

Knights of Lithuania

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isa virtinė, prad...
ymu, ir vis kart...
visa Seima. T...
ai yra reikšming...
daug atkreipian...
kvienas sveikint...
ėjo sėkmės, o...
ams paremti sav...

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No. 6 - VOL. 43

BIRŽELIS
JUNE

1957

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LITHUANIAN SETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES

Msgr. John Balkūnas

Lithuanians began to flock to the United States in greater numbers beginning with the year 1868. As can be imagined the first years were exceedingly difficult. A strange land, an unfamiliar language, dangerous working conditions and meager wages, hindered Lithuanians from making any material advancements.

The first Lithuanians fled from their homeland seeking freedom and happiness. The power then occupying Lithuania sought to deprive them of their native language, of their written literature, of their religion, and of any hopes of a better life. Lithuania had its Dark Age extending from 1864 to 1904. It was forbidden to read or write in the Lithuanian language. Education was a closed door to the Lithuanian. Only with the cessation of this period of subjugation was he free to travel to other lands to seek success, happiness, enlightenment.

Thus it was that the first pioneers were mostly illiterate folks who had to take to the grimmest of hard labor to eke out a living. Yet they brought with them an attachment to their faith and to their native language. Atheism and abandonment of their nationality were strangers to them. Faith and Nationality — Love of God and of Fatherland — were synonymous to them. It was for these ideals they suffered in the land of their birth, but here in the United States, they discovered freedom. Is it not ironical that after the lapse of such a short time, the present inhabitants of Lithuania are again suffering for the same ideals? And this in an age of enlightenment and progress!

Arrived in the United States the Lithuanians set about to guard their faith and their nationality. They displayed not a little of their determination, patience, energy and self-sacrifice. We must especially notice the commendable initiative of our

uneducated peasantry expressing its prudent nationalistic and deep religious feelings. At once, the Lithuanians set about organizing mutual benefit societies, educational circles, organized miniature schools, established press clubs for the publication of newspapers and books. All these organized groups erected parishes.

In the nineteenth century, Lithuanians organized thirty-five parishes, of which thirty have survived up to the present. In the present century, thus far, ninety-four parishes have been established, of which one has disappeared. We have at present one hundred twenty-three parishes in which the Lithuanian language is used and serve the Lithuanian people exclusively. They are staffed by approximately three hundred priests, although there are at present in the United States more than six hundred fifty priests and male religious.

In most of the parishes (about 70) there are schools for Lithuanian children. These have about 800 Sisters as teachers. These schools are attended by more than twenty thousand children. We have other institutions within the parishes, and they are the background of our spiritual and nationalistic strength. Then we have three high schools, three intermediate schools, four Mother Houses of Sisters, one orphan home, four old peoples' homes, three hospitals. We must add the numerous recreation and community halls, libraries, clubs, newspapers, theatres and other similar institutions, all of which make up our cultural wealth, initiated and supported by and for Lithuanians.

Pennsylvania is the State most densely populated by Lithuanians. It was the cradle of Lithuanian settlement in this country. Here there are forty-one Lithuanian parishes.

Besides the places where there are Lithuanian parishes, there are scores of towns which have Lithuanian settlements. I would say that it is precisely here that Lithuania-ism will longest flourish. Other great Lithuanian centers are our vast cities, such as Chicago, Detroit, Grand Rapids, Cleveland, Brooklyn, New York, Boston, Worcester, Waterbury, Hartford and Baltimore. The more densely populated States, as regards Lithuanians, are Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The setting up of Lithuanian settlements continued until 1922-1924. Later only in isolated places (for example, Los Angeles, California) did new settlements of Lithuanians arise or new organizations develop. With the advent of the so-called Displaced Persons who sought to transplant to this new found haven of liberty their former organizations in the homeland, new organizations have again been set afoot. Generally speaking, never have the American Lithuanians been as prolific and wealthy in the number and size of its institutions than at the present time. We can claim unity in our nationalistic aspirations, united in the struggle to regain Lithuanian liberation and in relief endeavors to aid the war sufferers and displaced persons.

Yet, in spite of these successes, we are acutely aware of an intense wave of loss of national consciousness. Yearly we lose hundreds of Lithuanians. Not only does death tear them apart from us, but the vicissitudes of every day life scatters them over the vast American scene or dissolves them in the American boiling pot.

To unite the Lithuanians and to develop within them the spirit of Lithuanianism, it is absolutely necessary to establish the LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY.

JEI AŠ NIEKO NEVEIKIU – AŠ RŪDIJU

ALFA SUŠINSKAS

Apie darbą ir jo palaimą yra tiek ir tiek prirašyta. Tačiau ir visos knygos, darbo palaimą vaizduojančios, žmogui neduoda naudingų vaisių, jei jis neturi darbo meilės savo širdyje.

Tikras darbštumas kyla iš dvasinės būsenos; jis pasidaro lyg antrąją prigimtį; jis yra veržimasis veikti, daryti, kurti.

Darbštumas nesibaigia vien pragyvenimą parūpinančiu darbu: jis siekia daug toliau — jis apima visą žmogaus gyvenimą. Pavyzdžiui: beveik visi lietuviai rašytojai tremtyje savo kūrinius sukuria šalia darbo, kuriuo jie turi užsidirbti kasdieninę duoną. Jie yra nuostabiai darbštūs!

Ne vien ekonominę gerovę duoda darbštumas: jis yra ir dvasinė gyvybė, ikvepianti žmogų visokios kūrybos kryptimi — jis yra kiekvienos kūrybos pagrindas.

Kaip kiekviena žmogaus galia, taip ir darbštumas turi būti tvarkomas, neperdėtas. Jei jis pasidaro nebetvarkoma aistra, jis sunaikina žmogų lygiai taip, kaip ir kiekviena kita nebevaldoma aistra. Nors darbštumo vaisiai visada yra dideli ir naudingi pačiam darbščiajam, jo artimiesiems ir visuomenei, tačiau persidirbimas yra tuo kenksmingas, kad jis peranksti pakerta galias. Žmogus visas savo jėgas turi taip vartoti, kad jis galėtų būti pajėgus ir darbštus visą gyvenimą, o ne vien tik kurį laikotarpį. Suprantama, nenormalios sąlygos dažnai verčia žmogų įtempti visas jėgas iki augščiausio laipsnio, net iki visiško jėgų išsekimo. Betgi normaliose sąlygose žmogus turi savo darbštumą protingai tvarkyti.

Žmogus be darbštumo genda ir dvasiškai rūdija; tiesą sakant, jis jau yra sugedęs ir kūrybiniam gyvenimui miręs.

Šiuo reikalu čia gražiai ir vaizdingai byloja ši pasakėčia apie pianiną ir laikrodį.

Viename svečių kambario kampe stovi blizgas ir išdidus pianinas, o kitame — visaip išdailintas, stambus, dar senelio nupirktas, laikrodis.

Kai vidurnaktyje namuose viskas nutyla, senelio laikrodis storu

balsu išmuša valandą ir, sunkiai atsidūsdamas, vėl užsimerkia kiek pasnausti.

Tada pianinas pabunda ir susierzines taria senelio laikrodžiui:

— Klausyk, Seneli! Kodėl tu visą laiką eini ir kiekvieną valandą muši, mane iš miego prikeldamas? Kodėl tu nesustoji?

Ir Senelis dejuodamas atsako pianinui:

— Aš irgi noriu pailsėti. Tačiau jie, žmonės, vis prieina ir iš naujo mane užsuka! Aš labai trokštu, kad jie paliktų mane ramybėje...

— Iš tikrųjų, tada abu galėtume puikiai pailsėti! — dar prideda murmedamas pianinas.

Netrukus po to namų žmonės kažkur išvyksta. Senelio laikrodis pradeda mušti valandas vis tyliau ir tyliau, ir pagaliau visai nutyla.

— Aš to seniai laukiau! — taria jis nudžiugęs ir pasirošia ilgam miegui...

Slinko dienos, savaitės ir mėnesiai. Senelis pavargo bemiegodamas ir nieko nebeveikdamas. Įvairūs jo ratukai, sraigteliai ir grandinėls apsitraukė rūdimis, o jo paviršiu nugulė storas dulkių sluogsnis. Atsirado čia ir voras, kuris nukarstė jį savo tinkleliais.

Senasis laikrodis nebežvilgėjo ir nebeteko viso savo grožio.

Vieną naktį nebeiškentęs jis ir sako pianinui:

— Man nusibodo miegoti ir dykinėti... O kad kas nors ateitų ir mane vėl užsuktų darbui!

— Ir aš to laukiu! Aš pasiilgau tavo gražaus mušimo ir švelnaus skambėjimo! — liūdnai atsiliepia pianinas.

Beveik po metų sugrižo šeimininkai ir, vos apsidairę, tuojau užsuko laikrodį, kuris dėl to labai nudžiugo.

Tą naktį jis kreipėsi į pianiną, linksmi tardamas:

— Senasis motto sako: "Jei aš nieko neveikiu — aš rūdiju". Dabar tikiu, kad jis yra teisingas!

Tinginio gyvenimas yra tuščias, betišslis ir beprasmiškas. Tinginiavimas ne tik kad nieko neduoda, bet dar ir viską atima.

JAUNIMO KONGRESAS

IR

TAUTINIŲ ŠOKIŲ ŠVENTĖ

Šių metų vasarą, birželio mėn. 29-30 d.d. Chicagoje bus didelės iškilmės, kadangi šiomis dienomis čia vyksta šiaurės Amerikos lietuvių Jaunimo Kongresas ir lietuvių Tautinių Šokių šventė.

Šie abu įvykiai yra savo pobūdžiu visiškai nauji ir yra vykdomi pirmą kartą. Tačiau juos yra galima prilyginti pereitais metais Chicagoje vykusiam Kultūros Kongresui ir Dainų šventei, kurie sutraukė didžiules mases žmonių ir paliko neišdildomus išpūdžius.

Lietuvių Jaunimo Kongrese, kuris bus pravestas birželio mėn. 29-30 d.d. Morrison viešbutyje, jaunimas turės progą išsiaiškinti jiems rūpimais klausimais. Čia ypatingas dėmesys bus kreipiamas į jaunųjų išlikimą gerais lietuviais ir tuo reikalu yra žadama turėti visą eilę paskaitų. Be to, yra galvojama vieną paskaitą duoti anglų kalba ir ją taikyti lietuviškai mažiau mokantiems jaunuoliams bei jų draugams amerikiečiams.

Kitas didžiulis įvykis — Tautinių Šokių šventė vyks birželio mėn. 30 d. "International Amphitheatre" salėje, kuri yra viena iš didžiausiųjų patalpų Chicagoje. Čia dalyvaus apie 40 šokėjų grupių iš Kanados ir Amerikos ir jie išpildys 16 tautinių šokių.

Žinant lietuviškųjų tautinių šokių grožį ir tautinių rūbų spalvingumą, reikia laukti, jog šis mūsų šokėjų pasirodymas bus noriai sekamas ne tik lietuvių, bet ir kitataučiu. Yra galvojama, jog 10,000 žiūrovų talpinanti salė bus užpildyta mūsų tautinių šokių mėgėjais, šios retos šventės dalyviais.

Manome, kad ir vyčiai, kurie nuoširdžiai remia lietuviškus darbus sudarys gausią dalyvių dalį tiek Jaunimo Kongrese tiek Tautinių Šokių šventėje. Tik bendromis jėgomis dirbdami, mes padarysime šiuos užsimojimus vaisingais ir gražiais.

Ed. Šulaitis.



Vyčių ir Ateitininkų Vyriausių Vadovybių pasitarimas bendro darbo reikalu š. m. kovo mėn. 30 d. Worcester, Mass., kuriame buvo sutarta vyčių ir ateitininkų glaudaus bendradarbiavimo ir vieningo darbo gairės. Iš kairės į dešinę sėdi: Sigitas Bobelis, Kun. A. J. Kontautas, W. Chinik, Vyčių Pirmininkas, P. Grendal, Prof. Simas Sužiedėlis, Ateitininkų Federacijos Vadas ir dr. J. Leimonas. Stovi: L. Svelnis, E. Daniels, J. Daniels ir J. Sakaitis.



AR IR TU TAIP PADARYTUM?

STASYS YLA

Liverpolio mieste, Anglijoje, iš senų laikų gyveno vienas lietuvis, kilęs nuo Panevėžio. Paprastas vaikinai, išmokęs rašto, dirbo fabrike, bet greit prasimušė į darbų prižiūrėtojus. Atėjęs į metus, jis vedė, ir susilaukė trijų vaikų, dviejų berniukų ir vienos mergaitės.

Kai 1935 metais, lankydamasis Anglijoj aplankė jį lietuvis kunigas, iš pradžių nesusivokė, kas yra jo žmona. Ji buvo maloni, kaip Lietuvos močiutės, gal tik mažiau kalbi ir tyli. Kunigas jos paklausė:

— Iš kokios Lietuvos vietos Tamsta kilusi?

