

40

VYTIŠ

NO. 2 — VOLUME 39
VASARIS - FEB.
1953

Published Monthly by
KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA



DIEVUI IR TĒVYNEI
 Year's subscription: U. S. and
 Canada \$3.00; foreign \$3.50;
 single copy 30 cents

EDITOR—DR. JUOZAS LEIMONAS,
 143 W. 6th St., South Boston 27, Mass.

Asst. Editor—PHYLLIS GRENDAL,
 395 W. Broadway, South Boston 27, Mass.

**KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SUPREME COUNCIL
 OFFICERS 1952-1953**

REV. ALBERT J. Contons, Spiritual Director
 50 W. 6th St., South Boston 27, Mass.

AL. WESEY-VASILIAUSKAS, President,
 72 Steamboat Rd., Great Neck, L. I., New York

ROBERT S. BORIS, Vice President,
 1512 Twenty fourth St., Detroit 16, Michigan

WALTER R. CHINIK, Vice President,
 4649 Cook Ave., Pittsburgh 27, Pa.

ANN MITCHELL, Recording Secretary,
 1015 Monroe Ave., Elizabeth, New Jersey

MRS. TILLIE GERULIS, Financial Secretary,
 38 Providence St., Worcester 4, Mass

WILLIAM KOLICIUS, JR., Treasurer,
 2002 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh 10, Pa.

MRS. MARY WAITONIS, Trustee,
 23 Richter St., Providence 8, Rhode Island

HELEN GUDAUSKAS, Trustee,
 1433 So. 49th Avenue, Cicero 50, Illinois

JOSEPH GRISH, Esq., Legal Advisor,
 1324 Bruce Ave., Glendale 2, California

RITUAL COMMITTEE

JACK L. JATIS, Chairman,
 6822 So. Rockwell St., Chicago 29, Illinois

LONGINAS L. SVELNIS, treasurer,
 163 I St., South Boston 27, Mass.

ADELE CERASKA, secretary,
 58 E. Mountain St., Worcester, Mass.

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

REV. JOHN C. JUTKEVICIUS, Chairman
 153 Sterling St., Worcester, Mass.

Chicago District—ALDONA BRUZAS,
 1448 W. 31st St., Chicago 20, Illinois

Pittsburgh District—HELEN GIRDIS,
 2407 Sarah St., Pittsburgh 3, Pa.

New York-New Jersey District—ANNE KLEM,
 183 Dukes St. Kearny, New Jersey

New England—MRS. THEODORE F. PINKUS
 76 Providence St., Worcester 4, Mass.

TURINYS — CONTENTS	psl.
Vasario 16 diencs šventei	3
Alfa Sušinskas, Herojiška Lietuva	4
Rev. Albert J. Contons, Toward a better "Vytis"	5
Ignas Sakalas, Lietuvos Vyčių Istorija	7
J. Daumantas, Partisans Behind the Iron Curtain	10
L. Dambriūnas, Gimtoji Kalba	12
Evelyn Bender, "... Ir Tėvynei"	13
Anthony D. Yuknis, The Hero Kosciuszko ...	14
Jubilee Concert	17
Oficialus Skyrius	18
Vyčiai Veikia, Council Activities	21

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

LEONARDAS SIMUTIS, Chairman; JACK L. JATIS,
Secretary; ANTHONY J. MAZEIKA, FRANK RAZVA-
DAUSKAS, KASTAS ZAROMSKIS.

BUILDING FUND

ANTHONY J. MAZEIKA, Pittsburgh, Pa.
REV. J. VAITEKUNAS, Providence, R. I.
FRANK GUDELIS, Dayton, Ohio (treasurer)

M. A. NORKUNAS MEMORIAL FUND

JOSEPH BOLEY, New York City, Chairman
KASTAS ZAROMSKIS, Cicero, Ill.
JUOZAS SADAUSKAS, Cleveland, Ohio

PUBLIC RELATIONS

L. VALIUKAS, Los Angeles, California
HELEN GUDAUSKAS, Cicero, Illinois
JUOZAS SADAUSKAS, Cleveland, Ohio

All correspondence should reach the editor by the 10th of the month preceding the next issue. Correspondents may use pen names, but all correspondence must bear the signature and address of the writer. The editor assumes no obligation to return any material not solicited.

Application for transfer of Second Class entry from Boston, Mass. to Worcester Mass. is pending, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

POSTMASTER: if undeliverable, send form 3579 to 38 Providence St., Worcester 4, Mass..

SKAITYKITE ir PLATINKITE

“VYTI”

VASARIO 16 d. ŠVENTĖ, DIDŽIŲJŲ LIETUVIŲ TAUTOS PASIRYŽIMŲ DIENA!



**Visi Į Kovą
Už Lietuvos
Laisvę!**

Kas galės tikėti,
Lietuva tėvyne,
Kad iš kraujo jūros
Tu gyvent kilai?
Iš partizanų dainų.

Neliūdėk, brangi tėvyne,
Negraudink tu mums širdžių;
Pragiedrės dangaus mėlynė,
Prasiskleis migla naktų!
Iš liaudies dainų

Herojiška Lietuva

Alfa Sušinskas

(Vasario 16-sios proga)

1. Ugnimi ir kalaviju

Retas kuris kraštas savo praeityje yra tiek daug kentėjęs nuo įvairių svetimųjų užpuolėjų ir pavergėjų, kiek Lietuva kad yra kentėjusi. Plėšrūs ir grobuoniški Lietuvos kaimynai nekartą yra ją naikinę ugnimi ir kalaviju. Būdama prie Baltijos jūros ir turėdama iš dviejų pusių du didelius nedraugiškus, klastingus kaimynus (vokiečius ir rusus), Lietuva nekartą būdavo dideliame pavojuje ir nuo jų kruvinai nukentėdavo. Net lenkai ir tokie švedai yra nemaža kenkę Lietuvai ir jai daug skriaudų yra pridarę.

Mieląją Lietuvą puldinėdavo kryžiuočiai vokiečiai, jos žmones žudydami ir turtą plėšdami. Savo biaučius ir žiaurius darbus jie teisindavo tuo, kad jie nori Lietuvą apkrikštyti, o jie nesiduodanti. Nors lietuviai tada ir pagonyms buvo, bet jie buvo geresni už krikščioniškuosius kryžiuočius vokiečius, kuriems ne Lietuvos krikštas rūpėjo, o Lietuvos žemė, Lietuvos turtas. . .

Kai Lietuva atsidūrė rusų carų valdžioje, kai ją ėmė valdyti maskoliai, visas kraštas buvo pavestas vergais, baudžiauninkais; lietuviai ėmė kentėti po svetimu jungu tiek dvasiškai, tiek ir kūniškai.

Lietuvos praeitis yra pilna kančių; Lietuvos žemė yra aplaistyta herojiškojo lietuvių kraujo savo mieląjį kraštą beginant, dėl savo laisvės ir dėl savo teisių visokiais būdais bekovoiant.

Laisvės troškimas ir laisvės siekimas niekuomet nebuvo užgesęs lietuvių širdyje: laisvės meilė lietuvių širdyje degė kaitria ugnimi, kuri lietuvių stiprino jo kovoje prieš pavergėjus.

2. Didžioji Laisvės Diena

Tai buvo vadinamasis pirmas pasaulinis karas, kada beveik visa Europa skendėjo kraujuje ir liepsnose. Didžiosios tautos viena kitą skerdė, o 1917 metais rusų carų valdžią pagrobęs bolševizmas-komunizmas, visą Rusiją užliejęs krauju, jau dairėsi į kitas valstybes ir planavo, kaip jas sunaikinti galėtų tada, kada ateis tinkamiausias laikas. Europos kariavusios valstybės nusilpo; silpna buvo pasidariusi ir naujoji bolševikinė komunistinė Rusija.

Lietuva, beveik pusantro šimto metų laisvės siekusi Rusijos vergijoje, sulaukė savo laisvės aušros. Išmintingi ir drąsūs Lietuvos vyrai, pasi-

naudodami kitų valstybių, ypač Rusijos, silpnumu, Vilniuje susirinkę visam pasauliui paskelbė, kad atstatoma Lietuvos Nepriklausomybė, kad Lietuva atsikūrė kaip laisva valstybė, savųjų valdoma ir kitiems nebeprisiklausoma.

Ta didžioji diena buvo 1918 metais vasario mėnesio 16-tą dieną. Nuo to laiko ši diena yra pati didžioji tautinė lietuvių šventė.

Nuo to laiko Lietuva pradėjo gyventi naują gyvenimą! Nors pačioj pradžioj Lietuvos priešai ir stengėsi vos atsikūrusią Lietuvos Nepriklausomybę ir vėl nužudyti, tačiau tiems Lietuvos priešams nepasisekė: juos sumušė Lietuvos savanoriai, Lietuvos kareivėliai. . . Lietuva pradėjo gyventi laisvą gyvenimą.

Lietuva pradėjo kilti!

Žemės ūkis ėmė gerėti. Keliai buvo gerinami ir tiesiami nauji. Atsirado naujų geležinkelių. Vis daugiau ir daugiau buvo steigiami mokyklų. Kasmet vis daugiau gydytojų, daugiau savų inžinierių, daugiau mokytojų ir kunigų. . . O laikraščiai ir knygos ėmė daugėti milžinišku greičiu. Visko kasmet daugiau, viskas ėmė gražėti, ėmė gerėti. . . Laisvosios Lietuvos žemė ir žmonės, visas jos veidas pradėjo keistis ir kopti aukštyn gražios kultūros ir naudingos civilizacijos keliu.

Ištikrųjų, 1918 metų vasario šešioliktoji yra pati didžioji Lietuvos diena, nuo kurios prasidėjo visokeriopas Lietuvos žydėjimas.

Deja, Lietuva tebuvo laisva tik 22 metus (1918-1940). . . Jeigu būtų palikusi laisva, ji greitai būtų viskuo pralenkusi kitas tautas, nuo senų laikų esančias laisvas, nes lietuvis yra sumanus, darbštus, pilnas kūrybinės dvasios ir veržlus. Bet. . .

3. Nors pančiuose, bet kovojanti

Bet 1940 metais birželio 15 dieną žydinčius Lietuvos laukus staiga ėmė niokoti įsiveržę rusų bolševikų tankai: prasidėjo rusiškoji komunistinė okupacija. Po metų ją pakeitė kita — rudoji vokiečių okupacija, ir 1944 metais vėl grįžo rusiškoji komunistinė okupacija, iki šiol mieląją Lietuvą tebekankinanti baisioje vergijoje. . .

Visada taip būna: kur nebėra laisvės, ten nebėra nė tikro, žmoniško gyvenimo.

Reikia pasakyti, kad komunistinis režimas prašoka visas kitas istorijoj buvusias vergijas.

Toward A Better "Vytis"

Rev. Albert J. Contons

What do you think of the soldier who would dare face the enemy without a weapon? Even worse, what do you think of the soldier who has a weapon but doesn't care about it, and lets it slip slowly from his grasp as he joins battle with a mortal enemy? As twentieth century soldiers of Christ we fight the enemies of God on many fronts. In America today the most critical battles are being waged on the Idea—Front. Our chief weapon is the Catholic Press. In this brief article I would like to discuss the role of the K. of L. in this War of Ideas, and its powerful weapon, the VYTIS magazine.

Jeį sudėtume visas buvusias vergijas į vieną krūvą, jos visas kartu dar atrodytų švelnesnės už vieną komunistinę bolševikinę vergiją. . .

