know

who "Mr Dr. Mihailo Petrović" was, but they always knew when someone was looking for "Mika Alas". He was not present in the public, he did not give any statements for press, only once when he was promoted as the honorary doctor of the Faculty of Philosophy, and said for newspapers: "God is the witness that I am not to be blamed for this" (*Politika*, 18th November 1939). No one had ever seen him in a tailcoat, tuxedo, or topcoat, and it is certain that he never wore a silk hat on his head.

However, Mihailo Petrović left a very big number of the scientific works in various fields – mathematical analysis, mechanics, mathematical physics, mathematical chemistry, geometry, and general phenomenology. In addition, he wrote literary texts, travels, historical and ethnographic books, even several expert papers in fishery since he was a passionate fisherman. His works were printed separately in Serbian and French, but as discussions in the publications of the Serbian Science Academy, Yugoslav Academy of Science and Arts, Academy of Science, Paris, Czech Science společnost, etc.

The bibliography of Mihailo Petrović includes 257 scientific and expert works. The centre of his knowledge was almost always classic mathematical analysis, called, at his time, modern analysis: "it is the analysis dealing with the study and/or discovery of the characteristics of various real and complex functions defined by potential rows, certain integrals, or solutions of differential equations" (J. D. Kečkić). Therefore, those are highly expert works, understandable only to experts, which were certainly noticed at that time:

“Petrović is not only the national great man, but he is a good name in terms of international relations” (D. S. Mitrović).

The scientific results of Mihailo Petrović impacted the development of the so-called Belgrade school of mathematics. They are included in the theses of the first Belgrade doctor in mathematics M. Berić, as well as the second doctor in the mathematical sciences S. Marković. It was nicely written that Mihailo Petrović created “the beehive of the scientific activity” (*Politika*, 8th May 1938). He required that all of the publications of the Academy, excerpts, the so-called summaries are included in French or German, which has become a constant Serbian practice since 1922. He published many of his works abroad, thus, the international public was aware of his work.

Mihailo Petrović remained remembered as a good teacher: “Mihailo Petrović liked his vocation of a teacher. His lectures were distinguished by simplicity and attracted students. Petrović had a strict criteria which he transferred to his students, thus, to a significant degree, ensured that mathematics teaching in our country is positioned well” stated one of his students. He is meritorious for setting and valuating mathematics as the science in Serbia.

He was working a lot in another field – cryptography. Namely, Milutin Milanković had the rank of engineering lieutenant colonel within the reserve army, and already since 1898, the army engaged him in developing coding system. His systems were used until 1941: “The volume of these activities, as well as the new obtained results in the cryptography, justify the treatment of the cryptography as a special field of Petrović’s activity” (D. Trifunović).

Petrović also dealt with the issues of mathematical modelling, i.e. analogous computing machines. For the so-called hydrointegrator, the machine solving certain classes of differential equations, at the World Exhibition in Paris he got the bronze medal in 1900. In addition to this machine,

he patented 5 more inventions, and the patent relating to the eternal calendar was implemented in several thousand copies.

He travelled a lot: “There were some years when out of 365 days, Petrović was not in Belgrade from 210 to 258 days” (D. Trifunović). In the summer of 1931, as the member of the international scientific expedition, he crossed over the most northern parts of Špicberg, Greenland, and Island. He met the Eskimos, he was hunting whales, etc., and he described it all in his first book of travels. The second book of travels is about his six-week travel on the Atlantic, the third book is about the travels throughout Northern Ice Area (through Newfoundland and Labrador) in 1933, and the fourth one describes the travel in Southern Polar Area. His works became the classic of the Serbian travel fiction.

Fishery is the non-separable part of Petrović’s life. For medical reasons, since his youth, he spent much of his time at the banks of the Sava and the Danube. He met professional fishermen there, thus, in 1882, he became the fishery apprentice, in 1888 he passed the examination for fishery journeyman, and in 1895, he passed the examination for fishery master. He was successful in fishing, he caught 120 kg heavy catfish, 16 kg heavy perch, and he had the record catch of almost 200 kg of sturgeons. Because of that, he was called “master Mika”, “Mika Alas”. He also wrote several books in the field of fishery. He participated in many activities relating to the improvement of fishery in Serbia, he was the member of the commission for writing the laws on freshwater fishery.

