

TRADITION OF THE PHARMACIES OF CELJE

TRADICIJA LJEKARNIŠTVA U CELJU

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SUMMARY

In Celje, the first pharmacist is mentioned as early as 1578, among the first cities in Styria. In the 16th century, provincial classes hired and paid for the so-called provincial pharmacists and also monitored their work. Until the 19th century, pharmacists were considered tradesmen, then the public character of the profession changed: a court decree from 1820 required university education in pharmacy or chemistry.

Since pharmacy trade was licensed and the number of pharmacies regulated, there was only one pharmacy in Celje for many years (pharmacy Pri orlu). The next two pharmacies were opened only after lengthy efforts: in the first half of the 17th century the second one (pharmacy Pri Mariji Pomagaj) and only in 1922 the third one (pharmacy Pri križu). After World War II, all private pharmacies were nationalized; in 1968 a public institute The pharmacies of Celje was established.

In February 2009, the Museum of Recent History Celje opened a museum pharmacy, which gives visitors an opportunity to experience the middle-class lifestyle from the time before World War II.

Key words: *the history of pharmacy, pharmacies, museum collections, Celje, Slovenia*

A LOOK AT THE PAST

Pharmacy services as an independent field became separate from medicine already in the early Middle Ages. The first pharmacies were established under the Arabian influence (Bagdad had a pharmacy already in the 8th century); Arab doctors were the ones who brought old ancient

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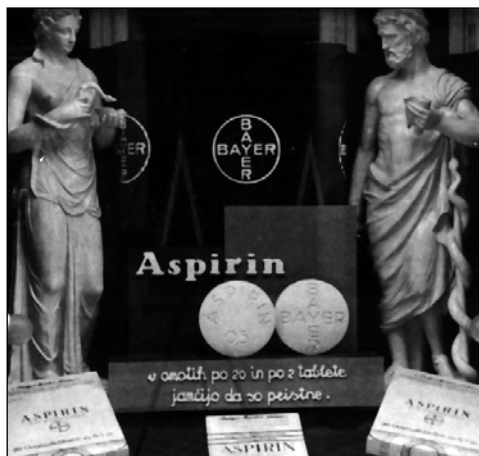
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knowledge about medicine to Europe [1]. In Europe, pharmacies first existed in monasteries; the first is said to have been established in the 6th century within the Benedictine monastery in Monte Cassino, later similar pharmacies were established also in monasteries in the Slovenian territory, first in the Cistercian monastery in Stična, later also in the Carthusian monastery in Žiče (around 1610) and in the Paulist monastery in Olimje (after 1663). These pharmacies were not intended only for ill monks, but also for the inhabitants of the surrounding area. The first public pharmacy in Europe is supposed to have existed as early as the 11th century in the Spanish Cordoba, in the 13th and 14th century many pharmacies emerged in England, France, Germany and the rest of Central Europe. In the Slovenian territory, the pharmacy in Koper, founded already around 1300, is regarded as the first public pharmacy (in the Middle Ages, there were two types of pharmacies: public and monastery). In the High and Late Middle Ages, pharmacies grew in number in the Central European territory. The beginnings of pharmacy in Slovenia are connected with cultural currents coming from neighbouring countries, Italy and Germany, the two leading countries in the field of pharmacy in Europe of that time. According to the legislation of that time, pharmacy was considered a trade. At that time, pharmacists only prepared drugs, managed the stock and traded them. A prerequisite to starting apprenticeship was a three-year attendance at a Latin school, then an examination had to be taken in before the local gremio (trade guild), which had to be validated before the central gremio (e.g. in Graz). In the 16th century, provincial classes hired and paid for the so-called provincial pharmacists and also monitored their work. Pharmacy trade was licensed and the number of pharmacies was regulated. To have an independent trade, an examination at the faculty of medicine had to be taken according to regulations from the middle of the 18th century [1].

With advances in knowledge about the science of medicine and an increase in the number of pharmacies the authorities increased supervision over their work, despite the fact that pharmacies were still considered a trade. Special rules for pharmacists and price lists were published in special pharmacy orders. At the time of Mary Theresa they started with regular annual supervision of pharmacies.

