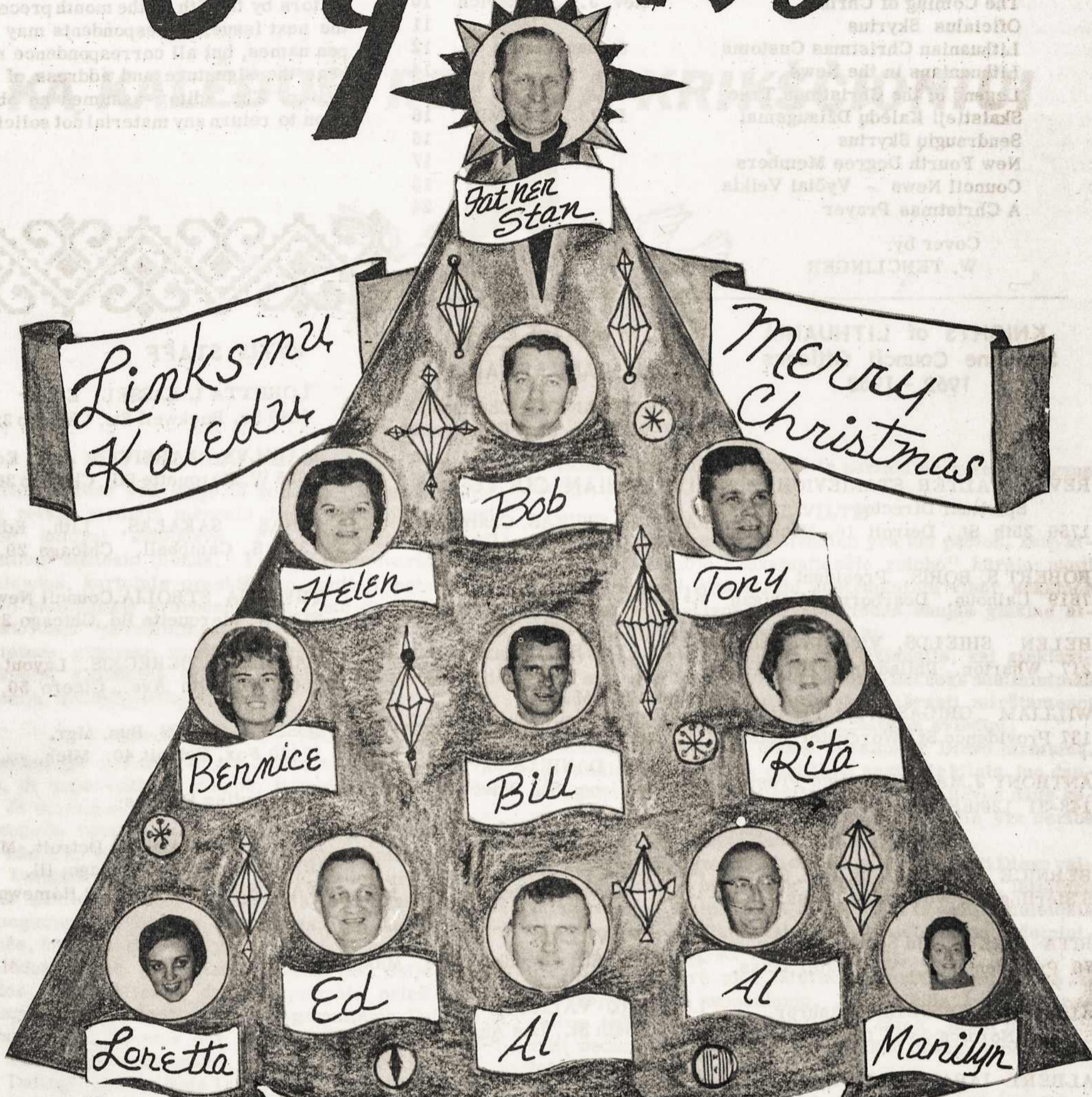


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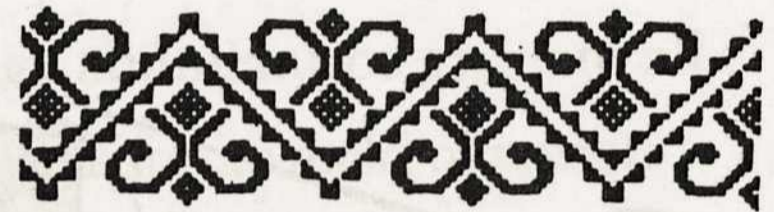
TABLE OF CONTENTS - TURINYS

Ką Kalėdos Reiškia Krikščioniui	P. Brazys, MIC	3
Profile: Ruta Lee-Kilmonis	P P. Gabris	4
Prayer of St. Francis		5
Holy Night in Bethlehem	W. Yelmokas	6
Adomas Mickevičius and Lithuania	A. Šešplaukis	8
The Coming of Christ	Rev. J.W.Stanievich	10
Oficialus Skyrius		11
Lithuanian Christmas Customs	J. Daužvardis	12
Lithuanians in the News		14
Legend of the Christmas Tree		15
Skaistieji Kalėdų Džiaugsmal	P.P.Cinikas, MIC	16
Sendraugių Skyrius		16
New Fourth Degree Members		17
Council News - Vyčiai Veikia		18
A Christmas Prayer		24

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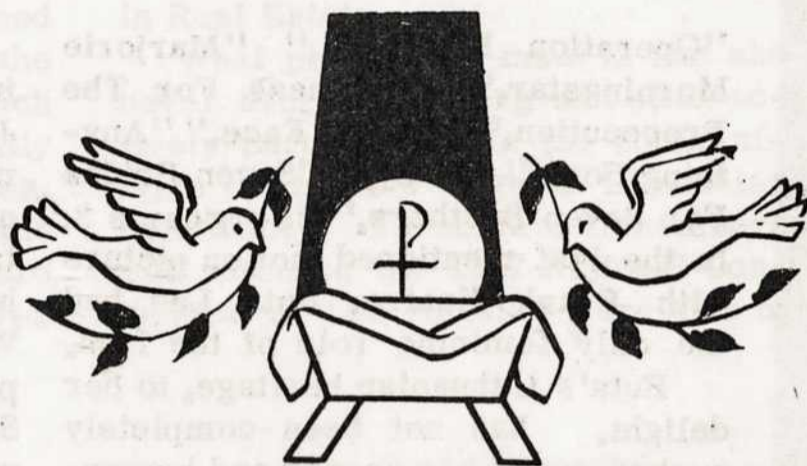
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"Suledėjusiomis lūpomis, ašarotomis akimis, nevilties iškankinti puolame prie Tavo prakartėlės, Šventasis Kūdiki!"
(Iš Sibiro maldaknygės)

Pranas Brazys, MIC



KĄ KALĖDOS REIŠKIA KRIKŠČIONIUI



NUO KALENDŲ IKI KALĖDŲ

Kalėdų vardas yra kilęs iš romėnų "Kalendae". Kalendos reiškė pirmąją mėnesio dieną, kada viešam susirinkime kunigai skelbdavo ("calare - skelbti, šaukti") įsimintinas mėnesio dienas. Ypačiai buvo svarbios sausio kalendos, kuriomis prasidėdavo naujieji metai ir kada buvo skelbiamos svarbesniosios metų datos. Iš čia ir "kalendoriaus" pavadinimas.

Kristaus gimimas maždaug sutapo su naujųjų metų kalendomis. Kalėdoms ir visam mūsų kalendoriui jis davė naują, krikščionišką prasmę.

KUKLIOJI KALĖDŲ DIDYBĖ

Dievžmogio gyvenimas yra didžiausias mūsų istorijos įvykis. Jį supa kuklumo didybė, taip visada būdinga Dievui ir Jo darbams.

Visagalis beribių pasaulių Tvėrėjas gimė mažas, bejėgis kūdikis. Tas, kurio yra visi žemės gelmių turtai, kurio žvaigždės ir planetos, gimė šaltoj urvinėj oloj. Kristus paniekino visa, ką pasaulis brangina: prabangą ir patogumus, garbes ir karalystes, dėl kurių vyksta peštynės, karai ir revoliucijos.

Kalėdos mums neša Kristų, kuris nuo Betlėjaus iki Golgotos kelia šviesųjį dvasios primatą prieš tamsią medžiagos naktį. Medžiagoje smygstantiems Rytams ir Vakarams meta Kristus dar niekada negirdėtą liudijimą:

- Palaiminti vargdieniai, bejėgiai, bevardžiai!
- Dalingi, kurie alksta ir trokšta ir verkia!
- Palaiminti nuolankūs taikingi, gailestingi!

Taip, pavydėtini, nes jiems priklauso ateitis: "Nes jie paveldės žemę" ir "jų yra dangaus karalystė!"