— Ačiū, kad paklausėte. Lietuvos aš visai nemačiau, tik iš vyro pasakojimų apie ją žinau. Aš esu airiškė.

Kukliame jų butelyje buvo viskas, kaip Lietuvos geroje troboje. Prie stalo kabėjo kryžius, toliau — nedidelis Lietuvos vytis. Buvo ir šventų paveikslų, kurie, matyt, atsisiusdinti iš Tėvynės, nes labai pa-

našūs į mūsiškius. Kampe už stalo buvo lietuviškų laikraščių krūva.

Vaikų tuo metu nebuvo namie. Bet netrukus atsirado vienas, kuris, pasirodė, mokosi vienuolių vedamoje gimnazijoje ir dėl didelių gabumų gavo stipendiją tęsti mokslus aukštesnėje mokykloje.

Vakarop tėvas pasiūlė apžiūrėti požeminį tunelį, kuris Liverpoolyje yra tuo idomus, kad eina po vandeniu ties ten esančia įlanka. Sūnus pasiūlė kelionėje vadovauti. Tunelis buvo, deja, neprieinamas, ir jaunuolis pasiūlė parodyti naujai statomą katalikų šv. Povilo katedrą, kuri būsianti didžiausia bažnyčia, po šv. Petro bazilikos, pasaulyje.

Vaikinas kalbėjo labai gerai lietuviškai.

— Iš kur tu išmokai?

— Iš tėvelio, o be to keletą vasarų buvau Kupiškėje. Tėveliui brangiai kainavo, bet jis siuntė mane Lietuvon, kad pažinčiau Tėvynę. Šitai pradžiugino kunigą. Parė-

jęs į butą, jis pradėjo domėtis pačiu tėvu, nes jam atrodė, kad šis žmogus vertas didelės pagarbos.

— Einame į lietuvių svetainę, pasikalbėsime, — pasiūlė jis.

Kelyje jis pasakojo, koku atkaklumu kovoja už savo vaikų lietuviškumą. Gera esanti žmonelė — ir katalikė, ir kalbos išmokusi, bet jai sunku suprasti Lietuvą. Norėjęs ir ją ten nuvežti, bet buvę perbrangu.

— Siųskite man daugiau lietuviškų knygų ir vaizdų, — prašė jis.

— Šitas mano vyriausias mažiau to reikalingas, nes Lietuvą jis matė ir ją didžiuojasi. Bet kitiems vaikams šito reikia.

— Man skaudu, — kalbėjo jis grįždamas iš svetainės. — Jūs matėt, kokia ten publika. Tik gėrimas jiems rūpi. Kalba jie nei angliškai dorai, nei lietuviškai, o knygų visai neskaito. Manot, kad bent vienas jų vaikas buvo pasiūstas į Lietuvą? Kur jie gaus tam pinigų, juos pragerdami?

THE CASE IN POINT: THE K. OF L.

John V. Chervokas

Medical science has made incredible progress during the course of the recent years in combating previously invincible diseases. However, there is still one malignant pestilence that medical discoveries cannot aid. That contagion is mediocrity. And the Knights of Lithuania organization is seriously afflicted today with this disease.

If we are to maintain our objective professional parallel, first we must diagnose the patient, in this case the K. of L., and see if the rapidly - spreading infection is in its incipient or advanced stage. Though the naive patient won't admit it, she has been suffering from an overpowering passion for "social activity". In fact, the main motive for her existence seems to be a dance, a beach party, or some similiar affair featuring joviality in any form. A dance, that boon for Biruté and her footloose followers, must, of necessity, feature polkas, and possibly a raffle. This has been the pattern for a K. of L. dance since Grandpa escorted Grandma to the affair, and this theme must be followed. This is mediocrity.

The "social activity" habit, or should we say "addiction", is indeed important in the final analysis, but it is only a segment of the multitude of ailments contacted with the disease. Political parties, we should remember, are not the only organizations which can fall easy prey to complacency. If we probe into the K. of L., or the reasonable facsimile of a once vibrant organization, we might note an air not only of complacency, but also of downright destructive conservatism.

"If the Knights of Lithuania in the roaring twenties could flourish with this program, why can't we of the faltering fifties do the same?" For one brief moment the K. of L. showed signs that it would shed its burdensome mantle of ultra-con-

servatism to step smartly ahead. This occurred at the National Convention in 1953 when the problem of non-Lithuanian admission was brought to a fiery forefront. Healthy argument ensued, and some people who had made a mental note of the K. of L's impending obituary stopped to reconsider. But the sound idea of saving the organization was quickly squelched, and Knights would only continue to mention the contraversial subject in a whisper. Members feared to express their opinions in the "Vytis" with the thought in mind that they might not be elected chairman of the Fall Dance if their opinions were too bold. This may seem an exaggeration but, we must recall, the Fall Dance is a monumental K. of L. gift to mankind, not to mention womankind. "Why fight about petty issues when we can whirl around the dance floor with fewer and fewer couples to bump into as the years pass?" This is complacency.

Age has also affected our patient noticeably. Her central arteries have hardened, and though opportunities for acquiring young blood have presented itself, no sustained effort to procure it has been made. Admittedly, attempts at forming Junior Councils have stirred some hope in the patient, but this hope has waned, just as the Junior movement has waned. That patient sneers at the Ateitininkai as a group of intellectual upstarts who would rather pay attention to the Lithuanian heritage than to a Polish polka. But the intellectual upstarts possess a divine gift of vitality and ambition, something sorely lacking in the K. of L. This is age.

Complacency, age, ultra-conservatism can all be labeled under the inclusive tag of "mediocrity". And "mediocrity" is a synonym for the Knights of Lithuania. Principles which are basically fine and worthy

of commendation have become meaningless words on a membership card that is rarely seen. Conventions which are designed to better the organization have turned out to be a intricate system of chain hotel room parties. Apathy of Knights toward the "Vytis" has brought blushing cheeks to those K. of L'ers who read the "Lituanus" or the "Ateitis."

Now, medical staff, we find it hard to believe that a patient with all these ailments can still be alive. But, the life in this patient is fading rapidly. The pulse, in the form of the working membership, is weak. The blood pressure, in the shape of of the K. of L. prestige, is nil. Well, can anything be done for a patient in this sad situation?

Yes, I'm glad to say that there is, but the K. of L. family may not be prone to accept the cure. There is dire need of a radical faction in the Knights of Lithuania spearheaded by revolutionary leaders. Leaders who are willing to discard most of the old, modify most of the present, and build all of the future. Leaders who are not afraid of criticism, but who seek challenges, controversy, and argumentation; for, an argumentative organization gives more heed to its underlying principles than a social organization. Leaders who do not merely deify the founder of the K. of L., but do something constructive to honor the spirit with which the organization began. Leaders who do not run roughshod through a meeting to get to a beer party, but conduct a sane meeting with attention - warranting ideas. First, however the Knights of Lithuania must make some sort of impression to would-be leaders that there is a flicker of intellectual life left. Ah, there is the rub.

Staff, what is your verdict? Wheel the patient to the emergency ward, nurse. The outlook is grim.

THE CASE IN POINT INTO FOCUS

JOSEPH BOLEY

In his assumed role as diagnostician John V. Chervokas detects in the Knights of Lithuania symptoms of mediocrity. Since traces of this same failing can be found in most individuals, even among saints, and in all nations, including the most advanced and the most progressive, it is not surprising that there are some mediocre elements in our organization too.

To be dissatisfied with the status quo is in itself a good sign. Self criticism is a prerequisite for improvement. However, to be able to diagnose a patient's ailments correctly, one must know the human organism and how it functions. Otherwise the cure can be worse than the original disease.

Similarly, to criticise our organization constructively we must at least be familiar with the first 2 or 3 chapters of the Knights' constitution and those basic principles contained in our charter. From some of the carelessly tossed-off remarks it appears that he is treading on unfamiliar ground.

When he disapproves the excessive emphasis on social activity, the endless partying at conventions etc., he can be sure that he has support from many quarters. It is just too bad that he offers no suggestions for bringing a situation which many believe is running out of hand under better control. In that way he would have taken a step in lifting us a degree or two from the alleged mediocrity. But there is nothing intrinsically wrong with social activity. It is better than no activity and can be very beneficial. We all know of young men and women who joined the organization with nothing more noble in their intentions than socializing or being on a bowling team, yet later, on being exposed to other ideas and activity, they became K. of L. members in essence as well as in name.

If Mr. Chervokas yearns for a more intellectual program, he is free to propose it and to enlist support. The constitution, conceived though it was in the seemingly antediluvian ages, permits it and I shall be the first to join it.

His statement that the K. of L. sneer at Ateitininkai is at variance with the facts, especially in view of the recently held conference between the officers of the two organization on matters of mutual concern.

What is particularly confusing is Mr. Chervokas' finding fault with our tenacious adherence to the constitution. We would have stepped smartly ahead, he says in effect, if in 1953 we had thrown overboard the charter principles of our organization. But those are the very principles that brought us together! They are the reason for our existence! Since we are not apprized what the new basis, the new goals, principles, objectives of his organization would be, there is no way to evaluate them. They may be very worthy, but good or bad, they would mean a new organization. The K. of L. that we have joined and worked for since its founding would exist no more. Dynamiting the foundation while we are still in the building would not be rendering us very great service.

Let us delve briefly into the background of our organization. Why is it of the type that it is?

If we take ourselves back to the days of the founders, we can well imagine what took place. A small group of people, conscious of the destructive forces working against our nationality and our religion, agreed to formalize their ideas and to establish a society. To judge from the opening chapters of the constitution, the resolution that they passed at that first meeting must have contained words as follows:

"To combat the injurious non-Lithuanian and atheistic influences among our people, we hereby form a society and we hope it will spread to many Lithuanian localities. We believe that through united effort we can acquire greater religious knowledge and more easily retain our Catholic way of life. It will be our aim also to foster the love of Lithuanian culture, traditions, language and Lithuania itself. We shall do this through social activities, sports, lectures, drama and chorus groups and the publication of books and periodicals for ourselves and our fellow-Lithuanians."

Those, we can be sure from our constitution and from the stories left to us by the founders, were the thoughts and feelings of our predecessors. Only for such principles we have been asked to labor per-Knights. Only for such principles we have been asked to labour perseveringly for the rest of our lives.

If we are mediocre, it is not the present form of our constitution or the principles on which we stand that are at fault. Our constitution gives us a wide latitude.

Our constitution has not prevented our zealous Lithuanian Affairs Committees from disseminating valuable information among our non-Lithuanian neighbors throughout America. In this important work we have sought and found some distinguished allies, to whom by a plain post card or a gold medal we have tried to express our gratitude. This work does not spell mediocrity.

Taking another paragraph in this same constitution a member was inspired to strengthen the religious aspect of our activity. The result is that this type of organized activity has been spreading in the last couple years to the benefit of us all. This is not mediocrity.

Again only in the last or two of these "faltering fifties" another

KOSCIUŠKO WAS LITHUANIAN...

Adrian Hayward

member who also does not wish to be confined to social activity has instituted a practical cultural program, which is finding popular support and in one case at least is being extended to the entire parish. Such cultural endeavors may not be all that we want them to be, but they are by no means mediocre.

Our mediocrity stems from the fact that we as individuals lack the initiative and the imagination to try something besides socializing, about which we are being criticised and, often, we must admit, deservedly so. We but merely need to reread the constitution and to choose some neglected field of activity. Each of us has something to offer to our fellow-Lithuanians, some knowledge, some ability, some wisdom and experience. Let us employ our time and talent to some important project. This will require planning and dedication. To organize a party is much easier than to organize a Lithuanian song group or a Junior council. The easy and pleasant things are not necessarily wrong, but how much more enduring benefit would be gained by you personally and by your council, if, say, you interested a half dozen people in a Lithuanian conversation session or, like an insurance salesman, formed a team with another member to make a house-to-house canvass for new members, or attempted something else of equal significance!

But in all our work, in all our plans, changes and attempted improvements let us not dilute the principles which we have accepted upon joining the organization. These principles, difficult though they may appear to be, have rallied a fine group of Lithuanians to worthwhile effort. To shout unthinkingly "Away with the old" is an open invitation to genuine mediocrity, if not utter extinction.

Yes, I agree with our critic: we need revolutionary leaders, but these leaders must know our objectives. They must bring us back to the constitution, within whose framework our possibilities are inexhaustible, to the ideals of Norkunas, to the heritage of St. Casimir and Vytautas and beyond, for to observe and respect tradition is one sign of real culture. The deeper we establish our roots and the stronger our link with the past, the more solid will be our future.

