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GYVENIMAS BE LAISVĖS MERDI

Alfa Sušinskas

VASARIO 16 PROGA

LAISVĖ — GYVENIMO PAGRINDAS

Kai žmogaus gyvenimas yra suvaržytas, supančiotas ir be laisvės, tada žmogus nebegali pilnai pasireikšti didžiosiomis savo dvasios galiomis. Laisvė žmogaus dvasiai yra tiek pat reikalinga, kiek maistas jo kūnui. Net daugiau!

Laisvę mes suprantame ne laisvę ardyti, griauti ir naikinti, bet statyti ir kurti. Tikrojoje laisvėje gali ir turi pasireikšti tik gerosios žmogaus galios; tikroji laisvė blogąsias žmogaus galias varžo, nes ji neleidžia griauti, naikinti, pavergti. Jei tikroji laisvė leistų blogajai žmogaus valiai pasireikšti, ji pati tada žūtų, ir jos vietą užimtų vergija.

Tikroji laisvė yra visokios gerovės pagrindas.

PAVERGTOS TAUTOS SKURSTA

Turėdamos tikrąją laisvę, tautos kyla ir visokeriopai stiprėja, gi laisvės netekusios ir vergijoje atsidurusios — skursta. O vergija čia gali būti įvairi: svetimos valstybės atnešta, savų diktatorių uždėta ir kitokia.

Paimkime, pavyzdžiui, vokiečių tautą. Visa jos kultūra ir betkokia gerovė gražiausiai kūrėsi tik jos laisvės laikais. Prie diktatoriaus Hitlerio vokiečių tauta mažiausia sukūrė kultūrinių vertybių ir įvairiais atžvilgiais skurdo. Hitlerio diktatūra sukaustė ir kitas jo buvu-

sias pavergtas tautas ir jas nugramzdino į visokią skurdą ir vargą. O ką bekalbėti apie komunistinę diktatūrą: ji visur sugriovė visokią gerovę, nes ji visuose pavergtuose kraštuose panaikino visokią laisvę. Šito jau visai nebereikia įrodinėti: kiekvienas sveiko proto ir nesugedusios širdies žmogus tai žino ir mato...

Kaip gražiai klesti gyvenimas tikrosios laisvės tautose! Pažiūrėkime kad ir į mažas laisvasias valstybes: Šveicariją, Daniją, Olandiją ir daugelį kitų. Žinoma, Jungtinės Amerikos Valstybės gyvenimo gerove pirmauja pasaulyje. Ir nevien dėl to, kad jų nenuniokojo abu paskutiniai didieji karai, bet ypač dėl to, kad žmogus čia naudojasi tikrąja asmens laisve!..

NAIKINAMOJI LIETUVA SIEKIA LAISVĖS

1918 metais vasario mėn. 16 dieną išmaningi lietuvių vyrai paskelbė savo kraštui ir pasauliui atstatytą Lietuvos nepriklausomybę. Ši diena pasidarė Lietuvos atsistatymo simboliu. Nuo šios dienos prasidėjo Lietuvos gerovės kilimas. Per savo laisvės gyvenimo metus Lietuva milžinišku šuoliu pašoko visokeriopo atgimimo pusėn. Nė viena kita tauta, buvusi ilgą laiką pavergta, nepakilo tiek daug augštin per toki trumpą savo nepriklausomybės metą, kiek Lietuva. Jei mūsų senelių seneliai būtų atsikėlę iš kapų, sakykim, 1938 metais, jie nebebūtų galė-

ję atpažinti Lietuvos: ji jau nebebuvo senoji vergijos Lietuva, bet naujoji, nuostabiai sužydėjusi savos kultūros ir civilizacijos žiedais.

Ir visai suprantama: išsikovotoji ir atgautoji tautinė laisvė buvo gailingasis šaltinis, gaivinęs Lietuvos kilimą visose srityse.

Atgautoji valstybinė laisvė buvo naujojo Lietuvos gyvenimo gyvybė. Tokios pilnos savarankiško gyvenimo laisvės Lietuva dar nebuvo turėjusi savo istorijoje.

Tačiau 1940 metų birželio mėn. 15 dieną komunistinė okupacija nukerta Lietuvos gyvenimo laisvę, Lietuvą absoliučiai pavergdama. Dabar Lietuvą sukausto svetima kariuomenė ir svetima, tironiška politika. Prasideda lietuviškojo kraujo naikinimas ir lietuviškojo gyvenimo griovimas. Lietuvio širdžiai pradeda brukti visa, kas jai nuo amžių yra svetima ir net mirtinga.

Po vienerių metų komunistinį pavergėją trejus metus pakeičia naciškasis pavergėjas.

Žmogžudiškieji okupantai siekė ir tebesiekia lietuvių ir visos Lietuvos žuvimo. Lietuva yra nukryžiuota. Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės Diena yra pasidariusi tautinės kančios Didžiuoju Penktadieniu: praeities džiaugsmu, dabarties skausmu ir ateities viltimi.

Tačiau šis Lietuvos laisvės Didysis Penktadienis pasibaigs Lietuvos laisvės Prisikėlimu.

ON THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET

JOHN V. CHERVOKAS, member of Council 27, Norwood, Mass., presently studying at Fordham University, is Contest Winner — "This Happened To Me."



When one thinks of confusion in its most chaotic state, one always pictures the Bronx at noon. Well, maybe everyone doesn't picture the Bronx at noon, but I do. The New York borough is a mad site at anytime, but when the working class is moving en masse to the local hamburger haven, the Bronx is bedlam personified. It was in the midst of this human traffic jam that I found myself on one unusually hot June day.

While standing on the corner, not surveying the neighborhood femininity but waiting for a downtown bus, I felt a certain tug at my coat tail. Coat tail tugs are not unusual in a noon time press, but this particular tug was quite vigorous. Turning around in my allotted space in the waiting line, I noticed a small besmudged street urchin wearing a beguiling toothless grin. The dungaree clad tot wiped the sweat from his dirty forehead and whimpered, "Mister, will you please cross me?"

Mothers of America, I am not an individual loath to "crossing" your beloved children. I still remember my kind acts of charity performed during the Boy Scout days. However, when the temperature is flitting about in the eighties, and a long-awaited bus is in sight, I think twice about becoming the modern epitome of living chivalry. I was just about to ponder upon the feasibility of the "crossing caper" when the wee lad abruptly grabbed my arm and began to drag me across the road as if I were the supplicant.

Washington in his Delaware - traversing row-boat knew no such peril as crossing a Bronx boulevard with child in hand at high noon. Taxis, trucks, icecream wagons, and pale stockboys pushing racks of suits have no regard for ambulatory humanity. It takes superhuman courage to scoff at these dangers and to lead a helpless child to safety. But, on that fateful day, I found myself overflowing with superhuman courage.

Somehow I accomplished my mission of kindness and left the lad safely on the curb. Once again I wound my way between bumpers and screeching wheels to the spot where my bus was standing. Walking across one of these frantic thoroughfares is perilous enough but running is close to saintliness. Puffing and wheezing I reached the bus just as the doors were shutting. Just at that moment I felt a familiar tug at my wrinkled coat tail. There was the wide-eyed youngster whinnying, "Gee whiz, Mister, I forgot to thank you."

A SUGGESTION

During the recent national convention at Chicago, the writer attended a discussion panel arranged for financial secretaries and treasurers. During this session, advice was given to the participants that a member who is delinquent in his dues for six months should be signed up as a new member. The writer expressed disagreement with this stand, and now wishes to re-emphasize this point so that it gets wider coverage.

In our Dayton council, if a member is six months or a year or more behind, we make every effort to collect his back dues instead of signing him up anew, and in most cases we are successful. This results in additional revenue for the Supreme Council, which is sorely needed. If all councils followed this practice, a tidy sum could be realized to help reduce the present operating deficit.

We therefore sincerely recommend that the overly-technical attitude in this matter be discarded, and a more positive approach taken by all our councils.

FRANK GUDELIS

WHY MAKE A RETREAT?

Rev. Albert J. Contons



A retreat is one of the most refreshing and relaxing experiences which a busy man or woman can have. All retreat houses are well-kept and adequately furnished to meet the needs of the retreatants. Chapel exercises are well spaced and brief so that there is no fatigue from too frequent prayer or conferences. Food is wholesome and plentiful. Beds are comfortable to insure the rest necessary for proper concentration during the retreat exercises. Retreat directors seem to be naturally endowed with a jolly disposition. For many persons it is their first retreat. The director therefore is anxious to make them feel at ease and help them to blend into the retreat program.

Most Catholics like to make a retreat because it restores them to a proper outlook on life. The soldier on the battlefield often does not know how the battle is going because he is too close to the scene of action and cannot see the entire battle. On the gridiron the lineman does not always see the defects and mistakes in play and strategy. But the commander who withdraws to a vantage point where he can observe the entire battle and receive reports from all fronts is in a better position to analyze the battle and receive reports from all fronts is in a better position to analyze the battle. The coach who studies the plays from the sidelines or watches movies of the game will be better equipped for his strategy in the next game.

In the day to day living of the Catholic it is easy to lose sight of the chief purpose of life. Being absorbed

in the pressing problems of work, the endless cares of home, and the attractive distractions of leisure hours, it is easy to lose sight of the value of the soul and to leave less and less time for growth in Catholic living. Confession is postponed for several months, Masses are attended tardily or even missed, spiritual shortcuts are looked for, and the edge of conscience in moral matters is dulled.

To get life back into correct focus, the Catholic should withdraw, retreat from his workaday life to the recollection and spiritual atmosphere of the retreat house. Here he reflects about God, his soul, his purpose in life, and makes concrete applications to his own living. He begins the morning with the Sacrifice of the Mass and ends the day with Benediction or night prayers. He listens to four or five religious talks and makes visits to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He makes a good Confession and has an opportunity of discussing his own personal problems with a priest who has had experience with thousands of retreatants like himself. He gains new ideas about his religious life and deepens his spiritual convictions. He meets new friends and receives inspiration from the good example of so many sincere Catholics who take out from a busy life to take an annual inventory of their soul stock.

Lent is a most appropriate time for every young man and woman in the Knights of Lithuania to make a retreat. Only after personally making a retreat can one fully appreciate the rich blessings which come to the life of the retreatant.

PLAN YOUR 1957 VACATION NOW!

**Spend Your 1957 Vacation at the Pacific Ocean and attend the
Knights of Lithuania National Convention in Los Angeles,
California!**

CONVENTION DATE:

August 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1957

CONVENTION PLACE:

**The STATLER Hotel
Los Angeles, California**

TĒVELIUI LAIŠKAS

PRANAS LEMBERTAS

Brangus tēveli sengalvēli,
Nepamanyk, kad pamiršau
Aš miela mūsu tēviškēlē
Taip brangia man ir tau.

Kur tavo rankomis sodintas
Ten žydi vaisių medžiu sodas,
Kur tavo rankomis statyta
Pirkia ir kitos ūkio trobos,

Prie pat Lukašiaus upeliuko,
Tarp gluosnių, liepų ir kaštanų,
Prie kelio tarp Lukšių ir Kriūku,
Kur skleidėsi jaunystė mano.

Menu sekmadieniais gegužės,
Kuomet su puokštėmis gėlių,
Mamyčių rankdarbių drabužiais
Mergaitės mūsų upeliu,

Skubėjo Ilguvos bažnyčion,
Kur už varstų keturių,
Kaip mūsų protėvių žinyčia
Stūksojo tarp žalių klevu,

Ant aukšto kranto Nemunėlio,
Kur glaudžiasi prie jo Nyka,
Kurios pašlaites puošė gėlės
Kaip niekur, niekad, niekada.

