

VILNIS

American Lithuanian Weekly

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1944

CHICAGO LITHUANIAN VICTORY CONFERENCE URGES SUPPORT OF FOURTH WAR LOAN DRIVE

**CALLS UPON ALL PATRIOTIC LITHUANIANS TO
BUY WAR BONDS TO BACK THE ATTACK**

Announcing a grand concert to be given this coming Sunday, January 23rd at the Lithuanian Auditorium, 3133 So. Halsted St., arranged especially for the occasion when a Station Wagon will be presented to the American Red Cross from the Chicago Lithuanian Victory Conference, the Chicago Lithuanians are urged to support the Fourth War Loan Drive.

Pointing out that the drive started January 18th, the Conference Committee adds the following statement:

"Our president urges us to help our government by buying War Bonds. In buying War Bonds, we not only carry out our patriotic duty, help our boys on the war front, add to the hastening of victory, help our government in this critical period; we also save our money for the future, help in preventing inflation and will get the benefit of the interest our government pays on the loan.

"Many of us have already bought bonds, but we must buy more. The war is not yet won and the cost is daily increasing. Our government can depend only upon its people; it has no other source of getting the necessary finances to pay the war costs.

"This is our war. We must do everything to win it. Our young men and women are

sacrificing their health, their very lives; shedding their blood to conquer the enemy. We on the home front must do our utmost to help them. The more we do here, the lighter will be their task.

"The Chicago Lithuanian Victory Conference calls upon everyone to work for the Fourth War Loan Drive, to help our government by buying War Bonds. A sale of War Bonds will be one of the features of the concert given this Sunday at the Lithuanian Auditorium, the main feature being the donation of the Station Wagon to the American Red Cross."

Solos, duets and chorus songs will make up the program which will start at 4 P.M. Official speakers from the Treasury Department and from the Red Cross are also scheduled. A good turn out is expected.

Lure Greek Girls With Offer of Meals

BERNE (ONA).—German soldiers in Greece, a Swiss publication reports, have created a condition of juvenile prostitution.

Nine to 14-year-old Greek girls have been steered into vice by occupation troops taking advantage of the food scarcity and the breakdown of Greek home life.

Special German agents, the Geneva Bulletin Abolitionists reports, use the offer of a food meal as a lure to the girls upon whom they prey. Hundreds of cases of juveniles diseased through prostitution have been recorded in Athens hospitals. The Archbishop of Athens attempted unsuccessfully to organize homes for the victims.

Many factors have facilitated the delinquency. Public schools are closed; many fathers have been shot, imprisoned or de-

Whom Is The Polish Legation in Mexico Working For?

MEXICO CITY (ONA).—Polish minister Wladyslaw Neumann, it is learned, has warned a Polish operatic singer that it would be "high treason" to take part in a concert sponsored by the Aid to Russia Committee.

The Pole, Daniel Duno, who is with the Mexican Opera and understood to have sung with the Metropolitan in New York, was threatened with loss of his passport if he participated.

A Polish woman who managed a stall at a bazaar held by the Aid to Russia Committee was refused renewal of her passport by the Polish Legation and called a "traitor." The Aid to Russia Committee is non-political.

ported, and others are working long hours; numerous families are uprooted.



POLLYWOG'S LOT—Marines were too busy to "hold court" when they crossed equator, so they waited to conduct ceremonies turning "pollywog" into "shellback" until they arrived at South Pacific beach. Here's what happened to neophyte Cpl. Robert W. Plantholt of Reading, Pa. That's motor grease they're using on his face.

G. S. Marine Corps Photo

AMERICAN PRESENTS FOR YOUNG LITHUANIAN TRADE SCHOOL PUPILS

MOSCOW VIA PRESS WIRE-LESS.—During our patriotic war, the Soviet government, displaying fatherly care for Lithuanian children, evacuated to the Soviet rear a number of youths and girls ranging in age from fourteen to eighteen who expressed a desire to become highly qualified workers.

Now studying in a Kuibyshev trade school, many of them have already revealed their ability. For instance, this is what the director of a plant where they were getting their practical training said of five Lithuanian girls:

"Girls work well; they are conscientious and serious."

On December 15, 1943, the office of the representatives of the Central Committee of Lithuanian SSR at Kuibyshev was full of children's joyous excitement. Lithuanian trade school pupils gathered there to receive presents sent by their overseas friends. First to get a gift was Jonas Gaureckas of Sauliu District, monitor of the group.

In Lithuania under Smetona, Jonas' father worked in the peat fields; under Soviet rule, he was a member of the Siauliu Soviet. At present, Gaureckas sr. is in the ranks of the Lithuanian unit of the Red Army.

On receiving the present from the representative, Jonas said:

"Father was awarded the Order, and I shall try to be worthy of him."

Others to receive presents were Svilnonis, Ziugaila, Stasiunis, Milkiute, Sneideris, Selenis, Garunaitė, Ostrauskas and many others. They received suits,

dresses, sweaters, towels, stockings, soap, scarfs etc.

In distributing the presents, the adults took pains to consider the special inclinations of the pupils. Thus the editor of the wall newspaper Valinauskas received a fountain pen and the young artist Siniakovas got some paints. The children wrote many letters of gratitude to their friends in America. They all promised to study and work even better, as their work in the rear helps the front.

Signed: Gribauskas.

Approximately 51,000 messages are exchanged monthly between persons in this country and their friends and relatives in enemy and enemy-occupied countries through Red Cross Communication Service.



TENTH—Here is Pvt. Helen Van Coutren of Parkchester, N. Y., tenth of 12 children in family to enter U. S. arm'd services. She has six brothers in Navy, one in Army and two sisters in WACS. Helen is in training at State Teachers College, Conway, Ark.

PROBLEMS AT HOME AND ABROAD

By LAUKUVISKIS

They Showed Their Real Faces

No matter how some people try to mask themselves as being champions of democracy, just let some unexpected event shake them a little and the mask falls off their faces as a spider web in a strong wind.

I still can't figure out the line of thought of some of our "anti-Fascist" and "anti-Smetona" elements. No sooner did Smetona leave this sinful World and all those "anti-Fascist" elements almost fell over each other singing praises over the remains of a second rate Fascist dictator.