It is always pleasant to right a wrong; particularly if it was an inadvertent one. In an article this winter, chiefly about our Polish-Americans' pride in Count Pulaski, I joined in the thought that Gen. Thaddeus Kosciuszko, who also most skilfully and generously fought for us in the Revolution, might be added to that pride. Very soon letters began coming in to me — from points as distant as Pittsburgh and New Jersey cities — to the effect that Kosciuszko was NOT a Pole, but a Lithuanian!

The rebuke was justified, leading me to take up the matter, as well as I could at a distance, and to find that I had been wrong. There is no doubt of it. General Kosciuszko was born a Lithuanian, and his heart, as expressed in many of his letters, was always with his native country. Poland and Lithuania were in political and military union during his career (as often through history). But his deepest love was for Lithuania.

I can defend my carelessness only by saying that the confusion is a common one.

But I have become heartily glad that it was called to my attention. It led me to do some reading about Lithuania and to share in the pride of its people, wherever they live, in the gallantry of their race.

Location Unfortunate

I should like to travel in their country. Lithuania is the southernmost of the three small Baltic states which have fallen under Russian domination. It is also the largest in territory and population — with some 3,000,000 people. They are proud of their ancient descent; of their brave, stubborn fighting abilities, shown through the centuries in holding off enemy neighbors; and often in achieving positive conquests.

Lithuanians, like the Poles, have for long periods had to pay the

penalty of being surrounded by bigger, stronger countries. But they have never endured oppression willingly. They don't now. Fortunately, the United States and the western world don't recognize the annexation of the small Baltic countries by Russia. The Lithuanians' hour will come again.

Land of Lakes

I should like to travel in their country. By all reports it is a beautiful one. Though flat, it is covered with pine forests and abounds in lakes. Its big Nemunas and other rivers flow swiftly through it. It is a historic land, with its old cities like Vilnius and Kaunas; their churches and palaces. Its "Knights of Lithuania" are reproduced among its people here by an American organization. As far as politics allow, it is a land of sturdy farmers and also much modern industry.

The sufferings of the past have made many Lithuanians emigrate; over a million, most of them probably to the United States. I was particularly glad to have their history called to my attention because, together with three or four of our biggest cities, Worcester is one of their chief centers in this country. You will find the fact evidenced in their organizations.

Alert in Defense

I think many others will share my pleasure in having such matters called to their attention. It witnessed to the alertness of our Lithuanian-American fellow-citizens that they at once called out "Question!" to a statement that would have taken from them a famous representative in our country's history of whom they have the right to be very proud. Kosciuszko was a Lithuanian. And those of his race who are our neighbors share in his gallant, freedom-loving virtues.

(Worcester Telegram)

Irish Coach Has Language Barrier

Cagers Map Strategy in Lithuanian

By TOMMY KOUZMANOFF

Chicago, Ill. — When some of the St. Rita High School basketball players shout words of strategy in their native tongue, hardly anybody in the gym knows what they are talking about.

Six of the first 10 players on the senior squad speak Lithuanian fluently; four were born in Lithuania and have been here a comparatively short time.

John Valaitis, St. Rita's captain and leading scorer; Don Prapuolenis, Al Varna and Leo Yuozapaitis came to this country from Lithuania with their parents in 1949.

Dick Gelbuda and Allan Zvinakis are of Lithuanian descent; their parents are from Lithuania.

Four other members of St. Rita's "United Nations" lineup have learned enough Lithuanian so that the team calls its offensive and defensive maneuvers in language foreign to the opposition.

They are Byron Zawaski whose parents are from Poland; Ron Hatje, of Swiss descent; Tom Pellegrino, whose parental background is Italian, and Joe Scanlon, whose parents came from Ireland.

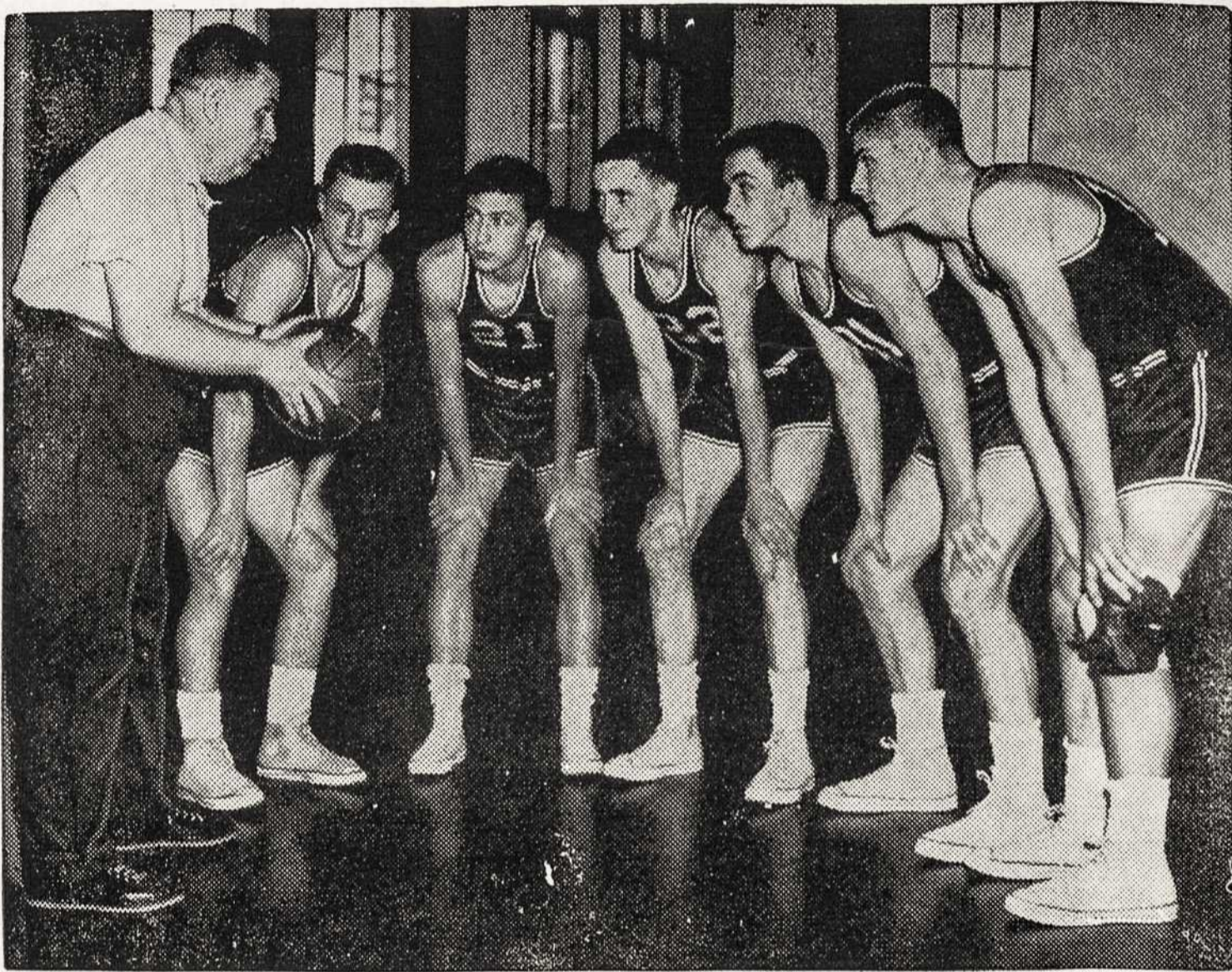
The St. Rita cagers even have their coach, Ed Kellow, who is of Irish stock, guessing when they start talking in Lithuanian.

This can have its advantages — being able to confuse opponents as to what they're talking about — and its disadvantages, as well.

There was the night one of the St. Rita players told a referee in Lithuanian what he thought of his call and was startled to hear the arbiter say:

"Young man, another crack like that and I'll call a technical foul on you."

ST. RITA BOASTS 'IN LINEUP'



(Chicago American photo by Steve Marino.)

GREEK TO HIM... When St. Rita cagers start talking in Lithuanian, coach Ed Kellow (left) doesn't know what they're talking about. St. Rita players who are either of Lithuanian extraction or have learned the language are, from left: John Valaitis, Don Prapuolenis, Joe Scanlon, Byron Zawaski and Dick Gelbuda. Six of first 10 players speak Lithuanian, others have learned enough to call floor strategy.

The referee could speak Lithuanian.

Recently, when St. Rita dropped a double-overtime 58-55 decision to St. Mel, the Ritans couldn't understand why their strategy backfired.

The puzzled St. Rita cagers learned afterward that Bob Luksta, St. Mel's coach, understood every word they spoke in Lithuanian. He's of Lithuanian descent.

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feminine

fair

## Mergaičių Pasaulis

Redaguoja Veronika Kulbokienė

ŽYDĖKIME SAVAISIAIS  
ŽIEDAIS

Pavasarejant, kada po šaltokos ir visa midgančios žiemos ima busti gamta, joje atsidūres, žmogus pajunti besikartojanti dieviškosios kūrybos stebuklą. Pašildžius saulutei, tamsi purvina žemė apsidengia milijonais augalų, kurie vėliau pražysta kvapiais žiedais. Gamtos žinovai bando skirstyti ir grupuoti augmeniją pagal tam tikras jų žymes ir gimines ir šeimas pavadindami ją įvairiais vardais. Metai po metų kovoja augmenija už savąją egzistenciją, norėdama netikėtai išlaikyti gyvybę, bet išplėsti ir savąją giminę. Nepaprastai įdomūs yra tos nuolatinės kovos būdai ir priemonės, kurios išdavoje kiekvieną pavasarį bijūnai sužysta jiems įgimtais raudonais, rausvais arba baltais žiedais; lelijos pasipuošia iškilmingai savo baltais ar gelsvais drabužiais, rožių krūmus puošia rožių žiedai. Ir niekad neateina mums mintis ar klausimas, kodėl rožė nepražysta lelijos žiedais ar priešingai. Gėlės, amžiais žydėdamos tais pačiais, mums įprastais žiedais, visada yra mums gražios, ar jos žydi palangių darželiuose, ar puošia bažnyčių altorius, ar mūsų gyvenamųjų namų kambarius.

Žvelgdami į paukščių pasaulį matome taip pat didelį margumą. Vieni jų yra stambūs, kiti smulkūs, vienus puošia tamsios plunksnos, kitus spalvotos, vieni čiulba gražiais maloniais balsais, kiti cypia šaukia įkyriais balsais. Pagal šias ypatybes esame pratę atskirti juos vienus nuo kitų ir rūšiuoti. Argi nenustebtumėm matydami lakštingalą kukuojančią gegutės balsu, arba žvirblį giedantį kanarėlės balsu? Ir tie visi gyvūnėliai skrajodami drauge po miškus ir laukus, nesusimaišo, nepameta savųjų ypatybių ir nepasivaina svetimų. Kiekviena paukščių rūšis čiulba savu, Kūrėjo paskir-



tu balsu ir su pasididžiavimu puošiasi savomis plunksnomis.

O kaip gi yra su žmogumi, tuo tobuliausiu Dievo kūriniu, kurį Kūrėjas apdovanojo ne tik gražiu kūnu su nemirtinga siela, bet giliu protu ir laisva valia? Kiekviena iš mūsų galvokim apie save ir panagrinkim savąją pažangą pilnutinės gamtos ribose, ar ne per lengvai pasiduodame pagundoms puoštis svetimomis plunksnomis ir čiulbėti

svetimais balsais.

Dievas leisdamas gyventi žmonėms pasaulyje, pažymėjo jų tarpe taip pat tam tikrus skirtingumus. Sutinkame pasaulyje kelių rasių žmones: baltosios, geltonosios, raudonosios ir juodosios; matome taip pat daugybes tautų kalbančių skirtingomis kalbomis, gyvenančių savitu gyvenimo būdu; kovojančių už savosios tautos išlaikymą. Ir kiekviena tauta Dievo akyse yra lygi ir



## ADVENTURES AND ROMANCE FOR THE TEENS

Going a way back to one of our older authors O. Henry, the pseudonym of Sydney Porter, I'd like to remind you all of an excellent collection of exciting tales beginning with an old favorite of mine "Ransom of Red Chief". Another old author which I'd hate to think any of you would overlook is Bret Harte. He has written many short stories including that famous one called "Outcasts of Poker Flat" which was just recently adapted and done on TV.

