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THOMAS SHAMIS, Editor.

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ETHIOPIA OF OLD AND MODERN



LITHUANIA; OF OLD AND TODAY

# The Booster

Thomas Shamis, Editor

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No. 6

## IT IS TIME

DO you know LITHUANIA?  
 Where lie Giants of Old.  
 Castles upon the Niemen.  
 Byrutos Holy Hill.  
 Perkunas, (thunder).  
 Krivu-Krivaitis, (chief prophet).  
 Vaidylos, (bards).  
 Keistutis, The Warrior.  
 Vytautas, The Hero.  
 Duchess Lucko, The Heroine.  
 Do you know LITHUANIA?

THOMAS SHAMIS.

## LITHUANIAN HISTORY AT A GLANCE

### LITHUANIAN LITERATURE

1545. Printing of the Prussian Catechism, Konigsberg.
1547. Printing of the first Lithuanian book, Konigsberg.
1595. Printing of the Lithuanian Catholic Catechism, Vilna.
1600. Writings of Bretkunas, Konigsberg; Dauksas and Szirvydas, Vilna.
1602. Death of Bretkunas, Lubguvos pastor, first Lithuanian writer; "Giesmes" printed in Konigsberg, 1589. 1590 first translation of the Bible into the Lithuanian language. The manuscript is still found in Konigsberg.
1631. Death of Szirvydas, Jesuit, one of the great writers. He writes the first Lithuanian dictionary printed about 1630.
1653. First Lithuanian grammar printed in Konigs-

berg by Daniel Kleinys.

1657-66. Printing of "Chilinskis Bible" London. The only copy of it is in the library of the Catholic Academy, Petersburg.

1666. Printing of Kleinys' "Naujos Giesmes" Konigsberg.

1705. Printing of the Gospels, Vilna. Reprinted in 1711, 1750, 1803.

1753. Printing of the Lithuanian Bible, Quandto.

1780. Feb. 18. Death of Christian Donalaitis, pastor Tolminkiemis, great Lithuanian Poet.

1816. Printing of the New Testament by Bishop Gedraitis, Vilna.

1818. Printing of Donalaitis' "Metu Laikai" (The Four Seasons) by prof. Rezos, Konigsberg.

1821. Printing of the first Lettish journal, Mitau.

1824. Printing of the Lithuanian Bible, Tilsit. About this time appear the writings of Poets Dijonizas Pozzka and Staniavichius.

1832. Publishing of the first Lithuanian journal.

1840. Death of Ludwig Rezos, professor Konigsberg University, ardent Lithuanian worker.

1840-70. Daukantas and Valanchius period in Lithuanian Literature also; Ivinskas, Tatara, Krusaitis and Baranauskas.

1845. Printing of the "Character of the Lithuanian Highlanders," Petersburg.

1846. Printing of the first Lithuanian Almanac, Prussia.

1847. Printing of the first Lithuanian Almanac, Vilna.

1849. Publishing of the Lithuanian newspaper "Kelevis," Konigsberg.

1854. Printing of the Lithuanian grammar, Praga.

1861. Publishing of Baranauskas' "Anykszchiu Szilelis," poem.

1864. Nov. 24. Death of Simon Daukantas, great Lithuanian patriot, author and historian.

1874. Printing of the German-Lithuanian Dictionary, Konigsberg.

1875. May 17. Death of Bishop Valanchius,

1883. March. Publishing of the Lithuanian journal "Ausra" Founded by Dr. J. Basanavichius and his assistant J. Miksas, later M. Jankus. Newbirth of the Lithuanian Spirit. Printing of the Lithuanian-German Dictionary.

1884. Publishing of the first Lithuanian newspaper in America "Unija" edited by J. Szlupas.

1890. Rev. Alexander Burba, works untiringly for the Lithuanian movement in America.

1892. Printing of the Lithuanian Classics.

1865. Printing of the best Lithuanian Comedy. Publishing of St. Maironis' poems, the best latter date Lithuanian poet.

1904. Freedom of the Lithuanian Press in Russia.

THOMAS SHAMIS.

THE END.

One today is worth two tomorrows.

**LITHUANIANS**

by  
MOBIS

Grand Duke Gediminas had seven sons, but of the seven two, Algirdas and Keistutis, became powerful, Algirdas never distinguished himself in battle, as his brother Keistutis did, but he was a very powerful politician, and was the chief advocate of the union with Russia later. Diplomacy was his policy. Keistutis, as a warrior, represented the revival of the Lithuanian nationality. In the year 1345 both brothers agreed to establish the principality of Lithuania. It was then that everybody recognized the power of Algirdas. Lithuania prospered under their rule.