One wouldn't want to speak of such a democrat as the Chicago Municipal Judge John Zuris as being anti-Democratic. But just the same His Honor shed a flood of tears at the bier of the dictator.

Another "democrat," our neighbor Mr. Grigaitis, at the demise of Antanas Smetona had this to say (I am not quoting verbatim): No matter what his (Smetona's) political beliefs, no one can accuse him of lacking love for his country.

Oh ye! Smetona loved his country so much, that he wanted all of it for himself. He also loved his family, as for instance, his brother-in-law the late Mr. Tubelis whom he made his "Prime Minister." He loved Mussolini and his son-in-law Count Galeazzo Ciano. And he didn't despise Herr Schicklegrubber, either.

When Smetona realised that his beloved country is slipping away from his Fascist grasp, where did he go? To his colleague—the Beast of Berlin!

It May Have Been a Coincidence

About the same time that all the "democratic" Lithuanians were shedding tears and mourning their "leader's" death, another, much bigger Fascist fish left this troubled world for good. I have in mind the untimely death from a firing squad of Count Ciano. I wonder if the 2 have already met on the other side of the Pearly Gates? If so, there is going to be some trouble there. Mr. Peter would be wise if he kept a close watch over those two Fascist plotters.

Of the two recently dead Fascist leaders, from a democratic point of view, Ciano was a better bet. Sure he plotted and sinned against democracy in his hayday, but it was Ciano who voted in the high Fascist Council to oust his father-in-law Benito Mussolini. How much was accomplished by that for the United Nations, at present

can not be appraised. But in connection with this let me end this with a couple of questions:

Why is it that not one Italian in the United States is mourning the passing of Ciano?

Second: Since Ciano was shot by his former friends and co-plotters against the United Nations, what chance would Smetona have had if Gauleiter Kubiliunas should have happened to lay his paws on him or his Dynasty?

No, there is no honor among thieves.

What Became of That Popular Tune?

For years some American-Lithuanians sang a very popular tune: "Mes be Vilniaus nenurimsim." All at once it disappeared like many other popular tunes. Why?

You see, the Poles are singing it now. And our "patriotic" Lithuanians, being good neighbors, do not want to irritate just as "patriotic" bracy Polacy.

In fact the same people that sang the tune loudest before, now are just as loudly singing: Give Vilnius back to Proszje Pany and shut-up!

You see, while to a small Lithuanian nation Vilnius is a big thing, to a powerfull-to-be Poland it is only a very small fish. They plan to rule not only Vilna Territory, but much bigger territory in White Russia and Ukrainia. In fact—Od Morze do Morze.

And so you see the reason why that popular Lithuanian tune died an un-natural death. Our Frank Sinatras and Kate Smiths decided to ditch it when it became clear that they will never be invited to rule Lithuania. In that case—to Hell with Vilnius! If we can't rule it, let the Poles have it and welcome!

In this they are also wrong, as in so many other instances. I am willing to bet that the ambitious Poles now in London will not govern Vilnius. In fact it looks very likely that they will have to be satisfied to govern only that little strip of land near London which His Majestys Government so graciously donated to them and which in the Diplomatic Circles is now known as "Poland."

So when our super-patriots are not singing that song any more in favor of Proszje Pany, let us tune-up our tonsils and show what the old song sounds like. All together now:

"Mes be Vilniaus nenurimsim!"

Four brothers in Orange, Texas, put every cent of their earnings into war bonds. They live on income from their two outdoor skating rinks.



"IT'S A RAFFLE, THE WINNER GETS A SEAT ON THE BUS IN THE MORNING!"

Establish National Council of Democratic Lithuanians To Aid United States War Effort and Prepare for Post-War Relief for Lith

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Webster Hall in downtown New York was jammed on December 19 for the dramatic, closing session of the National Convention of Democratic Lithuanians. On the day before, 350 delegates from Lithuanian clubs, choruses, associations and fraternal branches, met in the crowded Lithuanian Citizens Club in Brooklyn and discussed methods of fulfilling the 3-point program of discussion:

- 1—How Lith-Americans Can Aid the War Effort
- 2—Helping the Liberation of Occupied Lithuania
- 3—Preparing for post-war relief.

Chairman for the Saturday and Sunday sessions was Keistutis Michelson, New York attorney who is also a member of the L.D.S. National Youth Committee.

Among the prominent speakers at the Webster Hall session was Gregory Meikins, author of "The Baltic Riddle," a book published by L. B. Fischer dealing with the backgrounds of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, and their attitudes towards the Nazis and their own traitors.

Other speakers included Mrs. Saveria Karosiene, a leading Lithuanian CIO organizer in San Francisco; Vincent Andrusis, editor of the Chicago daily "Vilnis"; Dr. Johanna Baltrusaitis of Pittsburgh, oldest Lithuanian woman physician in the United States; and Roy Mizara, editor of the Brooklyn daily "Laisve."

Of special interest was a telegram to the Convention from Lithuanian guerrilla fighters behind the German lines. The telegram was smuggled through the front, and then cabled here.

"All true sons of the Lithuanian people are fighting the Nazi occupationists," the cable read, and the audience burst into spontaneous applause.

One of the resolutions pledged "wholehearted" support for a fourth term for Roosevelt if he again becomes a candidate, and endorsed his foreign and domestic policies. The convention called on Lithuanians not only in the United States but in Canada and throughout Latin America to back up the United Nations in their war against fascism.

An important outcome of the convention was the setting up of a permanent National Council of Democratic Lithuanians of 50 members with headquarters at 427 Lorimer St., Brooklyn, which will proceed to carry out the will of the more than 1,000,000 Americans of Lithuanian extraction as expressed in the deliberations of this two-day national convention.

When a family has been unsuccessful in communicating with a prisoner of war in the European theatre, Red Cross Home Service will send a cable through International Red Cross in Geneva asking for a cable welfare report.

Sorority Notes

Our latest servicemen's fund raising event, the raffling of the applique quilt made by Cel Riva was quite a success. We haven't done anything with the money yet but we will in the near future.

