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THE LITHUANIAN BOOSTER

Thomas Shamis, Editor

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

HUNDREDS of subscriptions expire with this issue, show your appreciation by renewing promptly. Help Boost. If you find a subscription blank with The Lithuanian Booster it is time for you to renew your subscription. All the magazines are raising their subscription prices. I do not wish to do this. I won't have to, if you renew promptly and get your friends to subscribe. But you must ACT without delay. Show your true colors. You may talk of mountains but accomplishing as much as a mouse will never boost—The Lithuanian Booster. Are you with me? Send your renewal TO-DAY.

LITHUANIAS CLIMATE

by
THE EDITOR

LITHUANIA has a mild climate. Lithuania doesn't have any hot weather, as in the hot climates where the sun is very hot, however, there are no colds of the northern regions where there is extreme moisture. Lithuania raises excellent crops, but sometimes the decaying of crops is the cause of much illness, as, ague, fevers, etc.. Although there is no continued dryness that would check the growth of plants and the people would have to starve.

Sometimes the rainfall is above the average, or the summer is dry for a longer period or the winter is snow less, but these changes never occur to be big and damaging. In the extreme cases where the sudden changes in the weather are damaging, the Lithuanian is accustomed to the weather and overcomes these sudden

changes with little loss.

In Lithuania there are a few weather stations where experiments are carried on. The Lithuanian agriculturist still depends on the old methods for telling the weather and always makes a good guess.

Atmospheric changes come about by the winds and to then belong the changes in the weather. In Europe as we know are two winds: 1) eastern, north and southeastern; 2) western, northern and southwestern; first are dry, second are damp, ie blow clouds from whence it rains or snows. The dryness of the first comes from that they blow over the dry plains of Asia before they reach Lithuania. The dampness of the second that they blow in from the Atlantic ocean. Western Europe has more rainfall than Lithuania. In England or France it rains more because they are in the path of the damp winds. Eastern Europe has a dry climate because they are in the east winds.

Lithuania in the middle of Europe having no high mountains is a rendezvous for the east and the west

winds; for this reason the climate is mild; not so dry, as in the east, and not so damp as in the west.

Lithuania's rainfall comes from the forementioned winds. Winds of the southwest blow clouds in Lithuania in the winter, northwest—spring and summer, and the western—fall. The sky for this reason is more often clouded and Lithuania has more rainy days than dry. There is a legend that on account of it being rainy the whole land was named Lietuva (Lithuania), means "lietaus zeme" (rains land).

The damp winds before reaching Lithuania travel over large sections of western Europe and leave much of their dampness. In this path of the western winds England has 200 rainy days, Lithuania has 146 rainy days and the Urals have 90 rainy days. The Baltic sea helps in the moisture of Lithuania, for, as we well know Lithuania lies on the Baltic coast; northwestern winds blowing from the Baltic sea bring rain. This same condition governs the warmth. The number of cold days when the thermometer is below zero is

about 150. The coldest months are—January and February; Warmest months—June and July.

In Lithuania the rainy summers are never so hot and the winters are not the coldest of the cold. Lithuania is not as moist as western Europe, and more than eastern Europe, its summers are not as hot as those of western Europe and are warmer than those of eastern Europe.

The climate of Lithuania, as can be plainly seen is mild or medium. In Lithuania the four seasons are of equal length, and there is not the extreme hot, nor cold, and that there is an abundance of rainfall the year round, especially in the summer when it is needed for the growing crops.



A LETTER

Presented to
RT. HON. BALFOUR

by the
Lithuanian Information Bureau
Washington, D. C.

To the Right Honourable Arthur James Balfour,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the
United Kingdom:

The disasters of the present war will not be recompensed if the maladjustments and the injustices brought down to us from former years are not righted.

The Congress of Vienna restored peace to Europe in 1815, but it attached little importance to the question of nationality. Nationalities, like patriotism, is something of a character purely ideal. But you, Sir, have had the honor of contributing toward making the importance of the ideal more fully appreciated in human life.

When the chiefs of the Allied forces, at the beginning of the present war, proclaimed the principle of liberty of small nations, the hearts of these nations recognized the influence of the spirit of Britain. For it is Britain which, having many and diverse peoples under its high patronage, has known how to respect their national life and their freedom of development.

