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# THE LITHUANIAN BOOSTER

Thomas Shamis, Editor

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## FOR LITHUANIA

**O** KING of Kings, I pray of thee,  
 A soul content, a heart, carefree,  
 A rose strewn path, a couch of ease,  
 Where wrong and toil may ever cease.  
 May wealth and fortune be her lot,  
 A surfeit of success unsought,  
 Renown that naught of toil hath brought.

THOMAS SHAMIS.

## OPPRESSED LITHUANIA

by  
THOMAS SHAMIS

**T**HROUGH long centuries the enemies have persecuted the Lithuanians. The Russians tried to Russianize the Lithuanians, the Poles tried to Polonize the Lithuanians, the Germans were also busy trying to Germanize the Lithuanians, but with little success.

Economy in Lithuania was about the same as that of its language. Reviewing the life of the Lithuanian we will find that they were loaden down with taxation. The taxation was heavy following wars, because either Russia or Germany, went into debt, and the paying of these debts fell on the people. And the Lithuanians were made to pay aomebody else's debt. O How long will the Lithuanian be compelled to pay foreign debts.

The Russian government making commercial treaties with Germany little did she look towards Lithuania

and her needs. Russia always held the view that Lithuania was an agricultural country, and therefore needed no attention. Lithuania is mostly agricultural.

But Lithuania did not have men who could be able to sell her products at a good profit. Russia agreed that Germany be allowed to put high duty on grain imported from Lithuania to save her (German) agriculturists.

For this Germany agreed to allow Russia to place high duty on German machinery. The result shows that Lithuania could not get any satisfactory markets for her products, because of the high duty to Germany. Lithuania needed agricultural and other machinery. Lithuania had to buy from Russia and pay for inferiority twice as much as they were worth and get very poor goods at that. Several grades below the German make. But Lithuania could not buy her machinery from Germany because of the high Russian duty on imports to Lithuania.

The Lithuanians with hard efforts obtained from

the Russian government a permit to organize one or two Economical societies. These societies however, were not a ray of light in the least for the Russian authorities (especially governors) could at any time dissolve the society without a public hearing or cause.

It was worst during wars, and especially when the world war done untold damage to Lithuania, when on one side the Lithuanian sons were forced to fight for Russia, and on the other hand Lithuanian sons were forced to fight for Germany. The most important Russian papers in their editorials often dwell on the question: Why does Germany have so much strength, and Russia so much weakness? These same editorials find that Russian weakness lies not in the fact of her not being educated, not in her loose state of affairs, not in her bureaucracy, but because of her many nationalities. On the other hand Germany is one nation and one nationality. Further these same papers add that after this war Russia must plan to merge the majority of her nationalities. This plainly shows that Lithuanian sons

who fought for Russia with their lifeblood, promise them that the Lithuanian language will be obliterated.

The same opinion have the Germans. In *Vossische Zeitung* in an article by prof. Dr. T. Kochler, philosophy shows a method to Germanize the German occupied Lithuania.

Prof. P. Rohrbach, in his "Rusland und wir" writes that Germany's object is to Germanize all Lithuanians. He further adds: that it would be best for the German government to buy up all the large land holdings and open them to German colonists. After buying most of the land holdings in Lithuania and these planted with Germans, it will be an easy task to Germanize the remainder of the Lithuanians. Practically the same is written by a well-known German worker Silvio Brederich-Kurmahlen.

All of the forementioned shows that if it is not one side doing its utmost to deprive Lithuania, then the other side is carrying on the same fiendish work. This compels every Lithuanian to be alive and active. And

every true Lithuanian will protest against such rash acts by both governments— Russian and German. The Lithuanians should arise and not sleep on their rights and save their language and its country from being engulfed in such low trickery. One and the best methods the Lithuanians have to defend themselves is to let the world get a better understanding of Lithuania, the Lithuanians, their sufferings and misfortune. We must not forget however, that the cultured nations have liberated the slave, and now they must liberate the LITHUANIAN.



