

GARSAS • Lithuanian U.S. Alliance of America

English Section

POPE JOHN PAUL II PRAYS FOR LITHUANIA EVERY DAY

On May 6, 1979 Pope John Paul II paid a visit to St. Casimir's Lithuanian College in Rome. In a response to an address delivered by its Rector, Msgr. Ladas Tulaba, the Holy Father spoke to the Lithuanians (students, priests and laymen) gathered there:

First of all, I have to confess that this visit is very dear to me. I am very happy that a visit at your Lithuanian College was included in the program of a pastoral visit to St. Anthony's parish.

This college is of great significance to the Church of Lithuania. It is also dear to the Universal Church of Rome.

It is impossible for me not to be close to you. As you know very well, I am from Cracow. St. Casimir also was

born in Cracow. Thus, perhaps it is possible to say that we are from the same city. St. Casimir had to leave Cracow, and now he is in Vilnius. I also had to leave Cracow, and now I am in Rome. I think that this unity, his spiritual unity, born in the same city, will help us to understand each other quite well and cooperate in carrying out the mission which falls upon your fatherland and upon the Church in your fatherland.

It is known to everyone that the Church in your fatherland, just as in Poland, resists evil and sets a good example for all. The people of God, the Lithuanian nation, being tied very strongly to its Church, to Christ, to its faith and to its religious traditions gives a

special example to all of us. This is the nation which has fully earned the name of a true nation, a nation which has found itself completely, which is well aware of its mission.

In concluding, I would like to tell you that I pray for your fatherland every day. I do not pray just generally. I pray for it separately, by saying Lithuania's name in my daily prayer. I think that's the least we can do in striving to sustain our unity and our solidarity. May God bless you all who live in this house in which you find an atmosphere suitable for preparation for priestly service. (A free translation from the Lithuanian text published by "Tėviškės Žiburiai", May 24, 1979. Ed.)

course, as long as they don't travel to the Soviet Union, they have little to fear. However, should young Lithuanian-Americans desire to go to Moscow for the 1980 Olympic Games or to visit Lithuania, they might get into trouble. The new Soviet laws will go into effect on July 1 of this year.

Miss Beržinytė stated, "We've got to start working quickly. Of course, we can't change the Soviet laws, but we have to make sure that our governments (American and Canadian) know what's going on and that they make it clear to the Soviets that we will be strongly defended against any Soviet harassment." Mr. Kojelis said that an official inquiry into this problem was already being made by Senator Richard S. Schweiker (R-Pennsylvania).

The Congress— Much to discuss

Violeta Abariūtė, from Detroit, began the discussion about the Congress with a brief sketch of some of the major resolutions of the Third Lithuanian Youth Congress which met in South America three years ago. Mr. Romas Sakadolskis, of Chicago, gave a more in depth analysis of the program of the next Congress, explaining that it would not be as oriented toward specific problems and project as the last Congress was.

"What we'll be dealing with in Germany," Sakadolskis explained, "will be topics which cover broader, more general questions. We'll be more interested in finding out who we are, instead of what specifically Lithuanian Youth Associations should be doing." Sakadolskis argued, that many of these topics have already been touched upon during discussions at the first three Congresses.

After lunch, the delegates returned and broke up into four smaller discussion sections in which they covered some of the topics which will be raised in Germany in July. The first set of topics dealt with political questions such as the development of Lithuanian political consciousness, and the relationship between young Lithuanians living in North America and those living in Lithuania itself. Even more general questions dealt with world peace and the international human rights movement and their influence on Lithuanian political activities.



A view of the congressional complex from the outside

sy Santvaras and Baly Auginas. Both of them read some of their own works and described how they came up with many of their ideas. There was also a short film about Lithuanian poets as well as a sound and slide show about Lithuania.

After the program, everyone went to a lavish reception organized at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Lenkauskas. As the delegates munched their pizza and cheese, and enjoyed the wide assortment of wines, they chatted about their own personal plans for their trip to Europe. The reception lasted well into the early morning hours.

Sunday's meetings

The next morning, after Mass, the participants met once again at the Lithuanian Center, and broke up into two sections—Canadian and American. At the American meeting, there were reports from representatives of several cities about their groups' activities. Asta Grakauskas, of Los Angeles, reported that they had just had an unbelievably successful vaudeville type program, "Viva Europa," which not only got rave reviews from the community, but also netted the Los Angeles Chapter of the AYLA over \$2000 to help support the Congress.