It is to you, Sir, that the Lithuanian people address their modest prayer. They have suffered grievously in the present war, and they wish only to know the future which is set for them by the powers directing the events of our times. We should hope, Sir,

(Continued to page 32)

THE NEW WAR

by
ANDRIUEAS

AT THE outbreak of the war in 1914, great numbers of Lithuanians were drafted into the armies of Russia and Germany, because Lithuania, is divided between them. Brother was forced to kill brother, father to kill son, each was made to destroy the other's hearth, to devastate the other's fields, not because they were going to be benefited by this, no, the Czar of Russia was fighting another monarch the Kaiser of Germany. The Lithuanian was bleeding his blood and making a supreme sacrifice for a cause foreign to him.

A new day has dawned, a new light has arisen o'er the horizon, freedom was born into Russia. Eager messengers bore the glad tidings to America. No one has been more thrilled with joy than the Lithuanian.

It has instilled the Lithuanian soul with a strong desire, and the war from that day carries for him a different meaning. It means liberty, freedom and the unlocking of chains that tied him so long. The Czar has been overthrown, the Kaiser only remains. Having gained a breathing space, the Lithuanian will swing with renewed energy to help destroy his last enemy.

America's step; her participation in the world war at this hour is timely and right. It is America's duty to assist democracy to overthrow autocracy.

It brings to mind the knowledge that there are over 800,000 Lithuanians in America, more than one-half of whom are capable of military service. There is no doubt of the strong fidelity to be shown their adopted country. Every Lithuanian shall bear up bravely under all burdens imposed by the necessities of this war and they shall carry ungrudgingly their share that this war end victorious for democracy's

cause.

And the Lithuanian brother trusts that in the final reckoning his adopted country will not forget to extend a helping hand to his mother country, who has given birth to him. And when justice shall be done, will be done equally and righteously to **Lithuania**.



ODE TO YOUTH

by

ADAM MICKIEWICZ

Translation by

J. K. Tautmyla

WITHOUT Hearts and soul—such are skeleton
nations

Oh Youth! give unto me thy soaring wings,
That I may rise above this torpid world
To view the blissful realms of better things
Where zeal works wonders in the thrill of imagination
Fired with thirst strewn flowers of varied hue
And clothe hope with gold of beauty new...

To him whose sight is dimmed by length of years
 And wrinkled brow is turned upon the ground,
 To him the world weal is what his visions bound
 He sees but what to his dim-dull sight appears.
 Oh Youth! above the vulgar bounds ascend
 And **with** the light of an ideal in sight
 Pierce through from end to end
 The immenseness of humanity!

Look down! what eternal fogs enfold
 The sluggard valley with darkness overwhelmed!
 That's earth....

Look, how upon its waters dead
 Clod in ring a reptile lifts his head
 Who of himself both ship and a pilot is
 Look, how in hungry search of small fry he sails
 Now above the highest wave he rises, now sinks below
 As the ceaseless billows come and go;

And then like a bubble into inane it bursts to die!
 Nought of his life is known neither is he missed.
 In him, behold, an egotist!

Oh Youth; To thee life's nectar
 Only then is sweet when with thy fellows shared.
 Heaven's joy doth flood hearts most benign
 When loves bright skein doth **all** entwine!

Together then, unite young friends!
 The happiness of **all** on **all** attends.
 In spirit wise in union strong
 Together unite young friends!
 Happy is he who fell in mid-career
 If he is a stepping stone of sacrifice
 Whereby onto fame may others rise
 Together then, unite young friends!....
 Though steep and slippery is the way

For violence and weakness the entrance guard.
 Against violence armed with love take thy stand
 To subdue weakness learn with youthful hand.

He who while yet in the cradle can Hydra quell
 Will Centaur grapple in his prime,
 He will snatch the victim from the jaws of hell
 And enter heaven for a wreath sublime!

Reach thou then beyond the grasp of sight!
 Break through whatever reason cannot pierce!
 Youth! thy might is an eagle's flight
 The strength of thunderbolt is in thy arm!