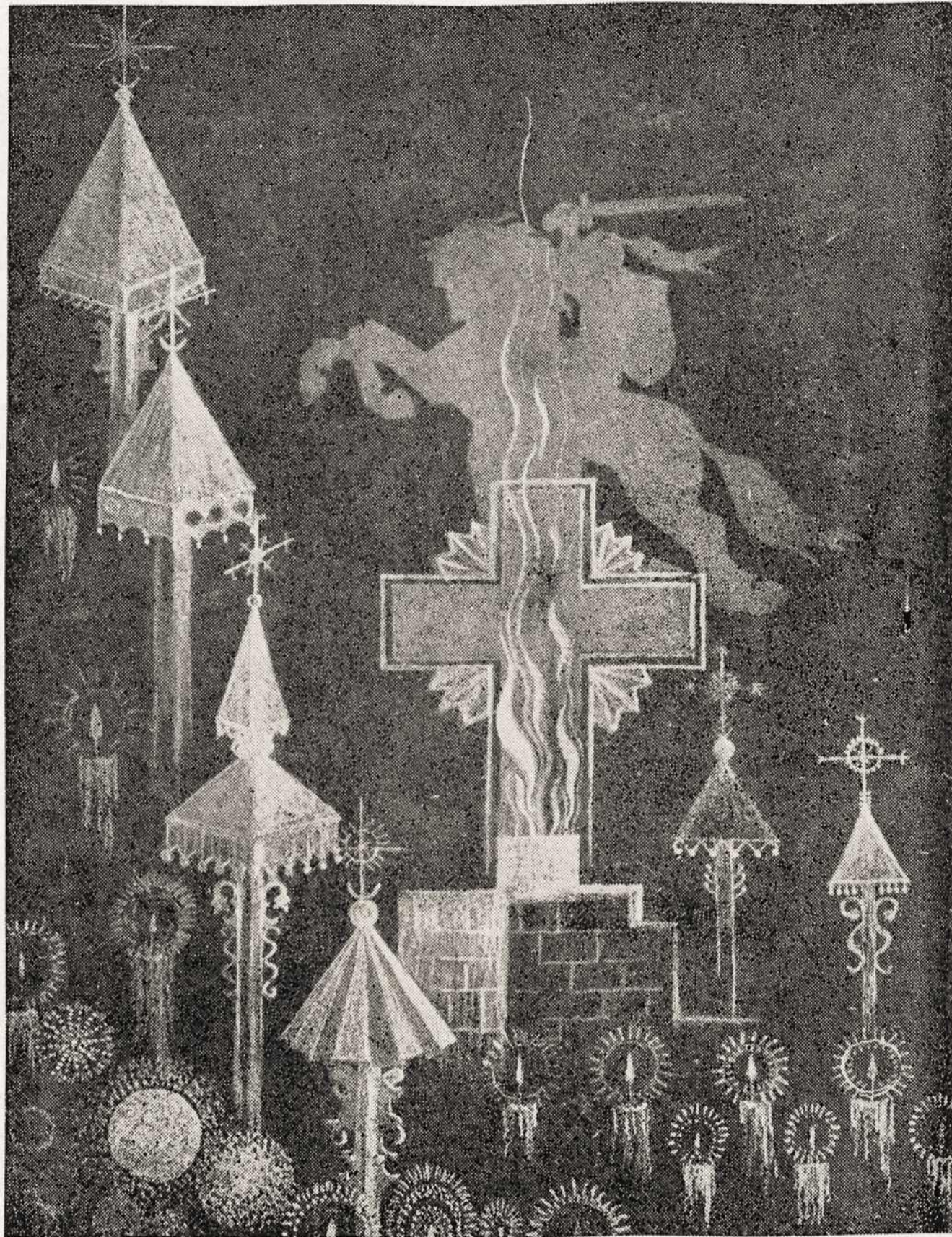
Menu, tēveli, man kartojai
Sūnau, pažvelki kaip gražu,
Aš ne poetas, aš artojas,
Dainų supinti nedristu.

Bet kad galėčiau tai išreikšti
Ką širdyje savoj jaučiu,
Sukraučiau aš dainužių kraitį
Keliaudams žydinčiu lauku...

Dabar, tēveli, tu toli
Už jūrų marių — už kalnų,
Nors gimtoje tėvų šaly,
Bet... jau šaltam kape guli...

O kaip man gaila tų dienų,
Brangus tēveli mano,
Kaip gulbės miršančios dainų
Atskrendančių iš marių.

Tai buvo visa lyg sapne,
Kaip lankoje žieduotoj,
Dabar žaizda tik širdyje
Gili neišmatuota.



Ir laikas slenka kaip lava
Išėlusio vulkano,
O tēviškėlė mylima
Užlieta vargo tvano...

Gi broliai seserys mani
Po visą žemę išsivaikštė,
Kraujais, ne ašaromis, verkdami,
Be tēviškės — našlaičiai...

Svetima padangė, svetima ir žemė
Svetima pastogė ir širdis ne ta,
Nepakeis, tēveli, tēviškėlę brangią
Nors jinai už marių — priešų
pavergta...
Slenka švino dienos, kur bepasidėsi,

Tremtinio dalužė greit nepalengvės,
Rodos kartais imtum širdį ir
išplėstum
Lai karštasis kraujas žemėn išsilies!..

Svetima padangė, svetima ir žemė,
Svetima pastogė ir širdis ne ta
Nepakeis, tēveli, tēviškėlę brangią
Ji svajų svajonė—kankinė,—šventa!

Tad sudiev tēveli, mielas žilgalveli—
Lauksiu tavo laiško mielo ir
brangaus,
Ji tu parašyki man ant debesėlio
Ten berybiuos aukščiuos mėlyno
dangaus.

LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY

JACK STUKAS



On February 16, we commemorate the 39th anniversary of the declaration of Lithuanian independence, and the 704th anniversary of the establishment of the Lithuanian state. Prior to the tragic occupation by the Soviets in 1940, all true friends of Lithuania exalted in her triumphs and looked forward confidently to her future. We may well be proud of her record during the twenty-two years of the country's independence. In this period, the political, economic, and cultural life of the Lithuanians advanced rapidly; the standard of living of the people steadily increased and favorable recognition was won from all nations.

Lithuania is one of the small nations unjustly deprived by force, of arms, of its life and independence. On this account, these days are days of sadness and serious reflection for the Lithuanian people at home and in every part of the world. Shattered, humiliated, suffering Lithuania bemoans her lost independence. The many Lithuanians in exile, who have availed themselves of the hospitality of other nations, have good reason to keep their heads high, for their country — tortured and desecrated — is still alive and resistant. The spirit of the Lithuanian people will survive to the bitter end and will resist its tyrannical and godless oppressor until freedom is achieved. Catholic Lithuania will never become a Soviet vassal!

Lithuania is proof that a nation's strength is not necessarily in her size geographically or in her wealth. Her greatest might is the iron souls of her people, who refuse to surrender their souls to an aggressor or to compromise with evil. The Soviets may conquer the land, take the possessions of her people, but never their souls. Even those who are not of our ancestry are proud in witnessing the

dauntless spirit and more than human courage of our little nation.

You may pacify Lithuania on the surface; you may make it a solitude, and call it peace; you may burn towns, you may exterminate or deport populations; but the volcano — the undying spirit of freedom — will always be there! The people in Lithuania and their kith and kin in America and other parts of the world, are against Russian domination and are determined to fight for the restitution of independence at all cost. Soviet Russia is a symbol of aggression and tyranny to Lithuania and her sister republics, Estonia and Latvia, who were also forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union. It has been impossible for Soviet Russia to cover up the ruthless sovietization of the small states, the thousands of executions and deportations to the remote arctic regions of Russia.

The hope of the Lithuanian people for the future of Lithuania depends upon the United Nations — their honesty and sincerity in facing the critical issue of restoring sovereign rights and self-government to those nations, large or small, who have been forcibly deprived of them. Any peace which does not restore the indisputable rights of the Lithuanian people and other small nations to govern themselves, will not be a just peace. One nation's will to live must never be tantamount to a death sentence from another.

On this — the 39th anniversary of Lithuanian Independence — Americans of Lithuanian descent — who helped so much in the rebuilding of independent Lithuania, must and will resolve again, that crucified Lithuania be restored to peace, freedom, and prosperity!

Kas bus, kas nebus, bet lietuvis nepražus!

feminine

fair

Mergaičių Pasaulis

Redaguoja Veronika Kulbokienė

LIETUVĖ PARTIZANĖ KOVOJE
UŽ LIETUVOS LAISVĘ

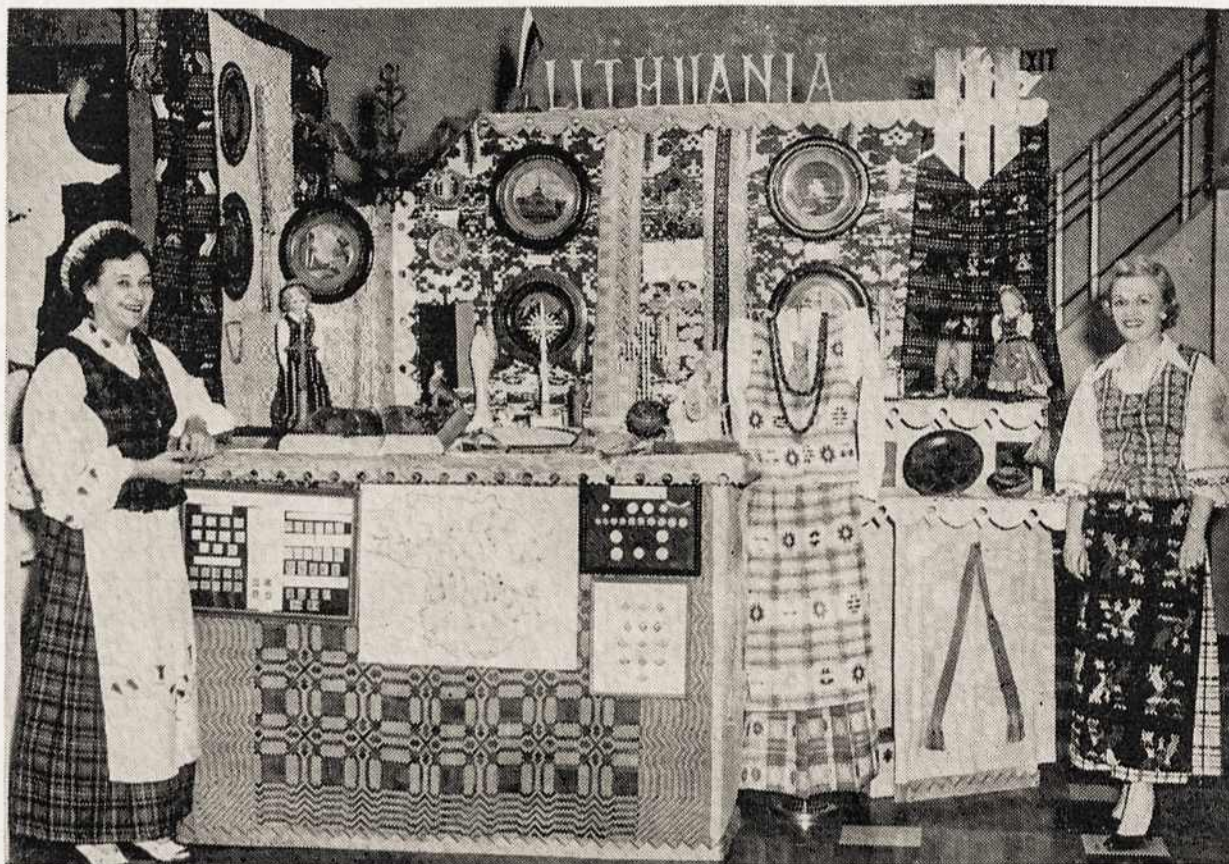
Sese, pink vainiką žalią,
Atnešk paslapčia,
Broli, juodą medžio kryžių
Pastatyk nakčia...

Partizanų daina

Žiauriojo okupanto niokojamoje Lietuvoje vyksta nuolatinė kova už žmogaus pagrindines teises ir teisingumą, už tikrąją demokratiją, už tautos laisvę ir valstybinį nepriklausomumą. Toje žūtbūtinėje kovoje šalia vyrų drąsiai kovoja ir moterys arba talkindamos vyrams, arba kartais net juos pavaduodamos.

Štai 1945 m. gegužės mėn., pietinėje Lietuvos dalyje, Kalniškių miškelyje, kur apie 80 lietuvių partizanų, kelias valandas trukusioje kovoje sunaikino per 400 enkavedistų, kovos dalyvėmis buvo taip pat moterys. Šio partizanų burio vado žmona, buvusi mokytoja, per visas kautynes drąsiai kovėsi pavaduodama net kovose kritusius kulkosvaidininkus. Ji neišleido iš rankų kulkosvaidžio net tada, kai per abidvi kojas buvo sunkiai sužeista. Šalia jos lygiai drąsiai kovėsi partizanė Pušėlė (slapyvardė), iki ji buvo kovoje prieš nukauta.

Moterys talkina partizanams dažnai savo tiesioginėse pareigose. Vienas iš tokių atsitikimų buvo, kai kovose sužeistas partizanas, fiktyviais dokumentais buvo paguldytas Kauno ligoninėje. Po kiek laiko enkavedistų buvo pastebėtas ir įtartas sužeistas esąs partizanas. Tai sužinojusi gailėstingoji sesuo Nastė, kuriai buvo pavesta sužeistą globa, pasiryžo jį gelbėti. Susitarusi su pažįstamu ūkininku, kuris parūpino vežimą, nakčia išvogė ligonį ir pargabeno į savo tėviškę. Prieš išvyk-



Julia Aleshunas, kairėje; Ruth Grebliunas, dešinėje.