The American delegates also discussed the possibility of organizing the Fifth Congress in North America, and it was explained that the Canadians had already organized an exploratory committee looking into this. They also decided to make up some "T-shirts" for their trip and they discussed future plans of the AYLA.

After the separate country meetings, the delegates broke up once again into their discussion sections, this time discussing cultural questions. Topics discussed included: the need to publish a Lithuanian cultural directory which would list sources of Lithuanian cultural materials, Lithuanian cultural consciousness and the lack of knowledge in America about current cultural activity in Lithuania.

During the short break that followed, the American delegates at the conference met to sign petitions which will be sent to 30 U.S. Senators, President Carter and other government officials, asking that they work hard for the release of Baly Gajauskas and Viktoras Petkus.

The conference ended with a mock run of the actual proceedings of the international Lithuanian youth congress. Romas Sakadolskis, a veteran of the past three Congresses, helped the delegates get oriented. The mock-Congress was chaired by

Rasa Lukoševičiūtė from Montreal. Each of the four political discussion groups proposed a resolution which was then debated and ground through the parliamentary process. The participants learned how resolutions were formed, how they were edited, and how they could be revised on the floor. Finally the resolutions were voted upon and either accepted, accepted with modifications or rejected. The last motion was made by Saulius Čyvas from Cleveland. He suggested that the conference end and that everyone go have dinner. His motion passed unanimously—unamended.

A successful conference

The conference's program was prepared by Mrs. Emilija Sakadolskis of Chicago and Raimondas Sungaila of Toronto. After the conference, Mrs. Sakadolskis stated: "I think it was a huge success. Of course, we have already had previous meetings in various parts of the country and this really helped. It appears as if most of the participants came well prepared and I'm sure that most of them had carefully studied their workbooks."

After the conference concluded, Mr. and Mrs. Sakadolskis, Paulius Kuras, Asta Grakauskas and Nijolė and Siga Lenkauskas all visited Mr. Stasys Barzdukas, the honorary president of the World Lithuanian Community, Inc., and passed on to him the best wishes of the joint Canadian-American conference.

YOUNG LITHUANIANS MEET IN CLEVELAND

Prepare for Lithuanian Youth Congress

By LINAS KOJELIS

(Cleveland) Young Lithuanians from across the United States and Canada met in Cleveland, Ohio during the weekend of May 19-20 to prepare for the Fourth Lithuanian World Youth Congress (IV LWYC). (For details about the Congress itself, see the last issue of GARSAS). The fifty participants were delegates elected to represent major North American Lithuanian Communities at the Congress. They came from cities as far away as Los Angeles, Washington, D.C. and Montreal, Canada. The meetings at the conference were devoted to listening to reports about recent activities of the American Canadian and World Lithuanian Youth Associations, as well as to several discussion and study sessions on topics which will be covered at the Congress this summer in Europe. The conference ended with a mock-Congress. Also, Saturday night, most of the participants went to Cleveland's Lithuanian "Spring Poetry Festival" which featured two well known Lithuanian poets.

Reports on past and future activities

The conference began Saturday morning with reports on past and future activities which were or will be sponsored by the three Lithuanian youth associations which met here in Cleveland. Dainora Juozapavičiūtė, vicepresident of the World Lithuanian Youth Association (WLYA) for international communications, gave the first report. She outlined some of the cultural, political and organizational initiatives begun by the WLYA. One of the programs which she talked about was the "International Lithuanian Youth Exchange Program." Through this program, young Lithuanians from countries such as Brazil and Germany, where Lithuanian youth groups have not been active recently, are flown up to North America during the summer. Here, organizations such as the Lithuanian-Catholic Youth Association (Ateitis) and the Lithuanian Scouts have their

summer camps. The visitors from other countries learn about organizing and working in a Lithuanian summer youth camp. They get a chance to meet with some of the "movers and shakers" of the Lithuanian community, and they have an opportunity to informally discuss their problems and ideas with many people who have long been active in North American Lithuanian affairs.