Kalėdos mums padeda suprasti Dievą, kuris iš nieko sutvėrė pasaulį ir neša jį savo apvaizdos delne, bet su tokiu betlėjišku kuklumu, lyg Jo visai nebūtų, arba lyg kad Jis neturėtų balso istorijos parlamentuose. Ir todėl pasaulis gyvena ir tvarkosi "be Dievo"; be Jo vardo savo konstitucijose ir savo himnuose, nors tas Dievas judina

kiekvieną atomą ir žvaigždes ir nerimu sargdina žmogaus širdį.

KALĖDŲ VILTIS

Rytų ir Vakarų viltys šiandien yra tos pačios, kaip kitados nelaimingojo "tūkstantmečio reicho" kūrėjo: nauji ir vis baisesni ginklai. Su susirūpinimu visur sekamos ginklavimosi lenktynės, ir kiekvienas naujas ginklas atrodo kaip žingsnis į saugesnį rytojų.

Rytai ir Vakarai nežino kaip džiaugtis, kai ginklavimosi svarstyklės nusvyra jų naudai. Bet koks nusiminimas ir sąmyšis, kai priešui pavyksta išrasti mirštamesnį sprogmenį ir toliau nušauti jį užtaisyta sviedinį!

Kalėdos teprimena mums dvasios ir Dievo pirmumą. Juo mažiau mes galime pasitikėti savim ir kitais, juo daugiau galime ir turime kliautis Dievu. Juk Dievas daug geriau už mus supranta laisvės kainą, nes Jis yra beribė laisvė ir visiška nepriklausomybė.

Kristus gimė mums, kad mes galėtume tapti Dievo vaikais. Jis nenori būti vergų Viešpats, bet laisvų, laimingų vaikų Tėvas. Kaip motina labiau myli ir akių nenuleidžia nuo sergančio kūdikio, taip Dievas stebi mūsų pažeminimą, persekiojamą, skriaudžiamą tautą.

Dievas sutvėrė mus laisvus ir gerbia mūsų laisvę iki visiško, dieviško nuoseklumo. Jis nesikiša, kol mes pagalbos ieškome visur kitur, tik ne Jame. Kolei mes savo viltį dedame tik į mūsų pačių ir mūsų draugų ginklus, tolei Dievas laukia.

Kalėdos skelbia taiką ir ramybę geros valios žmonėms.

Rūpinkimės, kad Kristus gimtų ir viešpatautų mūsų širdyse ir kad visa mūsų tauta vis labiau artėtų į Jį savo kančios ir kryžiaus keliu.

Kalėdų Kristus yra mūsų didžioji viltis, į kurią suduž visos priešų gudrybės ir įmančiausieji ginklai. Būkime tikri, jeigu Dievas norės, niekuomet iš tų ginklų nebus iššauta. Rytoj tie ginklai gali nukrypti prieš juos pačius ir niekais paversti visą jų galijotišką didybę.

Profile ...

P. Paul Gabris

Star of TV and Motion Pictures

RUTA LEE KILMONIS



Yes, all they say about Ruta Lee is true. She is a pink champagne blond, vivacious, talented TV star, well established Hollywood actress and - she is an active member of K of L C-133, Los Angeles.

Our Ruta Lee (Kilmonis) is truly a well established actress of TV and motion picture screens, because there are very few days when she is not up early and off to tape or record for TV or motion picture studios. She has credit lines on some 500 TV shows that have appeared on the major networks of the country. Ruta has played various roles for the following TV shows: "Dragnet," "G.E. Theater," "Burns and Allen Show," "Gunsmoke," "Suspicion," "The Bob Hope Show," "The Jack Benny Show," and "Maverick." If you do not watch closely and check the credit lines you might not be able to recognize her, because the studios change the color of hair for many of the roles.

The motion pictures have also kept Ruta very busy, because she has had parts in ten or more films including

"Operation Eichmann," "Marjorie Morningstar," "Witness For The Prosecution," "Funny Face," "Anything Goes," "Gaby," "Seven Brides For Seven Brothers," "Sergeants 3." In the last mentioned motion picture with Frank Sinatra, Ruta Lee had the only feminine role of the film.

Ruta's Lithuanian heritage, to her delight, has not been completely pushed out of her career and her appearances. Take the incident of the credit line she earned for her role as one of the seven brides of the movie "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." MGM insisted she change her name to Ruta Lee, as she is now known.

"They made a big point of it," she says, "claiming that no actress could possibly get along with a name like Kilmonis. So when the picture was released, with all the publicity calling me Ruta Lee, there was my name on the screen - Ruta Kilmonis."

Last summer, we were seated together in the "Breakfast Club" banquet room during the ceremonies after the Silver Anniversary Mass for her pastor, Rev. John Kucingis. During the three hour program, we chatted in Lithuanian and English. It was especially gratifying to have her get up and speak a well-prepared congratulatory message from herself and her parents in a distinctly pronounced Lithuanian language. Her accent was delightful and it had the slight tang of the Suvalku area of Lithuania.

Canada's Gift to Hollywood

Even though Ruta is a bachelorette and lives with her parents in Hollywood, her every movement is not followed ruthlessly by the daily press or the columnists. She is a serious hard working actress with a Canadian and Catholic background.

Ruta was born on May 30th, 1936, in Montreal, Canada, the daughter of Joseph and Mary Kilmonis. Mr. Kilmonis came to Canada from Lithuania in 1926 and set himself up in the tailoring business and later sent for his wife Mary, who was a seamstress. When Ruta was 12 years old her parents immigrated to the United States because they thought California was the best place to live. For a long while Mr. Kilmonis made custom clothes for an exclusive Los Angeles tailoring firm. Now he is retired. The Kilmonis family owns a large Los Angeles home that formerly belonged to Rita Hayworth and they maintain a small Palm Springs home, both with swimming pools.

Ruta Lee received her education in convent schools in Montreal and later at Immaculata Heart, Hollywood high school, Los Angeles City College and the University of California, in Los Angeles. Her first ambition was to become an actress and she trained for the stage by attending a dancing school soon after she could walk. Her extrascholastic activities centered about the Little Theater of Los Angeles.

Hard Work and Breaks

The actress-to-be's first jobs were wrapping Christmas gifts at Penny's and casheiring at Grauman's Chinese Theater. Ruta received her first job in show business in a part on the "Burns and Allen" television show. She was active in Little Theaters in Los Angeles and was discovered for her first movie role in 1954 while appearing in "On The Town" at the Gallery Theater. From there she went on to become one of the brides in the motion picture "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers."

Ruta, who has a critically acclaimed singing voice, has appeared

in road presentations of "South Pacific" and "Show Boat." Her biggest break came when producer Arthur Hornblow saw her in a nightclub audience. Her name was made known to him and she was given the part of Tyrone Power's wife in "Witness For The Prosecution." He said she was just right for the part except for one point: they changed her hair from pink champagne blond to brunette.

Busy as Ruta is with her work, she manages to keep up with the famed "Younger Set" which is active in the "Thalians," an organization which maintains a clinic for the mentally disturbed children of Los Angeles. And because she loves to be in the midst of things, Ruta hops aboard and travels with the USO camp shows

and these journeys have taken her from Greenland to the Far East.

Visitors to Ruta's home are genuinely impressed by another of her talents - painting. The Kilmonis home - and particularly Ruta's room - are tastefully decorated with pieces of her own art work, noted for its delicate lines and harmoniously blended colors. When she isn't acting or painting, Ruta Lee - Kilmonis may be found perusing Real Estate guides, for much of her earnings are invested in Real Estate.

What pleases us most is that she never avoids attending and often actively participating in the social affairs of the Los Angeles Lithuanian community. Those K of L members that attended the 1957 National Convention in Los Angeles were able to

enjoy her work as a member of the convention committee and as chairwoman of the musical program committee. She is always a charming mistress of ceremonies; her use of both languages is clever and her wit is always pleasing.

Acting is a rugged profession and it takes much talent and forwardness to stay ahead of the game. The competition amongst the working members of the profession is savage. Patience is definitely a necessary virtue. So it is our sincere wish that the Lord keeps sustaining Ruta in her talent, gives her the necessary daring to swim abreast with the field to bring her many awards in her profession. And we, who are of her nationality and proud of her achievements, hope she attains whatever heights she hopes to achieve.

PRAYER

OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light;

and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,

grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

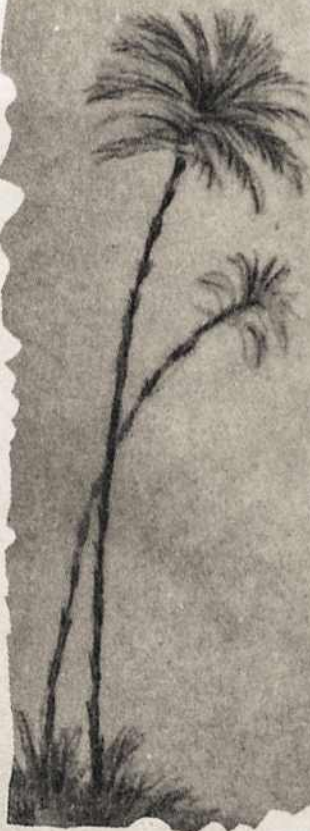
to be loved as to love;

for it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born

to eternal life.



