

"The Knight"



*Skanewick*

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A general view of the convention banquet of the 43rd Convention in Chicago.

**Stan Kancewick, Toastmaster** — The closing banquet was handled superbly by Stan Kancewick, commercial artist, who has won prizes in the art of painting pictures with words.



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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.

**SVEIKINIMAS**

**Prof. Dr. Juoza Ereta, Lietuvos Vyčių Garbės Pirmininką ir Lietuvos katalikiško jaunimo pavasarininkų ilgametį Pirmininką bei Garbės Pirmininką, š. m. spalio 18 d. sulaukusį 60 metų amžiaus sukakti, nuoširdžiai sveikiname ir geriausius linkėjimus siunčiame.**

Lietuvos Vyčių Centro Valdyba  
ir  
"Vyties" Redakcija

**VYTIS — THE KNIGHT**

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## CONVENTION IN RETROSPECT



Rev. Albert J. Contons

Most K. of L'ers realize the importance of planning meticulously to assure the success of a program, but too few appreciate the valuable lessons which can be learned by looking back. Perhaps they remember the unfortunate curiosity of the wife of Lot in the Old Testament. Warned by an angel to flee the condemned cities of Sodom and Gomorra and not to look back. Lot and his wife hurried to escape the predicted doom. "But his wife who was behind him looked back, and became a pillar of salt." Trusting that no such misfortune will befall us, let us look back and evaluate the Chicago K. of L. convention.

All of us are grateful to the Chicago convention committee for handling the countless details necessary for a smooth functioning convention. Without their wholehearted cooperation the convention sessions would not have been as fruitful as they were.

The achievements of the convention from the viewpoint of K. of L. progress were many. Well prepared reports, most of them mimeographed and distributed to the delegates, made for businesslike sessions. Program and leaders panels made it possible to discuss in detail plans which would have consumed hours of convention time if discussed during the regular sessions.

All delegates and guests expressed pleasure over the success of the various panels. The only complaint was that they were so short. Last year's Spiritual Program was enthusiastically endorsed and plans were made for a spiritual chairman in each council to spark the members in participating in the current program. During the coming year it was agreed that the theme of the monthly religious discussion would be the Sacraments of the Church. All councils were urged to organize closed retreats for their members as a special activity for the coming months.

At the Spiritual Directors' Conference discussion of how to help the Knights of Lithuania took concrete form in a suggestion by Bishop Brizgys that a report about the highlights of the convention be sent to all Lithuanian priests in America.

As an important sidelight to the proceedings in Chicago, we would like to call attention to the wholehearted endorsement of the K. of L. by the Lithuanian Sisters' Institute, representing the four Lithuanian teaching congregations. The brief

article and correspondence dealing with the Sisters' Institute deserve close study by the leaders of the K. of L., particularly those interested in the Juniors.

The Junior Panel brought out many practical suggestions for developing this phase of the K. of L. organization. Again a concrete result was the plan to organize a Junior Camp Week to bring the Juniors together into a district or national organizational level and to train them for leadership.

Organization of Senior Councils was discussed in a separate panel. As a result, Al Wesey, the retiring president of the national K. of L., was elected by the delegates to organize Senior Councils. With the experience of several years as national president and the hard work so characteristic of him, Al Wesey gives promise of bringing success to this new field of K. of L. expansion.

The panel discussions were so rich in accomplishment and success that it is hardly possible to mention the fine spirit and new ideas brought out in the Cultural, Lithuanian Affairs, Ritual, "Vytis," and other group discussions. The response on the part of the delegates was a clear mandate to the national officers as well as district and local officers to organize future conventions along the lines drawn up at the convention in Chicago.

Not to be omitted in any discussion of the convention is the K. OF L. MANUAL which made its first appearance at Chicago. Prepared by the Supreme Council, the MANUAL outlines the scope and duties of the officers and committees of the K. of L. It fills a gap in K. of L. literature and will do much to help new leaders assume responsibility for work in the organization.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the coming K. of L. year will see a greater development of the panel discussion approach at district meetings, and even on a council level. Detailed instructions on how to organize a district convention incorporating panel discussions can be found in the new K. OF L. MANUAL.

Looking back to the accomplishments of the Chicago convention, we can look forward with confidence to enriching the K. of L. spiritual and cultural life, strengthening it in its fight for the freedom of Lithuania, and expanding it to embrace all of American Lithuanian Catholic youth "For God and Country."





## VYČIAI IR TAUTOS ATEITIS

(Žodis Lietuvos Vyčiams 43-čios sueigos proga, per šv. mišias š. m. rugpiūčio 26 d., Šv. Kryžiaus bažnyčioje, Chicago, Ill.)

Vysk. V. Brizgys

### Pasiaukojimas — laimės šaltinis

Dievui panašus žmogus yra ne tik tuo, kad žmogaus siela nemirtinga ir nemedžiaginė. Dievas yra Kūrėjas. Dievo didingumas ir galybė ypatingu būdu pasireiškia per jo kūrybą. Žmogus negali būti kūrėjas ta pačia prasme, kaip Dievas, tačiau vistiek žmogus tol jaučiasi didingas ir pats sau idomus, jo gyvenimas jam pačiam jaukus, kol jis turi ką veikti. Juo kuris žmogus daugiau aukojas savo šeimos, plačios visuomenės reikalams, viršijantiems jo asmens reikalus, tuo jis jaučias laimingesnis. Tokiam žmogui gyvenimas nenubosta. Tiesa, ir tokie žmonės bedirbdami pavargsta, kartais ir jie pagalvoja, kad bus malonu kada nors tų visuomeninių reikalų nusikratyti ir pagyventi ramiai tik sau. Tačiau kai dėl amžiaus ar kitų priežasčių ta valanda ateina, buvęs veikėjas pasijunta labai nejaukiai, savo gyvenime pajunta didelę tuštumą. Ir iš to nejaukumo jis atsigaus tik tada, kai arba vėl susiras naujų darbų, arba visomis galiomis atsidės savo sielos šventumui.

Šiomis dienomis Chicagoje vyksta Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos susivažiavimas. Lietuvos Vyčiai yra iš tų laimingųjų tarpo, kuriems gyventi nenubosta, nes jie randa ką veikti. Kaip kiekvienas veikėjas, ir jie norėtų ilgesnių dienų, ilgesnių metų, nes beveikdami pamato, kiek daug yra galimybių dar daugiau pasidarbuoti.

### Darbas Lietuvai ir Lietuviams

Kadangi šiose pamaldose yra ne tik Vyčiai, tai dera pasakyti kelis žodžius vienu su kitais supažindinimui. Lietuvos Vyčių šis susivažiavimas yra jau 43-čias. Tai sako, kad organizacija čia Amerikoje buvo pradėta dar tada, kai Lietuvos vardas pasaulyje buvo beveik visai užmirštas. Šiame krašte Vyčiai darbavos lietuvius suburti, išlaikyti juos sąmoningais lietuviais ir katalikais ir kitiems skelbti Lietuvą ir lietuvius. Ligi pirmojo pasaulinio karo, jo metu ir po jo, kartu su kitais lietuviais veikėjais šiame krašte, Lietuvos Vyčiai labai uoliai bendradarbiavo siekiant Lietuvai laisvės ir paskui ją kuriant, siekiant Lietuvai Amerikos valdžios pripažinimo. Lietuvai atgavus laisvę Lietuvos Vyčių veikla labai sustiprėjo. Savo jausmus Lietuvai ir tiems, kurie

Lietuvoje kovojo už Lietuvos laisvę, ypatingai Lietuvos savanoriams ir bendrai kariuomenei, Lietuvos Vyčiai išreiškė labai prasmingu būdu — padovanodami Lietuvos kariuomenei aukso kardą. Lietuva vėl neteko laisvės. Karas daug Vyčių vyrų pašaukė į Pacifiko plotus, į Europos karo laukus. Skaičiumi Vyčiai sumažėjo, tačiau neprarado savo pirminės dvasios. Savo tarpe jie stengias, kad Lietuvai esant nelaisvėje nenupultų jų pačių ūpas, kad Lietuva ir lietuviai nebūtų pasaulio užmiršti, kad apie juos nieks nepasakytų ko nors blogo ar neteisingo. Jeigu kada tai pasitaiko, Vyčiai tuoj reaguoja, informuodami Amerikos, o per jos spaudą viso pasaulio opinią.

### 200.000 laiškų Lietuvos reikalui

Iš visų darbo rezultatų, kuriuos Lietuvos Vyčių organizacija patiekė savo susivažiavimui, galima konstatuoti sekantį:

Nėra laisvame pasaulyje kitos Lietuvių organizacijos su tokia konkrečia ir turtinga katalikiško auklėjimo programa.

Nėra jokios kitos laisvam pasaulyje Lietuvių organizacijos, kuri būtų tiek padariusi Lietuvos ir Lietuvių vardo gynimui ir informacijai apie Lietuvą ir lietuvius: Lietuvos reikalų sekcijos vadovybėje, per paskutinius 10 metų yra parašyta virš 200.000 laiškų Lietuvos ir lietuvių vardo reikalui. Per spaudą tie laiškai pasiekia ne tik 160 milijonų amerikiečių, o visą pasaulį. Šia savo veikla ir jos rezultatais Lietuvos Vyčiai atsistoja greta svarbiausių mūsų politinio veikimo ir kovos institucijų.

### Lietuviškumas ir katalikiškumas

Šia proga pasidalinkime keliomis mintimis apie tautiškumą už tautos etnografinių ribų: ar tai suderinama su to krašto interesais, ar tai naudinga ar žalinga katalikų religiniam gyvenimui.

Kai dėl religinio gyvenimo, tai nėra reikalo užsiimti savais komentarais. Sena Katalikų Bažnyčios santvarka su personalinėmis parapijomis, kad ir svetimam krašte



žmonės galėtų viešai Dievą garbinti savo gimta kalba, dabartinio Šventojo Tėvo Pijaus XII prieš kelis metus paskelbta enciklika "Exul familia" tremtinių ir emigrantų reikalu, į tuos klausimus pilnai ir autentiškai atsako. Žmogaus religiniam gyvenimui nėra žalinga, netgi labai naudinga turėti galimybių ir privačiai ir viešai garbinti Dievą, girdėti Dievo žodį, eiti Išpažinties savo gimtąja kalba.

### Kultūringumo reikalai

Nieko prieš tai nesako ir gyvenamam kraštui lojalumo reikalavimai. Žmogus lengvai pasisavina to krašto kalbą ir kultūrą, kuriame jis gyvena. Tačiau tai yra minimumas, ką žmogus gali turėti. Niekas negali žmogaus mažiau išmokyti — nei šeima nei mokykla — kaip vienos kalbos ir vienos kultūros. Tas, kurs svetimam krašte išlaiko savo tėvų kalbą ir tėvų krašto kultūrą, žino nors dvi kalbas ir dvi kultūras. Tai žymiai daugiau, negu žinoti vieną kalbą ir vieną kultūrą. Krašto ekonominiai interesai visai nereikalauja, kad pav. visi krašto piliečiai savo turtą turėtų tik to krašto valiuta. Žmogus gali turėti visokių brangenybių, žemės, namų, fabrikų ir net kitų kraštų valiutos be jokios skriaudos savo kraštui. Krašto kultūra visai nereikalauja, kad visi namai būtų vienodi.

Panašiai yra ir su kalbomis bei kultūromis. Juo žmogus moka daugiau kalbų, juo daugiau jis pažįsta įvairių kultūrų, tuo jis yra turtingesnis. Tai yra ne jo vieno turtas — tai yra viso krašto, visuomenės turtas. Tas turtas yra nei nenuperkamas nei neparduodamas už pinigą: jį galima tik paveldėti iš sielos į sielą.

Seniems Europos kraštams kartais primetamas perdidelis nacionalizmas. Gal yra tiesos ir nuo to nėra apdraustas joks kraštas. Tačiau verta žinoti, kad Europoje nuo senų laikų buvo laisvė skirtingoms kalboms ir kultūroms vienoje šalyje. Iš senų laikų randame Europos sostinėse įvairių tautų atskiras akademijas — su tos kalbos knygynų, su tos tautos meno muziejum. Jeigu kuriame krašte kada buvo pasikesinta prieš tautinių mažumų laisvę, tai į tai buvo reaguojama net ligi tarpautinio įstatymo sukūrimo kalbų ir kultūrų laisvės apsaugai.

Čia Amerikoje plačios kultūros asmenų iniciatyva gema iniciatyva, net Valdžios remiama, apsaugoti ir palaikyti skirtingų tautybių kultūras. Tas tautų kultūrų muziejus, kurs gema Laisvės Statulos pamatuose, bus įdomiausias dalykas iš visų, ką bus galima pamatyti Amerikoje. Tikėkimės, kad visus Lietuvių kultūros lobius Amerikoje iš įvairių vietų kada nors surinksime į tinkamai įruoštą vieną vietą. Ir už tai lietuvių nieks nepasmerks, o pagirs už kultūringą darbą.

### Lietuvos didvyrių keliu

Tiems, kurie yra linkę lengvai užmiršti savo kilme, kurie teisinasi, kad Lietuvon nebegrįši tai kam dar ta sąva kalba, sava kultūra, čia priminsiu neseniai Chicago, Lietuvių Kultūros Kongrese proga, pasakytą Jo Eminencijos Kardinolo S. A. STRITCH žodį. Jis pasakė, kad tas asmuo, kurs viską sveria tik savo asmens interesais ir jais pasiteisindamas lengvai užmiršta savo kilme, nebus naudingas nei Amerikai nei jokiam kitam kraštui, nes jam rūpi tik jo asmuo — ego.

(tąsa 11 psl.)

## VYČIŲ ORGANIZATORIAUS REIKALU

### Kun. Stasio Railos pranešimas

Maloniai pasidalinu mintimis "Vyčių Organizatoriaus" reikalu, kaip savo laiške prašėte, nes Vyčių Seime negalėsiu dalyvauti. Dėkoju už nuoširdų bendradarbiavimą taip gyvybiniu vyčių reikalu. Mes visi suprantame, kad svarbesni vyčių uždaviniai negali būti skubiai išrišti. Reikia minties, laiko ir pasiryžimo. Čia duodu savo pastabas tuo reikalu.

1. Į anketą Apmokamo Vyčių Organizatoriaus reikalu atsakė sekantieji:

	Už	Prieš	Skaič.	Narių
C. 3 — Philadelphia, Pa.	20	—	20	
C. 12 — New York, N. Y.	—	6	16	
C. 17 — So. Boston, Mass.	12	9	79	
C. 24 — Chicago, Ill.	16	1	24	
C. 26 — Worcester, Mass.	20	53	121	
C. 52 — Elizabeth, N. J.	5	13	80	
C. 61 — Paterson, N. J.	—	6	6	
C. 78 — Lawrence, Mass.	4	3	10	
C. 90 — Kearney, N. J.	—	14	30	
C. 96 — Dayton, Ohio — Sutinka mokėti			51	
C. 99 — Chicago, Ill.	31	3	47	
C. 112 — Chicago, Ill.	—	30	67	
C. 113 — Linden, N. J.	3	9	24	
C. 135 — Ansonia, Conn.	19	15	34	
	—	—	—	
14 Councils	130	161	690	

2. Atsakė tik mažesnė dalis, nes 42 Vyčių Seime dalyvavo 34 Vyčių kuopų atstovai. Iš svarsčiusių susirinkime dalyvavo mažesnė pusė.

3. Savo pastabose kuopų pranešama, kad klausimą rimtai svarstė, diskutavo ir tik tuomet atsakė? Dauguma maño, kad tai būtų geras būdas vyčiams sustiprėti, nors pareiškia abejojimus: 1. Nesukelsim lėšų. 2. Neištesėsime. 3. Perilgas nuotolis sekmingai Organizatoriui veikti. 4. Siūlo Apskričių Organizatorius.

4. Ši reikalą labai rėmė sendraugiai, vyčių prieteliai, žadėdami savo aukomis remti. Kiek abejingiau jaunesnieji. Spaudoje tuo reikalu buvo pasisakyta teigiamai. Smagu pažymėti, kad visos kuopos dėkoja už tą sumanymą, nors ir neremia. Reikalas buvo daug rimčiau svarstomas kuopose kaip delegatų Seime.

5. Tuo klausimu pasisakė ir kai kurie Centro Valdybos nariai ir mano kad reikalas turi būti judinamas.

6. Stipriausiai reikalą parėmė Joseph Stanaitis ir Garb. Narys Jack L. Jatis, C. 24-99. Jie rašo: "Our joint Councils of 24 and 99 are for it 100%. We will find means to raise the money. Please let us know when you want the first installment; we will mail immediately."

7. Dėkoju kuopoms už vytišką reikalų supratimą, svarstymą, ir draugišką atsakymą, savo pastabų pareiškimą. Kiek liudnoka atrodė, kad tik mažesnė dalis kuopų ir jų narių tą reikalą svarstė. Vadams turėtų būti ryškus mūsų vyčių nelankstumas ir reiktų padaryti tinkamas išvadas.

8. Siūlyčiau visą reikalą pavesti Centro Valdybai, kuri per Apskričių Valdybas ir jų Suvažiavimus galėtų toliau reikalą judinti, brandinti ir gal kuomet įvykdyti.

