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Features of the national education and its reflection in the press of time during 1912-1924 in Vlora region

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Abstract

The goal of the paper is the identification of the characteristics of the education in Vlore during 1912-1924. The article has as objective the reflection of education in the press during this time. For the realization of the paper has been used many methods that are really closed with the research and literature review in articles and different document of the time. In general we can say that education in Vlore region during 1912-1924 has a positive trend of development.

Keywords: education, press, newspapers, teachers

1. Introduction (Bold)

A great importance was given to the issue of the national education during the years of independence, but with the onset of the First World War, the Lushnja Congress was a major historical event for our nation which helped with the education problems. The government of Sulejman Delvina, which was elected in this congress, called the issue of schools and education the main means for the salvation and progress of the Albanian nation.

The government knew how to organize and encourage the initiative measures to solve urgent education issues in the country. The education department went to work to establish the media centers in each municipality. To activate the people, there were education councils for each center in the municipalities and provinces. These councils had to resolve the key issues of education.

Education Council of the municipality needed to:

- Built and maintain the school buildings by merging the population of cities and villages.
- Provide furniture for the schools and help children to regularly attend schools that were opened during the school year 1919-1920 (Shaplllo.S, 1975).

The school year of 1919-1920 ended under the possibility and conditions of Vlora district. The education during the First World War was organized on various grounds therefore there was the need to take measures primarily for its unification. For this, the Ministry of Education called the Educational Congress in Lushnja on August 15, 1920. The congress agenda was about these key

issues: Preparation of synthetic and analytical programs for city elementary schools, establishment of a school system, and determination of the unique dialect for designing the textbooks. In addition to these, the agenda also contained several other issues particularly toward the schools practices as curricula models, schedules, registers, etc (Shaplo, 1962).

The Educational Congress resolved many of the educational problems and set the foundation for the unification of school programs. The decisions of the Congress were the first steps toward the unification and organization of the school. On September 8, 1920 was created the General Inspectorate and Educational Council of the Ministry of Education, which were tasked to create analytical programs for elementary schools, elementary schools stylistic programs, synthetic programs of the city schools, and to arrange the preparation of the textbooks. During October 1920, the council upgraded school programs with a methodical introduction to each subject for elementary schools. The council also prepared publication of the ABC and reading books for second classes, prepared a draft law on the general organization of education and its regulation. Later the council began to develop a series of draft laws and textbooks¹. In the 1920-1921 school year, in Vlora was opened an evening school. Jani Minga ran education of Vlora.

In the 1920-1921 school years, education entered in a new phase. The victory of Vlora War enforced the Albanian people expectations that not only did not fulfill the Italian imperialism goals, but also the dreams of Greek and Serbian chauvinists. People assembled around the national government which created new opportunities for the unification of education.

According to the commission's decision for elementary schools, the 1920-1921 school year was divided into four semesters starting on September 10 and closing on June 30, and for the city schools the year was divided into two semesters of education. The committee decided that primary schools should have 5 levels of classes and the village's ones 3 classes. In the city schools the students would enrol after completing V primary class. Urban classrooms will be 3 classes etc. In Vlora also started the work to lay the foundations of school education and the Albanian nation.

The heroic war in 1920 was crowned with success with the victory of the Albanian people. On September 3, 1920 in Vlora, the nation celebrated the victory of Vlora. Among the speaker was the humble teacher Jani Minga who finished the speech with the words: "Vlora better dies and never puts up with Italian invasion." "Long live Vlora and Albania!" "Long live Albania!"

The committee "The National Defence " which organized and led the fight on September 22, 1920, asked the Prefecture of Vlora to transform into a cultural and patriotic society. In the statute of this society drafted by Jani Minga, Osman Haxhiu and Ibrahim Avdullahu in paragraph 5 was stated: "On the issue of education the society will help with desks, boards, books and financial resources" (Gaçe B. , 2009).