The next ruler was Jagello, son of Algirdas. He was a rather weak ruler and during his reign things looked very bad. Poland saw his weakness and took advantage of it. They saw, by uniting with Lithuania, they

could become a great nation and they eagerly sought the union. A marriage was suggested between Jagello and Hedwiga, Queen of Poland, Jagello here showed his weakness by accepting the offer. The downfall of the Lithuanian language began. Queen Hedwiga insisted that all the Lithuanian people cast aside their nationality and accept the Polish. Duke Jagello was elected King of Poland and ruled over both Lithuania and Poland, as a King. The crisis of Lithuania had arrived. Vytautas, son of Keistutis, came to the rescue. As the son of Keistutis he was entitled to his father's share of Lithuania, as a ruler, and this he insisted upon from which Jagello, who refused and had him cast in irons from which Vytautas escaped, and immediately sought revenge. Not only did he save his country Lithuania from ruin, but the language as well. After gathering together army he was about to march upon Jagello. King Jagello knowing that Vytautas inherited his father's military tactics, and that he was in grave danger of ruin himself, called Vytautas to his castle and after

some deliberation consented to give Lithuania to him. He was immediately elected Grand Duke of Lithuania, Vytautas sought the revival of the Lithuanian language. Every ruler, small or large, soon knew of Vytautas and his power as a warrior. Now as Lithuania was separated from Poland, Vytautas sought to extend his power as far as possible and it was during his reign that Lithuania reached its highest point, the largest country in Europe. Once more the Germans endeavored to Christianize Lithuania and upon refusal by Duke Vytautas, they again prepared for an invasion. Having just started to revive Lithuania, Vytautas was not fully prepared for battle and he knew his country was in grave danger of ruin, so in order to save the country, he, like Mindaugas, accepted Christianity just to please the German Order. He also cast aside Christianity and declared war upon the German Order. He defeated them in battle after battle and then turned around and did the same to the Russians, who were menacing him from the other side. As he drove the

Russians before him he increased his country. Once again the Germans prepared for a final battle and they rallied in great forces. But again the Lithuanian mind showed its superiority. Again the Germans outnumbered the Lithuanian forces so Vytautas was compelled to think of a scheme, so with the aid of the Russians and the Poles he met the Knights of the Cross at Grunvald, and dealt them a decisive blow that an invasion was not undertaken by the Germans for years to follow. This memorial battle still rings in the ears of the patriotic Lithuanian, which is down in history as the greatest battle of ancient times. All foreign histories and some American do not fail to mention this great battle. During Vytautas' reign Lithuania grew to be the size of Russia. It was about three times the size of Poland, and about eight times the size of Germany.

In the year 1430, when he was about to be crowned King of Lithuania, Grand Duke Vytautas died at the

(Continued to page 14)

### THE WAIL OF THE EAST

**L**IKE the cry from Macedonia,  
 Calling for means and MEN;  
 Comes the cry from Lithuania,  
 To the Western shore again.  
 It's the wail of lamentation,  
 That never seems to cease,  
 Appealing to a Nation  
 With plenty, and in peace.

The starving orphans crying  
 In agony for bread—  
 The suffering Mothers praying  
 Beside their offspring dead—  
 The innocent Aged weeping  
 For loved ones gone away;  
 Their useless vigil keeping,  
 Untiring night and day.

Hearts bleeding in deep sorrow,  
 With open wounds, and scars,  
 Praying today that to-morrow  
 May see the end wars;  
 Now in the darkness groping,  
 Tortured with cruelty,  
 Waiting, in faith, and hoping  
 For Peace and Liberty.

Pity, O God of Glory,  
 Who rulest alone on high:  
 Their land is rent and gory!  
 In mercy hear their cry.  
 Teach us in fair Columbia,  
 While sitting at the feast,  
 To remember Lithuania;  
 And heed "The wail of the EAST."

REV. T. C. EDWARDS, D. D.

### GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

**W**HEREAS, Owing to the distresses that have fallen upon the people of Lithuania by reason of the unfortunate war now prevailing in Europe, the House of Representatives of the United States of America, together with the President of the United States, have joined in an appeal for aid from their descendants and friends now residing in the United States, I cordially approve the suggestion that all good citizens of this Commonwealth, whose hearts are touched by the sufferings of our brethen aboard and who are able to do so, should join in the movement to relieve the distress of the men and the women and the children of this country.

Contributions to that end will not only be an evidence of our generosity and humane concern for our suffering brethen, but will be an additional evidence of the fine spirit of philanthropy and good will which the people of Pennsylvania on this occasion, as in the past, should

be glad to express in a substantial manner.

Contributions may be addressed to the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C., which will care for their proper distribution.

Signed: MARTIN G. BRUMBAUGH.

21—X—1916.

The man who is weighed in the balance and found wanting nearly always complains that the scales are out of order.

Many a fool who makes merry at your expense is paying you better than coin. He shows you what you are.