## TEMPER

**T**HE man who allows himself to get angry, one, two or three times a day, is headed for the padded cell. The victim of insane jealousy, the poor, deluded dabbler that "flies off handle" at every little selfish whim—who considers every criticism as a personal affront, is the man who holds his job on account of some rich relative—mind you job, for he is never the boss.

For real security, dependableness, actual reliability, he is about as valuable as a button on a smoke-house door, when compared with the modern time-lock on a bank vault.

The man who masters men and matters does not get tempest-tossed, lose his balance, smash furniture, rant and roar. An explosive temper is expensive. Eventually it ends in the loss of resources, reason, sometimes liberty and sometimes life.

## A LETTER

A pastoral letter written by Cardinal Mercier, was smuggled out of Belgium to London which asks the Belgians to pray for themselves. There is no objection to anyone praying for one's self or along the lines mentioned in the letter. Many great men of to-day think that prayer is not answered. I do not know, because I have experienced it both ways. And if not more, it surely soothes the soul, and is very comforting. But at the conclusion of the letter there is a mention of some heathen people with their women and maidens sold as slaves. Finally ending, the letter, states that the sufferings of Poland is more than that of Belgium. "Pray for Poland, my brothers, and the recognition of its independence."

If Belgium suffered, Poland suffered, too. How much does Lithuania suffer? How much blood was drained on Lithuanian soil? And to forget the flower

of Lithuanian womanhood found dead in the trenches, half-naked, old men, women and children driven by the armies, starvation and disease.

The people of the world (educated and others) ought to have known long ago that Poland is Poland, and that Lithuania in the northwestern part of Europe on the Baltic Sea is north of (not in) Poland, the abode of the Lithuanian. The cardinal missed a people who greatly suffer and had this catastrophe played in its confines not once but four times and now Lithuania is black with ruin.



## HIGH PRICES

SOME people say that the real cause of the high cost of living has not been found. Of these people, a majority do not want it determined, for when it is, there is going to be a crash, altogether too near them to be comfortable. They know this, and are to-day using every possible means to prevent the Great American Public from precipitating this crash.

But they are not going to succeed. It is particularly true in this case that while some of the people can be fooled all the time, All the people can NOT be fooled ALL the time. What, then, is the cause of the high cost of living? The juggling of prices by the middleman and the holding of perishable commodities—the necessities of life—until the payment of an exorbitant price is compelled, is the REAL CAUSE of the high cost of living.

The is the census of opinion among the authorities of today. As the common people, until recently in-

nocent victims of these practices, realize what has been going on, they are calling a halt and demanding fair play, the fundamental principle in all business dealing and in the conduct of the business world. That they will have fair play is certain, for when they are fully aroused there has never yet been anything that the common people have failed to bring to pass.

The speculator has played his game too far and too hard. He is due to fall. A world-wide war is being waged on him and the ultimate result is inevitable. The day will soon be here when the commodities vital to the maintainance of the home may be secured direct from the producer and at a reasonable price. Better still, the profit will go to whom it belongs—the producer and the consumer. The dictatorial and ruinous Middleman will have disappeared altogether in many fields, and be placed where he can be controlled in others. This, briefly, is the way one of the big and vitally important questions of the day will ultimately be settled.

## NEW RULER

**T**HE Kaiser has proclaimed a manifesto that the German government is preparing a proclamation for Lithuania and appoints Eitel Frederick, the second son of the Kaiser as Lithuania's ruler. It turns out of course that the Teuton promise of freedom has a string tied to it. Freedom will be granted on the condition that the Lithuanians raise an army to release the present German army now in Lithuania. And further to fight for Germany. Such a manifesto or its predecessor in the form of a proclamation will do very little towards liberating Lithuania. What the Lithuanians will accept will be total freedom on one condition and this condition has been the real cause of this world-war—Liberty and Justice for Lithuania!

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Have you sent in your subscription yet?

## LITHUANIA WILL NEVER UNITE

"Poland will be tolerant—must be in order to be true to its traditions of justice and liberty. Lithuanians are willing to be citizens of former Poland, contributed to its greatness and glory. Lithuania gave of best sons and daughters to Poland." From Free Poland.

