

Draga Helne in Mama!

napisano
v
Ljubljani

Potem ko sem pričakoval več kot
 en mesec odgovor od Bebe Helne na pismo
 katero sem pisal tebi za mamo, sem z
 velikim razočaranjem dobil te dni pismo
 od mame kateremu pravi da iskate moje nove
 ce in da jih ni zelo čudno se mi rai da se more
 pismo zgubiti do tleje če se niso spubila pisma
 v Jug. katero je pisala Danila njenim staršem
 in Genjo pa domu ter tudi oba sta dobila odgovor
 Toda če pomislimo kako dolga je pot potem mi
 tudi čudno je se izgubi, pisal sem tebi Helne tudi
 is post. Sajdatgift) borej ponovit moram na kratko
 vse kar sem že pisal. Forem nam Helne in ma
 ma da po 33 dneh vožnje smo srečno dospeli
 v to srečno in lepo ter bogato deželo miru in
 "svobode" morje mo veli precej slabo katero
 nam je odvzelo vsakega po njih 10 kg. V tem
 času pa ko smo tu na počitku, smo jih sprot prid
 bili in se več, kaj bi ne, saj nas hitrajo kakor koci
 če govem vam popraviti da hvala Bogu smo že
 presiti mesa, perinta, mesa, meda, smotela
 jajc, mleka, ikolade in. mara. itd. kako s
 težkim suem ranetemo vse to mettem ko se
 mislimo kaka lakota je gor. Bu kaj so nebesa
 ne zemlji smo škoda da misno nisi skupaj
 vse blago je poceni naj navedem samo e par
 primerov: sladkor za eno dnevno plačo ga lahko
 kupim 40 kg. mesa 10 kg. masla 8 kg. bele
 moke n. 10 kg in par čevljen in t.d. to ne bo nobe
 den verjel a tako je. Gim bomo šli na delo
 katero upam bo v kratkem, bom že poslal ma
 za Božici in paket kar vem da mabi lahko
 pošlje 5 kg. in stane vožnja toliko kot z Gorice
 Veseli me da je bila čista doma, a tudi čudno
 da ni napisala niti čke v pismo od mame, upi
 sem tudi pisal upam da dobi pismo ob povra

(Upside down: You can write me to the address on the back.)

Bonegilla, 28.09.1950

Dear Alma and Mother,

For more than a month I had been expecting your reply to my letter which I sent to you for Mother. I was greatly disappointed when I received a letter from Mother in which she said that you were still waiting for news from me. I find it very odd that a letter can go missing on its way to Italy when letters Danila sent to her parents and Genjo home in Yugoslavia didn't get lost. However, considering how long this trip was perhaps it is not so strange if it did get lost. Also, I wrote to you, Alma, from Port Said (Egypt). So, I have to repeat briefly everything I wrote before. I must tell you, Alma and Mother, that after 33 days of travelling we safely arrived in this lucky and beautiful and rich country of peace and 'freedom'. The sea was quite rough and we lost about 10kg each. In this period here where we are resting, however, we gained everything back, and more. And how wouldn't we, they are feeding us like coachmen. I honestly tell you that thanks God we have already had too much meat, ham, butter, honey, jam, eggs, milk, chocolate and (*trans. comment: could be oranges, could be something called this way in the dialect: it is not quite legible and I can't quite figure it out*). With a heavy heart we eat all this while thinking of the hunger up there. Here we have heaven on Earth, it's a pity we are not all here together. All goods are cheap. Let me give you a few examples: for one-day wages I can buy 40kg meat, 10kg butter, 8kg white flour or 40kg wholemeal flour, one pair of shoes and so on. Nobody will believe this but that's how it is. When we start working which I hope will happen shortly I will send Mother a package as I know she needs it. It is allowed to send 5kg and the ticket costs as much as to Gorica. I am glad Neska was at home but find it odd that she didn't add a word to the Mother's letter. I wrote to her too and I hope she gets the letter when she gets there...