Ką rusai komunistai daro Lietuvoj? Jie atėmė iš žmonių viską, kas tik begalima atimti: jie atėmė žemes, visoki turtą, jie atėmė darbo ir judėjimo laisvę; jie atėmė sąžinės ir galvojimo laisvę: jie žiauriausiu būdu persekioja religiją ir nors kiek kitaip, negu jie, galvojančius; jie atėmė iš lietuvių lietuviškumą: jie rusina jaunimą, visus žmones, visas mokyklas, visas įstaigas; jie niekina ir naikina lietuvių kultūrą; jie gyvulišku būdu naikina lietuvių tautą: tremia žmones Rusijos gilumon, juos žudo, kalėjimuose marina (tai baisusis genocidas!). . .

Lietuva ir jos laisvė yra baisiuose pančiuose ir naikinama. Betgi tikrasis lietuvis, savyje turįs amžiais kentėjusio kraujo, dar galimais ir prieinamais būdais nepasiduoda ir kovoja prieš raudonąją vergiją! Kenčiantysis ir dėl laisvės kovojantis lietuvis savo krauju šaukia į pasaulį, kad jis praregėtų ir pamatytų tikrąjį komunizmo veidą!

Kas vakar ištiko Lietuvą ir kitus rusų komunistų pavergtus kraštus, tas pats rytoj ištiks ir kitas dar laisvas tautas, jei komunizmas nebus sunaikintas.

Ką daro šiuo reikalu laisvųjų valstybių valdžios, ir jų diplomatai? Ką daro šiuo reikalu viso pasaulio laisvieji krikščionys? . .

Vasario šešioliktoji yra didžioji Lietuvių Tautos šventė, tik šiandien ji gedulo, liūdesio ir kovos šydu apdengta. . .

THE PRESS: A FORCE FOR GOOD OR EVIL.

Many Catholics, Lithuanians too, don't realize how effective newspapers and magazines are in molding the ideas of men. The great English poet, Tennyson, once wrote, "I am a part of all that I have met." We may change this and say, "I am a part of all that I have read." It would be a dull mind that would remain uninfluenced by what it read.

Good literature can make great men. Ignatius was a Spanish soldier wounded in battle. To help pass the time of day while recuperating he asked for a book to read. The only book available was the Lives of the Saints. Ignatius was so inspired by what he read, that his whole life was changed. He repented of his sins, became a priest, founded the Jesuit Order, and won the crown of sanctity. What a tremendous force for good was let loose in the world, all because St. Ignatius was handed a good book.

Bad literature on the other hand can destroy instead of inspire. In the eighteenth century Jean Jacques Rousseau, a French philosopher wrote a book entitled the "Social Contract." It was filled with many errors. The French nobility laughed at the book. But many people read the "Social Contract" and took in its ideas. At last ideas were translated into action. The bloody French Revolution was the result. No one laughed at the book now, for as one writer put it, "They didn't laugh at the second edition, because it was bound in the hides of those who laughed at the first."

K. OF L. AND THE WAR OF IDEAS

The Knights of Lithuania are entrusted with an important sector of the battlefield of ideas: Lithuanian Catholic youth. We may regret that we were not born English, or Irish, or Russian so that our numbers would be greater and our influence more widespread. Perhaps we would have liked to live in the days of St. Paul to die a martyr's death in the Colliseum of Rome; or perhaps we would have liked to drink in the wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas amongst the splendors of Paris in the Thirteenth, the Greatest of Centuries; or possibly we dream of living the

adventurous life of a Cortes, Pizarro, or Ponce de Leon in the glorious Age of Exploration. Yet God in His divine plan has created us for the twentieth century. He has created us of Lithuanian parents. He has given us the grace of the Catholic faith. This is the natural milieu for our activity.

There are many ideas that we must get across to Lithuanian Catholic youth. We must emphasize the basic truths of our religion, the beauties of our worship, and the rich blessings of our sacraments. We should bring out the happiness of Catholic living, and the harmony which ordinarily results from Lithuanian Catholic marriages. We ought to teach Lithuanian-American youth the respect and love which they should have for the language and customs of their parents. We might point out with pride the many fine accomplishments of Lithuanians of the past and present. Most important of all now, we must unite in constant and unrelenting effort to free Lithuania from the Communists. When the Communists by threats and violent persecution are trying to wipe out any trace of Lithuanian language and tradition, it would be a betrayal of our own parents and all that is dear to them, to voluntarily renounce that culture which others pay for with their blood.

A BETTER VYTIS

How can we get these ideas across? The early K. of L'ers knew the answer. That's why they founded the official organ: THE VYTIS. The press is a powerful weapon. It is a pulpit from which to instruct youth in religion. It is a university where youth may learn principles of action. It is a platform from which youth can speak its ideas. It is a shield to defend youth against attack. It is a missionary that keeps knocking at the soul of a youth until it gradually wins him over to a different way of life. The press is the lifeline which holds an organization together and inspires its youth to sacrifice, work, and forge ahead.

Yet the VYTIS does not seem to be fulfilling its mission. This is because the members are losing sight of the importance of the weapon they hold in their grasp. We are not putting across our K. of L. ideas in a convincing way. Except for our loyal correspondents very few K. of L'ers are interested enough to express their ideas in the VYTIS.

The VYTIS can be improved in many, many ways. As a matter of fact the editors are seeking help to give the VYTIS a completely new face-lifting: a different format; more illustrations and photographs; feature articles about the best achievements of Lithuanians in America and the world over; news from Lithuanian colonies throughout the U. S.; religious questions and answers column; letters to the editor column; puzzles; cartoons; jokes; Lithuanian history; and many other possibilities. But it is idle to speculate about making the VYTIS a first class magazine for Lithuanian-American youth unless the members are willing to get behind and push the VYTIS. This calls for the enthusiastic support of every K. of L'ers. Some may be able to write articles. The editors would be happy to suggest interesting subjects. Others may be able to illustrate. Perhaps others can jot down news of interest to Lithuanian youth. Many have religious questions which our battery of experts would be happy to answer. Everyone can at least write a letter to the editor about the VYTIS, or any other subject that comes to mind. The new VYTIS would need more money. Would the councils be willing to contribute more to the Supreme Council for this cause? Would members be willing to do some leg work, and really sell subscriptions to others? Would they like to see the VYTIS break out from the limits of an organizational magazine with large sections devoted to official notices and local council gossip, and expand into a more popular, attractive Lithuanian-American youth magazine with more interesting articles in English? These are the questions which demand discussion if the K. of L. is to be a vigorous and influential organization.

The K. of L. is the twentieth century soldier doing battle on the Idea-Front. But unless the soldier soon becomes concerned about the weapon which is slowly slipping from his grasp, he will find himself powerless to attack or defend!





Ignas Sakalas

Lietuvos Vyčių Istorija

Vyčių Istorijos pradžia

Šių metų balandžio 27 d. sueis lygiai 40 metų nuo įsteigimo Lietuvos Vyčių Organizacijos. Steigiamajam seime, kuris įvyko Lawrence, Mass., dalyvavo sekantieji anų laikų jaunimo veikėjai: M. A. Norkūnas, kun. J. Aleknavičius, kun. A. Jusaitis, tuometinis Lawrence lietuvių parapijos klebonas, S. Bugnavičius, A. Simoniūtė, K. Urbanas, S. Mačiulskis, A. Jankauskas, V. Pauliukaitis ir A. Mačiulskaitė. Posėdis įvyko parapijos salėj ir truko visą popietį.

Po suvažiavimo dalyviai išsiskirstę po Naująją Angliją buvo nepaprastai užsidegę sutelkti lietuvių katalikiškąjį jaunimą į organizuotą judėjimą, kuris greitu laiku persimetė ir į vidurvakarines valstybes, ir po metų kitų visos didesnės lietuvių kolonijos pražydo Lietuvos Vyčių kuopomis.

Pastangos Vyčių istorijai parašyti

Prieš keletą metų viename seime kilo sumanymas išleisti organizacijos istoriją atskiru leidiniu. Istorijai parašyti išrinktas redakcinis kolektyvas su vienu vyčių steigėju, būtent M. A. Norkūnu, kuris jau buvo anksčiau pradėjęs rinkti medžiagą. Kolektyvui darbas nesisekė dėl keliolikos priežasčių, o svarbiausios buvo šios: nariai negyveno vienoje vietoje, iki 1922 metų Centro Valdybai neturint nuolatinės buveinės ir kilnojantis iš vietos į vietą dingo pirmosios Centro Valdybos knygos, protokolų knygos, narių įrašymo blankai, žodžiu, pats svarbiausias organizacijos archyvas. Pagaliau Centro Valdybos nepasistengė net surinkti visus — visų metų "Vyties" komplektus. Kiek žino-

ma, komisija bandė kreiptis į kuopas ir paskirus asmenis, bet ir čia vieni mažai kreipė į tai dėmesio, o daug jau buvo tokių vietų, kur tikrai darbai liudijo, kad čia gyvavo vyčių kuopa. Reikalui stovint vietoje, kiekvieną metą per seimą buvo tas klausimas iš naujo diskutuojamas ir renkamos naujos komisijos, tačiau darbas nei kiek nebuvo pastumėtas pirmyn.

Artėjant šiai sukakčiai, 1949 metais seime nutarta istorinės medžiagos rinkimą pavesti vienam asmeniui ir tam reikalui paskirta \$500. Nuo to laiko prasidėjo darbas, kuris nors lėtokai ėjo dėl augščiau minėtų priežasčių, tačiau buvo tęsiama. Versta mano turimieji pageltę "Vyties" komplektai, taip pat "Draugo", "Darbininko" ir kitų katalikiškų laikraščių, taipgi rinktos žinios iš dar gyvųjų organizacijų narių—veteranų. Netikrinu, kad šiemet leidinys bus pilnai paruoštas spaudai, bet medžiaga, kiek jos buvo galima gauti pilnai istorijai, bus aptvarkyta.

Trumpos Vyčių kuopų apžvalgos

Šių metų "Vyčio" vasario numeryje pradėdu dėti atskirų kuopų gyvavimo ir veiklos apžvalgėles. Gaivalingas organizacijos veikimas kolonijose, kaip žinome, reiškėsi per kuopas. Seimai, Centro Valdybos davė direktyvas, o kuopos jas sekė ir veikė. Tad praleisti istorijoje tas kuopų apžvalgėles būtų tas pat, kaip neidėti tikro deimančiuko į gaminamą gražų papuošalą.

Rašant šias apžvalgėles, tikiu, buvo daug kas aplenkta ar pamiršta. Todėl kiekvienos kuopos te-

būnie pareiga jos apžvalgę persvarstyti, patikslinti, kas praleista pridėti ir su tais pataisymais, perrašius iš naujo mašinėle, atsiųsti man, žemiau pasirašusiam. Gale apžvalgėse galima sužymėti visi žymesnieji buvę ir dabartiniai kuopos veikėjai, kurie savo pasišventimu, uolumu užsitarnavo, kad jo vardas būtų įrašytas į organizacijos istoriją.

Ignas K. Sakalas,
LV Istorijos redaktorius
2334 So. Oakley Ave.
Chicago 8, Ill.

1-ji kuopa Brocktone - Montello, Mass.

Kuopa įsteigta tuojau po pirmojo steigiamojo organizacijos suvažiavimo 1913 metais balandžio 27 d. Lawrence, Mass. Prieš tai kolonijoj veikė Jaunimo Ratelis, kuriam priklausė ir tų laikų moksleiviai, jų tarpe ir klierikas P. Virmauskis, dabartinis lietuvių parapijos So. Bostone, Mass., klebonas. Išgirdus apie naują organizaciją, kuri jungianti jaunimą visose lietuvių kolonijose, susauktas Ratelio susirinkimas, į kurį buvo pakviestas M. Norkūnas, kad plačiau paaiškintų apie organizaciją, jos tikslą ir t.t. Išklašius pranešimo nutarta persikrikštyti į "Sakalus", nes pirmame seime Jaunimo Draugija tuo vardu buvo pavadinta. Sekančiais metais ALRK Federacijos kongresui svarstant lietuvių jaunimo klausimą, kun. A. Kaupui pasiūlius "Sakalų" vardą pakeisti Lietuvos Vyčiais ir kongresui vienbalsiai nutarus, Brocktono-Montellos "Sakalų" kuopa persikrikštijo į Lietuvos Vyčių kuopą ir jai teko numeris pirmas.