Moral and ethical principles of making medicine were in force in Slovenia probably already from the 15th century onwards, which can be seen from the first printed normative books on medicines preserved at the Slovenian monastery libraries [2]. From the middle of the 16th century until

the beginning of the 18th century, pharmacists in Slovenia used the Nurnberg, Augsburg and Vienna pharmaceutical handbooks, which presented a model for the later pharmacopoeias (official pharmaceutical reference books containing basic information about medicinal substances, their processing into medicine and instructions for medicine control). From the end of the 18th century to 1926, Slovene pharmacists referred to Austrian pharmacopoeias. In 1774, *Pharmacopoea austriaca provincialis* was published, which had to be complied with by pharmacists of all Austrian countries; in 1812 the first publication of a modern Austrian pharmacopoeia followed, which was in force in the Slovenian territory until the end of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. Austrian act on pharmacy regulation published in 1907 was also in force until the adoption of the act on pharmacies and supervision of medicine trade in 1931. After the formation of Yugoslavia, the second edition of the Serbian pharmacopoeia from 1908 was in force also in Slovenia. In 1933, the Slovenes adopted *The first Yugoslav pharmacopoeia*, which was valid in Slovenia from 1935 to 1951. Later two pharmacopoeias, from 1972 and 1985, were in force. After gaining independence, Slovenia adopted the European pharmacopoeia in 1997.



Window shop of the pharmacy before World War II.

Izlog ljekarne prije Drugoga svjetskog rata

In the second half of the 19th century, the public character of the pharmacy profession changed significantly in Central Europe. Until then, pharmacists, similarly to surgeons, were considered tradesmen; having an independent trade required taking an examination at the faculty of medicine according to regulations from the middle of the 18th century. In 1820, a court decree was issued requiring a doctoral degree in chemistry or a master's examination in pharmacy at the university [1]. The nature of a pharmacist's work changed as well: cooking herbs and making chemicals became less important, since laboratories for making medicines and chemicals started to appear, and pharmacies were left with compounding and trading medicines.



There were two pharmacies in the Main square.

Na Glavnom trgu postojale su dvije ljekarne.

Until World War II, there were also other types of pharmacies besides the private ones, e.g. pharmacies in hospitals, brotherly funds, doctors' handy pharmacies etc., so there were relatively many in the Slovenian territory before World War II.

After World War II, all private pharmacies became public; at first some private pharmacies were still allowed to operate on the basis of concessions. In 1949, a federal law on purchasing private pharmacies was passed, which made all private pharmacies public.

DEVELOPMENT OF PHARMACY IN CELJE

Celje was among the first cities in Styria to get a pharmacy – after Graz and Judenburg – soon after 1550 [3]. That Celje had a pharmacy at that time can be inferred from the fact that Miha Klaus, Trubar's brother-in-law, was presumably trained in pharmacy in his home town Celje before 1561 [4]. He was appointed as the court pharmacist in Augsburg by Emperor Maximilian II in 1570, later he went to the court of Vienna. It can be gathered from sources that the tradition of pharmacy in Celje dates back to 1578, when a pharmacist is first mentioned in Celje – that was Adam Schwayger, who was also the provincial pharmacist for the Celje provincial district from 1587 [3]. In this early period a pharmacist could



The house at Main square No 1 (left), where the oldest pharmacy in Celje was housed from 1670.

Kuća na Glavnom trgu br. 1 (lijevo) u kojoj je od 1670. bila najstarija celjska ljekarna.



Posavec pharmacy was allowed to be named the king's court pharmacy.

Posavčeva ljekarna smjela se nazivati i kraljevskom dvorskom ljekarnom.

A pharmacist's office
in the 1930s.

