

"The Knight"



Plus

S. Kancewick

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Šiam "Vyties" Nr. panaudotos iliustracijos iš "Žvaigždės" psl. 3 ir 5 ir iš "Laiškai Lietuviams" psl. 4.

## OUR NEW COVER PAGE

Sketched by Stan Kancewick of Chicago, Ill., K. of L. Art Director. Interpretation of the cover illustration — "V" is formed of wayside crosses; "I" is dotted with symbol of The Knight; trees, you will note are seasonal; there are 48 stars for as many States in streamland U.S. map; U.S. is "joined" with a little scene of Lithuania by symbolic knot — to depict a oneness of thought, principle, democracy, etc.; and "Y" represents stripes of "Stars and Stripes."

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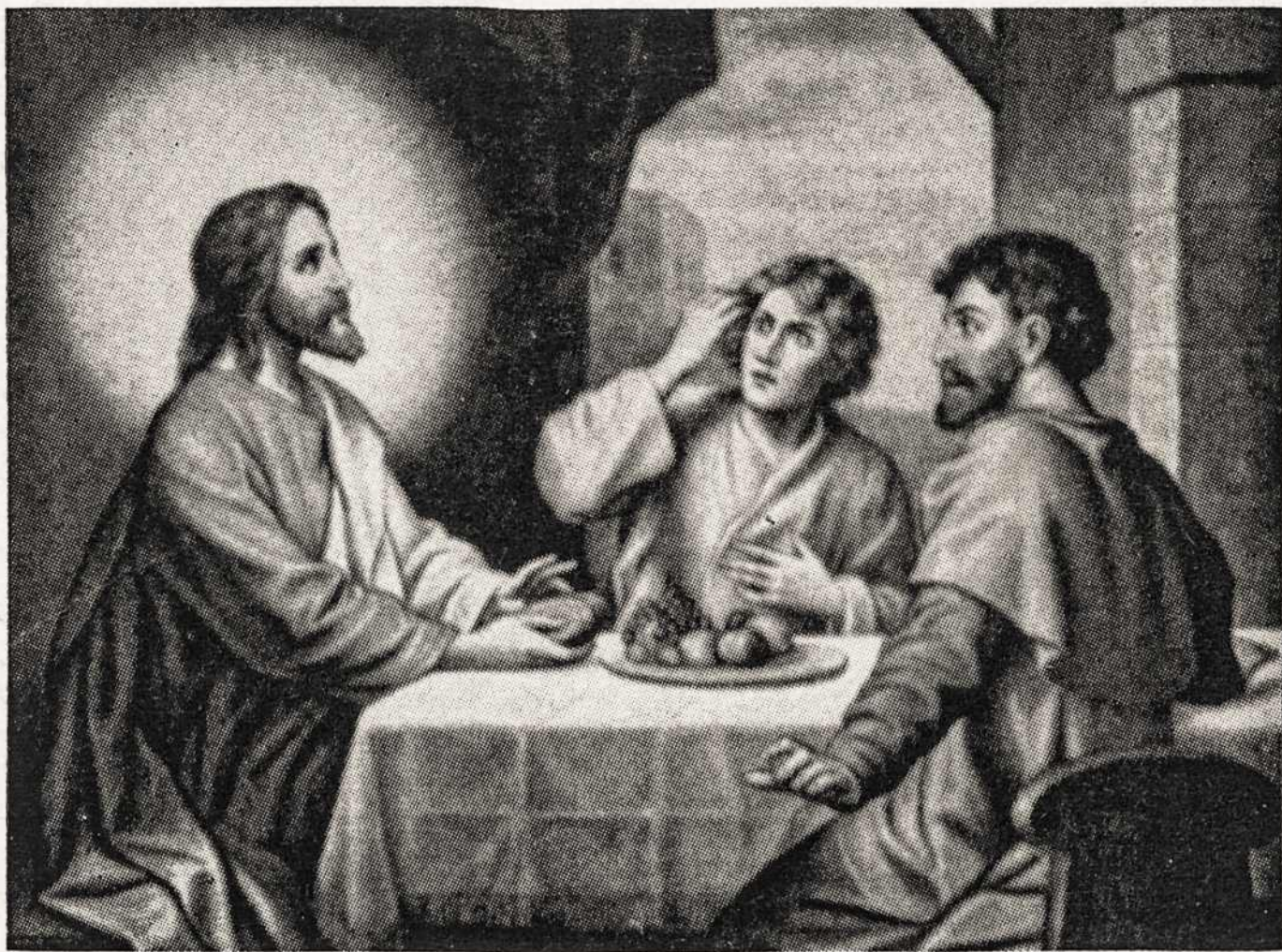
All correspondence should reach the editor by the 10th of the month preceding the next issue. Correspondents may use pen names, but all correspondence must bear the signature and address of the writer. The editor assumes no obligation to return any material not solicited.

#### VYTIS — THE KNIGHT

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## PRISIKELTI IR GYVENTI

*Alfa Sušinskas*

Didžiojo Šeštadienio mišiomis Katalikų Bažnyčia užgieda linksmajį ir nuotaikingąjį aleliuja, kuris yra hebraiškas žodis, reiškias „garbinkite Viešpatį“. Visas velykinis laikotarpis Bažnyčios liturgijoje įvairiomis progomis dažnai vartoja šį džiaugsmo žodį.

Kodėl Bažnyčia taip labai džiaugiasi Velykose? Todėl, kad Velykos primena didįjį krikščionybės įvykį — Viešpaties Jėzaus Kristaus prisikėlimą iš numirusiųjų.

Prisikeldamas iš numirusiųjų, Dieviškasis Išganytojas parodė, kad Jis yra Visagalis Dievas, savo rankoje turįs visą galią ir valdžią tiek danguje, tiek ir žemėje.

Krikščionys švenčia Velykas labai iškilmingai. Gražiose ir išpūdingose velykinėse apeigose glūdi labai gili prasmė.

Velykos yra ne vien Viešpaties Jėzaus prisikėlimas iš numirusiųjų; jos kartu ir nurodo kiekvienam krikščioniui, kad jis keltųsi iš savo klaidų ir kad savo atnaujintu gyvenimu jis šviestų kartu su prisikėlusiu Išganytoju.

Tikra evangelinė Velykų dvasia yra tampriai susijusi su dvasiniu žmogaus prisikėlimu naujam krikščioniškam gyvenimui. Dėl to velykiniu džiaugsmu negali džiaugtis tas žmogus, kieno tik lūpos gieda Velykose aleliuja, gi jo širdis lieka nepersimainiusi ir neprisikėlus; tikras krikščionis sutinka Velykų rytą Dievo malonei paruošta širdimi. Tik šitoks būdamas, krikščionis gali džiaugtis tikroju velykiniu džiaugsmu.

Velykos yra laimėjimo ir gyvenimo šventė.

Dieviškoji Viešpaties Jėzaus kančia ir kryžiaus mirtis nenuėjo niekais: tuo Jis atpirko žmoniją. Savo dieviškąja mirtimi ir dieviškuoju prisikėlimu iš numirusiųjų Išganytojas įrodė, kad mirtis nebeteke savo galios. Jis taip pat įrodė, kad žmogaus šventai kenčiamos kančios veda jį į amžinąjį, pomirtinį gyvenimą. Viešpaties prisikėlimu iš numirusiųjų tapo sunaikinta nuodėmės ir mirties galia. Dabar žmogus gali aiškiai suprasti, kad jis yra skirtas gyvenimui, ir ne vien

laikiniam, bet ir amžinam, neturinčiam laiko pabaigos.

Viešpaties Jėzaus Kristaus žodžiai „kas tiki į mane, tas gyvens per amžius“ yra gražieji ir viltin-gieji žmogiškojo gyvenimo žodžiai, kuriuos Jis pats patvirtino savo prisikėlimu iš numirusiųjų.

Mūsų džiaugsmas Velykomis yra didis ir šventas. Velykos atidaro mums naujo gyvenimo duris. Jos mus padrąsina ir įkvėpia nebijoti tų, kurie užmuša kūną, bet sielos negali paliesti.

Velykos yra dieviškoji šviesa, kuri nušviečia mums gyvenimo kelią. Ir tas kelias yra Dievo bei artimo meilė, gyvenant atgailos ir dieviškosios malonės gyvenimą.

Velykiniai varpai, gaudžią iš didelių ir mažų bažnyčių, skelbia viso pasaulio žmonėms šią didžiąją tiesą: kas nori amžinai gyventi, pirma turi prisikelti iš nuodėmės vergijos, savo širdį apiplaudamas Dieviškojo Avinėlio krauju ir savo atgaila. Aleliuja!



# THE KNIGHT AND THE CROSS

Rev. Albert J. Contons

It was a critical moment in the life of the young emperor, Constantine. Maxentius, the mighty leader of an army 100,000 men strong, challenged the authority of the emperor and held Rome. The odds were stacked against Constantine, who was leading his valiant army of 20,000 fighting men southward to do battle with his powerful opponent.

On the eve of the fateful day, Oc. 28, 312, Constantine saw a vision in the sky. The cross of the Christians appeared. A voice assured Constantine, "In this sign you will conquer." Crosses were affixed to the standards of his legionnaires, the initials of Christ were carved on their pagan shields, and the battle was joined. Clanging steel shrieked on the Milvian Bridge, the murky waters of the river Tiber churned red with the blood of fallen warriors, and finally swallowed the slain body of Maxentius. Constantine had won the day. The Cross was a victorious symbol.

A symbol tells a story. The Cross tells the story of the Holy Trinity, three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in one divine nature. It recalls the mystery of the Incarnation, that God became Man in the Person of Christ. It recounts the mystery of the Redemption, that the sinless Savior at the price of His life bought us back from the slavery of sin.

But the Cross is a very special symbol for the Knight of Lithuania. On the shield of the Knight is a cross with two horizontal bars. These cross bars tell the story of the unity of the Knights, for the arms of the Cross are extended to embrace all within its bosom. Because they are two, the horizontal beams represent the dual character of the Knight.

Duality is natural to man, for he has two arms, two legs, two eyes, two ears, intellect and will, body and soul. Duality is natural to the Knight as well. The Knight has a nature in the image of man, a supernature in the image of God. He is a member of the Church, and a citizen of his Country. In his veins flows the blood of his Lithuanian parents, in his training flows the stream of his American culture. From his lips slips the fluency of the king's English, on his tongue hangs the halting idiom of the ancient Balts. A member of his local parish, he is at the same time a member of his diocese and the universal Church. A vital part of his local K. of L. council, he is at the same time an essential part of a national organization. Striving to satisfy his personal needs, he helps fulfill the needs of others.

If a man should rebel against his dual nature and say, "I have a body, I don't need a soul," we would call him dead. If he should say, "I have a



will, I don't need a mind," we would call him a half-wit. If he should say, "I have one leg, I don't need the other," we would call him a cripple.

How unnatural it is, then, for a citizen to betray his country, or a Catholic to deny his Church. How unnatural for one redeemed by the blood of Christ to sell the grace of Christ for a mess of porridge. How unnatural to disown the blood and tongue of one's parents, or to minimize the riches of one's American heritage. How unnatural and uncatholic for the Catholic to be so wrapped up in the activities of his own parish that the needs of the Universal Church are completely foreign to him. How unnatural for the members of a K. of L. council to be so engrossed with themselves that they neglect the needs of the Supreme Council, which is the lifebeat of their organization. Such people are "near-sighted Magoos" who cannot see beyond their nose, and pull the rope which hangs them.

The vertical beam of the Knight's Cross represents the Knight's lofty ideals and striving for God. Like the Cross, the Knight is rooted in the earth, but his eyes look up, for he is destined for Heaven. Like the Cross which begins on earth, the Knight has his beginning in time, but he is meant for eternal life with God. Like the Cross which points upward to God, the Knight directs his life and prayers to God.

If the Cross is the symbol of the sacrifice of Christ, it is also the promise of the Resurrection of the Savior. For the Cross is the sign of victory.

Only of the loyal Knight sacrifices his selfish self on the altar of the Cross, and dies to self, can a selfless self rise up. The symbol of the Cross tells him that he must be united with his fellows, and united with God. Only then will the promise of the vision of Constantine be fulfilled in him, "In this sign you will conquer."



## Šv. Kazimieras



Velykų pirmąją dieną, 1950 metais, iš Zams Austrijoje buvo paskelbtas visam lietuvių jaunimui naujas ganytojiškas laiškas Kauno arkivyskupo metropolito J. Skvirecko ir kitų dviejų Lietuvos vyskupų tremtyje — Kauno arkivyskupo augziliaro V. Brizgio ir Vilkaviškio vyskupo koadjutoriaus V. Padolskio. Laiške duotas vertimas popiežiaus Pijaus XII brevės (1948 birželio 11), kuria Apaštalu Sostas paskyrė šv. Kazimierą lietuvių jaunimo Globėju. Ta brevė skelbia: "Šventąjį Kazimierą Išpažinėją patvirtiname, paskiriame ir paskelbiame visos lietuvių jaunomenės ypatinguoju danguje Globėju pas Dievą, pridėdami visas ir kiekvieną atskirai pagarbas ir liturgines privilegijas". Be to, Apeigų (Ritų) Šventoji Kongregacija atskirais raštais nustatė Lietuvai rugpiūčio 27 dieną Šv. Kazimiero relikvijų perkėlimo "duplex 2 classis" švente. Ragindamas šią šventę padaryti "viso bet kur esančio lietuvių tautos jaunimo švente", arkivyskupas J. Skvireckas su kitais dviem vyskupais tremtyje pabrėžė: "nuo dabar lietuvių jaunimo tarpe visuose pasaulio kraštuose turi prasidėti ypatingesnis Šventojo Globėjo garbinimas, atsimeinant jį kasdieninėje maldoje, įvedant jo garbei atskiras valandas ir dienas." Taigi, kituose kraštuose išsiblaškiusiems lietuviams šv. Kazimiero šventė turi virsti tokia pat tautine, juos apjungiančia Lietuvos Globėjo švente, kokią yra, pavyzdžiui, airiam šv. Patriko diena.

