

HEALTH RESORT OPATIJA VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE AND RESCUE SOCIETY

DOBROVOLJNO VATROGASNO I SPASAVAJUĆE DRUŠTVO LJEČILIŠTA OPATIJA

Janez Fischinger^{*}, Aleš Fischinger^{**}, Duša Fischinger^{***}

SUMMARY

Not only the health service but also several other humanitarian institutions and societies were active in Abbazia/Opatija, the most important town on the once Austrian Riviera, the town that was also known as the Austrian Nice. The most important of the societies was The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society.

The authors of this article have been particularly interested in the society's founding and its activity until it moved into the new building at 6, St. Florjan's Street in 1910.

The fast urbanisation and the development of the industry raised the need of the well organised activity of putting out fires. The German gymnastics societies were the first to include the education and the skills development of the volunteer firemen into their programmes. The first volunteer fire brigades appeared in Austria after 1863. The huge fire that broke out in Vienna in 1881 showed that the fast and efficient rescuing demanded a well prepared organization of a team of rescuers.

Based on the initiative of the chimney sweep Franz Drescher and The South Railway Company, the volunteer fire brigade was founded in Opatija already in 1886. The founding of the volunteer rescue society was based on the idea given by dr. Jaromir Mundy, the permanent guest in Opatija and a friend of prof. dr. Theodor Billroth, in 1894. The intertwining activity of the both societies resulted in their formal joining. The head physician became dr. Franz Tripold, the chief commander was Franz Doberlet junior. For his special merits, the

* University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Dept. of Otorhinolaryngology and Cervicofacial Surgery.

** University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Dept. of Traumatology.

*** Slovenian Scientific Society for the History of Health Culture.

Address for Correspondence: Assistant Professor Janez Fischinger MD, PhD, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Dept. of Otorhinolaryngology and Cervicofacial Surgery, Zaloška 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia. E-mail:janez.fischinger@guest.arnes.si

general assembly of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society appointed him the honourable commander of the society in 1903 and he received a special photo album with the photos of the volunteer firemen and the rescuers' practice.

The Emperor Franz Joseph I Jubilee Fire Station, the Rescue Station And the Sanatorium (Kaiser Franz Joseph I Jubiläums – Feuerwehrrüstungshaus, Rettungsstation und Erholungsheim) was given to the use on 1st October 1910. Since then, the two societies worked at this same location. The Volunteer Fire Brigade Opatija has been located in this building ever since.

Keywords: Abbazia/Opatija, Rescue Society, Volunteer Fire Brigade, dr. Franz Tripold, Franz Doberlet

Not only the health service but also several other humanitarian institutions and societies were active in Abbazia/Opatija, the most important town on the once Austrian Riviera, the town that was also known as the Austrian Nice. The most important of the societies was The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society (*Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungs-Gesellschaft des Kurortes Abbazia*).

The authors of this article have been particularly interested in the names of the commanders of those volunteer firemen and rescuers, as well as in the society's activity until it moved into the new building at 6, St. Florjan's Street (*Ulica Sv. Florjana 6*) in 1910. It has been situated in this particular building ever since.

The putting out of fires has been known since the Ancient Times. The fast urbanisation and the development of the industry raised the need of the well organised activity of putting out fires. The volunteer fire brigades emerged in Europe after 1800, first in France, then in Germany (1811) and still later in Austria (1863) [1,2]. During the 19th century, the new way of life resulted in advertising the every-day movement. In Sweden, Per Henrik Ling (1776-1839) and dr. Gustav Zander (1835-1920) stressed the importance of remedial gymnastics, which was designed for the rich. In Germany, father (*Vater*) Friedrich Ludwig Jahn (1778-1852) started gymnastics societies (*Turnverein*) that were intended to include all the social classes. The German gymnastics societies were the first to include the education and the skills development of the volunteer firemen into their programmes [3]. Their greeting *Gut Heil* was taken over by the firemen [4]. In Austria, the gymnastics societies mainly took over the establishment of the volunteer fire brigades [3].

The south railway enabled the cooperation between Ljubljana and Opatija. The authors of this article have found out that the basis for the



Figure 1 The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade (The Fire Brigade Museum named after dr. Branko Božič – Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča in Metlika)

Slika 1. Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo lječilišta Opatija (Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča, Metlika)

establishment of the two volunteer fire brigade societies in these two towns differed greatly.

