

New Lithuania Given "De Facto" Recognition By British Government

VILNIS

Weekly English Section

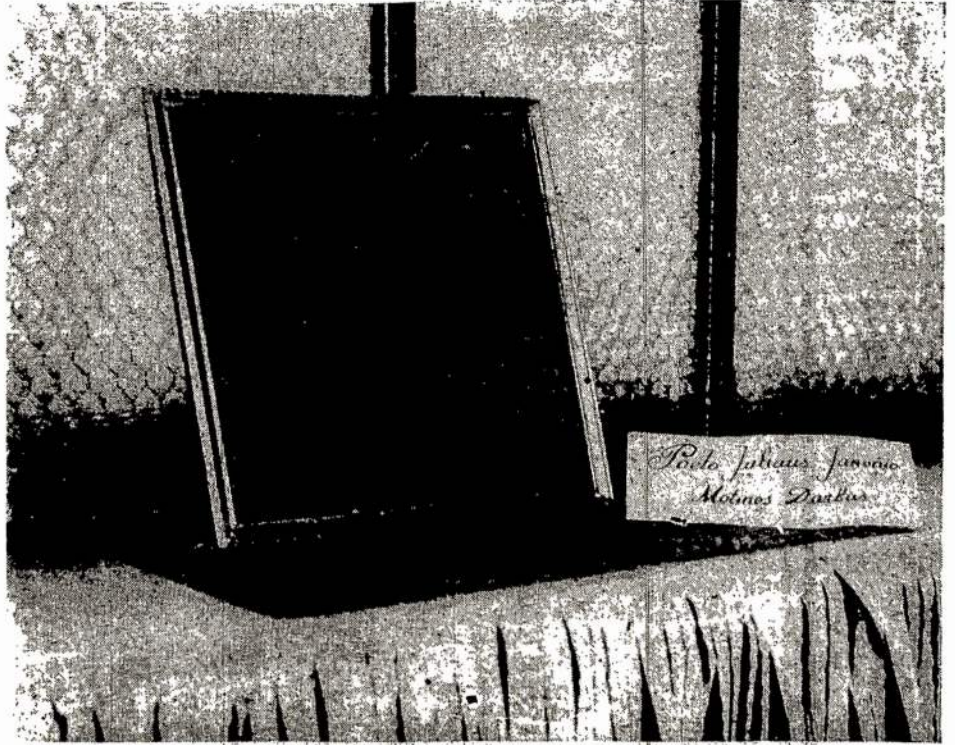
SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1947

(By VES Staff Writer)

British Foreign Vice-Minister, C. P. Mayhew, announced to parliament this week "de facto" recognition of the Baltic States of Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia according to an Associated Press release.

The step taken by the British will have bearing on the American government, who in turn is expected to issue a definite statement regarding the nations recognition as part of the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

Ever since Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia voted to become member republics, U. S. government circles have hesitantly acknowledged them as members of the Union of Socialist Republics although not publicly declaring so.



"De facto" recognition of Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia as member republics of the Union of Socialist Republics will be null and void in the British Empire. It also means that representatives of New Lithuania will take over these positions.

Ever since the denunciation of Antanas Smetona by the Lithuanian people and his eventual secret retreat to Nazi Germany and then later to the United States where he died in a fire mishap, his representatives in Washington have been operating on a semi-recognized status, scandalously liquidating funds of Lithuania they no longer represent.

Washington "de facto" recognition would eliminate this situation and replace them with bona-fide representatives.

Immediate comment on the British government action available to this writer, indicated approval by a major portion of Lithuanian-American element in this country who have long awaited such action.

Representatives of leading organizations hailed "de facto" recognition of Lithuania as a step that will "aid Lithuania materially".

Opposition forces, those pro-fascistically inclined, are expected to protest the move.

A deep love for his homeland is expressed by the work of many Lithuanians.

"We Would Be Happy To See You"

AMERICAN BORN LITHUANIAN ANDREW GRAICIUNAS WRITES 'POP'; UNIVERSITY OF KAUNAS FACULTY HEAD

(Special to VES)

American born Andrew Graiciunas Jr., son of Dr. Andrew Graiciunas formerly of Chicago and now residing in Waukegan, Illinois is a faculty member of the University of Kaunas, according to a cable received from Vilnius, Lithuania.

The message received last week, stated briefly:

"Dear Pappa. We are very glad that you are well and so actively working for the development of progressive Lithuanian culture. We would be very happy to see you in our fatherland, Soviet Lithuania. Write us, we are living in the same apartment, same address."

The cable was signed by Graiciunas Jr., and wife Ona Babickaite.

Receiving the message from his son, Dr. Graiciunas, long-time fighter for progress, ardent



Dr. A. L. Graiciunas

ONE DAY LATE

Due to the holiday, Vilnis English Section appears on Saturday instead of Friday. It will appear the following weeks on the regularly scheduled day.

—The Editors.

supporter of the member nation of the Union of Socialist Republics and subject of attack by reactionary Lithuanian-American newspapers and individuals, could answer his critics simply by pointing to his sons advance and well-being as indicative of the success Lithuania minus the pro-fascist Smetona regime is having.

An engineer of note, young Graiciunas was in Lithuania prior to and during the Nazi occupation. Under the Soviet government he was assigned to build an opera house in Vilnius. He managed to escape arrest by the Gestapo, was the first to greet Red Army troops who liberated the nation from despotism.

EDGEWOOD ARSENAL.—The Army is experimenting with radioactive poison gases a thousand times more effective than any previous types, it was revealed here.

Hands Are Of U. S. Senators, But Voice Is Of Nazis

WASHINGTON — (FP). -- Who uttered these familiar statements?—

"There is no destruction of the liberty of the worker taking place. To the contrary, I am convinced that we are giving the worker real freedom, which consists in the first place of his right to work, which we are securing for him". or: "I am not talking about the masses of the people... I am talking about the group who were leading the trade unions."

Are they the words of Sen. A. Taft (R, O.) or Rep. Fred Hartley (R, N. J.), co-sponsors of the pending slave labor bill in Congress?

No, CIO Sec.-Treas. James Carey told a CBS radio audience, they are the words of Herman Goering at the Nuremberg trials—but they have a familiar ring to the American public, to whom Taft and Hartley are trying to sell their legislation.

"The close resemblance in text and spirit is no accident." Carey said. "For the provision of the... us down the road to restoration on the people's rights, to economic slavery, to fascism."