"This program has been very successful," Miss Juozapavičiūtė stated. "We're sure that it has done much to help strengthen Lithuanian youth programs in other parts of the world. Of course, perhaps an even more important part of this program is when young Lithuanians from America and Canada go to South America and Europe to work with the communities there. Our workers go over there with a lot of enthusiasm and they have really stirred up some excitement, especially in South America!"

The other reports were read by the president of the Canadian Lithuanian Youth Association (CLYA), Paulius Kuras, and the vice-president of the Association of Young Lithuanian-Americans (AYLA), Violeta Abariūtė. Both Miss Abariūtė and Mr. Kuras discussed their organizations' past activities, such as organizing concerts for visiting Lithuanian singers from other countries, and organizing political demonstrations and write-in campaigns. The major focus of both of these youth associations now, however, is to prepare for the IV LWYC.

However, before the Cleveland conference jumped into topics concerning the Congress, there were two more reports on major current political projects. Linas Kojelis, public affairs director for AYLA, told the group about the formation of a new committee, "The Coalition

to Free Petkus and Gajauskas." This group has only one goal, and that is to help gain the release of two leading Lithuanian political prisoners, Baly Gajauskas and Viktoras Petkus. Both men were jailed last year for their human rights and Lithuanian activities. The group will try to get the United States government to work more diligently for their release.

The second political issue was a very hot one. Laima Beržinytė, leader of an *ad hoc* Canadian youth group, explained the problem which involved some new laws passed by the Soviet government and which affect all people of Lithuanian heritage living outside of Lithuania. The Soviets now claim that all of these people, including young Lithuanian-Americans born in the United States, Canada and elsewhere, are considered by the Soviet government to be Soviet citizens. This would mean, that all Americans of Lithuanian heritage would be subject to all of the Soviet Union's laws. They could be drafted into their army and tried by Soviet courts. Of



Here is a view of the concert hall where the post-Congress concert and dance will take place on July 28 in Frankfurt.

COMMITTEE FORMED TO HELP LITHUANIAN DISSIDENTS

Through the efforts of the Public Affairs Council of the Lithuanian-American Community of the U.S.A., Inc. (JAV Lietuvių Bendruomenė), a committee was formed on May 1 to work for the release of Lithuanian political prisoners. The committee is called, "The Coalition to Free Petkus and Gajauskas". As the name implies, the primary goal of the coalition will be to free two key members of the Lithuanian Helsinki Monitoring Group—Viktoras Petkus and Balys Gajauskas. Other Lithuanian dissidents, however, will certainly not be ignored.

The coalition was founded by public affairs activists from the Knights of Lithuania, the Association of Young Lithuanian-Americans and the Lithuanian-American Community of the U.S.A., Inc. They are: Rimantas Česonis, Algimantas Gečys, Craig Hardy, Daiva Kezienė, Linas Kojelis, Jorātė Stribienė, Rima Mironienė, Viktoras Nakas, dr. Saulius Naujokaitis, Father K. Pugevičius, Philip Skabeikis, Rimantas Stirbys, Prof. Elona Vaišniūnė and Aušra Zerr. The coalition's chairman is Charles H. Zerr.

Viktoras Petkus

Viktoras Petkus was born in Raseiniai, Lithuania in 1929. He has a long record as a Lithuanian activist. He was first arrested for his work with the Roman Catholic youth organization, Ateitis, in 1947, and was sentenced to ten years of hard labor. He was released four years early because he was a minor. From 1956 to 1957 he attended Vilnius University where he majored in Lithuanian language and literature. In 1958 he was again arrested and sentenced to seven years in prison for possession and distribution of religious books written before 1939 by Lithuanian writers who had since emigrated to the West. From 1965 to 1975 he worked as a hospital orderly and as a sexton in various churches. He collected a massive bibliography of Lithuanian poets, and worked with a group of young Lithuanians interested in Lithuanian history and literature. Also, he assisted the mother of Simas Kudirka in working for Kudirka's release from prison.

In November of 1976, in Vilnius, Petkus helped form the Lithuanian Helsinki Monitoring Group to promote the implementation within Lithuania of the Helsinki Agreements. In December of that year, in the Moscow apartment of Andrei Sakharov, he announced the existence of this Lithuanian group to the Western press.