In more recent collections of short adventure stories Elva S. Smith has compiled a good one called "Adventure calls". Twenty-one stirring tales presenting excellent characterizations, backgrounds and plots of special appeal to teenagers. "The stories start with a special interview with Tenzing Norkey, just before he joined the 13-man British team to reach the summit of Mt. Everest. On the eve of the Coro-

lygiateisė. Lietuvių tauta išsiskirianti savo skambiai gražia kalba ir nepaprastai turtinga liaudies dvasine bei medžiagine kultūra, gyventojų taurumu bei darbštumu, pelnosi sau garbingą vietą kitų tautų tarpe. Būti geru lietuviu nemažiau yra garbinga, negu būti geru airiu. Mūsų tautinis drabužis, daina ar tautinis šokis žavi kiekvieną. Mūsų tautines brangenybes dažnai svetimtaučiai greičiau pastebi ir įvertina, negu mes patys. Dažnai esame pastabūs net ir mažiems gamtos nenormalumams, stebimės suradę alyvos žiedų kekėje penkialapį žiedelį, bet mūsų jau visai nestebina, kai lietuvis su lietuviu kalba nelietuviškai. Tai jau darosi mums normalu. Jei iš žiedų pažistame gėles, iš balsų paukščius, tai žmogaus kalba yra pirmoji liudininkė jo tautinės bendruomenės. Žmogaus kalba yra tarytum žiedas, kuriuo išsiskleidžia jo dvasinis pasaulis. Normalioje buklėje žmogaus kūnas ir dvasia yra vieningi — nedalomi. Žmogaus kūne atsispindi jo dvasia, gi dvasios spinduliavimas reiškiasi kalba. Atsižadėdami savo tautos įgimtų ypatybių, išsigimstame ir tuo būdu laužome mūsų Kūrėjo valią.

V. Kulbokienė

nation of Queen Elizabeth II, June 1, 1953, news came that he and Edmund P. Hillary had made the first successful conquest of Mt. Everest." Included is a wide range of subjects — the scenes shift from an air field in New Guinea to a ruined temple in Arabia and the characters run the gamut from Supreme Court Member Douglas to Captain Kidd.

A companion volume for the girls is "Stories of Love" compiled by the same author in collaboration with Alice I. Hazeltine. Included are short stories and poems in such categories as 1. We're in love, 2. All the world loves a lover, 3. Spirit of Romance, and 4. True love stories.

An adventure story with a mystery background is "Gallows Rock" by Thomas Morris Longstreth. The Gaspe peninsula is the setting for the adventures of Clyde and Bruce Fraser when they encounter the smuggling McGann brothers and are involved in their capture. Not to be overlooked in this adventure grouping is an old tale by Owen Wister, "The Virginian, a horseman of the plains." Excellent adventures are found, too, in the exciting biographies of people like Buffalo Bill, Davy Crockett and our newest rave, Wyatt Earp!

In telling you about stories of romance I should like to exclude all school stories which are often combined with romance and career stories of which there are so many that I would like to talk about them separately in forthcoming issues of the Vytis.

In "To tell your love" by Mary Stolz, Anne learns about love — and pain — and happiness during her seventeenth summer.

In "Winter Wheat" by Mildred Walker, Ellen Webb, abandoned by her fiance almost loses her own courage and faith and hope for the future.

In "How do I love thee" by Helen Waite, we are reacquainted with the story of Elizabeth Barrett. For most of her life she was sheltered as an invalid by a possessive father but the romantic Robert Browning changes all that.

"Seventeenth Summer" by Maureen Daly, is the story of a love affair of a boy and girl that occupied three months of the summer in a typical American locality. This story continues to remain a favorite year after year.

Phillipa had never been interested in boys until she met Paul, a French boy! Read about their wonderful new friendship in Madeleine L'Engle's "And both were young."

Suppose there were two men in love with you — men of different qualities — which would you choose and why? Find Monique's answer in "And ride forth singing" by Katherine Dunlap.

Suppose you are convinced that your sweetheart loves another. Could you allow him to believe you were dead? Tibby tries it in a novel of Colonial Williamsburg, "Dawn's early light" by Elswyth Thane. If you read this one and like it real well there is a treat in store for you. This novel is just the beginning of a delightful series by this author.

When a simple country girl falls in love with the son of a wealthy mill owner, her mother-in-law-to-be attempts to make her over. Will our heroine go through with the wedding? Read "The Guardian heart" by Elizabeth Yates.

These are only a few suggestions for the categories of adventure and romance. There are literally just hundreds more and I couldn't begin to tell you about all of them. In ensuing months I would like to bring to your attention a sprinkling of pioneer stories, career stories, sports stories, school stories and other categories. The possibilities of finding enjoyment are limitless in the world of books to say nothing of the world of information to be found in how-to-do-it books, science books, music books and in other fields, ad infinitum. I'm still waiting for letters from you — do give me your requests for YOUR favorite fields of reading and I'll do my best to oblige.

Vytiškai,

Mildred Chinik

P.S. Have any of you heard the wonderfully nostalgic recording of a "Letter to one's parents"? It is in Lithuanian, naturally, and most beautifully done in Joe Boley's exquisite speaking voice. Do get it and listen to it if you understand any Lithuanian at all. It is well worth while. Better still, why not buy one for your parents — along with our Lithuanian songs it belongs as a valuable addition to our cultural background!



|| **Los Angeles miestas,  
kuriame šiais metais  
ivyksta Vyčių Seimas**



## Į LOS ANGELES BESIRUOŠIANT

Edvardas Šulaitis

Rodos, visai neseniai šio krašto Lietuvos Vyčiai buvo susirinkę į savo 43-tįjį metinį seimą pasaulio lietuvių sostinėje — Chicago, o štai, dabar jau artėja diena, kada vėl turėsime išsijudinti į 1957 m. seimą, vykstantį gražioje Californijoje — Los Angeles mieste.

Kas buvo pereitame ar ankstesniuose L. Vyčių seimuose, tas žino koki svarbūs yra šie metiniai suvažiavimai organizacijos nariams. Čia atliekami oficialūs reikalai, išklausančią įvairiausių pranešimų, aptariant ateities planus, išrenkant naująją valdybą ir pan. Taip pat čia yra gera proga susitikti prieteliams iš įvairiausių šio krašto vietų, pasidalinti mintimis, pasilinksinti, išklaudyti geros meninės programos ir praturtinti savo išpūdžių bagažą naujais vaizdais.

Čia galima paminėti kelius pereito L. Vyčių suvažiavimo dalyvių atsiliepimus, tilpusius 1956 m. "Vyčiai" 10 Nr., kuriuose yra pabrėžiama dėl ko jie dalyvavo konvencijoje.

Štai, Loreta Macekonis iš Chicago sako: "Because here is the common meeting place for those with whom I may share 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".

Frank Vaškas iš Newarko, N. J. šiame klausime yra šitaip išsireiškęs: "...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 each year and new ideas always cropping up, thus making it a real pleasure to take in the conclaves."

Iš šių kelių atsiliepimų galima pajusti tą nuotaiką, kuriomis gyvena pereito seimo dalyviai. Reikia manyti, jog šiais metais ji bus dar geresnė, ypatingai dėl to, kadangi ateinantis seimas vyksta vadinaujame "Golden State" — Californijoje, į kuri retai galime nuvykti. Todėl šiemet yra gera proga išnaudoti savąsias atostogas geram tikslui: kartu pailsėti, pasigrožėti puikiais Los Angeles ir apylinkių vaizdais, o taip pat ir išspręsti savo organizacijos reikalus.

Los Angeles 133 L. Vyčių kuopa, savo priekyje turėdama energingą

vadą — Leonardą Valiuką, šių metų seimą žada padaryti įdomesnę už anksčiau buvusius. Jo metu yra ruošiama puiki programa, kuria galės pasigėrėti kiekvienas jos dalyvis.

Štai keletas iš svarbesnių seimo programos punktų: Koncertas (rugpjūčio mėn. 9 d.) Statler viešbučio Pacific Ball Room salėje, kuriame dalyvaus geros meninės pajėgos; iškilmingi šokiai (rugpjūčio mėn. 10 d.) Statler viešbutyje; pokylis (rugpjūčio mėn. 11 d.) tame pačiame viešbutyje ir kiti dalykai.

Kadangi laikas greitai bėga, tai nieko nelaukiant jau dabar reikia apsispręsti už dalyvavimą Los Angeles seime. Ir ne tik patiems vyčiams reikia pasižymėti rugpjūčio mėn. 8-11 d.d. savo kalendoriuose, bet ir pakalbinti savo prietelius, kad ir jie tomis dienomis aplankytų gražiąją Californiją.

Šie keli žodžiai tebūna mažutis priminimas visiems garbingosios L. Vyčių organizacijos nariams ir pasakatinimas jiems atjausti dideles rengėjų pastangas, kurias šie rodo, beruošdami 1957 m. seimą. Tad šis 44-asis L. Vyčių seimas tegu parodo, kokia stipri ir pareiginga yra vyčių organizacija, o prie to mes visi turime prisidėti.



## CALIFORNIA - GOD'S COUNTRY



TONY YUKNIS

The people who will attend the 44th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania from August 8-11 at Hotel Statler in Los Angeles have a lot to take in. Outside of the business sessions and socials planned a world of adventure with nature awaits all mortal eyes.

California is the home of the **WORLD'S OLDEST LIVING TREES — THE GIANT SEQUOIAS** (see-kwoy-a) which were preserved by the Audubon Society's creation of the Sequoia National Park. The General Sherman tree therein is 3,500 years old and its lumber can build 30 full sized homes. Even after one is felled it throws out green shoots for ten year after.

**THE COAST REDWOOD TREES ARE THE TALLEST ON EARTH.** These cousins of the sequoia were mere saplings when Rome fell and Christ was born. The Founders Tree in **HUMBOLDT REDWOODS NATIONAL STATE PARK** is 364 feet high.

The highest point in the nation is **MT. WHITNEY** which has an elevation of 14,495 feet and the lowest, 282 feet below sea level, is **DEATH VALLEY** — the abode of **DEATH VALLEY SCOTTY**.

The highest U. S. waterfall is the **YOSMITE FALLS** which has a drop of 1,430 feet. **YOSEMITE** is one of four national parks in the Golden State. They have 19 national forests and 127 state parks embracing 20,000 lakes over one acre in size.

Irrigation has magically transformed the Central Valley into the world's most productive farming area. They supply one third of the nations fruits and one fourth of our vegetables. This is not all — they lead the U. S. in catching fish.

California is the first state in the production of aircraft and third in shipbuilding. Over sixty varieties of minerals are found besides gold. Everyone has heard of the great, fabulous gold rush in '49.

Here you can find sunshine, snow, peace or frolic. Here is the home of the **TOURNAMENT OF ROSES FOOTBALL GAME**, **SAN BERNARDINO NATIONAL ORANGE SHOW**, **HUGE RODEOS IN SALINAS** and **OLD SPANISH DAYS FIESTA IN SANTA BARBARA**.

In one year, 5 million visitors come and some never leave. However, some people fail to find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow and for every ten persons arriving seven leave.

For reasons of health everyone can find a climate to suit. In one locale you can find moist, dry or middle climates. Los Angeles (east) enjoys a happy medium between the damp coastal areas and the scorching hot, dry desert.

The Santa Monica mountains overlook Los Angeles which is the world's largest city in area embracing 451 square miles. It is the most decentralized city — like a crazy quilt — without a dominating or unifying pattern. Each segment has its own community center. Los Angeles is also the fastest growing metropolis increasing her population over the two million mark in a remarkable few years.

The fishing port for L. A. is **SAN PEDRO** which harbors 2,000 boats. Two-thirds of our mackerel (holy mackerel!) is caught here. The blessing of the fleet takes place in September when everybody engages in two days of revelry and feasting.

**HOLLYWOOD** has been incorporated into the quilt of Los Angeles

and is the world film capital. It now rivals New York as the television center of the nation. Hollywood Bowl is famous for its **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** and **SUMMER CONCERTS**. The crowding of the city has resulted in the relocation of many movie stars to exclusive homes in the suburbs — mainly in **BEVERLY HILLS**. Near Los Angeles is the fabulous and fantastic **DISNEYLAND** — the 15 million dollar amusement park for children ages 6 to 60. The fantasies of many fairy tales have become realities in this wonderland. Walt Disney, Chicago's gift to Hollywood, as well as Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Pluto are here to greet you.

In the **GALLUP POLL** (American Institute of Public Opinion) **FLORIDA** is the people's choice over California in offering the best facilities for a winter vacation. However, when it comes to selecting the best place in the country to spend a summer vacation **CALIFORNIA TAKES THE TOP PRIZE**. Can it be possible that the availability of jobs there helps them get the votes? At any rate, in the opinion of the people, **CALIFORNIA** rates first in job opportunities followed by New York, Michigan and Illinois. The healthiest states to be in, the people say, are rated in the following order **ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, FLORIDA AND COLORADO**.

To sum it all up the farmers have more potatoes than they know what to do with. Shall we call this the land of the **KUGELIS**? The city folks do not have all the potatoes after all. However, they have the big ones with the big **EYES** — **THE BIG EYES WILL SEE US THROUGH THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN LOS ANGELES**.



## AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENT

Live-voice testimony of the Lithuanian escapee, Soviet fishing fleet Captain, Longinas Kublickas. Recorded for the 6th anniversary of the Lithuanian VOA broadcasts.