Higher! Higher! Up Prices Again

WASHINGTON—FP)—Average wholesale prices crept upward another 0.2% the week ending May 17, BLS reported. That left the index of wholesale prices just 32.6% above the level one year ago.

Keeps The Home Fires Burning For Husband

OAKLAND, Cal. — The 23-year-old wife of an Okinawa construction worker confessed that she set a series of fires "to get something in the paper that would bring my husband home."

Oakland fire marshall Fred Carlson identified the arsonist as Mrs. Della Tracey, whose husband, Fred, left 3 months ago to take a civilian job with the Army on Okinawa.

"I wanted him to come back from Okinawa", she said. "If he thought I was in danger, I knew he'd come back. That's why I set those fires."

Revealed At Long Last!

MARY MELNIKAITE, LITHUANIA'S PARTISAN HEROINE BETRAYED TO NAZI GESTAPO BY LITH QUISLINGS

(By VES Staff Writer)

Marija Melnikaite was betrayed, turned over to Nazi executioners by Lithuanian fascists.

This fact was revealed in article which appeared in the May 22nd edition of Catholic Daily Draugas.

Written by a person who from all indications was a member of the Judas gang, the article gives a vivid description of events leading to the capture and eventual execution of Lithuania's heroine.

Melnikaite was a leader of the underground, in charge of partisan activity during the occupation of Lithuania by the Nazis.

Under her guidance daring raids were made on German stockpiles, communications were disrupted, trains derailed, every conceivable means of attack was launched.

The Gestapo was ordered into action. A price, or prize was to be given to any person who would surrender information relative to the whereabouts of Melnikaite and her partisans. It was paid off to a Lithuanian Quisling, represented by such element who fled Lithuania for Germany when the country was being liberated. Among them are the "refugees" who arrive in the United States today.

The author of the DRAUGAS article in a desperate attempt to whitewash his soul of activity that aided the Gestapo to snuff out the life of Melnikaite, cata-

gorizes her as a prostitute, alcoholic, convict.

Actually records show Melnikaite to have been a member of the Communist Party of Lithuania who was jailed under the Smetona regime because she fought in the interest of the people.

Released following Smetona's abdication she was active in political circles until her very death.

The Nazis hanged Melnikaite and the partisans with her.

Her crime? Fighting the Nazis.

DRAUGAS is happy, overjoyed. The author of the article that attempts to degrade her character is exhilarated over the fact she was captured. In Lithuania a film dealing with the heroine's life is being made.

Gift From Lithuanian-Americans

First Of \$70,000 Shipment For Institute Reaches Lithuania

(Special to VES)

Via cable from Vilnius, this week, comes the following message:

Committee To Aid Lithuania Brooklyn, New York.

First shipment of material by Lithuanian-Americans to Lithuanian Experimental Academy on Cancer received. Forty five cases arrived May 24. We await indicated other shipments.

Prof. J. Matulis

President Soviet Lithuania Academy of Learning.

Meanwhile it was announced this week that the last shipment of goods by Committee to Aid Lithuania was loaded aboard a Soviet vessel in New York harbor.

The consignment consisted of 73 bales of clothing and 30 cases of shoes.

Committee to Aid Lithuania

discontinued operations officially several months ago. But due to a last minute series of donations flowing from all parts of the country, a skeleton force had been obligated to carry on.



Anthony Bimba

In money, Committee to Aid Lithuania raised over \$70,000 in a period of several months for the purchase of medical equipment for the Vilnius Experimental Academy on Cancer.

Mr. Anthony Bimba of New York was secretary of the committee, made a tour of Lithuania to investigate aid needs of the people there.

WELL, NICARAGUA IS DIFFERENT

(From The Chicago Sun)

"The free peoples of the world," the President said in proclaiming the Truman Doctrine, "look to us for support in maintaining their freedoms."

The people of Nicaragua woke up the other day to find that Gen. Anastasio Somoza had seized control of their duly elected government. But there is very little chance that Mr. Truman will lead a crusade to protect the people of Nicaragua from the general.

"We cannot allow changes in the status quo in violation of the charter of the United Nations by such methods as coercion, or by such subterfuges as political infiltration," the President said last March. But he was talking about the Middle East. Coercive changes in the status quo do not bother us so much when they occur in Latin America. Somehow we do not regard an imposed regime as a threat to peace except in certain strategic areas where our influence collides with Soviet Russia's.

Mr. Truman explains our policy on Greece and Turkey by saying that America must support the freedom of peoples to choose their way of life. He spoke eloquently of that way of life which is "based upon the will of the majority, and distinguished by free institutions, representative government, free elections, guarantees of individual liberty, freedom of speech and religion, and freedom from political oppression." Nicaragua evidently lacks these freedoms, but—

It all depends on where you sit.

In The Limelight**700 Persons Pack CIO Hall
For Lith Choral Presentation**

(Special to VES)

DETROIT.—This city the past weekend saw a galaxy of stars perform a vehicle that brought the house down. A scintillating operetta, "Laima", presented in the Lithuanian language by a Lithuanian-American choral group at UAW-CIO hall magnetically attracted some 700 persons.

Sponsored, performed by Aido chorus, "Laima's" staging elevated the group to a bracket of professionalism.

A member of national organization, Lithuanian Fine Arts League, Aido Chorus, progressive wing of Lithuanism when venturing loftier fields as they did by accepting "Laima" as their next production, did so hesitantly. Faith however



Ruth Palevich
Cast Member

was not lacking, nor was perseverance on the part of mem-

bers, director, and other valuable assistants.

It was to the consternation of "opposition" circles when the operetta was presented to a packed house who were pleased beyond words by the charming musical extravaganza.

Nor were any set back by capabilities of actors, actresses and general group performance.

Actually the air was one of professionalism with credits due, especially to young element making their stage debut. Unsung, unheralded, their performance was magnificent, if not uncanny.

Heretofore this writer has heard of other choral group capabilities. But after witnessing Aido in action the suggestion is that they look to their honors.

**There's A Union
Card In The White
House At Last**

WASHINGTON — (FP) — There's an AFL union card in the White House at last.

Margaret Truman, the President's soprano daughter, has joined The American Guild of Musical Artists (AFL- in preparation for her forthcoming concert tour.

is denied, "they must find a new means of political expression. I am certain that the conscience of the people will not permit our political leaders to remain silent in the face of increasing dangers to the life of every citizen."

