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Booster

THOMAS SHAMIS, Editor.

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THE LITHUANIAN DOOSTER

Thomas Shamis, Editor

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No. 12

THE DEMOCRACY OF RUSSIA
 HAS COME.
 THE DEMOCRACY OF THE WORLD
 NEXT.
 IF NOT, WHY NOT?

THE DAWN

by
THE EDITOR

FAINT rays of light.
And the noise comes nearer.

* * *

The czar has left his throne! The дума has taken over the reins of the new government. The change came with startling rapidity. The crisis was reached when the czar issued an order for the дума to disband. The дума refused! Crowds began to gather in the streets and the soldiers were ordered to move the people. They refused. And so passed the old regime into eternity.

All the ministers were made prisoners. The homes of the pro Germans and a few opponents of the

new were burned. Political prisoners were given liberty. And the heir apparent on behalf of his father and in favor of his uncle abdicated. A few days later Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, abdicated. Leaving the throne of the big nation to the will of the people.

Orders have been issued and the дума committee decided on a council of ministers to have charge of the country for the next three months. The highest executive in the country will be a premier, Prince Lvoff, who will have power similar to those of the president of a republic.

The new government has promised political liberty and equality to all citizens, and will help the army and the navy to carry on the war to a victorious ending. She will also observe all good alliances with other powers. She also has gone after the food control to see that the prices are kept where they belong. She also lifted the censorship except that on military affairs.

The дума's authority has extended all over Russia, and when the time come the constitutional assembly will meet and decide on the new form of government. It is said that the majority of the people will favor the republican form of government. The United States of America has recognized the new government.

The new government of Russia will carry on this war with more vigor against autocracy and the pro-Germans. At the present the war activities are crippled temporarily, however, and therein lies a possibility of danger that the Germans may take advantage of the situation and press the war on Russia and gain important points.

What was the cause that led to the spirit of democracy? When?

That the spirit of democracy has been with the small people of Russia for many centuries the readers of The Lithuanian Booster can plainly see in all the former issues. The little people groaning under the iron heel of the czar and the living condition being be-

yond tolerable made a stand in 1904 and asked the czar concessions, after much rioting and defeat in the east (Russo-Japan war, had the Russian authorities strictly fulfilled their duties. Japan would have lost).

The czar granted the дума. The дума, as the czar thought, will be a plaything. The early дума's accomplished but little in the way of legislation, but as members enjoyed the right of free speech and their speeches were printed in the newspapers and the people were set to thinking. The revolution is more against the pro-German influence than a movement against the throne.

After the killing of Rasputin the czar was continually warned that the country was in danger and needed prompt action. The czar turned a deaf ear to all the warnings and was satisfied that all was well. The president of the дума sent several telegrams to the czar about the success of the revolution. The new government ordering the holding of his liberty. The deposed czar expressed a desire for the spending

of the remainder of his life among the flowers in the gardens of his plantation in Crimea.

Thus absolute monarch of Russia became Nicholas Romanoff.

* * *

The noise is lost in echo.
And all is in tranquillity—
It is DAWN.



GERMAN MONEY

THAT German money done just as good service as her sword, will lead to reason the whirlwind march of the Germans through Lithuania.

The Russian дума seeing fault in her army appointed a committee to investigate and remedy any defects found, and to report same as soon as possible. After short work the committee found true bills against many of the commanders of her army in Lithuania.

That the Germans are very liberal with their money may be seen by the following:

The commander at Libau received two million dollars.

The commander at Mitau received one and one-half million dollars.

The commander at Kovno does not state how much he received. He is at the present in prison.

The commander at Vilna does not state how

(Continued to page 28)

BREST LITOVSK

IN A geographical sketch recently issued by the National Geographic Society there is a description of Brest Litovsk (Brastas Lietuviu), an ancient Lithuanian fortress. Brest Litvosk, a point on the Bug river, one of the strongest fortresses in Europe, the central point in the Muscovite's European defense and offense, and one of the most important depots for, and distributing points of military supplies near the western frontiers. Brest Litovsk, rated by military critics as a much more important strategic point than Warsaw.