Zenonas Ivinskis, Roma

Kovo 4 d., ne tik mes lietuviai, bet ir visas katalikų pasaulis, ypatingai gi Vyčiai, jau virš 40 metų kai iškilmingai mini Šv. Kazimiero, savo org. globėjo šventę. Kaip jau mums daugumai yra žinoma, kad šv. Kazimieras yra kilęs iš didžiųjų Lietuvos kunigaikščių šeimos — didžiojo kunigaikščio Algirdo šeimos. Nors didysis kunigaikštis Algirdas mirė pagonimi, bet jojo sūnus Jogaila tapo pamaldžiu kataliku ir išaugino sūnų Kazimierą, Lietuvos kunigaikštį, o Lenkijos karalių, o ši karališka šeima davė mūsų tautai Šv. Kazimierą, kurį Katalikų Bažnyčia paskelbė ne tik šventuoju, bet ir Lietuvos katalikiško jaunimo globėju.

Šv. Kazimieras savo jaunas dienas pašventė maldai už Lietuvą, lietuvius ir Katalikų Bažnyčią. Šv. Kazimiero jaunų dienų gyvenimo pavyzdžiai mus kiekvieną turėtų pamokinti daugiau pamiršti save, šio atominio pasaulio nešiokį-nėtokį gyvenimą ir pasekti jo pėdomis. Juk nūdienis gyvenimas žmoniją daugiau patraukia į blogį negu į gerą. Visa žmonija, ypač katalikiškas jaunimas, turės vesti aršią kovą su blogiais gyvenimo reiškiniais, idėjomis, jeigu jis norės nors daliai pasekti mūsų Šv. Kazimiero gyvenimu. Jei lietuvių katalikiškas jaunimas neparodys atsparumo dabartinėse gyvenimo

apystovose, tai ko gi mes galime tikėtis iš tų, kurie apie Dievą ir Jo mokslą mažai žino ir supranta. Juoba, kad dar yra daug ir tokių, kurie kovoja prieš Katalikų Bažnyčią, tikėjimą.

Taigi, kaip gera ir malonu yra turėti pas Dievą mūsų šv. Kazimierą, globėją ir užtarėją viso lietuvių katalikiško jaunimo. Tikėkime, kad su jo pagelba žydės ir sėkmingai veiks lietuviškasis jaunimas ir kad mūsų tėvynė Lietuva herojiškai pakels dabarties gyvenimo kančias ir laimingai išeis į laisvą, nepriklausomą gyvenimą. Tat nenusiminkime, bet su viltimi žiūrėkime į ateitį ir dirbkime.

Šv. Kazimiero gyvenimas buvo nuostabus. Kai jaunutis šv. Kazimieras gyveno pas savo tėvus karališkuose rūmuose, jis visko turėjo ir galėjo gyventi labai ištaigingai. Vienok jis žemiškose gerybėse nepaskendo. Priešingai, jo žvilgsniai buvo nukreipti į amžiną, dangišką dalyką, į Dievą. Melsdamasis ir kankindamas savo menkutį kūną jis marinosi save, kad galėtų galingai reikštis jo dvasia.

Taigi pasekime šv. Kazimiero dorybėmis ir mūsų gyvenimas ir darbai bus naudingi Dievui ir Tėvynei.

J. Sadauskas, Cleveland, Ohio





TESTIMONIAL — Joseph Boley, front, center, was honored by the New York - New Jersey District Knights of Lithuania during the banquet at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, N. J., January 29th. Among the 200 present were, front, left to right, Miss Helen Pinkin, Charles Bason, dinner chairman, Miss Phyllis Grendal, Msgr. M. Krupavičius, honored guest Joseph Boley, Jack Stukas, toastmaster, Rev. Fr. John C. Jutt, principal speaker, Miss Vera Lang; rear, left to right, Frank Vaskas, Larry Janonis, district president and wife Jean, Mrs. Sue Mazeika, Mrs. Ona Stankus, R.N., sister of Joseph Boley, Rev. Fr. V. Karalevičius, district spiritual adviser, Mr. Anthony Mazeika, master of ceremonies, Msgr. John Balkūnas, Mr. Alexander Wesey, national president, Rev. J. Pakalniškis, Victor Guzevičius. (Not pictured — Rev. Fr. A. J. Contons, national spiritual director.)

## Joseph Boley Testimonial Banquet

Jack J. Stukas

On Sunday evening, January 29th, the Robert Treat Hotel, in Newark, New Jersey, was the scene of a "miniature Knights of Lithuania convention." Some 200 Knights from various parts of the country came to honor Joseph Boley at a Testimonial Banquet and Ball in his honor, which was tendered by the New York-New Jersey District.

There were Knights from Detroit, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, South Boston, Worcester, and other distant points and, of course, from various parts of New York and New Jersey. Many professional people were also in attendance, and we were pleased to see Mr. Boley's beloved sister from Pittsburgh there, too. Joe's brother, Father Edward Boley, Prof. A. Aleksis of Waterbury, and many others who weren't able to attend, sent telegrams.

Following a delicious turkey dinner, the program was opened by Anthony Mazeika, of Council 41, who introduced Jack J. Stukas, to be toastmaster for the evening. There followed an imposing list of speakers who paid glowing tribute to "our Joe," namely: Rev. John Pakalniškis, spiritual ad-

viser of Brooklyn Council 41, of which Mr. Boley has been president the last ten years; Al Wesey, Supreme Council President; Rev. Contons, Supreme Council Spiritual Director; Larry Janonis, New York-New Jersey District President; Msgr. John Balkūnas, of Maspeth, N. Y.; Phyllis Grendal, English Editor of "Vytis", and Rev. V. Karalevičius, Spiritual Adviser for the New York - New Jersey District.

In a principal address, Msgr. Mykolas Krupavičius, former head of the Supreme Committee To Liberate Lithuania and presently, Director of the National Fund, complimented Mr. Boley on his long and ardent devotion to K. of L. principles and to Lithuania's cause. Smilingly, he hoped that Joe would soon find a suitable "Mrs." to help him with his work and with whom he might raise an ideal Lithuanian family. The Monsignor called on all Knights to speak Lithuanian as often as possible and to learn the language if they have difficulty in speaking or comprehending it. In his words, "A Lithuanian body soon 'dries up' without a Lithuanian — speaking tongue to sustain it." He also

called for all Knights to be prepared for the day when we shall be called to active duty in the fight for Lithuanian freedom.

In another principal address, Father John Jutt, who spoke in both English and Lithuanian, called our Joe Boley the "Man of the Mountain" of the Knights of Lithuania, and recalled his extraordinary background of diligent and sacrificing service to our organization. Father John outlined three commandments to be followed by all Knights, namely: 1. To be a good Catholic. 2. To be a good Lithuanian. 3. To be a good American. He illustrated how Joe Boley has followed each of these commandments throughout his career.

Between the two sets of tributes and speeches, the guests were entertained by two excellent renditions of Lithuanian songs, by Louis Stukas, baritone, a member of Newark Council 29. He was accompanied by Algird Kačanauskas at the piano.

In expressing his deep and sincere thanks to the guests and to the arrangements committee, Joseph Boley recalled in a most interesting manner his early



boyhood days and the influences which started him on the road to becoming an outstanding Knight and Lithuanian patriot. He concluded his word of acknowledgment with the hope that he would continue to merit our love and respect in the future and to serve the Knights of Lithuania for many many more years to come.

Following the program, the banquet concluded with the singing of the Lithuanian Anthem and the Knights Hymn. Dancing to the popular Newark Convention orchestra, the Oley Brothers, lasted until midnight and it was only with reluctance that most of us parted for our homes. It was really a most enjoyable affair and a fitting tribute not only to our "Man of the Mountain," — JOSEPH BOLEY — but to the Knights of Lithuania as well.

The Arrangements Committee should be commended for a task very well done: Charlie Bason, Anthony Mazeika, Vera Laukzemis, Helen Pinkin and Victor Guzevicius.

I would like to conclude this article with a brief resume of Joe Boley's background. I know you will find it as interesting and as enviable as I have found it.

Joseph Boley (Bulevičius) belongs to the Knights over 25 years. He has been president of Brooklyn Council 41 for the past 10 years. Earlier he had been president of Homestead, Pa. Council 11 (now non-existent) for three years. He was Supreme Council Vice-President for two years, and President for three terms: 1946 through 1949. He reorganized the Rochester, N. Y. Council 93, and was one of the organizers of the Western Pennsylvania - Ohio District, which was active a number of years. He directed the Supreme Council Ritual Committee which formulated the first K. of L. Ritual program, and which also planned and produced the first Knights of Lithuania flag. He organized the three-day K. of L. leadership training courses in Marianapolis, Conn.

He has produced and directed over a dozen drama productions for various Councils and Districts, and had charge of the Norkunas Memorial Fund to raise funds to erect a suitable



PAGERBTUVIŲ BANKETE kalba prel. Mykolas Krupavičius; kairėj sėdi Juozas Bulevičius, o dešinėj kun. Jonas Jutkevičius.

monument in memory of the founder of our organization. A highlight of the campaign was a concert held in Brooklyn's Academy of Music, in 1953, which featured Metropolitan Opera stars — Algerd Brazis and Anna Kaskas. The project, as we all know, was more than an outstanding success.

Joe has spent much time also in organizing the K. of L. Juniors, has always upheld and propagated the name of the Knights in the press and over the air, and has consistently fought for K. of L. principles and programs.

In addition to his contribution to our organization, Mr. Boley has given much time and effort as Vice-President of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America. He was instrumental in organizing the Lithuanian Section of the Voice of America (overseas U. S. Government broadcasting to occupied Lithuania), and held a ranking position as producer-director under the aegis of the U. S. Department of State. He has also accomplished much work for the American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation, the American Lithuanian Council, and similar patriotic - religious organizations.

Joe Boley is a well-known, likeable, stage - radio - and T. V.

actor, announcer, producer and director. Truly — an outstanding personality and a most valuable asset to our organization. We are all certainly very proud of him and sincerely wish him success, the best of health and happiness in the future. Ad Multos Annos!

#### K. of L. CALENDAR

- April 1 — Chicago, Ill. (36) Annual Easter Dance, K. of L. Youth Center.
- April 8 — Gary, Indiana (82) — "The Bookkeeping Mistake" presented by Indiana Harbor Players, St. Casimir's Church Hall.
- April 24 — Pittsburgh, Pa. (19) Card Party for benefit of K. of L. Radio Program.
- April 28-29 — NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT ANNUAL CONVENTION. Saturday eve., dance at the Lithuanian American Naturalization Club Hall, Worcester. Sunday morning — Mass at Our Lady of Vilna Church. Business session — Our Lady of Vilna parish hall, 153 Sterling St., Worcester, 1:30 p.m. SHARP. Host: Council 116.
- May 6 — Worcester, Mass. (26), 40th Anniversary Banquet, St. Casimir's Church Hall.



# DIDYSIS VYTIS

L. Valiukas

Juozas Bulevičius prel. Mykolo Krupavičiaus vyčių suruošose išleistuvėse New Yorke, Hotel Statler: viršui J. Bulevičius įteikia vyčių dovaną — lagaminą, žemiau dar matomas su prel. M. Krupavičium vyčių veikėjas K. Basanavičius ir New York - New Jersey apskrities vyčių Dvasios Vadas Kun. V. Karalevičius.



Lietuvių, kurie sėkmingai ir pajėgiai galėtų dirbti lietuvišką darbą neturime daug. Vieni keliai eiti į iš Europos atvykusiuosius, kiti — į čia gimusius lietuvių ar kitų tautybių kilmės amerikiečius. Tik tas pajėgus atlikti lietuvišką darbą ir viename ir kitame fronte, kuris pilnai pažįsta ir vienu ir kitu praeitį, dabartį, jų siekius ir troškimus, tobulai mokąs abi kalbas. Maža to, turi turėti tam darbui pasišventimo, skirti daug laiko ir turėti įgimtų sugebėjimų visuomeniniam darbui.

## Lietuvis veikėjas

Tuos visus privalumus turi Joseph Boley (Bulevičius), čia gimęs, augęs ir mokslo siekęs lietuvis, jau ištiesę eilę metų nenuilstamai bedirbąs lietuvišką darbą. Rytinių valstijų Lietuvos Vyčiai suruošė 1956 metais sausio mėn. 29 d. savo garbingajam nariui pagerbimą Newark, N. J., mieste (Hotel Treat, Newark. N.J.).

Joseph Boley, savo dvasia ir siekiais jaunas, o amžiumi dar jaunųjų tarpe, gimė, augo ir mokėsi Pensilvanijos valstybėje. Prieš keliolika metų pasukęs į didįjį New Yorką ir ten įsijungęs į lietuvių veiklą. Daugiausia sielos ir darbo J. Boley yra įdėjęs į

Lietuvos Vyčių organizaciją. Trejetą metų (1946—1949) buvo Lietuvos Vyčių Centro valdybos pirmininkas. Jo vadovavimo laikais buvo vienas iš Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos sužydėjimo laikotarpių: skaičiumi vyčiai pokario metais buvo gausiausia; visa veikla praplėsta ir pagyvinta bei nukreipta lietuviškumo linkme. Be abejo, tai nebuvo atsitiktinumas. Tai įvyko J. Boley pastangomis, jo energijos ir sumanumo dėka. Vyčių suvažiavimai, vadų kursai ir kiti didesni organizacijos parengimai beveik niekad ir dabar neapsieina be J. Boley: Suvažiavimų darbo prezidiumų narys; vadų kursų paskaitininkas; komplikotesnio sprendimo metu išeinąs su aiškiais ir tiksliais pasiūlymais bei sugestijomis. Vyčiuose yra J. Boley vienas iš labai mažo ratelio, kuris visiems nariams vienu ar kitu būdu yra žinomas ir pažįstamas.