Wanda Yelmokas

HOLY NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

as seen through the eyes of a K of L-er

"Bethlehem, about 9 miles south of Jerusalem, is a charming little town with olive groves and green terraces. It is the birthplace of David and Jesus and the locale of the idyll of Ruth and Boaz" - so the travel folder read. Bethlehem was charming, had olive groves and terraces, and had the Church of St. Catherine where the famous Christmas Midnight Mass is celebrated. This Mass, most certainly, was the most unusual service I have attended in my brief career in Europe. It didn't seem like Christmas, but Christmas in a Moslem country isn't much. Christ is recognized as a prophet. His birthday is significant but not particularly important. Even though the Catholic Faith is universal in its dogma, it leaves a margin to be filled in by the people and their land. In the case of Jordan, the pattern is a perplexing one - a little disturbing, too. But I see it through the eyes of an American tourist and these eyes are accustomed to seeing a more sophisticated world and a higher standard of living.

At 10:30 Christmas Eve, the driver whizzed us across the blackness from the Hotel Gloria in Jerusalem to the Church of the Holy Nativity in Bethlehem. People were already swarming the courtyard. The Catholic third of the Church of the Holy Nativity is the Church of St. Catherine. The other two-thirds is divided between the Greek Orthodox and the Armenian Orthodox. Each group has a distinct courtyard, its own entrances, and its own name; but all are in the Church of the Holy Nativity.

Soon, I was surged into St. Catherine's. Its interior is divided in halves by a wooden guard-rail. To the front are the pews of the parishioners; to the rear is the standing room for the tourists. Sizewise it could be called a large chapel. Foreign residents and tourists are the bulk of the Catholic congregation. The nationals are mostly Moslems but every religious group except the Jews has some representation.

At 12:20, the portly Bishop of Jerusalem began the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. When His Excellency came

to the Gloria, the splendor of this Christmas shone round about. It stunned me. At the word "Gloria," an arch spanning the altar lit up and blazed out "Gloria in Excelsis Deo." Seconds later, two neon medallions pierced the dimness with their wild design. Simultaneously, a spotlight hit the statue of the Holy Babe. The effect was almost like a midway!

Mass proceeded. The crowd of 3,000 was crowding much too much. The capacity of St. Catherine's is merely 600. Tourists were wedged against the guard-rails. Their arms were pressed over their chests or pinned close to them in mummylike manner. Several people fainted. Semi-standing, they were revived. Several people were sick. They, plus those near them, had to endure the unpleasantness. The air was stale and sicksmelling. The crowd was mashing but escape was impossible and unthinkable.

The muddle of distractions overtaxed any spiritual concentration. The parishioners who had not arrived for the beginning of Mass were arriving



now. Each would enter by a private door, greet the usher, and roam around until he found a seat he liked. Then he would greet his neighbors. Once settled, he would sit, stand, or kneel as the mood struck him. The latter is a typical European church practice. It is readily understandable to anyone who is distracted by discomfort.

If the latecomer were a local dignitary, he would be preceded by the thumpers. The four thumpers, dressed in Turkish court garb, carried thumping sticks. (A thumping stick is like a king-sized baton with a brass knob and tip.) The thumpers swung the thumping sticks to make a thumping on the floor while they paced Mr. Celebrity to his seat. When such a tardy citizen would arrive, he would pummel the wooden door until the thumpers ran to let him in. It seems "society" arrives here late and loud.

Throughout this spectacle, the choir was singing. It was quite poor, but it was good considering that Latin church music was unfamiliar to the singers. Most likely they had never met to practice as a group either. At 2:00 this Midnight Mass was over. It closed beautifully with a candlelight procession to the underground grotto to place the Holy Babe on His bed of straw.

The congregation gladly exploded out into the chilly air of the courtyard. Few had felt that this was a Christmas service. It had been a far cry from the special and disciplined Christmas of home.

Naturally, it had to be different. Bethlehem is different from home. These people do not live by clocks and calendars. Their days blend each into the next. Electricity lights the highway and the vendor's shops, but not the rock caves and huts called home here. School is a strange concept to the boys spilling down the hillsides with their sling-shots in hand. School was a strange concept to the youngsters tending flocks of gray, gray sheep.

Bethlehem was once the little town of Joseph & Mary. Now the population is several thousand families where once it had been merely several thousand. The swollen population is a recent thing. Arab refugees fled here from Israel feeling that in such a favored spot they might find peace.

On this Christmas morn, Bethlehem did become still and silent - but only after we wrested ourselves from the hawkers in the courtyard. They were chanting their Christmas carol called "Merry Christmas, Step into My Shop, Please." I admit, the commercialism of Nativity Square is jarring. A shopper can flit into the Nativity Bazaar, the Holy Child Gift Shop, the Sacred Infant Store and about a dozen other spots so aptly named. The tourist fights his way through lines of roadside hawkers who dangle rosaries, jewelry, missals, and lovely, crude olivewood figures. Some of the trinkets were truly sleazy; some were not. Tourism is Bethlehem's number one resource. The

people depend on it and on U.N. food doles.

Driving back to Jerusalem through the marvelous darkness, I looked up at the sky. The absolute darkness over Shepherd's Field made each star dazzle with a brilliance that city life blots out. And one star did shine out among the rest. Ironically, it was the man-made star atop the Church of the Holy Nativity.

UnChristmaslike though it was, Bethlehem was, for me, the Second Best Place to be for Christmas. I did appreciate the differences although I did not always enjoy them. This Holy Night in Bethlehem was the high spot of my junket to the Near East - a memorable trip that I will gratefully recall years from now - as I enjoy Christmas in the First Best Place, my home.

THE AUTHOR:

WANDA YELMOKAS, an active member of C-17, South Boston, and a former VYTIS correspondent for that council, is spending a few years in Germany. She has a position there with the U.S. Army, teaching the dependent children at Karlsruhe American Elementary School.

Last Christmas, she was fortunate enough to spend the Christmas Holidays in the Holy Land, and her Christmas Eve in Bethlehem itself. Many thanks to Wanda, for sharing her experiences there with us.



by Dr. ALFONSAS ŠEŠPLAUKIS,
Columbia University, New York

Adam Mickiewicz and Lithuania



1

Adam Mickiewicz spent the greater part of his life in exile. Only 25 years old, he was exiled from his homeland to far off Russia and he spent the rest of his life abroad as an emigre who was never allowed to see his native country again. Mickiewicz's exile is much longer and painful than the exile of other great literary men like Dante, Byron, Schiller and Pushkin.

Born December 24, 1798, only three years after the third and final partition of Lithuania-Poland by Russia, Prussia and Austria, Mickiewicz grew up in strange times. He was like the "last of the Mohicans" who called not to forget that union which in his eyes was the salvation of the nations. He was like a child of that union, an heir who has two homelands and never renounces the one or the other.

Originating from the old and noble Lithuanian family on whose coat of arms is engraved the name of Poraj,

Mickiewicz called himself Lithuanian, but he spoke and wrote only Polish. Only the peasants around Nowogrodek (Naugardukas), where Mickiewicz was born, spoke Lithuanian or White Russian (Byelorussian). The spirit of old Lithuanian times was not dead, Mickiewicz heard the old legends and folksongs, he wondered at the old castle of Nowogrodek which, he knew, once belonged to the Lithuanian prince Erdvilas Montvila. The later studies in Lithuanian history convinced him that here was the castle where the first Christian Lithuanian king Mindaugas (Mindowe) was crowned and after a glorious reign buried in the nearby castlehill.

But Russia, which made Lithuania a part of its empire, dissolved the union initiated by Jogaila (Jagiello) in 1387 and politically separated both countries. Some patriotic Lithuanians fled to the Polish flag and bravely fought during the Insurrection of 1830-31. The national differentiation began to appear after the unsuccessful insurrection of this year and particularly after 1864. The new movement came to light with the appearance of "Aušra" (The Dawn) in 1883, when the awakening of the Lithuanian nation really began.

During his life in exile there were some changes in Mickiewicz's political views, but that never changed his love for Lithuania. As a forsworn romanticist, he loved her past.

2

Mickiewicz's fight with the Russian occupant began during his studies at the University of Vilnius, where he was enrolled in 1815 after his graduation from the Dominican school of Nowogrodek. Mickiewicz was a member of secret Philomathian Society, as well as one of the six founders of this society. It was organized for mental and moral self-cultivation, but the social and patriotic aims were not excluded.

After his graduation in Vilnius, Mickiewicz taught in the gymnasium (or a district school) of Kaunas. Here he didn't break off his relations with the Philomathian Society, but on the contrary, he maintained them closely. The Russian government became aware of the social and political activity of such societies. Nikolai Novosilcev, who became famous through Mickiewicz's writings, was sent to Lithuania to investigate the secret political activities. He, too, was a rival of Prince Adam Czartoryski, who was the Curator of Vilnius Educational District.