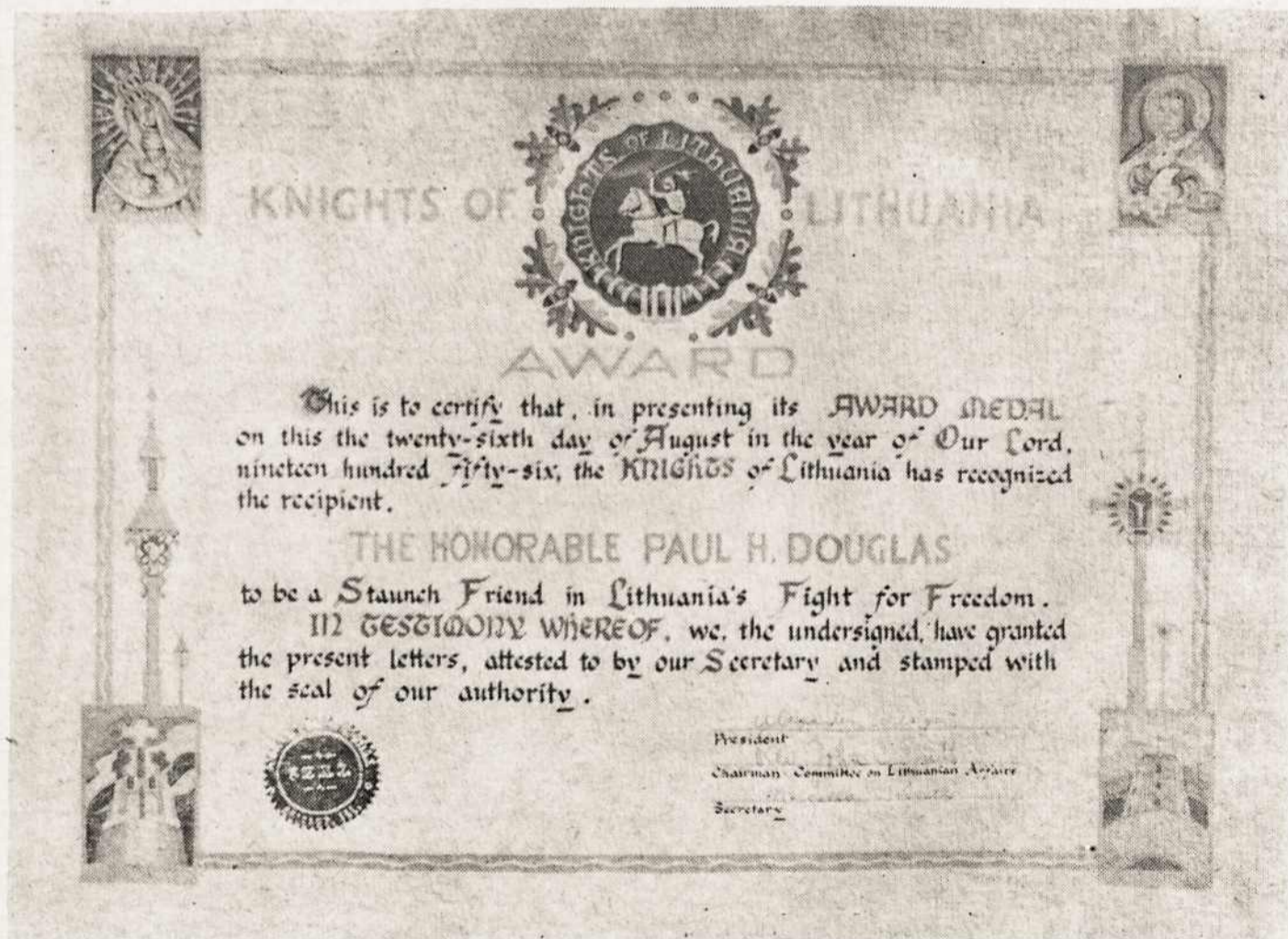




### K. OF L. AWARD AT CONVENTION

#### U. S. SENATOR HONORED

Rev. John C. Jutt, honorary chairman of Lithuanian Affairs (Worcester, Mass.) presents Knights of Lithuania citation along with medal to U. S. Senator Paul H. Douglas of Illinois, at 43rd National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania held in Hotel Sherman, Chicago, Ill. (August 26, 1956). United States Senator Douglas received award for non-Lithuanian who worked in behalf of Lithuania and its people. The framed illuminated certificate (below) which had been artistically designed by Sister M. Mercedes of Maria High School, is to adorn the Senator's suite in the Senate Office Building.





## SENATOR PAUL H. DOUGLAS - SECOND RECIPIENT OF K. OF L. AWARD MEDAL

*Rev. John C. Jutt*

A short time ago, our organization, the Knights of Lithuania, created a special medal, the Knights of Lithuania Award, for the purpose of honoring those non-Lithuanians who over a period of time have manifested a more than ordinary concern about Lithuania and her present sad plight under Soviet Russia. Last year at our National Convention in Newark, N. J., we had occasion to present the first medal to an individual who beyond all doubt proved himself to be a real and true Friend of Lithuania. This year at the closing banquet of the 43rd National Convention, we were privileged to honor in a most special way another individual who with no less enthusiasm and with as great concern has demonstrated himself to be a Staunch Friend in Lithuania's Fight for Freedom.

The Honorable Paul H. Douglas, a distinguished member of the United States Senate, was born in Salem, Massachusetts in 1892. Having descended from a long line of New England Scotch ancestors, he grew up in the woods of Maine. Desirous of a better than ordinary education, he worked his way through college and graduate school. In time he found his way to Chicago where for 28 long years at its well-known University, he served as Professor of Economics and Industrial Relations. During this time, he served for a number of years as Alderman of Chicago's Southside Fifth Ward.

When he was 50 years old, he was not one to let much younger men to win World War II for America. He was not satisfied in

doing his part at home. He insisted that it be done on the battlefield itself. Consequently, he resigned as Alderman and enlisted as a Private in the Marine Corps. At Parris Island, he was named the outstanding Marine out of 280,000 trained there. He was twice wounded, once critically at Okinawa and was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic action. He left the First Division of Marines as a Lieutenant - Colonel.

Elected to the Senate in 1948 and reelected in 1954, he had a leading hand in many acts of legislation benefiting the people. A man of tireless energy and possessing the rare quality of being able to differ with men without arousing personal animosity, he fought vigorously for legislation to assure equal rights for all races and creeds in education, employment and other fields of human activity. The NEW YORK TIMES described him as "among the most independent, courageous and thoughtful men in Congress." His entire public career may best be summed up in these words: the extension of freedom and peace abroad and the preservation of democracy and prosperity at home.

Realizing the threatening dangers of Soviet communism and deeply concerned about those countries which have felt the painful lash of Soviet cruelty on their backs, he sponsored a series of resolutions to strike diplomatic and economic blows at the Soviet and its satellites. These included action in the United Nations Assembly, condemnation, embargoes and other



diplomatic measures. For his courageous stand against atheistic communism, he was cited by the Catholic War Veterans of Illinois and many other organizations. The communists themselves soon learned what kind of fearless foe they had in the person of Senator Douglas. That is why in their press they bitterly and mercilessly abraded and excoriated him, labelling him "a red baiter rivaled by few."

This ideal of his that freedom and peace should be extended abroad and that communism must be crushed and annihilated forever led him to espouse the just cause of Lithuania. The invaluable aid given by him to the American Lithuanian Council and the many fine speeches about Lithuania delivered by him to Lithuanians and to others are testimony of this. His profound concern for suffering Lithuania has been amply demonstrated not by empty words but by concrete definite action.

In April, 1954, he proposed to the Senate a resolution which condemned Soviet atrocities and the Soviet abolition of man's inalienable right to freedom and which reaffirmed our Government's stand on the non-recognition of the unjust seizure of the Baltic States. This resolution, I am happy to say, was passed.

In June, 1956, he proposed that funds be allotted for the establishment of an independent agency of our Government, directly under the President, to be called a "Freedom Administration." This agency would, by radio broadcasting, by the expansion of programs of correspondence, by



## SENATOR PAUL DOUGLAS' SPEECH

Mr. Chairman, Bishop Brizgys,  
Members of the Clergy and Friends:

I do appreciate the honor you have bestowed upon me, but am not certain I am worthy of it. I appreciate it and am going to cherish both the medal and the illuminated certificate — and hang it in a prominent place in my office and consider to be an adopted son of Lithuania.

Now, I appreciate the kind words of introduction made by the good Father of Worcester. They remind me somewhat of the story of the Madura mule who was taking his owner along the road in the Ozarks and balked on the bridge and wouldn't move. The driver tried to get the mule to move and the mule stayed there, determined not to move. An automobile came up and tried to get the mule to move. No movement — finally the driver honked his horn very loudly and the mule took a jump, over the bridge into the river and the driver of the mule said, "I never heard such a big horn as that for a very small mule." I am afraid our chairman talked very loudly for such a small mule.

I know from the comments of the toastmaster what is expected of me. It is expected I break the Senatorial precedent, and be brief! His hints reminded me of those lines from the English poet, Andrew Marvell, "wherever at my back I hear chimes ringing, chariot drawing near", and I looked over in the corner and saw the chairs for the orchestra, and, into the eyes of the young ladies — and — realized what they wanted was not to hear a speech, but to dance, so I promise, I shall be brief!

I do want to say that there were two theories or two philosophies that are really in complex on the question of what should be done about the countries behind the Iron Curtain. There is one theory which is held by many sincere people who are not necessarily communists; that we should give up the idea of freeing countries and people behind the Iron Curtain. This point of view is advanced by a number of very able columnists, of whom perhaps the most prominent is Walter Lippmann, with recommended lines approximately as follows: "Russia has strong military power and to free those countries would require inter-

national war with the Atom bomb and Hydrogen bomb and such a war would be destructive and no nation would emerge as the victor; many countries would be destroyed, hundreds of millions of people would die and therefore we should try to get along with Russia and we should not seek to irritate or try to liberate nations and people behind the Iron Curtain. And, there are many whose interests are with the people and the countries East of the Iron Curtain, who are also reluctant to take stand on this issue unless they provoke the people in these nations to premature revolt and to bloody suppression."

Now, as I say, I do not attack the sincerity of those who hold this point of view, but I think, and I believe you think, this is fundamentally mistaken. In the first place, we are, all of us I believe, powerless of principle and self-determination of people; the people who have the right to choose their own government and that groups who culturally, religiously, emotionally, and historically stick together, should have the right to a government of their own choosing. On that alone, of course, Lithuania deserves separate existence. To have an independent government for many years, for centuries indeed, only to be so conquered by Russia. You have had a horrible existence as a Republic for 20 years, between World War I and World War II and you would be far happier and far better off under your own roof, and if the principle of nationality means anything, it means independence for people and countries which are now only temporarily dominated by Russia.

In the second place the domination of the Baltic countries and countries of Central and Eastern Europe; it is not merely domination by an Empire, such as that of the Czars, it is domination by a political party that believes in fears, terrorizing, and propaganda to offer people, to brainwash and to reduce them to a prominence. Wherever communists come into control, whether in Russia, whether in China or Poland or other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, methods have been the same; sup-

direct aid to the programs of national groups, by monetary support to resistance groups, by the publication of the names of those former democratic leaders of the Iron Curtain countries, still in jail and work camps for the purpose of letting the world know of their fate and struggle, in short, would use every possible means necessary to keep alive the spirit of freedom and resistance and to bring about the eventual freedom of Lithuania and the other enslaved nations.

In July, 1956, he proposed a resolution asking our Government to present to the United Nations Plenary Council a resolution demanding that the Soviets remove at once her army from Lithuania and other countries now subjugated by them and permit therein free elections as proposed by the Yalta Conference. This resolution has not as yet been considered. However, it is our prayer that both this resolution and the one creat-

ing a Freedom Administration will eventually be passed.

Because by his concrete action he never permits the free world to forget the indescribable atrocities committed upon Lithuania by Soviet Russia, because he has shown unspeakable fearlessness in demanding that Lithuania be freed from the Soviet yoke and be given the full exercise of her God-given right to live as a free nation among the independent nations of the world, because by his constant efforts and on numerous occasions he has proven himself to be a **STAUNCH FRIEND IN LITHUANA'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM** that, in behalf of the many thousands of members of the Knights of Lithuania Youth Organization, the Knights of Lithuania Award Medal was presented to that courageous and staunch Defender of Lithuania's just right to freedom, the distinguished Senator of the State of Illinois, the Honorable Paul H. Douglas.



pression of political parties, incite the communist party; the power to arrest a man without a warrant, to sentence, and indeed to execute without a trial, to shut them off from relatives and their friends, control of schools, control in institutes, control to strip people of religion, and the attempted control of the church. Now these policies have been adopted in so many countries controlled by communists and any of the countries controlled by communists. I think they could be said to be essentially a part of the communist savagery. Now, these policies are fundamentally immoral and therefore in judgment of history and in judgment of men's consciousness, they neither will or should be permitted to continue to do so dominate the world. And, while we certainly do not wish to involve our country in any needless war and while we do not wish to incite heroic steps behind the Iron Curtain to prematurely revolt or to sacrifice their lives needlessly while we remain in safety, none-the-less we are concerned with what is happening and also have the obligation to try to alter the present scheme of thinking.

I am very happy that the United States has refused to recognize the seizure of the three Baltic countries by Russia and you will remember that as far back as 1939 and 1940 that President Roosevelt declared the policy of America to refuse to recognize the overflow of the three independent Republics and as it has been said, I was very happy that a resolution I introduced two years ago to the same effect, was adopted by the Senate, so this is now merely a policy of executives of our Government, but also a policy of freedom, making it a branch of the Legislature as well.

There are other steps that I think we can and should take and which a previous speaker has referred to. One of the functions of the United Nations is certainly to serve as a form of conference of the World where a nation can express itself and the resolution which I introduced last month was aimed to get representation of the United Nations. When the council meets in November, or rather the Assembly meets in November to protest about the violations of freedom of all the countries under the Iron Curtain and to ask for two very simple

things; first, that the Russian troops be withdrawn and second, that free elections under international supervision be carried out, the mere adopting of this issue, the mere raising of the issue would capitalize public opinion all through the Western World and would also give great strength and great comfort to the people inside the communist dominated countries, who must at times, wonder whether the struggle is worthwhile. Now, when this resolution was referred to the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and State Department, of this international demonstration, they opposed adoption of this resolution on the ground, this seems extraordinary, but it is true, on the grounds that it would "endanger our relations with friendly countries." That comment really saddled me. I wondered what countries they would refer to as friendly. Quite obviously, the only country they were referring to that would endanger our relations with was Soviet Russia. I never thought of Russia as a friendly country to the United States.

While the communists maintained a myth of separateness of their party from political stay, nevertheless, the two are run by the same holding country and to all intentions and purposes, they are merely different armies of the same party, directed by a common indulgence. The communists regard the United States as the chief obstacle that they have in the way of Russia and communists dominating the world and as long as that attitude prevails, as long as there is communist tyranny over Lithuania, the Baltic countries, countries of Central and Eastern Europe, I do not see how we can possibly regard Russia as a friendly country. When Russian diplomats, secret agents, military forces are all dedicated to ultimate conquest of the world, I see no reason why we should be passive in their intent.

Many years ago my wife and I visited Italy and saw something of the control of Mussolini over the Italian people. We didn't like it. We later went up to Munich, and this was in 1931, and saw Hitler's storm troopers moving in and out of the Brown House and we were fearful then that the Nazis would take over Germany. Many of our friends thought we were mistaken. In 1935 we went back to Italy at the out-

break of the Ethiopian War and saw countries of the Western World backed down before the invasion of Ethiopia, and, for several years, the world grew in strength and we were both determined that in our small way we would do our best to resist the spread of tyranny. Now, Nazis tyranny was terrible and fortunately it did not prevail. Communist tyranny is even more terrible because it is as brutal as Nazis tyranny, but it is more refined in its torture because it seeks to conquer minds whereas the Nazis merely expected to overcome the body. And, perhaps worst of all, to try to take noble sentiments of mankind, such as the desire for human freedom and equality, debase for this treatment, and use them for evil results, so that the world now is in as great a danger as it was 20 years ago. We face the second wave of tyranny and I think we must make up our minds whether or not we will resist the movement and it is a decision, we are deciding, nevertheless, not to resist and I submit that with the experience of history, it indicates that Chamberlain and Diogenes who gave into Hitler, but the men like Roosevelt and Churchill were determined to resist and did resist.

Now, may I say that I deeply appreciate this honor; that I shall continue in the struggle. I intend to reintroduce these resolutions when the new Congress meets in January. During the first week, if possible, I shall continue to press for their adoption and it will be a source of great pleasure to me to work for this common cause. There is one final word that I want to add if I may. Lithuania was one of the many small countries between two giant nations: Finland, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia in the Eastern end of the Baltic, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria in Central Europe. They were caught in between these two mighty powers of Germany and Russia and they have now been taken over very largely by the communists. One reason why these countries were taken over was because they were small individually and because they were jealous over each other. Small nations fighting with each other proved easy prey to the two giant powers of the East and the West. We all want a free Lithuania, but I want to raise this question with



"How did you enjoy the convention?" This is the question most often put to a K. of L'er upon his return from a round of sessions and socials in some distant city. "I feel pretty low for a few days after returning home," remarked one veteran delegate. "Great," says another. "Wish it had lasted longer." And thus the answers go, each with varying degrees of approval or disapproval.

Since getting back to good old Boston, I must admit it was worth the trip. K. of L. conventions have their faults, for after all, what convention doesn't. The sessions can be overlong and tedious and the reports of committee heads too wordy and detailed. But over and above all this, you could sense and feel the earnestness of every delegate to accomplish something worthwhile. Father Albert Contons, Father John Jutt, Jack Stukas, Larry Svelnis, Phyllis Grendal, all reported unprecedented interest in the panel discussions under their direction. One thing only was lacking. There wasn't enough time to treat the questions adequately that the eager youth brought up.

Visitors attending the convention were amazed and impressed by the extent of the activity of this nationwide youth organization. His Excellency, Most Reverend Vincent Brizgys, paid them the highest of compliments in his sermon at the convention Mass at the Holy Cross Church in Chicago. Speaking of the K. of L., the distinguished prelate said, "Perhaps no other organization,

## CONVENTION CHATTER



Rev. John D. Zuromskis

with the exception of the Committee for Lithuanian Freedom and the Lietuvos Taryba, has done so much for Lithuania. Even then I must confess that the Knights of Lithuania have not been surpassed by them in the practical good achieved in the interests of regaining freedom for Lithuania."

When K. of L'ers were not engaged with the business at hand, they were out having a good time. Our Chicago hosts made certain there would be no idle moments for the guests from out of town.

The Thursday evening get-together at the K. of L. Youth Center broke the ice for the scheduled social events, brought old friends together, and set the stage for new ones.

It was Friday night, though, when our good hosts really rolled out the red carpet. After a bus ride along the scenic Lake Michigan Shore Drive, the convention delegates arrived at the magnificent Maria High School, pride and joy of the Lithuanians

in Chicago. A tour through this most modern and colossal of school buildings had everyone talking in nothing but superlatives. It was the last word in the latest of equipment and accommodations. Above all it was so spotlessly clean that you could eat off the floor. Of course, you could easily guess that Sisters were in charge of this tremendous edifice with a student body of over 1500 girls. Our tour ended with a concert in the school's auditorium presented by a 70-member cast from the Chicago Dainavos group. This was entertainment at its best paving the delegates satisfied that Chicago has reason to be boastful of its beautiful high school and artistic talent.

Like good wine, the best, however, was reserved for the last. Sunday night, Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois, was presented by Father Jutt of Worcester, Mass., with a K. of L. award medal in the name of the Knights of Lithuania, at a dinner dance in the Sherman Hotel. This decoration he richly deserved for his valiant efforts in behalf of enslaved Lithuania.

All good things generally come to an end, and thus it was with the 43rd National K. of L. Convention. It came to an all too swift close but not before an history making resolution had been adopted by the body. Overshadowing the entire four days was the question whether the 1957 convention would be held in Los Angeles as proposed by the lone California council. By a

you. In the free world which develops, when communist tyranny has fallen mostly in these nations, join together in federation, so that they can have common eyes or common foreign policy and can be united. Otherwise, the steamrollers are likely to go over them again. I shall not advise whether or not you should go into Baltic Federation or Central and Eastern Europe Federation. That is your choice to make. And I should wish to submit that unless various groups can pull together, the freedom which is re-established is likely to be temporary unless there is some greater

cohesion amongst these smaller nations and the smaller people, they are likely again, to be conquered by Germany or by Russia.