After the debates that took place within this society, in October with the beginning of the school year one of the members of this society reports that with the earnings collected by traders and elders of villages were repaired the schools burnt by the war, such as those of Radhima villages, Bestrova, Llakatund, Drashovica, Vajze and Gjorm. Schools were assisted with 240 desks, 4 blackboards and 402 books. From the account of this society were given 840 francs to the

¹ In the Vlora region there was no religion teacher for school year 1920-1921.

Education Department for teacher wages, and special care was given to help children of martyrs who died in the Battle of Vlora.

The patriotic teacher Muço Delo announced to the society of “ The National Defence” on December 6, 1920 that: "Under the care of elders and teachers of Mesapliku village 34 orphans are sent in schools and are doing fine. Mr. Zaçe Xhelo and Zoto Zotaj have helped the children with clothes for the winter, while Haxho Mustafaj from Kuci bought all the books and furniture for the students..." (Gaçe B. , 2010).

In many documents and memories of teachers it appears that during the 1920-1921 school year such help for the maintenance of schools was also provided in Tragjas, Radhima, and Gorisht. On the proposal of "National Defence" The School District of Vlora in January 1921 school break also opened a 15 days course for teacher's training and educational preparation. From these memories we understand that in the training course were enrolled about 21 young teachers who did not have the necessary education.

A special contribution in these years was given from the traders, intellectuals and the religious communities that helped with financial means and furniture for the schools. In the report of Bexhet Shapati on 25 December 1920 to the Education Ministry it was stated that the Catholic Church, the church of Saint Vlash and the Bectashian Kuzum Baba Center helped the orphans for 3 months with food and clothing.

After the victory of Vlora War there was the possibility to develop the national Albanian school and the democratization of the education. The patriotic and democratic teachers tried and fought for the school, but with no success, because all the people of the following government were not able to do their job and they fought to be rich and self profit. In this aspect, in the year 1920-1921 there was a wide debate for the school organization and the direction of the Vlora district schools. The elders of the villages of Rroms, Velca and Kanina wanted prepared and educated teachers from Education Directory, from whom the students would profit extensive learning and didactic experiences.

We have to accept that some of the teachers of this period were not really prepared to teach and did not have any teaching experience, but on the other side there were some others that had worked in the religious schools and they were adopted to teach in normal schools. According to the mayor Ali Asllani this debate made it possible that the prefecture be more careful in the education development. One of the major issues was the absence of the textbooks in the schools.

In this direction in 1919 with the proposal of Jani Minga and Kola Kamsi was possible to publish the ABC book “The first sparks” by the author Thoma Papapano, teacher of the city school of Vlora. Thoma Papapano was a very well known figure of the national education that left deep impressions in Vlora education. This first book printed and published in Vlora in 1919, had 64 illustrated pages, which evoked the desires and passions of children to write with a clear language. This ABC book is constructed based on syllable method, enhancing the active writing and reading. The book is full of examples, particularly the practice for the division of the syllables, in order to form the right and proper pronunciation.

From the method point of view, its construction presents a developed didactic level for the time being, which shows the pedagogic development of Thoma Papapano. Following the previous

tradition, it presents the form of the written ABC united with the reading section laid on different sections. The reading texts aim to enforce the love for the nation, cultivating the desire for work, especially love for the parents, school etc. In the text “Albania” the author tells the children “Oh how beautiful is our Albania, we should love it boys, this amazing nation, she is ours, she belongs to us.”²

Valuable contribution to the development of education during the years 1912-1920 in Vlora has also given the People's Teacher Jani Minga. Besides running the Department of Education from 1912-1914, and 1914-1920, he remained at the forefront of resistance against policy of Italianization of schools. As the vice president of the society “*Mbrojtja Kombetare-The National Defence*”, he devoted himself to the national education development in Vlora by developing broad educational activities, as teacher and textbook author. A part of his pedagogical creativity was the ABC book published with the proposal of “*Mbrojtja Kombetare- The National Defence* with the title “Albanian National ABC” (following the principle of pedagogy and psychology) Part B, Reading, and school year 1920. Vlora printing press in 1920, with 32 illustrated pages.