Calling for "democracy in action" as the only realistic solution to the problems of this country and the world, Wallace laid down this program: reduction of prices by 10%, raising wages "within the limits of the swollen profit structure" to maintain purchasing power, maintaining high taxes on those who can pay them, no infringement on the rights of labor.

**'Prosecute Lynchers',
Says Head Of****Communist Party**

"The only answer to lynch law which has engulfed South Carolina, and now threatens the entire South, is an immediate declaration of federal martial law and immediate prosecution of all lynchers by courts martial," Henry Winston, organizational secretary of the Communist Party, declared.

"The license to lynch," said Winston, "granted by the fear-inspired jury which turned the self-confessed murderers of Willie Earle free, has already borne hideous fruit. Not since the days of the Ku Klux Klan, following the Civil War, have the rights of Negro citizens been so violated."

Lithuanians Too!**THOUSANDS CHEER HENRY WALLACE ON NATIONAL
TOUR; DENOUNCES TRUMAN-GOP ANTI-RUSSIA POLICY**

SEATTLE—(FP)—"My conviction is that the world can and must halt the present dangerous drift toward depression and war," Henry A. Wallace told thousands of cheering people in the field artillery armory here.

As thousands were turned away in disappointment, Wallace called upon the American people to "raise their voices above the bi-partisan bloc and

A Reader Writes**'THE SITUATION IS SCANDALOUS'**

Considering the furthest red-baiting epidemic in the country, the following letter to the editor was sent to Vilnia English Section by a reader on the current Hollywood Un-American Committee investigation of "reds" there:

The situation in Hollywood is scandalous.

I know of one actor who was forced to act in a picture where they sang a Russian song. To appear in this un-patriotic picture, the producers offered him a bribe of \$150,000 which he accepted under protest—he felt it should have been \$200,000.

Parts of a film that are developed and immediately shown on the studio screen before cutting, are known as "rushes". I am told this is a code spelling for "Russia's".

I am happy to hear Adolph Menjou attack the patriotism of Hollywood writers. His word can be taken as gospel on such matters and I am sure he will be named as the Best Dressed Stool-pigeon of the Year.

We don't want propaganda pictures coming out of Hollywood. We want good, clean, wholesome entertainment pictures like the Life Story of Rep. Rankin, Why We Prefer Hitler to Stalin and Little Anti-Red Riding Hood.

the conservative press." The people, he said, "must seek to restore the 2-party system that our democracy needs . . . They must insist that the Democratic party be liberal."

As though to emphasize his words, Wallace told reporters that he warmly endorsed former Rep. Charles Savage, victor in the 3rd district primary election, as "one of the most pro-

gressive congressmen in the U. S." Savage won handily in the primaries over his Truman Democrat opponent and has since called upon Pres. Truman to veto the Taft-Hartley measures. The election takes place June 9.

Emphasizing, however, that he was here "not primarily for political purposes, but for peace," Wallace declared that if the people's desire for peace



Henry Wallace

He also urged a "low-cost, mass-produced" housing program, legislation for minimum wages and social security, full employment measures through public works as soon as prices fall, and nationalization of coal.

This he coupled with a demand for an "all-out program for world reconstruction" through the international bank.

A solid five minutes of applause and cheers mingled with shouts for "Wallace in '48" greeted him at the conclusion of his address, when he declared: "Already I sense that nothing can hold back the people's march toward greater prosperity, more freedom and lasting peace."

Just Between Us

By George Starkauskas

● Leave it to our Lithuanian reactionaries to find terror in Russia, in Lithuania. Leave it to them to unearth nefarious workings of Communists. Leave it, too, to them NOT to see and not to hear and NOT to write about the American scene.

● Apparently, if we are to judge the activities of these "patriots", the world's ills rise, stem, advance, begin at the Kremlin. Nothing else matters, except that the ogre of humanity is Communism and Russia and responsible for whatever may occur in any part of the world.

● The obsession, mania permeating diehards that they are prevents them from seeing the American scene as it is. It prevents them from presenting moves of the day to their constituents, blinds them from giving an inch of space in weekly and daily newspapers.

● Everything that happens or is happening in Russia, or what Russia does is NEWS. Front page, pages two, three, four, etc spill out venom. But it isn't news if it happens in America—if American lives, Lithuanian-American lives are threatened with cancerous moves designed to stifle freedom of expression, freedom of work, freedom to exercise rights granted ALL Americans under the Bill of Rights and Constitution of the United States.

● Take the case of the Hartley anti-labor bill. Take the school situation, such as hot lunches for kids. Take the rotten transportation system, high prices. Take the case of veterans tossed like garbage in a refuse heap. Take the anti-semites who desecrate even the graves of Jewish dead.

● Where are the eyes and ears of Lithuanian "patriots", where is their press on questions like these?

● What is their stand? Are they for or against them? These are problems facing Americans, threatening each and every one.

● But the blind men cannot see, do not want to see, want their followers and newspaper readers NOT to see anything but the Russian "menace".

● Day after day, month after month the RED blare continues and the plight, living conditions of Americans worsens. And day after day the silence on events that draws all toward catastrophe, fascism, remains a hidden issue.

● One should be quite impressed, if not frightened by the silence of Lithuanian "patriots", American newspapers who "hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil" on internal conditions while tenacles of reaction within the nation move ahead intent on bludgeoning to death freedom, liberty.

THE VILNIS ENGLISH SECTION

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● "Man is born unto trouble," says the Bible, but that's no excuse for Congress bringing on a depression on purpose.

The way Congress has "softened" the anti-labor bill by adopting the Taft instead of the Hartley version somehow reminds us of the soft-hearted man who always used to put his slippers on before he kicked his dog downstairs.

LITTLE LUTHER

● "Mother says you have to raise her housekeeping allowance 30% or we'll start living on canned beans and stale bread," said Little Luther.

"Red propaganda!" Mr. Dilworth exclaimed. "She's been taken in by some of these propagandists."

"Probably has," Little Luther admitted. "She says the butcher rumored she couldn't get meat for less than 50% over prices a year ago. And that gossiping grocer has been spreading scandal about the cost of staples. I hear even the department store is spreading propaganda about higher prices."

"Any more of that sarcastic talk," Mr. Dilworth warned, "and I'll raise a welt on your seat higher than the price of hogs."

"Speaking of hogs," said Little Luther, "did you see where Big Business is not only fighting against price cuts and demanding an end to pay raise, but is also asking for a decrease in corporate taxes?"

"Let's not change the subject, my boy. You tell your mother I can't afford, as a patriotic American businessman, to raise her allowance."