One of the thrilling things about our city of Chicago is that it has demonstrated how people of various nationalities can live together in peace and mutual understanding. If the various groups from our old world can live together here in Chicago, why can they not live together in the old world itself? In matters cultural — each group has its language, its culture, religion, its local system of justice, but in mat-

ters which concern foreign policy, military defenses, they should be as hands clenched together and not in any communistic salute. Such a Federation on the Eastern European basis would number one hundred million people. It would be more numerous than Germany, and almost equally numerous to Russia for in it there are possibilities of a goal. I suggest that to you as a matter for your consideration.

Again, I wish to thank you for the honor which you paid me and since it is now ten o'clock, I will sit down and let the orchestra play.



I am deeply grateful to the members of the Knights of Lithuania for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president for the coming year.

The Supreme Council officers will carry out their respective duties to the best of their abilities. Furthermore, plans are in the making towards improvement of the VYTIS, increasing the membership and promotion of religious, cultural and Lithuanianism programs. Special emphasis will be made in the organization and activities of the Juniors. Establishment of more Senior councils is also a "must."

Regardless of the amount of effort expended and the number of plans devised by your national of-

## President's Message



Walter R. Chinik, President

ficers, the final results will depend considerably on the support given by YOU, the members.

May I take this opportunity to ask all of you to give your fullest cooperation in the endeavors of your National Executive Board?

Esu giliai dėkingas už Vyčių pareikštą pasitikėjimą mane išrenkant organizacijos pirmininku. Kartu su nauja valdyba dirbsime su visomis jėgomis, stengdamiesi visados didesnei Vyčių pažangai.

Didesnės pastangos bus dedamos dėl įsteigimo stovyklų Juniorams ir organizavimo Seniorų kuopų.

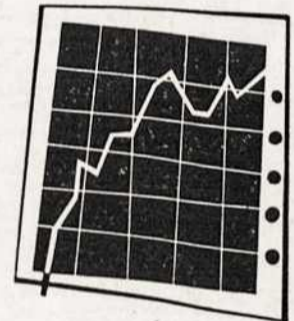
Visa tai įvykdinti reikalaus pilnos paramos žodžiu ir darbu, nuo kiekvieno nario.

Tad Vyčiai, pirmyn į darbą.

narrow margin and over bitter opposition from the New York contingent, California was selected as the site of next year's K. of L. deliberations.

For those who say it is too far to go for a convention, let him be reminded that this is the jet age. For the first time ever, an official delegate traveled to a K. of L. convention by jet plane. In fact, it took him longer to go from the airport to the Sherman Hotel than it did from Boston to Chicago. The age of miracles is not over. For the first time, too, a Lithuanian organization truly goes coast to coast. For whether it is by plane, train, jet, or car, K. of L'ers will hearken to the call of yesteryear: — "Go West". This time, though, it will not be in quest of gold, but of a bigger and greater K. of L.

*With the passing of another K. of L. National Convention, we begin to think of many plans for Autumn and Winter council activities. I hope that in YOUR plans you will include increased membership for the Knights of Lithuania particularly in your own council. Your new Supreme Officers have many interesting plans for the coming year, and your participation and support is all that is needed to fully complete them. Plan now to attend as many meetings and other activities of your local council as you possibly can.*



**ARE YOU CURRENT WITH YOUR DUES?**

John A. Stoskus, Vice President  
5177 West 64th Street  
Chicago 38, Ill.

(taša iš 5 psl.)

Ši susivaizavimą Jo Eminencija pasveikino labai gražiu laišku, ragindamas Lietuvos Vyčius būti vertais tų Lietuvos Vyčių, kurie prieš šimtus metų ir dabar Lietuvoje kovojo ir kovoja už Lietuvos laisvę, jos religija, kurie savo tautą išauklėjo ir išlaikė giliai katalikiška.

Ir mano linkėjimas tebūna, kad jūs, mieli Vyčiai, ir jūsų pavyzdžio įtakoje, visi pasaulio lietuviai pasiliktume verti tų Lietuvos didvyrių, kurie nuo nebeatmenamų laikų kovojo ir dabar jų vaikai kovoja, kad mūsų tauta savo žemėje būtų laisva, dora ir tikinti.

Tesuteikia Dievas jums ir visiems mums greitai sulaukti vėl laisvos Lietuvos, kur mūsų tauta Dievo laidinama galėtų vėl augti Jo garbei, savo ir visos žmonijos gerui.



Leonard Valiukas and Laura Yucius won after a fine campaign



The 43rd national convention of the Knights of Lithuania held in Chicago went like this. The first activity was for the early arrivals on Wednesday, August 22nd, which consisted of a golf tournament at Acacia Country Club, La Grange, Ill. Tied for first place were AL PADY and STAN TRANAS, both of Chicago who carded a 76 apiece. SNUFFY STEGWELL took second place and ANN SCOTT, Dayton, Ohio, won the ladies prize with a score of 96 (77 with handicap). JUDGE JOHN T. ZURIS presented the trophies to the winners at the dinner.

Thursday, August 23rd was registration day at Hotel Sherman and all day long people were going up 'n' down the elevator which proves one thing — that all conventions have their ups and downs. All the delegates and guests were warned not to disturb the old maid in suite 16.

That same evening a welcoming reception was held at the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA YOUTH CENTER on the southwest side of Chicago. The snacks were prepared by Gary (Ind.) Council 82. When told that Gary is making the refreshments caused a New England delegate to ask, "Who in the heck is Gary?"

On Friday, August 24th, the first session of the convention opened right after Mass in Hotel Sherman's Louis XVI Room. John "Jerry" Jesulaitis, chairman of the Convention Committee, opened the meeting. George Jonikas, president of the Illinois - Indiana district, welcomed the delegates. Dr. Petras Dauzvardis, Consul of Lithuania, lauded the Knights for their fine work in dignifying Lithuania and Lithuanians through their various committees. Also heard from were Monsignor Ignas Albavičius, (hon. memb.) and pastor of St. Anthony parish, and Father Peter Cinikas, house master of the DRAUGAS-MARIAN PRESS.

The presidium, elected, consisted of Walter Chinik (Pittsburg), chairman; Leonard Valiukas (Los Angeles) and Albin Onaitis (Pittsburg), vice chairmen; Laura Yucius (L. A.) and Diana Shatas (Boston), secretaries. Following this, Al Wesey (Great Neck), made his president's report to the convention.

In the afternoon session, the Illinois - Indiana district introduced a

resolution to change the method of paying dues to cover January first to December periods. An all-out membership campaign will be held every Autumn for dues covering the ensuing year. Special panel discussions on Spiritual, Cultural, Juniors, Seniors, Membership and Lithuanian Affairs were held.

That evening a tour of the new Maria High School was conducted by the Sisters of St. Casimir. Then a concert was attended in the high school auditorium featuring Dainavos Choir and Al Brazis, former Metropolitan Opera star.

On Saturday, August 25th, the third session was held. A fine report on the K. of L. Award Medal was given by Father Jutt, head of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee. Panel Discussions for Spiritual Directors, Presidents and Vice Presidents,

## CONVENTION

### ECHOES

Tony Yuknis



Secretaries, Ritual Committee, "VYTIS" Correspondents and Publicity were held. Some delegates were of the opinion that the sessions were too short to bear full fruit... Anthony Rudis, president of the Rockwell Engineering Co., spoke... Father Jutt reported that the new Nativity Church in Chicago will be consecrated as the shrine of Our Lady of Siluva which, at one time, was more renown than Lourdes... Phyllis Grendal, associate editor of "VYTIS", requested all members to write her a letter on the theme: "You Couldn't Keep Me Away From A National Convention." She also asked for contris to the Newsmonger column. Send in news clippings on Lithuanian subjects if you don't write.

During the luncheon in the hotel, membership drive trophies were presented by His Excellency, Bishop Brizgys... Congressman James C. Murray of Illinois spoke as did Konnie Savickus, former editor of "VYTIS" and present legal adviser.

In the afternoon session, the following were heard from: Ignas Sakalas on K. of L. history; Dr. Adolfas Damusis, president of the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation; Trustee John Daniels; Leonard Simutis, editor of DRAUGAS; Father Zuromskis, spiritual adviser of New England district. Jack Stukas of the Cultural Committee, was appointed to administer the K. of L. Scholarship Fund.

The Dance was held in the evening in the Louis XVI and Crystal rooms. A nice time was had by all and was continued in Council 112 rooms honoring "Jerry" Jesulaitis on his birthday. Jerry kept insisting that he was only 27 years old. However, the rug was pulled from under him at the closing banquet by a well meaning speaker who congratulated "Jerry" publicly for his 30 years of active membership in the K. of L.

Council 24-99 recorded their Saturday night reception on a secreted tape recorder. It must be said the group singing was good and the solo numbers reminded us of the Opera. The hour must have been late when a male voice kept urging, "Let's go out for some bacon and eggs"... Yes sir, a few people forgot to go to bed and the next day one delegate stared and wondered who the person with the bags under his eyes was. At first he thought it was one of the golfers, but everything was all right when somebody told the delegate to move away from the mirror.

The windup of the convention was on Sunday, August 26th. Mass was attended at Holy Cross Church with breakfast served at the K. of L. Youth Center. A light drizzle cancelled out the customary taking of pictures in front of the church. So, the convention photo was taken in the Crystal Room of the Hotel. Goes to show you that even a couple of drips couldn't halt the convention program.

The afternoon session was dedicated to the election of 1957 officers. After which Father Jutt and Joseph



Eoley were elevated to the highest rank of honorary membership. Los Angeles, in a terrific and well-planned campaign, landed the 1957 convention. It is no wonder Len Valiukas wore the widest smile of the entire convention. It was pointed out that two new councils are jelling out west and a national convention there might bear fruit to the tune of "California here we come." There are other reasons for going west next year. They say the air is so clear there that you can see three days ahead. With the earthquake fault lying in that region we can be assured of an earth-splitting convention. Most everybody, now, will be eating nothing but chicken wings as we all expect to fly there. We will be well taken care of there as the city folks have more potatoes than the farmers.

The closing banquet was held Sunday evening in the Bernard Shaw room with Stanley Kancewick, art director of "VYTIS," acting as toastmaster... Father Jutt presented the K. of L. Award Medal to Senator Paul H. Douglas of Illinois, for his legislative efforts on behalf of the captive nations of Europe which includes Lithuania. A photo of the presentation was published in Monday's Chicago Sun-Times.

The banquet hall was full of dignitaries such as senators, judges, bankers, contractors, executives, consuls, editors and businessmen. All the big wheels were there. Even before the Fuller brush man arrived we were swept off our feet... They were the big wheels and we felt like little spokes. However, even the big wheels can't go very far without little spokes. Axle grease is also needed to make things run smoother... The speeches were limited to a few, which goes to show you, that Chicago is not such a "Windy City" after all.

After the banquet dancing was in order. By midnight the conventioners began to disperse. As we went through the revolving door for the last time, we pondered a bit, about the time a delegate met a girl in a revolving door and has been seen going around with her ever since. Things do happen at the conventions.

#### K. OF L. NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (CONFERENCE) HELD DURING PAST 20 YEARS:

- 1936 Providence, R. I., 24th nat'l conv. Host: C-103
- 1937 Dayton, Ohio, 25th nat'l conv. Host: C-96
- 1938 Chicago, Ill., 26th nat'l conv. Host: C-24
- 1939 Kearny-Harrison, N. J., 27th nat'l conv. Host: C-90
- 1940 Hartford, Conn., 28th nat'l conv. Host: C-6
- 1941 Pittsburgh, Pa., 29th nat'l conv. Hosts: Pittsburgh district
- 1942 South Boston, Mass., 30th nat'l conv. Host: C-17
- 1943 Newark, N. J., CONFERENCE held at Hotel Douglas (during WW II). Host: Supreme Council.
- 1944 New York, N. Y., 31st nat'l conv. Host: C-12
- 1945 Chicago, Ill., 32nd nat'l conv. Host: Chicago district
- 1946 Worcester, Mass., 33rd nat'l conv. Host: C-116
- 1947 Philadelphia, Pa., 34th nat'l conv. Host: C-3
- 1948 Detroit, Michigan, 35th nat'l conv. Host: C-102
- 1949 Elizabeth, N. J., 36th nat'l conv. Host: C-52
- 1950 Chicago, Ill., 37th nat'l conv. Host: Chicago district
- 1951 New York, N. Y., 38th nat'l conv. Host: C-12
- 1952 Dayton, Ohio, 39th nat'l conv. Host: C-96
- 1953 South Boston, Mass., 40th nat'l conv. Host: C-17
- 1954 Pittsburgh, Pa., 41st nat'l conv. Host: Pittsburgh district
- 1955 Newark, N. J., 42nd nat'l conv. Host: C-29
- 1956 Chicago, Ill., 43rd nat'l conv. Host: Illinois-Indiana district

#### CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — 133

To: All K. of L. Council Presidents

In behalf of all the members of our council, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the opportunity to serve you as the hosts for the 1957 national K. of L. convention which will be in Los Angeles.

The competition between the New York-New Jersey District and the Los Angeles Council 133 delegates was very keen during the convention days, and it was a lot of fun for all those persons concerned. We are sorry that they had to be losers, but we are at the same time very happy to be on the winning side.

As was suggested by many of the delegates from other councils who attended the convention in Chicago, we are asking you to please advise us as to your council members' choice of convention dates for 1957. It may not be possible for you to contact all of your members, but we would appreciate your taking a survey and advising us by December 1st which dates are the most preferred by your council members.

Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun., Aug. 8, 9, 10, 11

Aug. 15, 16, 17, 18

Aug. 22, 23, 24, 25

Aug. 29, 30, 31 and Sept. 1

(Mon., Sept. 2, is Labor Day)

When we receive the answers from all the councils, we will then tally the most preferred dates, and we will definitely hold the convention on the dates selected by the majority of the councils. This seems to be the only fair way of doing it for 1957. The convention committee will, of course, have other planned group activities before and after the days of the convention for those persons who will be able to spend additional days in California on vacation.

Please let us hear from you as quickly as possible regarding the convention dates, and any other suggestions or comments you would care to make will also be considered by the committee, for we earnestly desire to make the 1957 convention in Los Angeles a very successful, different, and well attended convention.

Mail reply to: Miss Laura Yucius, Apt. 1, 826 South Oxford Ave., Los Angeles, California.



John A. Stoskus

**CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS —  
RELIGIOUS SERVICES and  
CLOSING BANQUET**

In conjunction with our organization's national convention religious and social activities had been well arranged.

On Friday, August 24th, delegates assembled in the Chapel of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Peter's Church, for Mass. Father John D. Zuromskis (Boston) was the celebrant, and Father Albert J. Contons (Boston) delivered the sermon, thus opening officially the convention.

Saturday, August 25th, Father John C. Jutt said Mass and gave an appropriate sermon.

Sunday, August 26th, the Holy Cross Church, under the pastorate of Rev. Anicetas Linkus, was the scene of our religious worship. The Most Reverend Vincent Brizgys, Auxiliary Bishop of Kaunas, Lithuania, celebrated Mass with Fathers Jutt and Zuromskis assisting him at the altar. Father P. Cinikas, MIC., Father Contons and local clergy prayed in the Sanctuary. Bishop Brizgys in his sermon spoke on the origin of the Knights of Lithuania and extolled their work for "God and Country." Stephen Sodeika, organist, directed the DAINAVOS choir and at the end of the Mass, all sang the VYČIUJ hymnas. Frank Vaskas (Newark) and Mrs. Norbutas (Chicago) were accorded the 4th K. of L. degree from the hands of Bishop Brizgys.

The grand dinner dance was held in the George Bernard Shaw Room of the Sherman Hotel, Sunday evening. Msgr. Ignatius Albavičius (Cicero) rendered the invocation. Stan Kancewick performed eloquently as master of ceremonies. He was introduced by the Convention Chairman John Jesulaitis. Helen Zimmer, district secretary, presented to the wife of our honored guest, Senator Paul H. Douglas, with a beautiful orchid in behalf of the organization.

The Chicago Sun-Times took pictures of Father Jutt presenting



Spiritual Directors' Panel

Senator Paul H. Douglas with the K. of L. Award Medal, with Al Wesley, immediate past president looking on. Bishop Brizgys, in his talk urged the Knights to "įvertinti mažesnius ir didesnius darbus mūsų kovotojų". He also urged us to be loyal workers in our country's great cause.

Walter Chinik of Pittsburgh, Pa., our newly-elected president, made a very impressive acceptance speech.

Senator Douglas of Illinois was honored for his work in helping the Lithuanian people and their problems. Father Jutt, speaking of Senator Douglas said "Not by empty words but by definite action he has earned the honors we are proud to bestow upon him." A specially engraved medal and an ornate citation were presented the Senator by Father Jutt. Senator Paul Douglas thanked the Knights of Lithuania for this single honor and said he was happy to be considered "an adopted son of Lithuania."

Our delicious dinner was climaxed with an orange tree dessert parade by waiters, carrying yellow, green and red ice cream balls.

The banquet was well attended not only by delegates and guests from all over the country but by many Chicagoans, including Very Rev. Canon J. Paškauskas, and the Meliunas family from Sao Paulo, Brazil, guests of the Rudis family.

At the speakers' table were seated — Msgr. Ig. Albavičius, spiritual director of the Chicago Seniors; Walter R. Chinik, president - elect (Pittsburgh); Phyllis Grendal, associate editor of VYTIS (Boston); John Jesulaitis,

chairman of the Convention Committee; Judge John T. Zuris; Edward Stasukaitis, president of the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce of Chicago; Joseph Mozeris, member of the Local Board of Improvements of Chicago and Arizona; Bishop Brizgys (Kaunas, Lithuania), Father John C. Jutt (Worcester); Stan Kancewick, Emcee; Senator and Mrs. Paul H. Douglas; Leonard Šimutis, Sr., editor of DRAUGAS; Hon. Peter Daužvardis, Consul of Lithuania; Anthony Rudis, industrialist; Judge Alphonse Wells; Father Peter Cinikas, MIC., spiritual director of the Ill.-Ind. district; Alexander Wesley, outgoing president (Great Neck); and George Jonikas, president of the Illinois-Indiana district.

**K. OF L. CALENDAR**

October 27 — Newark, N. J. (29) DANCE, St. George's Hall, 180 New York Ave., Newark.

November 4 — Los Angeles, Calif. (133) DINNER-DANCE. Program — Lucile Zaikis, soloist, U.S. Senator Wm. Knowland, speaker, music by John Antanavich Roch & Roll Orchestra. Place — St. Casimir's parish hall.

November 17 — Norwood, Mass. (27), HARVEST DANCE, Lithuanian Hall, St. George Ave.

November 17 — Kearny-Harrison, N. J. (90) FALL DANCE, Lithuanian Catholic Community Center.