*(Translation from Lithuanian)*

When the Lithuanian Independence Day was getting closer, I had made arrangements, before putting out to the sea, that the February 16th holiday could be observed ashore. On February 16, 1951, it was about 2 o'clock p.m. when I returned from the sea. Sullen clouds driven by the stormy Eastern winds darkened my homeland's skies. When my ship docked at the pier amid foaming waves and sea gull cries, I turned the ship over to my Mate and rushed ashore to meet my friends and observe the National Holiday together. We had agreed to meet in the quarters of a friend who owned two-band radio receiver. We were able occasionally to catch Polish language BBC and Russian language Voice of America broadcasts and were planning on the present occasion to listen to foreign news broadcasts. I had come a little early — while women were still busying themselves in the kitchen, preparing modest treats for the holiday observance. Sitting down in the living room, I looked over the Communist press. It was boring. So I pushed the Communist trash aside and turned-on the radio — probably I might hear something worthwhile from abroad.

I turned the knob this way and that for several minutes. There was nothing of interest. Upon hearing a clearly spoken Lithuanian, I left the indicator there, thinking that, perhaps, the Vilnius Radio might play some Lithuanian music. Paying no attention to the content of the broadcast, I went back to the table. Subconsciously, however, my attention was claimed by some words, spoken in Lithuanian, that I had never heretofore heard on the bolshevik radio in Lithuania — words like "Lithuanian American", "New York", "enslaved brethren." I sat up — all attention! Indeed, I heard

something being said which was not bolshevik! On the contrary, I heard words to the effect that even though, at the present time, Lithuania was suffering under oppression, she shall be free again; that the Lithuanians abroad are aware of their brethren's sufferings and are straining every effort that the enslaved homeland should be free again.

At first, I refused to believe my own ears. It seemed to me that I was dreaming a beautiful dream. After so many years of hopelessness, who could be concerned with our hopeless struggle against the bolshevik occupant, — who? I could not understand what was being said — this was unbelievable. Indeed, the dark night was stifling us for so many years; the bolsheviks allowed no news to trickle in from the Free World; they claimed that Lithuania is annexed to the Soviet Union forever and that the entire world has recognized this fact. And here — I heard that this was not true, that America and many other countries do NOT recognize Lithuania's absorption by the bolsheviks. Why, this was impossible!

In order to reassure myself about my proper senses, I ran to the kitchen and called the women to the living room. The broadcast was coming to the close — a few more words, and the Lithuanian National Anthem at the end... Deadly hush fell over the room. Finally, I looked at the women. Their faces were wet with profuse tears, their expressions betrayed wonder and joy. Another second — and all the women cried loudly, with tears of joy. Elation was bursting my chest, too. After all, following the many years of oppression, we heard a FREE Lithuanian voice!

When the friends gathered later in the evening, we rejoiced over the news until dawn. We decided to listen to every broadcast and to spread the news as far and wide as possible, in order that ALL Lithuanians should learn that we were NOT forgotten in our unequal struggle against the occupant. Oh, how many bright hopes were born

### I THANK HIM EACH DAY

Antonia M. Wackell

A quickening of my heartbeat  
When your footsteps I hear,  
Happiness and contentment  
To know that you are near.

A look in your eyes  
Meant only for me  
Will brighten my days  
Though no sun I may see.

Your palm next to my cheek  
Tells, me more than you could guess,  
For your heart speaks of love  
Through that simple caress.

Your lips against my own  
Give me strength for the day,  
Are sweeter and more tender  
Than words may convey.

I thank Him each day  
On my thought rosary,  
And grateful am I,  
For He sent you to me.

\* \*

### LITHUANIA

I send to Heaven  
A fervent prayer —

God save and keep you  
In His care.

And may His Mother to whom  
Your children pray,

Hasten the dawn  
Of Freedom's Day.

Marcella Andrikis,  
C-7, Waterbury, Conn.

of that Free Word from America.  
Who could express them in words?

With all my heart, I congratulate the Voice of America and wish that the VOA continue to carry the news of Joy, of TRUTH to my enslaved countrymen. You are the ones who bring the shining ray of Hope to the darkened cell where my Homeland, Lithuania, is held in captivity.

Yours —  
Longinas Kublickas



# ISIDĖMĖTINAS GANYTOJO LAIŠKAS

VISO PASAULIO LIETUVIAMS

*Ramybė Ir Viltis Šv. Marijos Nekalčiausioje Širdyje*

**Gegužės 13 dienos proga**

Kadangi čia Ganytojo pareikštos mintys tinka ne tik gegužės mėnesiui, bet visiems laikams, todėl, neturėję galimybės tą laišką patalpinti gegužės mėn. "Vyties" Nr., dedame jį dabar ir kviečiame vyčius į tas mintis įsigyventi ir jas vykinti.

*Redakcija*

Gražu yra būti liudininkais to nemažėjančio lietuvių užsidegimo medžiaginiai gelbėti bolševizmo vergijoje kenčiančius ir skurstančius savuosius. Kiek daug yra tokių, kurie jų vargą palengvinti atiduoda viską, ką gali, ir norėtų dar vis daugiau aukotis. Kai pamąstai, kad tie meilės gestai gal visada yra sujungti su malda, tai gaunasi vaizdas, kurs šviesia žvaigžde spindi virš viso paklydusiųjų žiaurumo ir piktybės. Tos kilnios širdys savo jausmais pasiekia ir toliausiai esančius nelaimingus mūsų brangiuosius, nors trumpai pradžiugina jų širdis ir taip mus suriša vienus su kitais meilės jausmu.

Tačiau visa tai yra tik silpnų žmonių silpni darbai, silpna paguoda. Yra kitos jėgos, kurios kai paliečia kenčiančias širdis, jas pripildo džiaugsmu, viltimi, drąsa, kurios padeda žmogui ir kančiose neprarasti savo kilnumo, numirti su šypsena veide; kurios kai paliečia net pikčiausių žmonių širdis, jas ūmai pakeičia: iš budelio padaro nelaimingų žmonių draugą, iš teisingųjų persekiotojo — kovotoją prieš neteisybę.

Mūsų širdžių jausmai ir troškimai tampa galingesni ir patvaresni, kai juos sujungiame su ama visagale jėga. Kiekvienas mes mokame tai padaryti maldoje bendraudami su Dievu ir šv. Marija. Tačiau pats Išganytojas yra pasakęs, kad "Jeigu iš jūsų du susitars žemėje kurio nors dalyko melsti, bus jiems padaryta mano Tėvo, kurs yra danguje" (Mat. 18, 19). *Užtat nors kada visi lietuviai susijungkime visame pasaulyje kartu maldauti to paties iš Dangiškojo Tėvo: už savuosius, už visą tautą, už paklydusią žmonijos dalį. Nors kada mūsų visų kartu malda, geri darbai ir atgaila tebūna ypatingesni, negu kasdien. Pačios Šv. Marijos pagėidavimu katalikiška visuomenė tokia diena yra pasiskyrusi gegužio 13-ją. Ta diena mums lietuviams yra minėtina ir dėl įvykių savų mūsų tautai. Tų didelių reikalų akyvaizdoje, kurie šiandien yra mūsų tautos ir daugelio kitų, šią gegužio 13-ją kiekvienais metais atžymėkime vis karštesne malda, kokiu nors ypatingu artimo meilės darbu, kokiu nors atgailos veiksmu. Aukokime tą dieną už visus kenčiančius neteisybės ir žiaurumo pilname pasaulyje, už visus kaltuosius artimui ir Dievo teisingumui. Pasaulis yra reikalingas daugiau meilės ir jautresnio bei realesnio ryšio su dangum. Tą dieną visi taip praleiskime, kad padarytume žmonių mielesne Jėzaus ir Marijos širdims, kad jų malonė pasiektų visų žmonių širdis. Per maldą ir atgailą patys daugiau pasisemkime meilės iš dieviškų šaltinių ir ją skleiskime žemėje. Tebūna ir šių metų gegužio 13-jo naujas žingsnis priartinti Dievo karalystę žemėje.*

† *Vyskupas Vincentas Brizgys*  
Kauno Arkivyskupo pagelbininkas



# Lietuvos Vyčių Istorija

Ignas Sakalas

(tęsa)

## 96-ji KUOPA

96-ji kuopa Dayton, Ohio, įsteigta 1916 metais balandžio 9 d. Pirmam susirinkime įsirašė 23 nariai. Valdybon buvo išrinkti pirm. S. Grincevičius, vicepirm. B. Petrukevičius, sekr. K. Ambrozaitytė, fin. sekr. J. Sakalas, išd. A. Gricius, išdo globėjais M. Stankevičiūtė ir M. Kudirkaitė, tvarkdarys F. Tamašauskas.

Kaip daugelio kitų vyčių kuopų, taip ir 96-tos pirmųjų metų veikimo rekordai yra dingę ir sunku plačiau nušviesti kuopos veikla Dievui, Tėvynei, o taip pat ir vietos lietuvių pakėlimui kitataučių akyse. Kuopa gyvavo iki 1921 m.

Po to per dešimtį metų Daytono lietuviai neturėjo jokios jaunimo draugijos. Keliais atvejais buvo bandoma įsteigti Šv. Vardo draugiją, kuri vienok neilgai tarpdavo. Pagaliau, P. Gudelis, M. Ružanskas, K. Zupkus, V. Augustauskas, V. Sinkevičiūtė, V. Damašas ir kiti, pritariant ir remiant tuometiniam klebonui kun. Bystrajui, pasitarę tarpe savęs nutarė atgaivinti vyčių kuopą. Tuo reikalu 1932 metais sausio 24 d. buvo suruoštos prakalbos ir kalbėtojum pakviestas iš Chicagos V. Stulpinas, tais laikais veiklus lietuvių katalikų organizacijose. Prakalbos sutraukė daug jaunimo ir vyresniųjų ir vyčių kuopa buvo atgaivinta.

Tų pačių metų sausio 31 d. įvyko atgaivintosios kuopos pirmas susirinkimas, kuriame išrinkta valdyba iš šių asmenų: pirm. P. Gudelis, vicepirm. E. Žilinskaitė, sekr. B. Sliuzinaitė, fin. sekr. V. Sinkevičiūtė, korespondentas V. Damašas, o kovo 23 d. buvo suruoštas pirmas viešas pasirodymas. Tą dieną rytą visi nariai dalyvavo dvasinėj puotoj, paskui turėjo bendrus pusryčius, o vakare parapijos salėj buvo suruošta meninė programa, kurios metu visi nariai iškilminga priesaika pasižadėjo darbuotis vyčių obalsiu — Tautai ir Bažnyčiai.

Nuo to laiko kuopa ir iki šiai dienai gražiai gyvuoja ir veikia. Parapijos naudai kuopa yra surengus daugiau kaip 50 vakarų, kuriais sukėlė nemažiau kaip \$1,000. Lietuvių tautiniams reikalams, taip pat įvairioms lietuvių švietimo ir kultūrinėms įstaigoms kuopa irgi yra nemažai aukojus. Taip pat nuoširdžiai yra rėmusi ir teberemia savo organizaciją ir į kiekvieną prašymą atsiliepia darbu ir aukomis. Vienais metais kuopos suruoštas organizacijos metinis suvažiavimas - seimas buvo vienas gražiausių. Nuo seno kuopa palaiko gražių tradicijų — keturis kartus per metus bendrai eina prie šv. Komunijos.

Kuopoj veikia ir sporto skyrius, kuriame labiausiai yra pasižymėjęs krepšinio sambūris, kuris įvairiose varžybose daugiau kaip dešimtį kartų yra laimėjęs pirmenybes — čempionatą.

Visoj organizacijoj, tur būt, vienatinė yra kuopa, kurioj veikia ir žvejų grupė. Kitas įdomus faktas, kad vienas narių P. Gudelis yra ilgus metus išbuvęs Centro išdininku. Nors iš valdybos dabar yra išėjęs, bet organizacijoj veikia be paliovos. Nors Amerikoj augęs, bet žymiausias Dayton lietuvių veikėjas. Kuopoj dideliu darbštumu taip yra pasižymėję nariai: J. Žilnskas, M. Razauskas ir k.

## 97-ji KUOPA

97-ji kuopa Akron, Ohio, buvo įsteigta 1915 metais liepos 25 d. per Igno Sakalo ir Mato Šimonio prakalbas, kurios buvo suruoštos Sidario namuose, 697 Railroad St. Susirinkimą - prakalbas atidarė buvęs Cleveland, O., vyčių 25 kuopos veikėjas K. Štaupas, kuris, geresnio darbo jėškodamas buvo persikėlęs gyventi į šį gumos pramonės centrą. Kalbėtojai Ign. Sakalas ir M. Šimonis taip pat buvo atvykę iš Clevelando.