The text includes a preface written from Jani Minga, which is in itself a methodological guide for teachers, explaining the new methods used in the book. We are dealing with the normal method of words, where the author supports the intuitive learning. According to him “breaking down the phrase into its parts and gathering the parts in the whole phrase”. The preface states that Jani Minga is guided “from the most sound sources of pedagogy and psychology of today and his long standing experience” to publish the design and elaboration of topics.

As stated in the preface, he relied on the practice of those years by citing Fogeli, so he relied to this author and his practice. “Teaching should be done as a whole non - phrase, but only words to teach students, writing, reading and this broken down in its parts, but in the beginning needs to be done the description of the thing”. The author suggests learning preparatory work in game form. This practice he develops into 30 lessons that the text contains (Bevapi, 1995).

According to historical records of Ibrahim Shyti in 1918-1920, in schools of Vlora villages was also distributed as a reading book the publication of Joseph Bageri “Mountainous Garden”. This book included plenty of poems and sketches with Albania patriotic spirit, nature from Naimi Frasheri and Bajram Curri.

2. The presentation of the national education in the media of the city of Vlora

By noticing the issue of the development of national education during the years of independence, we note that an important role is played by the newspaper “Albanian Renaissance” which was under the direction of Dhimiter Berati, Qazim Kokoshi and Dom Mark Vasa. Since its first issues, apart from the chronicles of school conditions we found many guidelines and edicts of the minister of the education Luigj Gurakuqit and vice minister Sali Gjuka. These guidelines were given to the schools under the Vlora government: Vlora-Berat, Lushnja-Gjirokastra-Fier. Since

² Muço Delo: “*Memories*” Vlora 1969, pg. 14; Historic museum Vlora: In these memories the teacher Muço Delo tells that after the distribution of the book from Thoma Papapano the Italian teachers protested for the introduction of words in the book. For this reason the education directory fired the honorable teacher Th. Papapano. These facts are in the report of Jani Minga as a protest to the mayor Seit Qemali, where he asks for the cancellation of the decision : “For the honorable national teacher Th. Papapano.

the 26th and 27th issue, dated 27 November and 3 December 1913 in the middle of the journals for the national education was the ruling of the government of Vlora “for the establishment of the Albanian language as official language” and “opening of the Albanian schools”. Even in the first ruling taken from the government of Vlora, around 50% of them had education goals. This shows that the education problem was the primary problem of the government and it was closely connected with Albanian independence.

The government of Vlora formed the Education Ministry run by Luigj Gurakuqi and for the direction of the administrative works four directories were formed in the cities of Vlora, Berat, Durres and Elbasan.³ In many other comparing articles we also find the Organic Law of the civil administration, where the duties and competencies of the education directory were clearly determined. It is noted that as the head of this directory was the devoted teacher Jani Minga, who organized closely to him many well known teachers and intellectuals of the time as Musa Xhafer Drashovica, Thanas Floqi, Leonidha Naçi, Koço Kote, Viska Babatasi, Hasaf Çipi, Babe Duda Karbunara etc.

On 6 November 1913 the newspaper “Albanian Renaissance” talked about the role of the municipality in the education development, recourse administration and the contribution of the religious organs for the construction and the development of the schools. A special role in the school development played the educative courses for the pedagogic and methodological formation of the teachers. As Mr. Sali Gjuka, vice minister of the Education Ministry wrote in a journal, the issue of the education presented a decisive role for the rebirth of the Albanian nation. According to him, the education of the new generations is closely related to the civilization of the Albanians. In other places in the articles were contributed the high virtues of Albanians, the enrichment with knowledge by clearly determine that “the nation could not be strong unless it is educated”.

Since September the newspaper “Albanian Renaissance” finds it necessary to present that parents and family play an important role in education. Even though the materials and equipment of the classrooms were really limited, many of the famous patriots like Hasan Sharra, Aristidh Ruci, Dom Mark Vasa, Qazim Kokoshi, Abaz Mezini, Musa Jonuzi, Xhemil Bej Vlora, Ymer Radhima etc., helped with financial means and materials which had a high impact on the popular opinion.