**K. OF L. SUPREME COUNCIL**

WALTER R. CHINIK, President  
4649 Cook Ave., Pittsburgh 36, Pa.  
MRS. RITA PINKUS, Fin. Secretary  
76 Providence St., Worcester 4, Mass.





## VYČIŲ DARBAI LIETUVAI IR LIETUVIŠKUMUI

(Lietuvių Reikalų Komisijos Garbės Pirmininko Kun. J. Jutkevičiaus raportas L. Vyčių Seime)

Jau 10 metų kai Lietuvos Vyčių Lietuvių Reikalų komisija aktyviai, gyvai ir oficialiai veikia ir dirba. Per tuos ilgus metus šios komisijos nariai parašė virš 200,000 laiškų tautiniais reikalais. Ką tas tautinis darbas yra padaręs Lietuvai ir mūsų organizacijai, man regis visiems žinoma. Didelis darbas yra atliktas ir tuo gražiu darbu mes visi galime pasidžiaugti ir net pasididžiuoti. Kaip žinote, esu šios komisijos garbės pirmininkas, o tikru pirmininku per praėjusius metus buvo ištikimas bei darbštus Vytis Pranas Vaškas. Visiems komisijos nariams aš paruošiau ir išsiunčiau biuletenius, bet Pranas Vaškas parašė nuo organizacijos oficialius laiškus. Tokia tvarka yra sėkminga.

Praėjusių metų veikla, nors ir neviršijo 1955 metų veiklos, buvo visvien patenkinančiai gera. Ką toji komisija yra padarius, tai bus aišku iš sekančios statistikos:

	1955	1956
Parašyta biuletenių	17	13
Biuleteniuose laiškų pažymėta	447	387
Išsiusta biuletenių	3538	2984
Pavardžiu ant "mailing list"	196	209
Kuopos su veikiančioms komisijoms	21	22
Laiškų bei atviručių parašyta	apie 16,081	apie 13,748
Atsakymų gauta	apie 3225	apie 2843

Galite pastebėti, kad šiais metais keturis mažiau biuletenius išleidome negu pernai. Kaip kasmet, taip šimet išbraukėme iš komisijos tuos, kurie nieko neveikė. Išbraukėme 53 narius. Bet vis narių turėjome net 209, tai yra 13 daugiau negu pernai. Laiškų skaičius parašyta labai gražus. Ne tiek buvo parašyta kiek pernai, bet visgi parašyti 13,748 laiškus per vienus metus ne lengvas darbas. Visi tie, kurie tuos laiškus parašė,

yra verti mūsų padėkos bei pagyrimo. Tas skaičius gali būti didesnis, nes keletas iš narių neprisiuntė savo asmeniškų raportų, nors ir iš anksto parašiau, kad pasiustu. Iš savo pusės apgailestauju tą jų apsilaidimą, nes neleidžiama mums pranešti Seimui pilną padaryto darbo raportą.

Pagal mūsų konstituciją, kiekviena kuopa privalo turėti savo veikiančią komisiją. Tai vykdo tik 22 kuopos, tai reiškia, kad 24 kuopos tautiniai neveikia. Gaila kad tiek daug jų yra. Tos kuopos yra peiktinos. Kuopos, kurios veikia, yra pagirtinos, nes jos supranta ką tai reiškia būti lietuviu. Jos kitoms duoda gerą pavyzdį ir mano prašymas yra, kad miegančios kuopos greičiau atsikeltų iš savo tautinio snaudulio ir tą gerą pavyzdį pasektų. Apskričių veikla praėjusiais metais buvo tokia:

	1955	1956
New York - New Jersey	8,340	8717
Naujos Anglijos	6,971	3548
Čikagos	138	1268
Mid-Central	632	344

Iš šios statistikos seimo dalyviams aišku, kad New York - New Jersey Apskritis labai gerai veikė, o Naujos Anglijos Apskirtyje darbas beveik per pusę susilpnėjo. Kas didina mūsų džiaugsmą, tai Čikagos atsigavimas. Dėkui Lorraine Dombrauskaitės darbštumui, Čikaga parašė šiais metais net 9 kartus daugiau laiškų. Esu tikras kad Čikaga galėtų dar geriau pasireikšti, bet visgi pažanga yra padaryta. Už tai noriu pagirti Čikagos apskritį ir visi tikimės, kad šių metų pažanga bus tik paskatinimas puikiai veikti per ateinančius metus. Žymiai nupuolė tautiniame darbe Pittsburgho ir Michigano - Ohio apskritys, dabar pasivadinusios Mid-Central apskritimi. Tai didžiausia gėda abejoms apskri-



tims. Įsivaizduokite visa Pittsburgho apskritis parašė tik 269 laiškus, o Michigan-Ohio tik 75. Kai matome, jog kai kurie nariai privačiai parašė virš 300 laiškų, tai ką kalbėti apie visą apskritį. Mes kviečiame ir tikime, kad šie apskritys pasitaisys, kad jie šioj gėdoj nepasiliks.

Komisijos pirmininkas Pranas Vaškas oficialiai parašė 405 laiškus visiems tiems, kurie koku nors būdu atsiliėpė savo kalbose ar raštuose apie Lietuvą. Jis gavo apie 35 atsakymus.

Komisijos pirmininkas puikiai atliko savo darbą. Mes visi esame už tai jam dėkingi. Jam susidarė ir išlaidų apie \$20.00, bet jis pats jas padengė. Ačiū Dievui, kad mes tokių narių turime. Dėkojame jam už pasišventimą ir už padengimą visų jo išlaidų. Aš kaip garbės pirmininkas parašiau 457 laiškus bei atvirutes.

Komisijos darbas negalimas be biuletenių, o kaip galime išleisti biuletenių, jei nebus ko juose idėti. Už tai iškarpos iš laikraščių bei žurnalų yra svarbu turėti. Yra keli asmens, kurie nuolat prisiūčia. Jiems esu labai dėkingas. Ypač esu dėkingas šiems asmenims:

Vincui Višniauskui iš Gardner, Mass.  
Pranui Vaškui iš Newark, N. J.  
Juozapinai Rusaitei iš Great Neck, L. I.  
Leonardui Valiukui iš Los Angeles, Calif.

Šie daugiausia iškarpų prisiuntė. Jie tuo būdu labai daug prisidėjo prie biuletenių išleidimo ir davė gražų pavyzdį kitiems.

Pabrėžiū, kad labai svarbu gauti straipsnių, kurie vienaip ar kitaip mini Lietuvą ir kurie yra tilpę laikraščiuose ir žurnaluose. Žinau, kad daugelis iš jūsų skaito įvairius laikraščius, žurnalus bei brošiūreles. Daugelis iš Jūsų daug laiko praleidžiate prie radio ar prie televizijos. Taigi skaitote ar išgirstate ką-nors apie Lietuvą. Iškirpkite tokius straipsnius, pažymėkite ant jų datą ir vardą laikraščio, kuriame tilpo, ir mums atsiųskite. Praneškite taip pat ką kiti sako apie Lietuvą ir jos žmones per radio ar per televiziją. Tikiuosi, kad daug daugiau pasistengs tą padaryti per ateinančius metus. Mes gi žinosime kam padėkoti ir ką papeikti.

Šiais metais sausio mėnesyje vėl kuopų komisijų nariai priminė savo Senatoriams bei atstovams, savo valstijų gubernatoriams ir savo miestų majorams (burmistrams), kad Vasario 16-ta diena, tai Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės šventė. Per savo laiškus Vyčiai gražiai prisidėjo prie darbo, kurį atliko ta proga ypač Lietuvių Amerikiečių Informacijos Centras. Tas darbas buvo vaisingas, nes tą dieną 18 Senatorių pasakė kalbas Senate, o 60 Atstovų savo Rūmuose. Tos visos kalbos tilpo CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Niekada nebuvo tiek daug Senatorių ir Atstovų kalbų Vasario 16-tą dieną, kaip šiais metais. Šis faktas aiškiai nurodo mūsų komisijos vertę ir svarbą. Savo kalbose Senatoriai ir Atstovai iškėlė žmonių kančias Lietuvoje ir dar kartą priminė visam pasauliui, kaip neteisingai ir žiauriai Rusija užpuolė Lietuvą. Jie ragino Amerikos valdžią dėti visas pastangas, kad bolševikai kuogreičiausiai pasitrauktų iš Lietuvos ir kad Lietuva vėl būtų nepriklausoma. Toliau jie iškėlė Lietuvių tautos pasiryžimą išsilaisvinti iš vergijos. Visiems Senatoriams ir Atstovams buvo pasiūsti padėkos laišškai ir daug iš jų atsiuntė atsakymui labai gražių laiškų. Štai charakteristikai du pavyzdžiai:

Senator H. Alexander Smith (N. J.): "It was a privilege for me to have the opportunity to make some brief remarks in the Senate on this occasion. May the day be close at hand when freedom for the people of this brave country may once again be a reality."

Congressman Gordon Canfield (N. J.): "Be assured I shall always be happy to speak out in behalf of freedom for Lithuanians and all people whose nations are crushed in the grip of tyranny."

Vienas atstovas, Daniel J. Flood (Penn), pasiūlė rezoliuciją (HR401), kad Amerika niekad neturi sutikti su Lietuvai padaryta neteisybe ir privalo moraliai padėti Lietuvai atgauti savo nepriklausomybę.

Tą dieną 12 Gubernatorių savo valstijoms ir 18 Majorų savo miestams paskelbė vasario 16-tą dieną, kaip Lietuvos Respublikos dieną. Tos proklamacijos iškėlė ir gynė Lietuvos reikalus. Net 43 laikraščiai tą dieną turėjo editorialus bei straipsnius apie Lietuvą. Tie editorialai iškėlė lietuvių kovą už tėvynės nepriklausomybę, perspėjo Vakarų kraštus koks pavojus gresia jų laisvei nuo komunizmo ir parodė Amerikos gyventojams, kad Lietuvos išlaisvinimo darbas rišasi su bendra kova prieš komunizmą. Visiems Gubernatoriams, Majorams ir redaktoriams buvo pasiūsti gražūs padėkos laišškai.

Kad tiek daug Senatorių, atstovų, gubernatorių, majorų ir redaktorių taip puikiai atsiliėpė, tai aišku kad mūsų kovai svetimtaučių tarpe yra daug talkininkų. Vien jau dėlto komisijos darbas yra labai svarbus ir naudingas. Už tai privalome pasinaudoti kiekviena priemone sustiprinti mūsų kuopose šias komisijas.

Tą dieną įvairiose vietose buvo suruoštos parodos krautuvių languose ir mokslo įstaigų knygynuose iš lietuviškų dirbinių bei kitų lietuviškos kultūros dalykų. Tos parodos sužavėjo visus, ypač svetimtaučius. Viena lietuvė mokytoja, nors jos vaikai mokykloje buvo lenkai ir italai, paragino savo mokinius tą dieną nupiešti Lietuvos vėliavą ir išaiškino jiems tos dienos reikšmę. Čia tai tikrai pagirtinas dalykas. Providence, R. I. Vyčių pastangomis buvo surengta televizijos programa paminėti Vasario 16-tą dieną. Pats mačiau programą per WJAR-TV ir galiu pranešti, kad buvo labai įdomi bei reikšminga. Kuopos nariai už tai verti padėkos ir pagyrimo. Gavęs padėkos laiškus, stoties vedėjas šitaip atsakė:

"We are very proud of the Lithuanians in our coverage area and it was indeed a pleasure to congratulate them on their 38th anniversary of Lithuanian Independence Day. The entire organization of WJAR-TV joins me in personal congratulations to you for the fine citizenship of not only the Lithuanians of Providence but in the United States. We hope to have another opportunity at some future date to present another program such as Lithuania, Land of Amber."

Šis laiškas aiškiai parodo ką mūsų darbas gali padaryti. O kad mes visi galėtumėme pilnai suprasti mūsų komisijos svarbą!

Prisimenant Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės sukakties minėjimus, noriu tai užbaigti Informacijos Centro direktorės žodžiais: "This year certainly was a gala record."

Vyčiai prisidėjo ir prie įvairių kitų parengimų, kurie buvo surengti paminėti Lietuvos Okupacijos Sukakties, Maldos už Lietuvą Dienos, Šv. Kazimiero šventės, etc. Vyčių pastangomis tie minėjimai buvo gana plačiai iš-



garsinti angliškuose laikraščiuose. Rezoliucijos buvo pagamintos ir pasiūstos įvairiems atsakingiems valdžios asmenims. Šis visas Vyčių tautinis darbas daug padėjo išgarsinti dabartinę sunkią Lietuvos padėtį. Be to, jis parodė mūsų valdžios pareigūnams, kad lietuviai dirba ir veikia ir nenustos aktyviai veikti bei dirbti tol, kol Lietuva neišsilaisvins iš Rusijos bolševizmo vergijos, kol neatgaus savo nepriklausomybės ir negalės vėl laisva gyventi tarpe laisvų bei nepriklausomų pasaulio valstybių.

Nuo tu, kurie gavo Vyčių padėkos laiškus, taip pat gana daug gražių laiškų gauta. Štai ką kai kurie iš jų rašo:

"Thank you very much for your letter and interest in any my show. Commentary such as yours helps me program more interesting radio and TV shows." (Jim Mills iš Čikagos)

"It was good of you to take time out to express your appreciation. With you, we share the prayerful hope that the Baltic States and all the other nations enslaved by the Reds will soon regain their just independence." (Fr. John B. Bremner-Editor of THE TIDINGS)

"Thank you for your letter of Jan. 19 reminding us of the Feb. 16 anniversary of Lithuanian Independence. Although our issue of Feb. 13 does not contain an article about present - day Lithuania, we are not unaware of those countries behind the Iron Curtain which fought two kinds of tyranny so valiantly. Perhaps, at some future date, when it is again possible to send cameramen and reporters to the Baltic States, it will be possible to plan a LIFE story about Lithuania." (Mary L. Buckley for the Editors of LIFE)

"I thank you for your kind remarks relative to my recent talks on Lithuania's freedom. I will continue my efforts on behalf of the Lithuanian people. In my opinion the world will never achieve a true peace until Lithuania and the other captive nations are once again able to enjoy liberty under God." (Congressman James Murray — Ill.)

Senatorius Douglas padarė kelis žygius konkretiškai padėti Lietuvai. Už tai jis birželio 27, 1956 sušaukė žymiausias Amerikos lietuvius, kad jis su kitais Senato Užsienių Reikalų Komisijos nariais galėtų su jais pasikalbėti Lietuvos problemomis. Tai pirmą kartą Amerikos Lietuvių istorijoje, kad lietuviai buvo pakviesti į tokį svarbų susirinkimą. Vienas komisijos narys, Senatorius Lehman iš New York, gavęs padėkos laiškų šitaip atraišė:

"I was very glad to have the opportunity to listen to the Lithuanians who appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations committee. I hope in the near future Lithuania will once again join the ranks of the free nations."

Daug New Yorko ir New Jersey laikraščių redaktorių pareiškė, kad, iš visų tautinių grupių Amerikoje, lietuviai yra vieninteliai kurie parodo savo dėkingumą ir įvertinimą už straipsnius, kurie telpa jų laikraščiuose apie Lietuvą. Jokia kita tauta neparodo savo dėkingumo, kaip lietuviai. Šiuo pareiškimu vyčiai iš tikro gali pasidžiaugti.

Komisijos nariai stengiasi savo laiškais atitaisyti padarytas klaidas apie Lietuvą. Štai Gardnerio miestas savo gyventojų sąrašė priskaitė lietuvius prie rusų. Vyčiai parašė protesto laiškus ir klaida tuojaus buvo atitaisyta, kas aišku ir iš laiško gauto nuo Generalinio Direktoriaus:

"Please accept our sincere apologies for combining in our population section of monograph No. 118, City of Gardner, those foreign born persons of Russian origin with those of Lithuanian origin. We have made this correction and have enclosed a copy of the monograph for your inspection. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention."

Knygoje "Geography" buvo pažymėta, kad Lietuva laisva valia nubalsavo įeiti į Sovietų Sąjungą. Pasiūsti protesto laišakai gavo šitokią atsakymą nuo Profesoriaus Crowe iš Manchesterio (Anglijoje) Universiteto:

"There is the possibility of a posthumous publication involving the revision of an unfinished text by somebody else. I find it hard to believe that Fitzgerald himself ever wrote this misleading rubbish. May I most strongly dissociate this Department from the views and opinions expressed in this volume."

Kad rašymas laiškų daug gero padaro, tai aišku iš žodžių žymaus Barono Flary Von Blomberg, kurs yra Internationalių Santykių Komisijos patarėjas. Štai ką jis rašo apie Lietuvą ir kitas Pabaltijos valstybes:

"Like Poland, these nations will some day be free. Relatives and friends here MUST NOT FORGET their loved ones and their country men at home. By lending assistance, BY WRITING LETTERS and keeping up contacts, imperfect as they may be, Americans are keeping the lamps burning, the lamp of hope for freedom. They are furnishing the stuff the dreams are made of. None knows the great work of the Baltic States' Committees both in Europe and in this country. Assistance is getting through. Things are being done. The American Committees for free Latvia, for free Estonia and for free Lithuania all coordinate their work and this is most effective".

Redaktorius laikraščio THE DAILY MESSENGER, Homestead, Pa. taip buvo sužavėtas Vyčių pasiūstais padėkos laiškais, kad jis parašė apie tai net editorialą:

"THE DAILY MESSENGER has received many notes of thanks from persons of Lithuanian descent for publicity given Lithuanian activities in the District... We appreciate these thank you notes but feel a little as though we haven't really earned them. Almost seems as though the letters of thanks measure out to more words than we have used regarding Lithuanian doings. The outpouring of thank you notes makes us think of the fate of the little Baltic country, swallowed up behind the Iron Curtain — one of the first to fall victim to the Soviet juggernaut. We read into these letters the hopes of a nationality for the return of the homeland to autonomy, a dream of recapturing the identity of their nation if sanity should ever return to this mad and bewildered world. Thank you for your letters — and our best wishes for that future day."

Jungtinių Amerikos Valstijų Lietuvių Studentų Sąjunga, kuri leidžia žurnalą LITUANUS per savo Atstovą P. V. Vygantą šitaip įvertina Lietuvių Reikalų Komisijos darbą:

"Leiskite šia proga bent trumpai išreikšti visų mūsų pasigerėjimą Jūsų vadovaujamos organizacijos uolumu kovoje dėl Lietuvos laisvės. Vien tokio didelio laiškų skaičiaus esame nustebinti. Tikrai galite didžiulis ir esate verti visų lietuvių didžios pagarbos. Būkite tikri, kad šioj srityj Jūsų organizacija yra tikras pavyzdys mums studentams".

Kiti taip sužavėti tuo darbu, kad jie nori gauti mūsų išleistus biuletenius. Štai ką vienas rašo:

"Būkite malonūs, jei rasite galimybės, siuntinėti ir man tą informacinį biuletinį, kuriame duodate nurodymus bei kitas žinias kaip, kur ir kada rašyti amerikiniai spaudai." "Tamstų biuletenius gavau. Ačiū. Man jie labai įdomūs."