Iš pradžių kuopa buvo veikli. Ir nenuostabu, nes čia veikė pats organizacijos steigėjas M. Norkūnas. Moksleiviai, klierikai: P. Virmauskis, J. Vaičiūnas, P. Juškaitis, kun. K. Urbonavičius, M. Juškienė, J. Vaičiūnas, M. Abračinskas, J. Čiurbulėnas, Kubilių šeima, O. Kašėtaitė ir kt.

Kuopa buvo suorganizuotas chora, kurį vedė dain. R. Juška. Veikė taip pat dramos ir sporto skyriai. Gyva veikla tęsėsi iki gyveno kun. K. Urbonavičius ir augščiau minėti moksleiviai. Jiems išvykus kitur, ne tik kuopos veikimas susilpnėjo, bet ir pati kuopa apmirė. Vėliau jau kitų veikėjų kuopa pažadinta į gyvenimą pradėjo naują veikimą, kurį ir dabar tęsia.

Pirmąją kuopos valdyba sudarė: pirm. J. Ramanauskas, vicepirm. Kaz. Čiurbulėnas, sekr. O. Kašėtaitė, fin. sekr. M. Mazgelienė, išd. Jonas Žebrys.

Nuo įsisteigimo iki šiol kuopa yra suruošus 50 vakarų—vaidinimų, 15 koncertų, apie 250 paskaitų. Be to, kasmet suruošdavo po keletą piknikų ir

įvairių kultūrinių pasilinksminimų.

Kasmet kuopa ruošdavo vakarinius kursus, o pirmasiais gyvavimo metais leido net laikraštėlį "Bitelė" ir turėjo pastovią komisiją surasti darbo atvykusiems iš Lietuvos ir įsikūrusiems Brocktone-Montelloj.

Veikimu ir aukomis kuopa yra žymiai parėmus parapiją, mokyklas, vienuolynus, labdaros įstaigas. Taipgi daug yra aukojus savo organizacijos bendriems reikalams: seimams, centro namui, savai spaustuvei ir "Vyties" leidimui paremti.

Lietuvos laisvės reikalams kuopa taipgi yra daug aukojus, o nariai išpirkę Lietuvos Laisvės Paskolos lakštų (bonų). Šiuo metu kuopa remia ALT ir BALF aukomis ir veikimu. Nuolatos gyva yra ir Lietuvos (Lietuvių) Reikalų Komisija.

Vėlesnieji ir dabartiniai žymesni kuopos veikėjai: P. Moncevičius, kap. USN; A. Kubilius, kap. USN; dr. A. Budreskis, Sylvia Shukis, Bertha Gutauskas, Dorothy Pekerski, Adela Chesnul, Ernest Wallent ir kiti. Kuopos dvasios vadovu yra kun. S. W. Saulėnas.

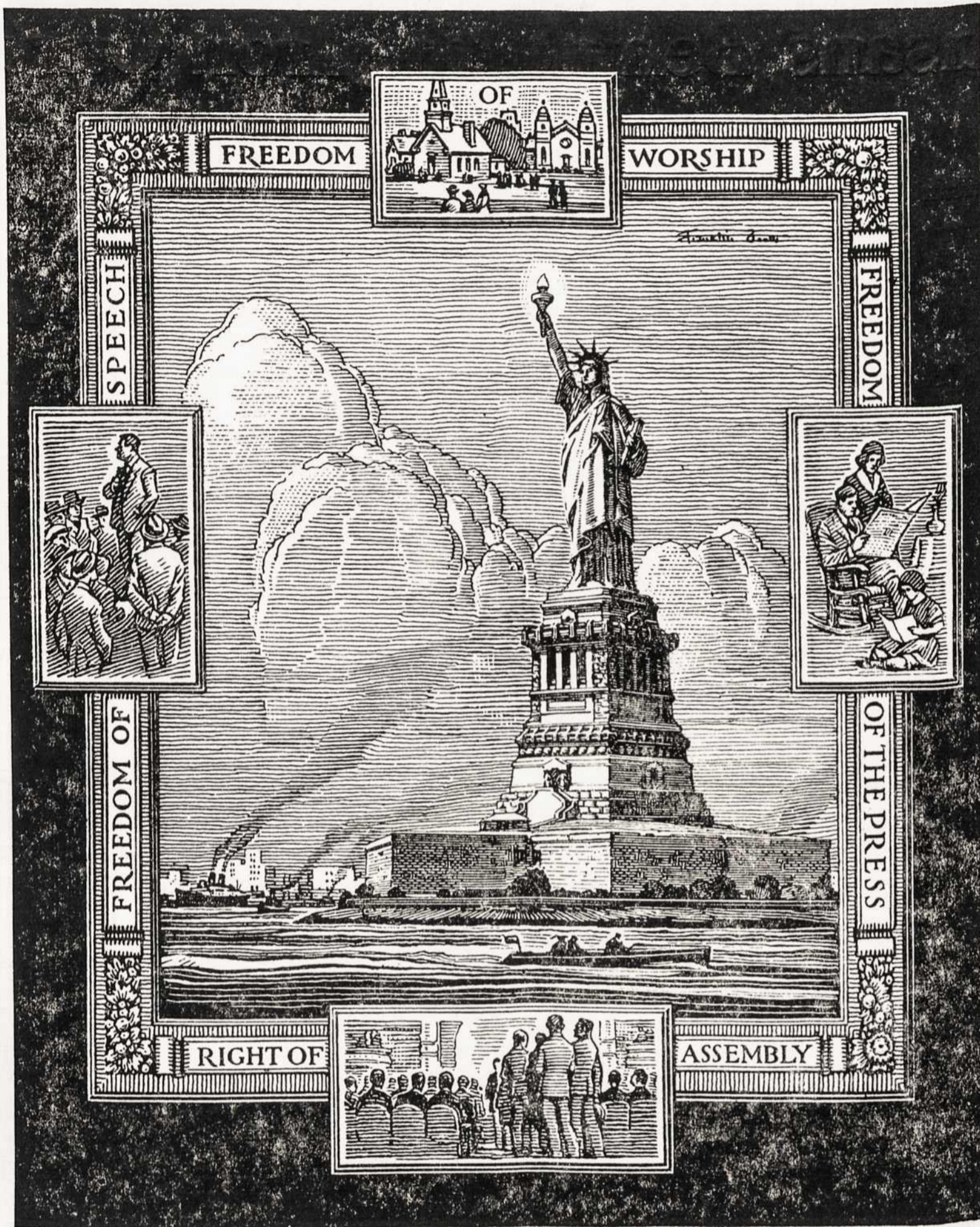
2-ji kuopa Lewiston, Me.

Kuopa įsteigta 1915 metais S. Bugnavičiaus pastangomis. 2-ji numerį gavo dėl to, kad iki tol įsisteigusių kuopų ji antroji pasiuntė Centru savą mokestį ir iš Centro gavo pažymėjimą kaip nr. 2. Pirmame kuopos susirinkime susirašė 25 nariai. Dingus pirmajai protokolų knygai negalima buvo sužinoti, kas sudarė pirmąją kuopos valdybą.

Pirmaisiais gyvavimo metais kuopa suruošė keletą vakarų—vaidinimų ("Nepasisekė Marytei", "Šv. Elzbieta", "Nastutė", "Kūmutės" ir k.). Vieno vakaro pelną paskyrė a. a. Laurinaitės Paminklo Fondui Chicagoj. Ši Cicero, Ill., vyčių veikėja tragiškai žuvo Chicago upėj apvirtus ekskursiniam Western Electric Co. darbininkų laivui Eastland. Gražus vyčių nupirktas paminklas ir šiandien tebestovi ant velionės kapo šv. Kazimiero kapinėse Chicagoj.

1916 metais atvykus iš Lietuvos kun. N. Pakalniui buvo suorganizuotas choras, kuris suruošė keletą koncertų. 1917-18 metais kuopos scenos mėgėjai atvaidino porą sunkesnių veikalų ("Gims tautos genijus" ir "Valkata"), taip pat įsteigtas jaunamečių skyrius, vakarinė lituanistikos mokykla ir suorganizuota pirmoji didelė jaunimo iškyla.

Tautiškam veikime kuopa taip pat buvo pirmose vietose. Kuopos iniciatyva įsteigtas Tautos Fondo skyrius, kuris Lietuvos reikalams surinko keletą tūkstančių dolerių. Įsteigus Vyčių spaustuve kuopą



LAISVĒS, KURIŅ. ŽMONIJA SIEKIA

pa jā taipgi gausiai parēmē aukomis.

Vēliau žymesniems veikējams pradējus išvažinēti ī kitus miestus, kuopos veikimas susilpnējo, o ilgainiui ir visiškai apmirē. Tik po keliolikos metu

kuopa buvo atgaivinta ir šandien vēl darbuojas stengdama eiti savo pirmtakūnēs pēdomis.

Iš pirmuju žymesniu veikēju žymētini: S. Bugnavičius, O. Dailydaitē, V. Vaišiūlaitē, B. Ivaškevičiūtē ir kt.

J. Daumantas

Partisans Behind the Iron Curtain

Contacts in Poland

The Partisan Movement from the very first days of its activities had kept up certain contact across the border in Poland. At irregular intervals, one or another trusted messenger would be sent to that Partisan center with documents and other information which would be published in newspapers abroad. In exchange, the Partisan messenger would receive newspapers and other documents which would keep the Partisan leaders up to date on world affairs. On one such occasion I was chosen to make the crossing.

A Dangerous Assignment

Toward the end of March, the Partisan High Command decided to make another contact with our group in Poland and I was ordered to prepare for this trip. I had to pick a few trusted and brave companions, procure civilian clothes, some Polish money and some poison. This last item, of course, was not for human consumption. It was to be used on the dogs (the fourfooted variety) that guarded the frontier.

When all was in readiness we were given the packet of documents, precise, legal evidence, describing the tyranny of the Communists in Lithuania, which will be used one day when Russia is summoned to a World Court and tried for genocide. After brotherly farewells, we shouldered our packs, containing food, our weapons and some ammunition and set out, at night, as usual.

Our course took us through a region where the Russians were staging a "bandit-hunt", meaning, of course, a Partisan hunt. A few days previously, the Reds had succeeded in trapping one of our Partisan couriers with important papers in his possession. From these it was learned that there was a Partisan camp in the region. So, the Russians called in hundreds of soldiers and secret agents to make a thorough search of the neighborhood. All the roads were blocked. Machine guns were sets up at strategic places. A house to house search was begun.

Ordinarily, 10 or 20 agents would surround a house, while one or two would make the search. This time the Reds were much more thorough. They knocked on every wall, they poked into the ceilings, they drove long iron prongs into the earth in the cellars, to see if there was a secret cellar underneath the regular basement. They even began digging trenches 3 or 4 feet wide around the buildings to see if there were any tunnels they might cut across. They would measure the outside of the buildings and then check the inside measurements of the rooms, to see if there was a trick wall somewhere.

When their search proved futile, they would torture the people to obtain more information. In one farmhouse, they set their vicious dogs upon the farmer's wife. With blood streaming from the many dogbites she had received, the brave woman would not divulge any information of value to the enemy.

Fortunately, we were able to pass through that region so heavily infested with Russian agents without trouble.

In the neighboring region, we discovered what happened when the Communist Partisan hunt was successful.

We learned with great sorrow that Kunigaikštis — the Duke had innocently betrayed the Partisan hideaway, and that he, the Baritone, and Fir-tree, a young girl Partisan had been trapped in their underground "office".