Mickiewicz, who was on leave from his school in Kaunas and stayed in Vilnius, was arrested with other students on orders of Novosilcev, November 4, 1823. They were taken to the Basilian Monastery in Vilnius, which was converted into a prison. (All these events were recorded in his "Forefathers Eve, Part III," while Mickiewicz was already abroad.) They were charged of organizing illegal secret societies, circulating songs and proclamations against the Russian government. Mickiewicz, through the intervention of his former professor, Lelewel, was released from the prison after six months. However, he didn't escape exile from his country with 19 other students and friends. Under guard he was sent at first to St. Petersburg, November 6, 1824, a year after his first arrest.

After living in Kaunas and Vilnius - he never visited the Polish cultural centers Warsaw and Cracow - Mickiewicz during his later life was never allowed to reenter his homeland. This led him to his outbursts of love for Lithuania, which was now under harsh Russian rule.

After three months in St. Petersburg, Mickiewicz was sent to South Russia - to Odessa, in the care of the Minister of Education, to be employed as teacher in provinces distant from Poland. Unfortunately, an order was released forbidding any employment of Poles in the provinces bordering Poland. With the new friends in Odessa, Mickiewicz visited Crimea for two months.

The result of this trip was his 18 Crimean Sonnets

3

The old legends, the ruins of the castle of Nowogrodek inspired Mickiewicz to write his patriotic epic "Grażyna" during the years in Kaunas. In this work, his patriotic feeling and his poetical invention were greater than the historical truth of his anachronistic heroine (Cf. V. Maciūnas, Adam Mickiewicz in Lithuanian literature, Aidai, 1955, No. 10).

But now far were the grave of Mindaugas and the "lovely vale of Kovno" (in "Grażyna") - later called the "Vale of Mickiewicz" - when Mickiewicz was going to compose his next work from Lithuania's past - "Konrad Wallenrod."

We may believe those who say that Mickiewicz agreed with those of his countrymen who were concerned only with the preservation of national traditions under the Russian protection. But we can never believe that during his exile in Russia he forgot the future of his country and homeland.

"Konrad Wallenrod," a tale of the history of Lithuania and Prussia, was a new patriotic epic. Its hero was a man who strives to save his people from annihilation by the Knights of the Cross (or Teutonic Order) through a foreign force and for this purpose he sacrifices everything he holds sacred, even his honor and the love of his wife, Aldona.

Neither the Russian censor nor Pushkin understood the true meaning of this work and this "innocent tale" was allowed to be printed. Later Mickiewicz advocated emigrants to use the method of Wallenrod when fighting the enemy of his country. The real Teutonic Konrad Wallenrod in Mickiewicz's work is transformed into a Lithuanian and, as a disguised man, fights the Russian oppression.

Pushkin, as Mickiewicz's friend in Russia, tried to translate "Konrad Wallenrod" into Russian as he had translated Mickiewicz's "The Three Brothers Budrys," but he scarcely understood this ballad, which portrays the old union between Lithuania and Poland. Historical names - Algirdas, Kęstutis, Skirgaila - were used only as ornamental devices.

But Mickiewicz stressed in his "Konrad Wallenrod" a more important fact - the role of the folksong in the cause of freedom. Donelaitis' "Seasons" as well as "Dainos oder litauische Volkslieder" published by Ludwig Rhesa, a Courish Lithuanian and a professor at the University of Königsberg, in 1818 and 1825, were known to Mickiewicz as it is evident from his notes in his "Grażyna" and from his later lectures at College de France. Herder, who lived in Riga and in his "Volkslieder" (1778) published Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian folksongs, encouraged Rhesa and Mickiewicz to treasure the daina. It



The University of Vilnius

is necessary to note one fact unique and very honorable for Lithuanians. In a collection of their folksongs, which are very rich, you can't find any single song obscene or improper. There are no terms improper or immoral in this language. This language which has something sacerdotal in itself, rejects all slavish terms, which are never used in any respectable Lithuanian family.

Waidelota, the old Lithuanian minstrel, calls saga or national legend "an ark, and no power can break it." And the daina has "the wings and voice of an archangel, with archangels sword in its hand." And Waidelotas' song brought Konrad Wallenrod to his native Lithuania. He was taken as a child by the Knights of the Cross to Germany and like the other famous Old Prussian Herkus Monte came back to his country to free his countrymen from enslavement.

There can be no doubt that Wallenrod resembled the poet himself. The hero is a symbol of the poet's own inner struggles rather than a historical character (M. Kridl, Adam Mickiewicz, poet of Poland, New York 1951, p. 20). Novosilcev was the first who made the identification and read treasonable tendencies in the work.

Before it was too late, Mickiewicz, aided by his friends and liberal Russians, made arrangements to leave Russia. He was given permission to leave the country of his exile, but not to return to his native country. On May 2, 1829, Mickiewicz sailed on a British vessel for Western Europe. At the last moment, the Russian government, it is said, changing its mind, tried to prevent his departure, but it was too late. Mickiewicz's Russian exile was ended, and the life of an emigre for the rest of his life started.

(to be continued in January)



The Coming of CHRIST

During the past two decades, there has been a great deal written about the Liturgical Movement. As a matter of fact, the present Ecumenical Council has stimulated even a greater interest in this field. However, in spite of this apparent interest it is often times disappointing to see apparently good Catholics so disinterested, and sometimes wholly ignorant of what the Liturgy should mean to them. On the other hand, it is so refreshing to see some of the older mothers and grandmothers, display the basic knowledge of their holy faith. I have seen some of them who were unable to read or write, and they were still able to name the principle feasts of the liturgical year. What is more, they had an amazing understanding of what these mysteries mean and how they could affect their spiritual life.

The task and the privilege which is ours -- to carry out in our lives the themes of meditation which are set for us by Holy Mother Church -- is both challenging and comforting. The daily practice of liturgically oriented prayer is a matter of "personal responsibility" and is the basis for the concept of "human dignity." The Church has given us the guidance of deciding the themes, throughout the year, of the Holy Mass and the Divine Office, which priests say daily and which laymen may also pray. It is a revival of early Christian practice that families today see in these prayers a model for their own.

Out of God's infinite goodness, He created each individual to be a member of His Mystical Body -- His God-life. Not only is man made in His image and likeness but His God-life is given to us through the sacrament of baptism and increased by the reception of the other sacraments.

We have been asked to perform God's tasks on earth through His use of each of our particular talents. No one's gifts are too inferior to carry this responsibility. As mysterious as it is, God has chosen His new body here on earth -- His God-life, His Mystical Body -- to carry on His work until the end of time. He has also planned that each soul should be nurtured and guided in grace within the family.

It is through the lifetime development of the practical application of the Church's prayer that families cement the awareness of human dignity. As we enfold our children with love, discipline them and build in them a deep respect for themselves as part of the Mystical Body; as we react to neighbors; as we see our civil and social responsibilities which must not be pushed aside for mere lack of interest; as we work for interracial justice and interfaith understanding; as we accept responsibilities in our K of L or other Catholic organizations; as we pray publicly and privately; as we see all men as our brothers in the innermost depths of our hearts -- we carry out our



personal responsibility to the God-life. The constant reminder of the prayers of the Church when we translate them into our family life fortify in us and our children the understanding that God has chosen us. We are thus forced to accept our obligations towards others. We cannot fail to carry them out. One of the problems of the day seems to be that more and more of us are eagerly searching for spiritual guidance. We yearn to do more than try to see our spiritual development only in the light of the do's and don't's of the Commandments; we long to live in the Presence of Christ. Since the Eucharist is the center of the sacramental system, daily Mass is a most effective source of grace and the highest form of worship. Even though the duties of family life may keep the adults and some of the children from attending daily Mass, everyone can be united in spirit to the parish Mass celebrated nearby. For example, do we ever think of the Gospel or Epistle of the previous Sunday? Actually the Sunday Mass should strike the theme of our daily living throughout the week. This article is appearing in the VYTIS during Advent, which is the beginning of the New Liturgical Year of the Church. How have the gospels and epistles affected your Christian living? Does the coming of Christmas mean more to you than rushing around to do your gift shopping?

When liturgical practices in the home are encouraged, discussed and demonstrated, individual families find it easier to dare to be different. They and their children will come to realize that many others yearn for an obvious tie in their daily lives to the God-life. When there is a godly comradeship in the enjoyment of these practices, the family members will serve to fortify each other. The God-life will flourish in the family, the K of L, the parish, the diocese, the Church and the world. The aim of the Church's year of prayer will be fulfilled -- the imitation of Christ in the lives of all men.

As Spiritual director of the Knights of Lithuania, please allow me to inject a personal note of greeting to all members of the K of L and their families. May the Christ Child, who is the head of the Mystical Body, pour out His choicest blessings and graces to you, who are all members of that self-same Mystical body. And may the New Year see each of you living in peace with God, with yourselves and with your neighbor.