Aye! shoulder then to shoulder! linked in one great
 chain
 We shall bind the earth's main!
 Our thoughts in focus drawn upon our own domain

One purpose and one end to maintain!
 Onward torpid world, move thy standing old!
 We push thee sluggard unto the newer thought
 To cleanse thy mouldy ring by stagnation wrought
 Till in verdure as of yore, again thy blossom will
 unfold!

And as in the regions of chaotic night
 Where primal matters in confusion merged
 When at God's "Fiat" of creative might
 The breakers roared, waters rushed and surged
 A world material then in its course of life began.

In the regions of diverse races dull night yet prevails
 Man's passions are still at war, and him assails,
 But lo, to the breath of love's mighty flame
 The brute earth yields and spirit world unavails!
 Youth armed with lasting love of friendship strong

A redemption to their nation brings along.
 The torpid icebergs of indifference break
 And prejudices that marred the light vanish.
 Welcome, welcome Freedoms Morning Star
 The sun of salvation is at hand.

Note.

Adam Mickiewicz is a name, revered by Lithuanians as one of their national poets. He was born in the year 1798 and died in 1855.

The poet filled a role in the revival of Lithuanian national life. The vigor of his writings has not diminished, but on the contrary, his poems still breathe with the poet's ardent solicitude for his country **Lith-**

uania. His poems to-day still have the same strong appeal and impulsive pleading to give the best that is in us willingly and unselfishly to attain the poet's lofty ideals.

In his famous "Ode to Youth" forementioned, he addresses several philomatic fraternities of the University of Vilna students calling them to the standard of national life. The regeneration and redemption of his nation then groaning under the iron heel of tyrannical oppressors--Russia and Germany, The poet sees in youth: The hope of victory over brute and overwhelming force; the poet sees youth armed with learning, manly endeavors, mutual love, undivided unity, youthful zeal and perserverance. The dominating thought of it is a hope of the national rebirth.

J. K. T.

FAILURE

THE MAN who feels the sting of failure—and still continues the battle will finally win out and become successful. He will reach the pinnacle of success and look back upon the beaten path and pity the day-dreamer who hasn't the courage to get out and fight and reach the goal of his ambition. He felt the sting of failure, but it aroused and drove him on in a more determined manner than ever.

We read every day of failures among great men—bankers, railway presidents, owners of big department stores, etc. All have felt the sting of failure. But these men were never known to give up the fight—to sit back and idly dream of the success they thought should be theirs. No! These men fight to the very last minute, as long as there is life. Their first failure did not discourage them. They never cried over spilled milk. Not a minute was wasted sorrowing over past failures. They made capital of the present and went on planning and acting for the future.

BOOSTERIALS

Hello !

This issue starts the New Volume.

Let's all be Al Boosters.

Being lonesome is a very lonesome job.

A few years makes big changes in the person of the most ardent society worker who trains down to an ordinary mortal.

The Lithuanian movement needs you,—your support. The Lithuanian Booster is the only magazine in the world published for the Lithuanian in the English language. The Lithuanian Booster is the only magazine in a class all by itself. The Lithuanian Booster has outlived many so-called competitors whose life never saw the noon-day sun. Read the best—The Lithuanian Booster.

A word to the wise requires considerable plugging.

Hardly was there any social-democrats in Russia, and the czar fell from his high seat, Germany with her large social-democrat party still sticks to the kaiser.

This article named war bears the well-known trade-mark "Made in Germany."

Evolution of Berlin from friendship to armship.

"Nick," of Russia and "George", of England are cousins, they look very much alike and probably have the same ability.

It fell and China has "broken" with Germany.

That the United States of America has defended the South American countries against the rascality of other nations hungry for conquest, is admitted by them to be so.

Some bigger things are come for us. If certain plans now under consideration do not miscarry "THE LITHUANIAN BOOSTER" for the remainder of this year is going to be worth \$5.00 per copy to every man and woman who is interested in the Lithuanian movement.

The Lithuanian Booster solicits good articles which may be of interest to its readers. Articles on Social, education and customs of the Lithuanian are desirable, especially those which have historical lines. Every article submitted with return postage will be returned if unavailable.

The man who thinks he can stop drinking when he wants to never seems to want to.