*Ured ljekarnika u
tridesetim godinama
XX. stoljeća*



not open a pharmacy in the city if he did not have citizen rights. Thus pharmacists in the provincial service (in the service of provincial classes) were, on the one hand, loyal to the city by taking the civil oath, which was not tolerated by provincial classes, since this caused difficulties in transferring them, and on the other hand, pharmacists were also sentimentally loyal to the city, since they were often trained to be pharmacists as citizens of that city.

All steps leading to profiling the work and profession of a pharmacist also allowed the beginnings and later also the development of pharmacy also in Celje. The oldest is the pharmacy Pri orlu (its beginnings go back 1670), but since pharmacy trade was licensed and the number of pharmacies regulated, the next two pharmacies in Celje were opened only after lengthy efforts: much later, after many years of efforts, the pharmacy Pri Mariji Pomagaj was established (in 1878), and the youngest is the pharmacy Pri križu, established only in 1923.



Medicine advertisement from the period between the World Wars.

Reklama za lijekove iz razdoblja između dvaju svjetskih ratova



Pharmacy Pri križu from the period between the World Wars.

Ljekarna Pri križu između dvaju svjetskih ratova



The interior of the pharmacy premises between the World Wars.

Unutrašnjost ljekarničkih prostora između dvaju svjetskih ratova

PHARMACY PRI ORLU

Among the oldest buildings in Celje is house no. 1 in the Main square, which is known for its pharmacy activity: in this house a pharmacy was first mentioned in 1670 [5]. The house has arcades with net arches on floors around a square yard. Ground floor premises of the pharmacy house are arched as well and were appropriate not only for selling but also for preparing medicines: at first the kitchen was used for cooking herbs and making medicine, later a laboratory was arranged for producing medicine and chemicals.

The proposal for transferring existing pharmacy rights between spouses Rauscher and Vojko Arko (in 1919) describes the pharmacy premises [6]: "... the ground floor contains a shop with a side space and a small room for materials, a laboratory, a large room for materials, a room for laboratory workers, a room for tinctures, the so-called Oelkeller, Spirituosenkeller and Aetherkeller and in the back yard a large storage room for *spesialitäté*, in the basement space for mineral water and to the right a syrup compartment, on the first floor also a room for storing materials, then the so-called 'Zuckerammer', and space in the hall for a three-part cabinet and two stand alone partly built-in closets, the second floor

has an inspection room, the attic the so-called 'Kränterboden', 'Verbandssoffboden' and the part of the attic lying above it for herbs: in a word all rooms used for the pharmacy and its employees, except one small room on the first floor, where different medicaments are stored in a cabinet ..."

There was a pharmacy at this house until 1956.

From the pharmacy chronology [5,7]:

- 1578 First mention of a pharmacist in Celju: Adam Schwayger was also the provincial pharmacist for the Celje provincial district from 1587. The pharmacy was his property, he got only small rewards from provincial classes.
- 1589 Ahacij Fadigat is mentioned as successor, but he left Celje in 1603 (he was a Protestant).
- 1603 Provincial classes appoint Horatius Carminelli as successor, so far a pharmacy assistant in Ljubljana.
- 1621 Carminelli returns to Ljubljana, Thomas Dominicus becomes the provincial pharmacist in Celje. After his death, pharmacy concession is again given to Carminelli.
- 1622 Carminelli is released at his own wish, and is followed by Adam Vogl.
- 1638 Vogl's provincial pharmacy is taken over by Ludovik Haunstein. In a few years he becomes the Carniolan provincial pharmacist and the pharmacy in Celje is now run by his assistant. Since the Styrian provincial committee disagrees, Haunstein sells the pharmacy, which was located below the city hall in the Main square, to Paul Cucule around 1650. The pharmacy declines in status: it is no longer provincial, but only a city pharmacy.
- 1670 A report from this year states that there is a pharmacy in the corner house at Main square 1. In 1721 the house is demolished and the pharmacy is temporarily moved.
- 1719 Vosswinkel is mentioned as the owner of the city pharmacy. His widow inherited it.
- 1743 Dr. Leopold Heinrich Heipl is mentioned as the pharmacy manager, supposedly the brother of Vosswinkel's widow.
- 1744 Heipl sells the pharmacy to Ignatz Czussen.
- 1745 Josef Feriantschitz buys the pharmacy for 550 florins from Czussen, who went to Graz. His pharmacy gets monopoly in the entire Celje district.