## Jo žodis itikinantis

J. Boley Lietuvos Vyčiai būtų permaža dirva, persiauras baras lietuviškame darbe. Jis visad aktyvus, visad dalyvaująs Alto, Balfo ir JAV-bių Lietuvių Bendruomenės darbuose. Jau keleri metai, kaip J. Boley yra vienas iš Balfo Centro direktorių. Nema-

žas skaičius lietuvių tremtinių, kai jie pasiekdavo ar ir dabar pasiekia New Yorke uostą, buvo ir yra pasitinkami J. Boley, kuris tiksliausia lietuvių kalba suteikė ir suteikia pirmąsias informacijas apie Ameriką naujesiems ateiviams. Lietuvių Bendruomenė nuo pat pirmųjų dienų šiame krašte susilaukė ir susilaukia J. Boley didelės talkos ir pilno pritarimo.

Teko su J. Boley kartu dalyvauti trijuose metiniuose Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos suvažiavimuose (Chicagoje — 1950, New Yorke — 1951 ir Dayton, Ohio — 1952). Jis kuklus, tylus, bet jo žodis svarus, įtikinantis. Jo pasiūlymai šviežūs, nauji. Lietuviškuose reikaluose aiškiaregis, metąs žvilgsnį į tolimesnę ateitį. Lakaus proto, lakios vaizduotės žmogus, pokalbiuose ir diskusijose visa galva iškyląs iš kitų.

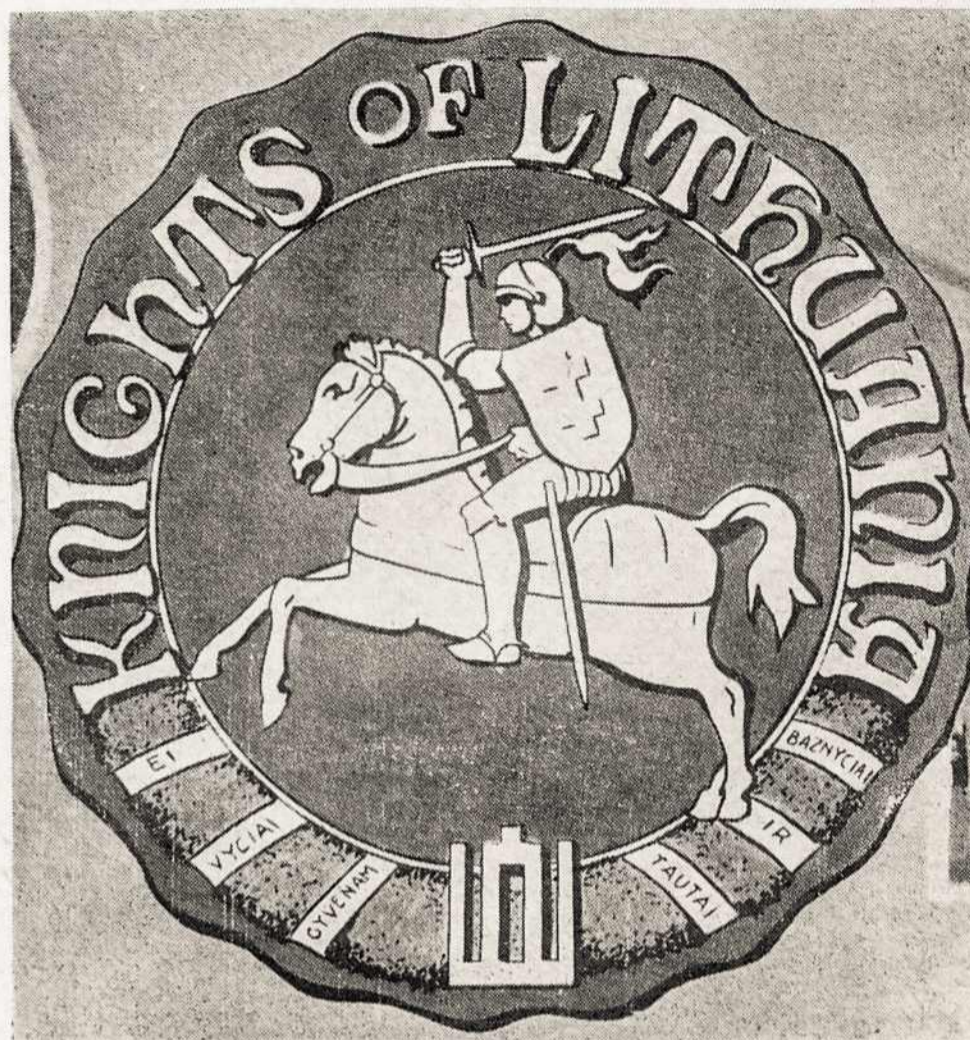
J. Boley, jau eilę metų veikęs lietuviškumo palaikymui čia gimusių lietuvių tarpe, visad ir visomis išgalėmis prisidėjęs prie Lietuvos vadavimo darbo. Jis nesitolins nuo geros valios lietuvių siekių ir darbų ir ateityje. Geriausių linkėjimų ir daug daug laimingų metų Joseph Boley jo pagerbimo proga.



KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

# Heroic Deeds

By Paul Shimkus



The Worcester diocese is one of the most active centers of that organization of young Lithuanian-Americans which was formed in America over 40 years ago to preserve and practice the traditions, both Catholic and national, of Lithuania, a country long distinguished for its determination to maintain its cultural and racial identity.

This organization is known as Knights of Lithuania, and has three units in this diocese. The councils, as the individual units are called, are located in St. Casimir's parish (Council 26), Our Lady of Vilna parish (Council 116), both in Worcester, and St. Francis' parish, Athol, (Council 10).

The scope and aims of the "Knights," on parish and national levels, were never more important than they are today.

Their constitution strives to promote an "adherence to Catholic philosophy and precepts, furthering among its members a deeper understanding and more zealous practice of the Catholic Faith" and "the encouragement among youth of an attachment to the land of their fathers — Lithuania — and an affection for the Lithuanian language and customs."

When one considers the condition of Lithuania and other nations

subjugated by Communist powers, indeed, these aims are most noble.

### Life-Death Struggle

For the birth of the Knights of Lithuania as an organization, today's young Lithuanian-Americans can thank their forebears, who literally had fought a life-and-death struggle to preserve themselves in their homeland. These forebears began to immigrate to the United States during the middle of the last century when famine was stalking the Baltic countries and the Czarist oppressions were becoming increasingly severe.

More and more Lithuanians unwillingly left their nation as the years passed and the 19th Century came to a close.

In 1894, St. Casimir's the first Lithuanian parish in Worcester, was founded, and it grew and prospered as the immigration swelled in the years between the Russian Revolution of 1905 and the start of World War I.

### New Problem

Fresh from the struggle against attempts by Czarists to "Russify" their native land, the Lithuanian immigrant in America were soon faced with a new problem.

That sociological phenomenon

that American society has so typified — acculturation — began to work on their children born in this country. These children could only be told about old country ways and traditions, and a new and better social condition in America tended to make them forget a heritage that was individual and therefore precious.

Something in the way of preservation of things Lithuanian had to be instituted. The situation was no longer that of combating stronger racial groups who had been trying for centuries to foist their ways on Lithuania, but one of keeping alive worthy practices from an old land in a new country.

Action finally was taken here in Massachusetts. Between the years 1910 and 1913, Mykolas A. Norkunas, who had come to America from Lithuania in 1892, proposed that a society to be called the Knights of Lithuania be formed to unite Catholic-Lithuanian youth. Norkunas was then living in Brockton.

He was supported by many in this move, including a priest now in the Worcester diocese, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Constantine A. Vasys, pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church. Msgr. Vasys was then editor of "Katalikas" (The Catholic), a Lithuanian publication in Chicago. He supported the idea in his editorials.



Other New Englanders who strived for the founding of the Knights of Lithuania were Rev. Francis Virmauskis of St. Peter's Church, So. Boston; Very Rev. Msgr. Francis Juras of St. Francis Church, Lawrence, and Professor A. J. Alexis, organist at St. Joseph's Church, Waterbury, Conn.

Prof. Alexis is the composer of the official hymn of the Knights of Lithuania.

Norkunas founded the organization in Lawrence on April 24, 1913, and that date is today observed in all councils as "Organization Day." The meeting took place at St. Francis' Church Hall. Stephen Bugnaitis and Rev. A. Kaupas helped prepare the by-laws for the new organization. Today Mr. Bugnaitis, a key figure in Knights of Lithuania work in those early days, lives in Worcester at 83-A Harrison street.

The first national convention of the Knights was held in Brockton in that same year. Norkunas was elected president, and served in that office until 1915. Brockton is also the home of the oldest unit of the organization, Council 1.

Norkunas remained active in the Knights of Lithuania organization up to his death on April 1, 1951, at the age of 81. Much of his own money he spent in helping build this society that may well be called his life work. He paid his own way to all the conventions, but after he had reached retirement age, the organization, as a special honor to him, paid his expenses to the national-level meetings.

Remembered fondly today, Norkunas was a lover of youth, delighting to spend his time with young people. At conventions he thrilled in pinning the emblem of the organization, a knight on horseback, on delegates. He paid for these pins out of his own resources.

In his last years Norkunas was stone-deaf, but yet he remained a powerful speaker who brandished the knotted cane he bore as he spoke, a cane that he had made himself in the manner of his native Lithuania.

### 135 Councils

Today councils are found from Uruguay to Montreal and Toronto. They total over 135.

The Knights of Lithuania abide by their motto, "For God and

Country," in all of their activities. A spiritual program that has been worked out by Rev. Albert J. Contons of St. Sebastian's School, Newton Mass., national spiritual director, is followed in every parish council. It is in purpose the implementation of the primary objective of the Knights: the making of Lithuanian-American youth better Catholics. The spiritual adviser of the parish council gives a talk each month to members on a dogmatic subject. A discussion period usually follows.



M. A. Norkūnas

Founder of Knights of Lithuania

Better practices of Catholicism are also instilled so that the Knights may use the increased knowledge of their Faith they gain. Councils sponsor special Masses and Holy Hours, and the corporal and spiritual works of mercy are stressed.

The second part of the motto is covered in a program aimed at a better community life. The society urges participation and interest in public affairs. Especially emphasized is the duty of voting.

The cultural program is a constant reminder to Knights that their forebears came from Lithuania. The traditions, customs, songs and dances of that country are fostered and preserved.

These activities of the Knights of Lithuania directed toward Lithuanian culture do not overshadow the other parts of the program.

As Rev. John C. Jutt of St. Casimir's Church says, "While much emphasis is on things Lithuanian, the society is by no means nationalistic. Its founders wanted young people to remember and love the land of their ancestors, to never forget that the Lithuanian heritage is equal to any other in the world and therefore should be cherished and perpetuated."

Fr. Jutt was national spiritual adviser from 1946 to 1951. He is now honorary chairman of the Committee on Lithuanian Affairs. He also helped organize Council 30 in Westfield during 1929 while a member of St. Casimir's parish there.

### Leadership Courses

Lectures and leadership courses are part of the cultural program that imparts in members a love for that Baltic country that has been a battlefield in two wars. Pamphlets on its history and culture are published as part of the vital struggle against the Red policy that is presently employing strategy destructive to the Lithuanian race: mass deportations, genocide, a Russification program and the re-settling of foreign nationals in the country.

The Knights are taught to cherish that tongue which is the key to languages that are no longer spoken. Courses in Lithuanian are given, and all meetings, council, district and national, are conducted in the Lithuanian language.

The language is an individual and archaic one. It, like the people who speak it, has no relationship to the Slavonic, Nordic and Germanic culture that neighbor the land where it is spoken. Ethnologists, philologists and historians all agree that Lithuanians are a distinct racial group with their own language.

Geographical circumstances have made the tongue pure as well as archaic. The country is one of heavy forest, and this factor gave inhabitants a measure of isolation for thousands of years. This undisturbed condition kept outside influences from altering what today is the oldest spoken tongue in Europe.

Professor C. O. Blagden has called it "the most archaic, or best preserved living language of the Indo-European family."





**Msgr. Constantine A. Vasys,**

pastor of Our Lady of Vilna Church, helped promote the idea for founding the Knights of Lithuania. Between the years 1910 to 1913, while editor of "Katalikas" (The Catholic), a Lithuanian publication in Chicago, he supported the formation of the Knights in his editorials.

The philosopher and philologist Immanuel Kant many years ago stated a fact that has grown in importance through recent European happenings: "Lithuania must be preserved, for her tongue possesses the key which opens the enigmas not only of philology, but of history."

Another philologist, Benjamin J. Dwight found it "the most antique in its forms of all the living languages of the world and most akin in substance and spirit to primeval Sanscrit."

In helping to keep alive the Lithuanian language, the Knights of Lithuania are doing a service to western culture.

#### **Folk Songs, Dances**

Another treasure of the little Baltic nation that the Knights cherish are the folk songs and dances. The songs number 390,000. In one year in pre-war Lithuania, 24,000 previously unrecorded folk songs, 7000 folk tales and fables and 7000 proverbs were catalogued. The heroic knights of old Lithuania, Gediminas, Keistutis and Vytautas, are the subjects of many of the songs.

Both of the Worcester councils have dance groups which study and perform the folk dances. They use for guidance the song booklets published by the national committee on culture.

