









GARSAS • LITHUANIAN U.S. ALLIANCE OF AMERICA

# English Section

## THE JUNE ANNIVERSARIES IN LITHUANIA

Students of history usually associate the phrase "June Days" with the bloody events in Paris during the Revolution of 1848. Since 1940, HOWEVER, "June Days" has acquired another meaning in the East European context. For Lithuanians, especially, the phrase evokes a destruction and a loss much greater than the people of Paris could have imagined 120 years ago.

It was on June 15, 1940, that the Red Army assaulted Lithuania and extinguished the nation's freedom and independence. One year later, on June 14-20, 1941, the Soviets resorted to mass terror in the occupied country. Some 5000 Lithuanians were murdered, while 35,000 men, women and children were deported to Siberia. Mass deportations continued into the early 1950's and, coupled with terror inside Lithuania, claimed some 400,000 victims. The Gulag Archipelago became a mass cemetery for the Lithuanian people.

Deportations and terror have been reduced in scale but not in kind since those early June days. As the Lithuanian under-

ground periodical *Aušra* (No. 5, February 16, 1977), described in this issue, puts it:

Arrests, trials began, the glorious past of the nation was ignored, its cultural values destroyed... 500,000 Lithuanian freedom fighters as well as their supporters perished during the armed national resistance... Physical genocide, as during the period since the beginning of the occupation until Stalin's death, is impossible today... However, Moscow's plan remains the same: to russify the Lithuanian nation, to melt it in the colorless sea of colonists, to displace its language, ethics, to level its customs and culture...

Soviet prisons and labor camps are today filled with Lithuanians who are trying to defend their culture and religion. A mere attempt to exercise the rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or by the Helsinki Accords brings intense discrimination at best, Gulag at worst. Even folkloristic or ethnographic activities bring down a swarm of KGB men. (Elta)

## Beauty And Brains: A Winning Combination For Miss Audrey Butvay

By Angela Canade  
(Excerpts)

A dynamic and innovative woman executive in the multi-million dollar beauty business is Audrey Butvay, a director of Elizabeth Arden, whose exceptional good looks and excellent grooming tell you that she practices what she preaches. And the keynote of her advice is "to look your very best by making the most of what you have".

For starters, she suggests "improving certain body conditions, weight, hair and skin, for example. Once you know you're making the best impression you can, you'll feel lovely and secure".

When asked to share her beauty secrets, the respected spokeswoman refers to the fundamentals saying, "Nothing replaces a balance of exercise and rest. You have to take care of yourself by getting enough sleep and establishing good nutrition habits. No cosmetics exist that can

replace these basics coupled with a positive mental attitude about yourself.

"For women of every age, skin care is important. You can't cover up bad skin but a true understanding of a good health routine can pay off, making you look better".

For this exclusive Twin Circle interview, this reporter sat on white couches in her elegantly decorated apartment located on the plush Upper East Side of Manhattan (New York). The setting is like a page from a decorator's magazine, indicative, that Miss Butvay's consciousness of beauty and fashion is also reflected in her surroundings.

### Lithuanian Roots

Miss Butvay, in her early thirties and single, brings to her job a diversified background which is a bit unusual for the American career woman. A Lithuanian and a Catholic, her early remembrances of the country of her birth are embroidered in a tapestry of political strife.

One of three daughters of Hope and Vincent Butvydas who presently reside in Parsippany, New Jersey, she recalls the anxiety-filled days of the family's flight from war-torn Europe.

"My mother was a teacher and my father a cavalry officer before we fled Lithuania. I was a very young child when we lived in displaced persons camps within the American lines in Germany", she remembers. "All along, my family's aim was to get to America and, finally, the United Nations Relief Association helped us.

"In 1949, the quotas of the United States opened and we came to Hillside, N.J., sponsored by distant relatives here".

Christ the King Church was the family's parish and young Audrey, while attending public schools, received the sacraments along with her classmates. Her ability to speak Lithuanian fluently continues to this day although, she adds, "As a child I could also speak French and German very well".