Pittsburgh'o vytės suorganizavo lietuviškų išdirbinių parodą.

dama, apsirūpino reikiamais dokumentais, mediciniška medžiaga bei irankiais, pasirūpusi eiti gailėstingos sesers pareigas miškuose, partizanų tarpe. Nastė žinojo, kad, už tokį darbą, jai grėsia mirtis arba 10 metų Koncentracijos stovyklos. Ji to nepabugo ir savo pasiryžimą įvykdė sėkmingai. Po dviejų savaičių, sužeistasis stropiai Nastės slaugomas pasitaisė, sustiprėjo ir turėjo būti perduotas jo būrio partizanų vadovybei. Su jais susitarusi, vyko Nastė, lydima kelių vyrų, pargabenti į paskyrimo vietą, savo globjamą. Bevažiuojančius, nakčia, juos užpuolė enkavedistai. Per kautynes žuvo Nastė ir vienas palydovų. Šioje kovoje, Nastė pasirodė lygiai puiki kovotoja ginklu kaip ir prieš tai mediciniška pagalba ir savo sumanumu. Negalėdama trauktis, ji narsiai gynėsi vietoje, sužeis-

dama rusų kulkosvaidininką, kuris bandė savo kulkosvaidžiu užtvirti liet. partizanams pasitraukimo kelią. Tuo būdu ji sava gyvybe išgelbėjo keletą lietuvių partizanų gyvybių.

Kovose žuvusių ar nukankintų partizanų lavonus enkavedistai žiauriausiai išniekina: nukapoja kūno galūnes, išrauna liežuvius, išbado akis, odoje išpiausto Gedimino stulpus, vyties kryžius, lavonus pakabina už kojų miškuose prie medžių arba per gerklę prismeigia jo paties durtuvu prie kankinimų vietoje stovinčios pušies. Kartais išniekintus partizanų lavonus surinkę numeta miesteliuose turgaus aikštėje. Nežiūrint, kad tokiais atvejais enkavedistų yra sekama, kas lankys ir prisipažins prie lavonų, nakčia, sesės papuošia jų kūnus gėlėmis ir vainikais.

D—K



Pittsburgh'o vytės gamina lietuviškus valgius, — iš kairės į dešinę, — Margie Potts, p-nia Količius ir Antoinette Naujelis.

ARE THE CATHOLIC YOUTH ACTIVITIES WITHIN OUR PARISHES SUFFICIENT?

Talk given at a Youth Session sponsored by the American Lithuanian Catholic Federation of America during its Golden Jubilee Convention held at Hotel Sheraton Plaza, Boston, Mass. Delivery made by Mary T. Klimkaitis, member of Council 116, Worcester, Mass.

Shortly after Labor Day, on a Sunday, I came home from church and was met at the door by a very excited Mother. She handed me a Special Delivery letter, half covered with stamps and anxiously awaited my reading it. Of course, she expected to hear bad news. When I told her it was an invitation to speak at a Youth Session of the American Lithuanian Catholic Federation of America Convention, she was relieved, but then I became excited.

So, here I am with shaking knees to deliver my first talk. My subject is "Are the Catholic Youth Activities Within Our Parishes Sufficient?" It would be impossible for me to give a direct answer because I am not acquainted with all parishes, only with my own, Our Lady of Vilna, and a little with our neighbor parish, St. Casimir's.

However, I shall try to give a few points on the subject which may help you to decide if the activities of the youth within your parish are sufficient.

When I put this question to some

of my friends, they all pointed out to me that certainly the number of youth organizations within an average Lithuanian parish is plenty. We have Ateitininkai, The Scouts, the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization), the Knights of Lithuania and the Sodality.

Surely, no one will deny that we have enough groups to take care of every age bracket of young people who are found within a parish. But, we are trying to find out if the activities of the youth are sufficient.

If each organization lived up to the purpose and principles for which it was created, the action in each group would be tremendous.

I cannot say much about the Ateitininkai because I am not one and have had very little to do with this group.

As far as the Scouts are concerned, I can just give a definition of what they are supposed to be:

An organization founded to promote good citizenship by creating in its members a spirit of civic duty and usefulness to others and by training them in handicrafts and woodcrafts and the like.

Having never been a girl scout and not yet being in a position to be a den mother, I cannot give an opinion about the activities of this group from actual experience. However, from observing the Scouts in our parish, I would conclude that their activities are sufficient.

Getting to the Knights of Lithuania, the purpose and ideals of the organization are found in its motto: "For God and Country." This leaves a very large range for activity and clearly indicates that the primary purpose of the Knights of Lithuania is **not** to provide social functions. Instead, first should be the Spiritual, Cultural and Lithuanian Affairs activities within each council.

The CYO, it seems to me, was formed to bring together Catholic youths of teenage. That is, since the teenage is that time of life when boys and girls want to socialize, the the CYO provides dances, parties, forms ball teams, etc., to give the Catholic youth a chance to take part in these functions in a Catholic atmosphere.

Having been a teenager not too, too long ago, I speak knowingly when I say that the teenage is also the confused age, in that many questions and problems come up which demand answering. The CYO should provide discussion groups and debating teams to help solve these important teenage problems.

The Sodality within the Lithuanian parishes embraces two groups: single girls and married women. Today, we are concerned with the former — the Sodality for single girls. The purpose of the Sodality is to strengthen and increase the spiritual life of an individual. The Sodality is not an organization so much as it is a way of life. Here, as in the case of the K. of L., the main concern of the group should not be cake sales, whist parties and such, but rather all efforts should be directed first toward helping the members live holier lives — using our Blessed Mother as a model.

I speak this way now, but not too long ago I was entirely unaware of the important, **the really important**, part a woman plays in this life. One statement I read, which made me really stop and think was: A nation is as good as its women. Only eight words, but so much material for thought.

What I have just said is probably not new, but it seems evident that

there is a need for reminding each youth group of the serious functions expected of it. More importance should be placed on receiving Holy Communion in a body frequently than planning a dance or a Halloween party. I do not mean to say that the social end of an organization should be eliminated — no, it should just be put in its proper place.

We are first and foremost Catholic and we should engage in activities which would reflect and further Catholicism. I heard a speaker talk about Communism at one of the Summer Schools of Catholic Action a few years back and he said that if we Catholics, who have the true ideal and the only true way of life, would have just one half the enthusiasm about Catholicism that the Communists have in spreading their doctrine of hate, the world would be ours. We have the best product in the world to sell, but unfortunately we are not aware of it, or if we are aware of it, we are too lazy to act as salesmen. Many young people believe it is up to the adults to try to change the world; it's up to them to do what they can to defeat Communism and bring peace. However, looking at the way things are going today, they are not going to accomplish this and the job will be handed to us. It will be our worry to try to squelch the enemies of democracy and the best weapon we have is the Catholic faith.

Therefore, just as the Communist youth is indoctrinated in the principles and ideals of Communism by constant and thorough drilling from early childhood, so we young Catholics should strive to learn more and more about the Catholic way of life and try to spread our beliefs to others. Through parish organizations, such as are represented here, we can do this much better than if we tried each one alone.

Yes, first and foremost we are Catholics; that makes us similar to thousands of other groups. The one factor that makes us different and sets us apart is that we are Lithuanian. For this reason, it is necessary to learn about and keep alive the Lithuanian traditions; this, too, can be accomplished more effectively if many act together.

Summing everything up, all the Lithuanian Catholic youth activities should be directed toward making

K. OF L. RITUAL DEGREES

St. Casimir's Day comes on March 4th, the anniversary of our Patron Saint. Customarily each council plans to celebrate this day by receiving Holy Communion on Sunday, 3rd of March, "In Corpore" followed by a communion breakfast. In recent years councils have taken the opportunity afforded by these gatherings to make presentations of Third Degree medals and certificates to the successful candidates.

The Ritual Rules as published in our Supreme Ritual Manual, in Lithuanian, is the authority in K. of L. Ritual Degree works.

FIRST DEGREE

All members are accepted for enrollment in the First Degree upon applying and expressing their reason for desiring to be a member of the Knights of Lithuania.

SECOND DEGREE

Nine months' membership in the First Degree qualifies one for application to receive the Second Degree.

THIRD DEGREE

Membership in the Second Degree for a minimum of two (2) years is required by every applicant to the Third Degree.

FOURTH DEGREE

Membership in the Third Degree for a minimum of three (3) years is required of each candidate for the Fourth Degree.

This year, recognition is given to persons for organizing Junior Councils and for participating on the Lithuanian Affairs Committee.

The Ritual Rules Manual for the Third Degree has been modified: Page 6, Section 1 (d) to include "Junior Council organizer" as one of the qualifications. An addition — p. 7, Section 1 (o) — "Having been a member of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee for a year and having written ten or more letters of appreciation or praise to persons or organizations who have active interest in Lithuanians and the Lithuanian cause, or letters of protest and information to persons and organizations who have expressed incorrect or unfair views about Lithuania and Lithuanians."

*Longinas L. Svelnis, Chairman
Supreme Ritual Committee*

better and stronger young Catholics and toward preserving our Lithuanian heritage. If this is being accomplished in your youth organizations, then the activities are sufficient.

Just as an additional point, we hear many complaints about the number of members within our groups being too small. Here is

something to consider. Perhaps there is too much emphasis being put on the social angle. People become bored with seeking pleasures through dances and parties. Instead they want a satisfaction that comes from accomplishment of something real and good. It is the serious activities that provide that essential satisfaction.

BRAINSTORMS – FLASH IDEAS

Ideas!

Ever found yourself in a council meeting, rattling your brain for a good solution to a tough problem? Then the light flashes! You really have an idea! But you're afraid it's too wild, too fantastic, too impractical. You decide other K. of L'ers would laugh and tear your idea to shreds. So you file it away and forget it.

Yes, the discarded thought may have been the germ of the solution your council was seeking.

Advertising and public relations workers who suffered through your problem many times have developed an answer — brainstorming. This means your wild ideas — added to, subtracted from or modified by someone else — may become exactly the solution to your tough problem.

Here's how brainstorming works.

Suppose a K. of L'ers plans for a membership drive, or a money raiser. Gather together about five to 30 members for a brainstorming session. Divide participants into groups of about 6. Choose a moderator for each group. Seat your people comfortably around a table. Set a time limit, begin, and just let the ideas flow. Any idea, no matter how foolish it may seem, is good.

The moderator should tell everyone that no criticism will be allowed. He must enforce this rule. Hitchhiking on ideas is encouraged. Someone else may twist and perfect a dull idea.

In any case, probably only about five per cent of the ideas will be usable. So let them come, thick and fast. Think out loud.

Have a secretary for each group, writing down all the ideas — not just the best ones.

Never discuss ideas at the conclusion of your session. Set another time to evaluate them. Explain to the group that ideas probably will occur to them long after the session's over. Appoint someone to record these thoughts also.

At another session, discuss the ideas tossed out by brainstorming. Evaluate them. Elaborate on them. Then nose out the ideas that can't fit into an overall plan. Repeat this several times and then reap the results.

Brainstorming has succeeded for widely divergent groups. Bachelor girls at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have developed ways from it to find and catch eligible men. It helped them so it can help you.

Then, too, letting your imagination run free in a group without fear of criticism or ridicule is exciting, stimulating, and fun. Try brainstorming next time your council has a problem.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The 44th National Convention of the **KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA** will convene on August 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1957 at the Statler Hotel, Los Angeles, California. Host: Council 133.

I would like to urge every council to send delegates (according to its quota) and to encourage all members to attend this historic convention to be held in the West Coast.

Here is a possible excuse for each of us to make a cross-country trip to California. More important, however, is the factor of getting as many delegates, members and guests to attend the convention. This is an excellent opportunity to let California know that there is a national Catholic Youth organization known as the Knights of Lithuania, in existence over forty years.

Walter R. Chinik,
National President



Senator Thomas H. Kuchel (R.—Calif.), right, and his wife Betty (center) with Leonard Valiukas, President C.-133; second row l. to r.: Anthony F. Skirius, Vice President C.-133, and T. G. Visgirda.

Senator Thomas H. Kuchel (R.—Calif.), right, thanks Leonard Valiukas, President C-133, for the support that he and other California Lithuanians gave him in re-electing him for another 6-year term. Senator Thomas H. Kuchel has already promised to come to the 1957 K. of L. National Convention which will be held in Los Angeles. In addition to being the President of Council 133, Leonard Valiukas is also President of American - Lithuanian Republicans of California and Vice President of the following organizations: Lithuanian American Community of the U.S.A., Inc., Los Angeles District; Lithuanian American Council, Inc., Los Angeles chapter; Baltic States Joint Committee of Southern California.



Senator William F. Knowland (R.—Calif.), center, and his family with Leonard Valiukas, President C-133. From left to right: Leonard Valiukas, Miss Estelle Knowland, Miss Danguolė Pulkaunikas, Senator Wm. F. Knowland, Miss Sigutė Dobkevičius, Mrs. W. F. Knowland and Joseph Knowland. Senator William F. Knowland is one of the greatest friends of Lithuanian-Americans: whenever he speaks on the U. S. foreign policy, he never fails to bring up and defend the question of the liberation of Lithuania.