REV. J. WALTER STANIEVICH

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

LIETUVOS VYČIU JUBILĖJINIŲ METŲ VEIKLOS
PROGRAMA

Remiantis anksčiau išdėstytu principu, čia pateikiame keletą specifinių Jubilėjiniams Metams rekomendacijų:

1. Išmokti Vyčių Himną ir jį giedoti drąsiai, gyvai ir dažnai.

2. Išmokti Šv. Kazimiero Giesmę ir ją giedoti Vyčių pamaldų proga.

3. Isigyti organizacijos ženklelį ir jį prisisegti, ypač dalyvaujant lietuvių pobuvy ar programoj.

4. Didesnėms kuopoms isigyti Lietuvos Vyčių vėliavą, kuri daug prisideda prie ceremonijų pagražinimo ir kuri bus labai naudinga jubilėjiniuose metuose.

5. Tapti lietuviškos veiklos misijonieriais ir surasti gerų naujų narių. Akcentuojant mūsų organizacijos lietuvišką veiklą, lietuviybės palaikymo tikslus, gal greičiau susidominsime kitus negu pabrėžiant vien tik organizacijos socialinį pobūdį.

6. Įvesti į mūsų susirinkimus, parengimus ir į savo namus daugiau lietuviškumo, naudojant lietuviškus papročius, spalvas ir ypač lietuvišką žodį. Šioj srity sektiną pavyzdį gali duoti ypač kuopų valdybos ir komisijos. Šitoks mūsų bandymas atsispirti prieš visišką nutautėjimą ras net ir mūsų visuomenė labai malonų atgarsį ir atitaisys tą blogą įspūdį, kurį per eilę metų sukūrėme savo nepaisymu mūsų oficialiai pripažintų idealų. Lietuvių kalbos vartojimas tarpusavy, susirinkimuose, kuopų spaudinamuose biuleteniuose, programų knygoje, mūsų korespondencijoje ir privačioj maldoj; įvedimas lietuvių kalbos kursų, didesnis susidomėjimas lietuvių tautos istorija ir lietuvių literatūra ir visas panašus jėškėjimas progų su pasididžiovimu naudotis savo tautinėmis gėrybėmis suteiks mūsų veiklai rekalingo entuziazmo ir atves į mūsų tarpą naujų, vertingų narių.

7. Plačiai apie Vyčius informuoti visuomenę. Tą galima padaryti per asmeninius pakvietimus ir paraginimus verbuojant naujus narius, per laikraščius, kur reklama bus ypatingai efektinga, jei joje atspindės mūsų dirbami lietuviški darbai, ir per lietuvišką radiją.

8. Tuo po Naujų Metų suruošti kuopos jubilėjinį susirinkimą, kuriame būtų speciali informacinė programa apie organizacijos reikšmę, jubilėjų ir istoriją. Istorijos atžvilgiu svarbių ir įdomių faktų gali suteikti tie, kurie kuopai vadovavo pirmaisiais metais, net jei jie dabar jau nenariai. Į šį susirinkimą reikėtų pakviesti visus buvusius narius ir kitus parapinių draugijų narius, pasiunčiant

valdyboms kvietimą raštu ir patvirtinant šį kvietimą asmeniniai. Tokiai publikai reikėtų kad vienas iš valdybos pakalbėtų apie Lietuvos Vyčių dabartinę veiklą ir ateities perspektyvas.

Reikėtų pridėti ir lietuvišką meninę programą - dainų, poezijos ar ką kita lietuviško; taip pat įjungti visą publiką į dainavimą, išdalinus jiems po dainų lakštą. Po programos galima dar pavaišinti svečius kavute. Prie šio viešo susirinkimo gerai pasiruošti, kad viskas eitų sklandžiai, gyvai ir kad jis būtų Vyčiams kreditas.

9. Pavasarį ar rudenį suruošti koncertą, vaidinimą ar kurį kitą jubilėjaus paminėjimą, sulyg savo pajėgumo. Jei ne ką kita, tai bent gražius šokius. Pasistengti, kad tame vakare dalyvautų visi tos apylinkės buvusieji nariai ir juos ten pagerbti bent juos iššaukiant, kad jie pasirodytų publikai. Bet nežiūrint kokio pobūdžio šis minėjimas būtų, išnaudoti progą vytiškai propagandai, kurios mes iki šioliai labai mažai duodame. Šio jubilėjinio minėjimo pusę pelno paskirti organizacijai, kuriai ypač jubilėjiniais metais bus daug nepaprastų išlaidų.

10. Apie balandžio 23 d., organizacijos įsteigimo dieną, ar kurią kitą patogią dieną, suruošti iškilmingą, lietuvišką maldos valandą, su tikslu padėkoti Dievui už praeities malones ir paprašyti jį, kad jis ir toliau vestų mus tais gražiais vytiškais keliais.

11. Su dėkingumu prisiminti, jog gyvename tikros laisvės krašte, kuriame neverčiama viską suvienodinti, bet duodama kiekvienai tautai ir kiekvienam asmeniui teisė, be jokių varžymų, naudotis savo tautinėmis ir religinėmis vertybėmis ir tuomi praturtinti patį Amerikos gyvenimą. Šią nepaprastą laisvę aukštai vertinti ir bent dalinai už tai atsilyginti būnant ištikimais ir pavyzdingais Amerikos piliečiais ir sąžiningai atliekant visas su pilietybe susijusias pareigas.

12. Bene didžiausias mūsų organizacijos turtas yra jos gražus, nesuteptas vardas. Dėlto rengiant ateinančiais metais bet kokį parengimą, didelį ar mažą, reikėtų kreipti ypatingą dėmesį, kad viskas būtų geram skony ir net pats parengimo pavadinimas darytų kilnų įspūdį.

Nemanome, kad perdedame sakydami, kad ateinančiais metais viso pasaulio lietuvių akys seks Lietuvos Vyčių kiekvieną žingsnį. Todėl dirbkime visur atsargiai, kilniai ir, žinoma, su pasididžiovimu lietuviškai.

LIETUVOS VYČIŲ JUBILĖJAUS KOMISIJA

LAIŠKAS SEIMUI

Rugpiučio 6, 1962

Negalėdamas asmeniškai suvažiavime dalyvauti siunčiu raštu nuoširdžiausius sveikinimus 49-jam Vyčių suvažiavimui.

Pasimatysime sekančiais metais jubilėjiniame suvažiavime.

Mintyse su Jumis
(Kun.) V. Katarskis

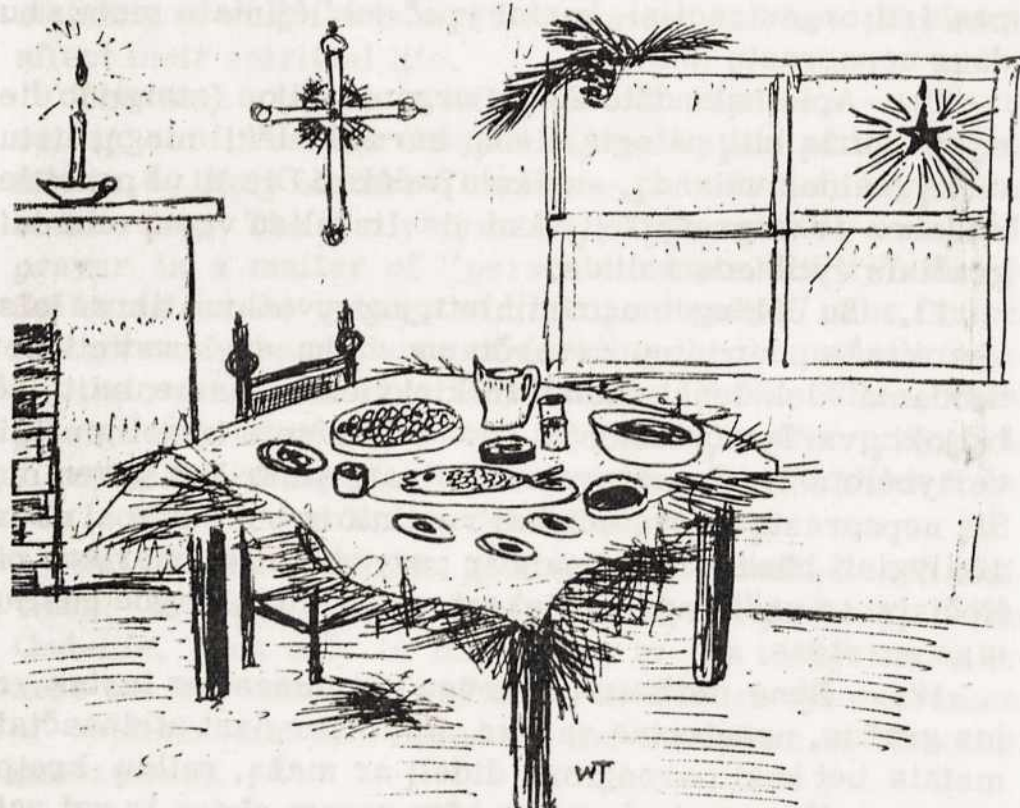
P.S. Įdedu "penkinę" grynais Vyčių reikalams.

ED. NOTE: This letter was lost in transit, enroute to the Convention Committee's office. Our apologies for omitting it from the list of Convention Greetings and our thanks for Rev. Katarskis' contribution to VYTIS.