The Russians came upon the Duke's trail some time previously, and kept trailing him as he went about his Partisan business. When they were sure which of the houses was the secret hiding place, they quietly surrounded it and began a foot by foot search. They ripped up the floor and by using the long iron rods, they discovered the underground "office". But, try as they would, they could not discover the entrance. So they brought in pickaxes and shovels and began digging. There was no escape possible for the three Partisans below. So, under orders, they began burning documents. When the Russians were just about to break through, the Partisans set off a bomb which blew up the farmhouse,

killed several Russians and destroyed themselves, also.

Along the route of our journey we picked up several such instances of tragedies to our side.

Nevertheless, we did not lose heart. We marched on toward the frontier, to the Iron Curtain which shut off from all the world the terrible story of genocide in Lithuania.

We, finally, came to the *rendez-vous* agreed upon and were received most hospitably by the Partisans of that sector. The news they gave us about the possibility of crossing over at the regular spot was unfavorable. The Reds had set up more guards, and more barbed wire fences. From all indications we could not cross over secretly. We would have to fight our way across the border and through the Iron Curtain. We decided to look for a spot somewhat to the left of the one we usually took. The next day, during daylight, we would get as close to the border as possible and spend the day studying the terrain. Tomorrow night would be the breakthrough!

We Pierced the Iron Curtain

That night, we said our prayers more fervently than ever, and lay down for some rest. It was still dark when we were awakened, and after a bite to eat we set out for our places near the frontier. We camouflaged ourselves with tree branches and took up our positions for the all day reconnaissance. We watched the patrols go by, and noticed the hours of the change of the guard.

In the afternoon, one of our guides made a blunder which nearly wrecked all our plans. He had crawled up to about 800 yards of the line and seeing no one around, stood up to get a better look. At that very moment a Red mounted guard came galloping along. The tree-covered guide made a quick dive for the woods. The Russian noticed the movement of the leaves, and shouted in Russian: "Who's there"? Getting no answer, he looked around more carefully, and then rode off. The careless guide crawled back to our positions to tell us about that unfortunate incident. We did not know what to do now. At any moment the Reds would be back with reinforcements. The question was whether the Red guard actually saw our man or not. We decided to get a little closer and wait to see if anything developed. After waiting a couple of hours, and seeing nothing to indicate that the Russian horseman would return, we concluded that he

did not see anyone, and that he must have thought that it was a wild pig, or some other animal. So, we stayed at our positions till sundown.

At dusk, we began crawling toward the barbed wire fence. As I glanced over my shoulder, I noticed how perfectly we were disguised. Even I could not see my companion ten or fifteen feet away from me! We had one last huddle during which we all united in saying a prayer for success; after agreeing to a password, if we should get separated in the darkness, we began the last stage of our trip. I gave the command: "Forward, men."

Slowly, very slowly we crept along till we came to the clear tree-less area just before you came to the line. Just ahead of us four Russian soldiers were walking and talking so loud that we could hear them at 300 feet. They passed by without seeing us. Beads of perspiration were getting heavier and heavier on our brows and fell to the ground as we crawled along. We were now within 60 feet of the Iron Curtain. Here we were told was a wide band of ground recently plowed up and strewn with mines and automatic flares. If we kicked over a trigger wire, one of two things would happen. Either we would be instantly killed. Others would know that we chanced upon a mine. Or, a bright flare would go off, and we would know that we stepped on the automatic rocket. The Russians would know that someone was crossing the forbidden zone and then they would open fire.

One of the local Partisans who was up ahead mapped out a zig-zag route clearing all the danger spots. So we just made sure that our footprint was planted right into his, and we were safe. After a matter of minutes we came to the wires . . . that we crossed over safely and then came face to face with two rows of posts. The nearer ones were painted red . . . the Lithuanian side. The farther ones were white with black stripes . . . the Polish side. And lo, we were out of Lithuania! We had pierced the Iron Curtain.

It is difficult to explain one's feelings after coming through the Iron Curtain. The joy the feeling of escape, of freedom just cannot be described. After we were well into Polish territory we knelt down on the forest floor and said a prayer of thanksgiving.

The End.

Translators note: With this installment we conclude the series of highlights translated

Gimtoji Kalba

KĄ DĖVIME IR KUO AVIME ?

L. Dambriūnas

Dėvėti, vilkėti arba **nešioti drabužius** reiškia to wear clothes. **Avėti** arba **nešioti batus** reiškia to wear shoes.

Drabužiai arba **rūbai** yra clothes, clothing. Yra **vyriški** ir **moteriški drabužiai**. Kadangi drabužiai Amerikoje dažnai vadinami angliškais vardais, tai pažiūrėkime, kaip jie lietuviškai vadinasi.

Vietoj angliško **siūto** (suit) vartojamas **kostiumas**. Nors tas žodis taip pat nelietuviškas, bet jį vartoja daugelis tautų, taigi yra tarptautinis žodis. Anglų kalboje jis taip vartojamas. Dėl to ir lietuvių kalbai jis geriau tinka, negu **siūtas**. Be to, turime tam reikalui ir grynai lietuvišką žodį — **eilutė**. Pvz. Jonas nusipirko naują **eilutę**.

Vyrišką kostiumą arba **eilutę** sudaro trys dalyai — **švarkas** (jacket), **liemenė** (vest) ir **kelnės** (trousers).

Paltas arba **apsiaustas** yra overcoat. Nors **paltas** yra nelietuviškos kilmės žodis, tačiau lietuvių kalboje jis seniai jau vartojamas ir laikomas tinkamu tam reikalui žodžiu. Gali būti **žieminis paltas**, **rudėninis** ir **vasarinis paltas**. Paltas nuo lietaus (raincoat) vadinamas **lietpalčiu**. Kur žiemos šaltesnės, žmonės nešioja dar ir **kailinius** (fur coat).

Ant galvos vyrai dėvi **kepurę** (cap) arba **skrybėlę** (hat).

Tačiau kostiumas (eilutė), paltas ir skrybėlė tai dar ne viskas, kas vyrui reikalinga.

Kelnėms palaikyti reikalingas **diržas** (belt) ar **petnešos** (suspenders). Reikalingi dar **marškiniai** (shirt), gražus **kaklaraištis** (necktie) ir kita. Marškiniai, yra dvejopi — **viršutiniai** ir **apatiniai marškiniai** (undershirt). Yra, žinoma, ir **apatinės kelnės** (shorts). Apatiniai drabužiai vienu žodžiu vadinami **baltiniais** (linen).

Marškiniai turi **apikaklę** (collar), rankoves

from J. Daumantas' "Partizanai už Geležinės Uždangos". We have learned on good authority that the entire book is soon to appear in English translation. For the complete story of the struggle of the Partisans to keep Lithuania alive among the family of nations do not fail to read the new translation.

A. A. Jurgelaitis

(sleeves) ir **rankogalius** (cuffs). Apikaklei ir rankogaliams susegti vartojami **segtukai** (studs, cuff links).

Eidamas gulti vyras paprastai apsivelka **pižamą** (pajamas), o rytą eidamas praustis velkasi **rytinį apsiaustą** (bathrobe).

Amerikoje vyrai dažniausiai perka **gatavus drabužius** (ready-made clothes), bet galima kostiumą užsakyti pas **siuvėją** (tailor) **siuvykloje** (tailor's shop).

Vyrų drabužiuose yra daug **kišenių** (pockets) ir **sagų** (buttons). Kišenėse jie mėgsta nešioti daug daiktų: **kišeninį laikrodį** (watch), **piniginę** (purse), **nosinę** (handkerchief), **nosinaitę** švaroko viršutinėje kišenaitėje ir kita.

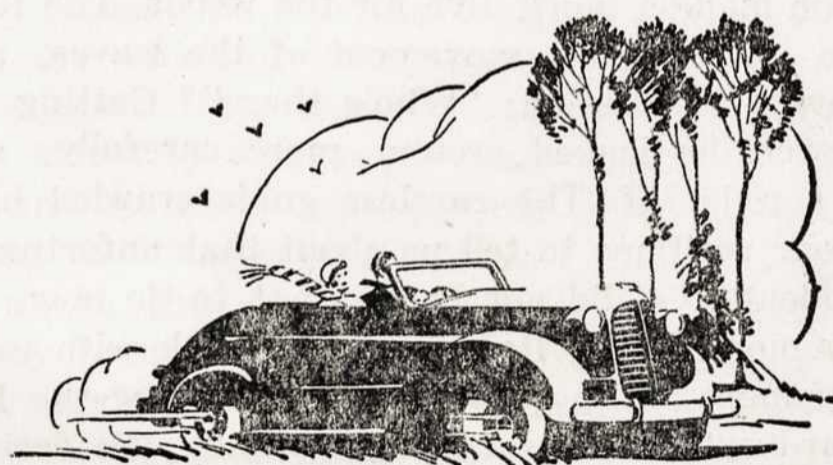
Vyrai nešioja **batus** (shoes), o kartais ir **aulinius batus** (boots). Kai gatvėje šlapia, nešiojami **kališai** (rubbers). Yra vasariniai, žieminiai, sportiniai ir kitokie batai.

Kelnės, **marškiniai**, **kailiniai**, **baltiniai**, **petnešos** lietuvių kalboje vartojami tik daugiskaitoje (in plural form only).

— ATTENTION —

We would appreciate receiving copies of all bulletins and newspapers published by councils and district.

VYTIS Editorial Staff
395 W. Broadway, P. O. Box 29
South Boston 27, Mass.



“...Ir Tēvynei”

LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

Another anniversary of the short-lived independence of Lithuania has come and gone. In every community, speeches were made, choruses sang, money was collected, and people turned out in droves, in good weather and bad — all to celebrate February 16. Why all the fuss? Other countries have Independence Days, too, but what happens? In our own United States, much as we value our beloved liberty, the Fourth of July means, for most of us, a day off from work, a day for sleep, for sunbathing at the nearest beach, for picnicing.

And yet, our Lietuviai, many of whom have never even seen Lithuania, braving storms, pack the halls and donate thousands of dollars to the cause of Lithuanian independence, which existed so very briefly, in recent history — and which has not existed now at all for thirteen years.

Right here lies the answer. Americans are used to being free. Liberty, though as precious as bread or water, has become just that ordinary here. It's a happy, though slightly lazy, condition.

To Lithuanians, on account of its scarcity, liberty is more consciously precious. Our relatives and friends are now in slavery — and they cannot help themselves. It is up to us to remember them, to give for them, to work for them, to pray for them. Lent is just the time—why not offer up some of your prayers and sacrifices for Lithuania? We alone cannot do much—we need God. With His help, we may some day be able to rejoice on February 16 in the rebirth of Lithuanian independence. Toward that happy day, let us work, pray, and sacrifice—dėl Tėvynės!



Miss Evelyn Bender is a resident of Dorchester, Mass. and for several years an active member of K. of L. Council 17 in So. Boston. Upon graduation from Girls' Latin School in 1945, she enrolled at Emmanuel College on a four-year scholarship. In 1949 she received her A. B. degree from Emmanuel and won a scholarship to the Graduate School of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Miss Bender earned the M. S. (Master of Science) degree in 1950 and presently is completing the requirements for a Ph.D. At the same time she is on the Academic Staff of M.I.T., teaching mathematics. She has always been active in Lithuanian circles, is Board of Directors secretary of Council 17, and editor of the council bulletin, The Keyhole News. In this issue Miss Bender begins a series of brief, but inspiring articles on Lithuanianism.

February 16th to the Lithuanians has a significance such as the Fourth of July has to the Americans. The long and hard struggle against Czarist Russia came to a victorious conclusion when on Feb. 16, 1918, Lithuania was declared again free and a democratic republic.

Now Lithuania is again enslaved, but under conditions much more terrible than those existing prior to 1918. Lithuanians throughout the world have united their efforts in behalf of Lithuania's liberation from the brutal slavery imposed on her by Communist Russia.