We sure had a gay time and then some on our Jan. 14th outing. There were about twenty of us and we all looked good enough to eat but as we don't strain toward cannibalism the popular choice on the menu was lobster. Incidentally we dined at Irelands Sea Food Restaurant (the Kwain-Peters hangout). Martha Rogers took a couple bites of lobster and started pinning away for a steak. Stella Bodokis is a lobster fan tho—she wielded the nutcracker like an expert. What nutcracker? The one to crack the lobster with. Get it? Got it!! Mighty nice corsages Stell, Ann Savuwas and Monica Cook were sporting. Jo Tanis looked keen in a new long hairdo but we love our Aldona Pavelonis with her hair way up. Anyway we gabbed and ate, ate and gabbed (wonder which beat which) and finally got our bill settled. Helen Kwain piled some of the girls in her car and the rest of us piled into cabs. Wouldn't it be funny if the cab driver knew what Mary Shimkus was saying in Lithuanian? Can you beat it—Ann Peters would rather sit on my lap instead of sitting next to the cab driver. Last one out pays the cab fare—so Aldona paid and into the Selwyn Theatre we went. The play we saw, Tomorrow The World, was very good. After the play Fran Yurgil let out one of her shrill whistles which let us know where the gang was—(Mildred Zalis, Fran Stein, Aldona and I sat separated from them and got properly full on candy and cola). Upon Fran- nie Stein's suggestion we then trekked down to the Colony Club and as I said before we had one gay time and then some!!

For such a harmonious group of girls we really root against each other on bowling night. You should have seen Cel Riva trying her hand at smoking a cigar—didn't affect her champ bowling though.

Our coming initiation party ought to be a humdinger considering we have eight new rushees. Ann Peters and Gertie Slench haven't been initiated yet either. Oh what's gonna happen to them!!

In case you all haven't heard, Bernice Karos' blessed event was a boy! It's good to see Al- ine Bernot at the meetings again. I've noticed Nancy Gordon always manages to attend part of our meetings.

Good Girl!!—Bea Guyer is doing her part by working nights in a defense plant—Tell me Phyliss, did you design those Xmas cards yourself, very neat!! Let's hear from you Jesse and Vollie!

Girls—to attend the meetings as promptly as possible is important as our agenda is getting mighty long. Above all, keep writing to the boys. I quote a line from one of Leon Zelvis's letters, "An ounce of endeavor is rewarded with a pound of appreciation." Un- quote. . . .

Welcome home Anthony Gu- zauskas! Al Klaud and John Razmus have been home on furlough. Loads of luck to Curly Urban, Tony Urbikas and all the boys who are leaving shortly. John Burnetsky is with the Navy at Farragut, Idaho.

Let's not forget to turn in the addresses of the Chicago L.D.S. boys in the service to:

LAMBDA DELTA SIGMA
c-o Louise Burnetsky
3708 W. Lexington St.
Chicago, 24, Ill.
Kedzie 9124

SISTER LOU

Young Lith Receives Purple Heart Award in Africa

I am sure the readers of our paper will read this story with interest just as I did, even tho many of them do not know the lad I am writing about.

In one of our local papers (Kenosha, Wis.) I chanced to see a face I thought I was familiar with. And so it was. It was a picture of Harry Stephens, former Kenosha Evening News southeastern Wisconsin Golden Gloves middleweight boxing champion, who was awarded a Purple Heart on Christmas Eve in an African naval base.

Stephens was a football player here in Kenosha. He was wounded when his ship, while returning to Africa after 35 days in Italy was torpedoed, but he has recovered and remains on active duty.

Stephens enlisted in the spring of 1942 and went overseas immediately after completing his recruit training at Great Lakes.

The southpaw boxer was widely known throughtout Wisconsin having appeared in several Kenosha News meets at the Eagles Club, and at Racine, Milwaukee, Waukesha and Appleton.

Stephens won the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) championship in 1942 when he



"I USED TO WORK HERE"—Amos Alonzo Stagg, 81, in Chicago to receive his award as football coach of the year, attempts to visit Stagg Field, at Chicago University, named in his honor. But Navy guard demands to see his credentials first.

Sports Review

Thursday, January 13, Carl Schurz played Roosevelt High in quiet an exciting game, although Schurz was ahead from the beginning in the Senior game eliminating any doubt as to who was going to win. The Junior game was different in the effect that many times the teams tied. Eight minutes before the game Schurz was ahead by four, then the teams were tied and four minutes before the finish Schurz was ahead by 4 points again. Leon Errol who is a Junior but plays with the seniors was ill but played nevertheless and scored 8 baskets out of 20 which is wonderful considering he was ill. He and Jerry Hutchinson are quiet a team and together made most of Schurz's points. Juniors 36-32 Schurz the winner—Seniors 4137, Schurz winning again.

Carl Schurz, by the way, will be loosing Jerry Hutchinson, Dick Schroeder, Dick Hanson,

moved to Chicago with his parents who now reside there. He was also a semi-finalist on the Chicago Golden Gloves team.

Harry's mother, Catherine, 39, is in the army Sixth service command garage with a reputation for being one of the best drivers of half-ton trucks, passenger cars, jeeps and ambulances.

A. Reader.

—Seniors and Elmer Beik, Glenn Studbenrauch, Bob Thornton, Art Ziomek, Juniors. Although Schurz has a team coming up, this will leave a space of great importance open on both teams.

This week also saw the meeting of the teams for the Ice Skating Championship. Lane won the meet although many teams such as Taft, Austin, and Senn broke many records. Lane, although winning, had many upsets, one in which John Klemnndt of Schurz, last year's 880-yard champion defeated Champ John Hoenig of Crane Tech, which made Crane opponent for the title.

THE SCORE:

	Seniors	Juniors
Senn	13	Roosevelt 3
Tilden Tech	11	Crane Tech 3
Austin	10	Schurz 1
Crane Tech	8	Lane Tech 14
Schurz	5	Taft 13
Lane Tech	4	Senn 11
Lindblom	1	Lindblom 4
Taft	1	Amundsen 3
		Sullivan 1
		Betty.