Iškarpas kurias gauname nuo komisijos narių, pasiunčiame Amerikos Lietuvių Informacijos Centrai, VLIK'ui Europoje, Lietuvių Dienoms ir kitiems. Štai kaip Informacijos Centras įvertina mūsų talkininkavimą:

"A million thanks for the clippings. They are most useful and after comment, they are filed. We subscribe to Luce's service (supposed to cover the country) but doesn't cover everything. Your boys and girls do a better job locally. We asked Lithuanians to send us clippings but it didn't work out very well... We find many of your clippings new and interesting."

"GARSAS" šitaip atsiliepė apie vyčių tautinį darbą: "Reikia duoti kreditą vyčiams, o ypatingai Lietuvių Reikalų Komisijai, už tokį patriotinį darbą ir pasišventimą".

O "DRAUGAS" rašo:

"Tokio skaičiaus laiškų vienu metų laike turbūt nėra viena kita lietuvių organizacija nėra parašiusi Lietuvos reikalui. Vyčiai šiuo atveju (atžvilgiu) yra pavyzdys. Už tai jie užsitarnauja sveikinimo ir pagarbos. Būtų gera ir naudinga, kad ir kitos organizacijos bei raštingi žmonės turėtų pasiekti vyčių pavyzdį."

Mano brangūs Vyčiai-Vytės, iš šio raporto galite pastebėti ir suprasti mūsų komisijos reikšmę. Kiti, lietuviai ir nelietuviai gerbia mus už mūsų tautinį darbą. Bandykite geriau tą reikšmę ir svarbą suprasti. Sugrižkite atgal į savo kuopas ir tapkite Lietuvių Reikalų Komisijos nariais ir būkite tai komisijai ištikimi. Paskatinkite kitus interesuotis komisijos veikla. Nematau jokios priežasties, kodėl daug daugiau negalėtų sekti pavyzdį, kurį davė per praėjusius metus šie nariai:

Dorota Dutkutė iš Paterson 61 Kuopos — parašė 390 laiškų;  
Elena Wainer iš Paterson 61 Kuopos — parašė 316 laiškų;  
Carmencita Galan iš Newarko 29 Kuopos — parašė 300 laiškų;  
Rita Pinkienė iš Worcesterio 26 Kuopos — parašė 193 laiškus.

Šioms narėms esu nuoširdžiai dėkingas. Joms priklauso didžiausias kreditas. Jos gražų tautinį darbą dirba ir Dieve duok kad atsirastų daugiau asmenų, kurie galėtų jų gerą pavyzdį sekti.

Kuomet pamatome, kad žmogus yra sužeistas, mes norime jam padėti. Jei vargšas žmogus ištiesia savo ranką ieškodamas pagalbos, mes stengiamės jam tą pagalbą suteikti. Lietuva šiandien yra sužeista. Ji tiesia mums savo ranką ieškodama pagalbos. Jos žmonės vargsta, kenčia, badauja. Daugelis iš jų ištremti į įvairias pasaulio dalis. Ar mes nesuteiksime jai pagalbos? Ar mes jokio dėmesio neatkreipsime į jos kentėjimus? Jei ne, tai kaip galime sakyti, kad mes esame tikri vyčiai? Tą pagalbą galime suteikti per malda, prašydami Dievo duoti mūsų tautos žmonėms daugiau dvasinės



Presidents' Panel

## JACK L. JATIS, Mgr.

K. of L. Youth Center

Trust Building, Chicago, Ill. — ARCHIVES

During the past year additional material has been acquired from the Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation's archive which has been liquidated by that organization. Since the opening day of this Convention, we have received seven bound volumes of VYTIS for the years 1948 to 1954, inclusive, turned in to us by our Associate Editor of the VYTIS, Miss Phyllis Grendal. President Al Wesley has also turned over Norkunas' Framed Photo, Norkunas Funeral Picture Album and Supreme Council Minute Book — years 1935 to 1945. Previously most of the material gathered was from the Illinois - Indiana District area. The most substantial contributions received were from the private collections of the late Honorary Member, Kastus Zaromskis, the late Honorary Member, John Brazauskas, and the Honorary Member, Jack L. Jatis.

The work of sorting and marking the copies of VYTIS was done by Miss Helen Gudauskas. The cataloging of the material (item for item) is not yet completed. However, we can report that quite an accumulation of various material is on hand. For example: Photos, approximately 300 Convention badges covering 18 Conventions, several hundred pieces of various Councils, Districts, and Supreme Council program books from various affairs such as dances, plays, concerts, and outings. Six old constitutions, 12 Convention program books, several Minute Books of which two are from Supreme Council are also in our possession.

We have a very small collection of genuine Lithuanian Art Work consisting of about 25 pieces. We also have been fortunate to receive about 20 2x4 panels to be used for exhibition displays. All of this material is stored in a special room at the Knights of Lithuania Youth Center Building, 2463 W. 47th Street, Chicago, Illinois. This building is owned by the Illinois - Indiana District K. of L. and the Chicago K. of L. Seniors. This is the only building in the entire country that is the sole property of the K. of L. and the only Lithuanian-American national organization which owns a building in Chicago.

During the convention days, a special display exhibit is presented at the K. of L. Youth Center Building in the K. of L. Junior Clubroom basement floor. We invite delegates to visit this exhibit.

stiprybės, daugiau pagalbos, kad pasiliktų tikrais ištikimais katalikais ir patrijotingais lietuviais. Melsdamiesi, mes turime kartu ir daug dirbti. Mes galime padėti jei būsime Lietuvių Reikalų Komisijos pavyzdžiais nariais, jei rašysime laiškus ir kitais būdais apginsime Lietuvos gyvus reikalus.

Tat išsižadėkime savęs, dirbkime ir veikime, kad Lietuva atgautų savo nepriklausomybę, rašykime laiškus, supraskime mūsų garbingos komisijos svarbą, būkime jos aktyviais nariais. Kinų priežodis sako:

"Tiems kurie alksta, skirkite savo ryžiu; tiems kurie kenčia, skirkite savo širdį."

Lietuva šiandien kenčia. Tad skirkime širdi jai, mūsų tautai, kad toji tauta, tas mūsų tėvų kraštas galėtų būti laisvas ir nepriklausomas. Dieve, duok kad taip įvyktų kuo greičiausiai.



## JOSEPH A. SAKEVICH, 2nd Vice President

The most important duty of the 2nd Vice President of the Supreme Council is to conduct a Membership Drive.

The 1956 Membership Drive began October 1, 1955 and ended May 31, 1956. This gave the councils 8 months to participate in a drive for new members, with trophies going to the winning councils.

Individuals contributing towards this drive were given M. A. Norkūnas Memorial trophies for their efforts and the work they did to help make a successful membership drive.

### Council Award Winners

1st Place — C-41 Brooklyn, N. Y. — 67% of its quota.

2nd Place—C-17 S. Boston, Mass. — 50% of its quota.

3rd Place—C-26 Worcester, Mass. — 45% of its quota.

Honorable mention:

C-90 Kearny, N. J. — 41% of its quota.

C-96 Dayton, Ohio — 33% of its quota.

C-3 Philadelphia, Pa. — 25% of its quota.

234 new members were brought into our organization during the Membership Drive.

12 councils lost members during this period with a total of 55 members lost to our organization.

On the other hand there were 3 councils reorganized that brought in 90 new members.

26 councils maintained a gain in membership with 171 members gained on their rolls.

At the present there are 42 active councils and 2 Senior Councils with 27 of these that contributed towards this past drive.

### Individual Award Winners

1st Place — Jack L. Jatis — reorganized 2 dormant councils and sponsored 29 new or former members; total of 390 points.

2nd Place — Joseph Stanaitis — sponsored 20 new or former members; total of 200 points.

3rd Place — Marcella Onaitis — organized one Junior Council and sponsored 6 new or former members; total of 160 points.

### Honorable mention:

Rev. A. Janiunas, Lawrence, Mass. organized a Junior Council, 100 points.

Kearny-Harrison, N. J., Council 90 — organized a Junior Council and sponsored 6 new members; total of 160 points.

Helen Andruskevicius, Lowell, Mass. — sponsored 10 new members, 100 points.

Rev. R. K. Baltch, Amsterdam, N. Y. organized a Junior Council, 100 points.

During the period of the drive there were 3 councils reorganized and the organizers were as follows:

C-24 — J. Jatis.

C-99 — J. Jatis.

C-115 — Rev. Shakalis, Rev. Contons and Rev. Jurgelaitis.

There were also 5 Junior Councils organized and those responsible for organizing these councils were as follows:



**The Four Fathers** pause a minute during their session on K. of L. business. Left to right, Rev. V. Katarskis (Dayton, Ohio), Rev. J. Zuromskis (Boston, Mass.), Rev. A. Contons (Boston, Mass.), Rev. P. Cinikas, MIC. (Chicago, Ill.).

Jr. Council 100 — Rev. R. K. Baltch, Amsterdam, N. Y.

Jr. Council 78 — Rev. Albin Janiunas, Lawrence, Mass.

Jr. Council 90 — Council 90, Kearny-Harrison, N. J.

Jr. Council 19 — Marcella Onaitis, Pittsburgh, Penna.

Chicago District Jrs. — J. Jatis, P. Butkus, J. Stanaitis, and P. Zansaitis.

The 1956 Membership Drive was successful. However, more councils could have been reorganized and more Junior councils could have been organized. Also, we could always stand an increase in membership and in this department our councils didn't do such a good job.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who took part in the 1956 Membership Drive.

## MRS. RITA E. PINKUS, Financial Secretary

It has been a year since I took over the duties of the Supreme Financial Secretary, and have tried to fulfill the duties of that post to the best of my ability.

According to the records as of June 30, 1956 we have 42 active Councils listed with the Supreme Council. This includes Councils 24 (Chicago), 99 (Chicago) and 115 (Lowell, Mass.) which were reorganized this year, also a Senior Council formed in Council 25, Cleveland, Ohio. Five new Junior Councils were also organized this year.

Aside of the regular membership, we have registered with the Supreme Board a total of 66 priest; 77 members in the Armed Forces; and 173 couples.

During the past year 288 members were dropped from the Knights of Lithuania. I believe that many of these members were dropped because of lack of co-operation from the Council Financial Secretaries. I feel that the Financial Secretary is the back bone of his or her Council and that he or she should see that all members' dues are recorded currently.

During the past year Council 14 (Cicero), Council 137 (Portland, Oregon) and Council 138 (Michigan City, Indiana) have been dropped from our records due to nonpayment of dues in the Center.

In closing I wish to thank all Financial Secretaries who have co-operated with me this past year for which I am most grateful.



# K. OF L. SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

REV. ALBERT J. CONTONS, NATIONAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

The year 1955-56 was a year of intense K. of L. activity. From my viewpoint, action was concentrated on the general spiritual condition of the K. of L., the Spiritual Program, the K. OF L. MANUAL, and the VYTIS FUND.

During the past year I continued the practice of writing a pertinent message in the VYTIS each month. The subject matter was generally spiritual, but occasionally the emphasis was on topics of more specific interest to the organization itself.

My personal correspondence during this period was extensive. It was generally carried on with K. of L. members and officers, and the clergy. Mimeographed correspondence was even more considerable.

I was particularly concerned during the past year with bringing the Knights of Lithuania to the closer attention of the Lithuanian clergy and Sisters. With Dr. Leimonas and Miss Phyllis Grendal I made a visit to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Putnam, Conn. and discussed ways and means by which the K. of L. and the Sisters might be of mutual aid. On July 4, 1956 with Dr. Leimonas I made another visit to the Sisters, during which Mother Aloysia said that she would try to find means of helping the VYTIS through the FEMININE FAIR page.

On another occasion Dr. Leimonas and I made a special visit to the mother house of the Sisters of Jesus Crucified in Brockton. Mother Annunciata was most gracious to us and was very much interested in the K. of L. Junior program. She promised to help the K. of L. in any way possible. The practical fruits of the cooperation of the Sisters of Jesus Crucified are the brief articles on Lithuanian culture appearing on the Junior Page.

As a result of correspondence with Rev. Joseph Cepukaitis, president of the Lithuanian R. C. Priests' League of America, a letter was sent by the Priests' League on April 2, 1956 to all Lithuanian pastors. The letter contained a copy of the K. of L. constitution, a description of how to organize a K. of L. council, and an appeal to all pastors to lend support to the K. of L. or organize councils where the K. of L. is non-existent.

We are most grateful to the L. R. C. Priests' League of America and to the congregations of Lithuanian Sisters for their interest and support of the K. of L. I am confident that if the Knights of Lithuania are generous in their cooperation with these religious groups, and with other Lithuanian Catholic organizations they will reap an abundant harvest of K. of L. growth and achievement.

## SPIRITUAL PROGRAM

In September of 1955 Father Jurgelaitis and I discussed and planned a regular Spiritual Program for the K. of L. The program was to be conducted after the manner of a contest, with a specific number of points being awarded for certain spiritual activities. An outline of the year's program was prepared. Father Jurgelaitis agreed to write a talk each month on the appointed theme. A pamphlet on the same topic was procured

for mailing to Spiritual Advisers together with the prepared talk. Each council was asked to appoint a spiritual program chairman, to whom the talk was also sent. In councils where the spiritual adviser could not come to the meetings the chairman was to read the talk. The score was to be kept by the chairman and mailed to me on July 1, 1956. Suitable plaques were promised to the three councils achieving the best scores in this Spiritual Program Award contest.

For each month from October, 1955 to June, 1956 inclusive a Spiritual Program talk was mailed to each Spiritual Adviser and Spiritual Program Chairman. From 50-55 pamphlets were mailed to the clergy each month. Approximately 75 copies of the talk were mailed monthly, not only to the above-mentioned, but also to other clergy whom I felt it would be advantageous to inform of K. of L. activities. The following is a list of mailings and announcements about this SPIRITUAL PROGRAM:

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1955 issues of the VYTIS — announcement of the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM AWARD.

Sept. 14, 1955 mailed an extensive report about the K. of L. with an outline of future activities to the Lith. R. C. Priests' League annual convention in Scranton, Pa.

Sept. 26, 1955 mailed to 45 spiritual directors: SPIRITUAL PROGRAM AWARD outline, lecture on "The Unavoidable God," and Letter.

Sept. 26, 1955 mailed to 40 council presidents outline of SPIRITUAL PROGRAM AWARD.

Oct. 29, 1955 mailed to spiritual advisers 50 letters containing the pamphlet, THE SOUL, WHAT IS IT? and the lecture on the same subject.

Nov. 29, 1955 mailed to 50 spiritual advisers the pamphlet, ARE THE GOSPELS TRUE, and a talk on the same subject, prepared by Father Jurgelaitis.

Nov. 29, 1955 mailed to 500 Lithuanian priests in the U. S. and Canada a letter about the K. of L. and requesting a donation to the VYTIS FUND.

Jan. 2, 1956 mailed to all spiritual advisers and spiritual program chairmen (80 letters) containing the talk, BIBLE AND / OR CHURCH, pamphlet (55) on the same subject, and a letter addressed to spiritual advisers, with a PLAN FOR A K. OF L. COMMUNION BREAKFAST.

Jan. 30, 1956 mailed to all council presidents (40) the PLAN FOR A K. OF L. COMMUNION BREAKFAST.

Feb. 1, 1956 mailed to spiritual advisers and others the February program talk by Father Jurgelaitis on WHAT CATHOLICS THINK OF CHRIST, and a pamphlet (50).

Feb. 18, 1956 mailed to spiritual advisers and others (75) the March program including the talk, WHAT CATHOLICS THINK OF THE CHURCH, and a pamphlet on the same subject.

April 8, 1956 mailed the April program to spiritual advisers and others (75). It included the talk MY FAITH AND I and a pamphlet on the same subject (55).

May 2, 1956 mailed the May spiritual program to



spiritual advisers and others (75). The talk and pamphlet were entitled, "DIVINE GRACE: WHAT IS IT?"

June 5, 1956 mailed the June program including talk and pamphlet on "THE PRACTICAL CATHOLIC" to spiritual advisers and others (75). The Convention Work Plan instructions were included in this mailing.

August 1, 1956 mailed to council presidents (42) the Convention Work Plan, Spiritual Program outline requesting a report on the same, and an appeal letter to cover the cost of the Spiritual Program.

August 1, 1956 mailed to spiritual advisers (42) an outline of the Spiritual Program requesting a report, and a letter about the VYTIS FUND.

August 6, 1956 mailed to Vytis Fund contributors a brief report and an appeal letter for donations toward the VYTIS FUND. Sixty letters were sent.

Such an ambitious spiritual program would have been impossible without the generous cooperation of several K. of L. members. I wish to acknowledge the faithful help of Father Antoninus Jurgelaitis, O. P., of Providence College, who gave many helpful recommendations and in the midst of a busy schedule found time to prepare each of the spiritual program talks. Very important to the proper functioning of the program was the tireless assistance of Virginia Kleponis, Joan Kleponis, and Ann Kleponis who prepared the stencils for the talks and took care of the varied details of addressing and mailing. I am also grateful to Florence Zaleskas who prepared the PLAN FOR A K. OF L. COMMUNION BREAKFAST and compiled the Spiritual Program Reports.

In presenting a report of the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM of the K. of L. and awarding plaques to the councils with the highest scores, I am aware of the great limitations in such a procedure. Many councils take part in activities which are of equal excellence with the activities outlined in the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM. Yet there was no practical method of allotting points to such activities. Other councils carried out parts of the program, but not within the time limits set by the rules originally drawn up. It is with these limitations in mind, that the following report is given.

Council	City	Points
3	Philadelphia	135
12	New York	97
17	South Boston	195
18	Cambridge	125
26	Worcester	135
29	Newark	115
52	Elizabeth	155
61	Paterson	0
67	Bayonne	85
78	Lawrence	165
96	Dayton	125
109	Great Neck	55
112	Chicago	85
116	So. Worcester	140

It is unfortunate to have to note that only 15 councils out of 42 supposedly active councils sent in a written report of their participation in a program which entailed so much labor on the part of several K. of L. members, not to speak of the considerable financial expense involved. If the councils want such programs in the future, they must indicate this desire by their prompt response to any requests made. Certainly there

is no purpose to be gained in pushing a program which is met with indifference by the great majority of councils.

A further breakdown of the figures shows what parts of the program were carried out by the councils reporting. Of the 15 COUNCILS reporting, the following numbers participated in each part of the program:

I. Know Your Faith Lectures	14/15
II. Christ the King-Mass	4/15
Communion Breakfast	3/15
III. Retreat Weekend	1/15
Day of Recollection	0/15
IV. Catholic Press Exhibit	3/15
Catholic Press Drive	2/15
V. Decoration of Mary's Shrine	5/15
VI. Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament	8/15

Additional spiritual activities reported by various councils included:

C-3 Philadelphia — Consecration of members to Our Lady of Vilna and dedication of a plaque of "Our Lady of Vilna" in the clubroom.