The gymnastics society in Ljubljana did not manage to establish the volunteer fire brigade society. Božič mentions in his book *The Development of Fire Brigade in Slovenia (Razvoj gasilstva na Slovenskem)* that the mayor, dr. Josip Suppan, organised a meeting of all the citizens eager to support the idea of the fire brigade in 1867. In 1869, he set up the introductory committee to establish the independent fire brigade society. The introductory committee was led by the businessman Franz Doberlet senior [5]. The founding general meeting was then held on 30th March 1870 and the fire brigade society was established. It was called *Laibacher freiwillige Feuerwehr*. They elected Franz Doberlet senior the first head of this volunteer fire brigade society. Due to his organisational abilities, he has been called “the father of the fire brigade in Carniola” [6]. They supplemented their original activity with the rescue work and the society was renamed into The Fire Brigade and Rescue Society [7].

In Opatija, the initiative to establish the volunteer fire brigade was given by the chimney sweep Fran Drescher in 1884 and in 1885 by The South Railway Company which wanted to insure its buildings against fire. Opatija and Volosko Volunteer Fire Brigade Society (*Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr zu Volosko und Abbazia*) was then established in 1887 [8]. As the result of the inside misunderstandings, the society was later reorganized and renamed into The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade (*Freiwillige Feuerwehr des Kurortes Abbazia*) (Fig. 1).

The first commander of the society was the South Railway hotels' manager Emanuel Kaiser and the deputy was Fran Drescher. The second commander was the architect and the constructor Anton Klement, the society's founder-member. He worked for the society between 1888 and 1899. The third commanders of the society was the Opatija funeral owner and director, a businessman and at the same time a member of Opatija –



Figure 2 The Health Resort Opatija Rescue Society. The head physician Dr. Franz Tripold, positioned in the middle of the photo, wearing a dark suit (The Fire Brigade Museum named after dr. Branko Božič – Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča in Metlika)

Slika 2. Društvo za hitnu pomoč lječilišta Opatija. Glavni liječnik Društva za hitnu pomoč dr. Franz Tripold u sredini, u tamnom odijelu (Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča, Metlika)

Volosko town council, Franz Doberlet junior [4]. He stayed with the society shortly, between 1899 and March 1903. The fourth commander became Doberlet's deputy Johann Fenzl, who worked at The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society between 1903 and 1923 He died tragically during putting out fire in Lovran [4,8].

The team of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade included a physician as well. The first one was dr. Ignaz Schwarz, the owner of the hotel and the boarding house Quisisana (nowadays Hotel Opatija). In 1893 dr. Franz Tripold (Fig. 2) joined the team of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade [4].

On 9th December 1881, the newspaper *Neue Freie Presse* reported about one of the biggest fires that occurred in the 19th century. It started during the evening performance at the Ringteatre in Vienna the previous evening (8th December). The eight-year-old building burnt down completely, 386 people died, 130 were saved by jumping on the spread tilt, and further 18 were saved by using the movable ladders [9]. The putting out fires and the saving lives of the people involved in the fire showed several organizational and safety-technical deficiencies. It was later found out that the fast and efficient rescuing demanded a well organized team of rescuers. As the result of this finding, the Vienna Rescue Society (*Wiener Freiwillige Rettungsgesellschaft*) was founded on 9th December 1881. The private initiative to establish the society was given by the count Johann Wilczek, the count Eduard Lamezan-Salins and the physician, baron Jaromir von Mundy, the later president of honour, the president and the general secretary of the newly established Vienna Rescue Society [4].

The society introduced the sanitary education for its members. The education consisted of eight two-hour-long lectures on anatomy, psychology, the right treatment of the unexpected diseases, the poisoning, the bleeding, the bone fractures, sprains, contusions, injured muscles, the transport of the victims, the nursing of the patients, etc. [11].