VAIZDAI IŠ LO VYČIŲ

A group of Los Angeles K. of L. (ing): Leonard Valiukas, President of the 1957 K. of L. National (Vice President of Council 133, lisher of LITHUANIAN DAYS Secretary; Helen Nashlenas (e mys (second from left), Spirit right — Ed Bartkus, Chairman the host to the 1957 K. of L. in the City of Los Angeles.





P. Jasiukonis

Los Angeles Council 133 Officers for 1957 with Dr. Julius J. Bielskis (center, first row), Lithuanian Consul and former National President (1919-1920) of the Knights of Lithuania. Left to right (first row): Miss Lorraine Samolis, secretary; Leonard Valiukas, President and General Chairman of the Convention Committee; Dr. Julius J. Bielskis, Lithuanian Consul; Rev. Dr. Antanas Bučmys, Spiritual Adviser; Miss Helen Nashlenas, Correspondent and Chairman of the Lith. Affairs Committee. Second row: Mrs. Helen Bartkus, financial sec'y; Anthony Skyrius, Vice President; Miss Ann Laurinaitis, treasurer; Joseph Zichwic, Vice President; Miss Žibutė Nida Balsys, Chairman of the Lith. Culture Committee; John Antanavich, Sgt.-at-Arms.

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.,
VEIKIMO

LEONARD VALIUKAS (left), General Chairman of the 1957 K. of L. National Convention Committee, discusses convention plans with DR. JULIUS J. BIELSKIS, Lithuanian Consul in Los Angeles and former National President (1919-1920) of the Knights of Lithuania. Read Dr. Julius J. Bielskis' letter on page 14.

P. Jasiukonis

ers (Council 133). Right to left (stand-
nt of Council 133 and General Chairman
onvention Committee; Anthony Skirius,
ormer Editor of VYTIS magazine, Pub-
magazine; Lorraine Samolis (fourth),
ghth), Correspondent; Rev. Dr. A. Buc-
al Adviser. First row, second from
of Spiritual Committee. Council 133 is
National Convention which will be held

P. Jasiukonis



COME TO FABULOUS LOS ANGELES!

DR. JULIUS J. BIELSKIS, *Lithuanian Consul and former National President of The Knights of Lithuania, invites you to attend the 1957 K. of L. National Convention in the City of Los Angeles, which will be held on August 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1957.*

My dear Vytės and Vyčiai:

In selecting Los Angeles, California, for the Knights of Lithuania National Convention of 1957, you have inscribed a new and important chapter in the history of the American Lithuanians. As far as it is known, no Lithuanian central organization has ever held its convention on the Pacific Coast. Therefore, please accept my sincere congratulations on your wise decision.

Your gathering here will be of much benefit to this young and rapidly growing Lithuanian community. I am of the opinion that,

considering it proportionately, our Los Angeles community is one of the richest in intellectuals. Among others here, we have distinguished authors, poets, composers, journalists, artists, lawyers, judges, professors, statesmen and military of independent Lithuania fame. Two beautiful magazines, "Lithuanian Days" and "Viltis", also interesting books are published here. We also have a large number of various type organizations.

I am certain that a visit here will also be beneficial to you. This fabulous and rapidly expanding part of this great country should provide a

diversified and unusual personal experience. With its semi-tropical climate, rich and beautiful flora, hospitable and internationally-minded people, plus its peculiarly unique historic places, institutions, and so-called Hollywood establishments should be of lasting interest.

Therefore, it will be an exceptional pleasure and privilege in welcoming you to this charming Southern California.

With cordial greetings and best wishes, I am,

Very sincerely yours,
DR. JULIUS J. BIELSKIS
Consul of Lithuania

DON'T BE LATE WORK NOW FOR '58

Dear Council Members:

Council 3, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, cordially invites the Knights of Lithuania to hold its 45th National Convention in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1958. At the same token, we appreciate your continued support in the National Convention to be held this August in Los Angeles, California and hope we will have the pleasure of meeting you in the West Coast, August 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1957.

NEW MEMBERS

Tommy Dyer, Worcester, Mass. (C-26)
Raymond Simutis, Chicago, Ill. (C-112)
Ed Urba, Chicago, Ill. (C-112)
Leonard Shemaitis, Chicago, Ill. (C-112)
Aldona Miskinis, Chicago, Ill. (C-112)

VYTIES GARBĖS PRENUMERATORIAI 1957

\$ 10.00 Rev. Antanas Sestokas, Chicago, Ill.
Martin Gaputis, So. Boston, Mass.
Jack Stukas, Hillside, N. J.
5.00 Rev. John Zuromskis, So. Boston, Mass.

TO ALL FRIENDS OF CHARLIE BASON - Basanavičius. The New York - New Jersey District of the Knights of Lithuania will sponsor a Testimonial Dinner-Dance in his honor on Saturday, May 25, 1957 at 6:30 p.m. in the Lithuanian American Political Club at 134 Schuyler Avenue, Kearny, New Jersey.

SIDABRINIS JUBILIEJUS NEKALTO PRASIDĖJIMO VIENUOLYNE

Š. m. sausio 6 d. Nekalto Prasidejimo Vienuolyne, Putname, Conn. iškilmingai buvo paminėta sukaktis 25 metų vienuolinio gyvenimo šio vienuolyno viršininkės Motinos M. Aloyzos, seselės Marijos Apolonijos ir seselės Marijos Agnietės. Šios šventės proga amžinuosius įžadus padarė: Ses. M. Bernarda, Ses. M. Jonė, Ses. M. Loreta ir Ses. M. Klementina. Iškilnėse dalyvavęs Norwich vyskupas, J. E. Bernard Flanagan suteikė palaiminimą ir pasakė turiningą pamokslą, įvertindamas seselių darbus katalikybės ir auklėjimo srityse. Šv. Mišias atnašavo Kun. Jonas Šaulys, jubiliatės, Motinos Aloyzos brolis. Iš Čikagos buvo atvykusi taip pat vienuolyno viršininkės motina. Dalyvavo daug kunigų, seserų atstovavusių įvairioms kongregacijoms, seselių giminės ir kitų svečių.

UŽUOJAUTA

A. A. Vyčių Iškūrėjo Mykolo Norkūno sesutei Petronėi Norkūnaitei - Lusas mirus, reiškiamo giliuos užuojautos giminėms ir artimiesiems.

L. Vyčių Centro Valdyba
ir "Vyties" Redakcija

THE 1957 KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA NATIONAL CONVENTION

Host: The K. of L. Council 133
Date: August 8, 9, 10 and 11, 1957
Convention Site: Statler Hotel,
930 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

REV. DR. ANTANAS BUČMYS
Spiritual Adviser

LEONARD VALIUKAS
General Chairman
906 West 34th St.
Los Angeles 7, Calif.

CO-CHAIRMEN: —

EDWARD BARTKUS
ANTHONY SKIRIUS
JOSEPH ZICHWIC

SECRETARIES:

MISS ŽIBUTĖ NIDA BALSYS
1353 Edgecliffe Drive
Los Angeles 26, Calif.

MISS HELEN NASHLENAS
238 3/4 Lake Shore Terr.
Los Angeles 26, Calif.

MISS LORRAINE SAMOLIS
3081 St. George St.
Los Angeles 27, Calif.

TREASURER: —

MISS ANN LAURINAITIS
4111 Rosewood Ave.
Los Angeles 4, Calif.

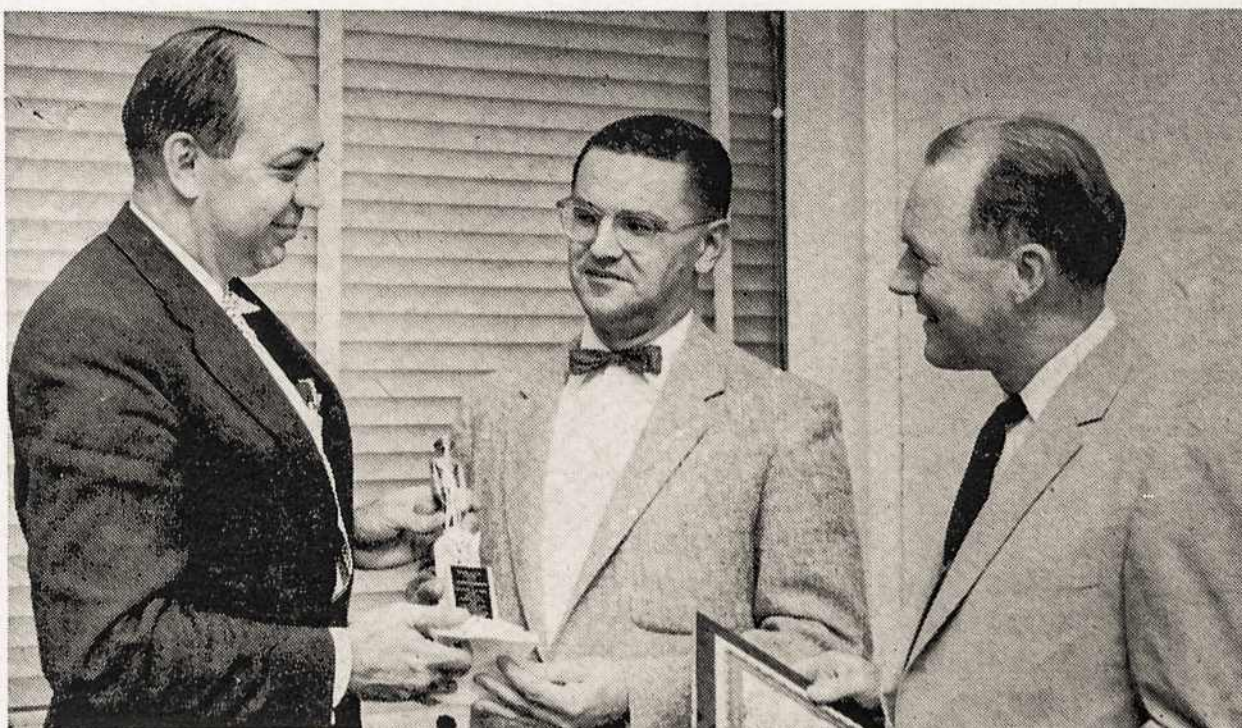
PLAN YOUR 1957 VACATIONS NOW!

**COME TO CALIFORNIA YOUR-
SELF, TAKE ALONG YOUR FAM-
ILY AND FRIENDS!**

**SPEND YOUR 1957 VACATIONS
AT THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND
AT THE SAME TIME ATTEND
THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA
NATIONAL CONVENTION IN LOS
ANGELES!**

The 1957 K. of L. National Con-
vention will be held on August 8,
9, 10 and 11 at the *Statler Hotel*
in Los Angeles, Calif.

Host Council 133



JOSEPH MATACHINSKAS, K. OF L'ER, NAMED WINNER OF SALESMAN CHARLEY TROPHY

**Joseph Matachinskas receives award from M. ToeLear (left)
representing Industry Education Comm. and Ron Olsen, manager
of Commercial Engineering at G. E.**

JOSEPH S. MATACHINSKAS, Director of Technical Training for General Electric Company's Home Heating & Cooling division, was chosen as recipient of the November "Salesman Charley" trophy signifying that month's SALESMAN AWARD. The award is made each month by an industry educational committee to men who have contributed liberally of their time and energy in the training of salesmen, servicemen and dealers in better technical and sales ability. The Award certificate and the trophy are provided by Master Plumber & Heating Contractor, and its companion publication, Heating & Plumbing Merchandiser.

Matachinskas has long been a staunch advocate of the training of service and installation mechanics as a method for upgrading the personnel in this industry. He conducts service training schools for various oil heating associations and vocational high schools, and is the author of several articles on service procedures and management; he is a frequent and welcome speaker before oil heating dealers' associations.

He came to the oil heating industry in 1938 as an installation mechanic. Since then his record reveals that he has served as a service mechanic, service dispatcher, installation manager and manager of heating departments. He has managed service departments for several General Electric distributors in Boston and New York City. He joined G. E. in its Home Heating & Cooling department in 1953 as a product service engineer. His advancement to his present spot was the next step. He has been responsible for factory and field training of franchised accounts, including application engineering, installation and service of oil fired and gas fired heating equipment and residential air conditioning.

Joe has won honors and recognition in several associations in the industry. He has been very active with service managers throughout the area. Popular, also, in civic groups, he is a member of the Reserve Officers Assn., the American Legion, Knights of Columbus, Knights of Lithuania, as well as other groups. Joining the National Guard's 26th Yankee Division in 1938, Matachinskas went into active duty in January 1941 as a private. He was discharged in December 1945 as a Captain. He saw combat service in Italy as a company commander and remained active in the U. S. Army Reserves where he presently holds rank of a Major; he recently completed a five-year Command and General Staff College course conducted by the First Army. Married to Marion Masionis, formerly of Boston (Council 17) and father of three children, Matachinskas lives in Tyler, Texas.

VYČIŲ SENDRAUGIŲ SKYRIUS

Redaguoja **IGNAS SAKALAS**

MIRGA MARGA IŠ SENDRAUGIŲ

Nuotaikingas kalėdinis pobūvis.