He was again arrested and charged with "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" on August 23, 1977. A year later he was tried and found guilty for his work with the Helsinki Committee, his possession of "anti-Soviet" literature and for attempting to organize a "Supreme Committee of the National Movements of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania." For this, he was sentenced to ten years at hard labor in a concentration camp, and five years of exile from Lithuania.

Balys Gajauskas

Like Petkus, Balys Gajauskas has a long history as a Lithuanian activist. He was first arrested and imprisoned by the Nazis for two years. After the Russians invaded Lithuania, he worked in the anti-Russian resistance movement. In 1948, he was arrested and convicted for "anti-Soviet" agitation, propaganda, and treason, and for distributing handbills. He received a 25 year sentence, and by the time he was released in 1973, he had mastered eight-

een foreign languages from other prisoners.

After his release, he returned to Kaunas to live with his mother. He was denied legal residence in Lithuania and his mother was fined several times for harboring an illegal resident—her own son. Gajauskas was constantly harassed, searched and interrogated for his activities, including his possible participation in the publication and distribution of the "Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania."

On April 20, 1977, the KGB arrested and detained him. One year later, the Soviets tried him for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda." They sentenced him to ten years of "the most severe prison regime," and an additional five years of exile from Lithuania. While in prison, he joined the Lithuanian Helsinki group. Also, on July 28, 1978, he married Irena Dumbrytė while in prison.

It is important to note that both Petkus and Gajauskas have received special recognition by human rights organizations. They have both been designated as "Prisoners of Conscience" by Amnesty International. This organization is based in London, and fights for the release of political prisoners around the world. Also, they were both nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by members of the Congressional Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe. This was announced on January 31, 1979 by the commissions chairman, Congressman Dante Fascell (D-Fla.) and co-chairman Senator Claiborne Pell. (D-R.I.)

A tough fight

As most of us know, it is not easy to succeed when confronting the Soviet government, though victories have been achieved. Most recently, five prisoners were released by the Soviet Government through negotiations carried on by our government. Even more recent newspaper reports tell of the imminent release of 12 other dissidents. While it is unfortunate that none of the dissidents named are Lithuanian, it is at least encouraging to note that many dissidents, including some of the most well known, are getting out.

It is necessary to pressure Washington to work for the release of Viktoras Petkus and Balys Gajauskas as soon as possible. This is especially so in the case of Gajauskas, who, because of his long imprisonment, is very ill. It is doubtful whether he will be able to complete his harsh sentence. Viktoras Petkus, on the other hand, has no close relatives in either Lithuania or the West. If we don't work on behalf of our fellow Lithuanian Catholics, who will?

Write, write, write!!!

Everyone can help in the fight for these two men. The easiest way is by writing to our government officials. Here are some tips:

1. Be specific and clear. Mention both Balys Gajauskas and Viktoras Petkus. Briefly mention some of the details about their cases, and the important recognition they have received.

2. Be forceful, but courteous. Don't threaten your representatives, (ex. "If you don't do something quick, I won't vote for you at election time.")

3. Be brief. Never write more than one page. Write neatly or type.

4. It is important to write as many letters as possible. Most senators, congressmen and White House officials are familiar with this case. What is important is to let them know that many voters are concerned about Petkus and Gajauskas.

5. Ask your senators and congressmen to contact President Carter and ask him to work hard for Petkus and Gajauskas. Ask them to send you a copy of their letters to the President.

6. Ask the President to keep up the good work on behalf of all dissidents, but express your special concern for the fate of the Lithuanians.

7. Write as many letters as you can. Get your church or community organizations involved.

Here are some addresses of important government officials:

President Jimmy Carter
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Cyrus Vance
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

The Honorable (Congressman's name)
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable (Senator's name)
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

For more information

For more information about what you can do to help free Viktoras Petkus and Balys Gajauskas, contact Mr. Charles Zerr at:

The Coalition to Free
Petkus and Gajauskas
708 Custis Road
Glenside, Pennsylvania 19038

CHURCH, DISSENT AND NATIONALITY IN LITHUANIA

A review of Prof. S.V. Vardys' book

Close ties have traditionally existed between the Lithuanian national movement and the Catholic Church. This interrelationship gained new prominence during the last decade with the rise of the Lithuanian Catholic human rights movement, centering on the clandestine publication, *The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*.