Perskaičius Lietuvos Vyčių Konstituciją ir Ign. Sakalui plačiau nušvietus šios jaunimo organizacijos svarbą Amerikos lietuvių gyvenime ir jos siekimus, visiems pritarus šiai idėjai, susirašė 20 narių. Valdybon išrinkta: pirm. K. Štaupas, vicepirm. J. Čivis, sekret. S. Daunoras, finansų sekr. D. Motekaitis, išd. J. Vebra, išdo globėjais M. Majoriūtė ir A. Sidabriūtė, maršalka J. Kičas.

Išrinkus valdybą, M. Šimonis savo ugingoje kalboje ragino naują organizacijos šaką savo nuolatiniu ir gražiu veikimu puošti ne tik Lietuvos Vyčių, bet ir Akrono lietuvių gyvenimą.

Vadovaujant K. Štaupui, S. Daunorai kuopa yra suruošus visą eilę vakarų, prakalbų, paskaitų tautiniais ir kultūriniais klausimais. Tamprius ryšius palaikė su kaimynine 25-ta kuopa Clevelande, kuri būdama didesnė ir kūrybiškai pajėgesnė neatsisakydavo padėti kiekvienam kuopos kultūriniam užsimojime.

Po keliolikos metų, kaikuriems veikliems kuopos nariams (imant ir K. Štaupą su S. Daunoriu) išvykus į kitus miestus, kuopos veikimas susilpnėjo, o po metų kitų ir visiškai apmirė. Atgaivinti jau nebuvo kam.

Pažymėtina, kad vyčių Akrono kuopa Centro knygoose buvo įregistruota dviem numeriais. Vienu laikotarpiu ji turėjo numerį 31-jį, o kitu — 97-jį. Kaip tas įvyko neturime duomenų.

VYČIAI TURI GRAŽIĄ SAVO VEIKLOS ISTORIJA.  
BET DAR GRAŽESNIŲ DARBŲ ISTORIJA JIE TURI  
SUKURTI ATEITY.





**IN MEMORIAM:** Charles Bason-Basanavičius, Fourth Degree member and past president of the New York-New Jersey District K. of L., buried at Holy Cross Cemetery, N. Arlington, N. J., April 25, 1957, and final prayers offered by Rev. V. Karalevičius, district spiritual adviser, Rev. John Scharnus, pastor of St. Ann's Lithuanian Church, and Rev. Casimir Zvirblis, O. P. of St. John's University, Brooklyn, N. Y.

#### CHARLES BASON (1906-1957)

The New York-New Jersey District Knights of Lithuania and the membership throughout the country were saddened and shocked by the sudden death of Charles Bason-Basanavičius on Easter Sunday, April 21st.

The passing of Charlie certainly has left a void in the K. of L. ranks which will be hard to fill. In the past decade, we have lost several outstanding members, such as Tėvas Mykolas Norkūnas, Charles Vaskas, Louis Ketvirtis, Attorney Joseph A. Grish, Kastas Zaromskis, James A. (Red) Cherry-Visniauskas, past National President during WWII Frank Razvadauskas, and now, Charlie Bason.

On Holy Thursday, Charlie complained to his mother and sisters, of a chest pain. The following day he did not report to work; and on Holy Saturday, Charlie took part in the procession at Midnight Mass in St. Ann's Church, Jersey City, N. J., during which Mass he also received Holy Communion. On Easter Sunday, about 3 p. m., Charlie had another heart attack. The doctor, Police Emergency Squad and Ambulance with oxygen tanks arrived, but it was of no avail, for Charlie had passed on to his eternal reward.

Charles Bason was born on St. Casimir's Day — March 4, 1906. His early education was received in St. Peter's Parochial School and Dickinson High School, both in Jersey City. For many years, he was employed by the Jersey City Printing Co. where he was Assistant Pressman, member of Local 183 Printing Press Union and served on the executive board.

"Kazimieras" Bason-Basanavičius was one of the outstanding K. of L'ers in our district for more than a quarter of a century; he served as president and on many committees. Because of his continuous faithfulness in the Knights of Lithuania organization, the district was to have honored Charlie with a Testimonial Dinner on May 25, 1957 in Kearny, N. J.

The deceased, about whom reams and reams could be written, was quite gifted. He had both patience and

a brand of humor which he put to good advantage in going about and putting forth his best effort to make our K. of L. one of the outstanding national Catholic youth organizations.

Young and old paid their last respects to Charlie while being waked at the William Schlemm Funeral Home. The district membership, led by President Larry Janonis, turned out in large numbers. Rosary was recited by members of the Holy Name Society, of which Charlie was a member, also Father Karalevičius, district spiritual adviser. A Solemn High Mass of Requiem was officiated by Rev. Scharnus, Rev. Karalevičius, Deacon, Rev. Peter Zemeikis of Immaculate Conception Seminary, Sub Deacon and Raymond Thompson, Master of Ceremonies. At the side altars, Mass was offered by Rev. Michael Kemezis, pastor of SS Peter & Paul's Church and former national spiritual director of the K. of L., also Rev. Dominic Pocius of Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Seated in the Sanctuary was Rev. Casimir Zvirblis, O. P. Close to 200 spiritual bouquets were received from K. of L'ers residing in Chicago, Detroit, Dayton, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Boston, Worcester and Providence. District council members served as Honorary Pall Bearers.

May his memory and all the good he did in this world remain with us forever. To his mother and sisters — Mrs. Adele Calandra and Mrs. Margaret Rozger and their families, we express our heartfelt sympathy in their grief and sorrow.

Frank Vaskas

#### 20 METU NUO DR. M. BAGDONO MIRTIES

Buvusio Liet. Vyčių Pirmininko ir Lietuvos Diplomato

Dr. Mikas Bagdonas, Lietuvos Pasiuntinybės Washingtono sekretorius ir konsulas Chicaje, mirė šv. Kryžiaus ligoninėje 1957 m. kovo 28 d.

Bagdonas buvo gimęs Krosnoje 1894 m. spalio 8 d., mokėsi Krosnos pradžios mokykloje, ir Veiverių mokytojų seminarijoje. Teisę studijavo Maskvos universitete, Chicagos Loyola univ. ir Harvard'o univ. Cambridge, Mass. 1925 m. Loyolos univ. gavo teisių daktaro laipsnį. 1913-1918 mokytojavo, 1919 buvo Lietuvos kariuomenės savanoris, 1920 Steigiamojo Seimo narys. 1924-5 m. Liet. Vyčių centro pirmininkas ir jų organo Vytis redaktorius. Nuo 1926 ligi mirties tarnavo pirmuoju sekretorium Lietuvos atstovybėje Washingtono ir nuo 1936 m. lapkričio mėn. ėjo konsulo pareigas Chicagoje.

Jo atminimas ir gražus pavyzdys tegul stiprina vyčius eiti didžiais vyčių idealų keliais.

Lietuvos Įgaliotam Ministrui J.A.V.

POVILUI ŽADEIKIUI

mirus, liūdi su visa lietuvių visuomene ir reiškia gilios užuojautos jo artimiesiems

Lietuvos Vyčių Centro Valdyba



# VYČIŲ SENDRAUGIŲ SKYRIUS

Redaguoja **IGNAS SAKALAS**

**Džiugi žinia.** Chicagos vyčius sendraugius džiugesiu nušvietė gauta iš Los Angeles, Calif., žinia, kad būsimam metiniam organizacijos seime dalyvaus ir J. E. vyskupas Vincentas Brizgys. Tokių augštų svečių dalyvavimas mūsų organizacijos seimuose pridūoda jiems didelės reikšmės. Jau esame rašę, kad Ekscelencija, jei tiktai nebūna sutrukdytas kitų svarbių pareigų, visuomet dalyvauja vyčių seimuose, šventėse, minėjimuose ir kituose žymesniuose pobūviuose. Garbė mūsų organizacijai.

**LRKSA pagerbė sendraugius.** Lietuvių R. K. Susivienijimo Amerikoj 70 metų sukaktį tos organizacijos Chicago apskritis paminėjo balandžio 6 d. Vyčių salėj. Minėjime LRKSA Centro pirmininkas L. Šimutis savo kalboje tarpe kitko iššaukė pavardėmis ir pagerbė sekančius vyčius sendraugius: prel. Igną Albavičių, Igną Sakalą, Kazimierą Rubiną, Juozą Augštaitį, Antaną Bacevičių, Joną Lebežinską, Vinčą Paukštį, Elzbieta Samienę, U. Žemaitienę.

Visi čia išvardinti sendraugiai yra tikrai daug nusipelnę LRKSA. Kaikurie jų yra ilgamečiai kuopų bei apskrities pirmininkai, sekretoriai, išdininkai.

Minėjime dalyvavo ir įdomią kalbą pasakė taip pat J. E. vysk. V. Brizgys, LRKSA narys, o programą išpildė Taut. Moksl. ansamblio kanklininkų grupė vadovaujama A. Kirvaitytės.

**Sveiksta.** Viktoras Jodelis, prieš kiek laiko rimtai susirgęs ir atsigulęs net ligoninėj. Pastarajame kuopos susirinkime sužinota, kad išėjo iš ligoninės ir ilsėdamas namuose džiaugiasi grįžtančia sveikata. Nemažiau džiaugiasi ir sendraugiai, ir tikisi neužilgo vėl matyti savo susirinkimuose, parengimuose, į kuriuos Jodelis visuomet savo sąmojais įneša giedrios nuotaikos.

Taip pat sužinojome, kad valydamą savo namą turėjo nelaimę kuopos sekretorė Ona Aleliūnienė, kurią susirinkime sekretorės pareigose pavadavo E. Samienė. Kita pa-

vyzdinga narė U. Žemaitienė taip gi buvo gerokai išsinarinus koja, tačiau nors ir šlubuodama susirinkime dalyvavo. Taip pat ilgesnis laikas, kaip nesveikuoja R. Baliauskas ir Jusis. Pastarasis gyvena Kenosha, Wis.

Visiems linkime pasveikti ir vėl isijungti į bendrą sendraugių veiklą.

**Rasta viskas tvarkoje.** Sendraugių kuopos Knygų Revizijos komisija, peržiūrėjus finansų sekretoriaus ir išdininko knygas, kaip pranešė balandžio mėnesio susirinkime, rado viską tvarkoje. Nors kuopa pernai turėjo daugiau išlaidų negu pajamų (išlaidų susidarė \$572.90), bet pridėjus ankstyvesnį balansą pasirodė, kad kuopos išde šiuo metu yra \$1,634.88.

Knygų Revizijos komisijoj buvo A. Budris, P. Zakaraitė ir T. Norbūtienė.

Susirinkimas komisijos pranešimą vienu balsu priėmė.

**Tradicinė diena.** Vyčių Chicagos apskrities tradicinė diena (liepos 4-ji) šiemet bus Bučo sode ir ji bus visais atžvilgiais sėkmingesnė bei iškilmingesnė už pastaraisiais metais ruoštasias. Tai sakome dėl to, kad tai vyčių šventei jau pradėta ruoštis, sudarant plačią komisiją, kurios pirmininku yra organizacijos veteranas ir senas Chicagos apskrities veikėjas Albinas Manstavičius (Manst).

Greta programos, ruošiamą didelį dovanų paskirstymas (laimėjimas). Dovanos jau dabar renkamos iš vyčiams prielankių prekybininku. Stambiausia dovana bus — spalvotosios televizijos aparatas, kainojas keletą šimtų dolerių.

Tradicinės dienos ruošime ir sendraugiai uoliau pasireiškia.

**Atstovai į apskritį.** Balandžio mėnesio sendraugių kuopos susirinkime buvo išrinkti atstovais į Illinois - Indianą apskritį P. Zakaraitė, H. Širvinskienė, T. Norbutienė ir V. Paukštis. Pastarasis yra apskrities išdo globėjo pareigose. Šie atstovai apskirtyje ištisus metus atstovaus sendraugių kuopą.

**Sveikiname.** Inž. K. Paukštys, buvęs ilgametis sendraugių kuopos

protokolų sekretorius, o paskutiniuosius metus ejes finansų sekretoriaus pareigas, Amerikos Lietuvių Inžinierių ir Architektų Sąjungos skyriaus tech. spaudos sekcijos susirinkime išrinktas "Technikos Žodžio" administratorium. Jis taip pat yra ir redakcinės kolegijos narys ir jo adresu yra siunčiama visa laikraščiui medžiaga.

Šia proga reikia pažymėti, kad jo žmona yra žinoma dailininkė, Chicagoj yra suruošusi savo kūrybių parodą ir dalyvaujanti kolektyvinėse lietuvių dailininku parodose Chicagoj ir kituose miestuose.

**Turėjo viešniu.** E. Samienė, plačiai žinoma Chicagos lietuvių veikėja, sendraugių korespondentė, Velykoms turėjo viešnių. Iš Los Angeles, Calif., buvo atvykusi jos dukterė Bernadetta Gurskis su savo dukrele.