C-17 South Boston — Religious Discussion Group meeting every other week; participation of girls in May and Corpus Christi processions.

C-26 Worcester — Sponsored N. E. District Holy Hour; pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of LaSalette.

C-96 Dayton — Mother's Day, received Communion with mothers; Mass offered for members, living and dead; visit to the graves of deceased members annually.

C-116 So. Worcester — Recitation of the Rosary upon the death of members of the immediate family of council members.

Congratulations to all councils that participated in the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM of the K. of L., especially to the winners of the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM AWARDS.

First Prize Plaque: Council 17, So. Boston 195 points.  
Second Prize Plaque: Council 78, Lawrence 165 points.  
Third Prize Plaque: Council 52 Elizabeth 155 points.

The expenses of the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM are given in the report of the VYTIS FUND.

As part of this report on the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM I am submitting a copy of all pamphlets, talks, and letters mailed in conjunction with the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM.



Greetings Committee (left to right): Rev. Fr. Albert J. Contons (Boston, Mass.), Florence Zaleskas (Boston, Mass.), Margaret Papeaka (Pittsburgh, Pa.), Anne Schwabas (Brooklyn, N. Y.), Lorraine Dombrowski (Chicago, Ill.), Patricia Kamar (Chicago, Ill.), Jean Sheures (Chicago, Ill.)



## REV. JOHN C. JUTT, Chmn. K. of L. Award Medal

Six hundred and fifty members responded to our appeal with donations ranging from 50 cents to \$25.00. To all of them, we express our profoundest gratitude and sincerest appreciation. It was only through their generosity in manifestation of their love for the K. of L. that we were able to create a medal which has already added prestige to our great organization, THANK YOU.

As we had promised, we sponsored the November issue of the VYTIS, 1955. This issue gave a history of the medal and described the presentation of the first medal to Mr. Kersten.

A special word of gratitude goes to the Misses Dorothy Sinkavitch and Mary Klimkaitis of Council 116 who addressed all the envelopes and cards and also to Frank Chiras of Council 116 who obtained the envelopes for us at only a fraction of the cost. They are deserving of our sincerest thanks.

### K. OF L. MANUAL

With the cooperation of the members of the Supreme Council and other K. of L. members the K. OF L. MANUAL was undertaken shortly after last year's convention. I am submitting a copy of the K. OF L. MANUAL as part of this report. In the foreword of the MANUAL acknowledgment is given all those who contributed in any way toward making the MANUAL a reality. The subject matter of the MANUAL is listed in the Table of Contents. It is my conviction that if the officers and members of the K. of L. utilize the MANUAL properly, it will be of immeasurable service in improving the K. of L. organization. This brief mention of the K. OF L. MANUAL in my report should prove sufficient, for the MANUAL can well speak for itself. It is being sold for \$3.00 a copy. A few incidental supplies remain on hand.

### VYTIS FUND

The VYTIS FUND was originally established to help finance improvements in the "Vytis." At the Supreme Council meeting in Boston October, 1955, permission was given to finance the SPIRITUAL PROGRAM and later the K. OF L. MANUAL from the VYTIS FUND.

Total income of the VYTIS FUND from August 17, 1954 to August 23, 1956. was \$1196.05. This income came from 80 donors (50 priests and 30 laymen). Avg. donation from each person (many of whom have donated twice) was \$15.00.

Because of other duties, I am resigning from the duties of director of the VYTIS FUND.

### K. OF L. MANUAL

\*\*\* 3-ring Binder embossed with K. of L. Seal

\*\*\* Mimeographed Material describes:

Duties of Officers

Operation of Committees

Parliamentary Procedure

\*\*Concise \*\*Efficient \*\*Practical\*\*

Price \$3.00 (mailing additional)

Available thru District Officers

### Donations by Councils

C-1	Brockton, Mass.	\$ 3.00
C-3	Philadelphia, Pa.	27.00
C-5	Chicago, Ill.	49.00
C-6	Hartford, Conn.	32.00
C-7	Waterbury, Conn.	42.00
C-8	Chicago, Ill.	9.00
C-10	Athol, Mass.	16.00
C-12	New York, N. Y.	19.00
C-13	Chicago, Ill.	21.00
C-14	Cicero, Ill.	7.00
C-17	South Boston, Mass.	106.25
C-18	Cambridge, Mass.	25.00
C-19	Pittsburgh, Pa.	72.50
C-25	Cleveland, Ohio	27.00
C-26	Worcester, Mass.	102.00
C-27	Norwood, Mass.	36.00
C-29	Newark, N. J.	59.00
C-30	Westfield, Mass.	3.00
C-36	Chicago, Ill.	95.00
C-41	Brooklyn, N. Y.	23.00
C-52	Elizabeth, N. J.	58.00
C-55	Indiana Harbor, Ind.	5.00
C-61	Paterson, N. J.	6.00
C-62	Pittsburgh, Pa.	4.00
C-67	Bayonne, N. J.	18.00
C-78	Lawrence, Mass.	12.00
C-82	Gary, Indiana	16.00
C-90	Kearny - Harrison, N. J.	33.00
C-93	Rochester, N. Y.	11.00
C-96	Dayton, Ohio	33.00
C-100	Amsterdam, N. Y.	14.00
C-102	Detroit, Mich.	21.00
C-103	Providence, R. I.	42.00
C-109	Great Neck, L. I., N. Y.	15.00
C-110	Maspeth, L. I., N. Y.	2.00
C-112	Chicago, Ill.	40.00
C-113	Linden, N. J.	9.00
C-116	South Worcester, Mass.	119.00
C-133	Los Angeles, Calif.	19.00
C-134	Cincinnati, Ohio	2.00
C-135	Ansonia, Conn.	29.00
C-136	Michigan City, Ind.	2.00
C-137	Portland, Oregon	3.00
	Bridgeport, Conn.	19.00
	Washington, D. C.	6.00
	Wisconsin	10.00
	Arizona	1.00
	N. Y. - N. J. District	10.00
	Miscellaneous	17.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1350.25</b>

### Donations by Districts

New England	\$586.25
New York - New Jersey	304.00
Illinois - Indiana	244.00
Mid - Central	159.50
California, Arizona, Oregon	23.00
Wisconsin, Washington, D. C.	16.00
Miscellaneous	17.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1350.25</b>





## NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**AL WESEY-VASILIAUSKAS**

This is a general report, and I made it short because of mimeographed copies of other reports that I did not want to combine here.

I believe we have had the busiest year this year that I remember as being President or being an officer of the Supreme Council. We have been active in introducing many changes in the K. of L. set-up. We are practically reorganizing the K. of L. on a more modern and efficient basis. We have been working diligently to improve the K. of L. We have new Junior Councils; a monthly Spiritual Program; many contacts among our Catholic Leaders and Convents; support from the Kunigu Vienybė and Lithuanian priests; a monthly Cultural Program; a new and, we hope, a more interesting and profitable approach to the National Convention; and a K. of L. Manual which will systematize and improve the leadership and efficiency in the organization. That is only a beginning and could be carried out further with charts or graphs which would be more instructive and illustrative, but we didn't have time to do everything. Our only weakness is raising finances, and that is where you and we have fallen down.

We have had 6 Supreme Council meetings throughout the country, and from these meetings have set up our plans and programs. The satisfaction of all this planning and activity is the fact that the right people have been chosen for their respective jobs. Father Contons is, I believe, today, the greatest person in the Knights of Lithuania organization. He has worked hard and long on all our activities and helped tremendously with advice in planning. The Supreme Council is indebted to him for his work and leadership, and I hope the entire membership and organization appreciates this.

The Spiritual Program has been aptly set up by Father Contons, and I am sure reached every Council. The only discouraging part of it is that every Council did not take advantage of it. (Father Conton's Report published in this issue.)

The same applies to the Cultural Committee. Our Cultural Committee has had a very capable and adapt Chairman at its head. We compliment Jack Stukas for

the wonderful job he has done and the many ideas he has given our Councils and members.

We have 5 active Districts — New England, New York - New Jersey, Mid-Central, Illinois - Indiana and California; and 11 Junior Councils. We have a larger membership than last year. Although the membership seems high, the income of the organization has not been sufficient to cover expenses. We cannot exist from dues alone, and the donations to help our expenses have not come through as they should. In being active, and encouraging new programs this year, our expenses have risen somewhat higher. It costs money to print and buy paper. Even then, everything has been done on a wholesale basis to save further expenses. Your Executive Board has been very generous and has not submitted bills for their own expenses, that is, traveling, stationery, stamps, etc. If they did submit bills, the deficit would be from \$600. to \$1,000., more than it has been. We will later study the Treasurer's Report for details. The "Vytis" is, of course, our big expense, but the "Vytis" is essential. The "Vytis" is now a real good publication, at, of course, a minimum fee. To cut expenses we would have to omit the "Vytis" certain months, but we shouldn't do that either. Let's concentrate on financial stability. Of course, there is still room for improving the "Vytis," and the most important improvement is to have the "Vytis" come out at the beginning of the month rather than the end of the month. The Editors claim this can be done if we advance the deadline another month. This deadline can be easily advanced, but then it might make our Council activities very, very, late and old news — more so than new. Our organization should heartily thank the Editors, Dr. J. Leimonas and Miss Phyllis Grendal, and the Advisory Staff consisting of Father Contons, Father Zuromskis, Father Jurgelaitis, Stan Kancewick, William Gorski, and Lillian Navicky, for the fine job they are doing.

During the past year we have had many people and organizations support and help our activity. One of these was the Kunigu Vienybė (Lithuanian Priests' League) who sent out literature to all Lithuanian priests and parishes, asking them to organize a K. of



L. Council in their vicinity, and also distributing a leaflet which we mailed to them, entitled: "How to Organize a K. of L. Council." Another person who speaks well of the Knights of Lithuania is His Excellency, Bishop Brizgys. In his travels around the country, he always puts in a good word for the K. of L.

We have made friends with the Lithuanian Students, who have been good enough to send their quarterly magazine to our Councils gratis. They received permission from the Supreme Council to do this, and none of our members or Councils is obliged to them for this in any way.

Our greatest undertaking for this Convention has been: a) The Leaders Panels, b) The Program Panels, and c) The K. of L. Manual.

The new procedure for this Convention, we hope, too, will be successful. We have come to the conclusion that our past Conventions were not interesting, and just routine matters. Let's see how this new plan goes over, so we will know whether to improve or discontinue. Here, again, literature is available, and results will be judged by its success or failure.

Our archives in Chicago are shaping up pretty well, and all items have been recorded. This Convention, being held in Chicago, I am sure will entice many of our delegates and members to visit our archives at the K. of L. Youth Center. Here, again, we appeal to our older and former active members to turn into the archives any and all material that belongs to the K. of L., or that the K. of L. could use in building up its archives.

The Supreme Council made several appointments last year. One of these was Attorney Konstant J. Savickas of Chicago, as Legal Adviser, and John Stoskus of Chicago, as member of Public Relations Committee.

#### Districts: —

The standing of our Districts is as follows: The strongest District in membership and financial support to our organization is the New England District. The New York - New Jersey District is second. We do not any longer have a Pittsburgh District, — it has merged with Ohio - Michigan District and is now known as Mid-Central District. The Illinois-Indiana District is quite weak at the present time, and we hope this Convention, being held in Chicago, will do something to stimulate interest and growth of this District. The California District, according to reports is endeavoring to organize new councils, and revive old councils along the West Coast. By next convention, some results should be shown by its endeavor.

The Knights of Lithuania have always been a part of the American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation. In working together, we should support and attend its 50th Annual Convention which will be held on October 12, 13, and 14th, at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass.

During the last National Convention, we talked about K. of L. Organizer. Father Stasys Raila of Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, was asked by the Supreme Council to investigate this matter further and report to us. Father Raila's Report has been submitted and also presented to the Resolutions Committee. It seems that such an Organizer is a good idea, but the main problem is the financing of it. This matter, for the time is being tabled.

## EDWARD A. DANIELS,

### 1st Vice President

Having been re-elected First Vice President of the Supreme Council, I have attempted to fulfill my duties to the best of my ability as circumstances permitted. I attended all Supreme Council meetings called by President Wesey. Corresponded with various Councils urging them to form Junior Councils and advising them how to go about it. I also accepted several invitations from Councils in the New England District to visit and speak at their meetings.

The following nine Junior Councils were registered with the National Financial Secretary as of August 1955:

Council — 3 Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Council — 17 So. Boston, Mass.  
 Council — 26 Worcester, Mass.  
 Council — 27 Norwood, Mass.  
 Council — 41 Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Council — 67 Bayonne, N. J.  
 Council — 82 Gary, Ind.  
 Council — 96 Dayton, Ohio  
 Council — 103 Providence, R. I.

Five new Junior Councils have been formed:

Council — 19 Pittsburg, Pa.  
 Council — 78 Lawrence, Mass.  
 Council — 90 Kearny-Harrison, N. J.  
 Council — 99-24 (Group A) Chicago, Ill.  
 Council — 100 Amsterdam, N. Y.

The following Councils failed to re-register with the National Financial Secretary:

Council — 17 So. Boston, Mass.  
 Council — 27 Norwood, Mass.  
 Council — 82 Gary, Ind.

This gives us an increase of two councils over the past year. We now have eleven Junior Councils registered with the Supreme Council.

This is by far a very poor showing. Your Supreme Council officers can suggest and point out the advantages of a Junior Council. Then it is up to you to carry through. Only you and you alone can build your council membership through Junior Councils. Let's make the coming year a Banner Year and double the number of Junior Councils.

In closing, may I express my gratitude to all those who assisted me in any way during the past year, but in particular, Mr. Joe Sakevich, Second Vice-President who did a great job in promoting Junior Councils in the New York - New Jersey district.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Edward A. Daniels,**  
 First Vice-President

Some members have even suggested 5 District Organizers in place of a National Organizer.

I want to thank the officers of the Supreme Council and Committee members for their earnest efforts and cooperation in working together. They were very willing and donated their finances to be of service. I hope the newly-elected Executive Board equals success in the fulfillment of its duties.





Newly elected officers

## YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR 1956-1957

spiritual director .....	Rev. Albert J. Contons
president .....	Walter R. Chinik
1st vice president .....	Edward A. Daniels
2nd vice president .....	John A. Stoskus
recording secretary .....	Marcella Onaitis
financial secretary .....	Rita Pinkus
treasurer .....	John S. Daniels
trustees .....	Betty Tucker
.....	Edmund Rudis
legal adviser .....	Konstant J. Savickas, Esq.

## COMMITTEES

ritual .....	Longinas L. Svelnis
.....	Stephen J. Onaitis
.....	Joseph Sakaitis
lithuanian affairs .....	Frank Vaskas
.....	Lorraine Dombrowski
.....	Frank Gudelis
.....	Anne Klem
.....	Anne Miller
sports .....	Albin Manst
.....	Joseph Sable
honorary membership .....	Leonard Šimutis, Sr.
.....	Jack L. Jatis
.....	Anthony J. Mazeika
.....	Frank Razvadauskas
.....	Ignas Sakalas
lithuanian cultural .....	Jack Stukas
seniors .....	Al Wesey-Vasiliauskas
public relations .....	Leonard Valiukas
.....	Juozas Sadauskas
.....	Anthony Yuknis

## GOLDEN STATE OF CALIFORNIA CHOSEN FOR THE 1957 CONVENTION

Invitations for the 1957 convention were presented to the National Convention by three state councils. They were from California District to hold the convention in Los Angeles, California, from the New York and New Jersey District to hold the convention in New York City, from the Mid-Central District to hold the convention in Detroit, Michigan. After Leonard Valiukas and Laura Yucius (Los Angeles), Larry Janonis (New York) and Robert Boris (Detroit) had presented the claims of their respective localities for consideration, delegates indicated their

## SPOT NEWS OF THE 43rd NATIONAL CONVENTION

Phyllis Grendal

choice by written ballot. When the ballots were counted it was announced that Los Angeles has received the majority on the first ballot. The announcement was enthusiastically received by the convention. (Written invitations from California were also received from United States Senator Thomas H. Kuchel, Governor Goodwin J. Knight, Mayor Norris Poulson and A. O. Beckman, president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.)

## INNOVATION OF PANEL DISCUSSIONS AT CONVENTION

The Panels and Discussion Groups, arranged by the Supreme Council, held during the convention, proved to be most interesting and well attended by delegates. Friday afternoon Panel Discussions were headed by Father A. J. Contons (Spiritual), Jack Stukas (Cultural), Edward Daniels (Juniors), Juozas Sadauskas (Seniors), Joseph Sakevich (Membership), and Father John C. Jutt (Lithuanian Affairs). Saturday morning — Father A. J. Contons (Spiritual Directors — for priests only), Al Wesey-Vasiliauskas (Presidents and Vice Presidents), Joseph Boley (Secretaries), Walter R. Chinik (Treasurers), Rita Pinkus (Financial Secretaries), Longinas Svelnis (Ritual) and Phyllis Grendal (VYTIS correspondents, publicity).

## K. OF L. SCHOLARSHIP FUND ESTABLISHED

K. of L. Scholarship Fund for assisting worthy Knights with a record of outstanding scholastic ability or achievement and in need of financial help will be headed by Jack Stukas. (Resolution submitted by Council 29, Newark, N. J.)

## K. OF L. TO BE OFFICIALLY REPRESENTED AT THE GOLDEN JUBILEE CONVENTION OF THE LITHUANIAN R. C. FEDERATION OF AMERICA

The national convention of the Lithuanian R. C. Federation of America, to be held in Boston, Mass., at the Hotel Sheraton Plaza, October 12-14, 1956 will be officially represented by Larry Svelnis of Boston, Mass.

## SPIRITUAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

It was voted that every council and district arrange to have a Spiritual Program Committee this coming year, headed by their respective spiritual advisers. (For further details see K. of L. Manual.)

## VYTIS FUND

The VYTIS Fund, which was successfully headed by Father Contons this past year, is to be extended for another year. All names of donors (\$10.00 or more) to be published each month.





**Resolutions Committee** (left to right): Rev. Fr. J. Zuromskis (Boston, Mass.) Anne Klem (Kearny, N. J.), Joseph Stanaitis (Chicago, Ill.), Rev. Fr. John C. Jutt (Worcester, Mass.), Joseph Boley (New York City), Joseph Sadauskas (Cleveland, Ohio), George Jonikas (Chicago, Ill.). Not pictured — Helen Shields (Philadelphia, Pa.).

### HONORARY MEMBERSHIP BESTOWED UPON TWO OUTSTANDING K. OF L'ERS

The convention elevated two well deserving and qualified K. of L'ers to the highest rank of Honorary Membership, namely, Reverend Father John C. Jutt of Worcester, Mass. and Joseph Boley of New York City.