Catholicism was the soul of the home life and her father, a mechanical inspector, often spoke of a bishop in Lithuania who was a relative.

"The Lithuanian people are very close knit, strong, and intensely sensitive of their cultural background — poetry, art and music", explains the woman who once recited her mother's poetry on Radio Free Europe. "Since I came here as a youngster, it was natural for me to assimilate into the American mainstream. My parents, however, are actively involved in basically a Lithuanian parish, Holy Trinity Church, with close ties to the Franciscan Fathers.

Young Audrey spent summer vacations at the Lithuanian Catholic Camp in Putnam, Connecticut which is under the auspices of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. After school hours were occupied with acting and ballet lessons even though her teenage dream was to be a doctor.

"My parents lost everything when they left Lithuania but they had total belief in my sisters Vyga, Kristina and me. I thought about a career in medicine because a profession is often encouraged in a European home. There wasn't much guidance in those days", says the recipient of a four-year, full tuition scholarship to Tufts University in Boston.

While attending high school and college, she lectured on fashion and cosmetics part-time, taught at a charm school, and worked as a professional model. But once the Bachelor of Science degree was earned, she headed for Manhattan and a position as administrative assistant to the medical direc-

tor of Revlon's Research Center.

"My two years with Revlon enabled me to combine my scientific education with a basic interest in beauty", she explains. "But then I wanted to expand in the fashion field and became a freelance coordinator of fashion shows".

### Million-Dollar Idea

For six months, she coordinated such presentations as the Miss Universe contest in Massachusetts but gave it up to join the hosiery division of J.P. Stevens & Co. as the 25-year-old advertising director. "She shook up the hosiery establishment to its toes", said a spokesman at the time. Women would like to mirror. But it has been her brains rather than beauty that have elevated her to become a leading spokeswoman in the industry, her comments appearing in such fashion magazines as *Vogue* and *Harpers Bazaar*.

(Twin Circle,  
Sunday, April 9, 1978)

### New Issue Of Underground Periodicals "Aušra" (No. 9) & "Chronicle" (No. 31)

New issues of the two leading underground periodicals in Lithuania were received in the West recently. *Aušra* (The Dawn), No. 9, and the *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*, No. 31, contain important information about the repressive politics of the Soviet occupation and about the resistance of the Lithuanian people.

*Aušra* provides a detailed description of the political riots in Vilnius, inspired by the victories of the *Zalgiris* soccer club. The riots were a "major headache" to the KGB. *Aušra* also discloses that, in addition to the riot on October 7, reported in the world press, two more demonstrations took place, on October 10 and November 8.

Also, in the new *Aušra* one finds a report on the case of *Balys Gajauskas*, a challenge by four young Lithuanians to the Communist Party, requesting that, once drafted into the Red Army, they be permitted to serve in their country; data on Lithuanian youth movement; repression of scholarly activities; the Lithuanian-Jewish relations; etc.

The new issue of the *Chronicle* discusses KGB infiltration of the Theological Seminary in Kaunas, prints information about the Lithuanian prisoners in the labor camps, rebuts charges against the *chronicle*, and presents a comprehensive survey of discrimination and violation of human rights in Lithuania.

Summaries and excerpts for the new samizdat periodicals will appear in the next issue of our bulletin. (Elta)

A recent editorial in the "Ruston Daily Leader" in Louisiana extolled the achievements of Lithuanian Professor Emeritus Jonas Kupronis, who taught for some 20 years at Louisiana Tech. He was instrumental in establishing the university's renowned botanical gardens, which comprise over 50 acres.

Vytis

Both the Soviet system and the free-state system believe that they will eventually win the rest of the world to their way of life. But with this big difference: the Communists plan to do it by force, either open or under cover, while the democratic way is to help other peoples set up their own kind of government, free of outside domination. We are confident that the irresistible historic urge toward real self-government will in time bring such states to unity of purpose in a free world.