After 1890, several rescue societies, that had derived from the main organization, started emerging in all the most important Austrian towns (e.g. in Prague in 1890, in Brno/Brünn, Krakow/Krakau and Trieste in 1891, in Lwow/Lemberg and Innsbruck in 1893). Opatija was not a big town but it was the most important tourist destination on the then Austrian Riviera. The Opatija Volunteer Rescue Society was founded on 10th January 1894. Its official name was *Freiwillige Rettungs-Gesellschaft des Kurortes Abbazia* [10] (Fig.2). The most responsible for its founding were

the baron dr. Jaromir von Mundy and the count Johann Wilczek [12], who donated generously an ambulance car, several medical instruments and the material for dressing the wounds. The baron dr. Mundy organized the transportation of the donated things from Vienna to Opatija. He supervised the preparing and the furnishing of the working places of the Volunteer Rescue Society in Opatija. The formal opening then took place on 14th January 1894. The patroness of the society was the archduchess Stephanie, the crown prince Rudolf Habsburg's widow. Among several other prominent guests, she and dr. W. von Vragassy, who was the head physician of the Vienna Volunteer Rescue Society, attended the formal opening of the Volunteer Rescue Society in Opatija. Dr. Franz Tripold (Fig. 3) became the head of the society and the head physician [4].

The two societies, the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Volunteer Rescue Society were both positioned on the ground floor of Villa Slatina. The villa was built for its employees by the South Railway Society in 1885, next to today's Hotel Palace, opposite the hotel that is nowadays called Hotel Zagreb. The health resort administration (*Kur-Commission Abbazia*). was also positioned on the same floor [13].

On 27th May 1899, the newspaper *Laibacher Zeitung* reported about the assembly of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade Society that had taken place in the Hotel Stefanie (nowadays Hotel Imperial) on 21st May 1899. Several town representatives took part at the assembly. Among some others, the heads of the Carinthia and the Carniola Fire Brigade Associations were invited to the assembly. The two associations were established in 1869 and 1888. The head of the Carinthia Fire Brigade Association Ferdinand Jergitsch and the head of the Carniola Fire Brigade Association Franz Doberlet senior presented themselves with the speeches at the formal opening. In their speeches, they presented the activity of their associations and they stressed the positive influence in the general society. The fire brigade associations enabled the better mutual help, the connection and the reconciliation of work and needs. As the representative of the civil authority, the baron Arthur Schmidt-Zabierow, the county commissioner of Opatija - Volosko, offered help with the shaping of the Istrian fire brigade association. The assembly then elected the introductory committee for the founding of the Istrian fire brigade with its headquarters in Pula [14].

The Volosko Volunteer Fire Brigade Society (*Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo u Voloskem*) as another volunteer society in the Opatija-Volosko district, was established in 1906 [13].

Figure 3 Dr. Franz Tripold, the head physician of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society, with his wife Rosa (maiden name Glax) and their first-born son, in 1897 (from the Glax – Fischinger family archive)



Slika 3. Glavni liječnik Društva za hitnu pomoć lječilišta Opatija dr. Franz Tripold sa suprugom Rosom rođ. Glax i prvorođencem (Obiteljski arhiv Glax – Fischinger)

The rising number of the hotels built alongside the Opatija Riviera demanded the enlargement of the fire brigade service. The subsidiary of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade Society was open in Lovran on 6th May 1907. The basic equipment was provided by the central society, while the society's premises were provided by the Lovran community [4].

The Opatija Guide (*Ein Führer für Kurgäste*) from 1910 presents the societies in the district and so it mentions the volunteer societies *Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungsgesellschaft des Curortes Abbazia* and *Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo u Voloskom–Opatiji*. The commander of the first was Johann Fenzl, the head of the medical staff was the imperial councillor dr. Franz Tripold. The commander of the second was Ante Vahtar [15].

The activities of the fire brigade and the rescue team intertwined. Franz Doberlet junior from Ljubljana and his father were involved into business cooperation between Ljubljana and Opatija and Rijeka since 1890. He moved to Opatija in 1897. He was the Opatija funeral owner and director (*Erste Abbazianer Leichenbestattungs – Unternehmung*). He was the elected town councillor since 1898 and he also became the mem-



Figure 4 Miloš Franz Doberlet, the first commander of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society, with his wife Emy Zorka Doberlet (maiden name Glax) and their first-born son, in 1903 (from the Glax-Fischinger family archive)

Slika 4. Prvi zapovjednik Dobrovoljnog vatrogasnog društva i društva za hitnu pomoć lječilišta Opatija Franz M. Doberlet sa suprugom Emy Z. Doberlet rođ. Glax i prvorođenčetom (Obiteljski arhiv Glax – Fischinger)

ber of the Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade Society . He became its commander the following year (Fig. 4)[16].