Shades of Lublin! Trying to set the old trap again. Poland admits that Lithuania gave the best, but what compensation did Lithuania receive? Only tolerant Polonization. Will Lithuania become a part of the united kingdom of Poland? After waiting for five hundred years to fulfill its promise of justice, liberty and equality Lithuania's answer is **NO**.

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Have you sent in your subscription yet? Better do it to-day.

## PEOPLE FORGOT

"I take it for granted, for instance, if I may venture upon a single example, that statesmen everywhere are agreed that there should be a united, independent and autonomous Poland and that henceforth inviolable security of life, of worship and of industrial and social development should be guaranteed to all peoples who have lived hereto under the power of Governments devoted to a faith and purpose hostile to their own." From President Wilson's speech to the Senate.

In his address the President urges the world to accept a united Kingdom of Poland of the Past. Can the fundamental principles of democracy be transplanted into the united Kingdom of Poland against the will of the Lithuanian nation? Can Poland be considered and not a word said about Lithuania? It is a crime to pass Lithuania and not mention its sufferings, country where all the babies under five years have died from starvation; a country where women and children are living in earth

caves and trenches; a country burned and devastated, where there are no crops nor homes; a country that has suffered more than Poland, more than Belgium, in fact more than any country in the war zone. If the democracy of the European nations come without the Kingdom of Lithuania there will be a blood clot on civilization which Lithuania so ably defended when it was in its cradle.

Is Belgium the only country that has suffered?

Is Poland the only country that has suffered more?

What about LITHUANIA?



## LAND OF WOE

**T**HY valor; Lithuania, stemmed the tide of fate.  
 Onrushing from the East in olden days,  
 When proud Kovnas saw, with dread amaze,  
 Vast Teutonic Knight hosts before the walls, elate  
 In victor-pride, inflamed with zealot hate  
 Then Vytautas did thy banner raise  
 Triumphant, bore it through the battle blaze,  
 And saved from Sword Bearers rule the Independent  
 State!

And what was thy reward, O Land of Woe?  
 'Twas thine to see thy kingdom torn and rent,  
 And all a proud and vanquished people know  
 Whose necks beneath a conqueror's yoke are bent!  
 Yet thou hast kept through all thy centuried night  
 An altar flaming clear with freedom's light!

And now again the tide of war has swept  
 In mightiest wave the world has ever known  
 Across thy plains by battle scarred, and prone  
 A nation lies! War's fury that long slept,  
 To greater madness waked! The bounds it kept  
 In olden times are swept away, and strewn  
 Thy fields are with the dead, while moan  
 Of dying men shows where War's cohorts stept!

And Vilnius fair, where slow the Vilija flows,  
 Where Skirisgaila fell in freedom's cause,  
 Now once again a conqueror's presence knows  
 While issue vast that all the world now awes  
 Hangs trembling in the balance stern of aft  
 Whose dread decree all nations now await!

J. J. NIENIUS.

Pay No Attention !!

## RUMORS

Lithuania uniting with Poland and the restoration of the ancient kingdom with its promises never fulfilled.

Such reports come from unreliable sources.

## RUMORS

Pay No Attention !!

## PEACE

**W**HY not compulsory international arbitration? If twenty nations agree to arbitrate all questions that might arise between them, why not have the understanding that the first one that refuses and begins to fight will have to fight all the nineteen others? There would be far less need of "preparedness" on the part of any one of the twenty. Small armies and navies then would be police forces to see that international agreements were not broken, or, if broken, that the guilty nation was soon brought to its senses. Multitudes of men live up to contracts, not because they want to but because they know the penalty of violating them. Abolish "secret diplomacy." It is the mother of wars. Let Justice be the international King.

SELECTED.