The girls belonging to the councils are given an opportunity to learn Lithuanian recipes. A former Worcester woman and Knight of Lithuania recently published a Lithuanian cook book. She is Josephine Dauzvardis, the wife of the Lithuanian consul in Chicago. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Jacob P. Rudis of 50 Sterling street.

In keeping with its religious purposes the organization works closely with priests to foster the welfare of the parishes where the individual councils are located. In turn the clergy have given much time and effort toward building the organization.

Rev. Michael J. Tamulevicius of St. Casimir's parish has been spiritual adviser of Council 26 for 10 years, and founded the junior council there. He also served as the New England District spiritual adviser for many years.

Rev. Alphonse A. Volungis has been spiritual adviser of Council 116 since his transfer to Our Lady of Vilna Church last year.

Rev. John J. Bakanas, now curate at St. Joseph's Church, Auburn, was active in Knights of Lithuania affairs for many years. From 1934 to 1940 he was adviser of Council 116, and from 1940 to 1946 held the same position with Council 26.

Rev. Albin J. Yankauskas of St. Francis' Church, Athol, has been adviser of Council 10 there for over two years.

The Lithuanian pastors of the diocese have always been in close support of the Knights of Lithuania movement. They are Msgr. Vasys, Rev. Augustine Petraitis of St. Casimir's and Rev. Pius Juraitis of St. Francis', Athol.

#### **Feast Day**

Every March 4 the Knights join with other Lithuanian-Americans in honoring St. Casimir on his feast day. Council members usually receive communion in a body on that day.

St. Casimir is the patron of both Lithuania and the Knights of Lithuania.

Another spiritual exercise to which the Knights adhere is the

traditional devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary that was so much a part of the public religious life of Lithuania before World War II when that country was 85 per cent Catholic. In 1933, Pope Pius XI praised this devotion when he referred to Lithuanians whom he met at an audience as being from "Terra Maria," the Land of Mary.

#### **Requirements**

Today the Knights of Lithuania includes a membership plan that accommodates all age groups. Basic requirements to join are that one is a practicing Catholic and of Lithuanian parentage. Regular members must be 16-years-old. When a new member has become fully familiar with the by-laws of the organization and has been accepted by the council, he takes a solemn oath, administered publicly by the spiritual adviser or the president at a council meeting according to the established ritual.

There are four membership degrees: 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. They are tendered according to the ritual and under the supervision of the ritual committee.



**Rev. John C. Jutt**

of St. Casimir's Church has been long active in Knights of Lithuania affairs. He served as national spiritual adviser from 1946 to 1951 and today is honorary chairman of the organization's Committee on Lithuanian Affairs.



Up to a few years ago the minimum age for entry was 18, and no member past the age of 35 was allowed to remain active. Naturally, those long active in the Knights were reluctant to give up participation when they reached the maximum age, so a program that has become popular has been the creation of senior councils. They are already in operation in Boston, Chicago and Cleveland.

#### Junior Councils

One of the important results of the Knights of Lithuania 42nd national convention held in Newark, Aug. 25 through Aug. 28 of last year were the provisions for junior councils being written into the by-laws of the constitution.

Members of the eight junior units that are now active range in age from six to 16.

The purpose of such councils is to prepare youngsters for active and experienced life in the regular councils when they reach the age to join them. Also, they keep the membership of the regular councils restricted to high-schoolers in their junior and senior years.

Importance of the juniors was emphasized by the theme of that convention: "Today's Juniors — Tomorrow's Leaders."

St. Casimir's parish has a junior unit under the direction of Fr. Tamulevicius.

Next highest organization level above the councils of the Knights are the six districts: New England, New York - New Jersey, Indiana-Illinois, Ohio-Michigan, Pittsburgh and California.

The district presidents automatically become supreme council members. District meetings are held twice each year.

In turn the national convention is the highest tribunal of the Knights of Lithuania, having the power to amend by-laws, to appoint committees and to make decisions in all matters relative to the organization.

This year the national convention will meet in Chicago. In 1946, the meeting was in Worcester with Council 116 as host.

At the 1955 convention it was announced that Council 26 had won the 1955 membership drive. And two slots behind in third place was Council 116. Rita Palusis of Council 116 placed second in the "individual

winners" phase of the contest, and Anthony Morkunas of Council 26 placed third.

So, in strength and activity the Worcester units are among those leading the way.

#### Fr. Jutt's Report

Of special interest at the convention was Fr. Jutt's report on the work of the Lithuanian affairs committee. Under a campaign sponsored by the committee more than 16,000 letters have been sent by Knights to the American press, members of Congress and other public officials on behalf of Lithuania's independence.

For those who are unable to attend the national convention, the national magazine of the organization "Vytis" (The Knight) is a means of keeping up-to-date on happenings. All dues-paying members receive a subscription to this publication, which celebrated the 40th year of its existence in October, 1955. The present editor is Dr. Joseph Leimonas and associate editor, Miss Phyllis Grendal, both of South Boston, Mass.

"Vytis" is printed in nearby Putnam, Conn. The Sisters at the Provincial House of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary there have facilities for printing both in English and Lithuanian, and much of the Lithuanian-language literature that is found in America is printed by them.

For the last seven years Council 116 has published a magazine for its members. "The Equestrian," as it is called, provides the 116-ers with council, district and national news. Its original purpose was to keep members informed on what had been done at national conventions.

#### Proud Record

President Francis Nockunas and the 140 members of Council 26 and President Bernice Burdulis and the 115 members of Council 116 can be proud of the record they have made in the Knights of Lithuania organization. Today Worcester Knights are holding district and national offices.

Edward A. Daniels of Council 26 is first national vice president, and Mrs. Rita Pinkus of the same unit is national financial secretary.

Mrs. Tillie Gerulis, also of Council 26, served as national secretary

during the early 1940's and the early 1950's.

Anne Miller of Council 116 is chairman of the Lithuanian affairs committee of the New England District and represents the district on the national Lithuanian affairs committee.

Louise Totilas of Council 116 is on the ritual committee of the New England District. She has been president and vice-president of the district; and, from 1948 to 1950, she served as national secretary.

Worcester is indeed an active and important center in the important struggle to preserve the ideas and way of life of Lithuania. It is a struggle that has been carried from across the seas and kept alive by loyal sons and daughters and their children. It is an affirmation of those words uttered by Owen Norem, United States minister to Lithuania before World War II, on the fall of Lithuania to the Soviets:

"The Russians will not succeed in subjecting the Lithuanian people. They tried once before and failed. They will fail again."

The message that Archbishop Cushing of Boston gave in that city in January, 1953, to Lithuanian youth at the biennial convention of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund, Inc., might be applied directly to the Knights of Lithuania.

In discussing the modern plight of that land he said:

"And yet she still has her stars. For her the stars still shine, and she can see them clearly as she gazes out of her prison window. She has the star of respectful friends abroad. Above all, she has the loyal sons and daughters who, even though they have established their own homes and acquired new loyalties elsewhere, have not forgotten their mother in the Old Country. She still has the star of a free press to plead for her wherever men remain able to speak or write without despotic restraint. She still has the star of her cultural vitality. Above all, she still sees the star of the Catholic Faith."

These Knights of today are wielding the sword like the knight on their emblem to preserve the Faith and way of life of that land from which they live apart but which they have learned to love and will always cherish.

(Published in THE CATHOLIC FREE PRESS — Jan. 27, 1956)



# VYČIŲ SENDRAUGIŲ SKYRIUS

Redaguoja **IGNAS SAKALAS**

**Nauja taryba.** Sausio mėnesio susirinkime sendraugių kuopos tarybon (valdybon) išrinkti sekantieji: Ign. Sakalas, K. Paukštys, A. Petruelis, A. Bacevičius, T. Norbutienė, N. Karlavičius, E. Samienė, K. Rubinas ir J. Kerulis, o kandidatais B. Cicėnienė, V. Jodelis ir J. Vilkišius. Savo posėdyje jie pasiskirstys pareigomis.

Susirinkimo nuotaiką kiek slėgė atsisakymas pasilikti taryboje V. Pavio (praeitų metų išdininkas), S. Pavienės (pr. m. finansų sekretorė), V. Paukštis ir P. Čižauskas (pr. m. vicepirmininkai). Visi keturi buvo pirmaeiliai talkininkai visame sendraugių veikime. Tikimės, kad ir nebūdami taryboje jie darbuosis kaip ir praeityje.

\* \* \*

**Liga aplankė.** Rapolas Baliauskas, organizacijos veteranas, žymus lietuviškos dainos puoselėtojas ir buvęs ilgametis Chicagos apskričio choro narys, paskutiniu metu susirgo. Prieš kiek laiko buvo persikėlęs į Kenosą, Wis., bet susirgęs grįžo Chicagon pas savo brolių.

J. A. Vilkišius, kitas organizacijos veteranas ir vienas vyčių 17-tos kuopos S. Bostone steigėjų, paskutiniu metu taip pat buvo susirgęs, bet jau pasveiko.

R. Baliauskui sendraugiai linki greit pasveikti ir dar ilgus metus vadovauti dainavimui sendraugių ir kitų draugijų parengimuose.

\* \* \*

**Auka "Vyčiui" paremti.** Sausio mėnesio susirinkime sendraugiai iš savo sukaktuvinio vakaro gauto pelno \$25.00 paaukojo "Vyčiui" paremti, taip pat \$10 paskyrė Lietuvos laisvinimo reikalams. Auka įteikta Vasario 16 minėjime, kuri surošė Chicagos Lietuvių Taryba.

\* \* \*

**Užgavėniu vakaras.** Užgavėnių vakarą su tradiciniais lietuviškais blynais, Kanapinsku ir Lašininsku ir kitokiais įvairumais sendraugiai buvo surošę Vyčių salėj. Be sendraugių ir kaikiurių vyčių jaunių, užsigavėti ir smagiai vakarą praleisti buvo atsilankę nemaža ir svečių. Skanūs blynus kepė ir svečiams patarnavo žinomos lietuviškų



Chicagos vyčiai sendraugiai mini "Vyties" 40 metų sukaktį. Viršuj kairėj matoma dalis garbės svečių, o dešinėj kalba pirmasis "Vyties" Redaktorius Dr. Al. M. Račkus. Apačioj matome kalbant vyčių sendraugių kuopos pirmininką Igną Sakalą ir dalį minėjimo dalyvių.

B. Brazdžionio foto.

valgių gamintojos: A. Petrulienė, T. Norbutienė, J. Žemaitienė ir S. Pavienė.

\* \* \*

**Aukos Medalio Fondui.** Sausio mėnesio susirinkime Ign. Sakalui plačiau paaškinus apie vyčių sukaktuviniame seime (S. Bostone 1953 m.) įsteigtą Medalio Fondą, kuri šiuo metu globoja kun. J. Jutkevičius, sekantieji nariai aukojė: P. ir B. Čižauskai \$5, po \$2 V. Jodelis ir A. Bacevičius, po \$1 J. Aukštaitis, J. Kerulis, V. ir S. Paviai, N. Karlavičius, J. Žemaitienė, Jurjonas ir J. Juozaitis.

\* \* \*

**Grįžo kupinas išpūdžių.** S. Šimulis, sendraugis ir organizacijos garbės narys, vis dar gyvena išpūdžiais, parsivežtais iš Kalifornijos, kur bepoilsiaudamas aplankė visą eilę chicagiečių. Tik gaila, sako, kad tuo metu nepasitaikė vietos vyčių kuopos susirinkimas ar betkokio parengimo, kur būt buvę malonu susipažinti su losangeliečiais vyčiais.

\* \* \*

**"Dainų skrynelė".** J. Žemaitienė, miela talkininkė visuose sendraugių parengimuose, yra gyvoji "dainų skrynelė". Kiek ji moka lietuviškų dainų. Daug jų yra užrašęs tautosakininkas J. Būga. Dainuodama vieną dainą ji prisimena kitą ir t.t. Be

to, ji gabi sukurti ir humoro dainų apie draugiją ir jos veikėjus, vienus pagirdama, kitus paplaskdama. Mandagi, draugiška, už tat laukiama visuose susirinkimuose ir visų gerbiama.

\* \* \*

**Atostogavo Floridoj.** J. Andrešiūnas, tavernos prie Union ir 31-gatvių savininkas, buvęs vienas veikiausių vyčių 16 kuopos veikėjų, dabar priklausęs sendraugiams, su A. ir P. Juškais ir kun. J. Prunskiu trejetą savaitių praleido ilgesnėj kelionėj. Daugiausia laiko praleido Floridoj. J. Andrešiūnas yra pavyzdingas rėmėjas sendraugių veikimo.

\* \* \*

**Padarė linksmesnes Kalėdas.** Bronė Pivariūnienė, žinomoji Chicagos lietuvių labdarė, savininkė duonkepėklos, prieš Kalėdas užsakė visą šimtą kalėdinių maisto paketų Šv. Marijos našlaitynui Indijoj. Kita geradarė ir veikėja E. Samienė patarpininkavo pasiuntimui kalėdinių maisto paketų Lietuvių Kolegijos Romoje auklėtiniais.

Ir viena ir kita maisto paketėlius užsakė "CARE" įstaigoje.

**ORGANIZUOKIME  
VYČIŲ SENDRAUGIŲ  
KUOPAS!**





## “...IR TĖVYNEI.”

### GEDIMINAS — LIETUVOS KŪRĖJAS

by Evelyn M. Bender, Ph. D.

It is the year 1315. The territory of Lithuania extends far and wide now, including such cities as Pinsk and Grodno in White Russia. But in spite of success, her people are depressed, tired of war and plundering, hungry because of the burned out lands, homeless in devastated towns. Rebuilding, restoring energy, replenishing exhausted resources, peace — these are the needs of the day. And the right man appears to fill them, as Gediminas become king.