### THE K. OF L. MANUAL PRESENTED TO CONVENTION

The first copies of K. of L. Manual, 3-ring Binder embossed with K. of L. Seal, describing Duties of Officers, Operations of Committees and Parliamentary Procedure were officially presented to the convention by the spiritual adviser, Rev. Fr. Albert J. Contons. It was announced that other copies of the Manual can now be ordered from him, price \$3.00.

### BEGINNING IN 1955-1956 NEW ADVENTURES IN PROGRAMMING

The recommendations contained in the reports of Rev. Fr. Albert J. Contons and Jack Stukas were accepted after thorough discussion, both by the Board and on the floor of the convention. They provide that, for the two years, 1955-57, the Knights of Lithuania councils continue to develop their programs, both Spiritual and Cultural, and that Father Contons, chairman of the Spiritual Program and Jack Stukas, chairman of the Cultural Committee provide research, materials, advice and consultation as requested.

### K. OF L. AWARD MEDAL GOES TO HON. PAUL H. DOUGLAS

The 2nd K. of L. Award Medal presented by the Knights of Lithuania for distinguished service and in recognition of outstanding performance in behalf of the Lithuanians was presented to the United Senator of Illinois, Hon. Paul H. Douglas. The presentation was made by our Honorary Chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, Rev. John C. Jutt. An article giving details of Senator Douglas' achievements appears in this issue.

### SENIORS NOW A NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE

In accordance with the recommendation of the Supreme Board at its meeting in New York, June, 1956, that efforts be concentrated on Seniors and a person be delegated for this work, and be responsible for the organizing of new Senior councils and the strengthening of existing ones, the convention voted that SENIORS COMMITTEE be made a National Standing Committee. Al Wesley-Vasiliauskas, immediate past president, was elected Chairman of the Seniors Committee.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASED

Also in accordance with action taken by the Supreme Board at its 1956 meeting, the bylaws (Article VI, Section 1) were amended — "Membership dues may be determined or changed by the national convention of the Knights of Lithuania." Also Article VI, 3. — "Regular members pay \$4.00 annually. Membership dues in their entirety are sent to the Supreme Council." (The numbering of the points in Article VI to be changed in accordance with the above resolution passed.) Article VI, Paragraph 6, "When a member weds another member, the wife is exempt from dues, though both remain members." Article VI, Paragraph 7, "If a member marries a nonmember, the nonmember joining the organization pays one year's dues. Thereafter the wife is exempt from dues, though both remain full members."

### 500th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ST. CASIMIR TO BE COMMEMORATED IN 1958

For this commemoration a special committee was appointed. The committee, consisting of Jack Stukas (New Jersey), Joseph Boley (New York City) and Father Vl. Karalevičius, (spiritual adviser of New York and New Jersey District) is to submit plans, etc. in 1957 at the national convention to be held in Los Angeles, California. (Resolution submitted by Council 41, Brooklyn, N. Y.)

### LITHUANIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA

Since the Lithuanian Encyclopedia is now being published and there are volumes containing information not found in other much larger and better-known encyclopedias, members and councils are urged to subscribe to it.

### FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

In families where two or more children belong, only the first pays the full membership dues; all others to pay only one-half of the annual dues. However, only those paying full membership dues to the Supreme Council will receive the VYTIS.

### SPONTANEOUS DONORS TO THE K. OF L. AWARD FUND

During the convention, following donations were received by Father J. C. Jutt, chairman: Anthony Padvaiskas (C-78, Lawrence) \$5; Peggy Zakaras (C-24, Chicago) \$5; John and Sophie Kaminski (C-82,



Gary) \$5; Frank Vaskas (C-29, Newark) \$5; Joseph Kurpalis (C-82, Gary) \$5; Anne Klem (C-90, Harrison-Kearny) \$5; John Olevitz (C-17, South Boston) \$5; Mary Balčiūnas (C-29, Newark) \$2; Anna Mae Uznis (C-102, Detroit) \$2; Mrs. Rita Pinkus (C-26, Worcester) \$2; Elžbieta Samas (Chicago) \$2; Vera Laukzemis (C-29, Newark) \$1.

### SUMMER CAMP FOR OUR JUNIORS

There were several suggestions made during the convention about Summer Camps for Juniors... Among them that the 1st vice president work in conjunction with the Supreme Council and Junior Council advisers and make every effort to organize a two-weeks' summer camp (one located in the East and one in the West) for our Juniors this coming year and also set up a K. of L. Summer Camp Program.

### OUTGOING PRESIDENT

Mr. Al Wesey-Vasiliasukas was highly praised for his untiring efforts in behalf of the K. of L. During his term of office as president much progress had been made. He was given a tremendous ovation and standing vote of applause by the entire delegation.

Rev. Anicetas Linkus, pastor of Holy Cross Church was thanked for being a host during the convention.

The Illinois-Indiana District and the Convention Committee, headed by Father Peter Cinikas, MIC., spiritual adviser, were thanked as the hosts to the 43rd national convention held in Chicago.

### GREETINGS (Letters, telegrams)

Holy Father (by Archbishop Cicognani Apostolic Delegate, Washington, D. C.)  
 Prel. Jonas Balkūnas, BALF'o Pirm.  
 Prelatas Ignatus J. Kelmelis (Newark, N. J.)  
 Frank Razvadauskas, Hon. Memb. (Boston, Mass.)  
 Bernard M. Shanley, Secretary to President Eisenhower  
 Hon. P. Žadeikis, Minister of Lithuania (Washington, D. C.)  
 Hon. P. Daužvardis, Consul General of Lithuania (Chicago) in person  
 Hon. Jonas Budrys, Consul General of Lithuania (New York)  
 Hon. Julius J. Bielskis, Lithuanian Consul at Los Angeles  
 Hon. A. O. Shallna, Lithuanian Consul at Boston  
 Governor William G. Stratton (Illinois)  
 Mayor Richard J. Daley (Chicago, Ill.)  
 Ateitininkų Sendraugių Sąjungos Centro Valdyba  
 Ateitininkų Federacijos Sąjunga  
 Moksleivių Ateitininkų Sąjunga  
 Frank Petrauskas (Syracuse, N. Y.)

### CONTRIBUTIONS

Rev. F. A. Virmauskis, Hon. Memb. (Boston, Mass.) \$100.00  
 Council 19, (Pittsburgh, Pa.) \$78.85  
 Mrs. Adele Gabaliauskas, Hon. Memb. (Homestead, Pa.) \$25.00



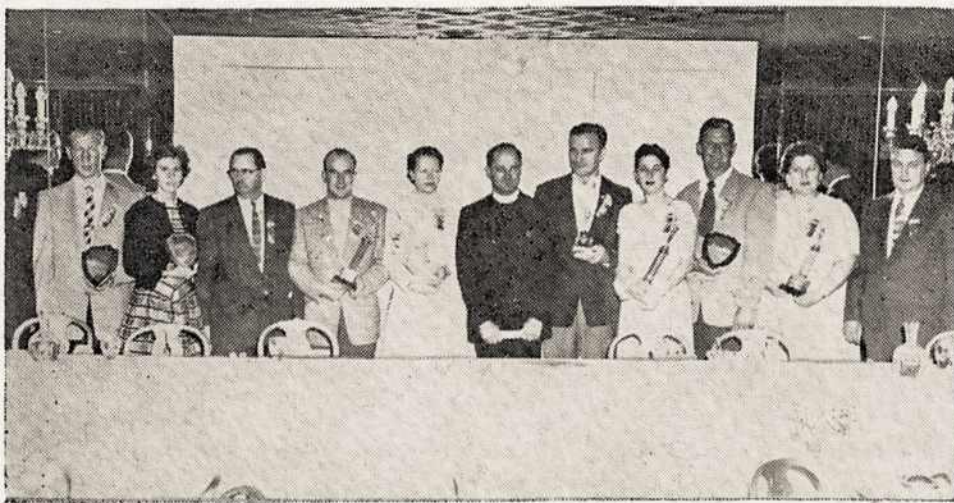
First Delegate to arrive at the convention. Joe Stelmok of C-12, New York City, receives his credentials from Sophia Zukas. Looking on is Irene K. Sankus, convention secretary.

Council 5, (Chicago, Ill.) \$25.00  
 Council 29, (Newark, N. J.) \$25.00  
 William Količius, Jr., (Pittsburgh, Pa.) \$10.00  
 Frank Vaskas, (Newark, N. J.) \$10.00  
 Prof. A. J. Aleksis, Hon. Memb., (Waterbury, Conn.) \$10.00  
 Rev. Francis Juskaitis, (Cambridge, Mass.) \$10.00  
 Jonas L. Juozaitis, Hon. Memb., (Chicago, Ill.) \$10.00  
 Kun. Vl. Karalevičius, N. Y. ir N. J. L. Vyčių Apskr. Dv. V. (Elizabeth, N. J.) \$10.00  
 Antanas ir Zuzana Mažeika ir šeima, Garbės N. (So. Ozone Park, N. J.) \$5.00  
 Rev. P. Shakalys, (Lowell, Mass.) \$5.00  
 Gene Gobis, (Amsterdam, N. Y.) \$5.00

### IN RESPONSE TO CONVENTION'S RESOLUTION ON LITHUANIA

From the Department of State, Washington, D.C., following message received: "By reference from the White House, I have for reply your letter of August 25, 1956, containing the text of a resolution adopted by the Knights of Lithuania at its 43rd National Convention. The right of the people of Lithuania and of other captive nations of Eastern Europe freely to rule themselves has long been supported by the United States. This was one of the principal points raised by the President and the Secretary of State at the meeting of the Heads of Government in Geneva in July 1955 and again by the Secretary at the Conference of Foreign Ministers last October and November. While it is doubtful that majority support could be obtained in the United Nations to carry out the procedure suggested in the first operative paragraph of your resolution, the United States Government nevertheless will continue, in the United Nations and elsewhere, its efforts to bring pressure of world opinion to bear on the suppression by the Soviet regime of the political freedom to which the peoples of Lithuania and the other captive states are entitled. The Department of State is forwarding a copy of the resolution to the United States Representative to the United Nations. Additionally, it has requested the United States Representative to continue, as in the past, to utilize every possible opportunity within the organs of the United Nations to publicize the





AWARDS — Left to right, Father A. Contons, chmn. Spiritual Program, Anthony Padvaiskas, Florence Zaleskas, Jack Jatis, Edmund Rudis, Marcella Onaitis, Bishop V. Brizgys, honored guest, J. Stanaitis, Anne Schwabas, Charles Oskutis, Rita Pinkus and Joseph Sakevich, chmn. Membership Drive.

facts relevant to the continued suppression by the Soviet regime of the Lithuanian people."

From the United States Mission to the United Nations, message reads: "In the absence of Mr. Lodge, I acknowledge your letter of Aug. 25 enclosing a resolution passed by the Knights of Lithuania. The plight of the captive peoples of Eastern Europe and the Baltic States is a matter of sincere concern to Mr. Lodge who has repeatedly taken advantage of opportunities to call this situation to the attention of world opinion through the United Nations forum. I know he will be interested in reading the resolution. Meanwhile you may be sure that careful consideration will be given to the letter you have sent to the Department of State, which instructs the United States Representative to the United Nations on all matters of policy."

#### OUTSTANDING DIGNITARIES AND LAITY WHO WHOLEHEARTEDLY ARE WITH THE KNIGHTS

Most Rev. Vincent Brizgys, Auxiliary Bishop of Kaunas, Lithuania, who in his travels speaks highly of the Knights of Lithuania organization, and for the past several years, in his busy schedule, still finds time to attend our national conventions.

Also, His Excellency, Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, who stated "Very appropriately this organization has chosen the title, Knights of Lithuania, because it recalls the historic work which knights of Lithuania of old did in building up the culture of this Catholic people. Well may we in these days imitate these knights of old. Today Lithuania is in chains, but its spirit is not broken, and the love of freedom is still in the hearts of its people. These Knights of Lithuania of our times will strive and strive to bring about the realization of the hopes for the enjoyment of their native rights by the people of the country of their origin. By prayer and by activities they will be like the knights of old, intent only on bringing blessing upon the people of the country of their origin. We welcome them to Chicago and beg God to bless their convention."

Rev. Peter P. Cinikas, MIC., spiritual director of the Illinois - Indiana District, K. of L., host to the national convention, welcomed all delegates and guests and stated "We especially need the intercession of our grand patron, St. Casimir, in all of our planning and scheming for the good of our organization. Let us not forget the most powerful of all intercessors, the Blessed Virgin, the Seat of Wisdom. We need her aid in our organizational work: the more often we flee to her protection, the more often she will aid and inspire us. May God bless our efforts for the good of God and country and may we gain numerous friends for the Knights of Lithuania."

Anthony J. Rudis, industrialist and philanthropist, participated throughout the convention days. He stated "Sound Catholic leadership is more important than ever before. May the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA be aggressive and enthusiastic in the formation of their leadership 'For God and for Country'. Let us strive for the real facts of human rights and human dignity."

Hon. P. Daužvardis, Consul of Lithuania, Judge John T. Zuris, Judge Alphonse Wells, Leonard Simutis, Sr. and Ignas Sakalas, editors of DRAUGAS, Jack L. Jatis, Chief Clerk County Court, Asst. District Attorney K. J. Savickas, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Ignas Albavičius, Rev. Dr. Joseph Prunskis, Dr. Adolfus Damušis, president of the Lithuanian R. C. Federation of America.

#### MEMBERSHIP AND SPIRITUAL PROGRAM AWARDS

At the Saturday's luncheon held in the Hotel Sherman, Joseph A. Sakevich, chairman of the Membership Drive and Father Contons, chairman of the Spiritual Program, presented awards (beautifully engraved trophies) to the following: COUNCIL AWARD: 1st place — Council 41, Brooklyn, N. Y. (accepted by A. Schwabas); 2nd place — Council 17, South Boston, Mass. (John Daniels); 3rd place — Council 26, Worcester, Mass. (Rita Pinkus). INDIVIDUAL AWARDS: 1st place — Jack Jatis, Chicago; 2nd place — Joseph Stanaitis, Chicago; 3rd place — Marcella Onaitis, Pittsburgh. SPIRITUAL PROGRAM — 1st — South Boston, Mass. (17) — Florence Zaleskas; 2nd — Lawrence, Mass. (78) — Anthony Padvaiskas; and 3rd — Elizabeth, N. J. (52) — Charles Oskutis.

#### CONCERT — MARIA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

One-act musical from the life of a Lithuanian village by A. Merkelis was presented by the well known DAINAVOS ENSEMBLE of Chicago; also KANTATA TO VYTAUTAS THE GREAT (music by Prof. J. Zilevičius, K. of L'er and words by A. Jakštas) with Algird Brazis, baritone from Metropolitan Opera and member of K. of L., participating.

After the concert, a number of out-of-town delegates, guests and visitors were pleasantly surprised by the gracious invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Rudis to have a midnight buffet at their palatial residence.





**General Chairman's Birthday Party** — The great effort put forth by Jerry Jesulaitis was acknowledged in this manner. He is flanked by Eleanore Laurin (Chicago), originator of the party, Valerie Zitkus (Cleveland), Margaret Papeaka (Pittsburgh), Mrs. Marcella Onaitis (Pittsburgh), Edmund Rudis, Jet pilot (Boston). Rear—Tony Yuknis (Chicago).

#### PROGRAM BOOK

The cover page of the Convention Program Book was quite unique-gotten up by our Art Director Stan Kancewick of Chicago.

#### CONVENTION HEADS

Much credit is given to John and Sophie Kaminskas, Reception Party Co-Chairmen, George Jonikas, president of the district as Publicity Chairman, Betty Tucker, Concert Chairlady, Frank Petkunas, Treasurer, Lorraine Dombrowski, Breakfast Chairlady, Irene Sankus, efficient Secretary, and Eleanore Laurin, Program Book Chairlady.

#### REGISTERED DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

**Supreme Council:** Rev. A. J. Contons (Boston), Alexander Wesey (Great Neck), Edward Daniels (Boston), Joseph Sakevich (Worcester), Marcella Onaitis (Pittsburgh), Rita Pinkus (Worcester), Walter Chinik (Pittsburgh), John Daniels (Boston), Betty Tucker (Chicago) and Konstant Savickas (Chicago).

**Honorary Members:** Rt. Rev. Msgr. Ignas Albavičius (Cicero), Jack L. Jatis (Chicago), Joseph Saduskas (Cleveland), Frank Gudelis (Dayton), Ignas Sakalas (Chicago), Leonard Simutis, Sr. (Chicago), Stasys Šimutis (Chicago), Phyllis Grendal (Boston).

**Clergy:** Rev. Julian Grinis (C-13, Chicago), Rev. Peter Cinikas (spir. dir. Ill.-Ind. District), Rev. John Zuromskis (C-17, Boston), Rev. Vaclovas Katarskis (C-96, Dayton), Rev. J. Borevičius (C-99, Chicago).

**Illinois-Indiana District:** George J. Jonikas, Helen Zimmer, Jerry Jesulaitis (A).

**New England District:** Joseph Sakaitis, Florence Zaleskas.

**Mid-Central District:** Julia Aleshunas.

**New York - New Jersey District:** Larry Janonis, Joseph M. Sable.

**California District:** Laura Yucius, Leonard Valiukas. **Philadelphia, Pa.** (3) — Mary Grebloski, Helen Shields; **Chicago, Ill.** (5) — Anna Marie Pupinik, Loretta Macekonis; **New York City** (12) — Helen Zindzius, Joe Stelmok; **Chicago, Ill.** (13) — Joseph Kuizin, Patricia Kamar, John Stegwell, Gus Paicius; **South Boston, Mass.** (17) — Winifred Skudris, Rita Shatas, Diane Shatas, Edmund Rudis, John Olevitz, Rita Waitkunas, Larry Svelnis; **Pittsburgh** (19) — Alice Beacon, Mildred Chinik, Bernard Labuskis, Ben Milewski, Alvin Onaitis, Stephen Onaitis, Margaret Papeakas, Anna Shimkus, Joseph Alelunas, Lucille Shimkus, Margie Potts, Eleanor Allen, Tom Unites; **Chicago, Ill.** (24) — Walter Cibulskis, Helen Sirvinskis; **Cleveland, Ohio** (25) — Seniors — Mary Trainauskas; **Worcester, Mass.** (26) — Ed. Vaitkunas, Claire Grigaitis, Frances Nockunas, Nellie Thompson, Rev. John C. Jutt, Joseph Sepas; **Newark, N. J.** (29) — Mary Balchunas, Daniel Laukzemis, Anthony Malakas, Vera Laukzemis, Agnes Kolvitis, Jack Stukas, Frank Vaskas; **Chicago, Ill.** (36) — Pete Zansaitis, Loretta Kassel, Tony Rasinkas, Irene Sankus, Sophia Zukas, Frank Petkunas, Eileen Dockus, Dell Tamasauskas, Al Pratt; **Brooklyn, N. Y.** (41) — Joseph Boley; **Elizabeth, N. J.** (52) — Charles Oskutis, Ann Mitchell; **Pittsburgh** (62) — Andy Rozger; **Bayonne, N. J.** (67) — Constance Mack, Joan Glemboski; **Lawrence, Mass.** (78) — Anthony F. Padvaiskas; **Gary, Indiana** (82) — Sophie Kaminski, Stanley Juknevich, Joe Purpalis, Mikalina Shirvinskis; **Harrison - Kearny, N. J.** (90) — Eleanor Jenuss, Anne Klem, Mildred Grinewich, Mary Grinewich; **Rochester, N. Y.** (93) — Richard Pauza, Virginia Pauza; **Dayton, Ohio** (96) — Charles Petkus, Mary Lucas, Eva Leasure, Ada Sinkwitz, Petronella Zelinskas; **Chicago, Ill.** (99) — Joseph Stanaitis, Frank Jurgaitis, Gordon Gudas, Anthony Rudis; **Amsterdam, N. Y.** (100) — Genevieve Gobis, Isabella Dapkus; **Great Neck, N. Y.** (109) — Josephine Rusas; **Chicago, Ill.** (112) — Barbara Lazutka, Monica Kasper, Jean Sheures, Lorraine Dombrowski, John Stoskus, Lorraine Wainauskis, Dolores Wainauskis, Anthony Yuknis, Dolores Rupslauskis, Eleanore Laurin; **Linden, N. J.** (113) — Adele Leraitis, Victor Guzewicz; **Lowell, Mass.** (115) — Agnes Dreven, Marion Paulauskas; **Chicago, Ill.** Seniors— E. Samienė, P. Zakaraitė, Ona Aleliunienė.