Because of the intertwining activities of the fire brigade and the rescue team, but also because of the wider economic and administrative reasons, he successfully completed the procedure of joining the two societies together. The two societies were formally joined into the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society (*Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungs-Gesellschaft des Kurortes Abbazia*) in 1901 [13]

(Fig. 5). The first commander of the rescuers was the imperial councillor dr. Franz Tripold, while the commander of the fire brigade was Franz Doberlet junior [4].

In 1903, Franz Doberlet left Opatija. He converted into the Orthodox Church and took the name Miloš. The general assembly of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society that took place on 12th July 1903 decided to grant “Miloš Franz Doberlet the title of the honourable commander for his special merits” [17] (Fig. 6).

The fast development of Opatija made the society's headquarters at Villa Slatina inappropriate. The general assembly that took place on 9th July 1905 decided to build the house of their own. The house would provide rooms for keeping the equipment as well as the rooms for executing the first aid [4].

The searching for the appropriate place was very problematic. The places meant for building were either locally inappropriate or too expensive. The knight Karl Ritter von Wessely from Vienna sold some of his building plots (E.Z.341, Abbazia P.127, 136,137), that were originally intended for the cycling practice, to the society for cash (K 22,500). The price was suitable but still pretty high for the society. They got the funds by collecting the contributions and by the special donations given by the health resort administration and the Volosko community. The building plot was paid completely on 21st February 1908 [4].

The society's administration appointed the special committee responsible for the building of the fire station. The committee consisted of the commander of the rescue team the imperial councillor Franz Tripold, the commander of the fire brigade Johann Fenzl and the society's secretary Lukas Heintl. Later, the committee was enlarged for two more members: Eduard Stolba and Josef Vaca. The committee's competence was to choose the proper building plan as well as its funding. Based on the special committee's recommendation, the general assembly that took place on 6th December 1908 chose the building plans made by the architect Anton Wolf from Lovran. Opatija celebrated a double anniversary in 1908: the 60th anniversary of the reign of the emperor Franz Joseph and the 25th anniversary of the health resort in Opatija. In August 1908, the county government, exercised by a governor in Trieste, allowed the new fire station to be named the Emperor Franz Joseph I Jubilee Fire Station, the Rescue Station And the Sanatorium (*Kaiser Franz Joseph I Jubiläums – Feuerwehrrüstungshaus, Rettungsstation und Erholungsheim*). The founda-

tion stone was solemnly laid on 6th December 1908. The solemnity was attended by the baron Schmidt-Zabierow, the head official of the local government, professor dr. Julius Glax, the head of the health resort and the state councillor, dr. Andreas Stanger, the mayor and the local government head deputy, dr. Franz Tripold, the royal councillor and the head physician at the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society, the members of the Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society led by Johann Fenzl, the members of the Volosko Volunteer Fire Brigade led by A. Vahtar, the deputy commander, and the numerous audience. The solemnity was also attended by the representatives of the fire brigade from Rijeka and the members of the Military Veterans Association. The solemn church service was held in the open air by the curate Josef Kraljić and the prior Maurus Swieszkowski. The health resort Opatija orchestra played the Schubert's German mass. The solemn speeches were performed by dr. Franz Tripold, the baron Schmidt-Zabierow and dr. Andreas Stanger. The first two used the German language, the last one Croatian. The building announcement was signed by the present solemn speakers and guests. The announcement was put into the brass capsule together with the memorial coins. The capsule was then built in by Leonardo Bertoldi, the constructor and the society's cashier [4].

The official invitation for the fire station construction, according to the plans drawn by Anton Wolf, was notified on 15th July 1909. Five companies answered the invitation. The construction company S. Neuhausler & R. Pelda from Opatija was chosen to build the station. The construction works started on 2nd December 1909. The works on the station were completed on 30th September 1910 when the station was given to the use. The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society finally moved from Slatina to the newly built station on 18th December 1910 [4]. The fire station was solemnly given to the use by the head physician dr. Franz Tripold on 23rd July 1911 [16].