(Let Freedom Ring)

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE ALLIANCE

By Frank J. Katilius  
Executive Director

### Welcome to the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance 67th Convention

Well, here we are on the eve of the 67th Convention of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance, which will be held June 18, 19, 20 and 21, 1978 at the beautiful Holiday Inn, Pocono Lake Harmony, White Haven, Pa.

The Convention is scheduled to begin with the Sacrifice of Holy Mass on Sunday, June 18th at the Holy Trinity Lithuanian Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. at 4:00 p.m. The Celebrant will be our own Spiritual Adviser, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John F. Boll, who is the pastor at Holy Trinity Church.

After the services, all delegates are invited to the Church Auditorium for a little snack before going to the Holiday Inn for dinner. There will be plenty of cars for those delegates who need transportation and we can all go to the Poconos together.

The Executive Committee of the Alliance is planning a program during the Convention, which will be announced at a later date. It has not been finalized, but I assure you it will be great.

Once again may I repeat; The delegates who will be coming by plane, go to the Wilkes-Barre - Scranton Airport in Avoca, Pa. When you arrive at the airport, if you just call the Holiday Inn (telephone number is (717) 443-8471) and tell them that you are attending the Alliance Convention and they will send their limousine to pick you up and take you directly to the Holiday Inn.

The delegates who will be driving, Holiday Inn is located just off Route 940, half-a-mile east of 1-80, Exit 42 and the Penna. Turnpike Exit 35, less than a 2 hour drive from Philadelphia or New York City.

May I suggest to you, if you think it is a little confusing, why don't you come directly to the Home Office of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance, 71-73 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. on Sunday, June 18 and we will meet you and you will be able to inspect the Home Office, and then we can all go together to the Holy Mass at 4:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church.

Just a final reminder to those of you who are writing new members, you still have time to write in 5 new members, each for \$1,000.00 or more of insurance, before the Convention and you will be entitled to 3 nights lodging (double occupancy) at the Holiday Inn, but you will have to provide your own meals.

See you at the Convention.

Ignas Bečelis, a 76-year old pensioner, was working as sexton for the Palušė church, for 13 rubles a month. In July 1977, he was told by the local authorities that, according to some unspecified law, he could not go on being sexton. Otherwise, he would lose his state pension of 25.80 rubles a month. He would also have to refund to the state 2500 rubles for the time he worked for the church and received the pension.

On September 1, 1939, Hitler's Germany invaded Poland. Soviet Russia also attacked Poland at the same time, simply to enlarge her own lands. Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania at that time had good-neighbor, non-aggression pacts with Soviet Russia. Having promised Hitler substantial agricultural aid in his war against the West, Soviet Russia felt secure from the German side. Relying confidently on such security, Soviet Russia attacked Finland in 1939-1940. Then on June 15, 1940, the Red Army of Soviet Russia invaded Lithuania. A few days later the Reds also invaded Latvia and Estonia.

As soon as Soviet Russia occupied Lithuania on June 15, 1940, the Soviets began attacking religious institutions with all their military might. They immediately closed and prohibited all Catholic schools and seminaries and all Catholic cultural and charitable organizations. All the property of Catholic institutions, including their libraries, archives and even their flags, was seized and confiscated by the government, and some historical treasures were destroyed immediately. Churches, too, and all church buildings were taken over by the Reds.

Bishop Vincent Brizgys  
(Religious Conditions in Lithuania Under Soviet Russian Occupation)

### PLEASE REST

Have a seat on the rock —  
We have come to the edge of the planet,  
To the limit of this earth,  
To the infinity of heaven  
Chewing the bitter crumbs  
Of a long and lean journey.

A cold wind blows from the sea,  
Hot gusts from the deserts;  
The sun, like a dandelion puff,  
Descends and rises —  
But you, please rest.

KAZYS BRADUNAS  
(Lithuanian)