V. Stanley Vardys, a professor of political Science at the University of Oklahoma analyzes this interconnection in his book *The Catholic Church, Dissent and Nationality in Soviet Lithuania*, published by the East European Quarterly as part of its monograph series.

The book is an analysis of the Catholic human rights movement in the perspective of Lithuania's modern development, which, since the middle of the nineteenth century, has been distinguished by a nearly symbiotic relationship between Catholicism and nationality. This relationship gained prominence when, after the Polish-Lithuanian revolt of 1863, tsarist officials initiated a double-edged policy of assimilation in Lithuania, designed not only to sweep away Polish political and cultural influences present in Lithuania since the conversion of the country to Latin Christianity by the Poles, but also to Russianize the land. Since the Russians identified the public practice of the Catholic religion and customs with Polish nationalism, the brunt of the Russian attack was borne by the Church. Numerous members of the Polonized nobility and more active clergy were deported to Siberia. But, as the author, notes, among the peasants, tsarist measures against Polish domination produced different results—for the first time since the Russian annexation of Lithuania in 1795, it brought on a direct ethnic Lithuanian-Russian clash.

As the author notes, "the most crucial and, as it later appeared, the most counterproductive measure (was) the prohibition of Lithuanian printing in Latin-Polish characters. Instead, the authorities now spent considerable budgetary allocations for the promotion of Lithuanian texts in the Russian Cyrillic alphabet." Allocations were made for the production of religious and secular Lithuanian texts in the new way "in an obvious effort to forestall the development of general 'Polish' Lithuanian literature."

According to Prof. Vardys, the key figure who completely frustrated this policy of Russification was Bishop Motiejus Valančius, who was also noted for his opposition to tsarist limitations against the Catholic Church. Upon promulgation



Prof. Dr. V.S. Vardys. Photo J. Kuprys

of the prohibition decree, Bishop Valančius negotiated contracts for the publication of Lithuanian religious literature in German-controlled East Prussia. The bishop also encouraged the founding of secret Lithuanian schools.

Professor Vardys subsequently traces the rise of the Lithuanian national movement, culminating in the reestablishment of a Lithuanian national state in 1918. He notes the active role played by the Catholic Church in the life of independent Lithuania from 1918 until its forced incorporation into the Soviet Union in 1940.

According to the author, after the occupation "the Kremlin considered the containment of the Catholic Church in Lithuania only slightly less important than the seizure of the state apparatus or the control of the armed forces."

Immediate, though at first non-violent secularization measures were instituted. The 1927 Concordat with the Vatican was abrogated. Religious institutions were closed or nationalized, and their property confiscated.

The church hierarchy at first sought dialogues with the new regime. But as pressure on the church increased, the episcopal conference in May 1941, handed a list of grievances to the new leadership, demanding freedom from administrative arbitrariness, liberty to exercise the religious apostolate and equality with atheists. Soviet officials simply ignored the memo.

Professor Vardys notes that communist rule was inter-

rupted in June 1941, as German troops overran Lithuania. During the week preceding the German invasion, the KGB carried out the mass deportation to Siberia of approximately 34,000 Lithuanians, an operation later described as "prophylactic measures against the enemies of the government."

With the reestablishment of the Soviet regime, previous restrictions on the church were reimposed and new ones instituted. The Catholic Church suffered greatly as the result of the Soviet response to the guerilla war for Lithuanian independence waged by partisans from 1944 to 1952.

According to Prof. Vardys, the "parish priests and hierarchy were too close to the people not to become involved in the armed confrontation. With small exceptions, the majority of clergymen can be characterized as sympathetic bystanders, who, when requested, offered religious services to guerillas though they were by no means sure that the partisan war had either chances of success or was the proper way for reaching the ultimate goal they both shared."

Officials demanded that the hierarchy urge the partisans to lay down their arms and accept an offer of amnesty. Diocesan administrators were forced to issue the demanded documents, but only after four or five Lithuanian bishops had either been killed or deported to Siberia. Three hundred fifty-seven clergymen, or one-third of Lithuania's priests were deported during the Stalinist period. The sole remaining bishop Kazimieras Paltarokas was forced to accept a modified version of the "dvatsatkas", or parish committees of twenty church members, formed to govern the parishes. These groups, modeled on those in the Russian Republic, were established in spite of the fact that their operations were a direct violation of Canon Law.