The indoor surface area of the station was 600m², and additional 500m² outdoor for the fire brigade exercise. There was a 4-metre-wide path around the building. The retaining wall around the path separated the building from its neighbours.

The ground floor was intended for the storage of the firefighting apparatus and the ambulance cars, the equipment, there was an office with a bedroom, the room for treating the patients, a surgery, two wards, the room for the mentally ill, two toilets and a light shaft.



Figure 5 The Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society (The Fire Brigade Museum named after dr. Branko Božič - Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča in Metlika)

Slika 5. Članovi Dobrovoljnog vatrogasnog društva i društva za hitnu pomoć lječilišta Opatija na vježbi pred Hotelom Quisisana, danas Hotel Opatija (Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča, Metlika)

There were a meeting room, the get-ready room that the firemen can slept in as well, and the toilets in the mezzanine. The direct entry to the ground floor was possible. There were two more rooms and a kitchen occupied by the imperial gendarmerie (*Gendamerieposten*), and there were the caretaker's living areas as well.

The first, the second and the third floors were equally arranged, with the two-room-flats and the additional single or double bedrooms. The attic was built completely. There were a laundry and a drying room, a one-room flat, the servants living area and two additional toilets. The tower was built to practise climbing in it. There was an indoor iron climbing ladder built in it. The tower was also used for drying the firemen's hosepipes in it [4].

The fire station had electricity and running water. They were donated to the Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society by the electric plant J.N. Scanavi and A.G. "Quarnero" [4].



Figure 6 The award given to Miloš Franz Doberlet in the recognition of his merits and the granting of the title of the honourable commander of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society (The Fire Brigade Museum named after dr. Branko Božič – Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča in Metlika)

Slika 6. Priznanje Dobrovoljnog vatrogasnog društva i društva za hitnu pomoć lječilišta Opatija Milošu Franzu Doberletu za zasluge te imenovanje za počastnog zapovjednika (Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča, Metlika)



The new fire station enabled the firemen and the rescue team to use more modern way of informing about the fires and other accidents. The electric fire and other accidents alarm systems were installed. The selected tender of those alarm systems was the Vienna company Siemens&Halske [4].

The fire station had another role, the one of a holiday home or a sanatorium (*Erholungsheim*). It was meant to be used by the fire men and rescuers from all the constituent crown lands of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy [4]. The holiday home could sleep 14 people [16]. When applying for the sanatorium, the applicant had to enclose the medical certificate, the fire brigade or the rescue team membership certificate, the income certificate, the financial and the social report, as well as the desired time of the stay at the sanatorium. The stay included the accommodation, the medical treatment and the use of the bath. The guests had a certain discount on the use of the sea baths, 35% discount on the medicine, 10% discount on the material for dressing the wounds, 10% discount on the specialities and up to 35% discount on the food and drinks. Some guests were even excluded from paying the spa tax or the music tax (*Musiktaxe*). The weekly price for the bed linen, the service and the electric light until 10 pm was K 4 per person. The guests were selected by a special board of commissioners [4].

The Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society got into debt in order to build their own station. The total of the debt was K 218,000 and the paying of the interests was kindly settled by the health resort administration and Opatija-Volosko community. The rest of the money to pay the loans was received by the fees and the letting of the flats in the newly built fire station, by different individual contributions and various donations. Otto Windischgrätz, for example, donated K 150 for putting out the fire at the villa Ireneia [16].

The members of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society not only put out fires and rescued the injured people but they also maintained the fire safety in the nearby hotels. They were actively involved into the execution of the dances and other indoor public performances [18].

The members also took part at the formal receptions of the important political officials, and at Corpus Christi processions. [16].



Figure 7 Nowadays, the Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade has still been positioned in the original premises built already in 1910.

Slika 7. Dom vatrogasnog i spasavajućeg društva lječilišta Opatija, izgrađen 1910., i danas upotrebljavaju dobrovoljni vatrogasci.

The 10th anniversary was solemnly celebrated in 1897; the 25th anniversary in 1911, however, was celebrated by moving into the newly built fire station [16, 4].

