A hundred years have elapsed since the famous celebration of 25th anniversary of the work of Professor Teodor Wickerhauser in our Hospital. The celebration took place on April 2, 1910, when many distinguished persons, Professor Wickerhauser’s fellows and co-workers gathered at the Hospital. The event has been recorded in a book1 and in this photograph that is of historical value not only for our Hospital but also for the general history of Croatian medicine. Merits go to Professor Wickerhauser not just as a surgeon or one of the founders of the Zagreb School of Medicine2, but also as an excellent teacher having educated numerous prominent Croatian surgeons (Čačković, Mašek, Hühn, Florschütz, Blašković, Tausek, Durst, and others), some of them being founders of particular specialties like otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology, urology, etc. The photo presents all prominent physicians from our Hospital, including Ivan Kosirnik, Hospital Director; Radovan Marković, our first pediatrician; Franjo Gutschy, Hospital Director during World War I, then President of the National Healthcare Council; and all Wickerhauser’s disciples.

The ceremony and occasional speeches prepared by the Management Board and Sister of Charity congregation, held at the Hospital and at the dinner that ended, as the reporter says, “in a cheerful and pleasant atmosphere because every participant was deeply touched for having participated in Dr. Teodor Wickerhauser’s celebration”, are described in Liječnički vjesnik from 19103. The speeches and descriptions of the ceremony, guests and formal dinner are by no means trivial because they indicate the high reputation Dr. Teodor Wickerhauser enjoyed, while also providing information on the celebration organizers, i.e. Hospital Management, Sister of Charity congregation, and his fellow physicians and disciples. These lines illustrate a culture, which is unfortunately gone, of due respect for the people that have made significant achievements in their career.

References