Gruodžio 18 d., praeitų metų, vyčių sendraugių kuopa du zuikius nušovė: susirinkimą turėjo ir smagiai vakarą praleido kalėdiniam pobūvyj, kuri šauniai suruošė komisija iš E. Samienės, O. Aleliunienės, E. Ramašauskienės, T. Norbutienės ir T. Stučinskienės.

Ši kartą susirinkimas buvo trumpas. Jame sendraugių ir Vyčių Namų direktorių pirmininkas Ign. Sakalas pranešė, kas yra namo Tarybos veikiamas ir kokie darbai numatomi padaryti greitoje ateityje. Taip pat pranešė, kad, kaip yra nutarta, sendraugių išvažiavimas įvyks rugsėjo mėnesį Bruzgulienės (Ann's Inn) sode Justice Park apylinkėje. Sodas jau išnuomotas. Vėliau bus sudaryta komisija piknikui suruošti. Be to, ateinančią vasarą Vyčių sode lyje bus suruošti keli piknikėliai.

Baigiant susirinkimą pirmininkas tarė šiltą žodį susirinkusiems nariams, linkėdamas linksmų šv. Kalėdų ir laimingai sulaukti Naujųjų Metų, o sendraugiui dvasios vadui prel. Ign. Albavičiui už jo nenutraukiamą rūpestį ne tik sendraugiais, bet ir visa L. Vyčių organizacija išteikė kuklią dovanėlę.

Prelatui baigus susirinkimą malda, tuojau prasidėjo nuotaikingas kalėdinis pobūvis. Šale eglutės, kurią parūpino ir šiaudinukų dekoracijomis papuošė E. Samienė, buvo sudėtos narių atneštos pasikeitimui dovanėlės. Prie eglutės dar stovėjo didelė lėlė lietuviškam tautiniam kostiume, kurią tam vakarui taipgi paskolino E. Samienė.

Dovanos buvo dalinamos burtų keliu, tai yra kas koki numerį iš dėžės ištraukė, tam išteikta to numerio dovana. Po pasikeitimo ir pasidžiaugimo dovanomis, padaryta lioterija dovanų, kurias aukojo V. Jodelis, E. Ramašauskienė ir T. Norbutienė. Laimingieji buvo K. Petrulienė, E. Širvinskienė ir M. Juškienė.

Po to buvo užkandis, kurio metu pasikalbėta apie Kūčių papročius Lietuvoj.

Pirmas sendraugių kalėdinis pobūvis praėjo nuotaikingai ir visiems

dalyvavusiems paliko malonių prisiminimų.

S. Piežos paskaita. Sausio 22 d. Vyčių salėj sendraugiai suruošė vakarą, kuriame S. Pieža skaitė labai idomią paskaitą iš savo kelionės po Graikiją, Jugoslaviją, Austriją, Italiją, Prancūziją ir k. Europos valstybes. Paskaita buvo pailiustruota filmu vaizdais iš lankytų kraštų. Ypatingai idomi paskaitos vieta buvo, kuomet grupė Amerikos žurnalistų perėję Austro - Vengrijos sieną drąsiai amerikonišku džipu drožė į Vengrijos sostinę Budapeštą. Kelyje juos sulaukė Amerikos ir kitų kraštų Raud. Kryžiaus pareigūnai ir išakė, kad kuo greičiausiai grįžtu atgal, nes gauta žinios, kad užpuolusi Vengriją rusų komunistų armija be pasigailėjimo žudanti sukilusią prieš pavergėjus vengrų tautą.

S. Pieža yra Chicago American dienraščio religinio skyriaus redaktorius ir vienas Liet. Vyčių organizacijos veteranų. Sendraugiams priklauso nuo pat išteigimo atskiros kuopos. Jaunose dienose priklausė 36-tai kuopai ir buvo labai aktyvus visame veikime ir redagavo kuopos leidžiamą laikraštėlį.

Jo žmona Ona Rezgaitė taip pat buvo vyčių veikėja ir žymi aktorė. Dabar vadovauja jaunų moterų Glee klubo chorui. Piežai augina gražią šeimą, kurios vyriausioji duktė jau lanko kolegiją.

Artimo meilės tarnyboje. Chicagoj gražiai veikia Balfo skyriai. Kiekvienam vajuje surenkama džiu-ginančios sumos aukų pinigais ir tūkstančiais svarų drabužių Vokietijoje pasilikusiems lietuviams šelpti. Didžiosiose Chicagos lietuvių kolonijose, kaip Bridgeport, Marquette Park, Brighton Park Balfo vajuose pirmaujančiais veikėjais yra vyčiai sendraugiai, pav. J. Kerulis (Brighton Parke), J. Vilkišius (Marquette Parke), E. Samienė (Bridgeporte), K. Rubinas (Rose-lande) ir k. Šia proga tenka pažymėti, kad J. Vilkišius yra vienas organizatorių Vyčių 17 (Algirdo vardo) kuopos So. Boston, Mass.

Vytės pirmauja kitose draugijose. Moterų Sąjungos 20 kuopa Brighton Parke praeitų metų gruodžio mėn.

minėjo 40 metų gyvavimo sukaktį. Minėjimas buvo atžymėtas banketu vyčių salėj, kur kalbėjo ir sąjungietėms ilgiausių metų veikti linkėjo teisėjas Wells, Kun. P. Činikas, MIC., M. S. Centro išdininkė D. Kaminskienė, buv. ilgametė Moterų Dirvos redaktorė S. Sakalienė, sendraugių pirm. I. Sakalas ir k.

Banketo ruošimo komitete vadovaujančias vietas turėjo sendraugės M. Paukštienė ir E. Širvinskienė, o šeiminkavo ir svečius vaišino tarpe kitu T. Norbutienė, J. Petkūnienė, J. Žemaitienė.

"Busy" su paskaitomis. S. Pieža, Chicago American dienraščio religinio skyriaus redaktorius, grįžęs iš Europos, dabar "busy" su paskaitomis - pranešimais iš aplankytų kraštų. Kas savaitę duoda po dvi tris paskaitas amerikiečių ir kitų tautybių draugijoms. Paskaitas iliustruoja filmais iš lankytų kraštų. Chicago graikų laikraštis "The Chicago PNYX", pagerbdamas Stasi Piežą, jį paskelbė "Žymiausiu asmeniu sausio mėnesi".

Ir po švenčių nesustoja veikusi. E. Samienė, veikli sendraugiuose ir kitose liet. katalikų organizacijose, prieš šventes gražiai pasidarbavo TT. Saleziečių gimnazijai Italijoje, susirinkdama daug dolerinių "Care" paketams. Tą darbą tęsia ir po švenčių. E. Samienės adresas yra 3442 So. Union Ave., Chicago 16, Ill.

Narių vaju. J. Stočkui, Centro valdybos vicepirmininkui, pajudinus kuopas naujų narių vaju, susidomėjo ir sendraugių kuopa. Veik kasdien sendraugiai susitinka su asmenimis, kurie anksčiau buvo žymūs organizacijos veikėjai. Laikams ir gyvenimo aplinkybėms pasikeitus, jie nors išsibraukė iš narių skaičiaus, tačiau širdyje nenustojo būti vyčiais. Visus juos ir kitus reikia gražinti organizacijai - sendraugių rėmuose. Čia jie galės daug gera padaryti. O ir vadininkams bus didelė nauda. Įrašęs daugiausia naujų narių vadininkas galės laimėti kelionės bilietą į Los Angeles, Calif., kur šiemet įvyks metinis organizacijos suvažiavimas - seimas.

Taigi, sendraugiai, senu posakiu - pajudinkim žeme!

Lietuvos Vyčių Istorija

Ignas Sakalas

(tęsa)

91-ji KUOPA

Šiuo numeriu Centre buvo įregistruota kuopa Bloomfielde, N. J. Kuopa įsteigta 1917 m. rugpjūčio 30 d. Steigiamasis susirinkimas sekančiai aprašomas:

"Į susirinkimą minėtoje dienoje atsilankė iš Newarko Lietuvos Vyčių 29 kp. uolūs veikėjai ir organizatoriai: A. Masandukas ir D. Rupainis, kurie savo prakalbose paaiškino apie svarbą užmegzti vyčių kuopą Bloomfielde.

"Naujos kuopos valdyba: pirm. J. V. Abramavičius, vice pirm. J. Baranauskas, rašt. A. Karužis, išd. V. Kvoričius, kasininkas J. Ruseckas, išdo globėjai Pažereckas ir A. Lukšis, maršalka K. Siniauskas.

"Jaunimo čia maža, bet jis nori dirbti."

Tiek ir nežinom apie šią kuopą. "Jaunimo čia maža", tas ir paaiškina, delko susiorganizavęs jaunimas nepasilaikė ilgčiau ir neišvystė savo veikimo. Kada kuopa liovėsi veikus, taip pat nežinoma.

92-ji KUOPA

Centro knygose įregistruota 92-ji kuopa veikė Niagara Falls, N. Y. Kuriais metais kuopa buvo įsteigta ir kas tuo pasidarbavo, nežinoma.

Iki 1918 m. kuopos veikimas buvo nežymus. Tik 1918 metais kun. L. Vaicekauskui atvykus užimti klebono vietą lietuvių Šv. Jurgio parapijoje, vyčiai, greičiausiai naujojo klebono paskatinti, nes kun. L. Vaicekauskas buvo ne tik vyčių veikėjas, bet ir nuolatinis "Vyčio" bendradarbis, išėjo lietuvių kultūrinės dirvos parenti ir lietuviškumo beblestančią ugnelę jaunimo ir senesniųjų tarpe pajudinti.

Tuojuo įsteigtas choras, kuriam vadovavo vyčių veikėja Lauciūtė, ir pradėta mokytis lietuviškų dainų, kurias ir čia augęs jaunimas labai mėgo.

Pirmas kuopos koncertas buvo suruoštas 1918 m. rugsėjo 15 d. Koncerto programą pradėjo kun. L. Vaicekauskas kalba, o choras sugiedojo tautos ir vyčių himnus. Toliau programoj buvo solo "Karvelėli", kurią padainavo T. Lauciūtė, "Onytė" ir "Kur banguoja Nemunėlis", kurias išpildė A. Karaškiūtė. V. Stankus pasakė monologą, o P. Vasylius — ilgesnę kalbą apie vyčių organizaciją. Baidamam numeryje kun. L. Vaicekauskas kalbėjo apie žmonių tamsumą ir kaip galima iš jo išbristi. Po meninės programos buvo šokiai ir pasilinksminimas.

Pirmasis Pasaulinis karas kaip kitur, taip ir čia išretino jaunimo gretas. Pašauktiesiems į karą kuopa suruošė išleistuves.

Vyčių veikimas Niagara Falls žydėjo iki kun. L. Vaicekauskas buvo parapijos klebonu. Jam išvykus į kitą parapiją, kuopos veikimas pradėjo apmirti, o ilgainiui ir visiškai išblėso.

93-ji KUOPA

93-ji kuopa Rochester, N. Y., buvo įsteigta 1918 metų rudenį. Istoriniu atžvilgiu kuopos gyvenimą galima dalinti į dvi dalis. Pirmos dalies veikimas buvo surištas su iš Lietuvos atvykusi jaunuimė. Antros dalies — jau su Amerikoj gimusiu ir augusiu.

Steigiamajam susirinkime susirašė nemažai narių. Valdybon buvo išrinkti: pirmininku J. Bartmonas, vicepirm. A. Širvinskas, sekretorium T. Stukaitė, išdininku J. Braknis.

Iš labiau aktyviųjų narių dar žymėtini tuo metu buvo kun. Kasakaitis, kun. Vitkus, J. Rubanikas, R. Šerelis, P. Pikūnas, J. Gudas, T. Pavlekienė.

Kuopa nuolatos dalyvavo parapijos ir tautiniam veikime, jaunai Lietuvos valstybei taip pat daug padėjo aukomis, Laisvės paskolos bonais ir kitais būdais.

Laikui bėgant kaikurie veiklesnieji nariai išvažinėjo: vieni į kitus miestus sau mėgiamų darbų jėškoti, kiti į Lietuvą grįžo naujo gyvenimo nepriklausomoje tėvynėje kurti. Kuopos veikimas pradėjo silpnėti, o apie 1928 metus ir visiškai sustojo.

Nė metams nepraejus Amerikoj gimęs lietuvių jaunimas, suprasdamas organizacijos svarbą, pradėjo burtis ir neilgai laukus buvo įsteigtas "Jollity Club", į kurį susispietė didžiuma lietuviškojo jaunimo.

Kun. Kasakaičiui mirus, nauju parapijos klebonu paliko kun. J. Bakšys, prieš tai pastoracinį darbą dirbęs Hartford, Conn., lietuvių parapijoje, kur buvo žinomas ir jaunimo - vyčių veikėjas. Kun. Bakšiui atvykus į Rochesterį, minėtas "Jolly Club" buvo pakeistas vyčių kuopa. Tai buvo 1930 metais. Sušaukęs klubo narių susirinkimą kun. J. Bakšys plačiai išaiškino Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos tikslus ir uždavinius. J. Čelkys Morkūnas papasakojo apie vyčių veikimą kituose miestuose, kur yra įsteigusios lietuvių kolonijos.