Bombers crews on lengthy flights get a special combat lunch which can be eaten hot or cold and consists of pre-cooked rice, lemon powder for lemonade, bouillon cubes, dehydrated beef, biscuits, fruit bars, dried apricots, non-melting canned butter, hard candy, chewing gum, soluble coffee, sugar and salt.

THE UNITED STATES PROPOSED THE CURZON LINE

Taking Slices of The Ukraïn and Belorussia Was Considered an Aggression

By CARL HARTMAN

WASHINGTON (ONA).—This country not only played a large part in drawing the Curzon Line, now proposed as the Polish-Soviet boundary, but called Poland sternly to task when the Poles went beyond that line in 1920, a search in State Department archives disclosed today.

American newspapers of that period proudly referred to the line as THE CURZON-POLK LINE, in recognition of the late Undersecretary of State Frank Lyon Polk. It was Polk who represented the United States on the Supreme Allied Council as Deputy for President Wilson when the line was approved on December 8, 1919.

Minutes of the meeting show that Polk not only approved the settlement for the United States, but participated actively in the discussions on instructions from here and helped prepare the declaration finally agreed on. Polk did not consider the line a final settlement. He insisted that he had no power to sign a formal protocol, and as a result the decision was embodied in a "declaration" signed only by the French President of the Council, Georges Clemenceau.

Polk strongly approved the line. The only effect of his insistence on the declaration form was to leave the boundary more widely open to later negotiation. In its earliest form the Curzon Line was intended only as a temporary boundary, for use until the Poles and Russians both could be heard on the matter.

It was not until six months later, in July, 1920, that the Marquess of Curzon, Britain's Foreign Minister, proposed it as a permanent boundary. This proposal was rejected, and the Poles went on to drive the Russians far east of the line, arousing considerable indignation in this country, as well as in Britain and France.

On August 21, 1920, Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby sent a note to Polish Premier Wincenty Witos, saying:

"The United States . . . could not approve the adoption of an offensive war program against Russia by the Polish Government . . . To prevent a recurrence of the present situation (in which the Poles were on what was recognized as Russian territory) the United States Government believes that the Polish Government might well take the opportunity afforded by the favorable turn of events to declare its intention to abstain from any aggressions against Russian integrity and to state that . . . pending a direct agreement as to its Eastern Frontier, Poland will remain

within the Boundary fixed by the Peace Conference."

Ten days later Acting Secretary of State Norman H. Davis, now President of the American Red Cross, had our representative at Paris tell the Council of Ambassadors:

"In 1919 and in the first months of 1920, the Department remembers, military necessity was alleged by Poland as its reason for continuing the advance into Russia, the Poles going from one alleged strategic boundary to another . . . it is of especial importance that a veiled excuse for further invasion of Russian territory be not found in a strategic consideration . . ."

Nevertheless, the Poles went ahead, occupied Minsk, and on October 12 dictated the treaty of Riga to the Soviets. The boundaries fixed in that treaty remained in force until 1939, but they aroused great indignation when they were imposed, and there was considerable doubt whether they would be recognized.

The State Department's opinion was reported in the New York Times of October 17, 1920, under the headline, "See Only Menace in Riga Peace Terms." The report in the Times said: "It can be stated here with emphasis and authority that the United States Government will not sanction or recognize as valid the Riga Compact, or any other agreement . . . to alienate Russian territory."

Although the line was approved by the League of Nations in 1923, it was never formally recognized in this country. There was no need to take official note of boundaries, and we have considered that area Poland for purposes such as immigration.

Disaster Help Since 1920

Since 1920 the American Red Cross has expended more than \$100,000,000 in ministering to the sufferings of disaster victims in the United States. An additional total of \$25,822,052 has gone to sufferers in insular possessions and in foreign lands.



NEEDS HELP TO READ IT—Pvt. Richard-L. Hershey, foreground, starts to read 65-foot letter sent to him at Camp Carson, Colo., by former fellow-workers at a Dayton, Ohio, rubber plant. Man on ladder and others read last part first. Letter goes to roof.

U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo

Course on Poland Offered by Abraham Lincoln School

Conrad Komorowski, vice-president of the American-Polish Trades Council, and trade union and extension director at the Abraham Lincoln School, 30 West Washington Street, was announced by that institution as an instructor in the winter term, opening January 10.

Mr Komorowski, one-time news editor, teacher, traveler, and trade unionist, will teach the course on "Poland in the War and Postwar Period." The course will deal with all the major problems facing the Poland of today and tomorrow; Poland's relations with the U. S. S. R., Lithuania, Czechoslovakia, Germany; the character and extent of Poland's underground; the record of the Polish government-in-exile; economic and social problems of postwar Poland. A special lecture will picture Poland's contribution to American and world progress.

PEOPLE'S UNIVERSITY

Other courses being offered by the school, a developing "people's university," which has attracted approximately 4,000 men and women to its classes in the short space of ten months since it opened last March, include: The People's War; Structure of Fascism; Propaganda Analysis; Spanish, Basic English, Russian, French, Economics, Philosophy, History, Psychology; Art, Music, Writing for Short Story. Newspaper

and Radio, Public Speaking; Labor Problems; History and Culture of Racial and National Groups; Refresher Courses.

A notable feature of the School's education for victory program is free nursery service to mothers who enroll as regular students in the new series of day courses. Housewives and swingshift war workers will have their first opportunity to train for leadership in a combined program which will provide study for them, and care for their children.

Tuition is \$4.00 for six weekly sessions, each an hour and a half in length, for Mr. Komorowski's course on Poland. All other classes are \$6.00 for twelve weekly sessions. Registration will continue until January 24.

When a message announcing that a serviceman is wounded, killed, missing or a prisoner of war is returned to the War Department because the next of kin has moved and left no forwarding address, Red Cross Home Service attempts to locate the person named.

Every county in the United States has Red Cross Home Service coverage. Seventy-seven percent of Red Cross chapter headquarters in the United States are located in communities having a population under ten thousand.

The Vilnis English Section

(Edited By Editorial Board)
3116 S. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill.
Phone Victory 7325

Lest We Forget

Lt. Cmdr. Henry P. Hopkins, who spent five months on Guadalcanal, revealed that due to the use of blood plasma, the death rate from wounds was only three tenths of one percent in a year's fighting in the Pacific.