- 1756 Josef Feriantschitz, the owner of the city pharmacy, unites both pharmacies and then closes one. Celje has again only one (city) pharmacy, later named Pri orlu.
- 1781 Due to irregularities, the pharmacy is visited by Johann Gottlieb from Graz. The pharmacy is taken over by Jakob Kayser, so far the manager of the monastery pharmacy in Olimje, married to Feriantschitz's daughter Frančiška.
- 1790 After Kayser's death, the pharmacy is taken over by Franz Xaver Baumbach, Frančiška's second husband.
- 1793 After his wife's death, Franz Xaver Baumbach marries for the second time, he marries Anna Peer; that is when the name Pri orlu appears. Under the management of Anna and Franz Baumbach, a prospering and long lasting monopoly begins for the pharmacy.
- 1816 Father is followed by his son Franz Xaver Baumbach Jr., who spends a lot of time dealing with the analysis of the surrounding medicinal springs; in the summer months he had a seasonal pharmacy in Rogaška Slatina.
- 1818 Franz Xaver Baumbach Jr. buys a pharmacy in Mariboru, the pharmacy trade in Celje is taken over by his mother Anna Baumbach.
- 1876 Ana Baumbach dies (at the age of 100), two managers run the pharmacy for two years.
- 1878 The owner becomes Wenzel Marek, also a professor at the Celje grammar school.
- 1884 Father is succeeded by his son Adolf Marek.
- 1897 The pharmacy is bought by Mr. Ph. Maks Rauscher and modernizes it completely.
- 1919 The pharmacy is bought by Mr. Ph. Vojko Arko from Zagreb.
- 1927 Mr. Ph. Ivo Tončič, until then the owner of the pharmacy in Brežice, buys the pharmacy from Arko.
- 1939 The pharmacists of Celje reach an agreement about districts.
- 1941–1945 The owner of the pharmacy Pri orlu is still Ivo Tončič.
- 1945 The pharmacy is once again seized, but it is soon given back to Tončič (until 1947).

PHARMACY PRI MARIJI POMAGAJ

For many years, the first pharmacy, later named Pri orlu, had a monopoly. Although the city authorities used the low number of inhabitants as an excuse, the public opinion was in favour of a new pharmacy. The second pharmacy in Celje is supposed to have existed already at the time of the pharmacist Fadigat. In the 17th century, a licence was issued only after the pharmacist got permission from provincial classes. Finally the pharmacy was allowed to operate and was located in a benefice house in Main square (not far away from the first pharmacy) [3].

From the pharmacy chronology [5]:

- 1643 After Haunstein went to Ljubljana, the provincial committee appointed Gregor Willmann as the provincial pharmacist, who already had a pharmacy in the city (it was unusual that the title 'provincial pharmacy' was given to this, traditionally younger pharmacy – this title was then passed on to the subsequent owners of the pharmacy). During the plague raging in Celje in 1646/47, he stayed in the city, whereas the other pharmacist and the doctor move away.
- 1655 Willmann's pharmacy becomes provincial. This title was then passed on to the subsequent owners of the pharmacy.
- 1656 After Willmann's death, his widow marries Andrej Philomela and takes over the pharmacy.
- 1682 The pharmacy is taken over by Willmann's son Gottfried Willmann.
- 1719 The pharmacy is taken over by Gottfried's son-in-law Johann Jakob Westermacher, who was also the city mayor.
- 1752 The pharmacy, then located in Gosposka street, is passed on to Johann Sebastian Tuschek, Westermacher's son-in-law.
- 1756 Tuschek sells the pharmacy to Josef Feriantschitz, the owner of the city pharmacy. He then unites the two pharmacies, and then closes one. Celje has again only one (city) pharmacy, later named Pri orlu.
- 1842 The second pharmacy is finally deleted from the register of trade rights.
- 1878 In the middle of the 19th century, the question of when Celje would again get a second pharmacy is frequently discussed. The city committee is unwilling to grant consent, since it protects the interest of

the Baumbach pharmacy. After lengthy efforts, Jožef Kupferschmidt gets concession for the pharmacy Pri Mariji Pomagaj. He opened it at the former benefice house in the Main square.