This fight is being directed in Western Europe by the Supreme Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania, and in the United States by the Lithuanian American Council. Aid given to these organizations not only helps Lithuania's struggle for freedom, but also serves to strengthen the cause of world democracy in general.

Donations for this purpose can be sent to your local

Lithuanian American Council
Amerikos Lietuvių Taryba

THE HERO KOSCIUSZKO

Anthony D. Yuknis

At WEST POINT, America raised a monument to THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO which bears the inscription THE HERO OF TWO WORLDS. So he was. He fought for the freedom of America, Lithuania, Poland and liberated serfs and slaves. He was a soldier, statesman, humanitarian — and most of all — a fine Christian gentleman.

KOSCIUSZKO, was born on February 4th, in 1746, in the Gardinas (Grodno) district of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, the son of a nobleman of modest estates who grew up in the simple, serene and beautiful Lithuanian countryside amongst the peasants whom he learned to love. The youth was enrolled in the CORPS OF CADETS in Warsaw, which was a patriotic and character building school along military lines. KOSCIUSZKO'S brilliant work here had earned him the King's stipend to study abroad. Now, we find him spending five years in France studying engineering and artillery in MEZIERS, and at the LUNEVILLE MILITARY ACADEMY. At this time KOSCIUSZKO met Ben Franklin and became greatly interested in American problems.

In 1776, THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO arrived in America to fight in the Revolutionary War. His sound fortifications thwarted the British at strategic heights and in vital harbors. KOSCIUSZKO attained the rank of colonel and won praises from Generals Washington, McDougall and Gates for his abilities as well as for his courteous treatment of his subordinates. The COLONEL endured many hardships while making military surveys through the great American wilderness and while fighting bravely as a guerilla. On one occasion he saved the lives of 41 British soldiers who fell into the hands of furious Americans. KOSCIUSZKO served America for six fateful years and the Congress conferred upon him the rank of BRIGADIER-GENERAL for "HIGH SENSE OF HIS LONG, FAITHFUL AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE." Furthermore, he received grants of land and money. Since KOSCIUSZKO had personally selected the site of WEST POINT MILITARY ACADEMY he is often hailed as the father of that school.

Having achieved his purposes in America the HERO quietly returned to his native Lithuania in 1784, which was in Union with the Kingdom



THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO

of Poland, who elected the reigning Grand Duke of Lithuania to the Polish throne for many generations. The once powerful Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which was thrice the size of Poland originally, had dwindled down to being a junior partner in this alliance. Not only were the actual Lithuanians themselves outnumbered by the Poles, but Poland outranked Lithuania being a kingdom while the latter was the realm of a prince—or duke. This Union helped to foster the error that Lithuanians were Slavs or, were closely akin to the Poles. Actually, the Liths are distinct Balts and speak the oldest living tongue in Europe — which is older than the Slav, Greek, German and Latin idioms—closely akin to the Sanscrit. KOSCIUSZKO sensed the plight of the Lithuanian serfs, who were exploited. This caused him to write to an Army General: **I will say that the country is beautiful and should be given to the Lithuanians, who are active and industrious, but not for the lazy or the fools. Allow me to return to Lithuania. Perhaps you will forsake me when you see that I cannot serve you. You can say that I am none other than a Lithuanian—a friend of yours.** Thus KOSCIUSZKO spent four quiet years in his native land, meanwhile, freeing as many serfs as his modest wealth allowed. Getting restless he accepted a commission in the King's Army where

he was destined to distinguish himself with his gallantry.

In the spring of 1792 Russia declared war on Lithuania and Poland to suppress their Constitution. With great skill KOSCIUSZKO withdrew his Army while inflicting heavy losses on the invader. King Stanislas Augustus was so impressed that he put KOSCIUSZKO in command of the main Army. However, this was in vain as the King agreed to deal with the enemy. The honorable one resigned from the Army despite the King's pleas, flattery and bribe offers. By the next year Russia and Prussia had annexed parts of Lithuania and Poland. Now, the creed of KOSCIUSZKO became "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY" forevermore, and he declared he would have died a hundred times for the sake of his country.

Now we find KOSCIUSZKO in Paris where he was granted French citizenship by the National Assembly. In due time, a band of Polish patriots asked him to lead them back — to regain full independence — to restore honor — to restore their partitioned lands. After alerting the citizens of Lithuania and Poland to rise to the cause, in 1794, THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO returned as the champion of their freedom — as the commander-in-chief of their Army — as their provisional dictator.

Having observed the fighting qualities of the American Minutemen, KOSCIUSZKO, had invited the lowly serf to fight for his own salvation. On the fourth of April KOSCIUSZKO led his combined army of nobles and peasants with pikes and scythes — a combination unheard of in the annals of Europe — to battle at RACLAWICE, in Poland, where they cut the numerically superior Russian regulars to pieces capturing 11 cannon. The news of this great victory spread throughout the world. After the Lithuanians drove out the Russ in Vilnius (Vilna) their Provisional Council prayed, "O citizens of Lithuania send Thaddeus Kosciuszko, our fellow countryman, to her holy soil to fulfill his will." Shortly, KOSCIUSZKO sent the following message to the Council: "Lithuania! my fellow countrymen and compatriots! I was born on your soil and in the midst of righteous zeal for my country more especial affection is called forth in me for those amongst whom I began life. . . To death or victory! Once again, I say we shall conquer. Sooner or later almighty God humbles the invader and aids persecuted nations who are faithful to him!"

(Kosciuszko, by Monica Gardner, London).

Bad news came to the freedom fighter when eyewitnesses reported that the Prussians had joined the Russian forces. A bitter retreat followed. Crakow fell while there were general uprising in Lithuania. The Russo-Prussian armies were stopped at the walls of Warsaw. Now, it was bad news in Lithuania where the Russians were crushing the Rising.

Twice KOSCIUSZKO dashed to his native land to rally their forces. His speech, later found amongst his letters cheered the Lithuanians. After the CHIEFTAIN expressed his joy at being amongst the Lithuanian soldiers he continued: "My brothers and comrades . . . A few thousand of your ancestors were able to subdue the entire Muscovite state — to carry into bondage the Tsars and to dictate to her rulers. Now, I speak to you, valiant soldiers, who have fulfilled the duties of courageous soldiers and virtuous citizens — who have driven the enemies to the shores of the sea. . . "

On that unhappy October 8th, at MACIEJOWICE, in a bitter losing battle, KOSCIUSZKO had three horses slain under him. Finally, the gallant HERO fell to the ground gravely wounded. With him all hopes for freedom were dashed to the ground and people wept openly in the streets. Victory, at first, was a possibility, but now, the lack of outside help and the apathy of the Nations of Europe made it an impossibility. The courageous KOSCIUSZKO was taken prisoner, being sent to the dungeons of St. Petersburg for two grim years.

When Paul I became the Tsar of Russia he embraced KOSCIUSZKO and announced that he came to restore his liberty. The scarred HERO replied that he had never grieved for himself — only for the fate of his country. The Tsar suggested that the HERO forget his country — that he will be remembered in history. KOSCIUSZKO replied that it would be better that history forget him and his countrymen become free. The limp KOSCIUSZKO, pitying his fellow prisoners-of-war sadly acquiesced to the Tsar terms. Upon receiving his freedom he departed for Sweden, and later, for England where he was received with great acclamation — something he had never desired.

The humble KOSCIUSZKO returned to America — SECOND COUNTRY. George Washington, upon hearing of his arrival, wrote him a letter of welcome "TO THE LAND WHOSE

LIBERTIES YOU HAVE BEEN SO INSTRUMENTAL IN ESTABLISHING." Fate, however, decreed that KOSCIUSZKO should return to Europe again. He received a secret summons to France as Emperor Napoleon had planned to restore Lithuania and Poland. Before his departure KOSCIUSZKO penned a will on May 5, 1798 requesting, at his decease, that Thomas Jefferson sell his lands — purchase negro slaves and set them free — to provide for their education. This resulted in the founding of the first negro institute in America, at Newark in 1826, bearing KOSCIUSZKO'S name.

Arriving in Bayonne, France the weary KOSCIUSZKO was warmly greeted by Napoleon, who expressed his happiness at meeting THE HERO OF THE NORTH. KOSCIUSZKO offered to throw himself at the Emperor's feet in gratitude if he would restore Lithuania and Poland — and liberate the serfs. After a number of sessions with Napoleon of the vaulting ambitions, KOSCIUSZKO began to distrust him and his vague promises of any restorations. As a result he refused to throw his support to the Emperor. Nevertheless, the Lithuanians contributed four infantry and five cavalry regiments to Napoleon's invasion of Russia. The subsequent defeat of Napoleon found the Russian boot pressing even heavier on Lithuania, who was now reduced to a mere province of Russia.

Tsar Alexander made promises to forgive and forget — to help the Lithuanians. Mostly, he forgot as Lithuania was denied a Constitution. In 1815, Russia, Austria and Prussia formed the Holy Alliance to perpetuate their aggressions, and the dismayed KOSCIUSZKO wrote, on June 10th: "Sire. I was born a Lithuanian and have but a few years to live. Nevertheless, the veil of the future still covers the destiny of my native land. I do not forget the magnanimous promises that your majesty has made to me orally . . . My soul needs to be reassured again."

While in Paris, in 1800, KOSCIUSZKO wrote THE MANOEUVRES OF HORSE ARTILLERY for the United States Army which was the first military manual of its kind in America. The war of 1812 was fought according to his theory. Then on June 28, 1806, KOSCIUSZKO drew up another will: "KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS THAT I THADE KOSCIUSZKO, FORMERLY AN OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES IN THEIR REVOLUTIONARY WAR AGAINST

GREAT BRITAIN, AND A NATIVE OF LITHUANIA IN POLAND, AT PRESENT RESIDING IN PARIS, DO HEREBY WILL AND DIRECT, AT MY DECEASE . . . (signed) THADE KOSCIUSZKO, Mass. Law Soc. Journal, Dec. 1949, by A. O. Shallna.) The United States Supreme Court, in determining under which country laws his wills were to be executed, recognized that "KOSCIUSZKO'S DOMICIL OF ORIGIN WAS LITHUANIA IN POLAND."