The low mortality rate, he said, was attributable to the use of plasma, morphine and the evacuation of wounded by air. This revelation was made at the dinner meeting in the Hotel Sherman of 130 representatives of 22 Red Cross blood donor stations of the Midwest and Pacific areas, with Dr. G. Canby Robinson of Washington, D. C. director of Red Cross donor service presiding.

From the mud and cold of Italy and the tropical jungles of the South Pacific Islands comes the call for more and more blood plasma to save the lives of American fighting men. Does your organization have a point on the agenda which deals with such questions? If not it is your personal duty to see that it does and to organize a group from the organization to give that necessary pint of blood to the Red Cross and assure the Red Cross that within ten weeks the group will be back.

On What To Write

The editor of the V. E. S. has approached several of our young readers with the question: how about writing something for the V.E.S.? The V.E.S., while appraising the contributions made by adults, desires to see more writers developed among the Lithuanian youth. We are positive that with world events moving at the present speed, there are many questions that prop up in the minds of our youth as well as all youth of the country. Why not divulge some of those questions in the pages of the V.E.S. for general discussion?

The answer of the youth we approach usually is—"What shall I write?" An article appearing in this issue by Nellie De Shaaf is one answer. Surely this problem of rehabilitation should concern the younger generation, for it will directly affect many a soldier's sweetheart or wife or sister. What do you think of the President's proposals on solving this question? Put it down on paper and send it to the V.E.S. A reader sends in a story about a Lithuanian who was awarded the Purple Heart in Africa. Perchance you know someone personally who has been awarded for bravery or who has told you some interesting fact from army life. Write a short story and send it in.

A first hand story from a war worker is always welcome. Do you have a girl friend doing something we have been accustomed to think a woman cannot do? Tell us about it through the pages of the V. E. S.

And for your first subject, you might tell us what you would like to see in the V.E.S., thereby adding to the above suggestions.

And why not start a campaign through the V.E.S. for a real representation of the Lithuanian youth to the Vilnis shareholders meeting where the writers from the different cities can come, get acquainted and discuss the V.E.S.

Yes, Our Girls Too



Sgt. ISABEL BALTRUSAITIS
Of New Comerstown, Ohio

Sgt. Isabel Baltrusaitis enlisted in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve on June 2, 1943. Trained at Camp Lejeune, New River, North Carolina. At present she is stationed at the Recruiting Office in Eugene, Oregon, having been transferred from San Francisco, Calif. Her Post Office address is: 208 New U. S. Court House, S. W. Broadway & Main st., Portland, 5, Oregon.



HELEN MASHENKO
Of Bellwood, Ill.—A WAC.

Working in a war plant, the Buick factory was too far from the fighting front to satisfy this Lithuanian girl. She wanted to be in the thick of things. So she joined the WACs.

In her home town, Bellwood, Ill., Helen was known as an energetic student and graduated from Proviso High School with high honors. Her mother and stepfather, (father is dead) Mr. & Mrs. Ruscinkas being readers of our press, imbued her with a hatred for the Fascists and everything hostile to Democracy and our way of life, and she decided that the best way she could serve our country was by joining the WACs. And so she did.

As We See It

Almost an insignificant news item, labeled as a rumor even in the Moscow newspaper Pravda, received so much comment and created so much excitement throughout the world. Even the British government displayed its indignation and the British press used a language of great violence in reacting to the "Rumors from Cairo".

Why is it that in London the Polish papers print volumes of attacks and lies about the Soviet Union and nobody gets excited, and only a few people worry that it injures the unity of the United Nations?

Not only the Polish papers do it. Some English and some American papers are doing it too.

Why this exclusive attitude to the rumor in the Soviet newspaper?

It seems to me, there are several reasons, to wit:

1) An old attitude toward the USSR that it is alright to throw mud at her. She can take it anyhow. She is JUST Soviet Russia. It is alright for her to do 90 per cent of the dying in this war of Democracy against Fascism, but she must be careful what she says and how she says anything. She must not have any doubts. She must believe what she is told.

2) The USSR's part in this war is so great and, victory depends so much on her that every move she makes is watched with great anxiety not only by the millions of ordinary folks, but also by governments of the United Nations. And when the Soviet press says something that appears to be wrong, many people get worried. While many people recognize her right to her opinion, they are afraid when she expresses it frankly.

There was so much and such bitter propaganda against the Soviet Union for over 20 years, that even now, after she has done so much in this war, many people doubt her intentions.

And there is fear that she may become too powerful. As Mr. Irving Pflaum, foreign editor of the Chicago Daily Times, writes:

"There are those who believe the year 1944 will herald the beginning of the 'Soviet Century'. Moscow, they say, is becoming the most important capital in the world. For it is to Stalin and his army that a bewildered, weary and cynical world will look for leadership. And there, in Moscow, it will be found."

Hitler's defeat frightens not only Fascists but also all reactionaries. Mr. Karl H. von Wiegand, dean of Mr. Hearst's correspondents, expresses that fear for them (January 16):

"Soviet Russia is looming high on the world horizon, the mightiest nation in political, social, economic and military potentialities since the days of Alexander the Great, the Roman Empire under Julius Caesar and Augustus Caesar, and since the golden age of England under Queen Elizabeth and Queen Victoria."

And there are those who fear that the mighty USSR may recall what they did to her before and might want to settle its score with them.

No wonder then, that a few lines of "Rumors from Cairo" has caused so much excitement.

LITUANUS.

ROSELAND AIDO CHORUS NEWS

Hélo again, folks. Here's hoping you all had a very pleasant week and are all rarin' to go during the week-end. Remember, members of the Aido Chorus, we're singing at the Lithuanian Auditorium this coming Sunday, January 23rd. It's an affair for the Red Cross and I'm sure you won't want to miss it.

Well, Friday rehearsal was really wonderful. It certainly felt good to see all the members there. You know, if all the choruses had such loyal and faithful members as the Roseland Aido Chorus has, we'd be up against some pretty stiff competition. But right now we're doing right well for ourselves, even if I do say so myself.