By Josephine J. Dauzvardis

Lithuanian Christmas Customs

Christmas Eve is one of the most important family holidays of the Lithuanians. It is a day of peace, good will, religious recollection and intimate family reunion. The entire day before Christmas is spent in preparation for *Kučia* and *Kalėdos*; the home is cleaned thoroughly, the kitchen is filled with the tantalizing aromas of holiday food. Members of the family fast all day. After their chores are done, they scrub in the *pirtis* (steam bath) and don holiday garb.



The *Kūčia* Table

The meatless *Kūčia* menu consists of 12 courses (in memory of the 12 Apostles who later followed Christ): soup, fish, vegetables, *slizikai* (small hard biscuits werved with poppy-seed and honey sauce), *kisielius* (oatmeal pudding) etc. The meal is leisurely, with conversation centering on the significance of Christmas. Dissensions and arguments are avoided, for the atmosphere surrounding the coming of the Christ must be one of absolute peace and good will.

In some sections of Lithuania *Kūčia* table was not cleared of food, for it was believed that the Christ Child and His Mother might pay the home a visit during the night, or that the souls of deceased family members might return briefly - they must find some semblance of hospitality. The floor was swept several times so that not even a crumb remained on the floor, over which the night visitors might stumble.



Christmas Preparations

The *Kūčia* or Christmas Eve dinner is the highlight of the day. The table is spread with sweet, fresh hay as a reminder of Christ's manger, and covered with a hand-loomed snow-white linen cloth reserved for the occasion. A crucifix and a plate of holy wafers (*plotkelės*) are placed in the center of the table. *Kūčia* is commenced after the evening star has appeared in the sky. The head of the family begins the meal with a prayer of thanksgiving for all the blessings of the year past and with a wish that the family remain intact during the ensuing year. He breaks and shares the *plotkeles* with each member of the family, and they, in turn, with each other.



A family prayer



Gathering hay for the Kūčia Table

Girls carry kindling wood into the house to count: an even number of sticks indicates marriage during the coming year. Molten lead, wax or fat poured into cold water foretold the future by the shapes thus formed. The children ran frequently to the well to taste the water, to see if it had changed into wine, or ran to the stable to eavesdrop on the animals, for at one mystic moment on Christmas Eve, at midnight, the water was supposed to change to wine, and the animals would have the power to converse in the tongue of man.

The family made all efforts to attend the Shepherds' (Piemėnėlių Mišios) at midnight or at dawn.

At the church, the manger was sometimes set up as a rocking cradle, with colored ribbon streamers hanging from the sides. "Good children" were allowed to "rock the Baby Jesus" when they visited the Crib.



Fortune-telling, with kindling wood



Mardi-Gras has begun

Kalėdos - Christmas Day was spent in feasting and merry-making, with rounds of visits to neighbors by the young people. Before being granted admittance to a home the visitors were required to sing a Christmas or folk song. Gay folk songs and Christmas carols, vigorous folk dances, and frequent samplings of home-made foods, cider and ale constituted the order of the holiday.

On Christmas Day, on their way to visit their friends and relatives, single girls level off the snow at the cross-roads with rakes. On their way home they investigate the footprints in the snow to see what kind of husband they will get. If the footprints reflect moccasins, they'll get poor husbands; if they show boots, the husbands will be rich ones.

Christmas Day initiated the merry mardi-gras season which lasted till Ash Wednesday.

(Photos obtained through the courtesy of Mrs. Dauzvardis)

Lithuanians in The News



ALFONSE F. WELLS, an active supporter of the many Lithuanian activities, particularly in Chicago, and himself a member of K of L Council 112, was recently elected

a Judge in the Superior Court of Cook County. He was formerly a Judge in the Traffic Court in Chicago.

Before his election, Judge Wells was feted by representatives of var-

ious Lithuanian organizations in Chicago, at several events, including a special reception held at the Sherman Hotel, which was well represented by the K of L. (See picture)



SIMONAS F. GUDAS (above), a resident of West Orange, New Jersey and a long time friend and supporter of the K of L, recently made another sizeable contribution to the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA SCHOLARSHIP FUND, bringing his total donation to this Fund up to \$250.00. Sincerest thanks go to Mr. Gudas, on behalf of all K of L'ers, particularly the Scholarship Awardees.



PETER PADALSKIS, a Charter and Fourth Degree Member of C-102, Detroit, and his wife Rose, are sponsors of the prize-winning ALYTAUS BAR SOFTBALL TEAM, pictured. In 1961, the team won the World's

Amateur Championship in the National Amateur Baseball Federation. Since then, they have continued their prize-winning and trophy-collection activities in numerous other contests.



THE RUTA ENSEMBLE, the popular Lithuanian Chorus from New Jersey, recently elected new officers. Pictures are, seated l. to r. ALICE SALKAUSKAS, Treasurer; ALGIRDAS KACANAUSKAS, Director; DOROTHY DUTKUS, Secretary; standing, l to r. JOSEPH BALCIUNAS, Vice-President; VALENTINAS MELYNIS, President; and REMIJUS MELYNIS, Administrator. Missing from the photo are: LOUIS STUKAS, Choirmaster, and JOSEPHINE JURKUVIS, Sgt.-at-Arms.

MRS. JOSEPHINE DAUŽVARDIS (second from left), wife of Petras Daužvardis, Lithuanian Consul at Chicago, this year commemorated her 20-th Anniversary as coordinator of the Lithuanian Program for the Chicago Museum of Science & Industry Annual "Christmas Around the World" Pageant. The Pageant, which also observed its 20th Anniversary this December, opened its anniversary program with Lithuanian Day, on Dec. 1. The day's program included performances by various Lithuanian choirs and dance groups, and was directed - and in some cases written - by Mrs. Dauzvardis.

Mrs. Daužvardis is pictured preparing for a family feast in true Lithuanian style, with representatives of three other generations. . . her mother, daughter-in-law, and grand-daughter.

We congratulate Mrs. Daužvardis on this anniversary, and on her many accomplishments in keeping the Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian public informed and interested in Lithuanian culture and folklore.



Today, the Christmas tree is a center of our festivities. Topped with a star, and glittering with lights and ornaments, it is a part of the beauty and meaning of the Christmas season.

How did the Christmas tree come to play such an important part in the observance of Christmas?

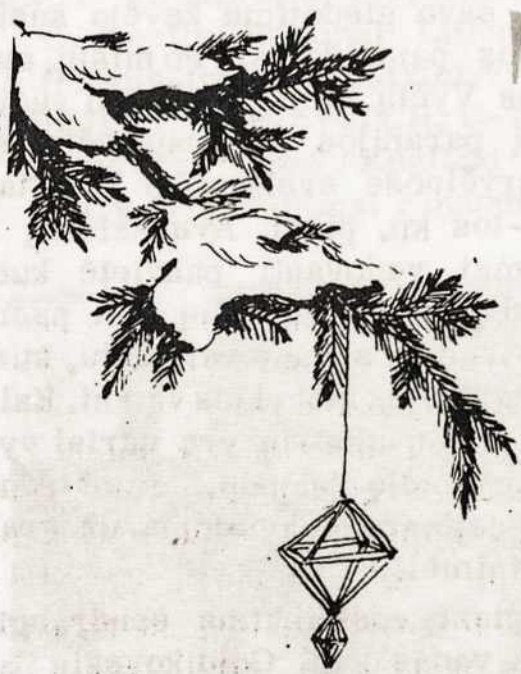
There is a legend that comes down to us from the early days of Christianity in England. One of those helping to spread Christianity among the Druids was a monk named Wilfred (later Saint Wilfred). One day, surrounded by a group of his converts, he struck down a huge Oak tree, which in the Druid religion, was an object of worship.

As the Oak tree fell to the earth, it split into four pieces, and from its center there grew a young Fir tree, pointing a green spire toward the sky. The crowd gazed in amazement.

Wilfred let his axe drop, and turned to speak. "This little tree shall be your Holy Tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for your houses are built of the Fir. It is the sign of an endless life, for its leaves are evergreen. See how it points toward the heavens.

Let this be called the tree of the Christ Child. Gather about it, not in the wilderness, but in your homes. There it will be surrounded with loving gifts and rites of kindness."

And to this day, that is why the Fir Tree is one of our loveliest symbols of Christmas.



The Legend of the Christmas Tree

MRS. JOSEPHINE DAUVAIKIS (second from left), wife of Petrus Dauvaikas, Lithuanian Consul in Chicago, this year commemorated her 25th anniversary as co-chairman of the Lithuanian Women's Club in Chicago.



Škaistieji Šv. Kalėdų džiaugsmai

Svelnūs, išlavinti pirštai pabraukia arfos stygas ir suskamba malonūs giesmės garsai.

Tą naktį ir Marijos siela buvo lyg tobulai suderinta arfa ir dangiškos melodijos aidėjo josios širdyje.