Gediminas rebuilt cities (such as Vilnius and Trakai), and built forts (pilis) around both old and new towns, so that enemies would never be able to overwhelm them so easily again. Some of these forts still exist — a tribute to the solid workmanship of the Middle Ages!

There is a well-known legend telling how Gediminas came to establish Vilnius (actually, it had already been founded, but was destroyed in war): on a hunting expedition in 1323, Gediminas wandered far from his home and chanced to spend one night in the forest covering what is now the site of Vilnius. That night he dreamed of iron wolf (geležinis vilkas) which seemed to be standing on the hilltop, howling so fiercely that it seemed as though a hundred wolves must be hidden in its throat. Believing, as did many pagans then, and now, that dreams were special revelations from the gods, Gediminas sought an explanation of this weird dream from the high priest of Perkūnas. After deep thought, the priest interpreted the dream this way: the iron wolf symbolized a very large city which Perkūnas wished to be established on that spot. The

loud howling indicated that the city would become famous throughout the world. This was enough to prompt Gediminas to rebuild Vilnius, and he himself started its glory by making it his capital.

In addition to his building program, Gediminas encouraged trade and the interchange of ideas with Western Europe, inviting farmers, artists, craftsmen, merchants to come to Lithuania. In the cause of peace, he arranged the intermarriage of his children with Russian and Polish nobility (and, incidentally, since he had seven sons, gained control of much new land this way). His daughter Aldona became the wife of Kasimir, the son of the Polish king Vladislav.

Aldona is the first of the Lithuanian heroines. According to tradition, she was a true Lithuanian beauty: golden-haired, fair-skinned, attired always in white robes and wearing her “rūtų vainikėli”. She is supposed to have had a very sunny disposition, a kind heart, and a lovely voice — which earned for her the nicknames Paukštelė and Saulytė. As she prepared for her wedding to Kasimir, she asked for her dowry that her father grant her the freedom of some 24,000 Polish prisoners of war held in Lithuania. He granted this unusual request, and so she entered Poland followed by the joyous army of newly-freed men and welcomed by the heart-felt rejoicing of her new people. Aldona continued to be truly Lithuanian even as a Polish queen — and her abiding love for the Lithuanian songs, customs, and people displeased the Polish nobility, but endeared her forever to all Lithuanians.

Although Gediminas was mainly interested in peaceful pursuits, he could not turn off a threatening enemy (like a flood of water) by saying “sorry, not interested!” So he too got embroiled in some of Vladimir, and earned the grateful welcome of the Russian people for saving them from the Tatars, their oppressive masters at that time.

The Teutonic Knights were still harassing Lithuania on the pretext that it was pagan country. Gediminas decided to try for peace with them by inviting missionaries (Dominican and Franciscan friars) into Lithuania, building several Catholic Churches, and, in 1323, sending delegates to Rome with the offer: he himself would become Catholic and he would encourage all of Lithuania to follow him into the Church, if only the Pope would force the Teutons to stop attacking Lithuania. The Pope agreed, but reckoned without the Knights. On the pretext of doubting the Lithuania's sincerity, they disregarded the Pope's legates arrived in Lithuania, Gediminas was enraged at the Teuton's treachery, refused Baptism for that reason, and went to war. He defeated the Teutons so decisively that they vowed not to molest Lithuania again so long as Gediminas lived. They kept their word.

Gediminas died in 1341, while defending the fort at Veljuona, and was buried in Vilnius. He was known always and everywhere as a man of his word — “Pirmiau geležis sutirps į vašką ir vanduo pavirs į uolą negu ištartą žodį mes atšauksime.” With this sincerity, he loved and worked “tėvynės naudai” all his life.

(to be continued)



## VYČIAI KOVOJ UŽ LIETUVIŠKUMĄ

Kun. Stasys Raila

“Jei kas nesirūpina savaisiais ir ypač namiškiais, tas išsigynė tikėjimo ir yra piktesnis už netikintį.” (1 Tim. 5, 8)

Giliai tikiu, kad tik Vyčiai Amerikoje gali Lietuviškumą išlaikyti. Jaučiu, kad visi vyčiai vieningai ir jautriai pasiryžta tęsti savo vytišką žygį už jaunimo lietuviškumą — Amerikoje ir visame pasauly. Todėl šis 42-as Vyčių Seimas, Newark, N. J., 1955 m. rugpjūčio 25-28 dienomis pasuka Vyčių Veiklą 100 nušimčių Lietuviškumui gelbėti bei palaikyti ir savo vytiškai lietuviškai Organizacijai stiprinti.

### NAUJOS VYTIŠKOS VEIKLOS PLANAS

**I. Centro Valdyba.** 1. Vyriausioji Vyčių Valdyba gyvai rūpinasi visais organizaciniais reikalais kaip ir lig šiol. Tik dabar visa Centro Valdyba turėtų būti arti viens kito ir veikti visą metą. C. V. posėdžiauja kas mėnesį ar dažniau, lanko kuopas, apskričius. 2. Veda visą vytiškos veiklos liniją spaudoj, “Vytyje”, aplinkraščiais. 3. C. V. gerina veikimo galimybes visose lietuvių kolonijose, be perstojimo. 4. C. V. gelbsti kuopų veikimą ir jį prižiūri. Ji neša atsakomybę už bet koki vytišką veikimą — gerą ar blogą. 5. Ji palaiko artimus ryšius su Katalikų Federacija ir visomis lietuviškomis organizacijomis bendrame darbe, kur tik tas nėra priešingas vytiškumui.

**II. Vyriausias Organizatorius.** 1. Vyčiai priaugo ir turi suprasti, kad be savo nuolatinio ORGANIZATORIAUS toli nenueis ir didesnių darbų nebeatliks. Juk 42 metų gyvenimas yra gyva pamoka. Todėl jau šandien suranda tokį asmenį, kurs iškels vyčius ir atneš milžinišką laimėjimą lietuviškumui ir bendrai Vyčiams. 2. Vyriausias Organizatorius gyvena ir dirba tik vytiškumui. Vyčiai jam sumoka honorarą. Vyčiai tai gali ir turi padaryti. Pav., jei Vyčiai moka \$3.00 “Vyties” mokesčio, tai dar gali mokėti \$2.00 Vyr. Organizatoriui, ir kiekviena kuopa po 50 centų nuo kiekvieno nario ir už tuos, kurie neišgali patys sumokėti. Tas sudarytų \$3750.00 metinio atlyginimo, arba \$310.00 į mėnesį. 3. Jis ugdytų, lankytų, gintų, organizuotų, rašytų — žodžiu, gyventų vyčių reikalais. Tokį tinkamą asmenį Jūs visi gerai žinote, tikiu, jis sutiktų tas pareigas paimti. Jis būtų nė kas kitas — **J u o z a s B u l e v i č i u s**. Tuo keliu Vyčiai iškiltų į didžios reikšmės Organizaciją.

**III. Kunigas Vyčių Veikėjas.** 1. Vyriausias Vyčių Dvasios Vadas ar kitas lietuvis kunigas turėtų būti nuolatinis Vyčių Veikėjas. Jis būtų Vyčių dvasinė galybė. Kunigui lengviau išsilaikyti. Pradžioje jis galėtų dirbti šalia savo tiesioginių pareigų, Vyr. Organizatoriui talkininkauti, o vėliau ir jis taptų Vytiškos Veiklos Štabo neatskiriamas darbininkas. 2. Toks Vyčių kunigas atliktų dvasinį, kultūrinį, religinį vyčių auklėjimą. Jis su Vyr. Organizatorium iškeltų mūsų vytišką judėjimą į didžiai reikšmingą pajėgą. Mums nebetektų galvoti ar išsilaikysim, bet tik kurti, veikti, laimėti.

**IV. Jaunieji Vyčiai.** 1. Vietoj bendro naujų narių vajaus, skelbti Jaunųjų Vyčių organizavimo vaju. 2. Ruošti **Jaunųjų Dieną**, su jų dainomis, sportu, gyvais pa-

veikslais, lietuviškais žaidimais. 3. Pravesti Jaunio Vyčio Varžybas — kas yra jaunasis vytis ar vytė arčiausiai prisirengę prie vyčio idealo. To pasiekusius skelbti spaudoj, iškelti jų šeimų garbę. Duoti aukštesnį idealio vyčio-vytės nurodymą, kad kiek turėtų padirbėti. 4. Tuoju paruošti jaunio vyčio knygele, su reikalingiausiomis žiniomis. 5. Vesti Jaunųjų skyrių “Vytyje”. Turėti Jaunųjų programos dalį Apskričių suvažiavimuose. 6. Rengti Jauniams Vadų.

**V. Apskritys.** 1. Apskritys atlieka nepaprastai svarbų uždavinį naujame Vyčių žygyje už lietuviškumą. Apskrities Valdybos savo posėdžiuose atlieka organizacinius reikalus, o Apskričių Suvažiavimus rengia viešam Vytiškumui ugdyti. 2. Čia vyčiams kursai, vaidinimai, dainelių mokymasis, lietuviškų papročių gavinimas, lietuviškų kryžių statymas, aikštelių rengimas ir puošimas, giesmių giedojimas. 3. Kur Apskritis susirenka, ta vietovė turi pamatyti gyvą lietuviškumą, stebuklingą, nes tai būtų čia gimusių lietuviškumu degančių darbas. Tai yra galima. Kaip? Vienas išscenizavimas, kelios dainelės, lietuviški žaidimai, tautiškais drabužiais puošimasis, lietuviško darželio įrengimas. Tegul pamato kolonija, kad vyčiai nešneka, bet dirba ir gyvena lietuviškumu. Juk nėra mums ko didžiulis bendrais veikimo darbais, juos gali atlikti ir kiti, vyčiai pasižymi lietuviškumu.

“Ei, Vyčiai, Gyvenam Tautai ir Bažnyčiai!”

**VI. Kuopos.** 1. Kuopos nariai ir bus patys gyvieji naujo lietuviško veikimo varytojai. Jie turės dirbti — dirbti — ir dar kartą dirbti. Ką? — 2. Lietuviškai kalbėti. Ir mokytis, iškalti, jei reikia, bet kalbėti. Jei nekalbi, tai nepilnas vytis. 3. Giedoti ir dainuoti. Išmokti žodžius, jei be balso, tai bent niūniuoti. 3. Skaityk. Skaityk kasdien bent kiek. Mokėsi greitai. 5. Rašyk. Kaip? Tik pradėk. Su žodynu. Bet rašyk. 6. Deklamuoti. Pasakyk tik vieną posmelį, bet išmok. 7. Gyvenk lietuviškumu. Gink, įdomaukis, klausk, aiškink, kasdien BŪK LIETUVIS. 8. Kuopos Valdyba duoda progos visiems veikti. Įrengia lietuviškai savo kambarį, aikštę, salę, leidžia sieninį laikraštį, su lietuviškomis iškarpomis, paveikslais. Valdyba gyvai atstovauja vyčius kiekviename lietuviškame ar parapijiniame veikime. Veda vyčių veiklos dienoraštį ir tvarko archyvinę medžiagą. Pažangesnės kuopos organizuoja lietuviškumo klases, nes be rimto darbo vargiai kas bus laimėta.

**VII. Vytis-Vytė.** 1. Vytis-vytė nori būti išrinktuoj — vyčiu-vyte. 2. Kiekvienais metais Vyčių Seime yra “vainikojami” vytis ir vytė už tikrą vytiškumą. Išrinktasis turi daug pasiekti, bet gali pasiekti, jei norės. Jis renkamas už savo asmenišką veiklumą kuopoj ir lietuviškumą gyvenime. 3. Pavyzdžiumas susirinkime, darbuose. 4. Gina vytiškumą pavyzdžiu ir spaudoj. 5. Uoliai dirba kuopoj, apskirtyje. 6. Kalba ar jau mokosi kalbėti lietuviškai, rašyti, dainuoti. 7. Perskaitęs ir žino lietuvių istoriją. 8. Žino ir gyvena lietuviškais papročiais. 9. Sugeba vytiškai vadovauti jaunesniems vyčiams. 10. Turi savo lietuvišką maldaknygę ir kitų knygų, lietuviškų papuošalų, rankdarbių, tautiškų drabužių.

**VIII. SEIMAS.** 1. Vytiški Seimai tampa Vyčių Dvasios ir Darbų Sujungimas. Todėl Seimai įgyja naujos dvasios. 2. Nebėra šokių Vakarų ir Bankietų. 3. Vyčių Seimas — Bendri ir Komisijų, apskričių ir kuopų Valdybų Posėdžiai. Sekančių vyčių veiklos metų darbų planavimo posėdžiai. 4. Dvasiniai - Vytiškos pamaldos, kuriose kiekvienas aktyviai dalyvauja. Paradas prie



# Lietuvos Vyčių Istorija

Ignas Sakalas

(tęsa)

## 78-ji KUOPA

78-ji kuopa Lawrence, Mass., buvo įsteigta 1917 m. balandžio 22 d. Parapijos jaunimo organizavimu daugiausiai rūpinos tuometinis klebonas kun. Pr. Virmauskis, kuris už didelius nuopelnus visai organizacijai vėliau buvo pakeltas Garbės nariu.

Steigiamajam kuopos susirinkime įsirašė 40 narių. Jaunai kuopai pirmininkavo O. Šeškaitė, vėliau A. Petronis ir V. Rusilas.