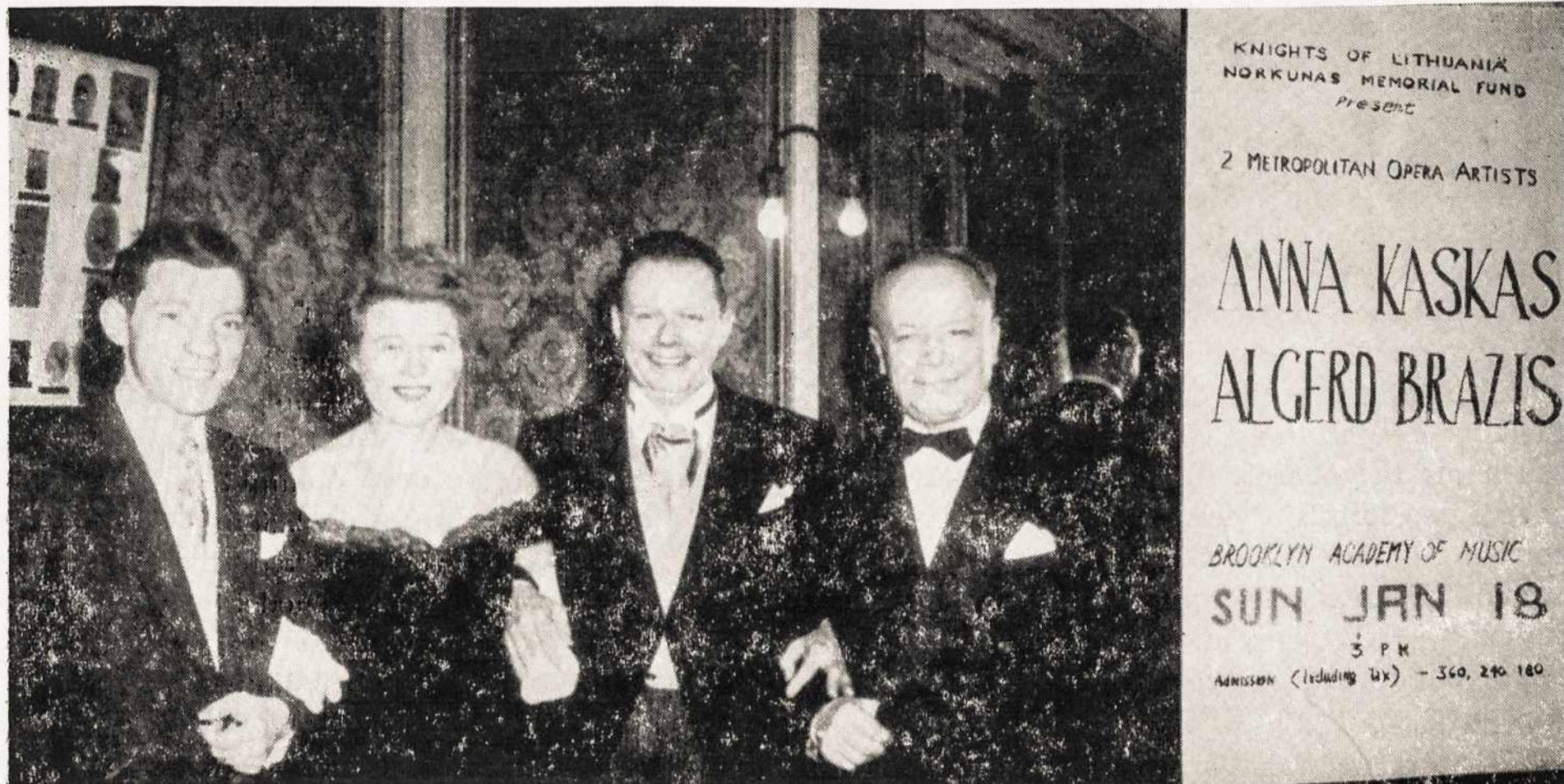
At the age of 69 THADDEUS KOSCIUSZKO retired to Soleure, Switzerland — to live with esteemed friends. On the fifteenth of October, in 1817, the HERO OF TWO WORLDS breathed his last. The LIBERATOR'S remains were carried to the resting place by the poor as he had requested and he was mourned throughout the world. Eventually, his final resting place became the Wawel castle in Crakow—the resting place of kings and other great men. On the sarcophagus is the following inscription. THE HERO KOSCIUSZKO WAS BORN IN LITHUANIA . . . DIED IN SOLEURE . . . BROUGHT TO CRAKOW . . . THE EMPEROR PAUL PRAISED HIS WEAPONS. The president of the United States, William Harrison, remarked that KOSCIUSZKO "THE MARTYR OF LIBERTY" had passed on.

— SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS —

40th K. of L. NATIONAL CONVENTION to be held at the Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass., August 27, 28, 29 and 30th, 1953.

On April 27, 1913, the Knights of Lithuania organization was founded. The first K. of L. convention took place in Lawrence, Mass. To mark the occasion, we will devote the AUGUST issue of VYTIS to the story of how the Knights of Lithuania was organized, the purpose and ideals for which our organization was formed, how it serves its vast membership today, four decades after it was organized by the late Mykolas Nor-kūnas, founder and first president. All councils and districts — send in your annual contribution to William Kolicius, Jr., treasurer, 2002 Brownsville Rd., Pittsburgh 10, Pa.; also pictures of your council officers and spiritual advisers accompanied by a brief resume of your activities; directly to the VYTIS Editorial Staff, 395 W. Broadway, South Boston, Mass.

JUBILEE CONCERT IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF MYKOLAS NORKUNAS, K. of L. FOUNDER and FIRST PRESIDENT



P. Labanauskas

From left, Joseph Boley, chairman; Anna Kaskas and Algerd Brazis, two Metropolitan Opera Artists; and Prof. Alexander J. Aleksis, composer of "Lietuvos Vyčių Himnas."

Phil Carter

The Jubilee Concert held at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on January 18, 1953, presenting two well-known Metropolitan Opera Artists, Anna Kaskas and Algerd Brazis, with Aleksis Mrozinskas at the piano, attracted so much interest throughout the country, that almost every council in the Knights of Lithuania organization had some representative present, including Lawrence, Mass., Boston, Mass., Providence, R. I., Worcester, Mass., Hartford, Conn., Ansonia, Conn., Elizabeth, N. J., Bayonne, N. J., Newark, N. J., Jersey City, N. J., Waterbury, Conn., New York City, Brooklyn, N. Y., Paterson, N. J., Detroit, Mich., Maspeth, N. Y., Great Neck, N. Y., Pittsburgh, Pa., Philadelphia, Pa., Homestead, Pa., Chicago, Ill., Amsterdam, N. Y., Kearny-Harrison, N. J., Lewiston, Maine and guest from Toronto, Canada. Also all five districts were represented: Illinois-Indiana, Ohio-Michigan, Pittsburgh, New York-New Jersey and New England.

Judging from the seating capacity, there were over six hundred in attendance.

Among the sponsors of the Concert were Rev. Dr. J. Starkus, Rev. J. Valantiejus, Msgr.

J. Balkūnas, Rev. J. Aleksišūnas, Rev. J. Gurinskas, Rev. J. Jutkevičius, Rev. Vl. Karalevičius, Rev. A. Kasper, Rev. M. Kemežis, Rev. J. Kinta, Rev. N. Pakalnis, Rev. J. Pakalniškis, Rev. J. Pragulbickas, Franciscan Fathers, Rev. Dr. M. Ražaitis, Rev. J. Simonaitis, Josephine Adams, Prof. A. J. Aleksis, V. Beleckas, M. P. Bieliauskas, Kazys and Alvina Buividas, Atty. William J. Drake, Elizabeth Council 52, Maspeth Council 110, J. Garšva, Mr. and Mrs. Matachinskas, H. Povilanskas and daughter, Joseph and Lillian Remenchus, Frank Milas, J. Rimša, Joseph and Mary Shalins, Longin' Svelnis, Joe Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Al Wesley-Vasiliauskas, Dr. Bladas K. Vencius and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Chinik.

Both artists were in fine form. They were especially good in the duet numbers. Aside of the truly wonderful performance by the soloists, a very inspiring part of the program was the singing of the VYČIŲ HIMNAS to the accompaniment of the organ played by Prof. Alexander J. Aleksis, composer.

Joseph Boley, chairman of the Mykolas Norkūnas Memorial Fund and his committee deserve commendation for arranging such a fine Concert.

Officialus Skyrius

THE K. OF L. NEEDS YOU!

The K. of L. needs you for a job that has to be done. No, don't look at your neighbor or friend but look at yourself. You are the one! Let the next person complain about how unsatisfactory things are while sitting by doing nothing. YOU have a job to do. Remember all the promises you made to yourself the last time some speaker gave a pep talk. Do you recall a previous occasion how you envied some OTHER person getting an award? Deep inside you wished you were that person. Well! Now is your opportunity to receive that award.

The K. of L. is a wonderful Catholic Lithuanian organization — it works and it has fun. Remember the spirit of the Lithuanian folk songs — the enjoyment of those folk dances. Recall some of the evenings spent together with the gang — but why should I go on enumerating the activities of the Knight of Lithuania, you know about them. You don't have to be sold on the organization because you are a member.

At some time you wanted to belong to the K. of L., you wanted to become a member, but you hesitated until someone asked you to join. For goodness sake don't deprive some one of having their fun. Ask them to join the K. of L. Don't forget the old saying "the more the merrier." What are you waiting for — see your friends today — give him or her the chance of a lifetime — just by signing a membership application card.

A little work — A Promise kept — An AWARD received!

I can do it. CAN YOU?

Walter R. Chinik, Chairman
Membership Drive.

NOTICE TO ALL COUNCIL SECRETARIES

Please send names and addresses of newly-elected officers to our national financial secretary:

Mrs. Tillie Gerulis
38 Providence Street
Worcester 4, Mass.

K. of L. CALENDAR

- February 8 — Pittsburgh, Pa. (19) Variety Show.
February 8 — Philadelphia, Pa. (3) Dance.
February 14 — Chicago, Ill. (36) "Hearts' Dance", K. of L. Youth Center.
February 16 — LITHUANIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY — Commemorated by all councils and districts.
March 4 — ST. CASIMIR'S DAY — our Patron Saint. Commemorated by entire organization.
March 8 — Illinois-Indiana District, St. Casimir's Day celebration. Host—Cicero, Ill. (16)
March 8 — "Officers' Work Shop" for New England District and council officers. St. Casimir's parish hall, Providence, Rhode Island.
March 20, 21 and 22 — Detroit, Michigan (102) PASSION PLAY, Holy Redeemer's auditorium, W. Vernor Highway.
April 11-12 — Ohio-Michigan District Convention. Detroit, Michigan (102) host.
April 18-19 — Worcester, Mass. (116) SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION.
April 25-26 — New England District Convention Cambridge, Mass. (18) host.
April 25 — Elizabeth, N. J. (52) MINSTREL SHOW and DANCE.
May 2 — Elizabeth, N. J. (52) MINSTREL SHOW and DANCE.
May 2 — Norwood, Mass. (27) May Dance, Runeberg Hall.
May 16 — Worcester, Mass. (26) Spring Dance, Maironis Park, Shrewsbury.
May 16 — Cleveland, Ohio (25) National Bowling Tournament and Dance.
May 17 — Worcester, Mass. (26) Lithuanian Play, St. Casimir's Church Hall, 8:00 p.m.
May 17 — Cleveland, Ohio (25) Bowling Tournament Banquet.
May 24 — New England District K. of L. ANNUAL PICNIC — Sports Day at Marianapolis, Thompson, Conn.



Dear Fellow K. of L'ers:

May I express my sincere appreciation for the confidence you had placed in me last September? I therefore ask, each of you for two favors. First, to say an occasional prayer that the good Lord will enlighten and guide all the officers and aid us in the successful fulfillment of our duties. Second, to bear in mind at all times, that the K. of L. is your organization, so give it your absolute best.

We would like you to consider three jobs which need your interest and support:

1) The **Juniors**, a much talked about, but poorly acted upon phase of our organization, which is of prime importance. A few councils have already established Junior Councils, which are doing splendid work. They are — South Boston (17), Bayonne (67), Chicago (24), Gary (82), Norwood (27), Pittsburgh (62). These councils are to be highly commended. But what of the other councils? One needs only to seriously reflect on the question of youth and the grave necessity of organizing our youngsters before they become swallowed up in an ocean of non-Lithuanian activity. It is very certain that Junior Councils are necessary. Who will deny that 90% of the future of the K. of L. depends upon molding the youngsters of today into staunch Catholic Lithuanian Americans.

We are now establishing a Junior Steering Committee, which will lay a firm foundation for Juniors as an essential part of the organization. We still need one person from every city or council, who will become interested, informed and serve locally as Junior Advisor. We plead and urge every council to immediately appoint a capable member to carry out this work.

2) In the Lithuanianism contest, we not only find a clearly defined program for the fulfillment of the third point of our constitution but likewise: a solution for the complaints of "nothing new or different to do." Many councils besides trying to win the \$50.00 prize have found something really new, different and enjoyable in the points suggested in the Lithuanianism contest.

This year we are again privileged by having Anne Mitchell as chairman of the Drive. She will need your cooperation. The reward, possibly financial as well as thetic will be great.

3) Of utmost importance to our organization is the **Financial Drive**. In past years, we have

seen the treasury dwindle. It is truly time to correct that regrettable situation.

Our constitution demands a yearly offering to the Center and common sense makes us realize that financial security is the basis of a sound organization.