Ir anksčiau Marija panašiai jautėsi, kai jos giminaitė Elzbieta sužadino josios širdyje dangišką giesmę su žodžiais:

"Ir iš kur man tai, kad mano Veišpaties motina ateina pas mane?" (Luk. 1, 43). Ji tada pirmą kartą sugiedojo "Džiaugsmo Giesmę" su virpančia širdimi.

Kalėdų ryte Marijos širdis ir siela virpėjo iš džiaugsmo ir meilės Kūdikieliui, kai angelai iš augštybės su dangiškais balsais ir skambančiom arfom sugiedojo: "Garbė Dievui augštybėje ir žemėje ramybė geros valios žmonėms!" (Luk. 2, 14).

Ir vėl kokie malonūs garsai nuaidėjo per Marijos sielą, kai sugūžėjo piemenėliai ir rado Mariją, Juozapą ir Kūdikelį paguldytą prakartėje.

Taip Dievas, angelai ir žmonės atnešė Marijai daug džiaugsmo Kalėdų rytą, kai visa žemė suvirpėjo iš džiaugsmo, kad Kristus gimė.

Ateinančių Kalėdų rytą, kai klausysime šv. Mišių, panašūs garsai ir malonūs aidai turėtų virpėti mūsų širdyse, kai Kūdikelis Jėzus nužengs ant mūsų altorių. Angelai apsups tą šventą vietą ir vėl garbins Viešpatį augštybėse ir prašys ramybės geros

valios žmonėms. O mes, lyg tie Betliejaus piemenėliai susirinkę prie Kūdikielio prakartės, tyliai bet nuoširdžiai garbinsime Tą, Kuris mūsų širdims neša džiaugsmo ir dangiškos ramybės.

Tikintieji susirinkę prie Kristaus prakartės tą rytą tikrai jaus tą džiaugsmą, jei jie bus nusižeminę širdyje ir priims Jį savo širdysna. Jie gal negalės išreikšti to džiaugsmo, bet jis ten bus ir jie jaus, kad visi pasiaukojimai ir meilės aktai sudėti Kristui pasiruošiant prie šv. Kalėdų yra brangūs Jojo akyse. Šv. Kalėdų Mišios bus lyg pakėlimas uždangos tarp dangaus ir žemės, nors ir trumpai valandėlei.

Kalėdų rytą, kai Kristus gimė, visas pasaulis aplink Betliejaus miestelį buvo rylus ir ramus; viena labai šauniai žvaigždė švietė augštai danguje. Trumpai tik buvo girdimi angelų balsai skaidriame ore.

Piemenėliai nuėjo aplankyti Kūdikelį, kaip jiems buvo angelų sakyta. Jie atėjo, pamatė ir pasidžiaugė tuo dideliu stebuklu.

Taip ir mes, Jėzaus ir Marijos tikintieji vaikeliai, darykime šv. Kalėdų rytą. Pribūkime šv. Mišiose kai Jis nužengs nuo dangaus ant mūsų altorių, priimkime Jį į savo širdis ir grįžkime į namus su džiaugsmu, kad Kristus yra gimęs ir atnešęs mums, geros valios žmonėms, brangios ramybės.

P.P. Činikas, MIC.

SENDRAUGIAI VEIKIA

Cleveland, Ohio. - Vyčių 25-tos kuopos sendraugių susirinkimas įvyko pirm. A. Mačioko rezidencijoje.

Sekr. J. Kuzui perskaičius praejusio susirinkimo protokolą, sekė pranešimai. Sunshine Box globėja pranešė, kad užprašytos mišios už sielą a.a. Elenos Kuzas, kitos mišios užprašytos pačios kuopos. Sergantiems nariams pasiūstos linkėjimų pasveikti kortelės. Viena narių Marijona Stanienė dar tebegulinti ligoninėje. Gribauskaitės pranešimas vienbalsiai priimtas.

Sendraugių veikiančią komisiją sudaro A. Navickienė, A. Macks ir J. Salasevičienė.

Spalio 5-6 dienomis Manger viešbutyje buvo suruoštas Ohio, Michigan ir Pennsylvania apskričių seimelis, kuriame sendraugius atstovavo J. Salasevičienė, K. Katkus, J. Pikturnienė, J. Sadauskas ir P. Glugodienė. Seštadienio vakarą atstovų susipažinimas-šokiai buvo šv. Jurgio parapijos salė, o sekmadienio rytą, tos parapijos bažnyčioje iškilmingas mišias ir atitinkamą vyčiams pamokslą pasakė kleb. kun. B. Ivanauskas. Muziko J. Ambrazo vedamas parapijos choras savo giedojimu žavėjo susirinkusius pamaldoms. Po mišių, sugiedojus Vyčių himną, atstovai susirinko į parapijos salę pusryčiams.

Pusryčiuose sveikinimo žodį tarė 25-tos kp. pirm. Arunskienė, o programai vadovauti pakvietė kun. Ivanauską. Po pusryčių visi pasigerėjo trumpu scenos vaizdeliu, kurį atliko parapijos mokyklos vaikai. Kai kurie jaunųjų aktorių yra nariai vyčių jaunamečių kuopos. Nuoširdus ačiū seselėms mokytojoms už gražų vaidinimą.

Baigiant susirinkimą sendraugių dvasios vadas kun. Goldikovskis paprašė pasimelsti už neseniai mirusios a.a. Elenos Kuzienės ir prieš du metus mirusios jos sesers A. Mačiokienės vėles.

Po susirinkimo namo šeimimininkas ir jo dukra visus pakvietė vaišėms, kuriose atsirado ir tortas U. Sukienės ir M. Baliukienės gimtadienio proga. Abiem sugiedota ilgiausių metų.

Nuoširdus ačiū Mačiokams už puikias vaišes.

P. Glu-nė

Twelve New Fourth Degree Members

The Fourth Degree - the Order of St. Casimir, is the highest degree attainable by a member of the Knights of Lithuania. To be eligible for this honor, the member must have a record of office-holding, committee-participation, and general hard work in the organization. Fourth Degree medals are always bestowed in Church, and can only be given during a St. Casimir's Day Commemoration or at a National or District Convention.

During the past few months, twelve members achieved the Fourth Degree; seven of them received their medals at the National Convention, and five at their respective District Conventions. To expect to list all their accomplishments on this page would be asking the impossible. Instead, we must limit the presentation of these members to their pictures, names, current offices held, and past national offices held, if any.



At the National Convention. . .

BERNICE KAVADARAS, C-116, Worcester.

Currently National Recording Secretary and New England District President.

FLORENCE ZALESKAS, C-17, South Boston.

Currently New England District Secretary. Formerly National Trustee.

IRENE SANKUS, C-112, Chicago

Currently National Lithuanian Affairs Chairman and Illinois-Indiana District Vice-President.

DOROTHY SINKAVITCH, C-116, Worcester

Currently New England District Ritual Chairman. Formerly National Financial Secretary.

ANDREW RODZER, C-19, Pittsburgh

Currently Mid-Central District Vice-President

LORETTA KASSEL, C-36, Chicago

Currently VYTIS Editor and National Scholarship Committee Secretary. Formerly National Recording Secretary.

ANNE KLEM, C-90, Kearny

Currently National Ritual Committee Secretary and New York-New Jersey District Vice-President. Formerly National Recording Secretary.



At the Mid-Central District Convention:

l. to r. (receiving degrees)

JOHN SCOTT, C-96, Dayton

Currently C-96 Sports Chairman

BERNADETTA NOREIKAS, C-96, Dayton

Currently member of National Juniors Committee.



At the New England District Convention:

l. to r.

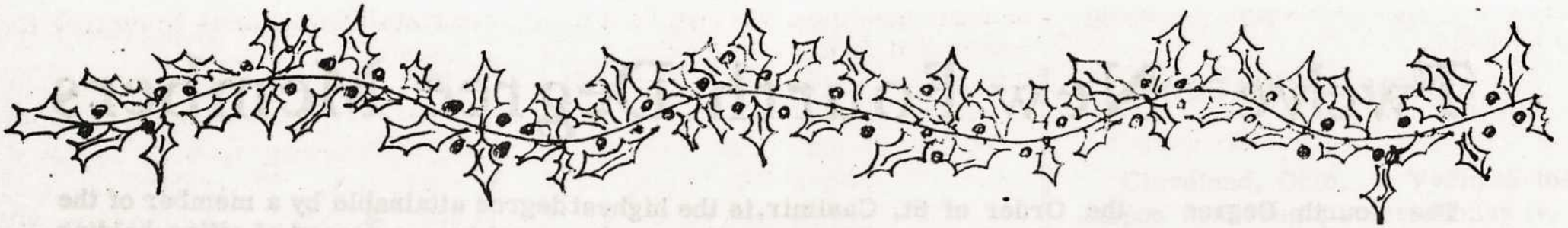
HELEN DALTWAS, C-116, Worcester

REV. ALBERT J. CONTONS, C-17, South Boston

Formerly National Spiritual Adviser

EDMUND RUDIS, C-17, South Boston

Currently National Ritual Committee Chairman



VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

Detroit, Mich. C-79 "Inklings"

The Fall season at C-79 is always exciting, so many activities along with elections. 59 members attended the Oct. meeting.