What we think is worth doing at all is worth doing well, unless we want to make fools of ourselves.

Some of our short-skirted girls need a little more dressing down than dressing up.

A woman can keep a secret—if her neighbors help her.

Why does success hang to the wagon of a grouch?

Never look up to other people for they will look down upon you.

Have you done your share towards the 5,000 subscribers fund. Do yours this month. Get your friend to belong to the Booster family.

IN RUSSIAN CABINET

Mr. M. Ycas has been named vice minister of Education of the new government of Russia. Mr. Ycas is a true Lithuanian and Lithuanians of America are well acquainted with him, he having visited the United States twice and on his last trip returned with a bride, Miss E. Szlupas, daughter of Dr. John Szlupas. Mr. Ycas in the Russian cabinet will defend Lithuanian rights.

Pope Benedict has set aside May 20 as a day for collection of donations throughout the whole world in all the Catholic churches.

Lithuanians in Russia have organized a Lithuanian National Council to facilitate the necessary aid to the stricken Lithuanians, and to look after the betterment of the Lithuanian in general.

About the Americans Admiral Fiske truly said: "The people are not the people they were fifty years ago. They have become flabby, soft, luxury loving, and the worst of all, feminized."

IMPORTANT

JUNE 5, 1917

Congress has passed the military bill which makes all Americans citizens including those with their first citizen papers liable to military service.

A war census will be taken, men will be selected for military service. June 5th is the date.

Every American's obligation is to answer all questions truthfully. False swearing will be severely dealt with.

On the war census blank give your full and true Lithuanian name, This is very important as Lithuanians we should do so for it is for the nation.

All will have to register, when the time comes; register as Americans of the Lithuanian race, and not as Poles or Russians,

To register as a Lithuanian with true and not shortened names will benefit yourself; if this war is prolonged, and our soldiers are in Europe, there will be some injured, captured and dead. These names will be published. But if their names are cut or shortened, not the inklings of Lithuanian, then our press will be unable to recognize and separate them and cannot inform your relatives or friends about you, and this need be great.

Your name in Lithuanian will enable our press to recognize you, inform your relatives and friends who may have interest in you.

REGISTER with TRUE LITHUANIAN names. See that your name wouldn't end in Polish, then it cannot be recognized. Lithuanian whose name end closely to the Polish as: Szymkiewicz, Rimkiewicz, Bierzinski, Zaronski, Petrowski, should give: Simkevicius, Rimkevicius, Bierzinskis, Zaronskis, Petrauskas, etc.

Registering on the war census blank in answering

question one, give your full Lithuanian name. Answering the fifth question, the country where born; Russia-Lithuania, or as the case may be but do not put Poland, if born in Lithuania. The most important question the tenth, at the end of this question is Race? answer: LITHUANIAN (Lietuvis).

Lithuanians registering as other nationalities are liable to imprisonment. Registers will see that all Lithuanians are registered as such. Failure on one or the other part will be dealt with according to the law.

The Lithuanian Booster readers should call the attention of their friends to the facts. Lithuanian priests in all the churches should explain to their congregations the need of true registration.



(Continued from page 9)

that our desires may be, by your kindness, submitted to the high consideration of the Government of the United Kingdom.

We ask only the right of national existence under conditions which will render it truly possible and durable. In this moment of distress and of anxiety a declaration, clear and definite, expressing the views of the British Government regarding the future of Lithuania, in accord with the principles proclaimed, would be our recompense for all the misfortunes borne by Lithuania during this terrible war.

Lithuania is deprived of regular representation, and is, moreover, confronted with the impossibility of choosing any representatives of its own conformable to law. It must be, therefore, private persons who take upon themselves the duty of presenting to you, Sir, and through your kind intercession to the Government of the United Kingdom, the desires which animate three million Lithuanians.

LECTURES

HISTORIC LITHUANIA.

THE LITHUANIAN QUESTION.

These talks are designed for churches, lodges, literary and historical societies, and trade and commercial bodies. They are an attempt to make people think to some purpose about the Lithuanian.

For dates and terms address,

Thomas Shamis,
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 Kingston, Pa.

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 by
 J. Gabrys
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