You know, at first, some of us of the younger generation felt it was too boring and tedious a job to go to sing with a chorus every single week. But, lately I think most of us have changed our minds. Am I right? Why certainly! If the older generation can find time to come once a week, we certainly can too. And we'll show them we have just as much enthusiasm and singing spirit. We sure can't let them beat us.

Ambrose, what in heaven's name were you doing Friday? You made more noise than a bunch of gossipy old women and it takes quite a bit of noise to beat that. Good to see Josie S. back with us again after such a long time. Wally, where was your better . . . that is, I mean where was Pauly? Say, those Sopranos sure can sing. Wish they would give out more loudly and more often. But such pretty girls can't help but have beautiful voices. Right? Why of course. But they also have some competition from the Altos. And congratulations are in order to the Altos on their very good singing Friday. I think the Sopranos will have to stop flirting with those basses because they always seem to miss their cue and teacher gets pretty peeved. Oh, I know they're handsome but give them a chance to show their singing talents. Please.

Now don't forget we're singing at the Lithuanian Auditorium this coming Sunday and February 6th we're singing at Sokol Hall for the Vilnis Concert. So be seeing you tonight at 7:30. Until then I remain,

Faithfully,

Your Correspondent,
MAISIE

Motor City News

Gosh! What a week end! Saturday nite: Sorority sisters had their monthly meeting. Quite a meeting, this one, but aren't they all? Come on girls find out for yourself. Lately friend hubby has been invited to come along and entertain himself in his own way while the girls hang up a "scram" sign and hold their meeting. Boys! —if you pull any more of those POWER WATCHES — well a word to the wise, you know. Say Ann, where did you get the points for that delicious meat loaf? Thanks for being a charming hostess, Ann Tvaska.

Sunday: Had quite a time dragging myself out of bed this morning—when I finally woke up in full I was at Chorus rehearsal—Wow! Who wouldn't wake up with a sparkler like the one Anne Graham was flashing around. That's sure some diamond on Anne's third left hand. Who's the lucky fellow? Why Charles Krebel, one of our many faithful Windsor members.

Rehearsals these days are devoted mostly to our new production "Cigonu Romansai". Ruth Gugas and Tony Rimsas (Windsor lad) taking the parts of heroine and hero, Anne Graham the fortune teller and of course the chorus with loads of songs. Put a circle around Feb-

ruary 6, 1944 for "Cigonu Romansai" at Lithuanian Hall, 25th and Vernor Highway.

TID BITS OF SUNDAY NITE

Josephine Urban, whose husband is in the Navy, and that Superman son of hers were at the *Citizens Club Concert* — they're either too young or too old, as far as the general run of girls goes, but that's the way of war. Darn the Axis anyhow. Johnnie (six foot) Geralt, entertaining a gorgeous blond and a charming brunette. What a man? Say Johnnie, are they altos or sopos? They'd make good chorus members you know.

We'll (sigh) at last I finally found out who the much talked of "Connie" is. Not bad at all huh? Canadian boys still have a monopoly on the Polka dance floor—and can they polka—Wow! Johnnie R. still wearing his haircut. He's getting to be quite a dancer, as Violet K. can testify. Can he dip or can he dip? Alfonse Kravez entertained three charming ladies —two blonds—what a man. Uncle Sam has his eye on him too girls. Three of our High School set are about to graduate soon: Florence Krakaitis who will enter Wayne University and Major in Art, Edward Stockwell to take a mechanics course at City Airport, Ann Aranuk will depart for Michigan State to study to be a lady

Tony Urbikas Bids His Friends Farewell

Last Saturday nite, the Chicago L. D. S. crowd attended a send-off party which was given for *Tony Urbikas* by the Redwings L. D. S. Youth Branch. The crowd wasn't very large due to the fact that so many have left for the Service. There is hardly anyone left to attend the parties, but all who were present did have a good time.

We all had a pleasant surprise when *Valeria Bernot* showed us the lovely "sparkler" presented to her by *Tony*. Their marriage was scheduled to take place Monday, January 17th, so when we go to press they will be happily married. *Tony* leaves Thursday, January 19th for the Merchant Marine. Our sincere congratulations to both *Tony* and *Valeria* and here's hoping they will soon be together again enjoying their happiness.

There were a number of Servicemen at the party too. *Alex Klaud*, the former Escort, strolled in on his first day of his leave after boot camp. Al is a 3rd Class Baker in the Navy. Also on hand from Great Lakes was none other than *Sully* from the Redwings. We all had a surprise when *Tony Guzauskas* of the Sparks back in civilian clothes, came in to the party too. It has been quite some time since the gang had seen him. Oh yes I mustn't forget our Service ladies also. Of course, I mean *Helen Kasro* of the Waves. Remember sometime back when one of our Chicago columnists said she should send *Coast Guardsman Stan Bernot* some salt water? Well, I guess they'll have to retract that statement as *Stan* is now the one in a position to send the salt water to *Helen*. *Slash* is getting additional training at Norfolk, Virginia and is scheduled for sea duty in the not so distant future, says wife *Aline*.

George Kwain really kept all the gals on their toes dancing. Where does he get all that energy? *George*, *Al Jacobs*, and *Tex Zebraitis* was our singing trio for the evening until *Johnny Bernot* made it a foursome. They tell us *Julius Urbikas* might be in on a furlough in the near future. *Eddie Urbikas* started telling some of his jokes again to *Ann Jacobs*, *Bertha Baron*, and *Ida Klaud*. While the boys were playing cards *Ann Jacobs* and *Frances Kwain* had to make up their sandwiches. All the gals sure go for that black crocheted purse belonging to *Lil Sherman*, *Dottie*

cop.

Don't forget February 6, 1944, "Cigonu Romansai."

DERDLIM

Amidst The Young Set Of Cleveland, Ohio

The holidays were ushered in with varied emotions this year. To some it was still a happy time of year, to others it was a sorrowful season. But in the hearts of all there must have been a fervent hope that by this time next year there will be peace and all our boys will be back home again.