Po kalbų nariams vienu balsu nutarus klubą pakeisti vyčių kuopa, buvo išrinkta ir nauja valdyba: dvasios vadas kun. J. Bakšys, pirmininkas J. Čelkys Morkūnas, vicepirm. Juozas Brown, sekretorius Frank Jurlen, išdininku Frank Collins.

Atgaivintoji vyčių kuopa buvo ir tebėra veikli tautiniam ir religiniam gyvenime. Daug yra suruošus įvairių vakarų, koncertų, paskaitų ir įvairių pramogų. Gyvos buvo ir tebėra šios šakos: dramos, sporto, o paskutiniu metu Lietuvos reikalų ir lituanistikos.

Iš jaunesniųjų veikėjų žymėtini šie: Mary Pikunas, Isabella Rovas, Amelia Krajeris, Emile Kumarskas, Nellie Goedell, Joe Stevens, Gus Ruginis, Joanna Goodell, Bernice Jokshas, Joseph Maciejūnas, Frank Maciejūnas, Adam Eison, Adomas

THE IMPORTANT YOUTH SESSION

In American Lithuanian Roman Catholic Federation 50th Anniversary National Convention

Hotel Sheraton Plaza, Boston, Mass. Main Ballroom October 13, 1956

Jaunimo posėdis prasidėjo 10:55 v. r. su malda, kurią atkalbėjo prel. P. Juras. Posėdžiui vadovavo kun. A. Kontautas.

Pirma kalbėtoja, p. Marytė Klimkaitytė. Kalbėjo angliškai ir pabrėžė reikalingumą jaunimo organizacijoms vis turėti prieš akis savo kilnius dvasinius tikslus. Pasilinksminimai, išvažiavimai ir t.t. yra geri, bet turi tarnauti aukštesniems idealams. Jaunimas turėtų dažnai eiti prie Sakramentų ir tas turėtų būti nuolat pabrėžiamas jaunimo organizacijų programose. Stipriausias pagrindas organizacijų bendradarbiavimui yra prie Dievo Altoriaus ir jaunimo dvasiniame gyvenime.

Daktaras Vytautas Vygantas pabrėžė jaunimo organizacijų auklėjimo rolę. Daugiau naudos yra tada kai jaunimas veikia mažose grupėse, kur galima geriau prisitaikyti prie jaunimo psichologijos. Susirinkimai turi būti įdomūs ir programa ne per sunki jaunimui. Tikslas yra auklėti jaunime kilnią širdį, aštrų protą, ir stiprią valią. Bendradarbiavimas tarp jaunimo organizacijų būtų naudingas, nes turime bendrus tikslus. Reikalinga daugiau kontakto, susipažinimo, ir Jaunimo Sekretoriato.

Kun. Juozas Borevičius, S. J. paaikšino Jaunimo Sekretoriato tikslus ir kvietė jaunimo organizacijas palaikyti artimesnius ryšius per Sekretariata.

12:00 DISCUSSION PROGRAM. After listening to the above talks on the problems of youth in the Lithuanian parish and cooperation among our youth organizations, the participants of the Youth Session divided into nine discussion groups of ten persons each, with a chairman presiding to lead the discussion. The subject of the discussions was: COOPERATION OF AMERICAN LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS. The consensus of opinion was that American born youth and young people recently arrived from Lithuania had little understanding of each other and their organizations. It was universally agreed that there was a great need for getting acquainted, personal and social contact between individuals and organizations, and that organized cooperation, meetings of leaders, and more conferences such as the Youth Session would be beneficial to youth work in Lithuanian parishes.

The following is a summary of the highlights of the discussions in each group as presented by their chairmen:

Bląžys, Anna Shilinis, Helen Strolis, B. Miller, D. Miller, V. Baltrušaitis, K. Brazys, P. Milevičius, M. Telksniūtė, K. Jenkevičiūtė, T. Paluikis, R. Šerelis, S. Bartmonas, K. Gaubis, kuris vedė vyčių chorą, J. Bartmonas, M. Senkus, K. Kairis, A. Ulozas, J. Braknis. Didžiuma jų yra vaikai senosios lietuvių kartos, kurie atvykę iš Lietuvos organizavo lietuvių koloniją, parapiją, steigė draugijas ir t. p.

WALTER CHINIK — There is need for closer contact between youth organizations, and for joint sponsorship of certain programs and observances. Organizations should invite each other to attend their socials, cultural programs, and even meetings. The greatest obstacle to cooperation is that we do not know each other. The Youth Secretariate would be helpful in solving some of these problems.

ALBIN YANKAUSKAS — Many K. of L. members do not have a sufficient grasp of the Lithuanian language and therefore find it difficult to follow the activities of the Ateitininkai and other Lithuanian groups. The varied experience of both organizations, K. of L. and Ateitininkai, would be mutually advantageous, if shared. Closer cooperation through the clergy and organizations on a parish level, as well as cooperation of officers on a national level, would be helpful to all our Catholic youth organizations.

PETER BIZINKAUSKAS — It is important to get better acquainted and to have more discussions in common. The Federation offers a fine opportunity to continue this process.

ALDONA VASAITYTĖ — We all recognized the necessity of getting better acquainted through dances, joint observances, conferences, and congresses.

PRANAS ZARANKA — Our group reached the conclusion that elementary school children of the 6th to the 8th grades should be organized: those speaking Lithuanian into the Ateitininkai, the rest into the K. of L. We should take advantage of the Federation to bring about closer contact. We should sponsor conferences, retreats, and Corporate Communion of all our Catholic youth organizations, as well as inviting each other to our summer camps.

DALIJA KARALIŪTĖ — Our group in its discussions tried to clarify the fact that we are not trying to integrate the K. of L. and Ateitininkai organizations. Language, customs and way of thought constitute serious barriers to a union of the organizations. But we feel that cooperation between these two organizations will be beneficial to both organizations and to Lithuanian Catholic youth in general.

JONAS ŠOLIŪNAS — We suggest the idea of an annual YOUTH CONGRESS to continue the discussions and cooperative spirit which were begun today.

JOHN STOSKUS — We need more time for discussions such as these. We ought to organize more conferences along the lines of what we have here. Is it possible to have the Lithuanian Scouts and student organizations take part in such conferences?

ARVYDAS BARZDUKAS — Practical ways of encouraging cooperation are to subscribe to VYTIS and

ATEITIS, to send official publications to other organizations, and to discuss with members of other organizations the particular aims which they have.

12:55 v. p.p. Vyskupas Vincentas Brizgys trumpai pasveikino dalyvius ir savo kalboje pabrėžė svarbumą turėti Jaunimo Sekretariatai kiekvienoje parapijoje, palaikyti asmeninius kontaktus su jaunimu kitose organizacijose, ir rengti bendrus minėjimus, susipažinimo vakarus, ir pasilinksminimus.

Jaunimo Posėdis užsibaigė 1:10 v. p.p.

CONCLUSIONS BASED ON THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE YOUTH SESSION:

1. Our youth organizations have good will toward each other and desire to understand each other and to work together. The basic obstacle is the lack of acquaintance and understanding of each other.

2. Our youth organizations through their representatives expressed the wish for more conferences and even a Congress to discuss mutual problems.

3. The K. of L. and Ateitininkai want to understand each other better and to cooperate in whatever ways possible. The officers of both organizations should have a joint meeting to discuss this matter.

4. The youth organizations are in favor of cooperating in the Youth Secretariate.

JAUNIMO POSĖDŽIO DALYVIAI: 34 iš Vyčių; 30 iš Ateitininkų; 16 iš Sodalitijos; 6 iš Skautų; 5 iš CYO; ir 1 iš švento Vardo. Neskaitome kunigų ir kitų svečių, kurie atsilankė į posėdį. Iš pačio jaunimo dalyvavo 92 asmenys.

JAUNIMO POSĖDŽIO RENGIMO KOMITETAS: Kun. Albertas Kontautas, pirm.; Kun. Petras Shakalys; Winifred Skudris; Antanas Vasaitis; Longinas Svelnis; John Olevitz; Bronie Kontrim; Joan Neviera; and Florence Zaleskas.

Nuoširdžiai dėkoju Federacijai už progą turėti Jaunimo Posėdį, Rengimo Komitetui, kalbėtojams Marytei Klimkaitytei, Daktarui P. Vytautui Vygantui, Kun. Juozui Borevičiui, ir Vyskupui Vincentui Brizgiui, jaunimo organizacijoms, diskusijų vadams, ir visiems dalyviams ir prisidėjusiems prie sėkmingo posėdžio. Visi prisidėjo prie istorinio įvykio jaunimo gyvenime. Turime vilčių, kad pirmas Jaunimo Posėdis nebus paskutinis, kad ateityje bus skaitlingesnių konferencijų ir net kongresų, kur jaunimas galės savo problemas atvirai išdiskutuoti ir žengti į artimesnį bendradarbiavimą savo Bažnyčios, ir Tautos naudai.

Komiteto vardu,

Kun. Albertas Kontautas

1957 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Our concentrated Membership Drive comes once a year. It is the *Working Point* of the whole year. It is the activity that all the members can and should participate in.

With juvenile delinquency on the increase, it is very important that we offer our younger people a wholesome Catholic organization to belong to. In the K. of L. they will have a wonderful opportunity to have some clean fun and recreation. They will

LITUANISTIKA FORDHAM UNIVERSITETE NEW YORK'E

Fordhamo universitete nuo 1956 metų dėstoma lietuvių kalba ir kiti lituanistikos dalykai. Tuo tarpu paskaitos vyksta tik penktadienio vakarais. Pereitą semestrą paskaitas lankė 17 studentų. Keturi iš jų yra čia gimę, ir jie pasirižo pažinti savo tėvų kalbą ir kultūrą.

Pavasario lituanistikos vakarinis semestras Fordhamo universitete pradedamas 1957 m. vasario 1 dieną, penktadienį 6:45 vak., Keating Hall 114 kambarys. Vėliau laiką ir vietą galima bus pakeisti pagal klausytojų pageidavimus. Pavasario semestre paskaitas skaityti yra pakviesti: Pensilvanijos universiteto prof. dr. A. Salys, prof. J. Brazaitis, dr. Gimbutienė, prof. J. Puzinas, Prof. S. Sužiedėlis, poetas J. Aistis, prof. K. Pakštas ir prof. A. Vasys. Šiame semestre be reguliarių lietuvių kalbos paskaitų, klausytojai turės progos paklausti paskaitų iš Lietuvos istorijos, literatūros, tautosakos, tautodailės ir archeologijos. Todėl mes kviečiame visų New Yorko universitetų studentus, abiturientus, visą jaunimą, o ypač VYČIUS ir jų draugus pasinaudoti šia proga. Mes tikimės, kad New Yorke ir apylinkėse nebus nė vieno jaunuolio, kuris nesiriztu paskirti porą valandų savaitėje savo tėvų kalbos ir lietuvių kultūros pažinimui.

Universiteto semestrinis mokestis 20 dolerių. Tiems, kuriems sunku būtų užsimokėti, mūsų garbingoji visuomenė ateis į pagelbą. Jau yra gautos kelios stipendijos ir tikimasi daugiau gauti. Norintieji jomis pasinaudoti, turi iš anksto kreiptis raštu. Jau laikas registruotis. Siųskite raštu pareiškimus.

Visais reikalais kreiptis į Tėvą prof. V. Jeskevičių arba į prof. A. Vasį: Fordham University, New York 58, N. Y. Tel. Fordham 7-5400.

Lituanistikos Programos Vadovybė

have a grand opportunity to meet other young people with the same religious and nationalistic background. They will have the splendid opportunity to increase their spiritual blessings receiving Holy Communion with their fellow Knights. They will be greatly enriched by the study of Lithuania's gallant history.

Do your friends know about these benefits that can be theirs as Knights of Lithuania? Why not invite them to be your guests at your next council meeting.

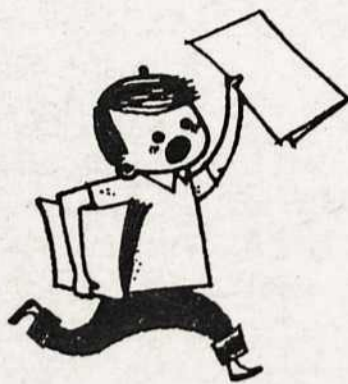
THE RULES OF THE 1957 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

Explanation:

1. Only persons joining the K. of L. for the **FIRST TIME** will be considered as new members.
2. Reinstated members: former member rejoining the K. of L. (notwithstanding period person was absent from the organization). Article VI, paragraph 10 of our Constitution covers this point. Our previous membership chairmen followed this rule, and we humbly submit to their experience and wisdom.

