

ON NOTABLE BOOKS IN OUR HISTORY

The book entitled *Čovjek i zdravlje* (Man and Health) is one of the last works written by Professor Antun Lobmayer, who was the first to publish popular works on health, intended for both healthy and diseased people in the 19th century. His educational work was recognized by other professionals, so Professor Lobmayer was honorary member of the Hungarian Hygienic Society in Budapest and the Croatian Education Association. Merits go to Professor Lobmayer primarily for education of our midwives. He studied medicine in Vienna and then stayed for two years at surgical department headed by famous Professor Theodor Billroth. Then he returned to Croatia to be appointed head of and Professor at Royal School of Midwifery in 1877. In 1878, he wrote his first book for midwives entitled *Primaljstvo – učevna knjiga za primalje* (Midwifery – Textbook for Midwives). He

was Editor-in-Chief of *Liječnički vjesnik* during the 1885-1897 period. Professor Lobmayer intended his book *Čovjek i zdravlje* for use at high girls' schools. As Lobmayer says himself: "... for it is necessary that our girls can learn at least this much about health ...". Thus, Professor Lobmayer belonged to the minority of the time that were aware of the need for the girls' education to include basic health knowledge irrespective of their occupation, in order to considerably upgrade the general population education in health and health protection. As a genuine and responsible professional, Professor Lobmayer notes that only advice on health protection is provided in the book, whereas treatment should be always left to physicians. The book appeared in 1898, after receiving the Matica hrvatska Award a year before.

Tanja Sušec