It was Anchors Aweigh for *Joe Krep* and *Frank Strebeck* recently after brief furloughs home . . . Home too, were *Joe Paltan* (Since the Waacs have invaded Breckinridge, he calls it "home." Ever hear the saying "Home is where the heart is?") *Johnnie Skogus* is doing the town with wife *Adella* . . . *Al Darasko* must have been busy for we never even got to see him . . .

Nice to hear that pals *Frank Geibes* and *Joe Valenta* met accidentally in London. What a celebration that must have been! . . . *Ella Strebeck* has trekked out to California to join husband for a while . . . *Tom Yermal*, deferred, has returned with family to Cleveland . . . Flu, grippe, and colds have been having field day here what with everyone having had one or the other of late . . . Ever hear of *Sam the Old Accordion Man*? Well, we got one here by the name of *Joe Bernoske*. Hope we'll soon be dancing to the tune of the *Victory Polka* . . .

Mr. Mazan contributed the ten dollars he won in the District Membership Drive to the *Lambda Delta Sigmas*. I'll take the liberty of saying thanks in the name of the sorority . . . It was with deep regret that we learned of the untimely passing of *Mr. Stanley Jonela*. Our utmost sympathy to *Mrs. Jonela* . . .

Voted as the man with the heartiest laughter I've ever heard, newcomer into the LDS, *Ted Hale* . . . This time it's true. *Helen* and *Hank McLanus* are going to be parents soon . . . *Acquilla Beckevic* is the newly elected president of the *Leader's* branch. And a mighty good one she'll make too. If you want to see her in action attend the next meeting. Meetings are always held the first Tuesday of the month at the clubhouse. *Adele Vasil*.

Mason dropped in later on in the evening for a few dances. *Nora* tells us *Steve "Jr."* *Baron* may get a furlough in July. To her that seems like a couple weeks only, after not seeing him for almost two years.

The party broke up about 2:30 A. M. and most of the gang finished off the evening (or should I say morning) by bowling at the *Marzano's Alleys* at Clearing. "WE SAW IT"

They Said Last Week

They Said Last Week President Roosevelt:

"We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence . . . People who are hungry and out of a job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made. In our day these truths have become accepted as self-evident. We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all, regardless of station, race or creed. Among these are:

"The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the nation;

"The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;

"The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;

"The right of every business man, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad;

"The right of every family to a decent home;

"The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

"The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident and unemployment;

"The right to a good education.

"All of these rights spell security. And after this war is won we must be prepared to move forward, in the implementation of these rights, to new goals of human happiness and well-being."

Senator Harry S. Truman, of Missouri:

"Without attempting to prophesy the time when the war will end, I can tell you that the production of war material in some items has been so great that about \$6,000,000,000 of Army contracts and about \$2,000,000,000 of Navy contracts have been cancelled. This is only the beginning of such cancellations. Almost daily in the coming year you will see newspaper notices of contract cancellations, of plant shut-downs, of eliminations of graveyard shifts, and of reduction of employees. Although the manpower problem will continue as a serious one for the nation as a whole, many communities will find that in their area they have a manpower surplus. This makes it very important that sound action be taken now to

provide for increased production of civilian articles. The problems which will have to be met in reconverting industry are serious, because any change of such vast extent is serious. They are not insuperable."

Mauritz M. Gottlieb, special field commissioner for the Jewish Welfare Board and USO:

"Our soldiers have stopped thinking of their companions as white or black, Christian or Jew, Irish or Italian. Men are judged solely on the basis of character, on their courage, humility and willingness to sacrifice for the common good. This is one of the greatest benefits that America will receive from this horrible war. Our men are not fighting for the territory in New Guinea. They are fighting for a continuation of the kind of life they have learned in the fellowship and danger of jungle war."

FLIS—Common Council.

Full Agreement on The Balkan Question

WASHINGTON (ONA). —

Collaboration among Britain, Russia and the United States for parallel action on tangled Balkan problems is now an accomplished fact.

Ever since the conference of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin last month evidence of close cooperation in delicate situations in the Balkan Peninsula has been accumulated, it was pointed out here.

The most recent step of Moscow's formal plea for unity among warring guerrilla factions in Greece. The appeal was foreshadowed by a New Year's broadcast on the Moscow radio, which told the Greeks in their own language that the best thing they could do was to unite against the Germans. This broadcast was timed to coincide with one by Premier Emmanuel Tsouderos of the Greek Government-in-Exile, on which he read similar appeals from British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden and Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

Russia has also put pressure on Bulgaria, with whom it is at peace, to end its conflict against Britain and the United States. Moscow's official press brought up its heaviest Bulgarian artillery—George Dimitrov, former Secretary of the Comintern—to tell Sofia: "A genuine Bulgarian national policy demands . . . an immediate nullification of the state of war against Britain and the United States."



Closing of Baltic Legation Urged by Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians in Resolution Passed at Recent Conference

Hon. Cordell Hull
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.
Dear Sir:

We, the duly elected 312 delegates to the National Convention of Democratic American Lithuanians, representing 186 various organizations of Lithuanian Americans, together with the fraternal representatives of Latvian and Estonian societies, on this 19th day of December, 1943, at a joint public meeting held at Webster Hall, 4th Avenue and 11th St., New York City, do unanimously declare:

1. That we hereby express our complete support for the work and achievement of the historic Moscow, Cairo and Teheran conferences, which, in our opinion, are great steps forward toward hastening the complete defeat of the Nazi-Fascist forces in the world, and which also constitute tremendous advances toward a broad progressive program of international cooperation of the security of all people, for equality and for a lasting peace after the war.

2. That we hereby protest to the State Department of the United States against the continued recognition of Messrs. Povilas Zadeikis, Bilmanis, and Kaiv as representatives of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

The concrete evidence of parallel action came within two weeks after the Teheran Conference, when Moscow announced it was sending a military mission to the Yugoslav partisans "as the British Government has already done."

These so-called legations and consulates have become agencies of the most vicious anti-Soviet propaganda, and, in effect, are now carrying on Hitler's work in this country by trying to sow disunity and suspicion among our people, and among the main forces of the United Nations.

In accordance with the principles of democracy and the terms of the Atlantic Charter, the people of each sovereign state should be permitted to determine the form of government they desire. In 1940 the people of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia made their choice, by democratic vote, to join the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics. Until these people indicate otherwise, their will ought to be respected.