#### GUESTS

Bishop Vincentas Brizgys, Maria High School, Very Rev. Canon J. Paskauskas, Chicago, Rev. Adolfas Stasys, Holy Cross Parish, Chicago, Rev. Dr. Joseph Prunskis — Draugas, Chicago, Ill. Rev. A. Zakarauskas, Chaplain — St. Casimir's Sisters, MHS

Dr. Adolfas Damushis, pres. of Lith. R. C. Federation of America.

Sue Bairunas C-6, Madelyn Bansovich C-6, Casimir Chaponis C-52, John Dauginas C-36, Bernice Jonikas C-112, M. Kirtis C-6, Vyt Lubert C-112, Gloria Mack C-67, Charles Pecal Chicago Seniors, Marguerite Peters C-67, Dr. Al Račkus Chicago Seniors, Martin Rusgi C-67, Stanley Rybokas N. E. District, Bernard Saukis C-6, Mary Vezelis C-93, Regina Zarancka C-6, Lillian Zindzius C-12, Ann Salnoris C-19, Anthony Buknis C-25, Vincent Boris C-102, Antanas Kunigiskis C-25, Valerija Zitkus C-25.





**Mandate Committee** (left to right): Joseph M. Sable (Jersey City, N. J.), Mrs. Mildred Chinik (Pittsburgh, Pa.), Winifred J. Skudris (Boston, Mass.), Jack L. Jatis (Chicago, Ill.), Mrs. Rita Pinkus (Worcester, Mass.)

### YOU COULDN'T KEEP ME AWAY FROM A NATIONAL CONVENTION

... Because here is the common meeting place for those with whom I may share my love for Lithuania — the land of my ancestors. Here I find those who cherish the Lithuanian folklore, who foster the Lithuanian language, who are inspired by the Lithuanian Culture and whose spirit reflects pride in their Lithuanian heritage. Also here is where I choose to belong and here is where I want to be.

*Loretta Macekonis,*  
C-5, Chicago, Ill.

... Because it is a very excellent opportunity for a reunion with all of those whom we haven't seen in over a year and perhaps several years. The convention is for the purpose of talking over ways and means with one and all who are always working and striving to make the Knights of Lithuania organization stronger and much better. Last but not least, our conventions are getting much better each year and new ideas always cropping up, thus making it a real pleasure to take in the conclaves. The Panels, this year, were something new.

*Frank Vaskas,*  
C-29, Newark, N. J.

... Because, as a delegate, one gets to do her share in the actual business of the convention by power to vote. As a guest, one gets to personally participate at the sessions. Also, one renews old acquaintances and makes new ones. Social activities cannot be overlooked, too.

*Gene Gobis,*  
C-100, Amsterdam, N. Y.

... Užtat, kad man malonu, kad Vyčiai gyvuoja, ypatingai Rytuose. Man malonu prisiminti, kai jaunąs būvau ir mokyklas lankiau, taip pat ir Seimuose dalyvavau visuomet. Malonu buvo susitikti su Juozu Šadausku iš Cleveland'o, seną veikėją ir kolegą iš Valparaiso.

*J. Vilkišius,*  
Seniors, Chicago, Ill.

... but because I now lie in my lonely hospital bed, almost completely paralyzed, I can only lift my voice to say "Good luck, Knights of Lithuania — carry on for God and Country! In the past 7 years that I have gazed at my white ceiling, I have had an eternity of time to think of everything. Among my most beautiful thoughts are those of the mother-

land. In imagination, I see the hills and deep valleys of Lithuania covered with fir forest, verdant in spring and thickly blanketed with blue-white snow in the Winter. Sometimes I see the beautiful Baltic pounding the rocky beaches of the coast under a glorious blue sky. At other times I imagine Lithuanian peasants in colorful clothes, working in their fields under the summer sun. These visions remind me of famous paintings like the "Song of the Lark" or the immortal "Angelus." I almost hear the ancient iron bells calling to prayer from the log-church steeple. It is then I wish to get up from this bed and join with the people I love so dearly in doing the things you will do at the convention. Will some of you write and tell me how it was?

*Miss Loretta Hushka*  
Bethany Hospital  
5025 North Paulina St.  
Chicago, Ill.

### K. OF L. ARCHIVES

We have two K. of L. Archives — one located in the East (Brockton, Mass.) under the capable supervision of Very Rev. Msgr. Francis M. Juras, K. of L. honorary member and pastor of St. Francis Church, Lawrence, Mass., and the second one located in the Mid-West (K. of L. Youth Center, Chicago, Ill.). We visited the K. of L. Archives in Chicago and learned that Jack Jatis together with other members spend their spare time recording historical documents of particular value to the Knights of Lithuania organization.

### REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

Upon arriving in Chicago, though at a late hour, we found the most important committee at its post and working diligently, namely: Irene K. Sankus, Sophia Zukas, Loretta Kassel, Eileen Dockus and Dell Tamasauskas.

### REMARKS OF JOHN JESULAITIS, GENERAL CHAIRMAN, AT BANQUET

"From here, one can see contentment, the fine meal we have just had, and looking forward to the program for the balance of the evening. While I do not ordinarily suggest a negative thought, I trust your stay here, and the convention, was all that you anticipated. WE HAVE TRIED. Those seated at this table are renowned in religious, civic, and business life in Chicago, and throughout the United States. May I tell you a little about one of them? He is a graduate of two Art Schools, also Illinois Institute of Technology. His designs appear on the cover of our magazine "VYTIS". Also on the cover of the Convention Program Book. He is also active in Toastmaster - International, and in the past two years, has twice won first place in the annual State of Illinois speaking contest. Has also twice reached the finals in International competition. We wanted the best for you — a champion — as your Toastmaster tonight — our own member, Mr. Stan Kancewick."

### SENATOR DOUGLAS' SPEECH

At the convention banquet, our honored guest's speech was tape recorded under the supervision of



Stan Kancewick, and transcribed by Irene Sankus. (Appears in this issue.)

#### BUSINESS WOMAN AND BUSINESS MAN AT CONVENTION

Ann Mae Uznis, former national financial secretary of Detroit, Michigan, opened a new fashion shop, called ANN'S FASHIONS, 24626 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, Mich. The opening of the shop was August 23rd. Saturday evening, she flew to Chicago to take in the remainder of the convention. Bernard Labuskas, active member of C-19, Pittsburgh and chairman of the Convention Publicity Committee (1954), for a number of years has been managing the Labuskas & Sons Jewelry Store — 322 Churchill Rd., Turtle Creek, Pittsburg, Pa. Wish both members continued success in their respective enterprises.

#### OLD AND NEW SUPREME OFFICERS

A duly called meeting of the old officers, preceding the convention, was held Thursday evening, August 23rd, with Al Wesey, president, presiding. Following were present: Rev. Albert Contons, spiritual director, Al Wesey, president, George Jonikas, president of Illinois-Indiana district, Jack Jatis, member of Honorary Committee, Rita Pinkus, financial secretary, Joseph Sakevich, vice president, Rev. P. Cinikas, MIC., spiritual adviser of the Ill.-Ind. district, Larry Svelnis, chmn. of Ritual, John Daniels, trustee, Edward Daniels, vice president, Betty Tucker, trustee, Marcella Onaitis, secretary, John Stoskus, memb. of Public Relations, Rev. John Zuromskis, New England District Spiritual Adviser, Rev. J. Borevičius, S. J., Atty. Konnie Savickus, Vyt Lubert, co-chairman of Convention Committee and Phyllis Grendal, associate editor of VYTIS.

Sunday evening, August 26th, immediately after the close of the convention, the newly-elected officers held its first meeting with the newly-elected president, Walter R. Chinik, presiding. Present — Father Contons, Father Jutt, Walter Chinik, Edward Daniels, John Stoskus, Marcella Onaitis, John Daniels, Betty Tucker, Ed Rudis, Larry Svelnis, Stephen Onaitis, Joseph Sakaitis, Al Wesey, Frank Vaskas, Anthony Yuknis and George Jonikas. On the agenda — Dues, Juniors, Membership, Ritual, VYTIS Fund, Manual, and Lithuanian Affairs. Next Supreme Board meets October 13th at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel, Boston, Mass. Regularly, there will be published news and views by your officers. Watch for them in the "Oficialus Skyrius."

#### CONVENTION PRESIDIUUM

Walter Chinik (Pittsburgh) chairman, Leonard Valiukas (Los Angeles) and Al Onaitis (Pittsburgh) vice chairmen, Laura Yucius (Los Angeles) and Diana Shatas (Boston) secretaries. Sergeants-at-Arms — Walter Cibulskis (Chicago) and Joe Kurpalis (Gary, Indiana).

#### MINIATURE CONVENTION

After the convention in Chicago, some delegates detoured to Detroit, Michigan (instead of going home) and a post-miniature convention was held at the residence of Robert Boris (Dearborn), former

national vice president. The Mid-Central and New England districts were represented, including Julie Aleshunas, president of Mid-Central dist., Father John Zuromskis, spiritual adviser of New England dist. and Father Albert J. Contons, national spiritual director. Hosts: Mr. and Mrs. Boris, parents of Robert Boris.

#### ŠIRDINGAI AČIŪ

The Convention Committee, as a whole, was quite cooperative with the Editorial Staff. Particular thanks go to Irene Sankus (Secretary), Anthony Yuknis (Public Relations), Stan Kancewick (Art Director), Jerry Jesulaitis (General Chairman), George Jonikas (Pres. of District), John Stoskus (VEEP), and Frank Jurgaitis and John Dauginas (Official Photographers).

### VYTIES FONDAS

#### NAUJI GARBĖS PRENUMERATORIAI:

- \$ 100.00 Rev. Francis Virmauskis, So. Boston, Mass.
- 26.00 Council 116, Worcester, Mass.
- 20.00 Rev. Vladas Karalevičius, Elizabeth, N. J.
- 15.00 Rev. Anatolijus Stanevičius, Chicago, Ill. Councils 24-99, Chicago, Ill.
- 10.00 Phyllis Grendal, So. Boston, Mass.
  - A. Kunigiskis, Cleveland, Ohio
  - Rev. Paul Sabulis, Hartford, Conn.
  - Rev. Francis Juskaitis, Cambridge, Mass.
  - John Spranaitis, Paterson, N. J.
  - Anthony J. Rudis, Chicago, Ill.
  - Msgr. Ignatius Kelmelis, Newark, N. J.
  - Antanas Buknis, Cleveland, Ohio
- 5.00 Mary Trainy, Cleveland, Ohio
  - Benediktas Karklius, Euclid, Ohio
  - Rev. Peter Shakalys, Lowell, Mass.
  - Anne Karitis, New Haven, Conn.

#### DOVANA "VYTIES" FONDUI

Mr. John Daniels, Treas.  
149 West Eighth St.,  
So. Boston 27, Mass.

Gerbiamas p. Daniels:

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

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Adresas .....

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

#### ATSIUSTA PAMINĖTI

Antanas Baranauskas, THE FOREST OF ANYKŠČIAI. English translation by Nadas Rastenis. With original Lithuanian text. Edited by Juozas Tininis. Lithuanian Days, 9204 S. Broadway, Los Angeles 3, Calif. Woodcuts by J. Kuzminskis. Photo Cover by Vytautas Maželis. 1956. 44 pp. \$2.00

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## VYČIŲ SENDRAUGIŲ SKYRIUS

Redaguoja **IGNAS SAKALAS**

**Kad visiems būtų gražu.** Vyčių sendraugių kuopai tikrai yra garbė turėti nemaža narių, kurie neatsisako nuo betkokio darbo ar tai būtų salėje ar sodelyje. Pav. remontuojant namą sodelyje buvo susidare nemažai laužo, kurio dalį reikėjo išmesti, o dalį sutvarkyti, kaip medžiagą kitokiam prie namo reikalui. Tą darbą atliko P. Čižauskas, N. Karlavičius, A. Petrulis, A. Balukas ir J. Kerulis. Be to, N. Karlavičius ir P. Cibulskis padėjo dažytojui V. Lubertui išdažyti salę ir Ramovę. Visi dirbo nemokamai. Dirbo, kad ne tik vyčiams, bet ir visiems, kurie salę nuomoja ir į Ramovę užėina būtų gražu ir jauku.

**Sidabrinė sukaktis.** Dr. P. Atkočiūnas, turis dantų taisymo kabinetus Bridgeport ir Cicero kolonijose, švenčia sidabrinį vedybinio gyvenimo sukaktį. Vedęs Oną Navakaitę iš Mahanoy City, Pa., išaugino ir į mokslus leidžia dukrą. Sukaktuvininkas yra žymus rėmėjas lietuviškųjų reikalų. Studentaudamas ir pats daug veikė lietuvių organizacijose, ypatingai Amer. Liet. R. K. Federacijoj.

**Du džiaugsmi.** Elena Širvinskienė, žinoma Brighton Park ir sendraugių veikėja, pergyveno du džiaugsmus: jos vienintelė duktė, istojusi į šv. Pranciškaus seserų kongregaciją, po penketos metų buvo parvykus trumpo poilsio, o už kelių savaičių jos sūnus Albertas sukūrė naują šeimą su Clara Gramazek.

**Atsisveikino ilgesniam laikui.** Alfonsas Petrulis, A. ir K. Petrulių sūnus, atliekęs karinę prievolę, prieš išvykstant su savo daliniu į Europą, buvo atleistas porai savaičių atostogų.

Šia proga reikia pažymėti, kad Antanas ir Kazimiera Petruliai yra ne tik pavyzdingi sendraugiai, bet ir nepaprastai daug pasiaukoją vyčių namui. Pav. prieš vyčių seimą K. Petrulienė nuplovė ir nužvilgino vyčių Ramovės stalą (barą), kuris iš tikrųjų labai gražiai atrodė ir ne vienas atvykusių atstovų bei sve-

čių tuo pasigrožėjo. A. Petrulis tuo Už savo patarnavimus Petruliai niepačiu metu atliko kitokius darbus. kad nereikalauja jokio atlyginimo.

**Petras ir Stasė Cibulskiai,** gyveną Aušros Vartų parapijoj, rugsėjo 8 d. atšventė 35 metų vedybinio gyvenimo sukaktį. Sukaktuvininkai yra išauginę skaitlingą šeimą. Vienas sūnų kunigas marijonas, kiti sukūrę šeimas, o dar kiti mokosi augsiosiose mokyklose. Sukaktuvininkas Petras yra vienas seniausių West Side gyventojų, Aušros Vartų parapijos ir įvairių draugijų, jų tarpe ir Vyčių 24 kuopos, steigėjas ir nenuilstantis veikėjas. Šiuo metu jis su žmona priklauso sendraugiams, o nevedę vaikai — jaunių vyčių kuopai.

Sendraugių kuopai yra labai miela pasveikinti Petrą ir Stasę ir palinkėti geros sveikatos gražiam jų gyvenime.

**Jauniai ir sendraugiai sutaria.** Kiekviename Illinois - Indiana apskrities parengime prie įvairių darbų puikiai sutaria vyčiai jauniai ir sendraugiai. Gražus pavyzdys buvo seiminis susipažinimo vakaras, kuriame dalyvavo veik visi suvažiavę seiman atstovai ir atstovės. Vyčių salė muzikos garsuose užė kaip bičių avilys. Daug turėjo darbo seimo šeiminkai, o Ramovėje dar daugiau kviestieji padėjėjai jauniai Cibulskis, Stanaitis, o iš sendraugių A. Petrulis ir Karlavičius. Pastarasis yra turėjęs nuosavą likerijų krautuvę ir užėigą, taigi jo patarnavimas ypatingai buvo greitas ir kiekvieną patenkinantis.

**Sustiprino ryšius.** Per buvusį vyčių seimą Chicagoj, sendraugiai Cleveland, O., vyčių atstovai J. Sadauskas ir A. Buknis ne tik pasimatė su savo senais bičiuliais (J. Sadauskas susitiko su vaist. K. Jonaičiu, J. Vilkišium su kuriais kartu mokėsi Valparaiso universitete), veteranais organizacijos veikėjais, bet kartu sustiprino Chicagos ir Clevelando vyčių sendraugių ryšius. Posėdžių pertraukose ir laisvalaikiu pasitarta apie glaudesni ben-



ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT — Judge J. Zuris of Chicago, Ill. presents trophies to Stan Tranas (center) and Al Pady, both of Chicago.

dradarbiavimą, apie vienu kitiems talkininkavimą lietuviškame veikime ir t.t. Linkėkime, kad šie pasitarimai parodytų ir gražių vaisių.

**Pasveiko.** Matas Zizas, plačiai Chicagoj žinomas namų statybininkas, prieš keletą mėnesių kelyje netoli savo ūkio Michigan valstybėje turėjęs automobilio nelaimę, nors nebuvo sužeistas, bet buvo baimės, kad dėl sutrenkimo iki netekimo sąmonės nesusidarytų sveikatai pavojingos komplikacijos, jau pasveiko ir vėl vadovauja savo statybos pramonei.

**Baigė redaguoti.** E. Samienė ir O. Aleliunienė jau baigė suredaguoti medžiagą kan. F. Kemėšio minėjimo, kuri sendraugių kuopa buvo suruošus šių metų gegužės mėnesį. Toji medžiaga bus idėta į "Vyčių", kuriam ta proga paremti per minėjimo akademiją buvo suaukota \$135. Chicagos vyčiai sendraugiai bus atlikę savo duoklę "Vyčiui" paremti.