

VINKO ŽGANEC AND THE BURGENLAND CROATS

SUMMARY

Judging from his published works, V. Žganec followed with interest the life of Croats living outside of their historical homeland. Through his childhood in Medimurje and his bilingual schooling, he inevitably developed an affinity towards bi-cultural environments such as is that, for example, of Burgenland in Austria. Later, Žganec became acquainted with the work of Franjo Kuhač and Fran Kurcic, both fundamental researchers of the Croatian minorities in Austria and Hungary. The author emphasises that the Croatian cultural revival in Burgenland was at its peak at the time of the activities of Vinko Žganec. The publication *Jačkar* (*Hrvatske narodne jačke iz Gradišća, Čakovec 1964* /*Croatian Folk Songs from Burgenland*), is an example of the fruitful cultural links between Vinko Žganec and Martin Meršić, the religious and cultural activist from Burgenland.

This publication represents the beginning of *systematic* research into the traditional folklore of the Burgenland Croats. As this inspiring and scientifically-based publication was printed in only a limited edition, the writer suggests that it be re-printed.