Brest Litovsk, a powerfully fortified Russian stronghold, is one of the oldest important fortresses in northern Europe, and its history has been a changeful and stirring one. It is first mentioned on the occasion of its capture by Boleslav the Brave, of Poland,

in 1020. Next, Casimir the Just of Poland, built a tight castle here, in country where the outposts of several nations met. Princes of Lithuania, Galicia, Volhynia, grand masters of the Teutonic knights, Tartar chieftains and kings of Poland held and stormed the city in turns, and from its fortifications ravaged the region around.

Tartar swept over the place like a plague in 1241, moving most of the town into its muddy river! The Teutonic knights devastated its suburbs in 1379, and Mengly Ghyrey, kahn of the Crimea, burned the city with conscientious attention to detail, his visitation coming in the latter part of the fifteenth century. Polish diets were held here. It was out of the deliberations of a council of bishops from western Russia, held at Brest in 1594, that the Uniat rite was born. The Swedes gave the city its last thorough pillaging in 1706. As the second partition of Poland, it was incorporated in Russia, and patience, technique, and money have been lavished upon it by the great north-

ern empire to make it as near impregnable as possible.

Brest Litovsk is situated at the junction of the navigable rivers, Bug and Mukhovets, and at the point of confluence stands the city fortress. It lies upon the right bank of the Bug, here sharply cut, where the river turns from north to northeast. Railways from Odessa, Kiev, Moscow, Warsaw, Vilna and East Prussia intersect here. Further, it lies upon the inland waterway from the Baltic to the Black sea, the course of which is connected up by canal behind Brest, between the upper Mukhovets river and the Pripet river. Thus, the city is served by a well nigh perfect system of communications, reaching to the north, the east, the south, and to points in the interior between, and expanding again from Brest toward the northwest, the west and the southwest.

Brest Litvosk lies in the government of Grodno, 131 miles south of the city of Grodno. It has a population of about 43,000, more than half of which is Jewish. The synagogue at Brest during the sixteenth

century, was regarded as the first in Europe. Probably due to its large Jewish population, Brest Litovsk has never developed an industry, but rather a thriving commerce. Grains, hides, soap, wheat and timber are the staples of its trade. The lumber in which it deals was floated down to Danzig before the war. Flax and hemp are extensively grown in the country around, and, also, form important articles of its trade.

The older fortifications lie about one mile east of Brest Litvosk and have a circumference of four miles. The field works have been kept up to date and everything possible has been done by Russia to make them unconquerable. Brest Litvosk is regarded in Russia as the most powerful individual stronghold in the empire."



BEWARE

Polish patriots are busy misleading the world that there never was LITHUANIA.

Further, they are misleading Kings, Presidents, Vatican and others by their low-down trickery for personal gains.

BEWARE

Happiness and peace of mind will always come to those who live within their means.

A seed to grow,

To bud,

To fragrance.

And this is Natural.

But to go—

To bud,

To sprout,

To seed.

Is unnatural...

The war seemed to settle Bull-kan-tons.

Why is it that for every commission formed and every inspector appointed to investigate the control of food, add ten per cent to the retail cost?

A course in high flying has been perfected. The instructors have nothing on the lady who starts out on pay day to tour the stores with "hubs" pay check in her handbag.

Send in your subscription NOW.

WEEP NO MORE LITHUANIA

WEEP NO more Lithuania, don't you cry,
 Better times will come your way, bye
 and bye,

Think of the future and not of the past,
 Let all your troubles and sorrows worry you last,
 Weep no more Lithuania, the end will soon come,
 You will be free when the war is done,
 No matter who wins you will be free,
 Once more independent and happy you will be,
 So weep no more Lithuania, Don't you cry.
 It is true you have seen havoc and troubles galore,
 But don't you cry, they'll not come no more,
 Just keep cool and preserve your grief,
 For soon you will have that long-wanted relief,

We cried and we pitied you Lithuania Divine,
 We helped you as best as we could Lithuania Mine,
 We will not forget you, no, never shall we,
 But don't worry for the end we can plainly see,
 So weep no more Lithuania, Don't you cry.
 The sun will soon shine as it shown before,
 Your Children will play in the shadow by the door,
 You will be happy as of days ago,
 For you will be free and with out a foe,
 So weep no more Lithuania, don't you cry,
 Dry your tears for you will be free,—
 We know you are sad and you are shattered and
 torn,
 But soon you will not have to worry or moan,
 So weep no more Lithuania, Don't you cry.