"She says she'll have to stop buying, then," said Little Luther.

"That's outrageous!" said Mr. Dilworth. "Doesn't she know that's striking? And doesn't she know the very best economists say that kind of talk will start a depression?"

"Because people haven't enough money to buy at outrageous prices, it starts a depression?" Little Luther asked.

"No, because they say so out loud," Mr. Dilworth explained. "O. K., we'll whisper it then," said Little Luther. "But, Pop, you've got an awful shock coming—wait until you hear the roar that 140 million Americans make when they all whisper together."

THESE ARE THE TIMES

By Bill Mahoney

(Guest Columnist, Federated Press Writer)

● It says in the papers these days that Ray Robinson is slipping. I guess it must be so. He's had only 78 pro fights and lost one of them.

● It's true he lost that one over four years ago, when he spotted Jake LaMotta—terror of the middleweights—some 15 pounds and came out on the short end of a questionable decision. It's true too that he fought LaMotta five times in all and won four of them. And he captured the middleweight title only a few months ago. Still, he must be slipping. It says so in the papers.

● Take last year, for example. Ray went to the post 16 times in 1946. He scored 11 knockouts, four in the second round, one in the third, two in the fourth, one in the fifth, two in the sixth and one in the tenth.

● The ones he knocked out in the second clearly should have been knocked out in the first. The ones he stopped in the third and fourth should have gone more than two. As for the guy who went 10—Artie Levino, a rough middleweight—why is Ray fighting middleweights and giving away only 10 or 15 pounds?

● Last time out he went to bat with Georgie Abrams in the Garden. Hadn't Marcel Cerdan, the new wonderman of the middleweights, beaten him a few months earlier? All Robinson did was beat him too.

● Every time Joe Louis fights I read that he has been slipping for years. Now Robinson is getting into the same league. They have slipped so far they are now just about the two best fighters their divisions have seen in years, perhaps ever.

● The marvel of the baseball season to date has been the New York Giants. Last year a cellar outfit, this year a pennant contender—what made the difference? There is only one new face in the Giants lineup, fleet Bobby Thompson in center field. But a lot more than that is new.

● Last season Johnny Mize missed half the campaign, injured. Catcher Walker Cooper, ditto. Third baseman Bill Rigney, first-year jitters. Outfielder Willard Marshall, off form after a lengthy army hitch. Outfielder Sid Gordon, ditto. In center there was the ailing Johnny Rucker. As for the pitchers, Monty Kennedy was a wild freshman and the second flight was not half so competent as this year's freshmen—Jansen, Ayres and company.

● The main difference in the pitching this year has been due to Cooper behind the plate and the sudden emergence of an outfield crew that can gather in these flies. However, Buddy Blattner, second baseman, is fast and a fairly good hitter, but can't seem to get the hang of a double play. If the Giants had a pivoting second baseman and one more experienced pitcher they might... well, they might at that. As it is, with the National League race wide open, they figure to be trouble right down to the wire.

● Maybe Manager Ott will have done it by the time this comes out, but we have a suggestion. Shift Rigney to second to team with the peerless shortstop Buddy Kerr, and put Blattner or Lohrke on third. Ott doesn't have to do it, you understand, but it WOULD make us happy.

LKM Chorus Realizing Substantial Cash Donations For Recording Of Lithuanian Musical Numbers; Outing On June First

All large undertakings start with little ideas—that's the way our ambition for recording Lithuanian music began—just an idea! But the idea was one which interested many music-hungry individuals. Their monetary donations began to pour in to substantially aid this task. Realizing that the record market yields no Lithuanian discs for our home-listening pleasure it was welcome news when the L.K.M. chorus announced its intention to venture into this new musical field. So beginning with this coming week, and on thru the month of June, we'll have rehearsals three times a week by the end of which time L.K.M. chorus under Joseph Kenston's direction, should be in fine recording condition.

All donations are welcome since this venture is very costly, and if you want to be sure of receiving a set of these records, send your contribution of \$5 or more to the L.K.M. Chorus, 3116 S. Halsted St., Chicago 8, Ill., or hand it to one of the committee members; Paul Dauderis, Frank Kirka or Joseph Kenston. The four tunes chosen are: "Tykiai, Tykiai Nemunėlis Teka", "Jūra", "Karvelėli Mėlinasis", and "Draugai i Kovą".

Yesterday the L.K.M. chorus was proud to honor our fallen war heroes as well as all our beloved dead, with a memorial day program at the Lithuanian National Cemetery.

On again-off again Keller was telling me his intentions of starting a club in Action Club? one condition of perennial bachelors — ofcourse this was several weeks ago—his idea must have died of old age since then because maybe you've noticed lately how lovey-dovey he and Mildred Chipas are again. For how long this time Jerry??? Couldn't be to case of "always a best-man but never a bride-groom"? Or could it????!!

If you're out looking for new styles you have just to peer at attractive Helen Yuskus, she's always got something new up her sleeve—did you notice for instance the unique mode she created in order to tan her tummy?... That blouse you inverted and cleverly mid-ripped was certainly eye-catching!!!

Say Ruthie, I'm still waiting for an invite to try some of that luscious bottled spirits you won at the last A. V.C. dance.... or am I too late already?? Huh??

The latest Tuesday nite recreation (after rehearsals ofcourse) that Steve Korosa, Tony Survilla and Alex Kalenda have instituted is that little game they play with five (or is it six) numbered cubes called dice. They roll them out of a leather cup onto the bar and that's where my comprehension of the game ends. Anyway after the game is over one of the three is stuck with buying the drinks for the other two. What I can't understand is why Alex Kalenda was sorry he won.

By the way if you're interested in ordering pictures which were taken during the performance of our latest operetta "Rio Rita"—get in touch with Olga Martin and she'll give you the finer details on this subject.

Ofcourse you all know that Sunday, June the 8th is L.K.M.'s picnic we're really planning one "bang" of an affair—what's more we guarantee no dull moments because there'll be something going on all the time. Yes

sir, we'll have competitive games, funny games, a musical program, baseball, dancing to that grand orchestra "The Wee Three", good food and lots of thirst-quenching liquor. Come early and stay late — don't forget the date. Sunday, June 8th, and the place: the Justice Park Gardens.

Then one Sunday after our Picnic, on June the 15th to be exact, we L. K.M.'ers are scheduled to sing at Vilnis Picnic in Liberty Grove. I don't have to tell you how successful all Vilnis picnics turn out so let's all make it out there on June 15th and have ourselves a grand time.