**Džiaugiasi sūnaus pasižymėjimais.** Kaz. ir Ant. Petruliai džiaugiasi savo sūnaus Alfonso pasižymėjimais. Šiuo metu Alfonsas yra JAV kariuomenėj ir tarnybą atlieka Vokietijoj. Būdamas didelis sporto mėgėjas savo pasižymėjimais pateko į amerikiečių kariu basebolo rinktinę ir dabar su ta rinktine turi progos aplankyti visus Vokietijos miestus, o prieš praėjusias Velykas net Paryžiuje dalyvavo sporto šventėje.

**Dar galima gauti.** Pas K. ir A. Petrulius, 4420 S. Talman Ave., Chicago 32, Ill., dar galima gauti Lietuvos operos dain. V. Jonuškaitės dainų plokštelėse albumą. Albumas kainuoja \$8. Prieš Velykas net Pietų Amerikoj, Benos Airese, Argentinoj, gyvenas Pr. Ožinskis užsiskė albumą. Radijui įsigalėjus, plokštelės buvo lig ir išėjusios iš mados. Dabar jos vėl grįžta į namus. Todėl vyčiams — sendraugiams ir jauniams — patartina turimą plokštelių rinkinį papildyti ir plokštelėmis su dain. V. Jonuškaitės dainomis.

Vyčiai sendraugiai  
greičiau susiorganizuokime  
i vyčių sendraugių kuopas!





**MRS. ANTHONY O. SHALLNA** of Cambridge, Mass. (top, 1st right) — In April 1957, Mrs. Shallna represented the International Federation of Business and Professional Women at the United Nations Session of the Commission of the status of women. The organization has federations in 26 countries with a membership of 360,000. It has consultative status with the Social and Economic Council of the United Nations. Mrs. Shallna, while attending the sessions, made a statement on the subject of "Equal Pay for Women for Work of Equal Value" and also on the subject of "Opportunities for Girls in Vocational and Technical Education." On May 20, 1957, Mrs. Shallna, who has been a member of the Massachusetts and Federal Bars for many years, was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States. Her admission was moved by U. S. Senator Saltonstall. It was also Senator Saltonstall while Governor of Massachusetts in 1940 who appointed her to her present position as a Member of the Board of Review, Mass. Division of Employment Security.



**PHYLLIS NARKUN CIMICS**, formerly of Lawrence, Mass., and daughter of Tėvas Norkūnas, recently received a degree of Doctor of Chiropractic from the Palmer School of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa. Dr. Cimics is a graduate of the Immaculate Academy, Teachers' College and Canisius College, all of Buffalo, N. Y., as well as the Pius X Liturgical School of Music of Sacred Heart College, Rochester, N. Y. She is a former high school teacher in Hamburg, N. Y., and organist for over 11 years both in Buffalo, N. Y. and Detroit, Mich. She was chosen supervisor of music for the elementary schools in Buffalo, in which capacity she served for four years, and, simultaneously, she was associated with a coast-to-coast radio program, "The Rosary Hour," serving as organist and musical director for 5 years. She has contributed valuable service in the Chiropractic Research Dept. in Davenport, Iowa, and was also assistant editor of the college newspaper there, as well as being a member of the Chiropractic Columbian Club and the Cath. Daughters of America. Presently, she is residing in Davenport with her two children, Donna Marie, 14, and John Thomas, 10. Following the termination of her duties in July she plans to visit her native Lawrence and her three sisters and brother.

#### TEMPEST IN 2/4 TIME

J. V. Chervokas

A Lithuanian is a poem in himself,  
 Standing in the welcome shadows of a musty dance hall  
 As the merciless polka beat pays raucous respect  
 To a lost yesterday and a vague tomorrow.  
 A dual nature in conflict wears a cabbage soup stain,  
 Now, symbolic of a heritage rejuvenated,  
 And then, as a damning spot  
 Which derides a custom, a name, and a tongue;  
 But somehow in that awesome blare of the trumpet and the flitty  
 trill of the clarinet  
 A vague tomorrow gives birth to hope,  
 And that hope steps from the shadows  
 To join the tireless dancers.



## To the Editor of the "VYTIS":

Permit us to call your attention and that of your readers to an error of fact which appeared in the March 1957 issue of the *Vytis*. In the brief biography of St. Casimir on page 3, it is stated that the Patron Saint of our K. of L. was the "second son of Casimir III and of Elizabeth of Austria. He was born in 1458 on the 5th of October". On page 6, again concerning St. Casimir, it is stated that he "was the son of King Casimir III and Queen Elizabeth".

Casimir III was not the father of St. Casimir. This is an error which appears in many books containing a brief history of the life of St. Casimir.

Casimir III was born in 1310 in Cracow, the son of Wladislaw the Short who was one of the princes of Kuyavia, a part of Poland. Not too much is known of his early life but it is an historical fact that he married Aldona, daughter of Gediminas, ruler of Lithuania. He was crowned King of Poland at Cracow in 1333. Later on he led a number of crusades against Lithuania and claimed the title of "King of Poland, Lithuania and Russia." He served Poland well, in fact so well that he became known as Casimir the Great, the only king the Poles call Great. He died in 1370.

St. Casimir was born in October 1458 as the article in the "Vytis" stated (although, according to most historians, the exact date is reported to be October 3, 1458 and not October 5). If Casimir III died in 1370 and St. Casimir was born in 1458, Casimir III could hardly be the father of the Saint.

Actually the father of the Saint was Casimir IV, one of two sons born to Jogaila and Sofija Alseniske. He was born in 1427. It was Casimir IV who married Elizabeth of Austria in 1454. Of this union, eleven children were born. St. Casimir was the third child but the second son.



Rev. W. C. Jaskiewicz, S. J., Director, preparing the weekly program of the Institute of Russian Studies broadcast over the Fordham University radio station, WFUV-FM. (Father Jaskiewicz was active member of Council 17, South Boston, Mass., prior to entering the Jesuit Order.)

### MEMBERS REJOINED

Anastasia Utkus  
Al & Fel Planchus  
Regina Zaranka  
Frieda and Frank Samulenas  
Emy and Albert Yatkauskas  
Peter Domas  
Raymond Mazeitis  
Joseph Olsauskas  
Joan McHugh  
Lillian McKeon  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Garby  
Mr. and Mrs. A. Staskevich  
Ethel Krotulis

This distinction is of great importance. Many are aware of the efforts of the Poles to claim St. Casimir as one of their own. It is our contention that there was no Polish blood in St. Casimir because his father Casimir IV was definitely all Lithuanian. Consequently, the claims of the Poles are unfounded and unjustified. However, their claims would bear a great deal of weight if Casimir III were the father of the Saint for Casimir III is considered by the majority of his biographers as being Polish.

In our estimation, making Casimir III the father of St. Casimir is a glaring error of fact which we cannot let pass by unnoticed. History is history only when it is based on true facts. Hence, the purpose of this correction.

"Cemodanas"

### K. OF L. CALENDAR

June 23 — Dayton, Ohio (96) ANNUAL PICNIC, Eintracht Park.

July 7 — Norwood, Mass. (27) — ANNUAL PICNIC, Grape Arbor, Walpole. (In case of rain — postponed to July 14th.)

August 8-11 — 44th K. of L. National Convention to be held at Hotel Statler, Los Angeles, California. Host: Council 133, Attention, Delegates and Guests: All those wishing to travel in a group, starting from Illinois-Indiana area, contact **John A. Stoskus**, 5177 W. 64th St., Chicago 38, Ill. From Mid-Center district, contact **Frank Gudelis**, 129 Rita St., Dayton, Ohio. From Mid-Central district, contact **Mrs. Marcella Onaitis**, 2304 Sarah St., Pittsburgh 3, Pa. From N. Y. - N. J. district, contact **Jack Stukas**, 1264 White St., Hillside, N. J. New England district, contact **Joseph Sakaitis**, pres., 60 Harrison St., Worcester 4, Mass.

September 28-29 — NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT CONVENTION. Host: C-30, Westfield, Mass.

October 12 — Hartford, Conn. (6) AUTUMN DANCE, Holy Trinity School Hall, Hartford.

November 9 — Norwood, Mass. (27) MARDI GRAS BALL, Runerberg, Hall, Wilson St., Norwood.



## JUNIOR PAGE



### LITHUANIAN CITIES

#### KLAIPĖDA

Klaipėda, on the shores of the Baltic Sea and Kuršių Marios, is Lithuania's gateway to the world. From early ages this region has been inhabited by the Lithuanians. They had been attacked by the Vikings many times, but our forefathers, bold protectors of their land, bravely fought them off. At the beginning of the 13th century, the Germans gained a foothold in Klaipėda and its vicinity at that time, had been inhabited by fisherman, and near the Danges River was a strong fort, which was eventually burned by the Teutons. Lithuania regained control of Klaipėda in the 14th century. The rulers of Lithuania, in order to protect Klaipėda, built a new fort. Later, as a result of long and bloody struggles, Klaipėda again became a possession of Germany until it fell into the hand of the Lithuanian uprisers on January 15, 1923.

Klaipėda was the only port of independent Lithuania through which Lithuania traded with the world. The city grew rapidly.

Klaipėda has a number of factories, ship yards, various institutions, schools of higher education, and various means of trade. Transoceanic liners could dock at the port of Klaipėda. Steamboats on the Nemunas keep contact between Kaunas and Klaipėda. At one time, the Germans had built a navy base at the port, but since the Russian occupation the Russians use it as a submarine base.

#### LIGHTHOUSE OF KLAIPĖDA

If you were to go to the land of your forefathers, the first thing to catch your eye as the ship floats into the port would be the lighthouse of Klaipėda. It is thirty meters in height and was built 145

years ago. It lights the way for ships, that they, without danger may dock in the port.

The strength of its light is 1860 candlepower. Oil is used to furnish this candle power. The light is magnified 17 times as it passes through the prism of the glass thus cutting the Baltic night with a ray of 31,620 candlepower. The signals change every five seconds, 4 of light and 1 of darkness. The constant blinking of the light is visible for 55 kilometers.

If, when having reached the shore of Lithuania, the Baltic Sea and the port of Klaipėda would be enveloped by a fog, you would be greeted by a modern nautaphone. Its shrill bellowing vibrates through the air by the following signals: it sounds for three seconds, then stops for ½ second and continues so until the fog lifts. The bellowing of the Nautaphone is heard above the roar of the sea for a distance of 14 kilometers.

As the boat enters the port one catches sight of the radio station, meteorological station, the Coast Guard tower where observers watch incoming vessels and notify the port authorities when help is needed by these vessels. On the wharfs are lined up the loading cranes that lift a load weighing 35,000 kilograms each; Transportation to the interior of the country is provided by steamboat, train, car or airplane.

#### LITHUANIAN RESORTS

Like one continuous resort, all of Lithuania is overgrown with forests, dotted with lakes, covered with a lacework of rivers and streams, providing in itself unusual opportunities for rest and helpful pleasure.

**Birštonas** — Famed as a health resort. The resort and the little town of the same name are situated on the Nemunas and are surround-

ed by extensive pine forest and the steep, winding banks of the river. Dry, sandy beaches run down to the Nemunas at this point and the entire resort is protected from the winds by the pine forests and the steep river banks. The scenic beauty of the surrounding country side is remarkable. The pines, the sweeping graceful bends of the Nemunas, its high, steep banks... all of these, added to the fact that the dry, healthgiving air laden with the scent of pine is priceless in its healing qualities, makes Birštonas one of the most beautiful as well as most healthy summer resorts. Restful, pleasant walks may be taken along any number of paths which wind through 2,500 acres of pine-covered land which had once been a game reservation for Lithuania's grand dukes. But the main reason why Birštonas is a famous resort is that it contains fountains of healing mineral water.

**Zarasai** — "Lithuania's Switzerland", an unusually beautiful, lake-studded region, is located in the northern section of Lithuania. The charm of Zarasai is to be found in its picturesque valleys, numerous lakes, its scented pines and its shaggy hills. The village itself, in fact, is surrounded by four lakes and thus draws those who wish to have an ideal yet economical vacation. The lakes of Zarasai offer excellent conditions for all water-sports and then, the visitor may occupy himself with any of the out-door activities which range from hunting and fishing down to the simple joys of walking and gathering the lush wild berries which grow profusely throughout the region.



# VYČIAI VEIKIA



# COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

## CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 133 —

H. Nashlenas

Excitement is really mounting here on the sunny shores of the blue Pacific as Los Angeles KNIGHTS really swing into action on preparation for a MOST enjoyable and memorable CONVENTION in K. of L. history. What was that streak of lightning that just dazzled the eye? Relax, that was no space ship whizzing by... just Ann Laurinaitis, Helen Bartkus and Joe Zichwic on their way to get more data on tours to Catalina, Arrowhead, Laguna, Long Beach, San Diego, Escondido, Tijuana, Beverly Hills, or was it Hollywood? (Some of the longer trips will be for the 2 or 3 days pre and post convention.)