The situation eased somewhat after Stalin's death. Permission was obtained for the consecration of two new bishops in Lithuania and the construction of a new church in Klaipėda. The confiscation of the latter building in 1960, just before the scheduled consecration of the church, signaled a hardening of the Soviet attitude toward religion.

According to Prof. Vardys, "during the years of Khrushchev's rule, two seemingly contradictory lines emerged in the Kremlin's treatment of the Lithuanian Catholic Church. On the one hand, the regime enormously intensified atheist propaganda and imposed more willing to make concessions to the regime were appointed. The stringent controls (on the clergy), while on the other, Khrushchev sought better relations with the Vatican under Popes John XXIII and Paul VI."

The latter rapprochement provided Lithuanian churchmen with the means for officially sanctioned communications with Rome. On the other hand, two bishops, whose activities displeased the regime have already spent nearly twenty years of forced exile in small towns beyond their dioceses. New diocesan administrators apparently more willing to make concessions to the regime were appointed. The latter policy outraged some Catholics.

According to the author, the first Lithuanian Catholic appeal for help from abroad — addressed to Pope Pius XII — was brought to the West by Lithuanian partisans in 1948. An example of resurgent Lithuanian faith was the prayerbook *Marija Gelbėk Mus* (Mary Save Us), written by four young Lithuanian girls and smuggled to the West in 1959.

Meanwhile (in Lithuania), various clergymen began writing letters of protest to officials and publications al-

... No matter where one lives, the same anxieties and worries arise — the salvation of humanity. It is not always easy to find out the area in which we can do the most good. Only the King of Souls knows this and it is left for us to bloom wherever we are planted. If He sowed us in the field of sorrow — let us bloom in sorrow, if in solitude... so too in solitude. Only the sorrows of a soul are unseen and like blossoms they can be constantly plucked and offered to the Redeemer.

Form a letter of
Peter Plumpa
(Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania Nr. 25)

leging demanding increase rights for believers. During the summer of 1968 Rev. Vladas Šlevas of the Telšiai Diocese addressed a letter to Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin demanding the lifting of various restrictions imposed on the Church. In response to these first petitions, to a high government official, the priest was transferred to a much smaller parish.

The latter response did not deter other petitioners, who began addressing group petitions to officials. The movement snowballed to such an extent that in early 1972, a petition with the signatures of 17,054 believers, requesting freedom of conscience as guaranteed by the constitution was sent to Soviet leader Brezhnev by way of U.N. Secretary General Waldheim.

Subsequent protests included the May 1972 self-immolation of Romas Kalanta, a Young Communist League member, desiring to bring to the attention of world public opinion, the injustices being perpetrated in Lithuania.

March 1972, according to the author, also marked the appearance of the "main spokesman for the Lithuanian civil rights movement", the clandestine *Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania*. It was a response to the inadequate results of the petition drives, an effort to publicize the continued persecution of believers and to warn the Vatican that its policy was being viewed as a sellout of Lithuanian Catholics.

According to Prof. Vardys, the *Chronicle* in the thirty six issues which have since reached the West, adopted the calm expository style of the *Russian Chronicle of Current Events*. The Lithuanian *Chronicle* factually reports on violations of international law and the Soviet Constitution with regard to the discrimination and harassment of believers. It also reports on the trials of those arrested for the publication and distribution of the *Chronicle* and other clandestine Lithuanian publications and spouses such causes as support for the Lithuanian Group to Promote Observance of the Helsinki Accords.

According to prof. Vardys, in pursuit of these goals, the *Chronicle*, "while reporting violations, arrests or difficulties the believers experienced, further extended its coverage to include strikes, social problems, and... efforts at maintaining Lithuanian Culture free of ideological Communist demands and restraints. The *Chronicle*... became the 'uncensored voice' of Lithuania."

Professor Vardys' study will be of interest to historians, political scientists and anyone interested in questions of church and state relations in the Soviet Union. It is the first comprehensive work on Soviet methodology in dealing with the Catholic Church in Lithuania, detailing the regime's determination to use both secret instructions and statutes to subjugate the Church. It will also be of interest to anyone seeking further information on the efforts of the Lithuanian nation to maintain its national heritage.

K. Č.