Occasionally we hear of someone who is willing to give a few dollars to a deserving group. Why not take it upon ourselves to play up the K. of L. to outsiders. Philanthropists exist all over. Be an Ambassador of Good Will and try to swing a contribution this way.

Our treasurer, William Kolicus, has taken on the responsibility of seeing the Financial Drive launched, and if all councils cooperate, we shall see it to a successful end.

Praying that the good LORD will reward you for your K. of L. work, I remain sincerely,

Robert S. Boris
Ist Vice-president

MIRĖ KUN. J. SIMONAITIS

L. Vyčių Organizacijos Garbės Narys

Su dideliu apgailestavimu turime pranešti, kad mirė Lietuvos Vyčių Organizacijos garbės narys kun. J. Simonaitis.

Pranešdami tai Vyčių Organizacijos nariams, prašome prisiminti jį savo maldose.

A. Vasiliauskas
L. Vyčių Centro Pirmininkas

UŽUOJAUTA

Kun. Antanui Kacevičiui, buv. Lietuvos Vyčių Naujosios Anglijos Apskritis ir Providence, R. I., 103 kuopos Dvasios Vadui, dėl jo motinos mirties, reiškia gilios užuojautos.

L. Vyčių Centro Valdyba
ir "Vyties" Redakcija

REV. CASIMIR ZVIRBLIS, O. P., formerly of Providence College (Rhode Island) is now teaching Theodicy and Psychology in the Uptown Division of St. John's University, Brooklyn, N.Y. Beginning February 2nd, he will also teach in the Downtown Division in the School of Nursing Education (Dialectics and Introduction to Philosophy) Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7 to 8:50 p.m.



ALFONSE F. WELLS, member of Council 112, Chicago, Ill. was recently elected Judge of the Municipal Court. He was recommended by the Chicago Bar Association and endorsed as "Qualified." Judge Wells was born in Chicago, educated in parochial schools. Attended George Washington University; graduated National University Law School. Admitted to practice in Federal Courts, Washington, D. C., and State and Federal Courts in Illinois, specializing in trial work. Served in Legal Division, Social Security Board and in Income Tax Division. Former Special Agent, FBI, U. S. Department of Justice, Served in U. S. Army, Counter Intelligence Corps, as specialist in anti-sabotage and anti-espionage. Member of Chicago Bar Association, American Bar Association, Society of Former Special Agents of FBI and American Legion. Active in civic, professional and philanthropic affairs and better Government associations. We wish Judge Wells continued success in his profession.

20

Fourth Verse of 'America' to be sung in Boston City Schools

All Boston school children will start every school day from now on by singing the fourth stanza of "America", the School Committee voted.

The chairman, Mrs. Alice M. Lyons, explained that the stanza mentions both love of God and country. "Children today are constantly in need of teaching of the moral and spiritual values, and this singing would be a step in that direction," she said.

Previously, only the first verse was generally sung. The fourth stanza is:

Our Fathers' God to thee,
Author of Liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright,
With Freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

NOTICE

The official K. of L. pins in men's and ladies' style are available at \$1.00 each, and K. of L. Constitution booklets at 25 cents each. These items are in the custody of the Building Fund, and the revenue derived from their sale goes into that fund.

Orders may be placed with the treasurer of the Building Fund Committee:

FRANK GUDELIS
129 Rita Street
Dayton 4, Ohio

We are informed by Laura Yucius, president of Council 5, Chicago, Illinois that their council has instituted a practice of giving K. of L. pins to those members who attend at least 75% of the council meetings during the year. This idea merits a trial by other councils.



PHILADELPHIA, PA.

COUNCIL 3

The parishioners of St. Casimir's parish were indeed honored to have their pastor appointed the first Lithuanian Monsignor in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. On December 14 our members received Holy Communion "en corpore" at the 9:45 Mass, followed by a breakfast in honor of our pastor's elevation to a Monsignorate. President Joseph Yanulaitis, congratulated Monsignor Valanciunas in behalf of the members of Council 3 and wished him every success in his new position. After the breakfast our regular monthly meeting took place.

Thanks to Mrs. Meron and Mrs. Penkauskas for preparing the breakfast and to the Social Committee for making our annual Christmas party a success.

December 7 found several members in Elizabeth, New Jersey attending the district meeting. Quite a trip coming home! — it must have been Theresa's singing her own version of Lithuanian songs that prompted the kind-hearted man to give us that free TICKET. Aren't people generous?

Quite a few K. of L'ers rang the Old Year out and welcomed the New Year in at the Shields Residence. A Lithuanian "Ačiū" to our hostess. The tape recorder came in pretty handy. Thanks, Joe.

Many a K. of L'er was seen standing on Broad Street on New Year's Day viewing the Mummers Parade. As usual, the parade was very colorful and the String Bands played wonderfully . . . but the best one yet was the one seen marching on Allegheny Avenue, the Lithuanian-American String Band, comprised of seven K. of L. members. The music was simply grand. What talent!

Dolores Meron is sporting a diamond on her left hand, as of Christ-

mas Day. It's beautiful, Dolores! When's the big day?

On January 18th Joseph Wilkus and Mary Ann Butiki's were united in wedlock. The best of luck to both of you and we hope you won't forget Council 3.

A group of Philadelphians traveled to the state of confusion—New York — for the week-end of January 17 and 18. Naturally . . . the Norkunas Memorial Fund Concert!

Ray Misauskas was seen home on furlough for the Christmas Holidays. You're looking good, Ray. It looks like the Air Force is taking good care of you.

The Seven Wonders of Council 3

We wonder. . . Why Alice has suddenly become so interested in New York . . . When the Lithuanian-American String Band will sign the contract. . . Why Helen Shields laughs every time the word "revival" is mentioned. . . Where four members spent Kucios night. . . What the Glee Club's latest recording is. . . When Luga Liz will be seen on Broadway. . . When every member will attend the meetings.

WORCESTER, MASS.

COUNCIL 116

This very delinquent correspondent has finally found time to perform the duty expected of her. I apologize to my council members for the neglect of the past few months. I shall try to report on C-116's activities from the month of October.

The Social Committee consisting of Tess Kasper, Richie Polaski, Stanley Grigas and Marion Siaurys, arranged a Halloween Party, which all enjoyed very much. Especially enjoyed was the Ghost Story with different props being passed around. You should have heard Julia Sinkavich scream and throw the liver when it was

passed around as the heart!

We had members from Providence, Lawrence and our neighboring C-26 attending this "ghostly affair."

This Social Committee (if you will pardon the expression has really been on the ball. For November, it planned and executed most successfully a Turkey Supper and Amateur Talent Show on Sunday evening, November 23. Dave Vaskas and his band, which included two other members, Richie Yucatonis and Jose Savage, provided music for dancing after the delicious meal was eaten. Those participating in the show were Maryann Sinkavich, Bernice Kavadras, Eddie Tamulevičius, Rita Sinkavich and Mary Klimkaitis. Mary, who did an Al Jolson act, won first prize, and Bernice, who performed a tap routine, received second prize.

Prior to the supper, our council presented a Minstrel Show for the benefit of the Fund for Re-conditioning the Church Organ. Most of the members sang in the chorus and all the Ends were K. of L'ers: Rita Sinkavich, Eddie Tamulevičius, Joe Savage, Bob Zinkus, Richie Polaski and Richie Yucatonis. John Andruska did a specialty act.

This was a gala show and the hall was filled to capacity on both nights.

For the December social, the committee arranged a Christmas party in the clubrooms. From what I hear (unfortunately I wasn't there to cover the event) it, too, was a good party.

On December 4, Council 116 held a Military Whist Party for the purpose of raising money to pay for a newly-acquired mimeograph machine. It was a successful affair and the purpose accomplished.

The December meeting brought the election of officers for the coming year, 1953. Those elected are: Presi-

dent, Aldona Pauliukaitis; Vice-President, Joseph Krasinskas; Recording Secretary, Louise Totilas; Financial Secretary, Teresa Kasper; Treasurer, Dorothy Sinkavitch; Marshals, Bernice Burdulis and Al Krasinskas.

All council members pledge and give their fullest support to the newly-elected officers. Three cheers for the outgoing officers for upholding the traditional fine reputation of our council during the past year.

January entailed the installation of the aforementioned new officers. Also, a new editor was named to head the editorial staff of, THE EQUESTRIAN — Vivian Wackell.

Plans are now actively in progress for the big celebration of Council 116's SILVER JUBILEE. The date set is April 18-19. Keep this in mind and read VYTIS for further notices about this great event.

We lost another good member to the ranks of the U. S. Army. John Mazeika started his "new job" at Fort Devens in October.

Philip Miller (Air Force), stationed in Texas, was home on furlough during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Al Tumas has completed "his time" in the Navy and is once more a civilian and active K. of L'er. Good to have you back, Al.

"Taradaika"

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

COUNCIL 5

The following members of Council 5 were elected to these posts for the year 1953: President, Laura Yucius; 1st Vice President, Edward Lukosaitis; 2nd Vice President, Dolores Stroga; Recording Secretary, Helen Zimmer; Financial Secretary, Loretta Macekonis; Treasurer, Bill Civins; Sgt.-at-Arms, Benedict Nauseda; Ritual Committee Chairman, Albin Planchunas; Lithuanian Affairs Chairman, Frank Pranckevičius; Social Co-Chairmen, Dolores Stankus and Anna Marie Pupinik. District Delegates: Robert Andrews, Benedict Nauseka, Laura Yucius and Edward Lukosaitis.

Congratulations and the best of luck to the new officers for a very successful K. of L. year.

The Doll

NATIONAL CONVENTION (IN MINIATURE)

by PHIL CARTER

You could almost call it that! Five months ago, during the 39th K. of L. national convention held in Dayton, Ohio, when Joseph Boley, chairman of the Mykolas Norkunas Memorial Fund, announced that a Jubilee Concert will be held in Brooklyn, N. Y., January 18, 1953, many of the delegates present started to make tentative plans to attend it.

In conjunction with the concert, the Supreme Council made arrangements to hold its monthly board meeting in New York City that same week-end, so as to make it possible for national officers (representing all five districts) to attend the concert, too.

National officers present at the meeting were: Rev. Albert J. Contons, spiritual director; Al Wesey, president; Robert S. Boris, vice president; Ann Mitchell, recording secretary; Mrs. Tillie Gerulis, financial secretary; William Kolicius, Jr., treasurer; Mrs. Mary Waitonis, trustee. Also Phyllis Grendal asst. editor and John Zemis, member of Archives Committee.

What made this memorable week-end a "National Convention in Miniature" was the fact that the Hotel New Yorker was headquarters for the out-of-town guests, just as it was during the 38th national convention two years ago.

What made this week-end even more outstanding was the fact that someone remembered that Saturday (Jan. 17th), was our national president's birthday. So, it was. While the officers were in session for over three hours, Aldona Norvilas (Boston) and Gene Gobis (Amsterdam) took care of getting the cake. They were too far from home to do any baking themselves. John Olevitz and John Daniels, both of Boston, Mavis Kirtis and Stella Markin of Hartford, make delicious sandwiches under the supervision of Jerry Jesulaitis, president of the Illinois-Indiana district (who flew in from Chicago) and Steve Contons of Nyack, N. Y. Phil Carter Providence) was THE Invitation Committee. And did he burn up wires tipping off every K. of L'er within his knowledge. It was arranged that one of the officers would notify the Birthday Committee as soon as the meeting adjourned.

The secret was kept well by all officers. However, after three hours some became worried because of the incoming phone calls, wondering when the meeting would adjourn (hoping Al wouldn't suspect). President Wesey presided throughout the evening — and accomplished all he had on the agenda, not once suspecting of what was brewing. A good president he is, at that!