Boy, I can hardly wait for this Sunday June 1st to roll around. Yes sir, that's the day of L.K.M.'s horse-back ride!!! You're really in for a galloping good time if you decide to attend (and we hope you do because, we adhere strictly to the old adage: "the more the merrier".) So let's see all you members and friends of L.K.M. down on 61st and So. Western Ave. this Sunday at 9 A. M. sharp. — please be prompt because this is not a "vieną valandą vėliau" affair. We are not waiting for laggards! \$3.00 per person includes an hour's ride on the horses, a light snack afterward with dancing if you still have the energy plans transportation to and from the stables.

Altho Elizabeth Strazdas is a brand new grandmother you'd never guess it by her active participation in club activities — she tells me she'll get for the horses too — even went as far as acquiring herself a stunning outfit. There's one grand sport, we could use more members like her!

Seems like picnics don't agree very well with Anna Wainausky. — the poor soul came down with a heavy cold, but she was doing a good job of singing Tuesday.

ALDONA.

'Don't Be A NAM Fool', This Labor Leader Warns

GREAT FALLS, Mont.—(FP) —"Don't be a NAM fool!" was the idea emphasized in large advertisements sponsored here by the AFL, the Cascade County Trades & Labor Assembly and the Great Falls Building & Construction Trades Council.

The ads, carried in local papers, were part of a public relations campaign to enlighten people on the effects of anti-labor legislation being considered in Washington.

"If you work for a living, you're labor... so don't let NAM kid you—like they did on 'lower prices,'" the ads state.

The ads explained that NAM spelled out is the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers, a "tight little group of the most reactionary employers in America."



News, Views From Detroit Aido Chorus Presentation Of Operetta Last Sunday At Packed CIO Union Hall

Sunday, May 25, 1947, will go down in history as the day the Detroit Aido Chorus put its best foot forward to produce the opera "Laima" with outstanding success. And believe you me, it was done so well, so professionally, the audience was thrilled. To have an assembly of over 600 people sit attentively through three acts lasting approximately four and one-half to five hours and then have them ask for more at the last curtain call is indeed a compliment to the talents of both chorus and director. Yessir, I want you to know I was mighty proud of you, choristers. My one regret was that I couldn't be up there on the stage with you. But then again, I wouldn't liked to have missed the chance to sit in the audience either! A good round of applause for each and every one of the leads and choristers. A truckload of orchids to you!

TIDBITS

From my little peephole in the corner, I saw none other than Mr. and Mrs. Kenston of the Chicago LK Mer's with their party of Chicagoans. We were glad to have you come, folks! I am confident in the fact that you enjoyed the opera. Being as I was kept pretty busy watching one person in particular, I had little time to spy on others. I did, however, see Big Bill giving petite Jo a shoe shine!... the gal with the Pepsodent smile still in circulation and doing a good bit of circulating.... Casey buying beer by he barrel.... kid brother Eddy sure has a way with women.... Californian Pet taking things from the gals with the promise that as soon as he had a dance with them, they would get their glove of flower

back.... Fredrickas with that gleam in his eye and Betina in his arms — contrary to the script.... Junior Penpusher couldn't hold his partner — she sat on the dance floor — or could that be a new Jitterbug step??? D. D. with a new beau.... A. J. dancing!

'Nuff o' that. ATTENTION CHORUS MEMBERS: There will be a meeting Sunday, June 1, 1:30 p. m., at Porter Hall. Bring along your unsold opera tickets and money to turn in to Fran Peters without fail. Be seen' ya. PHYL UPONBEER.

World Facing An Acute Food Shortage Says Official

WASHINGTON.—The world faces another year of serious food shortages which in many countries will be marked by food riots and demonstrations, according to information laid before the International Emergency Food Council. In recommending that the life of the council be extended six months beyond Dec. 31, the date originally named for its termination, secretary-general D. A. Fitzgerald used two words "grim" and "disquieting" to describe world food prospects.

M O T H E R E A R T H

(Editor's note: The name of Petras Cvirka, author of this novel, MOTHER EARTH, is well-known in Lithuanian circles.)

MOTHER EARTH deals with the history of a Lithuanian village after the end of the so-called "war for independence". It takes place prior to World War II, brings out vividly the peoples struggle for liberation.)

By PETRAS CVIRKA

(continued from last week)

The first days of October were warm and soft. The soil had not had time to absorb the last rainfall and there were large puddles here and there. The nights were as light as the nights in early spring; only the nightingales were missing to complete the illusion. A thick mist shrouded the fields in the early morning; by midday it hung in a dense white wall over the valley of the Niemen and toward evening was swept by the warm wind.

Spiders basked under the warm autumn sun, spinning their fine silken webs which would soon be wafted away by the light breath of dying summer.

The air was soft and clear and the birds twittered in the sparse woods.

Suddenly the stillness was broken by the clatter of horses' hooves. Raising a cloud of dust a horse came galloping down the Klangiai village road, spurred on by its rider.

Linkus, who was working in his garden, looked up in alarm at the sound. Could it be the police? He broke out into a cold sweat at the thought. For even when a peasant's conscience is clear, the mere sight of the police strikes terror into his heart.

But the rider did not wear any uniform and Linkus breathed with relief.

"It fair gavė me a turn," he muttered.

The horseman rode past and turning toward Tarutis' farm slowed down to a trot. Moved by curiosity, Linkus stopped working and leaned over his fence to see what was happening.

He saw the rider enter Tarutis' yard, dismount and disappear inside the cottage. A moment later a woman came running out of the house—Monika no doubt—followed by a man. Linkus could make out three or four figures in the yard. Then he saw the rider mount his horse and gallop away in the direction of town.

"What could have happened over there?" Linkus asked his wife as he saw Tarutis and his wife hurrying down the road with their smaller child toddling after them.

"Stasiuk," Linkus called to his eldest son who was coming down the road at a run. "D'ye know what's wrong over at Tarutis? Why did they rush off to the estate?"

Stasiukas did not reply at once. But as he came nearer, his parents saw that he was laboring under some excitement. His breath came in short gasps and his light hair had fallen over into his eyes.

"Their Kaziukas has been killed."

"What!"

"He isn't quite dead yet. But they say he's awful bad. He's over at the estate..."

"Oh, the poor little thing!"

"How did it happen, who killed him. Speak up, lad! Let's hear!"

"A log fell on 'im. Smashed his head in..." explained Stasiukas breathlessly.