### MISCONCEIVE

**I**N one of our exchanges we find the following: "It is announced that Prince Eitel Frederich, second son of the kaiser, probably would be placed on the throne of Lithuania. The chances are that he will have an extremely hard and trying task on his hands for the Lithuanians hate Germany (Russia and Poland included, Ed.) and the prince can expect them to receive him in the manner quite in accordance with the cold, unfriendly climate of the country (Lithuania never was a cold, barren or unfriendly country such tales cannot come from a well-balanced brain. Ed.) Lithuania has had many troubles since the 14th century when a Lithuanian prince married a Polish princess, thus uniting the two countries and making Lithuania a sharer in the sufferings that subsequently fell the lot of Poland. German freebooters pillaged the land and enslaved the natives. A dynasty was set up and the Lithuanians who were treated with contempt were allowed no share in the government."

### NEVER COULD DO IT

**L**ITHUANIA, MY FATHERLAND, How to appreciate thee, will know only he, who has lost thee, To-day I see thy beauty in its full splendor and I describe it because I am longing for thee. Adam Mickiewicz in "Pan Tadeus" A Pole with love for Poland could never express it.

Human happiness consists in having a great deal to do and then doing it.

Every step taken to reduce the cost of living is equivalent to an increase in your income.

There is no use arguing about it—you cannot get something for nothing.

The man who beats his wife isn't a bit worse than the man who robs his family by spending his money on his friends.

## FORERUNNER OF PEACE

**T**H**E**R**E** is no doubt, however, that in a vague and general way, Germany has conveyed confidentially to the United States her willingness to evacuate Belgium and Northern France and to see LITHUANIA and Poland established as separate kingdoms with the understanding that all territory and dependencies taken from her or her allies be returned. It is intimated by the German Embassy that prior to calling a peace conference the usual diplomatic procedure is to allow each side to know secretly in advance what proposals will be discussed, and that the terms outlined are in the main those that Germany will insist upon.

Preparation is half the battle, so don't be caught napping. Time waits for no man, and there is no time like the present, so be governed accordingly.

Bees and tax collectors are too busy to argue.

Have you sent in your subscription yet?

## THE HEBREW

"In Russian Poland the fate of Israel has been particularly bitter, during the last half dozen years. This has not been due to a persecution by the Russians, but to a persecution from the Poles themselves. They have been ruthlessly carrying out a boycott against the Jews and by relentless hatred making life, hard at best, wellnigh impossible. The Jews might well tremble as to their future should this country be placed entirely in the hands of the Poles."

by Rev. Dr. M. H. Harris.

A few years has made it impossible for the Jew to exist in Poland. If a few years are hard, centuries must be more so! Under the same condition can Lithuania be expected to become a part of Poland?

No!

Never!!

Final...

## THE ANSWER

**T**HE ALLIES answer is truly idealistic. In the third and fifth paragraphs of their answers they want Europe reorganized on the economical development and the liberation of all nationalities from foreign domination. If they really mean what they say then according to the lines of nationality would spell the freedom and independence of Lithuania, Poland, Finland, Ireland, Egypt, India, Morocco, Tunis, Algiers, etc., the surrender of the Suez Canal and Gibraltar, and the emancipation of all the little nations now held by the Czar.

In the eighth paragraph they make a special mention of the re-establishment of the Kingdom of Poland. But not a word of liberty and justice for Lithuania. Can the Allies disavow the Lithuanian blood bled on its fronts? Will the Allies turn a deaf ear to the call of a heroic people? The Allies answer is absurd. It is ideal.

## THE BALLOT

**T**HE vote in Australia on conscription showed a majority against conscription and the male as well as the women's was NO. This was the first time in human history that the people of a nation, including the women as well as the men, have had the privilege of voting on militarism. The result show that if it were left to the people of the nations there would never be any wars.

Man without system is like a ship without a rudder.  
 Maybe the reason why a woman is never contented is because contentment makes people fat.

Lots of married couples imagine they are living together when they are merely putting up with each other.

Now is the time to subscribe for "The Lithuanian Booster."