MOBIS.

AMBITION

AMBITION. Who is there without it? From early childhood we have all planned what we would do when we were "big" like papa and mama. Some of us, alas, fail to attain height of our ambition, but if we will but mix a goodly share of pluck and stick-to-it-iveness with our hopes we should win out in the end. Don't confound the word "desire" with ambition. We desire a thousand and one things in the course of our lives, but our ambitions, once formed, do not change with every passing thought. Let's stick to one ambition.

Don't be impatient when things are dull. Be impatient with yourself for not boosting them up, going after them and making them lively. Things never get dull—it's you, yourself.

Debt is the bane of human existence. It robs a man of his freedom, his eat and his peace of mind.

I WILL

RELY less on fate and more on faith. Bring your own self-respect up to a standard. Opportunities are not diminishing—they are increasing. You have the tools and the rules of yesterday to help you. Have a heart-to-heart talk with yourself. Do it now. Don't gloss over your incompetency, your clouded perception, your lipwisdom. It is all right to know where the rocks are in the channel, but it is infinitely better to know where they are not.

In other words, and in plain words, keep your mind on the things that build. Appreciate your chances, and go in for the big stakes.

Keep your mind on "I will," and you will.

SUCCESS

DO NOT hold yourself too cheaply. You can do big things, but you do not think you can so they pass on to someone else. Think it over

The reason some have more Success than others is because they **think**. The others only think they think. An efficient salesman told me recently that he never tried to sell a customer any thing—he tried to help him buy. That is a big idea that almost every one can use.

Can you put enthusiasm into any thing you choose? Very few people can and are successful. Ask them how they succeed and they'll answer, "By sticking-to-it." If you talk long enough you'll find they have lots of enthusiasm. That's the keynote. GET ENTHUSED.

BOOSTERIALS

On deck!

One year old this issue.

Twelve boosts for The Lithuanian Booster.

Little boosts, little reminders, make the movement big.

News from Sweden and Switzerland tell of the hardships in Lithuania. Lithuanians have nothing to eat and are being maltreated by the Germans.

A Lithuanian seeing the ravages done to his wife and children by the German soldiers shot three of the them. For this the German army burned three villages, and drove the people.

Send in your subscription NOW.

The Lithuanian movement needs you,—your support. The Lithuanian Booster is the only magazine in the world published for the Lithuanian.

To steer the force of habit in the right direction will do wonders.

The Spirtualists tell us that we may come back from the dead. Is it then any wonder the family skeleton turns up?

The miner has come to his own. The Bituminous mine workers have received a big increase. Following them the Anthracite mine workers are expecting the much desired increase.

Milady's headgear changes every season. Only last year's brim pointed down and this year it points up. Shows that there must be something in the extreme.

They say that Procrastination is the thief of time, and that Time is money. Let's try drop being pro for a while.

That the new Russian minister Miliukoff knows the difference between the Lithuanians and the Poles will be shown by the following: When being a professor he has given lectures on Lithuania at the leading learning institutions of Russia. He sure does know!

I want every reader of The Lithuanian Booster to do something for me this month. Read the magazine carefully, and tell your friends about the improvements I have made and will continue to make. Remember paper is very expensive now, yet I am giving you a bigger magazine, and charging you only fifty cents a year. Set The Lithuanian Booster along side of any other publication in the world at fifty cents a year and see how far ahead I am. Yes, I do pat myself on the back occasionally, but that is merely to set you a good example. If you like The Lithuanian Booster, I want you to tell your friends about it, so they will join my family of readers. Do some Boosting for me. Be a Booster.