The majority of the Opatija firemen and rescuers' names have been forgotten. In 2003, the *Opatija-mesto muzej* issued a poster with the great citizens of Opatija. Eleven great men are presented with their personal picture and described shortly in two sentences each. One of the great men is dr. Franz Tripold, presented as the head of the first aid. The poster is now exhibited in the hall of the Hotel Palace in Opatija.

There have been several plaques put on the walls of the fire station. One of them is dedicated to dr. Franz Tripold, who has been presented as “the head physician at the Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue

Society between 1893 and 1918". The plaque was donated by Lions Club Opatija and Lion Club Laudon Vienna in 2007.

Villa Slatina was levelled to the ground while reconstructing the town square Slatina [13].

The Fire Brigade Museum named after dr. Branko Božič (*Slovenski gasilski muzej dr. Branka Božiča*) in Metlika exhibits the Award given to Miloš Franz Doberlet in recognition of his merits (*In Anerkennung der Verdienste*) in Opatija. The general assembly of the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society appointed him unanimously honourable commander of the society on 12th July 1903. The proclamation was delivered to him for his special merits. The award is actually a leather-bound book with four sheets of paper. The first one contains the honourable commander appointment; the second, the third and the fourth contain the photos of the volunteer firemen and the rescuers' practice.

The practice took place in front of the hotel and the boarding house Quisisana (nowadays Hotel Opatija). The award was presented to the museum by Miodrag Vane Doberlet, Miloš Franz Doberlet's son.

The authors of this article have read through three different publications about the establishment and the historical development of the fire brigade society in Opatija. The publications were issued by the Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society. The authors of this article have realized that the most relevant description of the founding and the following 25-year-long development of the society was done by Lukas Heintl in 1911 in his book *Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungsgesellschaft des Kurortes Abbazia deren Gründung, Entwicklung und Bestand 1886-1911 und das Franz Joseph I. Jubiläums-Feuerwehrrüsthaus, Rettungsstation und Feuerwehr-Erholungsheim*. Additionally, there are several photos of all the prominent firemen and rescuers who created the history of the society during the time concerned in the publication. In 1976, on the occasion of the 90th anniversary, the Volunteer Fire Brigade Society Opatija (*Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo Opatija – DVD*) issued a book called *Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo Opatija 1886-1976*. The book deals with the development of the society and the work of the volunteer firemen.

Mario Glogović wrote the chapter about the beginning and the development of the fire brigade in Opatija. The chapter is five pages long and it includes five photos. They belong to either the archive of the fire bri-

gade society or to Miljenko Smokvina. The editor of the publication was dr. Vanda Ekl.

In 1986, for the 100th anniversary, *Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo* issued another publication. A group of authors wrote about the founding and the development of the society and the work of the volunteer firemen. The title of the publication is *Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo 1886-1986*. Several photos are added to the text. The owners of the photos are the DVD archive, Miljenko Smokvina, Foto "Luigi", and D. Pošćić. The editor of the publication was Borut Kopani.

Due to the very fast development of medicine, the rescue society has not been a part of the fire brigade society any more. Treating urgent matters (injuries and diseases) is done by technically and scientifically much more skilled personnel as it used to be in the rescue society.

The new fire station in Opatija was completed in 1910 when the Health Resort Opatija Volunteer Fire Brigade and Rescue Society moved into the new premises. The fire station Opatija, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2010, has still been successfully fulfilling its fundamental role.

REFERENCES

1. http://www.google.si.de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Jergitsch. Internet, 10.2.2011.
2. <http://www.google.si.www.feuerwehr.saarlouis.de>. Internet, 10.2.2011.
3. http://www.google.si.Schinnerl_Adolf:_Ausbildung_und_Feuerwehrs_chulen. Internet, 10.2.2011.
4. Lukas Heintl: Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungsgesellschaft des Kurortes Abbazia deren Gründung, Entwicklung und Bestand 1886-1911 und das Franz Joseph I. Jubiläums-Feuerwehrrüsthaus, Rettungsstation und Feuerwehr-Erholungsheim. Abbazia, 1911., pp. 20-59.
5. Branko Božič: Razvoj gasilstva na Slovenskem. Ljubljana: Gasilska zveza Slovenije, 1968:49-52.
6. http://www.google.si.Slovenski_biografski_leksikon:_Doberlet_Franc. Internet, 10.2.2011.
7. http://www.google.si.Gasilsko_društvo_Ljubljana_Mesto. Internet, 10.2.2011.
8. Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo Opatija 1886-1976. Opatija, 1976., pp 22-23.