## AVOID ALCOHOL

**B**OOZE is down for the count! The timer is busy counting away the last seconds in forms of federal and state laws designed to restrict the transport of liquor. Let each state enact West Virginia's laws. Let everyone avoid booze! Russia and England had a home war with John Barleycorn. Distilleries can be turned into denatured alcohol plants, thus building up industry instead of tearing down manhood.

---

Adversity is the only balance in which to weigh friends.

If you would be wealthy, think of saving as well as getting.

Send in your subscription to-day. You're sure to get your money's worth.

## BOOSTERIALS

This is March!

The month the lion comes roaring in.

Inauguration month, too.

War news.

Ground Hog weather.

Among the fifteen hundred applications for liquor license in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania there is none of the Lithuanian nationality. Anti's can feel proud that at last one nationality has its shoulders to the wheel that is bound to bring sobriety.

Results are the things that count. Theory may sound well, but it seldom works well.

There is going to be some big things in the future issues of "The Lithuanian Booster." Don't forget to send in your subscription.

There are a lot of little country districts that are voted "dry" by the farmers. But you never met a farmer in one of these dry districts who would refuse a swig out of your flask.

A clean sweep of Roumania by the Teutons. Roumania at one time was a part of Lithuania.

Would you like to receive this little monthly regularly? Fifty cents pays its traveling expenses. Send in your invitation and it will call.

Watching the other man's patch don't keep the weeds down in your own.

Lithuanian Knights have resumed activity after a short rest up. Victory comes to them as heretofore.

Talk little and well, rather than much and foolish.

When a girl has a sore throat she always imagine that she got it the way she didn't get it.

A girl can put in years acquiring culture. But that won't keep her from snoring when she is asleep.

Many a fine blacksmith has been spoiled because a fond mother imagined he had musical talent.

In the state of Pennsylvania, in the county of Luzerne there prevails a mist that hovers over certain inhabitants causing aggressiveness, sleeplessness, etc., of the late had much ado———affair. Plans, Oh, my yes! The ladies, sure. Hats off to the Matrons.

One reason why mother's scissors are always sharp is because she can use father's razor when she has anything tough to cut.

As long as the dear things let the men retain the "obey" clause in the marriage contract never let it be said that women have no sense of humor.

When you see an overdressed woman escorting a man who looks like a doormat, you know who is boss in that house.

Is dry gin sold in powders?

Never was there a woman so ugly but that there was at least one man who thought her handsome.

Let Hope as our life-boat ever sail within each heart and mind.

How about that subscription? Mail it NOW.

The old-fashioned woman who used to bawl when she went to see "East Lynne" now has a daughter who hisses the villain in the movie films. We have a lot of fool ideas.

Twenty-five million men killed, wounded, or crippled. Such is the World War's total, in our Civil war only one-sixth as many men were killed.

A woman with eight pounds of store hair on her dome is supposed to keep her hat on at indoor gatherings. And a bald-headed man is no gentleman if he doesn't take his hat off.

In the Michigan Legislature there is a bill for the registration of engagements, failure to comply with the new law will mean that neither party can bring suit for breach of promise. Little law, little fee, and another little step to the high cost of loving. How about it Cupid?

The gift of friendship is something that strikes deeper and lasts longer than mere gifts of material things.

Success—real success, comes alone to him who is seeking an opportunity to make his own success, instead of watching for a chance to inherit the success, of another. The call of the hour is to those who can say, "Send me an opportunity to serve."

Perseverance and tact are two great qualities most valuable to all.

Please bear in mind that "The Lithuanian Booster" is the only magazine with a continuous publication in the field today that is published in the interest of the Lithuanians. This magazine is being published on its merits and stands for "Fair Play" and the uplifting of the Lithuanian movement. Heretofore the Lithuanian has been at the mercy of the "sharks," and many centuries have passed that could have been turned to better understanding of the Lithuanian. The world is large and there is plenty of room for the Lithuanian. This magazine is published in your interest. I have no use for the "grumbler," and will do all I can to make him seek hide. Are you with me?

To know Lithuania read  
**A Sketch of the Lithuanian Nation**  
 by  
 J. Gabrys

And other Lithuanian Literature.  
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