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*Teaching singing in primary schools of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in the period
1918-1941*

Summary

Singing lessons are being held in primary schools of Serbia for more than two hundred years now. The purpose of this tuition subject is to develop voice and musical hearing and to prepare pupils, up to a certain degree, for independent singing. Further to this educational element, in different types of songs what was also developed was the upbringing and formation of pupils. In the textbooks of the period between the two world wars those mostly present were children's songs of different contents, which were singing about nature, animals, school, friendship, etc. Furthermore, children were learning the melodies of folk, patriotic, spiritual and motherland loving songs.

The most immediate manner in which the strong national feelings and feelings of love for one's own and "one single" three-name people in pupils of the youngest school age could be induced, was through a song. It could not be conceived to have a textbook i.e. a collection of songs without the national anthem and a large number of folk songs from different parts of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Bearing in mind that the textbooks, i.e. collections of songs, did not have a systematized manner of musical education (except in Slovenian textbooks), the teaching of music in all its elements succeeded in satisfying rather a formative than an educational level.