Besides the important economic, social, and political issues in the pages of this newspaper, a special place occupied the items on the spread of culture and education. It presented the patriot role of many remarkable teachers, who in addition to educational activities, helped to consolidate the Government itself and deterring foreign governments and Albanian pseudo-nationalists’ goals. At number 12 of this newspaper on 20 September 1913, many teachers were on the frontline of the protest rally to the defence of the independence of Albanian nation. At the rally organized in 1913 in Vlora against treacherous activity of Esat Pasha Toptani, the writing also notes the teachers’ patriotism: “ Yesterday at 10 o’clock there was a big rally held in Muradie school, which was organized by a committee, the purpose of the rally was to protest against Esat Pasha, who has brought troubles in a time when Albania has so many dangers”⁴ In this writing was also written for the great speeches of the well known patriots as Mihal Grameno, Jani Minga,

³ Newspaper “*Përlindja e Shqipërisë(Albanian Reinassance)*” nr. 26, dt. 28 November 1913.

⁴ Newspaper “*Përlindja e Shqipërisë(Albanian Reinassance)*” dt. 20 September 1913.

Mustafa Qulli, Babe Dude Karbunara, Sali Gjuka etc., who condemned the activities of Esat Pasha Toptani and asked the nation for unification because “people are the hope and the column of a nation”.

The opening of the foreign schools was harshly criticized in the newspaper. Many articles clearly present the fight of the people for the Albanian language. At the end of February 1914 it was written: “The movement here in Vlora against the opening of the foreign schools and the news that came from Fieri, Lushnja and Elbasani told all the people not to accept the foreign schools and was so impressive and people believed that the schools would be national”.

The article harshly condemns the people who help the foreigners. It tells them to get their shoes and leave, because “The sons of the Eagle want to serve only their country”. In the pages of this media organ of the government of Vlora wrote many of the famous education and culture people as Mihal Grameno, Mina Grameno, Sali Gjuka, Jani Minga, Hili Mosi, Leonidha Naçi, Thanas Floqi and many others who served the country with their pens.

Among other Albanian press organs of the years 1914-1915 Albanian journalism has listed the newspaper “People” established and run from the renowned patriot and democrat Muço Qulli (Mustafa Hilmi Leskoviku) and Sali Nivica. The first edition was published in Vlora on March 28, 1914, immediately after the closing of newspaper “Albanian Renaissance”. This edition went on about 6 months, with 23 numbers. The cause for its closure in Vlora became the antinational role of the central Albanian rebellions that were rejected by the editorial staff of the newspaper because they replaced the Albanian national flag with the Turkish one.

In the pages of this newspaper articles, for a short time appeared the articles of Luigj Gurakuqi, Çerçiz Topulli, Mihal Grameno, Muço Qulli, Sali Nivica, Sali Gjuka, and Jani Minga. Besides the economic and political problems of the country” we should not leave our country fall into the abyss” they imply the need for the revival of national education. Although the harsh conditions of the country, the newspaper “People” that began to be published in Shkodra, and the newspaper “Albanian Renaissance” contributed to the coverage of the many problems of development of educational progress. Contribution of “Albanian Renaissance” in the field of education can be summarized in the following main areas: the publication and dissemination of basic documents of the democratic and education national program of the Government of Vlora headed by Ismail Qemal, with Education Minister Luigj Gurakuqi. In addressing the problems associated with fast learning (writing and reading) of the mother tongue in administration, army, schools and everywhere; in continuing coverage of the efforts of the people and the Albanian patriots to open elementary schools and teacher education in normal schools; in addressing the problems of educating the students with love for the motherland and related to the political situation of the country; in reflection of the popular movement against foreign schools and criticism to unveil the anti Albanian interventions of the foreigners in the field of education.⁵

Since the first number of the newspaper, it published the writing “Ministry of Education” where it is stressed that the Albanian people would pay special attention to the education. For this, there would be open elementary schools in cities and villages and schools for the fast preparation of the teachers by following a 4 month pedagogic course.