He was very friendly. He founded “Musical Society SUZ”. He played violin quite well. He knew over 700 melodies of national dances, 240 melodies of national songs, etc. Some of them were recorded on gramophone records, but, unfortunately, the records were destroyed in the bombardment of Belgrade in 1941.

Mihailo Petrović Alas passed away in Belgrade on 8th June 1943.

MIHAILO GAVRILOVIĆ

Mihailo Gavrilović was born on 8th May 1868 in Aleksinac, in a poor family of the second class court notary. He finished the primary school and junior grades of the grammar school in Knjaževac, and he further educated in Niš. He studied at the High School in Belgrade at the Faculty of Philosophy. Already at that time, he wrote the paper about Jovan Rajić which was published in the *Ethnographic Map of Serbian Countries* (1891). He finished his studies in 1891, and since 1892, when he passed the professor examination, he worked as the professor in Niš. He further educated in Paris in 1893, and during 1899 he got his doctoral title at Sorbonne on the topic of *The Agreement Entered into in Paris 1259 between Louis IX, the King of France and Henry III, the King of England*. He returned to Serbia as the developed first class scientist, he became the supporter of the “new French school which uses the sources and does not strive for literary effects but for exact determination of facts” (Slobodan Jovanović).

Upon his return to Belgrade, Gavrilović was appointed at the position of the manager of the National Archive in Belgrade (today, the Serbian Archive). He is considered the founder of the archiving service in Serbia. A Vienna magazine wrote about the condition of archive material he saw: “Acts of individual ministries and courts, the number of which is high, originating from the time of the foundation of the Serbian state under Karadjordje and Miloš Obrenović, lie on floors and cellars for decades, topsy-turvy, one over another, neglected by local researchers and non-accessible to European scientists”. At that time, the

Archive mostly included XIX century material, thus, Gavrilović began studying the history of that period.

Gavrilović spent some ten years at the Archive, then he was transferred to diplomacy. He was a delegate in Cetinje (1911–1914), in Vatican (1914–1917) in London (1919–1924). For some time, he was an assistant, and then the representative of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. He was also a candidate for the first Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the SHS.

Mihailo Gavrilović was “an unusually hard-headed and prudent man, with a high working energy and a lot of method in his work, which could be beneficially used for various activities. As the professor at high school, he was a splendid lecturer, and I used to find his former students who, after so many years, readily remembered his lectures in history. As the manager of the National Archive in Belgrade, his task was to create the institution from scratch. The fact that the National Archive collected such a huge material on XIX century Serbia, and had the material arranged well, is, primarily, his merit” (R. Odavić).

During 1908, 1909, and 1912, Gavrilović published monograph *Miloš Obrenović*, in three volumes, in which the rule of Prince Miloš Obrenović was elaborated in detail, starting from the Peace of Bucharest to the Hatti-sheriff of 1833. Gavrilović used the non-published archive material, both national and foreign, and created an exceptional historical work. Since he used the non-published historical material the most, Slobodan Jovanović called him “a historian archivist”. Based on a plenty of documents, he created “the

most documented work of our historiography about XIX century. It remained the exemplary research work followed by many of the subsequent historians" (R. Ljušić).

Gavrilović's work was one of the best historiographical works of the Serbian historians, in general: "Gavrilović wrote his Miloš Obrenović based on the complete knowledge about Serbia of Miloš' era with much adoration for the Prince's political talent, especially in running the foreign policy. However, he did not use the panegyric tone, but he, also presented the weaknesses of Miloš' rule in a non-biased manner, especially in the internal policy" (N. Radojčić). He wrote in a very light, descriptive, and clear manner. He harmoniously composed the voluminous monograph: "with chapters and sections which were rather complete and mutually separated, resembling the construction of regular lines and proportions, set in such manner that its size does not burden viewer with anything difficult, especially not cumbersome" (R. Samardžić). Reading his book is not tiring, on the contrary, it is very amusing, reader trusts him without any reserve. Jovan Skerlić emphasised that "conscientiousness, objectivity, and spiritual honesty" place Gavrilović "highly above those who studied the Serbian history in XIX century. He is the first scientific historian of new Serbia, and the man who may be fully trusted". Gavrilović is the researcher who has the power and balance, as well as the skill to turn his his-

torical monograph from the scientific work into a real work of art. Though it lacks "both inspiration with ideas and flow of emotions or vivid style", it is full of facts, moderation, it is a complete experience of the writer about what he writes.