John A. Stoskus,
Membership Chairman

JUNIOR PAGE



AMBER OF THE BALTIC SEA

Ages ago the Baltic Sea was free. On her shores there were no wars or political supremacy, which would have more or less controlled its expanse. During the Middle Ages the ships of national states were free to use the Baltic Sea with no hindrance to their trade. The object of this trade was amber. Due to this enterprise many historical incidents concerning the ancient Baltic States and our forefathers, the Balts, have been handed down to the present day.

The Roman historian, Tacitus, tells of the Baltic States and the relations of the Lithuanians and the Prussians. From Etruscan historical sources we learn of their trade for amber. There is no doubt that these merchants reached Prussia, whose beach up to the present time is famous for its amber. Phoenician ships, passing Gibraltar, would go north in search of "northern gold", amber, brought the Baltic into close contact with European civilization. The American historian, G. Bie Rawndal, telling of the Vikings, says that there is nothing so clear about the relations of the Balts and the rest of Europe than the trading of amber.

Thales (640 B. C.), the first philosopher of the West, and many Roman historians tell of the unusual metal of the Baltic Sea, amber. Tacitus, telling of amber, calls the inhabitants of the shores of the Baltic Sea "aestic". He tells how the

"aestic" gathered amber at the seashore and made ornaments.

We ask ourselves why was amber so precious to the Mediterranean civilization. In answering this question we must remember that to appraise amber, not only beauty, but also some supernatural recations are attributed to it. The Romans, Greeks, Phoenicians, Arabs, and others, used it not only for ornaments, but also in their pagan ceremonies. They also used it as a charm against good or evil. Amber in various forms, was also found in the pyramids of Egypt.

Amber is found only in the Baltic Sea. No where else will you find it. Geologists say that the age of amber is forty one million years. Ages ago on the shores of the Baltic, there grew evergreen trees. Pine trees of those olden times produced far more pitch than the pine trees of today. A flow of pitch would run down the trees, appearing to all the world like melted tallow from a burning candle. Sometimes the pitch flowed from the pines through the broken limbs and hung for many years until the pine became old, rotted, and fell to the ground. When rotted it became mixed with the ground. After being covered with soil for many years, the limbs of the rotted pines hardened and became unbreakable like small stones. Amber is found in small pieces. The richest kind is very clear and transparent. Its amazing value is illustrated in the sale of a piece weighing fifteen pounds to a Prussian king for ten thousand dollars.

JUNIOR COUNCIL 12 (Newly organized)

New York, N. Y. We are happy to inform other Junior K. of L'sers that under the capable leadership of Joseph Boley, our Junior Council may now be listed as being active. At our first meeting held in the parish hall of Our Lady of Vilnius Church following officers were elected: Joseph Tockarszewisky, president; Diana Strehl, secretary; and Benedict Tockarszewisky, treasurer.

JUNIOR COUNCIL 103

Providence, R. I. We enjoyed being guests of Junior Council 26, Worcester, Mass., at their "Scavenger Hunt" recently. After the exciting hunt, we convened at St. Casimir's School clubroom, where hot chocolate and cup cakes were served.

Our new officers for 1957 are: Anthony Lucas, president; Robert Cyronak, vice president; Birute Mackevicius, secretary; and Anna Walaska, treasurer. We are most fortunate in having as our spiritual adviser, Father Martinkus.

December 21st — we had a drawing for a Christmas Turkey and Food Basket. The lucky winner of the huge turkey and an overflowing basket of food was won by a resident of Providence. All proceeds from the drawing was given to our treasurer. **Ignotas.**

K. OF L. CALENDAR

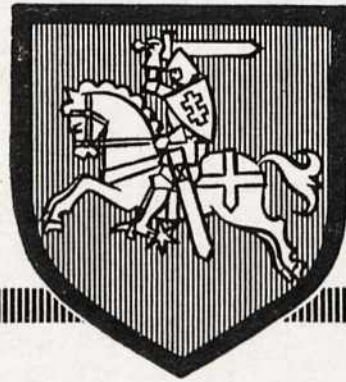
February 24 — Philadelphia, Pa.
(C-3) MINSTREL SHOW-Dance.
March 2 — Worcester, Mass. (C-26)
SQUARE DANCE, Trowes Farm,
Sterling, Mass.
March 3 — ST. CASIMIR'S DAY.

All councils and districts throughout the country will commemorate Patron Saint's Day by attending special Masses, receiving Holy Communion, and holding Communion Breakfasts. Also K. of L. Ritual degrees to be awarded qualified members.

April 27-28 — NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION, Worcester, Mass. Host: Council 26 (St. Casimir's parish).

August 8-11 — 44th K. of L. National Convention to be held at Hotel Statler, Los Angeles, California. Host: Council 133.

VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

A. D. Yuknis

At a recent District meeting the following officers were elected: George Jonikas, president; Pat Kamar and Eleanore Laurin, vice presidents; Joe Stanaitis, treasurer; Helen Zimmer and Michaeline Shirvinski, secretaries; Frank Petkunas and George Shamis, sergeant-at-arms.

At the annual Nativity BVM parish banquet almost \$8,000 was raised towards the new church fund. The Very Reverend Canon George Paskus, pastor, announced that inaugural services will be held this year. The new church will be consecrated to St. Mary of Siluva after a venerated shrine in Lithuania.

The Don Varnas Post of the American Legion picketed the "Vilnis" communist affair at Milda Hall for eight hours with telling effect. They wore Legion uniforms and carried placards.

Viola Geanchos of Gary C-82 declares she has ceased to be a vagabond for the winter and will keep the home fires burning. VI avers that she loves America, but the city that enamored her the most was Venice, Italy.

The Proviso High School of Maywood, Ill. which is coached by Andy Puplis (Notre Dame) tied for the football championship of the Suburban League, which is rated as perhaps the strongest in the state.

Ted Zayner (Zaynoras) coached his football team, Calmet High, to the Chicago Public School League championship.

Adele Druktenis, our promising singer, has returned from a five year stay in Milan, Italy. She says that the city that charmed her the most was Florence. Some of the Roman culture has rubbed off on her and Adele has a fine collection of records and books on art and

architecture. The water colors and prints are beautiful. We imagine that a lot of people will attempt to come up and see her etchings.

Dr. Kazys Pakstas, professor of geography and former editor of VYTIS, has embarked on a trip to Europe. He was attached to The Library of Congress.

Stanley Pieza, of the Chicago American, is touring the Middle East and Italy.

Tommy Siratovich, footballer on the St. Leo Catholic High School League champions, was named All-City center.

Joe Wilman (Vilmanas), member of the Bowling Hall of Fame and former K. of L. member, has vacationed in Hawaii.

Ed Krause (Krauciunas), athletic director of Notre Dame, speaking at the Chicago American Quarterback Club banquet emphasized that there is no program of football de-emphasis at Notre Dame U:

Mrs. Valerie Stanaitis, C-24-99, has been elected president of the Don Varnas Post Auxiliary.

The Consul of Lithuania, Dr. Petras Dausvardis, addressing a gathering commemorating the Lithuanian uprising of 1941 at Maria High School said it was high time that the United Nations investigated the plights of Lithuania. The Consul emphasized that to merely investigate the crimes in Hungary is not enough.

Bill Wightkin, lineman of the Chicago Bears pro football team, is the oldest player on the Western champions as well as the smartest. At Notre Dame Bill had an average of 97.

Bill Zemeske, C-24-99, has some beautiful shots of Colorado which he took on his vacation last year. Bill is a professional photographer and his photographs show it.

The Lithuanian Philatelic Society observed its tenth anniversary with an exhibition at the K. of L. Youth Center recently. Dr. Walter Eisin

won the Grand Award with his Lithuanian collection. The latter has merely added another citation to his long list of winners.

Gary, Indiana 82 Viola Geanchos

Some say — "The Night Before Christmas" yet, we say — the night AFTER Christmas. The reason is that our meeting was held December 26th at the new home of our president and his charming wife, John and Sophie Kaminski. After the business meeting, the hosts treated us royally — we had a real feast, also lovely gifts.

From our Fish Fry affair we netted a profit big enough to give Father Vichuras \$100.00 also the Sisters of St. Casimir a beautiful food basket on New Year's Day.

We most heartily welcome Charlotte Strumskis back in our midst — our gain is California's loss.

Emily Mihaluk's mother suffered a stroke. Our prayers go to her for a speedy recovery.

We have come to the conclusion that the reason Chicago has fixed a certain bowling date for the District is that many of us can't bowl that day — and thereby are relieved of competing with our competent team. Afraid we'll still beat you, Chicago?

Chicago, Ill. 112 J. A. Stoskus

Seven of our members were recipients of Ritual degrees during impressive ceremonies conducted by the Illinois - Indiana district Ritual committee on December 8, 1956: Ed Urba — 1st degree, and Richard Butchas, Lorraine Dombrowski, Juliane Skaminas, Jean Sheures, Al Zakarka and George Jonikas — 2nd degree.

Lorraine Dombrowski, after completing the probationary period and necessary examination, now has a permanent teacher's standing in the Chicago Public School system.

Father L. Vaisvilas administered the oath of office to our newly-

elected officers for 1957: Ed Pocius, president; Dolores Rupp, vice president; Jean Sheures, secretary; Dolores Wainauskas, financial secretary; Monica Kasper, treasurer; Lorainne Wainauskas and Raymond Simutis, trustees; Peter Gagel and Louis Rogers, sgts.-at-arms. Immediate Past President Elizabeth Tucker and other out-going officers were commended for their fine work in 1956.

Our annual Christmas party held at the K. of L. Youth Center was enjoyed by both members and guests. Spectators and participants enjoyed the Square Dance which was led by Lorraine Wainauskis.

Many friends attended the New Year's Eve party given by Richard Butchas at his Willow West Inn, including Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Jocius, Mr. and Mrs. Al Leberes, Mr. and Mrs. John Pocius, and Mr. and Mrs. Al Kaziunas who were guests of John and Anele Pocius... John Pocius, Jr. celebrated his 3rd birthday on January 2nd.

On January 12th, your scribe together with Asst. State's Attorney Konstant Savickus, K. of L. legal adviser, flew to New York City to attend a special meeting with Father Albert Contons, national spiritual director, Walter Chinik, president and William Kvetkus, secretary of the Lithuanian R. C. Alliance of America.

On Sunday, January 6th, the members of the Don Varnas Post attended a Memorial Mass at Nativity of BVM Church commemorating the 11th anniversary of the death of Don Varnas, who was also an active K. of L. member in our district. (DON was killed in action on January 15, 1946 when military planes bombed a prisoner of war camp in Germany.)

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

Dayton, Ohio 96 Nakties Pelėda

New Year's Eve Party

We thank Ted and Elinor Sluzas, hosts, for the use of their basement in holding the party. Also, Ann Scott, Elinor and Eva Leasure for the delicious food served; Charles Petkus as chairman; John Scott and

Company for the entertainment. It will be interesting to see some of the pictures taken by our two shutter-bugs — George and Joanne Zelinskas. New faces were seen at the party, including Tom and Elizabeth Scott, Tony and Joanne Zelinskas, Bob Petrokas, Frank and Rita Ambrose, Joe and Mary Kavalauskas and John Akelaitis.

Lithuanian Affairs

With Ann Scott as chairman, members of the committee have been kept quite busy. Our committee hopes to turn in a good report to Father John Jutt this year.

Financial Secretary

Ada Sinkwitz, chairlady of the Membership Drive, boasts of 7 new members having joined the council. Our Bowling League has really helped increase our membership, same as last year.

Ritual

At our January meeting, Jim Om-lor was bestowed a 1st Ritual degree by Frank Gudelis. Congratulations, Jim.

Condolences

Since the first of the year, Ann Scott and Joan Kavalauskas have been quite busy visiting the sick. We wish speedy recovery to Frank Ambrose, Sr., Bob Petrokas, Dorothy Conrady and Father Leo Praspalius, pastor.

Social

January 18th Social was chaired by our capable Mary Lucas.

Bowling

Standings in the League since last month are about the same. However, there have been some changes in the individual scores: High single game is now held by Gus Blum (225); Jim Kavalauskas has high three-game series (587); Gum Blum now holds high average (170). LADIES — high single game remains the same, with Joanne Zelinskas and Kay Sluzas tied with 186 score; Helen Goldick, newcomer in the League, holds the high three-game series (505); Helen also holds high average (164). During the holiday season, some of the League members had Open House following a bowling meet, namely: Jim and Joan Kavalauskas, John and Scott and Mike, Fran and Charles Petkus.

January Birthday Greetings: Dorothy Conrady, Jim Richey, Paulette Petkus, Charles Vangas and John Berczelly.

