

SEVENTY YEARS OF THE PERIODICAL *NUMIZMATIČKE VIJESTI*

At the beginning of 1939 the Croatian Numismatic Society launched the periodical *Numizmatičke vijesti* (Numismatic News).

The editorial of the first number explained the reason for launching it: „...*through them* [the Society] *will maintain a more direct and closer contact with all its members, because the periodical will especially carry Society news; Vijesti will publish articles from numismatics, from all its areas, and the articles will be short and clear, without any great pretensions at scholarship...*“.

This excessively modest formulation of the objective of our periodical was published seventy years ago in the first number, which had only 16 pages.

Today, when *Vijesti* has up to twenty times more pages, we must be grateful to all the people who managed to keep up the tradition of publishing the periodical during seventy long years.

This was never an easy mission, because the truth is that there were never many numismatists of excellence. That this is so can be seen from the fact that numismatics, as an auxiliary scholarly discipline, is very poorly represented even among those whose profession is archaeology (and therefore also numismatics).

It was not easy to put out our *Vijesti* for a full seventy years with relatively few contributors (about 120), and this gives the periodical even greater value.

We luckily still do not feel a great lack of original contributions because the current editor is still broadening the circle of the periodical's contributors. But this year we have for the first time felt the recession more strongly in the financial sense. We received less money for *Vijesti* from the ministries, because of which the periodical no longer has pages in colour.

This is a good opportunity to once again remember all those excellent editors in chief who gave their special mark to *Numizmatičke vijesti* during seventy years.

Ivan Rengjeo edited numbers 1 to 17/18 (1939 – 1962). **Miroslav Ćorković** was co-editor of number 17/18. **Antun Bauer** edited numbers 19 to 27 (1963 – 1969). **Bartol Zmajić** edited numbers 28 to 32 (1970 – 1975). **Gjuro Krasnov** spent the longest as editor and he edited numbers 33 to 51 (1979 – 1998). Since 1999 the editor in chief of *Numizmatičke vijesti* has been **Edgar Fabry**, who has so far edited eleven numbers (with more than 3,300 pages) – from number 52 to this number 62.

I would like to thank all the periodical's contributors for their past and present cooperation, because without them our *Vijesti* would not exist. I also hope that *Numizmatičke vijesti*, as a periodical of world standing, will remain the most important representative of the professional activities of the Croatian Numismatic Society.

Editor in chief
Edgar Fabry