Kad kuopon buvo susispietęs veikliausias jaunimas, rodo faktas, jog tais pačiais metais kuopa suruošus išvyką (išvažiavimą) liepos 4 d. sudarė \$100 ir juos paskyrė Tautos Fondui — Lietuvos laisvės reikalui. Gi 1919 m. liepos 4 d. kuopai daugiausiai veikiant įvyko vyčių Naujosios Anglijos išvažiavimas Wetch's Pond, Methuen, vietovėj, kur vėliau lietuviai įsteigė "Palangos" parką. Vyčiai čia sutraukė daugiau kaip 3,000 jaunimo ir svečių. Atvyko net iš tolimesnių miestų, kaip Washington, New York, Detroit, Chicago ir k., dalyvavo tuometinis vyčių Centro pirmininkas komp. A. Aleksis, Lietuvių Tautos Tarybos narys adv. B. Mastauskas ir daug kitų žymių veikėjų pasauliečių, jau nekalbant apie lietuvius kunigus iš visos N. Anglijos. Meninėj programoj dalyvavo apylinkės parapijų (Worcester, S. Boston, Brockton, Lowell ir vietinis Šv. Pranciškaus parapijos) chorai ir solistės E. Narinkevičiūtė ir M. Raipaitė. Iš šio išvažiavimo pelno \$100 buvo paskirta parapijos reikalams.

Šitokie vyčių organizuoti pasirodymai buvo labai didelė moralė parama Šv. Pranciškaus parapijai, nes tais laikais Lawrence prigijusi lietuvių tarpe atskala — vadinamieji nezaliežninkai (tautinė parapija) buvo gerokai apardžiūsi lietuvių katalikų vienybę. Lietuviai pamatė, kad nezaliežninkų veikimas, kuriuo jie didžiūdavosi ir skelbdavo prašoką katalikų veikimą, yra tik išpustas burbulas.

Po tokių jaunimo pasirodymų daugelis suklaidintų ir prie atskalos pritapsių lietuvių pradėjo grįžti atgal prie tikrosios katalikų parapijos, prasiždėjo naujas atgimimas: buvo atgaivintos arba steigėsi organizacijų kuopos, lokalinės draugijos, brolijos; religinis gyvenimas pradėjo stiprėti ir gauti

lietuviško kryžiaus, amerikoniško paminklo. 5. Draugiškas pasilinksminimas — šokiai, bet jokių būdu ne vieši šokiai, kurie nieko vyčiams nežada Seimo progą. 6. Iškilmingas Seimo užbaigimas — koncertas, vaidinimas, svečių kalbos, rezoliucijos, laipsnių įteikimas, apdovanojimas. 7. Griežtai žiūrėti, kad Vyčių Seimo dvasia žibėtų katalikiškumo, lietuviškumo, garbingumo šviesomis. Vytis turi norėti vyksti į Seimą todėl, kad vytis, bet ne todėl, kad yra progos paūžti. Vyčių Seimai turi daryti galingos įtakos į nevytišką jaunimą ir patraukti jį į savo draugiją.

naujų jėgų ne tik parapijos, bet ir tautiniam veikimui. Gi viso to darbo vairininkas ir vadovas buvo kun. Pr. Virmauskis.

Per penkioliką metų, tai yra iki 1922, kuomet kuopos veikimas buvo plačiai šakotas, suruošta 31 vakaras, kurių pelnas paskirstytas šiaip: \$100 parapijai, \$250 Lietuvos laisvės reikalams. Daugelis tų vakarų buvo kultūrinio pobūdžio, be pelno, nes vyčiams pirmoje vietoje rūpėjo jaunimo švietimas, dorinimas ir jo ruošimas vadovauti vėlesniam lietuvių katalikų veikimui. Buvo steigiamos vakarinės mokyklos lietuvių kalbai pažinti, Lietuvos istorijos, geografijos pasimokyti ir k. Gražų ir turiningą organizacijos visuotinį seimą kuopa buvo suruošus 1920 m.

Per tą laiką nukentėjusiems nuo karo Lietuvoj šelpti per Tautos Fondą kuopa yra paaukojus \$300, Lietuvos Raud. Kryžiui paremti davus \$200, Lietuvos Laisvės Paskolos bonų nariai yra išpirkę už apie tūkstantį dol. Kuopa talkino ir kitų draugijų veikimui, nemokamai išpildydama programas ir t. p. Be to, daugiau kaip \$300 yra paaukojus kultūriniam ir labdaros reikalams.

Savo laiku gražiai veikė ir jaunamečių ir sporto sekcijos.

Užsidegus antram Pasauliniam karui ir daugelį veikliųjų narių pašaukus į frontą demokratijai ginti, kuopa buvo tiek nusilpus, kad buvo kaip ir nustojusi veikti. Šiek tiek atsipeikėjus nuo to smūgio pradėjo veikti jau jaunesnieji, vadovaujami vikaro kun. F. Kensto, o 1945 m. pradžioj tuometinio Centro pirmininko Pr. Razvadausko pastangomis, padedant F. Grendelytei, kun. F. Kenstui ir kitiems S. Boston vyčių veikėjams, kuopa buvo prikelta naujam gyvenimui ir įstatyta į naujas veikimo vėžes. Valdybon išrinkta: dvasios vadovas kun. F. Kenstas, pirm. J. Andriukaičytė, vice pirm. J. Švenčionienė, sekr. Ona Girčiūtė, fin. sekr. Elena Savičienė (Savage), išd. P. Venčius. Nuo to laiko kuopos veikimas iš naujo pradėjo šakotis įvairiose srityse ir po šiai dienai jis gražiai bujoja. Kuopos globėju ir patarėju yra parapijos klebonas prel. P. M. Juras, kuris už didelius nuopelnus visai vyčių organizacijai yra pakeltas Garbės nariu, ir kuris šiuo metu yra žymiausia asmenybė Amerikos lietuvių katalikų kultūros horizontuose.

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**A DISTINGUISHED LITHUANIAN AND HIS FAMILY MEMBERS AT HIS 65th BIRTHDAY BANQUET.**

Dr. Julius J. Bielskis (center) was honored by Los Angeles Lithuanians on the occasion of his 65th birthday anniversary. Left to right: Alfred Bielskis (son), Mrs. J. J. Bielskis, Dr. Julius J. Bielskis, Mrs. D. L. Hagmann (nee Rūta Bielskis) and Dr. David L. Hagmann (Rūta's husband). Dr. Bielskis is Lithuanian Consul in Los Angeles, California, former National President of the Knights of Lithuania (1919-1920) and one of the most distinguished American-Lithuanian leaders.

Dr. Bielskis was born on January 6, 1891 in Lithuania and arrived in the United States in 1909. After graduating from Blumer College in Connecticut, he attended classes in New York, Washington, D. C., and Los Angeles, California in law, medicine and international relations.

He had been very active in the American Lithuanian Council, in organizing the Lithuanian Information Center in Washington, D. C. and as a delegate of the American Lithuanian Council he visited Lithuania several times. Dr. Bielskis had been the first Consul General of the Republic of Lithuania to the U. S. from 1922 to 1926 located in New York City. The Republic of Lithuania had honored him with the Order of Gediminas and in the appointment as Lithuanian Consul in Los Angeles, California, where he has been residing since 1926, when he had become employed by the Prudential Insurance Company to January, 1956. Upon his retirement, he was honored at a banquet on January 8, 1956 with an attendance of 200 guests at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, Calif.

His wife is the former Ona Akucevičius, who was born of Lithuanian parents in Pennsylvania. Their son, Alfred, is a senior at the University of California and their daughter, Rūta, is a graduate of U.C.L.A. Dr. and Mrs. Bielskis have five grandchildren.

Dr. J. J. Bielskis attends meetings of Council 133, K. of L. and he lectures on the Knights of Lithuania and Lithuania's problems. In the early 1920's he had contributed a great number of articles to the VYTIS magazine.

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**Visiems Vyčiams Ir Jų Prieteliams**

**VELYKŲ DŽIAUGSMO IR LAIMĖS**

**linki Lietuvos Vyčių Centro Valdyba**

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# KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

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We have begun a drive for \$1000.00 for the creation of a medal to be awarded to those non-Lithuanians who have distinguished themselves by rendering outstanding services to the cause of Lithuania and her people.

Our request for donations by members to this Knights of Lithuania Medal Award Fund was met with enthusiastic response and we feel this is most promising for a successful completion of the drive. One dollar from each member would put us over the top. One dollar! Is this too much to offer for a project which can only bring prestige and honor to our K. of L.?

Therefore, if you haven't already, kindly send your donation of \$1.00 or more to: REV. JOHN C. JUTT, 41 Providence Street, Worcester, Mass.

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Anne & Lucille Shimkus (19) \$3.00  
Betty Ann & Ed Navickas (19) \$1.00  
Justin Dobo (19) \$1.00

### New Jersey

James Stokas, Elizabeth, N. J. \$5.00  
Emily Masandukas (29) \$2.00  
Atty. & Mrs. Anthony C. Stokna,  
Amsterdam, N. Y. \$2.00  
Rita Miskewitz (67) \$2.00  
Marion Wysocky (52) \$1.00  
Mr. & Mrs. Jos. Chapulis (29) \$1.00  
Charles Oskutis (52) \$1.00  
Kathleen Burke (67) \$2.00  
Mary Motecus, Elizabeth, N. J. \$1.00  
H. Balandis, Elizabeth, N. J. \$1.00  
Mrs. Wm. Forster (113) \$1.00

### Rhode Island

Juozas Kiela (103) \$2.00  
William Belconis (103) \$1.00

### Ohio

Eva Leasure (96) \$2.00

## K. OF L. APRIL ACTIVITIES

### Rev. St. Raila

\* Some attention could be given to Juniors this month. How about a *Junior K. of L. Day*? Under the guidance of the parent Council, the Juniors could present their accomplishments for the past year. A special program for ALL the youngsters of the parish presented by the Juniors would be the ideal.

\* A SPRING EXCURSION would be a "natural" activity. Try to select a spot of worthwhile interest, a Lithuanian spot, if possible.

\* Spring is gardening time, so, it could be the time to erect a Lithuanian garden, with typical crosses, replicas of the Gedeminas towers, typical Lithuanian flowers.

\* The call of the outdoors is stronger now. A good outdoor activity would be a special outing at which only Lithuanian games would be played, and only Lithuanian dances would be danced, and new ones learned. Activities of this kind are truly Lithuanian, and to be successful, they must be carefully planned and executed like clock-work.

\* April is usually the month of District Study Days. Make special efforts to make the day vitally beneficial to the organization.

**Will YOU get your ONE new member during this Membership Drive?**

Joseph Sakevich, chmn.  
Membership Drive



**"THIS HAPPENED TO ME"**

The VYTIS FUND will present \$15.00 in prizes to the three best essays written by K. of L. members on the above subject.

1. Subject matter: may be based on the K. of L. Lithuanian, Catholic, personal experiences of the writer.
2. Length: approximately 300 words.
3. Format: typewritten, double-spaced.
4. Time: essays must be submitted from April 1 to July 1, 1956.
5. Judges: Editors and Advisory Staff of the VYTIS.
6. Prizes: 3 prizes of \$5.00 each for the 3 best essays, which will be printed in the VYTIS.
7. Contestants should submit their name, address, and council number.

**SPIRITUAL PROGRAM**

Council officers:

Is your council using the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM materials being mailed each month to your spiritual adviser?

Has your council appointed a SPIRITUAL PROGRAM CHAIRMAN and mailed his name and address to the national spiritual director?

Most councils are using the monthly program and find that their members enjoy and profit from the religious discussions and information provided by the PROGRAM.

For information about the program write to:

*Rev. Albert J. Contons  
St. Peter's Church  
So. Boston 27, Mass.*

**"VYTIES" GARBĖS  
PRENUMERATORIAI**

\$400.00	New England District, K. of L.
\$110.00	Very Rev. Msgr. M. I. Urbonas, DuBois, Pa.
\$25.00	Council 25, Cleveland, Ohio
\$25.00	Rev. Magnus Kazenas, Pittsburgh, Pa.
\$25.00	Rt. Rev. K. Bičkauskas, Indiana Harbor, Ind.
\$20.00	Rt. Rev. Constantine Vasys, Worcester, Mass.
\$20.00	Rev. Francis Virmauskis, So. Boston, Mass. A Friend Rev. John Zuromskis, So. Boston, Mass.
15.00	Rev. Anatolijas Štanevičius, Chicago, Illinois Lietuvos Vyčių Sendraugių kp., Chicago, Ill.
12.00	Rev. Mykolas Vembrė, Stoughton, Mass.
10.00	Most Rev. Vincent Brizgys, Chicago, Illinois Rt. Rev. Ignas Albavičius, Cicero, Illinois Very Rev. John Balkūnas, Maspeth, N. Y. Very Rev. Canon J. Paškauskas, Chicago, Ill. Miss Gene Gobis, Amsterdam, N. Y. Rev. Vincas Slavynas, War, W. Va. Matas Zujus, Wilkes Barre, Pa. Mr. Antanas Buknis, Cleveland, Ohio Rev. Albert J. Contons, So. Boston, Mass. Rev. Benedict Gauronskas, Ansonia, Conn.