⁵ Newspaper “*Përlindja e Shqipërisë(Albanian Reinassance)*” dt. 6 September 1913.

On September 5th 1913 the newspaper published the calling of Luigj Gurakuqi directed to the skilled nationalists on the field of education, while on 13 September 1913 it published the ruling of the Ministry of Education for opening of all Albanian schools on September 16th , for the obligated elementary education and the closure of foreign schools.

In other numbers of the newspaper starting from 30 August 1913 was published an announcement of Vlora Government: “Everybody should know that the day when Albania got the independence, the Albanian language became the official language of the country”. The newspaper considered this news the best news ever given and called for the fastest improvement of the Albanian language from the administration employees. The problems related to the fast learning of the Albanian language were treated in two protected attitudes. The newspaper compared the learning of the language in the parts of Albania governed by Vlora Government, where people were really eager to learn, and on the other hand it showed the other parts of Albania governed by Esat Pashe Toptani where there were barbaric ways to prevent people from using Albanian language anywhere. The newspaper criticized the terror of the neighbours to the Albanian school in the invaded parts, the efforts to vanish the Albanian names etc. But it was presented that with all the efforts this was not successful, which showed the vitality of the Albanian nation, of the language and its ancient culture.

The coverage of efforts to expand the network of Albanian schools was accompanied by the publication of many articles devoted to the fight against foreign schools, which constitutes one of the most interesting pages of the history of education in this period. The journal echoes the decision of 13 September 1913 of Vlora Government, demanding the closure of foreign schools that were open before the Declaration of Independence of Albania⁶.

Although chauvinistic pressure was strong against the government in order to withdraw its decision to close the foreign school, the government did not give up and showed that in the independent Albanian state education was being organized on a national basis and did not have any reasons for the foreign schools remain open and serve as centres for malicious propaganda by invading children’s minds and the future of the nation. The main goals of these schools were the assimilation and denationalization of the Albanian people. The newspaper published articles dedicated the popular interest against foreign schools that achieved the peaked in February 1914.

Albanian people and patriots strongly denounced the foreign and domestic “religious heads”, priests and other agents who served the enemy and not national education. The press asked to throw out and consider these people as traitors of the nation. The newspaper wrote: “If some agents know how to serve the enemy, the children of the eagle know how to serve beloved homeland and not leave it in the hands of foreign intrigue”. The newspaper patriotic democrats issued the call “Albanians, protect the Albanian schools, the soul and the revival of the nation, s not to be guilty before history!”

In this newspaper many figures of our culture and education published interesting articles as Luigj Gurakuqi, Alexander Xhuvani, Hili Mosi, Mihal Grameno, Sotir Gjika etc..The newspaper “*Albanian Reinassance*” gave a valuable contribution to the coverage, protection and development of national education at the beginning of Albanian independence.

⁶ Newspaper “*Përlindja e Shqipërisë(Albanian Reinassance)*” dt.13 September 1913.

Besides the newspaper “The people”, “Omonia”, “Albanian Reinassance” a special role in the coverage of the education played the newspapers “The National Defence” and “The national Hope” in Vlora, “The light” in Girokastra. Since its first number on 14 October 1920 the newspaper “The National Defence” published the education program which aimed to expend the developing forces of the time, the civilization and the education of the people. Many education and religious issues were treated in the context of the creation of “Homeland” federation, the society “Unity” and many other issues related to the debates of the organization of the recently created Albanian state.

In the article written for the election of the year 1921, it was asked to be really careful for the schools and the condition of the buildings, and also the qualification of the teachers. In their proclamations the candidates Osman Haxhiu and Jani Minga show the need for the freedom of speech, progress of the education and the cultural raise of the people⁷.