Deep sea fishing, overnight? Right! Off Catalina fishing is being planned especially for inland members of the K. of L. who have never feasted their eyes on the wonders of the Pacific. And where is Johnny Antanavich, our boy with the horn? Hard at work at night clubs around town, studying the melodious strains and torrid tempos of well known orchestras as he prepares to sift them down to 2 or 3 for the convention committee's final approval. Who's planning the golf tournament? Think it was turned over to Johnny and Joe. And speaking of food, that's a surprise that'll tickle your palate and put lights in your eyes. So-oo, come fellow Knights, don't hesitate, don't delay! Schedule your 1957 vacation and mail in your reservation for the most fun packed holiday in your life. See YOU at the Statler! You all know the date (August 8, 9, 10 & 11).

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Our council (133) is literally growing by leaps and bounds, as we

bers: Mr. and Mrs. J. Jodele, V. Pui-kunas, S. Inglevicius, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kiskis, J. Rugelis, T. Yakutis, P. Valentinas, B. Seliukas, Helen Mockus, V. Macys, V. Jasiulionis, J. Podziunas, Dr. J. Varnas, and Mr. and Mrs. George Radauskas who just rejoined our council.

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Among the proud possessors of 1st Ritual degrees, as of March 1957, are Tom Yakutis, V. Jasiulionis, Helen Mockus, J. Rugelis, B. Seliukas, Nancy Speecher, Frank Speecher, Anna Grikavicius, J. Grikavicius and last but not least J. Barkauskas. Congratulations!

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Second Ritual degrees will be conferred upon 20 of our lucky members on June 9, 1957 at our convention site — Hotel Statler.

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Plans to organize a San Diego council are proceeding "full steam ahead." Already signed up as members are Mr. and Mrs. Grauzinis, Mr. and Mrs. Hammer, Vladas Grauzinis, Vytis Beliajus and Lucy Padoris. The first meeting of this new council will be held late in May at which time officers will be elected, and, we hope, more new members added. Bravo! to the many Angelenos who journeyed to San Diego to stir up interest in the organization of this council. Two special trips were made from L. A. by our members — one in February (Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Bartkus, Helen Nashlenas, Lorraine Samolis and Leonard Valiukas), and one in March (Ann Laurinaitis, Lorraine Samolis, Anthony Skirius and Leonard Valiukas).

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**Our council's sincerest thanks to:**

DR. OWEN J. NOREM (author of *Timeless Lithuania*) for his human and moving narrative on "Impressions of Lithuania and Its People" (Statler Hotel — March meeting) when he was U. S. Consul

to the Republic of Lithuania (1937-1940). This great American of predominantly Norwegian extraction has proved to be a true friend of the Lithuanian people.

MRS. E. TOMAS for her talk on "Lithuanian Poetry and Poets" (April meeting — parish hall). Mrs. Tomas, a poet in her own right, and now working for her Ph. D. at the University of Southern Calif. traced the growth of Lithuanian poetry from 1714 (Donelaitis) to 1939 (Neris and Brodziunas). She explained that Lithuanian folk songs were the source of Lithuanian poetry; hence its lyric nature. Both Byron and Longfellow had great appreciation for Lithuanian poetry for its purity of feeling; claimed many of these poems to be masterpieces of idyllic situation. A brief reading from 1714 onward was thoroughly enjoyed by our members.

## ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

GARY, IND. 82 — V. Geanchos

Our recent CHICKEN FRY, netted us a profit of \$50.00, which was donated to the Parish Fund. Following members contributed towards the Fry — Mr. and Mrs. Yuknevich (10 chickens), Liz Shirvinski, Mrs. Pete Mazeika, Mrs. Stella Pranis, Mickey Shirvinski, John and Sophie Kaminski, Tony Jank, Emily Mihaluk, Mary and Jim Rukas, Charlotte Strumski and Stella Kaminski. Hostesses were Charlotte Strumskis, Stella Pranis, Emily Mihaluk, Mary Rukas, Bunnie and Patty Kaminski, Margy Mazeika and the Petratis girls. Cooks — Grandma Bruzas, Liz Shirvinski, Mickey Shirvinski and Sophie Kaminski. Several of our men helped out, too — Tony Jank, John Kawelcome the following new mem-



minski and Pete Mazeika. We also thank our best ticket sellers — Mr. and Mrs. Pete Mazeika.

Our council donated \$10.00 to the American Lithuanian Council during Lithuanian Independence Day exercises; also \$5.00 to the Sisters of St. Casimir, Chicago.

On May 18th, we held a Raffle and Dance which was chairmanned by John Kaminski. The hall was beautifully decorated by Charlotte Strumski, Stella Pranis and Viola Geanchos.

C-82 bowlers are eagerly waiting for the Tourney to be held in Pittsburgh... The latter part of May John and Sophie Kaminski will be celebrating their 33rd Wedding Anniversary. Sveikiname Juos!.... We are happy to learn that Emily Mihaluk's mother has improved greatly and that Mary Rukas' mother is on the road to recovery.

#### CHICAGO, ILL. 5 — "Bernie"

The new officers elected for the year of 1957 are as follows: Spiritual Advisor — Rev. A. Valancius; President — Loretta Macekonis; Vice President — Lucille L. Yucius; Treasurer — Robert Zimmer; Fin. Secretary — Diane Rekus; Rec. Secretary — Teresa Pupinik; and Sgt.-at-Arms — George Kujawa.

This year the annual Illinois-Indiana District St. Casimir's celebration was held at St. Michael's Church and Council 5 was the host of the most important Spiritual activity of the year. The master of ceremonies at the luncheon was Attorney Konstant Savickus who very capably handled the program. Also among our many distinguished guests was Stanley Pieza, Religious Editor of the Chicago Herald American, who showed movies of his assignment to Rome during the Marian Year. Special thanks to the council members who served on the committee and helped to make this day such a memorable one. Congratulations to Jeanette Norvillas who received her Third Degree medal at the luncheon.

That gal Diane Rekus has done it again! For the third consecutive time she has won the trophy in the Ill.-Ind. District Ping-Pong tournament. Another member of our council, George Kujawa, came close to winning the trophy in the men's division but was defeated by Tony Lubert of C-112.

Everyone had great fun on the night of May 18. All the members got together for some fancy square dancing a relaxing hay ride and some delicious hot dogs. Then to top off the evening we gathered around the fire and sang favorite old time songs.

The Ill.-Ind. District bowling season is over and although we didn't take the championship, our No. 1 team finished the season in second place, and our No. 2 team finished in fifth place. We wish to thank the members of the other councils who by bowling with our council enabled us to enter two teams in the league. Thanks also goes to the members who were team substitutes.

Don't forget council meetings the last Tuesday of every month, and the socials every Friday night in St. Michael's parish hall.

## NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

M. Klimkaitis

The Spring Convention of the New England District K. of L. was held on Sunday, April 28, 1957, with Council 26, Worcester, Mass., as host.

Eleven councils were represented with 71 delegates, 4 alternates, 2 honorary members, 7 priests and guests. Lowell, Lawrence and Ansonia did not submit a mandate and sent no delegates.

It was announced that time was available on Channel 10 for a TV program. Rev. Jurgelaitis, O. P. of Providence has been looking into this matter. Perhaps you will be looking at us on TV in the near future.

Frank Ciras, C-116, reported on the coming Sports Day Picnic to be held on May 26 at Romuva Park, Brockton. This is a New England District annual affair.

At this point, the Convention attended Holy Hour services in St. Casimir's Church, where the entire body joined in oral prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

Following this spiritual exercise, the Convention reconvened, business moved rapidly. Many suggestions were offered, but only the following resolutions were adopted.

#### Resolve:

That the N. E. District have a Mass said for the repose of the souls of two of our deceased members: Charles Bason of the New York-New Jersey District and Frank Razvadauskas of South Boston, Mass.

#### Resolve:

That Council 26, Worcester, be supported in its bid for acting host to the National Convention in 1958.

#### Resolve:

That thanks be extended to C-26 and Rev. Petraitis for welcoming the district convention and so graciously acting as host.

#### Resolve:

That the N. E. District go on record as supporting the resolution to be sponsored by the Supreme Council to allow nominations for various national offices to be submitted in writing where the nominee is unable to attend the 1957 National Convention in Los Angeles.

It was voted to send two delegates from the N. E. District to the L. A. Convention. They are: Winifred Skudris and Florence Zaleskas, both of C-17, South Boston. Alternates: Maryann Sienkiewicz, C-116 South Worcester and Marcella Andrikis, C-7 Waterbury, Conn.

Members were requested to notify the New England District Secretary if they were planning to attend the National Convention this year. The Secretary is Mrs. Ann Bender, 45 Providence St., Worcester. Also, the Supreme Council would like to know in advance, so notify either Rev. Albert Contons or Edward Daniels of Council 26, Worcester.

Elections were held and the results were as follows: President — Joseph Sakaitis, C-26 Worcester; Vice President — Barbara Cyronak, C-103 Providence; Recording Secretary — Mrs. Anne Bender, C-26, Worcester; Corresponding Secretary — Mary Klimkaitis, C-116 So. Worcester; Treasurer — Louise Totilas, C-116 So. Worcester; Trustees — Edward Tarutis, C-27 Norwood and Marcia Dirzinskas, C-30 Westfield.

#### Chairmen:

Sports Committee — Edward Daniels, C-26 Worcester; Ritual Committee — Mrs. Katherine Perednia, C-27 Norwood; Lithuanian Affairs Comm. — John Olevitz, C-17, So. Boston; Cultural Committee — Marcella Andrikis, C-7 Waterbury; VYTIS Correspondent —



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DOVANA

Lithuanian Bibliographical 57  
203 Madison St.  
Westville, Ill.

Mary Klimkaitis. (It was decided that the job of VYTIS Correspondent become a part of the duties of the Correspondent Secretary.)

The next district convention will be held in September in Westfield, Mass.; hosts — Rev. V. Puidokas, pastor and Council 30.

The meeting was adjourned and a buffet supper fit for a king, not just lowly knights, was served by Council 26.

#### CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 18 — F.D.S.

We are happy to be back in the column with some news — old and new.

Our council sponsored two whist parties for the benefit of the Immaculate Conception Church Repair Fund. Donations amounted to \$300.

Jean and Pauline Malin sailed for Europe last summer and visited with their cousin, Helen (Puzin) Crocker and family in Stuttgart, Germany. The girls toured Italy, Austria, Switzerland and France. Many interesting experiences of their travels were related upon their return home.

Pre-Lenten marriage vows were taken at a Nuptial Mass by Alberta Malin and Peter Raskauskas at the Immaculate Conception Church on February 16, 1957. Reception was held at the South Boston Lithuanian Club Hall. They are making their

home in South Boston. Best Wishes to the couple for a happy future!

John Belskis, past president, is now serving in the U. S. Army.

Our heartiest congratulations to Alberta (Malin) Raskauskas who has just received her Master's Degree in Health Education at Boston University and to Teddy Mankus who passed the Bar exams. Jane Power, our former recording secretary, has recently become engaged.

On March 4th, St. Casimir's Day, our council held its annual Communion and Breakfast.

Our Annual Spring Dance was held at the Cambridge Lithuanian

Club, May 4th. Proceeds will be used towards renovating the Immaculate Conception Convent Chapel. Many old acquaintances were renewed. The Sisters of Jesus Crucified and Dance Committee sincerely thank all for their support of this worthy cause.

VYČIAI RUOŠIASI

IR VYKSTA I

VYČIU SEIMA

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA!

### WHAT YOU ARE . . . .

ANTONIA M. WACKELL

"What you are speaks so loud I can't hear what you say."

Is a very old quotation I came upon today.

It started me off to thinking; could that apply to me?

If I am a "What you are" and my manner "speaks so loud",

That it amuses and amazes some strangers in a crowd,

Then no matter what I think, no attention will they pay —

Because, "What I am speaks so loud they can't hear what I say."

So I thought and thought about that old quotation,

And finally decided that to win one's admiration,

Is not to be so boisterous, conspicuous or rude;

But instead, adopt the thoughtful, courteous attitude;

So that others will listen readily and pay

Kind attention to me, and to whatever I may say.

## FREE TRIP TO LOS ANGELES

(Supreme Council Officers not eligible)

SPECIAL AWARD

### ROUND TRIP AIR-COACH TICKET TO THE LOS ANGELES CONVENTION

OR

CASH OF \$175.00 (Boston, Mass. is the farthest point from Los Angeles, and will be used as the basis of this award.)

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To: PERSON RECEIVING MOST POINTS FOR  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP WORK FROM  
September 1, 1956 to August 1, 1957.

**Hurry Hurry Hurry**

JOHN A. STOSKUS,  
Membership Committee Chmn.  
5177 W. 66th St.  
Chicago, Ill.