Miss Phyllis Grendal, So. Boston, Mass.  
Rev. Albin Janiūnas, Lawrence, Mass.  
Rev. A. Jutkevičius, Shelburne Falls, Mass.  
Rev. J. A. Jutkevičius, Turner Falls, Mass.  
Rev. John Jutkevičius, Worcester, Mass.  
Rev. Vladas Karalevičius, Elizabeth, N. J.  
Mr. John G. Kasulaitis, Cicero, Ill.  
Mrs. Mary Kober, Port Washington, N. Y.  
Rev. Joseph Naudziūnas, Cambridge, Mass.  
Rev. Felix Norbut, Norwood, Mass.  
Rev. John Pakalniškis, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Mr. John Sprainaitis, Paterson, N. J.  
Rev. John Švagždys, Brockton, Mass.  
Rev. John Vysnauskas, Chicago, Ill.  
Rev. Walter Washila, Southold, N. Y.  
Rev. Albin Yankauskas, Athol, Mass.  
Lith. Minister P. Žadeikis, Washington, D. C.  
William Senkus, Elizabeth, N. J.  
Victor G. Mathieu, Central Falls, R. I.  
Ellen Shukis, Diamond Point, N. Y.  
Prof. Alexander J. Aleksis, Waterbury, Conn.  
Jack J. Stukas, Hillside, N. J.  
Rev. Juozapas Valantiejus, Waterbury, Conn.  
Rev. Francis L. Mockus, Coaldale, Pa.  
Rev. Antoninus Jurgelaitis, O. P., Providence  
Rev. Vaclovas Martinkus, Providence, R. I.  
Rev. Simanas Morkūnas, Sioux City, Iowa  
Rev. Antanas Šeštokas, Chicago, Ill.  
Rev. Anthony Baltrushunas, Haverhill, Mass.

**DOVANA "VYTIES" FONDUI**

Mr. Walter R. Chinik, Treas.,  
4649 Cook Ave.,  
Pittsburgh 36, Pa.

Gerbiamas p. Chinik:

Norėdamas padėti katalikiškam, lietuviškam jaunimui, siunčiu savo DOVANA "Vyties" Fondui.

a) \$10.00 auka, kaip "Vyties" Garbės Prenumeratorius

b) \$ ..... auka, kaip "Vyties" Rėmėjas

Vardas .....

Adresas .....

Miestas ..... Pašto Nr. .... Valstybė .....

You are cordially invited  
to the Gala

15th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT & BALL  
of the

**"MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" RADIO HOUR**  
on Sunday, April 22, 1956

WEBSTER HALL

119 E. 11th St. (Near 3rd Ave.) New York City

Colorful Program Starts at 4 P. M.

Dancing from 8 P. M. to Ted Maksymowicz & His  
Orchestra

Admission \$2.00 (incl. tax) JACK J. STUKAS  
Reservation \$3.00 Director





# JUNIOR PAGE



## "MY HOBBY"

The Vytis Fund will present \$9.00 in prizes to the three best essays written by Junior K. of L. members on the above subject.

- 1) Length: approximately 200 words.
- 2) Time: essays must be submitted from April 1 to July 1, 1956.
- 3) Judges: Editors and Advisory Staff of the VYTIS.
- 4) Prizes: 3 prizes of \$3.00 each for the 3 best essays, which will be printed in the VYTIS.
- 5) Contestants should submit their name, address, and council number.

EDWARD DANIELS, national chairman of K. of L. Juniors, is happy to announce that a new JUNIOR COUNCIL was organized in Lawrence, Massachusetts, through the efforts of Very Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Juras (K. of L. hon. memb.) and John Zemis, past president of Council 78. Sveikiname!

## JUNIOR COUNCIL 96

Dayton, Ohio. On January 22nd, our Juniors held their first successful Bake Sale. We thank the Senior K. of L'ers for having donated delicious baked foods.

Plans have been completed to receive Holy Communion in a body on March 4th with the Seniors. Together, we shall commemorate the Feast Day of our Patron, Saint Casimir.

Since our February monthly meeting will take place on the 19th (too late to publish news in the March issue) we shall report on our activities in the month of April.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY greetings are extended to Ann Sinkwitz and Margaret Kavalauskas.

M. Kavalauskas

## JUNIOR COUNCIL 41

Brooklyn, N. Y. On February 8th, we held a meeting and "get acquainted" social. Not only was the affair well attended by the Junior members, but also by some thirty prospective members.

Our meeting was opened by Joseph Boley, president of Council 41, who explained the fundamental ideals and principles of the Knights of Lithuania. Father Pakalniškis, spiritual adviser, welcomed both the Juniors and the new prospects.

After the meeting, all enjoyed playing games, dancing and the delicious refreshments that were served. We are now looking forward to the next get together with great anticipation.

Several of our Junior members, before long, will be eligible to become initiated into the Senior Council. Therefore, we hope many of the thirty new prospects will join at our next Jr. Council meeting and social. (Meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month.)

Anthony B. Mazeika, President  
149-31 120th St.

So. Ozone Park 20, New York

## JUNIOR COUNCIL 3

Philadelphia, Pa. At our meeting last month, Miss Helen Shields, director, announced that a tour of the BULLETIN BUILDING would be made on Saturday, February 4th. Our guided tour started from the main desk and ended at the truck stop where the papers are loaded and shipped. The intervening 55 minutes brought many wonderful discoveries to our minds, and one in particular: There are 1700 lbs. of printing paper on one roll; it takes 450 rolls for one day's publication and the basement of this huge building stores 42 days' supply. Our trip was most educational.

Having received our scripts for Lithuania's Independence Day exercises to be held on February 18th — at Station WTEL, we reviewed the lines during our meeting. Chosen to take part in the exercises were: Helen Jotautas, Esther Bendzius, John Smoluk and William Wallace.

Arrangements are being made so that the Juniors and the Seniors will commemorate St. Casimir's Day by receiving Holy Communion "en corpore" on March 4th — Feast Day of our Patron Saint.

William Wallace  
251 Mountain St.  
Philadelphia 48, Pa.

KAS BUS, KAS NEBUS,  
O JAUNIEJI VYČIAI

VISUR BUS!



# VYČIAI VEIKIA



# COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

## CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. (C-133)

### Officers

At our January meeting, following officers were elected and installed: Peter Barkauskas, president; Eddy Bartkus and Joe Peters, vice presidents; Vyt Adomaitis, secretary; Helen Nashlenas, treasurer; J. Antanavich and Joe Barkauskas, sgts.-at-arms. Preceding the annual meeting, Ann and Peter Barkauskas treated all members with a delicious lunch. Thanks.

### Dance for Teen-Agers

On February 4th, we held a special dance for teen-agers at St. Casimir's parish hall.

### Please Inform Us

If any K. of L'ers have recently moved to California, or if you know of any friends or relatives who are new residents of California, please notify our President, Peter Barkauskas, 5500 Cartwright Ave., North Hollywood, Calif., or Secretary, Vyt Adomaitis, 1315 Angelus Ave., Los Angeles 26, Calif.

AFS

## ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

CHICAGO, ILL. (C-112)

Ferovick Bowling Lanes is the scene of the Illinois-Indiana District Bowling League. Our council is represented in the League by two teams: Al. Mockus, captain; Ed. Ubis, Barbara Lazutka, Dolores Wainauskas and Betty Tucker. The second team is captained by Bill Warainius and his team-mates are: Tony Kardelis, Tony Lubert, Irene Masiliunas and Gloria Cibulskis.

Our ladies had a chance to display their lovely evening gowns at the recent St. Casimir's — Maria

High School Alumnae SNOW BALL DANCE held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel. In attendance at the gala affair were: Julia and Al. Zakarka, Barbara Lazutka, Andrew and Dolores Yuknis, Lorraine Dombrowski, Eleanore Laurin, Betty Tucker, Arlene Skocz, Patricia Tucker and Denise Alkim.

Attorney Vyt Yasus is a very active member of the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce of Illinois. We are looking forward to seeing more of Vyt and his gracious wife Josephine at our council meetings.

Sunday, April 1st, is the date of our annual EASTER dance to be held at the K. of L. Youth Center. Six energetic members head an active committee on arrangements: Al. Mockus, Lorraine and Dolores Wainauskas, Al and Julie Zakarka, and Jean Sheures.

It's a girl for Mr. and Mrs. Al Zaleski; also for Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Giedraitis.

Richard Butchas' "Willow West Grove" was the destination for a group of our council members and their friends, where they enjoyed the council's first MARDI GRAS.

Alexander Kumskis attended the Nationalities Annual Dinner held in our nation's capital.

Adam Anderson, past commander of the Don Varnas Post, has been sick with the Flu.

Our beloved pastor, Very Rev. Msgr. George Paskus is vacationing at Miami, Florida. John A. Stoskus

## OHIO-MICHIGAN DISTRICT

DAYTON, OHIO (C-96)

### Bowling League

The bowling league has really tightened up for the final stretch. The standings as of February 5th are: ZEMAIČIAI (Capt. M. Petkus) 28 wins, 23 losses; AUKSTAIČIAI

(Capt. C. Petkus) 28 wins, 23 losses; DZUKAI (Capt. Jim Kavy) 27 wins, 24 losses; KAPSAI (Capt. P. Zelinskas) 25 wins, 26 losses; ZANAVYKAI (Capt. P. Petkus) 23 wins, 28 losses; and SUVALKIEČIAI (Capt. G. Zelinskas) 22 wins, 29 losses. To date, Mike Petkus (Men's) is leading with 163; and Fran Petkus (Women's) is leading with 125. Jim Kavy and Elinor Sluzas still have single game high. Alex Pietrzak holds three-game high with 596 while Pat Zelinskas holds that honor with 442 series. There is still time to catch up with these high scorers!

### TV Program

On Channel WLW-D, Dayton, there is a Sunday program entitled "This is Your Town." Each week, for one half hour, different nationalities have an informal program—educating the public about their country. On February 12th, several of our members appeared on TV and presented an interesting program on Lithuania's history, custom, folk dancing and music. Participating on the show were Charles and Fran Vangas, Mary Lucas, Frank Ambrose, Mary Ann Blum, Rose Ann Fletcher, Rita Ambrose, Elinor Sluzas, Jim and Joanne Kavy, Pat Zelinskas, Aldona Laux and Mrs. Jen Gineitis.

### Spiritual Program

During Lent, our Spiritual Programs will be conducted each Friday evening, following Lenten services. The material which the Supreme Council has prepared, will be used. Fran and Mike Petkus are in charge of the Spiritual Program.

### Advance Notice

A one-act play in Lithuanian and or variety show will be presented by our council under the direction of Father Walter Katarskis... March 4th, our council will commemorate St. Casimir's Day by attending the 8 o'clock Mass and receiving Holy Communion in a body, followed by a breakfast... Final arrangements



are being made for our annual Ohio-Michigan District Bowling Tournament, last weekend in May. Committee members include Pat Zelinskas, Mary Lucas, Charles Vangas, Eva Leasure, Jim and Joanne Kavalauskas, Frank Gudelis, and Charles, Pete, Mike and Frank Petkus... Annual Picnic will be held on August 5th, Eintracht Park, with Mike Petkus acting as chairman.

#### Miscellany

Thanks to Eleanor and Joe Mantz for having donated their old TV set to our council... Lou Prasmantas and Charles Petkus were elected official council representatives at our parish's SARAŠAS meetings... On February 12th, our bowlers paid a surprise visit to the home of Eva Leasure on the occasion of the 1st wedding anniversary of Jim and Phyllis Richey - nee Leasure... The Florida bug has really hit the Petkus' family. Pete, Paulette, Mike and Fran spent two weeks in Florida; Charlie Petkus has been vacationing there for three weeks... It is good to hear that Anthony Fretic is now on the road to recovery after his recent operation... Eva Leasure, Ann Scott and Pat Zelinskas took charge of the January twentieth monthly social... We miss seeing Dick and Dorothy Conrady-nee Miller around... also Sally and Annadell Miller... Belated birthday greetings go to John Berczelly. In February, Rose Ann Fletch and Pat Zelinskas celebrated theirs... Happy Anniversary to Phyllis and Jim Richey, Lou and Kitty Prasmantas and Jim and Joanne Kavalauskas.

Us Petkus'

## PITTSBURGH DISTRICT

### PITTSBURGH, PA. (C.-19)

Our new officers, elected December 8th, have already begun their duties: Spiritual Adviser, Fr. Walter Karaveckas; President, Julia Aleshunas; 1st Vice President, Bill Kolicius; 2nd Vice President, Al Onaitis; Recording Secretary, Marcella Onaitis; Financial Secretary, Tillie Kaupinis; Treasurer, Eddie Marculaitis; VYTIS Correspondent, Margaret Papeaka; Lithuanian Correspondent, John Skemundris; Corresponding Secretary, Lucille Shimkus; Cultural Committee, George

## KUPLETAI

(Dainuoti per Vyčių 5-ųjų metų sukaktuvių radijo banketą Šv. Kazimiero svetainėje 1955 m. lapkričio mėn. 13 d.)

Per South Sides ulytėlę,  
Aš vairavau plymutelį.  
Kupletus sau susidėjau,  
Į Banketą atriedėjau.  
Na, dabar jūs paklauskite,  
Savo ausis at'darykit.  
Daug vandens jau nutekėjo,  
Kai programa prasidėjo.  
Daug pranešėjų kalbėjo —  
Penki metai jau praėjo.  
Kolicius su Kasiulaičiu,  
Vytautas su Marčiulaičiu.  
Angliška, dzūkiška šneka,  
O po to muzika seka.  
Visokiausia propoganda —  
Naujų rekordų nebranda.  
Radijai reik mecenatų —  
Ji gyvuotų šimtą metų.  
Visą laiką ją paremkit —  
Į rėmėjus kitus tempkit.  
Jei tvirti ir duosnūs būsim,  
Tai Lietuvon žodį siūsim.  
Vyčių programos klausykite  
Ir kitam dar pasakykite.  
Jei programos neturėsime,  
Angliška vien tekalbėsime.

— • —

Suvažiavo daug svetelių,  
Linki mums gerų metelių.  
Vyčiai užtai jums dėkoja  
Ir vaišina vištos koja.  
Dabar aš papletkavosiu —  
Va, ką aš jums padainuosiu.  
Viskas jau labiau garuoja,  
Viens Brazys mums tedainuoja.  
Vyrų choras kur paliko,  
Kas tam Činikui nutiko.  
Jis į Seimą nuvažiavo  
Ir ketvirtą laipsnį gavo.  
Iždininku jį išrinko,  
Visus pinigų surinko.  
Apie Mildred nedainuosiu  
Ir su ja aš nekovosiu.