NEW YORK NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

Brooklyn, N. Y. 41

Grasilda

What a wonderful time we all had at our annual Christmas Dance held on Christmas Night at the Annunciation Hall. About 350 people danced to the strains of Joe Thomas' Orchestra in the elegantly decorated hall, and joined in the Carols sung by Diana Mockelunas. (Funny that no one noticed the mistletoe hung way up on the chandler!) A representative group from Philadelphia surprised us with their attendance, including Helen Shields, Terry, Hedy, Mary and her fiance John Dauginas from Chicago. A vote of thanks to Joe Boley, who worked hard on the huge Christmas wreath of white branches, also helped all night at the dance; also Anne Schwabas, Tony Krusinskas and Joe Zaltuskey who worked on the decorations; and Stella Galiauskas who did such a good job on the fliers.

Our New Year's Eve affair was also a success. T'was good to see Al from Hartford there with our Anne, and Rudy from Boston with Diana. Hope to have more visitors next year.

Council's best wishes to Johanna Zemaitis who will become Mrs. Robert Dugan on February 17th; and to Regina Mockelunas who announced her engagement to Tony Malakas of Newark, N. J. (29) on Christmas Eve.

Amsterdam, N. Y. 100 Smile & Sparkle

New officers for 1957: Sophia Gavry, president; Matthew Orante, vice president; Mrs. Charles Karbus, treasurer; Pauline Urban, secretary; Connie Zygel, financial secretary; Prof. Joseph Olsauskas, sgt.-at-arms; Gene Gobis, VYTIS correspondent. Also re-elected Chairlady of the Lithuanian Affairs Committee was Gene Gobis and her assistants are Mrs. Charles Karbus, Isabelle Dopkus, Attorney A. C. Stokna, Donald Nikstenas and Joseph Staknis.

At our Christmas banquet held at Robertshaw's Drum, Perth, N. Y., Father Baltch was the principal speaker. Most interesting to learn

was some of the old Lithuanian superstitions — such as CHRISTMAS EVE ON A LITHUANIAN FARM WOULD FIND MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY GATHERED AROUND THE TABLE FOR THEIR MEAL. BENEATH THE TABLECLOTH HAY WAS SPREAD. THIS DENOTED THE FACT THAT CHRIST WAS BORN IN A MANGER. AT THE CONCLUSION OF A 12-COURSE MEAL, ALL WOULD REACH UNDER THE TABLECLOTH AND DRAW A STRAW. THE LUCKY ONE WHO DREW THE LONGEST STRAW WOULD BE THE ONE TO HAVE THE LONGEST SPAN OF LIFE.

Another tale: ALL YOUNG GIRLS RUNNING OUTDOORS FOR A PILE OF WOOD. EACH WOULD COUNT THE NUMBER OF LOGS SHE HAD GATHERED, AND IF IT WAS AN EVEN COUNT, SHE WOULD SOON BE WED; IF AN ODD COUNT, SHE WOULD BE MOST SAD.

Among those attending the banquet were Sophia Gavry, Mrs. Sophie Olbie, Angie Ripepi, Bernice Blusis, Helen Dombroski, Pauline Urban, Stella Kibert, Mrs. Helen Vinosky, Gene Gobis, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Karbus, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Beleckas, Mr. and Mrs. John Svedarckas, Prof. Joseph Olsauskas, Thomas McMullen, Joe Staknis, Donald Nikstenas and Mrs. A. C. Stokna and her husband, Attorney Stokna, Master of Ceremonies.

Prof. Olsauskas, our sergeant-at-arms, particularly noticed the small attendance at our January 7th meeting. Lietuviškai sakant, mūsų Maršalka prašo visus narius lankyti susirinkimus regulariai, nes rasite juos labai interesingus. Mūsų dvasios vadas Kun. Balčys duoda trumpas paskaitas apie Religiją, Lietuvos istoriją, ir puikiai mums atsako į visus klausimus. Jūsų korespondentė taip pat prašo narius atsilankyti į sekantį susirinkimą.

On January 27th, our Food Sale proceeds helped replenish our low treasury. We thank Matthew Orante for donating his time in painting a poster for the Sale.

Our annual Communion Breakfast, in celebrating St. Casimir's Day, will take place on March 3rd at the Patrick's Highland House, following Mass. Committee to consist of Sophia Gavry, chairlady, Gene Gobis and Sadie Karbus.

At our January meeting, Father Bob showed us a small newspaper—The LSI Banner, which is published by the Lithuanian nuns. In the U.S.A., there are about 1000 nuns of Lithuanian descent. Glancing through the paper, we found a few Sisters whom we knew — Sr. Mary Coronata, principal of St. Casimir's School, Sr. M. Josephine and Sr. M. Lorraine, former teachers at our parish school. Father also told us of the Legend of two Crowns of the Madonna of Aušros Vartų. Following the talk, coffee and cakes were served by Sadie Karbus.

News Bits

Two of our faithful members, Sophie Olbie and Joe Staknis, could not attend our meeting because they were busy at their jobs... Since Don Nikstenas joined the Mohawk Chorus, we haven't seen him at our meetings lately (reason — his rehearsals and our meetings fall on the same evening). How about skipping one of the rehearsals? We miss you, Don... What happened to our fin. secretary Connie Zygel?... And, Helen Poremba, Ed Bablinskas and Matthew Kazlauskas?.. Aldona Bablinskas is to become Mrs. Paul Abeling in February... We extend our deep sympathy to Mrs. Anna Degutis and family in the recent death of her beloved husband, Anthony. Degutis' both children, Helen and Tony, are former members of our council... "Svetimos Plunksnos", a 3-Act Comedy, directed by Prof. Joseph Olsauskas, will be staged February 17th. Other K. of L's participating in the play are Gene Gobis and Don Nikstenas.

Philadelphia, Pa. 3 "The Shadow"

At our last meeting we were pleasantly surprised with the visit of Lieut. Henry Gailiunas, formerly of Athol, Mass., and now stationed in Bainbridge, Md. He comes to Philadelphia quite frequently in order to participate in our council activities.

Our treasurer, John Mickunas, was drafted into service and since he'll be "vacationing" at Uncle Sam's expense for the next couple of years, Al Anona was elected to succeed him in office.

Council 3 will be host to the New York - New Jersey District Convention which will be held in June, in our city.

We are now in the midst of rehearsing for our second annual Minstrel Show which will be held February 24th. Dancing and refreshments will follow the Show, and a good time for all is assured.

By the time you read this, Mary Greblauskas will be married to John Dauginas of Chicago. The wedding will have taken place on February 2nd, and bride's attendants will have been K. of L. members — Stacy Utkus, Theresa Mazeika and Hedy Sarcewicz. We wish both Mary and John the best of luck and happiness in their wedded life. Vyčiai will greatly miss Mary for she has been a very active member in our council.

Our President, Helen Shields, received many K. of L. guests at her home and served breakfast Christmas morning, after Midnight Mass. She made a charming hostess.

Congratulations to Helen Shields on her most recent achievement — she was substitute announcer at our weekly Lithuanian Radio Program. On that same program, Stacy Utkus appeared as guest soloist.

Great Neck, N. Y. 109 "PIC"

Officers for 1957: Al Wesey, president; Jo Rusas, vice president; Starsy Wesey, secretary; Jo Rusas, corresponding secretary; Ann Sosaris, treasurer and Mary Picardi, financial secretary.

Rosemary Glowacki certainly showed us a good time after the wood's picnic last Fall. Everyone was invited to her home, and we enjoyed her gracious hospitality and lovely mom.

Thursday, is BOWLING night for Great Neck. Just contact Jo Rusas or Ann Sosaris and they'll give you all the information on it.

It was nice to see Amelia Rogers at our meeting after such a long absence. Seems her husband, Charlie, bowls the night our meetings are held, and Amelia is unable to attend. Bring Marian with you next time. Two other members, Al Lugauskas and Jonas Ciplickas, have been making themselves scarce. Why don't you join us at our meetings or shindings boys?... We are happy to welcome into our council Bertha Saltanis, new member.

Two weddings will be coming up in the not-too-distant future. Our vivacious and hardworking Alma Kaye became engaged on Christmas

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Day to Jerry Shannahan, and attractive Jeannette Rogers is sporting a sparkler from James Kovalsky. Much happiness is wished both couple on such happy occasions. Hope we gain two more members through these matches — how about it, Jerry and James?

Anyone have Investment problems? See Bill Bernatovich, our new "Wall Street Tycoon." He's studying stocks, bonds, etc. at school, now and his advice on such matters could make us rich... Have you seen Jo Rusas' new Ford? She's really putting mileage on it quickly. Jo together with her mother, father and Nancy Kober, niece, took a two-weeks' trip to Florida during the Holiday Season, and returned home with lovely tans... Speaking of new cars, we hear that Al and Star Wesey are waiting for their new Dodge Suburban to be delivered.

Tony and Mary Kober have finally moved into their beautiful and luxurious split - level new house in Port Washington. They must feel just like newlyweds with all new furniture. They also have a gorgeous pinepanelled playroom, which could make some good lively get-together for the K. of L... Ann Martens is so happy since she moved to her new apartment. One of these nights, Ann, we'll really hold our meeting at your home, if that's the only way we'll get to see you!

Jerry Kosmoski is attending Seton Hall University. Seems like skiing takes up most of his spare time on weekends, and that's the reason we don't see him too often... HOORAY for our Polka enthusiast, Ricky Marks! He won the Polka Contest on New Year's Eve at Steamboat Inn... The Great Neck Chamber of Commerce held a Christmas contest for "best decorated place of business" and the GREAT NECK GARDEN and NURSERY SUPPLY, Al Wesey, Prop., received Honorable Mention. Congratulations, Al and Star.

We just learned that Arline Shulin had her tonsils removed. Hope you are feeling better, Arline.

February 23 is the date for our "HOLIDAY DANCE" to be held at the Steamboat Inn. Dancing starts at 9 p.m.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

Norwood, Mass. 27 Sophie

Council gumshoes, and there are many of them, have noticed that Bertha Grimp, proud possessor of Norwood's only chatreuse babushka, is secretly saving three dollars in her alligator purse. It seems that Bertha, desirous of becoming a leader in her Lithuanian community, has been saving her pennies for a K. of L. Manual. Noble gesture, Grimpy, but you are not of the leadership ilk. Take it from an ex-assistant Marshal.

Well, (note our sage use of the introductory word "well") another local bachelor has been lost. Knights here and there might remember the gallant Casimir Kulkauskas who courted Sophie Trinski for some thirteen odd years. Well, (again we employ the introductory expression. If it seems to be over-used, please forgive us for we are a trite lot.) Casimir drowned last week.

Why is it that no one in our council has a birthday in the month of January? It really is disgusting that every year when the first month rears its wintry head on the calendar we are forced to submit a Council Comment column sans birthday greeting. You would think that one of our members would celebrate a natal day during January, wouldn't you? Why, of course, you would! Maybe some Knight or Lady in another council has a solution to our problem. If so, please contact Frank Kasetas, Chairman of the Find a Member With January Birthday Committee, immediately.

Congratulations to Jim and Martha Swansonski on the arrival of a new bundle of joy. The delightful couple have waited for some time for this cuddly package.

Worcester, Mass. 26 BAC

At our January meeting, new officers headed by Joe Landis, were installed. We do thank the outgoing president, Tony Morkunas, and the entire board, for a job well done in 1956.

Father Mike Tamulevicius thank-

ed all members for the gift he received from the council at Christmas time.

On March 2nd, we are planning to have another Square Dance at Trowes Farm, Sterling, Mass., with admission \$1.00. All are cordially invited to join us.

March 3rd, we will commemorate St. Casimir's Day by receiving Holy Communion at the 9:45 Mass in St. Casimir's Church, and followed by a Communion Breakfast.

Ansonia, Conn. 135 — "Nakties Pelėda"

We're in the news again! Our meetings are getting better each month. We now have sound movies — presented by our movie man, Johnny Sabulis. A fine showing of colored movies is outlined for the winter months. So members, do come to our meetings and enjoy the programs, and refreshments served by our own "usherette" Lil Chaplick... Speaking of refreshments, we've had the bottoms fall out of the coffee containers, one evening, due to Pete Gumbulevich's acting as host and brewing some strong coffee.

1957 officers are: Floyd Trapkauskas, president; Olga Savitskas, vice president; Ann Barauskas, secretary; Rose Marie Tabaka, secretary; Ann Ramonauskas, treasurer; and Al Jesulaitis, sgt.-at-arms.

This year, our gala Christmas party was chairmaned by Olga Savitskas. We enjoyed the Christmas decorations, and of course, the delicious chicken dinner served us.

We are happy to learn that Stanley Varshelka is up and around again, after a serious injury he had sustained during an accident... We wish Godspeed to Leon Barauskas, who left for the Air Force on January 3rd, to be stationed at San Antonio, Texas. We hear Mom and Pop are already planning to visit him there this summer. Also, Lil Chaplick will be missing her sparring partner.

Congratulations to the Grandis Lithuanian Folk Dancers of Chicago who appeared and rendered Lithuanian dances in native costume on "Polka Time" from coast to coast on ABC Television on Tuesday, December 18th.