Finally the meeting ended. "Operation Birthday Party" got under way. The committee members rushed to their stations and with refreshments and gifts scooped up in their arms they approached the session room — and getting the signal from Tillie Gerulis and Mary Waitonis marched in with cake in hand singing "Happy Birthday" to our well liked president, Al Wesey.

There were at east sixty K. of L'ers on hand to greet the President on his birthday. Among them were the national officers: Charles Bason (Jersey City), Mr. and Mrs. Onaitis (Pittsburgh), Prof. A. J. Aleksis (Waterbury), Helen Shields and her group (Philadelphia), John Stefan (Ansonia), Jean Walkauskas (Pittsburgh), Dorothy Dutkus (Paterson), Helen Penkin (Elizabeth), Larry Janonis (president of New York-New Jersey district), Jerry Jesulaitis (president of Illinois-Indiana district), Ruth Buzun (Toronto, Canada). With all the coming and going, the checker at the door got a bit confused on the exact number.

It was a real surprise for Al Wesey. He was stunned to be flanked by so many K. of L'ers from near and far. After the waiter arrived with a huge coffee urn on wheels, the candles were lit and the festivities began.

Al Wesey received a card with names of all guests present, also many worth while gifts. Since Al is in the landscraping business, he received a watering pot—a gay littel thing that might hold a thimbleful of water. And a watch! This last item certainly withh be treasured by Al for life. Noticed Al set the watch the precise minute at which he received it. When Al was asked for some comment for the Press, his remarks were: "So that's what all that phone ringing was about!"

While celebrating Al's birthday, it was learned that our treasurer, Bill Kolicius, would be celebrating his birthday the following week — so it turned out to be a celebration for two national officers.

Where, oh where were the Metrophone Movie cameramen on a night such as this?

The following day at the concert, a good-sized crowd gathered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Many spiritual advisors, prominent L. of L'ers were present, including Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Mazeika, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Matachinskis, Bill Senkus, Peter Velevas, Frank Vaskas, Prof. Simon Suziedelis, president of "Ateitininkai", J. Valaitis (BALF) Helen Yocis, Josephine Adams, Anne Klem (who presented a bouquet of roses to Anna Kaskas), etc. The affair truly gave our K. of L. much prestige, thanks to Joseph Boley, chairman of the Mykolas Norkunas Memorial Fund.

Seen at the concert also were Joe Thomas (minus his orchestra). Right in style were Larry Janonis, president of New York-New Jersey district and Joe Boley sporting Weskits. We wonder if Joe Boley was en route to Washington to the Inauguration. The homburg he was wearing seemed to indicate that.

Back stage many greeted the artists. After the concert there was a reception for Anna Kaskas and Algerd Brazis, at which time autograph seekers had a chance to get their wish granted.

So that was our "Convention in Miniature". We chose to call it that, because very soon we will be in the midst of plans for the Major National Convention to be held this year in Boston, Massachusetts at the Hotel Statler, August 27, 28, 29 and 30.

Now is the time to make the arrangements for getting summer vacations for that period. Convention time is time for business, but we K. of L'ers know how to mix business and relaxation. We get our work done, and have a grand Lithuanian good time besides.

WESTFIELD, MASS.

COUNCIL 30

Newly elected officers for the coming year are: Spiritual Advisor — Rev. V. Puidokas; President, Nelly Lingaitis; Vice-President, Mrs. Helen Alexik; Treasurer, Mrs. Dolores Lingaitis; Secretary, Gladys Samulevich; Corr. Secretary, Nellie Mikelis and Scribe, Mrs. Gladys Jonaitis.

Congratulations and best of luck to you all.

Our annual Christmas party was held on Saturday, Dec. 27th at the Colonial Inn with Mrs. Anne Sabonis in charge of arrangements. All who attended enjoyed themselves.

It was recently announced in the local newspaper that three members of the Westfield State Teachers College had been elected to the "Who's Who" in colleges. Of those three, two are K. of L. members. Congratulations to Marian Coach and Bill Miller and success in your chosen profession.

Here and There:

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Minkus on the arrival of a baby daughter, Agnes. Mrs. Minkus served as our council president this past year.

Home for the Christmas holidays was James Rogers who is now stationed at Indianapolis, Indiana.

We're wondering if Frank Jonaitis (who is now in Korea) enjoys reading the community letters he receives as much as we enjoy writing them.

De-dor

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

COUNCIL 92

We're back on the air! Council 92 has been reactivated and in a few months will be on its feet. Progress is a bit slow at present because of a few unforeseen obstacles, but we hope to overcome them and really move at a fast speed by Summer.

We are few in number but not in enthusiasm. Every member wants to be really active and that's just what we'll be. Keep your eyes focused on our little council!

One of our members, Frank Petrauskas, had the honor of being the guest of Council 93, Rochester, N.Y., at a Cabin Party held January 17th.

This Summer, we hope to be able to hold a few picnics, outdoor sports and socials and to extend invitations to the other councils.

F. Matthew Petrosky

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

COUNCIL 36

Recently we heard from two of our servicemen. Chuck Petkunas and Zeke Meizis. Chuck is stationed in Texas and Zeke, in Germany. Both boys expressed a desire to hear from K. of L'ers in other Councils. Anybody interested in writing to these boys can contact one of our officers for the correct address.

At our January meeting we had a most welcome visitor — Father Peter Gedvila of the Immaculate Conception Church (Brighton Park). Everyone thought that Father Peter added much to the meeting. We sincerely hope that he will be able to attend our meetings more frequently throughout the year.

Also at the meeting photos were taken of the officers for 1953, honorary members, 4th degree members and 3rd degree members. During the course of the evening it was noted that Alex Mikalunas had a photo taken with each of the girls. The other fellows must have been slipping!

Msgr. Brisko, pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church, is hospitalized at the American Hospital. He is one of the organizers of C-36 and a 4th degree member. We all hope that he will recover soon.

Our council held a Valentine Day dance on February 14th. It was called the "Hearts' Dance", and was held at the K. of L. Youth Center. Music was furnished by the popular dance combo known as the Wee Three. All were invited to attend.

A brief reminder that St. Casimir's Day will be commemorated on March 8th. Council 16 of Cicero, Illinois will be host to the Illinois-Indiana district. We urge all K. of L'ers to commemorate the day by receiving Holy Communion.

News Bulletin! On Saturday, Jan. 17th, Al Sirvinskis of our council and Lois Tanner became engaged. We extend our best wishes to both of them. By the way, Lois met at a K. of L. affair. This should prompt more of the single people to attend all the affairs.

\$64 Question of the month! Why is it that Alex M. is the only person who receives a telegram to attend the officers' meetings? How does he rate?

ANTANAS BALCYTIS-36
2512 W. 45 PL.
CHICAGO, ILL.

11220

ELIZABETH, N. J.

COUNCIL 52

The 40th anniversary of the K. of L. organization this year should stimulate special interest to all former and present members.

The Jubilee Concert held at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on January 18th was a huge success. Many of our members attended the concert and enjoyed our two Metropolitan Opera artists, Anna Kaskas and Algerd Brazis, very much. Joseph Boley, chairman of the M. Norkunas Memorial Fund and his committee worked hard for over five months to make this concert a memorable affair.

We in Elizabeth are also very busy. On February 1, the New Jersey Federation of Church Choirs sponsored a religious concert in our parish church, with many K. or L'ers participating. The featured artist was Algerd Brazis. The proceeds were turned over to the church.

On April 25 and May 2nd, our council will present a MINSTREL SHOW and DANCE. Charles Oskutis will produce and direct the show.

Since last fall, Bill Senkus has acquired a few jobs which have kept him busy day and night. He was elected director and assistant to the treasurer of the Lithuanian Building and Loan Association; vice president of Lithuanian Liberty Hall; vice president of Council 52, and member of Dean Martin Gessner Council 3310, Knights of Columbus. Congratulations, Bill!

Hope 1953 is a banner year for the K. of L. Our organization deserves everyone's support, morally and financially.

LAWRENCE, MASS.

COUNCIL 78

Congratulations are in order for the newly-elected officers: President, Leo Gaidis; Vice President, Pauline Rimas; Secretary, Pauline Oroski; Treasurer, Anne Marcinkevich and Marshall, John Marcinkevich.

We'd also like to thank our former officers for a job well done.

Home for the holidays, after being away for a year, was Sgt. Bob Zukas, U.S.A.F. It was nice seeing him home.

The Holy Name Society sponsored a Whist Party, January 10th, to benefit the Golden Jubilee Fund

Many of the K. of L'ers attended and the affair was a success.

It's nice to see Helen Andrews of Lowell active in our council again. Keep bringing down more of your friends from Lowell, Helen!

Twice, we've arranged to bowl with Providence, and both times, the weather has been against us. Maybe we'll be lucky on the third try, or will we have to wait until Spring?

No doubt Tony Padvaiskas is happy to be home again after spending a few months in Korea. Hope he continues to show up at the K. of L. affairs.

We welcome Mary Paulauskas (Lowell) into the K. of L. With enthusiastic members like Mary, our council should start growing soon!

Our Whist Party held January 24th, in St. Francis' parish hall, was successful. The proceeds from the affair helped diminish expenses for the Golden Jubilee.

John Kleponis recently became engaged to Marie Skudris of South Boston. Congratulations and lots of luck to both of you.

Rašytojas

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

COUNCIL 43

Our first 1953 activities was the "January Jamboree" held at SS Peter and Paul's Hall on January 31. Pat Norkus and Julie Prince co-chairmen of the event, appointed by our president Albina Kamsickas, did a fine job. Music was furnished by Don Leonard's orchestra.

Best wishes to Rita Bensevich, Julie Prince, Bill Blaskis and Genevieve Opolski, on their recent engagements. We understand that Jim Kujawa belongs to Rita, and Joe Skrzycki belongs to Julie; but as yet we do not know the names of the other lucky people. Congratulations!

Seems like all we did during the past weeks was celebrate birthdays: Frank Kamsickas (December 3), Tom Danevich (December 5), Bill Renis (December 28), Phyllis Naujalis (December 29), Joan Renis (January 11) and Fran Kamsickas (January 28).

Bill Renis has notified all his buddies that he has begun his new "job" on February 19. Bill is going into government service — Army style. (Not voluntarily). And it probably won't be too long before

Ed Opolski will leave for the Navy.

Bob Disbolis has been seeing quite a lot of Europe during his current cruise in the Navy. Recent post-cards received by K. of L. members indicate that he has been in Italy, Spain, Rome and Scotland. His only regret is having missed France.

Shirley Sherwin and Vic Dunaitis spent quite a bit of time in Grand Rapids during the Christmas holidays. They report that their studies at the University of Michigan are progressing fairly well.

Incidentally, when anyone sees our posters for the dance, he realizes that much planning has been done to make them so interesting and unique. Many thanks to the creators — John Turuta and Tom Danevich.

JFTK

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

COUNCIL 18

A NEW YEAR

And new officers: President, John Towski; Vice President, John Zukas; Recording Secretary, Aldona Strazdas; Financial Secretary, Frances Tamulynas; Treasurer, Peter Puzin; Editor, Dorothy Zukas; Marshall, Edward Puzin; and "Vytis" Correspondent, John V. Belskis. Congratulations! We are sure they will help make this one of C-18's most successful years.

Bowling

Council 18's team has stayed right up with the leaders of the League and is looking forward to the second half with high hopes of being in close competition for the first place trophy.

Birthday Greetings

Birthdays in January: Joe (The Champ) Mitchell, celebrated his birthday on January 3.

Council 18's favorite band leader Al (Shaky) Shakalis celebrated his on January 12.

President, John (Jon) Towski commemorated his birthday on January 12.

Christmas Party

Our council held its annual Christmas party at the K. of L. clubroom. The arrangement worked out very nicely with everyone feeling right at home in our comfortable lounge chairs. We were pleased to welcome guests from Brockton and Lawrence who helped to make this affair more enjoyable.