- 1894 Jožef Kupferschmidt sells the pharmacy to Mr. Ph. Karl Gela.
- 1898 Oton Schwarzl and Mr. Ph. Adalbert Taube buy the pharmacy from Karl Gela.
- 1909 Mr. Ph. Adalbert Taube retires from partnership when Schwarzl's daughter Katarina marries Mr. Ph. Rupert Gasser.
- 1912 Schwarzl leaves the pharmacy to his son-in-law Rupert Gasser.
- 1921 The pharmacy is bought by Mr. Ph. Andro Posavec from Požega.
- 1939 The Celje pharmacists reach an agreement about districts.
- 1941–1945 The pharmacy Pri Mariji Pomagaj is seized by the Nazis. The manager becomes Mr. Ph. Ewald Wrentschur, until then employed at the pharmacy Pri orlu.
- 1945 The pharmacy is seized again, this time by the new authorities.

PHARMACY PRI KRIŽU

Slowly the circumstances were right for establishing yet a third pharmacy. Even though its establishment did not take as long as that of the second pharmacy, it nevertheless took a decade for efforts to become successful. At that time, Celje had 13,000 inhabitants.

From the pharmacy chronology [5]:

- 1922 After lengthy efforts, Mr. Ph. Fedor Gradišnik gets concession for the third pharmacy, the pharmacy Pri križu.
- 1939 The Celje pharmacists reach an agreement about districts.
- 1941–1945 The pharmacy Pri križu is seized by the Nazis; its keeper becomes Josip Vladović.
- 1947 Gradišnik gave the pharmacy to the state (maybe also because he was occupied with theatre and literature besides pharmacy).

ABOUT THE FOURTH, NEVER ESTABLISHED PHARMACY

In 1940, preparations to establish a fourth pharmacy in Celje started. The city authorities was opposed to it, it claimed that there is no need for a fourth pharmacy, since there are already three in the city, all 150 steps

away from one another. The only possibility was a pharmacy in the northern part of Celje, where the city spread with industrialization (the number of inhabitants grew to 20,000). The three existing pharmacists were opposed to the new pharmacy as well. The pharmaceutical chamber agreed, saying that the world conditions had gotten worse and the purchasing power decreased. Nevertheless, ban of the Drava province already issued a positive decision, but after the other three pharmacists appealed, the ministry of national health cancelled the decision for the period of three years. Mr. Ph. Ivan Hubad, who never got his pharmacy, later became known as the editor of the Pharmaceutical journal [5].

THE PHARMACIES OF CELJE

In 1968, the public institute The pharmacies of Celje was established. Four decades ago, the institute started operating with eight pharmacies and five pharmaceutical stations, but until today their activity expanded to 18 units in 12 municipalities. Today it employs 57 masters of pharmacy, one engineer of pharmacy, 36 pharmacy technicians and 35 other workers for different professional, administrative and technical work. For comparison, we will look at the number of issued medical prescriptions: in 1939, 47,000 prescriptions were accepted, in 1946 105,000, in 2000 there were 954,815 and in 2003 already over a million (1,063,968).

From the chronology of the pharmacies of Celje [8]:

- 1947 The ministry of health of the Slovenian government establishes a business enterprise, Joint state pharmacies of Slovenia, including the seized pharmacies in Slovenia. But this company stops operating in the same year, regional and city people's committees start establishing companies of local importance.
- 1948 A national company State pharmacy MLO Celje is established, it comprises the first city pharmacy (Pri Mariji Pomagaj), the second city pharmacy (Pri orlu) and the third city pharmacy (Pri križu).
- 1949 State pharmacy Celje converts into the City pharmacy Celje.
- 1952 City pharmacies are joined into two independent pharmaceutical institutes: I and II city pharmacy.
- 1968 On the basis of the Act on the organization of health service in SRS, The pharmacies of Celje starts to operate.
- 1999–2002 Gradually, the control-analysis and galenical laboratory is enlarged and modernized; it also gains the title educational institute.