— • —

Mūs klebonas negalavo  
Ligoninėn išvažiavo.  
Jam ten pasnyką uždėjo  
Ir visaip kamantinėjo.  
Karaveckas vienas liko  
Ir viską jis pats atliko.  
Mišias laiko, spaviedoja,  
Pas ligonius dar važiuoja.  
Mums pamokslus ilgus drožia  
Ir vos tik sprandan nevožia.

Tegu sau šeiminkauja,  
Kol klebons atostogauja.

— • —

O Levinskas aimanuoja,  
Kad Bankietan jau vėluoja.  
Sako: "Penktą aš pradėsiu  
Ir prie stalo vienas sėsiu.  
Mes už tai ant jo nepykim,  
Bankietan laiku atvykim.  
Vargsta Julie Aleshunas,  
Skuba bėga Joe Šiliunas.  
Dėl Bankieto jie daug dirbo,  
Vos dėlto tik nesusirgo.  
Onaičiai skelbimus rinko —  
Juos į darbą visad kinko.  
Marcela Floridoj buvo;  
Saulės bijo, vos nežuvo.  
Visai balta parvažiavo,  
Vien tik rankos saulės gavo.  
Broliai Marčiulaičiai dori,  
Abu ženyti jau nori.  
Mama juos pamuštravoja,  
Svetimtautę jei vedžioja.  
Nori ji jiems lietuvaitės,  
Nes gražiausios jos mergaitės.  
Eddie viens dar važinėja —  
Batukus pardavinėja.  
Bill'o dienos suskaičytos,  
Mat vestuvės numatytos.  
Ruthie galvą jam apsuko  
Ir vargšelis neb'išspruko.  
Tillie su Broniu draugauja,  
Į darbą kartu keliauja.  
Elis Bikin kažko laukia,  
Mitingan viena vis traukia.  
Namo kai reikia važiuoti,  
Tada ima kombinuoti.  
Ruth Grebliunas surimtėjo,  
Kitą darbą dirbt pradėjo.  
Dick Šimelis pastorėjo,  
Akinius nešiot pradėjo.  
Andy Rozger kai kegliauja,  
Pirmą vietą garantuoja.  
Turim svečių mes pas save  
Ponas Stukas! Girsiu Tave!  
Tu gražiai mum pašnekėjai,  
Pranešėju būt mokėjai.  
Jeigu kartais bankrutuotum,  
Gal į Pittsburg atvažiuotum.  
Pranešėjų mums nebreikia,  
Tik žmogaus kuris daug veikia.

— • —

Jus visus aš apdainuočiau,  
Jei tik laiko tam turėčiau.  
Bet iš jūs veidų atrodo,  
Kad kupletai nusibodo.  
Iš kur viską sužinojau?  
Po jūsų langais landžiojau.  
Tai tokie mano pliotkeliai —  
Sudievu mieli sveteliai!



Lavinskas and Kazys Buzis; Lithuanian Affairs, Mildred Chinik; Sgt.-at-Arms, Tony Moskevičius; Ritual Committee, Steve Onaitis; and Social Committee, Bernice Balmootis. We are indeed grateful to our outgoing officers for their untiring efforts and sacrifice during the past year.

We welcome into our midst, Father Vladas Budreckas, who is now in St. Casimir's parish.

At the January 12th meeting, it was voted to hold Lithuania's Independence Day exercises on February 12th; our annual Communion Breakfast in commemoration of our Patron Saint Casimir to be held March 4th; also Father Walter Karaveckas will conduct regular council Cultural programs.

Several of our members attended Joseph Boley's testimonial dinner held in Newark, N. J., namely: Marcella and Stephen Onaitis, Mildred and Walter Chinik, Ruth Milewski and Bill Marculaitis.

On January 24th, a farewell party was held for Bill Marculaitis. He will make a temporary home, at least for the next two years, in Newark, N. J. Bill will be missed by all the Pittsburghers.

#### Spiritual and Cultural Programs

On January 26th, Father Walter Karaveckas gave a brief talk on "The Existence of God." Father Budreckas gave a history on "Liaudies Dainos", Lithuanian Folk Song — the origin, knowledge in text and melody. He stated that Lithuanian literature had its beginning from "Liaudies Dainos". At one time, the Lithuanians believed that "one who did not sing was thinking of the devil." We also learned that in 1825 there were 94 songs recorded by Roza; and by 1910 a single colony possessed the total number of 400 songs. This was a very good history on Folk Songs. "After a brief intermission, members listened to choice recording selections, also partook in group singing — some of which was recorded and later transcribed. All our Spiritual and Cultural meetings will be open to visitors and friends. Much can be gained by attending these meetings because well prepared programs will be arranged in advance. Our next meeting will be held February 23rd; Father Susinskas will speak on the Lithuanian language.

#### Officers' Meeting

Our council officials met on February 2nd at the home of Bernice Balamootis' sister, Mrs. Shephard. Many important plans were made. At the close of the meeting, delicious strawberry short cake and coffee was served.

#### Birthday Greetings

In January — Bill Kolicius, Joe Salinus, Edward Schultz, Jr. and Father Susinskas. In February — Ruth Milewski and Pat Bartkus.

#### New Arrival

To Ann and Bill Kolicius, past national treasurer, there was born a new heir, William III. Sveikiname!

#### K. of L. Radio

On April 24th, our council will hold a Card Party for the benefit of our Radio Program.

M. P.

## NEW YORK NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

#### GREAT NECK, N. Y. (C-109)

Our annual Communion Reception took place on March 11th, at the 8 A.M. Mass at St. Peter of Alcantara Church, Port Washington. Breakfast was served immediately after at the Salem Inn. In the afternoon we had a get-together at the Steamboat Inn, where films were shown and refreshments were served.

Our gala Spring Dance will be held on May 19th at the V.F.W. Hall, Great Neck Road, Great Neck. Admission, \$1.50. This is our main dance of the year and we look forward to a nice attendance.

We were honored in having a few of our Supreme Council officers visiting our small town of Great Neck during a board meeting held January 28th at Al Wesey's. Guests included Father Contons, Edward Daniels, Rita Pinkus, and Mildred and Walter Chinik.

Our sincere best wishes to Joe Boley who was recently honored at a very successful Testimonial Dinner. We're pleased to have such an outstanding individual in our district.

#### News-Bits:

Birthday greetings to Amelia

Chapin, Mary Kober, Jo Rusas, Ricky Marks, and Al Wesey who celebrated in January ... Bill Bernatovich is off the sick list, having recently had his tonsils out. Now that you've fully recovered, let's see you at some of our meetings, Bill... Gladys Banks has promised to show her colored slides (taken on her trip abroad) at our March meeting. This is one meeting you won't want to miss... We welcome back into our midst, Alma Kosmocius and Starcy and Al Wesey who have returned from their Florida vacations... Already Arline Shulin and Richard Marks are planning for the coming Chicago Convention. There's nothing like being prepared... We were pleased to have Walter Wezwick attend our February meeting. Walt brought his tape recorder with him, which gave all a great many laughs. WHEN are you going to join our council, Walt?... Mary Picardi proudly announces that Carol Lee has finally shown her first tooth. Now Mama realizes why mothers get so excited!... Lou Ann Sosaris has taken up painting — and we mean, literally speaking. The rooms in her home are being decorated by Lou Ann, who has offered her services for any damsel in distress. That's how easy it is, sez Lou... Our Social Committee Chairman, Mary Kober, announces we will discontinue refreshments at our meetings until after Easter. Good idea... Where are the Rogers keeping themselves? And how about Al Lugauskas and Rosemary Glowacki? Come on down to the meetings, folks.

Stanley Sosaris has helped our council immeasurably by donating his time in making posters and decorations for all our dances. While Stan is not a resident of our town, he has always graciously given his time for such needs. Thanks, Stan.

Snoopy

#### AMSTERDAM, N. Y. (C-100)

Four brave souls, namely, Father Baltch, Don Nikstenas, Aldona Bablinskas and Gene Gobis, ventured the extremely bad weather to attend the February meeting. Aldona Bablinskas informed us that the Highland House was reserved for our annual communion breakfast, March 4th. We had the pleasure of "thumbing" through a copy of LITHUANIAN DAYS that Fr.



ANTANAS BACEVICIUS-SR.  
11140 S. HOYNE AVE.

CHICAGO, ILL.  
**NEW ENGLAND  
DISTRICT**

Baltch brought along with him. Also, the English translation of "Lietuva Tėvynė" by Father Jurge-laitis was read to us. As part of the Spiritual Program — we enjoyed Fr. Baltch's talk on "What Catholics Think of Christ."

Father Baltch attended the "Lietuvos Fronto Bičiulių Konferencija" which was held in Waterbury, Conn., January 22nd and spoke on the life as personally witnessed by him in Lithuania during 1944 and 1947. Part of his speech was retold to us. He had some unusual experiences.

Don Nikstenas showed colored slides of the various parts of the world that he visited while in the Air Force. Following the meeting, apple pie was served by Aldona Bablinskas.

#### News-Bits

Atty. A. C. Stokna was reelected chairman of the Heart Fund in our community... Sophie Olbie, Val Kerbelis, Tony Stokna and Gene Gobis were active committee members at the annual POLIO BALL held February 4th at the Elks Club. Sophie Olbie received an award for having sold the most flowers at the affair... Prof. Olšauskas informed your reporter that he personally knew Jacques Sernas' (Helen of Troy) father in Lithuania. Jacques' father was one of the signers of the Declaration of Lithuania's Independence in Vilnius, February 16, 1918.

Ed Bablinskas recently spent two weeks in Boston attending a special insurance course.

#### Smile & Sparkle

#### NEWARK, N. J. (C-29)

NEW OFFICERS (elected in January): Joseph A. Sakevich, president; Mrs. Charles Douches, vice president; Joan Yankauskas, recording secretary; June Youch, financial secretary; Peter Podgalsky, treasurer; Mrs. Charles Balchiunas and Joseph Pladis, trustees; Charles Douches, sgt.-at-arms; and Martin Swetell and Carmen Galan, Lithuanian Affairs. To the new board we wish a successful term; to the retiring officers we give salute for a job well done.

A very representative group from all parts of the country attended the Testimonial Banquet given to one of our most esteemed Knights —

Joseph Boley, on January 29th at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark. The affair resembled a "miniature national convention."

On February 8th a group of K. of L'ers convened in the Chambers of Governor Robert B. Meyner, and witnessed His Excellency's signing of a Proclamation — declaring February 16, 1956 as REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA DAY in the State of New Jersey. It included — Joseph A. Sakevich, national vice president, Frank Vaskas, chmn. of Lithuanian Affairs, and Christine Korbet.

Your reporter spent his annual winter vacation in Miami, Florida. Suffice to say — "The weather was not so hot." However, it was good to observe an increase of the Lithuanian population down there — and before long — who knows but that a council may be organized there and a national convention may be held in Florida in not too distant a future!

#### The Wanderer

#### ROCHESTER, N. Y. (C-93)

Here we are, again! After hibernating during our long and cold upstate New York winter, we finally decided to whirl around again.

January twenty-second will be a memorable day for us K. of L'ers, and parishioners of St. George Church. Our beloved pastor, Father John Baksys gave notice of his retirement; in his place, we are most fortunate to have Father Frank Valuk, whom we all know at St. George's. To Father Baksys we say with much gratitude "thanks for a job well done" and to Father Valuk — may your future years with us be happy ones."

During the Christmas holiday, Mary Vezelis was beaming with joy — her brother, Father Louis Vezelis, OFM, was home for the first time in eight long years!

Snow-covered slopes of the Adirondacks were a challenge to one of our ski enthusiasts, Richard Pauza, who spent an enjoyable weekend at Turin, New York.

We were very sorry to learn that our spiritual adviser and friend, Father Dominic Mockevičius has been transferred to Mt. Carmel parish. Our best wishes go with him.

C. B.

#### ATHOL, MASS. (C-10)

A highly successful Winter Carnival Dance was held January 21st, at the American Legion hall. We had guests from Worcester, Cambridge, Hartford, Providence, So. Worcester and Gardner, including Athol. (Barbara and Frances Milosh and their friends ran into a little trouble on their way down from Gardner — arrived late at the dance.) We were happy to see Mary Piragis, Rita Besseck, Slip Talakowski and Stanley Uksta at the dance — and hope they will soon rejoin our council.

Thanks to our committee: Brownie Kukauskas, chairman, Nellie Melaika, Marie Sienkiewicz, Joe Miskunas, Frank Anoris, Barbara Milosh, Frances Milosh, Ann Penny, Lennie Davidonis, William Wisnauskas and Maryann Rodski.

#### Carnival

Sunday, the second day of our Winter Carnival, started off with dinner at which time Brownie Kukauskas, chmn., welcomed all the guests. Later in the afternoon, all gathered at the lake for skating and fishing. Ann Penny and Maryann Rodski played a game of Ice hockey...Fr. Yankauskas was almost unnoticed — until some Worcester members walked up to him and said "Hello, Father..." Bernard from Hartford proved that "chivalry" was still in existence by helping the girls put on their ice skates. ...Vincent from Norwood was cutting figure 8 all afternoon... Lennie Davidonis together with his assistant Clara Zetkowsky, took some candid shots (many didn't notice that their pictures were being taken.) ...After an evening snack, dancing was enjoyed to the records of Barbara and Frances Milosh... We thank all K. of L'ers for spending the weekend with us... and hope to see you next year!

#### Here & There

Gid Penny recently became engaged to Thelma Wickerie. Congratulations... Alvin Rodski, USN, sailed for Cuba and expects to be back in April.