"God in heaven!" wailed his mother, wringing her hands. "What will Monika do? Poor woman! We've known the Tarutis so long, it's like losing a child of our own. Poor Monika. Poor Juras!"

"Maybe it isn't as bad as they say, eh, Stasiukas? Did you see it happen yourself?"

"No. Me and Ulinskas were gathering nuts in the wood and that lodger of theirs who stole our chopper, he told us about it. We ran over to where it had happened and the ground was all bloody!"

"Why did they have to hire him out to Jarmala? That swine doesn't care what happens to anyone. Thank God we didn't let any of our kids go. Anything can happen. And Juras wanted to teach his boy to read and write, too."

Monika had been mending clothes when the messenger came from the estate with the awful tidings. And she had rushed out of the house just as she was, with the reel of cotton clutched tightly in her hand.

They had laid Kaziukas on the steps of the servants' quarters. His head was bound up in damp cloth, and there were clots of blood on his tangled hair. His eyes were barely visible in their sunken sockets. When his mother bent over him the boy seemed not to recognize her. The men who had witnessed the accident told Juras that when the log had fallen, Kaziukas uttered a loud shriek and then was quiet. Perhaps God would save him. If the broken bone had not touched the brain he would survive. He had lost a lot of blood, though...

"That's a good sign. It's good to let the bad blood out. I remember before the war..." one worker began consolingly, but Monika's cries cut him short.

"Kaziukas, my baby, don't you know me? Kaziukas, mother's here."

She fumbled with the coarse bandage that had stuck to the boy's head.

"Don't touch him," said Juras, pulling her away. "You see he's half dead."

"They've murdered my boy! They've killed Kaziukas!" the woman repeated dully, her eyes glazed with grief.

The younger boy, who had been staring round-eyed with fear at his mother, his father, at the crowd of strange people bending over his brother who was lying terribly still on the steps, suddenly burst into a fit weeping.

At that point the messenger returned from the village to tell the parents that the doctor was coming. The parents felt somewhat comforted. He alone, they all felt, could save their child from death. Every moment someone ran out to the gate and looked anxiously down the road. Juras sat limply beside the sick child, holding Kaziukas' small hand in his great fist and cursed the doctor's slowness.

Presently Jarmala came in. He had just risen from bed and there was an aroma of scented soap about him. A expensive gem sparkled from the ring on his finger, and as he came over to inquire about Kaziukas' condition, his face assumed an anxious look.

Jarmala began to reassure the parents by mentioning similar cases that had ended in the complete recovery of the patient. He even tried to make light of the whole thing.

When the doctor came much later the boy was tossing in a fever, trying to tear the bandages from his head. Juras had to hold him down. The doctor, a shortsighted old man, washed the wounds and bandaged the head. If the fever rose the boy should be taken to Kaunas, he advised.

For the village folk a doctor was a luxury beyond their reach. They were accustomed to bear children, suffer pain and die without outside help. From the cradle to the grave the shadow of the parish pastor dogged their footsteps, a reminder of the inexorable power above the sky who sent storms, bad harvests and famine.

Dusk had fallen but they did not light the lamps. The kettle was singing on the hearth, the fire was dying but from time to time they stirred up the ember.

Kaziukas tossed about in torment. He flung out his arms, arms, then clutched at his aching head as though to ward off some invisible blows that were threatening to split it.

"Kaziukas, what is it, child?"

It was so quiet in the house that the anxious grief-stricken parents could hear the thumping of the sick boy's heart. The over-ripe crowns of the sunflowers beat against the window as though a wayfarer who had wandered from his path was begging admittance.

"Father, I'm afraid! I don't want to go to Jarmala! What's that huge spider doing over there. Father, kill it! Look, look it's burning!"

"What's burning, son?"

The boy seemed to have dropped off to sleep. But a minute later he began to speak rapidly without opening his eyes.

"Mama, Mama, take them, take them!"

"Take what, darling?"

"Look, I've brought you some berries and they are falling all over the floor."

"Kaziukas, darling, you're dreaming..."

(Continued next week)



Surrounded by stalactites and stalagmites, Jeanne Hein is shown in the Totem Pole room of the Cave of the Mounds, one of the cavern's 12 rooms. The cave is located in southwestern Wisconsin, on U.S. highways 18 and 151, 25 miles west of Madison.

If It's About Love, It Must Be Red

Propaganda

HOLLYWOOD.—Movie magnate Louis B. Mayer last week invited Rep. J. Parnell Thomas and his House Un-American Activities subcommittee to see the film, Song of Russia, to decide whether it is communistic.

Mayer said he assumed the excitement growing out of actor Robert Taylor's testimony before the subcommittee here last week that he was compelled by a high government official to accept the leading role in the picture was due to "the mistaken belief" it was Communistic in plot and action.

"It is true," Mayer said, "that Russia was our ally in 1943, and that our government was very friendly to the Soviet, but that is not why Song of Russia was made."

He explained that the movie was "simply a love story" about an American symphony conductor, played by Taylor, who met and fell in love with a Russian girl.

"The picture contains no Russian ideology to my knowledge," he said.

"The heroine could just as well have been an English girl, and the locale in England.

One-tenth of the six million farms in the U. S. sell more than half of all farm produce sold in the country.

Palevich, Daubar, Lyben, Price, Gugas And Rye Grab Individual Acting Honors In Operetta 'Laima' Presentation, Detroit

Hop—hop—hop—zounds! Those operetta tunes are still lurking in the back of my mind. As a matter of fact, I believe they'll stay there for a very long time, and believe me, the memories of LAIMA will be exceptionally pleasant because of the excellent and spectacular performance of the Aido Chorus in this colorfully costumed work of Edmund Audran. May I say that this performance was a feather in the hat of Mr. Stanley Altschuler, the director.

In the first place, the weather man was with us. The end of May is hardly the time to present a production of this scale with period costumes in silks, satins, velvets, and laces. The cool weather of Sunday was specially in our favor. The crowd was there in full force, the Symphony Orchestra was "mellow", and the show was on. The cooperation, which the principals and the Aido Chorus gave, made possible a show which will be the talk of the town for a long time.

The principals are still no doubt walking around in a daze after the flood of compliments they received. They truly deserved them and since I'm not going to elaborate on each performance—leaving that up to the public critic—I'd like to take off my hat to—Bettina—Ruth Palevich, Fiametta, Antoinette Daubar—Lorenzo, Ray Lyben—Frederick, Frank Price—Pippo, Walter Gugas—Rocco, Alphonse Rye.