Japan is going to bring to America the gospel of Shintoism, the cult of ancestor worship. Not many years ago we sent missionaries to teach Nippon. Will this be the acknowledgment of fair play.

The United Baltic Nations could be formed of small nations and the union would be a guarantee of rights, because one nation could not make war on another. The population of the proposed union would be about 25,000,000 and an area of 400,000 square miles equal to that of France and Germany together.

The downfall of Lithuania was the unsuccessful and unnatural union with Poland. Had the natural boundaries of Lithuania been with the Letts and the Estees. This triple alliance could have given a better foothold against the Russian tide, because, having the Baltic in the rear, Finns on the right, Mozurian lakes and Pinsk swamps on the left there was left only one front to watch and a further union with the Finns, Swedes and Norwegians would have been to the betterment of the **Lithuanian**.

Feeling powerless before Mindaugas, Gediminas, Vytautas and when at Grunvald when the Teutons wanted to crush Lithuania. Lithuania has been in balance. Lithuania is on the crossroads of this war. The thrones are tearing Lithuania. Let not demon greed be powerful.

That the men now in charge of the new government know the difference between the Lithuanians and the Poles will be shown in a cablegram received recently:

"I am convinced that the freedom of Lithuania will be built now when the freedom of all nations is an absolute principle, and free Russia will do her duty for her Lithuanian brother.

"Prince Lvoff."

The above comes from none other than the Russian Premier, President of the Council and Minister of the Interior, Mr. George E. Lvoff. The man of Russia of to-day.

Hush money doesn't always work, especially when you tip someone with kid sense.

The earth was created for man—the average fellow usually dreams that he is just that man.

“Eiles-Dainos,” is a volume of poetry recently issued at 366 W. Broadway in So. Boston, Mass. It is appealing to lovers of Lithuanian poetry.

A commission has been sent to Russia by President Wilson to aid the new democratic government to gain power for the Russian nation.

Greece is having internal trouble. There is an attempt to establish in Greece the principle of monarchy by divine right which is doomed to failure at a time when the same principle is abolished in Russia.

Huddling a crowd of fools to the tooting of a half-cracked, brain-stormed youth for publicity. Will give to reason the ephemeral growth. Still all the fools cannot be led all the time.

The rolling stone gathers no moss, but the polish is excellent.

A BOOST

“**M**ALMULTE Estas konata por la civilizita mondo la litova lingvo, ĉar oni ĉiam pensas, ke la litovoj kaj poloj estas uno nacio, do ili havas unu komunan lingvon, kaj ke la litova lingvo estas nur dialekto de la pola lingva. Sed tio estas grandega eraro.”

Busy, yes, very. No time to help you along. Get Miss Esperanto's dictionary and see for thyself.

—

Pope Benedict has donated 20,000 francs for the suffering Lithuania. Many thanks for same. Did it take seven centuries for the high religious authorities in Rome to know that Lithuania is the habitat of the Lithuanians? Was it merely one of Poland's Tricks.

—

GERMAN MONEY

(Continued from page 9)

much he received. He is at the present in prison.

The commander at Riga received eight million dollars from Germany for the surrender of Riga. General Kuropatkin after receiving the money sent it on to Petrograd as a prize of war. When the Russians failed to leave Riga the German commissioner who paid General Kuropatkin the money shot himself.

To Contributors: Be brief and concise with your articles. Remember, my compact little magazine hasn't room for long articles. Remember, too, that any suggestion that could be adapted to an article must be along lines likely to interest all the people. I cannot, in justice to all, devote space to articles of interest to the few only. Send along your story.

Man works for a name and a girl gets that name. John Barleycorn had a tough time in congress. Its a hint to the distillers to begin to consider some other and better pursuit.

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Signed: THOMAS SHAMIS.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this fifth day of April, 1917.

Thomas J. Hatten, J. P.

My commission expires January, 1920
The above statement is printed to comply with the law.

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