During these years in the pages of the newspapers we find articles where are covered not only the educational activities and the need for new textbooks, but also their role in the social life, the reconciliation of the revenge murdering and the inspiration of the strikes of Selenica, the farmers of Myzeqe against the exploitation of the rich class.

Even with all these, the newspaper “The National Defence” 21 May 1921 the Vlora congressman Osman Haxhiu sets in the parliament the request “that the state budget should invest in the schools of Vlora district, the bridges destroyed from the rivers and the port construction”⁸

Beside the newspaper “The National Defence” in April 1921 there were other journals like “Homeland” organ of the federation “Homeland” directed by Halim Xhelo, Seit Qemali and Avni Rustemi. Since this first publication in page 24-26 it is published the speech of A. Rustemi in the congress of the society collaboration, it is emphasized the role and the responsibility of the school and teachers for the education of the new generation. Like the federal schools, the federation “Homeland” of Avni Rustemi asked to open other private schools that are similar to the European ones, which serve to educate many illiterate people. In one of the articles published in the newspaper it is said: “The private initiative will take us head with the education, only the collaboration of the societies will decrease this defect. This should not be done by opening day schools because those are federal ones, but to give importance to night schools, especially in Vlora. Now it is different, because in the night schools that are opened from the National Defence there are many people who learn really well. Actions like this are the foundation that makes the national life stronger”⁹

The goals of this federation are well stated in its statute in the chapter for the goals and means of the decision where in the article 2/A it is stated “The education will develop, will spreads with the night schools and moving teachers, with literature, music and physical education, and theatre”.¹⁰

⁷ Newspaper “Mbrojtja Kombëtare-(*The National Defence*)” Vlora, dt. 31.01.1921.

⁸ Newspaper “Mbrojtja Kombëtare- (*The National Defence*)” Vlora, dt. 21.05.1921.

⁹ Journal “*Atdheu*” nr.1, Vlorë 1921, pg. 24, 26.

¹⁰ Journal “*Atdheu*” nr. 2, Vlora year 1921, pg. 16.

Another newspaper that presents the concerns of the actual school problems is the one called “The National Hope” published by the women society “The National Hope” directed by Marigo Posio. In the article of 6 February 1921 it was spoken for the “progress, education and the revival of the Albanian women.”¹¹

The society of the Vlora Women always rises the problem of schools in front of the society for “the education of the girls in the schools, helping with financial means the poor girls that continue studying higher studies”. The main article of the newspaper “The program of the National Hope notebook” by Marigo Posio, raises the need to liberate the woman, who without the education cannot be developed, closed within the walls of the house. All the greatest states of Europe are civilized by educating all the levels of the society”. The article titled “School - School”¹² written by her daughter Ferëniqi Posja is also very interesting.

In the continuance of the ideas of our famous patriots in this article, the cause of all the bad things in the society is the deficiency of the culture and ignorance, so it asked to open and follow the schools as soon as possible. “It is known that all that we see from the previous times by the invasion of the foreigners in Albania are the ignorance competitions”¹³.

The author had a clear thinking for the development of human society which was the overestimation of the role of culture and the article arguments the reason for this inferiority:

“Unfortunately from all Balkan nations, the most underdeveloped nation is the Albanian nation. Not that it lacks the desire and intelligence, but for 500 years they were not allowed to learn the native tongue. For this reason these poor people are left behind.”

The newspaper “National Hope” often talks about traditions, customs and culture of the Albanians, which should be highlighted by new enlightenment ideas. It is insisted that many women and girls need to be educated abroad in Western countries “It is so that the overall progress will be achieved”.

Marigo Posio calls the mental development of Albanians immediate task of the time: “People today should not only think and care for the body to feed. In addition there is another task, always of great importance which is the development and extension of the mind”¹⁴. In several newspaper articles of “*Shpresa Kombëtare-National Hope*” examples are set from Naim Frashëri and Kristoforidhi, but other Renaissance patriots, who have always seen education not only as a national awakening of national consciousness, but also a necessity to improve the living conditions and the nation.