Speaking of giving credit where credit is due—the brain trust of Alphonse and Anthony Jakstys takes top honors for the hard work and long hours spent in attending to the business angles. Credits to Stephanie Masis and Peter Zilinskas for their patience as prompters—other credits—Donna Daukus—our top saleswoman for advertising space in the programs—a verbal bouquet to the ladies who made a tasty dinner

for the Aido Chorus before the performance and who worked in the kitchen at the Hall. The ladies are as follows: Mrs. Jakstys, Mrs. Rudevicius, Mrs. Kirvelis, Mrs. Andriulienė, Mrs. Yurkeviciene, Zilinskas and Mrs. Greblich.—Credit to the hard working stage hands—Mr. Gautautas, Mr. Romanauskas, and Mr. Rudevicius. I don't have the complete list of names of the workers who helped make this affair a success but I remember seeing Mr. George Nauseda, Mrs. Vogel, and Tony Adams at the bar. There are other individuals whose names I do not have at my finger tips—but to each and every one—the Aido Chorus extends its gratitude.

A BACKSTAGE CHATTER

Odds Bodkins! Me Lord and Ladies! So help me if that small dressing room didn't look as congested as Piccadilly Square during a coronation. My word, now that I think about it—the Royal party puts one in mind of the days of Shakespeare. Lorenzo and Frederick made dashing figures in their tights, velvet coats and plumed hats—plus the wings—of course. Bill Milus and Richard Pavley were the centers of attraction in their red, green and yellow costumes of the guard—such stalwart guards! All the beautiful ladies were a picture to behold in court costume and for bridal finery—Antoinette and Ruth were the envy of any aspiring bride-to-be. Lest I forget—we had factors in our midst from Chicago—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kenston, Mr. and Mrs. Martin, Ruth Judaitis, and Mrs. Judaitis, Mrs. Samuelonis. From Pontiac—Mr. and Mrs. Guyer and son, from Grand Rapids—Mrs. Karpaviciene and others.—Mr. Kenston tendered a personal invitation to Mr. Altschuler asking him to bring "Laima" in the early part of the fall. Well, who knows? We might go at that. Anyway that's something to think about.

Blue Monday Correspondent.

Roseland Aido Chorus News; Group Made Appearance At Lithuanian Culture And Art Radio Club Picnic Past Sunday

As rehearsal was held on Thursday last week instead of Friday and as so many members "just forgot", we had a small attendance; especially in the alto section. Mrs. Murelis was the only one holding down the fort. Josie, Millie, Mrs. Jakus and all the rest of you—where were you? Hmmm? Anyway, we made a good appearance at the Radio Club's picnic last Sunday, even if some of the members made it by the "skin of their teeth" It really was a nice day for the picnic, although it could have been much warmer, and a little drier.

Say, Johnny, whatever happened to you? I was just about ready to give you credit for being one of our most "regular" members and you haven't been coming around lately? Come on, Johnny, tell us who she is! She must be quite a gal!

Speaking of gals, or shall we say, girls, who was that cute redhead making an appearance at the hall Friday and found, much to her surprise, chorus was not having rehearsal that night, but had already had

it the night before?

Hoping the next rehearsal brings out many, many more members, both old and new, I remain, as always,

Your roving reporter,
ROSIE.

Big Business Fills War Chest To Fight Labor

NEW YORK—(FP)—America's top industrialists are kicking in thousands of dollars to power the Natl. Assn. of Manufacturers' nationwide press and radio campaign for adoption of the NAM-spawned Taft-Hartley bill.



Modeled by Annette Trendler, "Chicago Theater of the Air," MBS

A welcome addition to Lake Michigan's shore views is Annette Trendler in her three-piece playsuit of spun rayon. The gray and coral shorts and bra worn by the radio artist have a matching coat with lacing fish-tail back which swings straight from the shoulders. Added interest in this Chicago Fashion Industries design is the cowl hood.

Chicago Lithuanian Fine Arts League District Committee Elects New Officers; Set Picnic Date; To Have Film Showing Of Festival

The executive board of the L.M.S. 1st District held its first meeting last Monday (May 26th) at Vilnis hall. Officers elected are as follows:

President: Joseph Stulgaitis
Vice President: Aldona Svitoris
Secretary: Joseph Bendokaitis
Fin. Sec.: Constance Staneviciene
Treasurer: Just Misevicius
Correspondent: Joseph Bendokaitis and Aldona Svitoris
Book auditing comm.: Anele Doekus, Mary Bartnikienė and Helen Yuskus.

It has been decided that in order to help keep good faith among all L.M.S. organizations a picnic is scheduled under the combined sponsorship of these groups, namely, the L.K.M. chorus, Roseland Aido Chorus, Roseland women's chorus, Ex-Miners' Chorus, Cicero Women's chorus, People's Theatre group and etc. The date has been set for Sept. 21st at Liberty Grove.

For this picnic a committee consisting of two representatives from each of the above mentioned organizations plus the L.M.S. executive board will hold a meeting June 30th at Vilnis hall to elaborate further on picnic plans.

June 19th has been set as the date for clearing up any misunderstanding between the L.K.M. and the Roseland Aido choruses. We certainly hope this meeting succeeds in removing any misunderstanding which has been causing some unbecoming resentment and animosity between these two fine musical groups.

A suggestion which I believe will shortly be instituted is that of appointing Joseph Bendokaitis to the "Book of Affairs" to elucidate; all

L.M.S. organizations are to call on Mr. Bendokaitis before setting a definite date for any affair they may decide to sponsor. This will alleviate the conflict of having two or more affairs crop up for the same day. Certainly this should make for better unity in the L.M.S.

Those movies that were taken during the L.M.S. convention last fall, according to Just Misevicius, may be shown for your amusement this autumn. It should prove interesting to say the least. We'll be waiting for more news on the subject.—

ALDONA.

Henry Wallace May Lead Third Party In Coming Elections

CHICAGO.—"It appears that Henry Wallace may lead a third party in 1948," a veteran newsman accompanying Wallace on his nation-wide tour said.

Writing in the Chicago Daily News, Edwin A. Lahey, of its Washington staff, says "Wallace avoids a direct statement on this issue but he and his associates on his barnstorming tour who are politically hep, can see only independent political action at the end of the road they are now traveling."

YOUTH ARE LEADING IN NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE OF LITHUANIAN FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION FOR 2,000

With the LDS Membership Drive entering its sixth month soon, young LDS members are still dominating membership activities, and despite the leading position in which they are right now, it appears that shortly this lead over the old folks will be further enhanced, reports Laisve English Section.