Manly virtue is in the heart—you can hear a lot of intellects click when we don't hear many hearts break.

Perhaps it might be well to look on the dark side of things once in a while to rest your eyes from the glare.

Have you sent in your subscription to "The Lithuanian Booster"? Better do it now.

(Continued from page 9)

age of eighty-six, and his body was placed in the cathedral, in Vilna. He left no children, had he left a son it is believed Lithuania would have been a separate nation, that is if he had inherited his father's tactics. After his death Jagello appointed his younger brother to rule Lithuania. Without Vytautas Lithuania was doomed and from that time on it was ruled by a Lithuanian-Polish King, who for some reason or other gave Poland the preference, thereby endangering the Lithuanian language again. The last such ruler was Zigmund Augustus, the last relative of Jagello. The fall of both nations began in the latter part of the sixteenth century, caused by Russia, Germany and Austria. After overpowering them they divided it. To-day Russia has the large part, while Germany has a small part which is known as Prussia.

(To be continued)

He who seizes the right moment is the right man.

## SEARCHLIGHT

Happy guy!

Big game.

Lithuanians defeat Brookside.

Manager Stanaitis, the happiest man on the grounds.

No wonder he did the collecting of the bets.

Snyder was a feature of the game while Catcher Jos. showed skill behind the bat. Joe is sure a "vet."

Signing one's-self A Patriot, Lounger or other familiar hide-me-name arouse no attention, but when signed as "Mobis" seems there must be something back of it. Coming from Lithuanian stock it is taken for Latin. Springing from the combination of Moyles and Baltuskis. Nom de plume has lost its color in this day.

The old-fashioned man who used to paddle his own canoe now has a son who owns motor car named "Ishkabibble."

There is no way to success but to take off your coat and work all day—and every day.

Edwardsville Lithuanian Knights have been pulling in the victories.

Lukasavage, the man at the helm, is looking for more scalps.

He has the best bunch of players who should be boosted.

Even Georgetown is going to play football or basket ball. Which?

The usual quietness of one Sunday prevailed, but not in one residence on the heights of George's here was a gathering of the Lithuanian youth of the valley and a look at the participants would soon tell that this gathering held men also ladies who in the future will be pilots in the business and the educational worlds. No Sadie, this is not a pipe dream!

November first is Lithuanian Day. Help relieve the sufferings of long-forgotten Lithuania.

Not only strike while the iron is hot, but make it hot by striking.

Characters needing defense are of no account.

It is certainly a sad thing the parents don't look after the young as they should. Not many moons ago there left for parts unknown (to the parents, but not to his friends) and of the late has sent the "at home" friends of course, a tale telling of the land of bread and honey the only manual labor that has to be done is left for the other fellow and he longs for the blowing of the whistle. Longing for the whistle landed many a "sport" in the almshouse. It is better to be on the "go" and rest up when resting time comes.

Mary's Candy Emporium is becoming popular now. The youth can buy his best love anything from tarts to the regular chocolates, and by taking a chance on the board can "fetch along" (if luck permits) a musical harp to whose strains the hard heart will melt. Is it one of Cupids methods? Maybe.

Drop of ink

Makes men think,

Frog on brink,

Makes me think.

**LITHUANIA NEEDS  
ASSISTANCE**

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**LITHUANIAN DAY  
NOVEMBER 1ST**

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LITHUANIA—has been savaged and pillaged more than once by invading armies and the outstretched hand should not be extended in vain.

Send contributions to:  
American Red Cross, Washington, D. C.  
Central Committee, 47 Bennett Bldg.,  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.  
The Booster, or to the local committees.  
Marked For Suffering Lithuania.

**THE FRIEND OF THE  
LITHUANIAN PEOPLE**

**Congressman  
JOHN J. CASEY**

---

**IS A CANDIDATE FOR REELECTION  
He Deserves Your Support and  
Assistance.**

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ADV.

# TO BOOST The Booster

**By getting your friends to subscribe**

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**The Lithuanian Booster**

27 Short St., Kingston, Pa.

Send me THE LITHUANIAN BOOSTER for one year  
(\$ .50 enclosed) to

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WHEN the Lithuanian people desired to help their fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers in the stricken land of Lithuania, and at the same time desired the active support of the American government and the American people, they appealed to Congressman John J. Casey, to have Congress pass the necessary legislation.

Mr. Casey did not hesitate, but acted quickly upon the recommendation made, and succeeded in having a resolution adopted making November first, Lithuanian Day—a day upon which all charitable inclined Americans shall be called upon to contribute towards the support of our friends and relatives now in the war ridden land of Lithuania.

Mr. Casey showed his friendship in other ways. He now asks us to aid him in his campaign, and it is only right and just that we should do so.

# The Booster

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Edited by THOMAS SHAMIS

Five Cents the Copy - Fifty Cents the Year

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