In the article “Education changes the face of the world “it is emphasised several times that education and culture can only be obtained at the school, so it calls institution the irreplaceable institution for life of the society.

¹¹ Journal “*Atdheu*” nr. 2, Vlora year 1921.

¹² Newspaper “*Shpresa Kombëtare- The national Hope*” nr.1, Vlora, dt. 6 February 1921.

¹³ Newspaper “*Shpresa Kombëtare- The national Hope*” nr.1, Vlora, dt. 6 February 1921

¹⁴ Newspaper “*Shpresa Kombëtare- The national Hope*” nr.1, Vlora, dt. 6 February 1921

However, in addition to foreign schools, Marigo Posio and the newspaper “*Shpresa Kombëtare-National Hope*” insisted on their opinion for the creation of Albanian national school, as a “civic building that enlightens the human mind and directs the progress of the nation”. Although in some articles is accepted that Albania’s hope was the announcement and Congress of Lushnja and Vlorë War which had sealed it. The inhibition of education and culture development was by her perception, based on internal and external poor and misery circumstances, so with revolting statements she requires the national educational development of the country. In this context the newspaper “*Shpresa Kombëtare-National Hope*” made the new generation to jump beyond old mentalities and ignorance, to feature vibrant learning desire in so “to show that we really are a wise nation, to develop and prosper as others”.

3. Results

The Lushnja Congress in January 1920 was a great historical event for our nation. The government of this Congress considered education the most important mean to save and progress the nation. The education councils created in each of the municipality center solved the main issues of education. With the initiative of the Ministry of Education was called the Pedagogical Congress on August 15, 1920 and were taken important decisions.

After the victory of Vlorë War there was the opportunity to create the National Albanian School and the democratization of the education. The main figures of the education of this period were Jani Minga, Kole Kamsi, Thoma Papapano, Ibrahim Shyti ,Thanas Floqi,etc.

During 1920-1924 in Vlorë, were published a lot of newspapers and magazines, which, besides covering political and social life of this county, analyzed many problems of development of education and culture. Newspapers and magazines such as “The National Defence”, “Politics” “Homeland”, “The Free Word”, “Closure”, etc. had a wide spread in many parts of the country .In 1919 was published the first ABC book “*Shkëndilat e para -(The first sparks)*”, printed and published in Vlorë from Thoma Papapano. This book is constructed based on syllable methodology by enhancing the active reading. The method of the book represents a developed didactic level of the time being. In 1920 there was another book published form the People’s teacher Jani Minga, ‘*The national Albanian ABC book*’ which has a preface as a methodology instruction for the teachers.

During these years special contributions have also given the merchants of the city, and other intellectuals and religious figures, who helped the schools with financial means.

In the beginning of the 20th century a special role in covering the education, played the press of the time. The main newspapers printed in Vlorë were:

“*Përlindja Shqiptare-(Albanian Renaissance)*”, a newspaper of the government of Vlorë published for the first time in 1913 and lasted to 1914.

“*Populli-(The people)*” published for the first time in 1914.

“*Mbrojtja Kombetare-(The National Defence)*”, was an organ of “The Committee of National Defence”. It was a literature weekly newspaper. The first number came out in October 14, 1920 and on and off continued till 1923.

“*Shpresa Kombetare- (The National Hope)*”, was a biweekly literature newspaper. It was published by the women society with the same name. It was directed by the patritic woman Marigo Posjo. The first issue came out in February 6, 1921.

“*Politika-(The Politics)*” was one of the most democratic newspapers of 1920s. It was published by Seit Qemali and the editor Halim Xhelo. The first issue came out in 23 November 1923 and went on for 35 issues.

“*Fjal e lirë-(The free word)*”, was a political, social and literature weekly newspaper. It started publishing on March 1, 1921 till December 31, 1922.

The mentioned newspapers published in Vlora were also distributed in other parts of Albania. The teachers of Vlora published well written education articles, but also treated other problems of the nation as politics, economics and social ones.

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