3. That, accordingly, we hereby respectfully request and urge that the United States government rescind its recognition of the representatives of the former fascist regimes of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, and that the present legations and consulates of these defunct and paper governments be closed. We are firmly convinced that such action would receive the whole-hearted support and acclaim of all freedom loving Lithuanians, Latvians, and Estonians, and we also believe that it would be an additional step toward complete cementation of the friendly relation between the United States and our gallant ally, the Soviet Union.

Respectfully yours,

Kay Michelson, Chairman,
Roy Mizara, Secretary.

ON THE REHABILITATION OF VETS

Nellie De-Schaaf

What are we doing about the soldiers coming back — and those who will come back?

Are we seeing that they have a job to which to return? That their families have sufficient funds to tide them over until the vet secures a position? What are we doing about hospitalization? Medical help?

The President has laid down specific principles upon which a fair rehabilitation program could be worked out. However, as long as our reactionary Congressmen continue to sabotage his every effort, his plan is still only on paper. His plan provides for: (1) mustering out pay in a reasonable amount, to be paid on an installment basis; (2) unemployment allowance; (3) old-age and survivors benefit. His proposal also covers re-training and re-education as many of our boys will be unable, through physical disability, to perform their former jobs.

It is an act of treason for a handful of Tory Congressmen to ignore the desperate plight of the 1,100,000 soldiers (400,000 of which are medical discharges) who have been returned to civilian life since Pearl Harbor. These men, upon being discharged, are cut off from their pay and allotments immediately, yet, ironically must wait from five to eight months before their claims for financial and medical aid are adjusted. They are sent from one agency to another, and must go through so much red tape because of too much overlappage in Government agencies. In the meantime, they must borrow from their relatives or friends.

It is time that Congress awoke to the fact that there IS a war going on. There are still too few Congressmen concerned with the fact that there are only 93 Vet hospitals scattered throughout the country. These are filled, for the most part, with the vets of the last war. Many psychoneurotics have been discharged from the army who need immediate medical attention, yet there are no facilities for their hospitalization.

These problems are urgent! They cannot be ignored. The time to tend to them is NOW—not after the war. Russia is not waiting for the end of the war to rebuild its devastated cities, and to try its war criminals. If we shove these problems to the background, we will have a repetition of what happened during that great "humanitarian" Herbert Hoover's era. There will be another World War Vet's march on the Capitol.

We cannot have our boys with

medals pinned to their coats, selling apples or Bobby Pins on some street corner because of their inability to find work. The employers promised them their jobs upon their return and they must fulfill their promise. If the men are unable to carry out their former duties the Government should have free schools offering a variety of trades.

When the soldier returns and finds that Congress is concerned not so much with what he can do FOR the soldier—but against him, it is plenty disillusioning, and the soldier wonders, naturally, what all his sacrifices were for. If our Congressmen are not interested in cooperating with the President in any manner or form, then it is high time that the President took the reins in his hands. He ignored Congress at the beginning of the war. Many things which must be done now are even more important, and valuable time goes on while nothing is done for the Vets. Why should he be afraid of being called a "dictator?" Even while Congress throws a monkey-wrench into his plans at every opportunity, they still shout "dictator" at him. If being a dictator is unconstitutional, so is this latest idea of Congress' to take away the soldiers' vote. Our Congressmen must stay awake nights figuring what damage they can do, and it is high time that the President told them off in no uncertain terms.

One thing is certain. Individually, we can do very little for the returning soldier, but once mass protest is aroused against all these injustices, then Congress shall be jarred out of its complacency. Mass protest freed Tom Mooney, the Scottsboro boys and thousands of others, and it will do the same for our boys.



A Liberty ship has been named for William L. Sublette, who took the first wagons over the Rocky Mountains and opened up the part of the Oregon Trail known as "Sublette's Cut-off."

KEEP 'EM FLYING



Looking Through Young Eyes

This week I'm mad, and for a good reason. I heard a middle aged woman about 35 say she was disgusted with the young people for at her drug store boys hung around having fun. She couldn't understand. Well, I can and so can many more. That night may have been the last he'll have with those fellows.

Statistics show that boys between the ages of 17-23 have enlisted faster and more have asked for over-seas duty than men from the ages of 23-30. We see by just looking at our own gatherings the empty space that was filled before by young boys. And we also see men about 27 still here. Sure they're married, may have kids and defense jobs, but still it's the young boys that are away. Maybe they enlisted, but were not taken. But that excuse can also go for the younger boys too. The boys at that drug store may have tried to enlist and were too young or physically disabled.

Besides this, those boys probably have jobs and go to school too. The older ones give blood. I know of a boy who, having become 18 and having the Navy V-12, stayed away from school one morning to give blood. Another boy went to school from 8:00 to 3:00, worked from 3:30 to 10:30 and was good in school and sports too. How many older men can boast doing this?

This woman, by the way, is working and earning a good income. So is her husband who is in the army. She has no sons in the army, has not donated blood or worked for the Red Cross. I think she was no one to talk. The young boys of our

Country have shown their not slackers; many of them have died for their country and deserve much credit. Others have come home maimed and decorated and many more have not come home. Let's not underestimate the young people, but understand and help them. Don't sneer as I've seen so many people do. They deserve much more credit than do many older people.

A. Youth.

Fourth War Loan

The Fourth War Loan Drive is scheduled from January 18 through February 15, with a goal of fourteen billion dollars, three billion dollars of which have been assigned to individual purchasers of Series E Bonds. The War Finance Division of the Treasury hopes to reach 35,000,000 men and women on payrolls; and farmers, professional men and vast groups of people who are now buying bonds, in addition to corporations, insurance companies and other non-banking sources.

The considered judgement of our military leaders is that we have before us a long, hard fight, costly in lives of men, in equipment and in supplies. The cost of expanding military operations is increasing with the rising tempo of our attacks. In addition to helping finance the fighting, purchase of bonds, the Treasury points out, will help hold prices down and help prevent inflation, will provide a safe investment, and will enable many to realize post-war ambitions.

O. W. I.