1997-2009 Gradual renovation and modernization of pharmacy units.

PHARMACY AT THE MUSEUM

In Slovenia, the biggest museum collection in the field of pharmacy is the Pharmaceutical-medical collection of Bohuslav Lavičke, the owner of which is Lek, Plc. The collection, which comprises 402 books and 500 objects created from the ancient times to the 20th century, is a cultural monument of national importance.

Presentation of the pharmacy activity also take place within certain Slovenian museums: Regional museum Maribor keeps and exhibits the pharmacy collection of a pharmacist from Maribor, Franca Minařik, which comprises the equipment of pharmacies from Maribor and its surroundings, pharmacy containers and laboratory instruments from the 17th to the end of the 20th century; the collection also includes medicine containers from the Paulist pharmacy in Olimje. A part of the pharmaceutical heritage from its area is also presented by the Bela Krajina museum in Metlika.



Pharmacy at the permanent exhibition "Living in Celje".
Ljekarna na stalnoj izložbi Živjeti u Celju.

In February 2009, also the Museum of Recent History Celje opened a museum pharmacy. We placed it at the permanent exhibition 'Living in Celje'. The context of our pharmacy is different: since the pharmacy ambience is placed at the town Main square (at the time before World War II), the visitors can create an impression of the middle-class lifestyle, which is now presented besides with the middle-class apartment (dining room) and the city market presented also with the city pharmacy. Everything beautifully upgrades the (museum) street of tradesmen, which presents typical town trades. Thus we present two classes of the Celje population from the period between the wars: tradespeople and the middle-class, and next year we are planning to present the third one, the working class.

The presentation of pharmacy is interesting because it is placed behind a transparent curtain, through which we can observe the inside of the pharmacy with the help of light effects. At the opening, the director of the Pharmacies of Celje, Lilijana Grosek, said that this is only the beginning of our cooperation: »We, who live in the present, must also not forget the nobleness of the past and preserve it for the future generations. We are thinking about possible expansions of the exhibit and regular presentations of the pharmaceutical profession.« The museum is planning to bring to life the pharmacy ambience – we are cooperating with the pharmacies of Celje and their retired employees – by organizing scheduled presentations by a pharmacist to show how he/she worked and consulted in the past and present their profession, similarly to other exhibition ambiances at the museum.

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SAŽETAK

U Celju se prvi lekarnik spominje već davne 1578. godine, među prvim mjestima u Štajerskoj. U XVI. stoljeću plemstvo je uzimalo u najam i plaćalo tzv. pokrajinske lekarnike te nadziralo njihov rad. Do XIX. stoljeću lekarnici su se smatrali obrtnicima, a tada se javni karakter lekarničke struke promijenio: dekret dvora iz 1820. propisao je za lekarnike sveučilišnu naobrazbu iz farmacije, odnosno kemije.

Budući da je lekarnički obrt bio pod koncesijom, a broj lekarni reguliran, u Celju je dugo godina postojala samo jedna lekarna (Lekarna pri orlu). Sljedeće dvije celjske lekarne uspjeli su otvoriti tek nakon dugog truda: u prvoj polovici XVII. stoljeća otvorena je druga (Lekarna pri Mariji Pomagaj), a tek 1922. treća (Lekarna pri križu). Nakon Drugoga svjetskog rata sve su privatne lekarne nacionalizirane; 1968. osnivanjem Javnog zavoda, nastale su Celjske lekarne.

U veljači 2009. u Muzeju novije povijesti u Celju otvorena je muzejska lekarna pomoću koje si posjetitelji mogu predočiti građanski stil života iz vremena prije Drugoga svjetskog rata.

Ključne riječi: povijest farmacije, lekarne, muzejske zbirke, Celje, Slovenija

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