9. <http://www.google.si>. Neue Freie Presse 1864-1937. 9.12.1881., pp.2-4., Internet, 10. 2. 2011.
10. <http://www.google.si>. Wiener_Freiwillige_Rettungsgesellschaft. Internet, 10. 2. 2011.
11. <http://www.google.si>. Die Geschichte der Wiener Rettung. Internet, 10. 2. 2011
12. Muzur A. Kako se stvarala Opatija. Opatija, 1998. pp. 142-145
13. Zakošek B. Opatijski album. Dugo stoljeće jednog svjetskog lječilišta. Rijeka. Državni arhiv u Rijeci, 2005., pp. 21-22, 123, 148
14. <http://www.google.si>. Laibacher Zeitung 1784-1918. 27. 5. 1899., p. 4., Internet, 10. 2. 2011.
15. Abbazia. Ein Führer für Kurgäste. Verlag der Curcommission. 1910., p. 43, p. 188.
16. Državni arhiv u Rijeci. DAR 402/898.
17. In Anerkennung der Verdienste. Abbazia 1903. Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungsgessellschaft des Kurortes Abbazia.
18. Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo Opatija 1886-1986. Opatija, 1986., pp 28-31.

SAŽETAK

Na austrijskoj su rivijeri, u lječilištu i morskome kupalištu Abbazia/Opatija, zvanom austrijska Nica, uza zdravstvene, djelovale i humanitarne ustanove i društva. Najznačajnije među njima bila je Dobovoljno vatrogasno i spasavajuće društvo (Die Freiwillige Feuerwehr und Rettungs-Gesellschaft des Curortes Abbazia).

Autore članaka zanimao je nastanak tog društva te njegovo djelovanje do useljenja u novosagrađenu zgradu u Ulici Sv. Florijana 6.

Zbog sve veće urbanizacije i industrijalizacije javila se potreba za dobro organiziranom vatrogasnom službom. U Europi su njemačka fiskulturna društva prva u svoj program uključila edukaciju i obučavanje dobrovoljnih vatrogasaca. U Austrijskoj monarhiji prva dobrovoljna vatrogasna društva osnivana su nakon 1863. godine. Tijekom velikog požara u kazalištu Ringtheater u Beču (1881.) nužnom se pokazala potreba za osnivanjem dobro organizirane spasilačke službe za uspješno spašavanje ozlijeđenih.

U Opatiji je već 1886. na inicijativu opatijskoga dimnjačarskog majstora Franza Dreschera i privatnoga c. kr. Društva južnih željeznica osnovano Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo. Na poticaj dr. Jaromira viteza v. Mundyja, osnivača prvoga Bečkog spasavajućeg društva (1881.), te čestog posjetitelja Opatije i njegova prijatelja prof. dr. Theodora Billrotha, u Opatiji je 1894. osnovano Dobrovoljno spasavajuće društvo. Godine 1901. Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo pod zapovjedništvom Franza Doberlet ml. i Dobrovoljno spasilačko društvo pod zapovjedništvom cesarskog savjetnika dr. Franza Tripolda ujedinjuje se se u Dobrovoljno vatrogasno i spasavajuće društvo lječilišta Opatija. Na plenarnoj sjednici toga društva 1903., M. F. Doberletu ml. dodijeljen je naziv počasnog zapovjednika za izvanredne zasluge i darovan mu je fotoalbum vježbi Društva opatijskih vatrogasaca i spašavatelja. Dana 1. listopada 1910. izgrađen je vatrogasni dom Kaiser Franz Joseph I Jubiläums-Feuerwehrrüsthause, Rettungsstation und Feuerwehr-Erholungsheim. Dobrovoljno vatrogasno i spasavajuće društvo otad je djelovalo na toj lokaciji. U tom domu Dobrovoljno vatrogasno društvo Opatija djeluje i danas.

Ključne riječi: Abbazia/Opatija, hitna pomoć, vatrogasna služba, dr. Franz Tripold, Franz Doberlet

Prijevod na engleski / Translated by: Mojca Lazar Doberlet, MA