



THIS DAY and AGE



A Year of Terrorism and Destruction

June 15th is a day of sorrow and reselution for the Lithuanian nation. On that day of last year, the Red Army of Soviet Russia invaded and occupied the Republic of Lithuania. Since that day Lithuania hasn't had a tranquil moment. She has been and still is being tortured by the painful knife of Stalin: the country is a victim of rapidly progressing vivisection. Finance, banking and communication systems have been entirely taken over by Moscow. The strong Lithuanian litas (monetary unit) has been replaced by the decrepit Russian ruble. Lithuanian banks, state and private, have been abolished and in their stead, branches or agencies of the Moscow bank have been established. Railroads have been revamped, changed from the standard European gauge to the Russ-Atlantic gauge. Locomotives, engines, rolling stock, equipment, modern transportation vehicles, and innumerable items of great value have been removed to Russia. As a very poor substitute for the wealth of the country accumulated during the 22 years of her independence, Lithuania now has dubious "wealth" in the form of the Red Army, to the number of 700,000 as well as thousands of OPU agents. Obviously, they curtail all Lithuanian activities. For the slightest attempt at Lithuanian activity, thousands of people are jammed into prisons, and brutally tortured.

The prisons of Lithuania do not suffice for the number of Lithuanians arrested. All prisons are full to overflowing. More than 10,000 Lithuanians have been exiled into the depths of Russia, to Siberia and elsewhere. Among the exiles are former Premier Merkys, his assistant Bizauskas (former Lithuanian Minister to the United States), Minister of Foreign Affairs Urbsys and many of the most prominent persons of Lithuania.

All property belonging to Lithuanians is confiscated and turned over to the Soviet Union. Much of this wealth and property originated in America and was transmitted to Lithuania by various means. Fairly well-to-do people were not only deprived of their rightful property, but were evicted into the street, and were denied all opportunity to obtain employment. If, by

chance, anyone is lucky enough to obtain employment, he finds that the remuneration is not sufficient to provide him with the very barest necessities of life; in fact, he can scarcely afford to buy a pound of bread per day. Working at the most strenuous labor, such as chopping timber or hauling stones, a man earns a ruble, at most two rubles per day. On the other hand, bread costs one and half rubles per pound, sugar is 10 rubles and butter 15 rubles per pound.

Farmers have lost the right of ownership to their own lands. They are overburdened with double taxation, as well as levies. A farmer who is unable to make the required payments or who fails to deliver the levied contributions to Stalin, finds himself evicted from his own farm, is branded with the title of saboteur, and is either left to die of starvation, or is sent to Siberia to his doom at the hands of the merciless communists.

Seventy-five percent of the Lithuanian industries and commercial enterprises taken by the communists have been completely destroyed or left in a state of utter chaos. Throughout the country stores are depleted of ordinary stocks, and lack of food is being felt very strongly; the consequential result will be disease and famine.

In spite of persecution and torture, Lithuanians refuse to submit to the Russian occupants; opposition is felt in all spheres. Although the press and all organizations (including scouts and children's clubs) have been closed down, still the people find means to meet secretly, to exchange news and ideas, and to preserve their patriotic zeal. The Russians know this, and therefore punish the people still more brutally. Because of torture and terrorism, countless people have been sent to their graves, and many have lost their reason and sanity. But this cruelty makes the fires of Lithuanian patriotism burn even brighter, instead of minimizing the patriotic fervor as the occupant would desire. Lithuanians are courageously determined to fight for their freedom and independence, and to continue fighting until victory and freedom are theirs.

Around Town

The famed Prokop boys, Eddie and Joe, grid stars at Baylor Prep and Notre Dame respectively, have returned home for their summer vacations. Eddie will spend the summer picking out a college from his many offers, while Joe will toughen himself up for Notre Dame crucial first year under coach Frank Leahy. Joe is slated for a first string job.

Anthony Svetkuskas, will become a member Cleveland Council K of C on Sunday June 22.

CULTURAL GARDEN TO HOLD ANNUAL PICNIC ON JULY 6th

The Lithuanian Cultural Garden League will hold its annual picnic July 6th at one of the nicest picnic grounds of this city, the Lake Shore Picnic Grounds at E. 185th and Lake Shore Blvd.

This site is very accessible by street car or automobile. Accommodations include a big bathing beach, plenty of shelter if it rains and a big dance floor for the hep-cats.

The Garden is one of the show places of America for Lithuanians. The upkeep of this Garden runs into many dollars yearly. This is your way to help to keep our Garden beautiful. Come to the picnic on July 6th.

NEWS OF DRAFTEES WELCOME

News of Lithuanian boys in army camps, those included for service in the army or any branch of the service, the activities and whereabouts of draftees will be gladly published on this page without any obligation.

Send your news to the Lithuanian News, 6802 Superior Ave.

Their activities are of interest to all of us, so let's hear what their doing.

Ant. Durasevičia
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Joje yra nevien Mišių maldos už mirusius, bet ir bendros taisyklės laidotuvių, mėnesinių bei metinių sukaktuvių metu. Yra maldos išlydinti numirėlių iš namų, prie Katafalio, maldos lydinti iš bažnyčios į kapus ir kitos. Knygutė kainuoja tik 20c. Norintieji užsisakyti šią knygutę, kreipkitės į "Darbininko" administraciją, 366 W. Broadway, So. Boston, Mass. Su užsakymu prašome prisiųsti įdėjusį ir konvertą ir 20c.

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