Gavrilović finished the monograph before he went to diplomacy, because of which it did not cover the whole life of Miloš Obrenović. He also prepared the fourth big one, but the manuscript was ruined during the World War I.

In addition to this monograph, Gavrilović also edited the French archive material about the First Serbian Uprising entitled *Entries from Paris Archives. The Material for the History of the First Serbian Uprising*. This is the first collection of the published documents about the Serbian revolution. His other various texts were, during 1926, collected and entitled *From the Recent Serbian History*.

Gavrilović is the pioneer of the scientific study of XIX century Serbian history: "studying the age of Prince Miloš, Gavrilović endeavoured to study the internal development of Serbia and all of its relations with other states. His historical works are versatile and deep. According to their concept method, they followed Ranke's studies of the Serbian past, who studied the contemporary Serbian historical development as a part of the world development" (N. Radojčić).

Mihailo Gavrilović passed away in London on 1st November 1924.

STANISLAV BINIČKI

Stanislav Binički was born in Jasica near Kruševac in 1872. He attended the grammar school in Niš and learned to play violin and flute. Already at that time, he prepared some compositions for student orchestra. After the graduation in 1890, he enrolled at the Faculty of Philosophy and became the member of the Academic Choir "Obilić" and the Belgrade Choir. Also, he founded Academic Music Society fostering instrumental (orchestral) music.

From 1894, Binički taught mathematics in Leskovac. He founded Choir "Branko" there, and wrote *The Collection of Songs from the Surrounding of Leskovac* for mixed choir. Already in the next year, he got the scholarship and went to Munich Music Academy to composition studies. In Munich, he married Miroslava Frida Blank. In this German town, some of his compositions were performed (choir music using verses of German poets), and he performed as a solo singer and conductor.

He returned to Belgrade in 1899 and was fully dedicated to music. With the support of Stevan Mokranjac and Cvetko Jakovljević, he founded the Serbian Music School, became the conductor of the recently established Belgrade Military Orchestra with which he worked a lot and prepared symphony concerts at the National Theatre. In 1899, it performed his first orchestral piece *From My Homeland*, written based on national motifs. He composed the overture and theatre music for Nušić's fairy tale *Lily and Spruce* (1900), then the overture and symphonic intermezzo (typical programme music) for Vojnović's

drama *Ekvinocio* (1903), music for Nušić's comedy *The Trip around the World* and play *Sniffer*. During 1904, he established the Music of Royal Guard, the conductor of which he was until 1920.

The press recorded many praises for his activity as the choir conductor of several choirs such as the Typographic Choir "Jakšić", "Obilić", and "Stanković" Choir with which he was the most successful when he performed oratory *The Creation of the World, Seven Words of Christ* (Joseph Haydn) in Belgrade in 1908 and in 1910 Beethoven's *IX Symphony*. During 1911, he was a guest in Odessa, Russia and conducted the choir of around one hundred musicians. It was a rare spectacle. Before the First Balkan War, he conducted the performance of oratory *Resurrection* by Stevan Hristić. Also, he organised the first opera performances at the National Theatre in Belgrade, prepared and conducted operas *The Troubadour*, *Tosca*, *Freischütz*, *Mignon*, etc. After the World War I, he worked at the Music School "Stanković" as the director and professor, and from 1920, he was the first director of the permanent Opera of the National Theatre established at that time. He was replaced by Stevan Hristić in 1924.

Stanislav Binički composed especially famous *March on the Drina*, with which he sprung into fame throughout the world. He composed it in Valjevo, at the time when the Serbian army was in the offensive after the great victory on Cer mountain. When this composition was performed in the movie of the same name in 1960, Binički became exceptionally popular and experienced

STANISLAV BINIČKI

his first renaissance. Then, over 20 domestic and foreign arrangements of this composition as well as around one hundred discographic editions throughout the world were made.

Regarding other composing works of Stanislav Binički, the first Serbian opera *Early Morning* (1903), and choir compositions from the collection *Peasant Girls* should be mentioned. He also wrote church

compositions, thereof, *Liturgy* and *Requiem* should be specifically emphasised. He also wrote music critique, but it is, in relation to his composing and conducting work, less important part of his activity.

Stanislav Binički was wounded during the bombardment of Belgrade on 6th April 1941, but he never fully recovered. He passed away on 15th February 1942.