The latest one to come to the fore in this membership drive is Lillian Gugas, secretary of Detroit LDS Lodge 208, which organized the successful Bowling Tournament for the LDS in the motor city. Lillian now is among the first three competitors for the big prizes.

Lillian's work should place Mr. J. Mockaitis and Mr. Al Petravich leaders in the race, on their toes. It will be remembered that one year ago Lillian Gugas won first prize in the membership drive which ended with the Boston Convention. She is out for a repeat performance.

The Cleveland LDSers, conducting an "every-member-get-a-member" campaign among the members of their Lodge 201, are having some success, for at each meeting there are some new applications presented. To date they have totalled eleven applications and there are more scheduled already to be accepted at the next meeting.

Chicago younger people, who have been good on making promises, have thus far not redeemed them—but being inspired by the National Bowling Tourney early this month and the reports from Cleveland and Detroit as well as Brooklyn, it is expected that they, too, shall come across with applications and soon. Tex Zebraitis, of the Monarchs, had reported that he has six apps that only have to go through with doctor's examination and Frank Kwain, who with his brother George have four applications for the Redwings already recorded, says that another dozen will come in very soon.

Brooklyn started the drive off very well early in the year, but seems to have slackened down a bit.

George Zukauskas of Newark is second only to Lillian Gugas in the race for the Second Drive Booster Prize which is to be awarded to the person who enrolls most new members during the months of April, May and June. The prize for the first 3 months of the year went



Latest fashion trend is for women to wear their jewelry on their hats. Betty Rhodes (above) whose singing voice is heard on many records, keeps abreast of this style by accenting her large fisherman's hat of shiny straw with palladium and diamond jewelry in a stylized sea urchin pattern, repeating the design of the brooch worn at the neckline of her dress.

120 Notables Ask U. S. Break With Fascist Franco

One hundred and twenty prominent Americans last week called on Warren Austin, the United States UN delegate, to back a diplomatic and economic break with the Franco regime in Spain.

The statement, released by the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, said the only way to destroy fascism in Spain swiftly was concerned action through the UN of the United States and other powers which have already broken with Franco.

Events in Spain—such as the steel strike in Bilbao—prove the urgency of a new move against the Spanish dictatorship, the signers of the statement said.

to Al Petravich of the Los Angeles LDS English Speaking Lodge.

The younger people are leading the way once again in the LDS, and are showing the older folks how to work to get in members and race for the completion of the drive to enroll 2,000 members before the Cleveland Convention which is to take place a little over a year from now.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

● Barring bad weather, *Memorial Day* observance throughout the nation should be the largest yet held Chicago Lithuanian turnout will undoubtedly be the greatest at Lithuanian National Cemetery with Darius-Girėnas American Legion Post Band, Grusis Band, Men's Chorus, Keistutis Chorus, Rose-land Aido Chorus and LKM Chorus furnishing the musical end of things. Dedication to the Unknown Soldier, a regular yearly performance, tribute to members of the Association of Lithuanian Workers (LDS) who died in service at the grave of S/Sgt. John Razmus by Lambda Delta Sigma, LDS members generally, Al Blozis Chapter American Veterans Committee LDS'ers is part of the day's proceedings

● Catholic Daily Draugas is recommending "Backstairs Mission In Moscow" by Charles Ciliberti as "preferred" reading. The book, a deliberate opposite designed to counteract former U. S. Ambassador Joseph E. Davies "Mission To Moscow" which is favorable toward the Russian people, was purportedly written by Davies' chauffeur.

Ciliberti's book, the writer of this column must say, is "recommended" reading for people of child-like mentality who believe in spooks and are avid followers of Dick Tracy It's as phoney as Draugas' "Special News" releases

● That Eastern Seaboard Lithuanian Fine Arts League Festival scheduled for Fall in Brooklyn, New York, seems to be shaping up exceptionally well. Individual sponsors are Dr. J. J. Kas-kiacius, John Similevicius, Violet Cypas, Ignas Kubiliunas, Ona Mineikis, E. Sugeris, J. Karsokienė, Gertrude Ulinskas, Wilma Hollis, A. Merkis, N. Jasiukynaitė, J. Reinardienė, J. Zikonis, M. Sukackienė, S. Baronas, R. Buzas, C. Yenkul, M. Svinkunas, B. Rasins, W. Brazauskas, S. Makaveckas, B. Muleranka E. Mizar-ienė, H. Brucas, P. Grabauskas, Albina Debs and E. Sidney Executive committee in charge of arrangements are Bob Zukauskas, W. Zukas, E. Sklecas, Manfred Jamison, H. Mitkus, J. Byrocas, R. Feiferis, A. Dagnis, J. Gugas, V. Bevinas.

● A supporter of Henry A. Wallace, Charles R. Savage, won hands down over an announced advocate of Harry Truman's policies in the State of Washington's congressional primary. Savage, of *Lithuanian extraction*, beat out State Attorney General Smith Troy—16,450 to 11,546 His statement following announced victory was: "We in America will not tolerate attacks upon labor, upon social security, nor upon low cost housing and reclamation. The people voted to repudiate reaction. They intend that the tide of reaction shall be turned." Newspapers Nau-ienos or Draugas made no comment on the Washington primaries

● Coming events in Chicago are LKM Chorus picnic June 8, to be followed by Vilnis, Lithuanian Daily, Spring Picnic on the 15th Rumor has it that LDS Redwings lodge will compete in baseball with an outside team at the LKM blowout

● Lithuanian Fine Arts League National Secretary, Leon Jonik, spoke at a Memorial Day observance that was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan

● Lithuanian Daily Laisve editor Roy Mizara and wife Eve stopped over in Chicago the past week on their way eastward following a vacation in Los Angeles

● "Su stuba ant ratų" bound for Oakland or Los Angeles, California are the Markevicius' of Rochester, New York who stopped for a brief visit in Windy City last week

● The newly formed Lithuanian Peoples Theatre of Chicago is moving rapidly ahead according to info Younger element of the group have a short play in tow and expect to go into rehearsal soon

● Stories to the affect that package, letters or other material are not being received by the people of Lithuania is sheer hokum, a propaganda trick being utilized by Lithuanian-American reactionaries designated to aggravate those who have relatives abroad

● A fine turnout of people was had at the recently held Al Blozis Chapter, American Veterans Committee Dance and Drawing, Lithuanian Auditorium