The chairmen of the socials are knee-deep in work. Stella Hotra with co-chairladies, Geri Chaps and Dorothe Martin are about set with the Card Party with a big assist from Pat Milius and Sophie Zager.

Chuck Step is making great plans for Santa's arrival during the Kiddies Christmas Party. All we've heard so far is that everything is A-OK.

Cel Yunck had her committee meeting in her home. The Committee consists of Betty and Frank Petrosky, Helen and Clem Patocki, Ed and Dorothe Martin and Bill Juodawlakis &

George Kayganich, who have consented to do the decorating.

John Kolinsky is pushing the annual raffle and he's doing a bang-up job. This is John's first raffle venture and he is proving himself very capable.

A Testimonial Dinner will be held for our very own Mrs. Elizabeth Pauroza. She is the National Pres. of Moterų Sąjunga and has held various other important offices all for the "love of her life" Lithuanians. Elizabeth's good works and deeds will never catch up to her and this is one way her friends and co-officers have selected to say, "Many thanks, Elizabeth, God love you always."

John and Mary Eizonis are bound and determined to win the K of L bowling trophy. Their team is currently tied for 2nd place and we hear that Mary is putting in some extra

practice. Recently Johnny Wasse won a jackpot and totals and Joan Zilvitis won 114 pins over average.

Congratulations to Vito Radze and his bride who were married in October.

Two new members have joined our group - Helen Gillis and Marijona Yekulis. Nice to have you with us.

Our representatives to the Mid-Central Convention in Cleveland were Ed Martin, Maggie Smailis and Ruth Grasha.

C-102's Terry Medonis dropped in to invite the 79'ers to their Reunion Dance. Her very brief words about togetherness deserved applause. Thanks, Terry. . . . Come again.

October's hostesses were Cel Yunck and Helen Patocki. . . those home-made cakes were really delicious. For November we will have

MID CENTRAL DISTRICT CONVENTION



Left photo: Mid-Central Officers - (1st row) A. Rozger, P. Luiza, M. Trainy, R. Grasa, M. Smailis, C. Petkus. (2nd row) F. Gudelis, U. Yankauskas, A. Uznis, A. Buknis.

Right photo: Sunday Brunch - (l. to r.) - H. Shields, M. Trainy, Rev. B. Ivanauskas, J. Susan, R. Boris, J. Scott, B. Norejkas, W. Smith (Photos by A. Buknis)



Bingo Stanulis and Sophie Leskosky as hostesses.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Bertha Janus and to Peter Sirvis, who both recently lost their mothers. May their souls rest in peace.

Detroit, Mich. C-102 "Jay-Jay"

C-102 got off to a good start this fall by initiating the season with a joint picnic with Sister Council 79 and newly activated C-139 at Edward Hines Park on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 30th. The weatherman was on our side, and came through with plenty of sunshine. It was gratifying to see the fine turn-out and so nice to get acquainted with the members of C-139. Our very best of luck to them, and we look forward to more get-togethers. With Council Pres. Alex Gedville looking after things, we'll expect to be hearing from C-139.

Better late than never! We didn't mean to overlook congratulating our V.P. Lee Galinkas, on his newly-elected post as Commander of the Mich. Catholic War Veterans. Lots of luck in your big job ahead, Lee.

From recent reports, everyone who attended had a most enjoyable evening at the Dinner Dance on Nov. 3rd, given for the benefit of Camp Dainava. Familiar faces were, Terry and Ray Medonis, Donna and Frank Bunikis, and Maryanne and Joe Guerriero. It was a pleasant surprise to meet with Bruno Polikaitis (a former 102-er) and his charming wife, who were visiting from Chicago. The "102" table was graced by Mrs. Donna Stanievich, who held the role of Camp Leader at Camp Dainava during K of L Week last August, and her husband Johnny.

The K of L Bowling League, comprised of the 3 Detroit Councils, is well under way and everyone seems to be having a lot of fun. It's too early to make predictions, so we'll just have to wait until next April to congratulate the Champs!

Glad to see Christine Mishakis up and around again, after a recent stay in the hospital. Hope you're feeling fine, Chris, we've missed you.

Speaking of missing friends-what-ever has happened to Phyllis and Emil Byville? Where did Gina and Gus Baibak go? Come on down to our

monthly meetings. We still hold them every 3rd Sunday, immediately following the 11:00 Mass. Breakfast on the house.

A hearty pat on the back to our former member, Mrs. John Criner, who together with Mrs. Anne Valatka (C 79) was instrumental in organizing a Senior Citizens group, who meet once a week at Divine Providence Church hall for a day of relaxation among old friends, playing cards, sewing or crocheting, chatting, and otherwise whiling away a pleasant afternoon. They really enjoy these get-togethers and sincerely appreciate the time and effort the younger folks contribute to make these afternoons possible.

Final preparations are in the making for our 2nd K of L Reunion Dance to be held on Sat., Nov. 24th. As you read this, the Dance will have come and gone, and if you're among those who were missing, you over-looked a good time. The winners of the 50-50 Club will be announced in the next VYTIS issue.

Our Committee is busy with plans for the Annual Christmas Dinner, which proved to be such a success the last two years. More news in our local bulletin as soon as the date and place have been determined.



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

District News "Bea-Bea"

The District held its first Board meeting of the Fall season on Sun., Oct. 21st in Worcester. It was well attended and produced many plans for the year including Bowling Roll-offs, a Holy Hour, a Leadership Workshop and a Jubilee Year Concert.

Following the meeting, the Board members as well as many other area Knights attended a Testimonial in honor of Mrs. Ann Bender, Mrs. Mary Jankowski and Mr. Joseph Sakaitis, all of C-26. All three have donated their services unselfishly for 25 years to the K of L and have been active on all levels. Everyone in New England expresses their appreciation and

congratulates them on being true K of L members.

The following Sunday, Oct. 28th, the 1st District Bowling Rolloffs was held in Worcester, with 50 people participating. Refreshments were served at the C-26 Clubrooms with Ronald Venis and Carol Tagman "in charge."

A Merry Christmas to everyone from all the New Englanders!

Athol-Gardner, Mass. - C-10

"Vinciukas"

Better late than never! In July, we chartered a bus and along with our Juniors traveled to Ocean Park Beach, New London, Conn. On arrival our group of 33 fun-loving beachcombers were met by some 100 K of L'ers from the District. It was an enjoyable day for all and especially for the Juniors.

Our group has had three cake sales in St. Francis' Parish Hall, Athol, in order to raise money for the planned Youth Rally scheduled for May. We have found this a sure way of raising money and it gives our bachelors much practice as only home-made pastries are sold.

Not only were our members in attendance at the N.E.D. Rolloff, but they were also present at the 25th Anniversary Banquet of Worcester's 3 stalwarts, Mary Jankowski, Ann Bender and Joe Sakaitis. May we wish them many more years of active participation in our fine K of L.

This month, I would like to introduce an old stand-by of C-10 - Leonard Davidonis. Len was born and raised in Athol and upon graduating from Athol High, he began his duties at Union Twist Drill as a draftsman where he has been a faithful and diligent employee.

An all-around man, Len loves to dance, fish and hunt. In addition to all this, he is an excellent cook! Currently he is the Athol's Camera Club Pres. and is our Council photographer. Among his other activities are active participation in the U.T.D. bowling team and choral group, the Carbide Engineers Assoc. and last, but definitely not least, the K of L is very dear to him. . . We all would like to know where he gets all of his energy?!

So, Boston, Mass. C-17 "Kalbetojas"

November was a busy month for C-17. Nominations of officers for the coming elections were presented at the meeting. Congratulations to those who used their ballots in the nominations and were not slackers. If you didn't vote, please don't complain about what your officers are doing. You had your chance to elect officers and didn't take advantage of the opportunity.

The Jubilee Committee is very busy making plans for the coming convention. There is still room for more workers and ideas, so if you can spare any time, please come to the meetings. They are not very long, but very important. A lot of loose ends still must be pulled together to make a successful convention.

The dudes and "duderettes" came home from the Lost Wilderness Dude Ranch unscathed, except for a few sore spots and aching muscles. A large group made their way to the beautiful Berkshires for the weekend. Saturday night we showed the locals that we are not city-slickers. When the call came for the square dance, our group was up there and performed with admirable ability. Ed Daniels of C-26 was our leader. Come to think of it, he does come from a rural area-Worcester!

The Fall Dance was very successful. Many members from other councils attended, and from the many dancers it looked as though all had a very enjoyable time. Al Woods and his Society Band supplied a variety of music. We want to thank the dance committee, who worked so hard that they themselves didn't have time to dance.

The council's Christmas party is being planned. Committee members are Rita Venis, Brenda Statsky, Diane Plevock, Alice Zaremba, Mary Kraunelis, Loretta Kontrim, Joanne Antonellis, Helen Suprin, Angie Yelmokas, Pat Planskey, Florence Zaleskas. Anyone else who wishes to help can join this active committee.

Ed Rudis is signing up members for the Annual C-17 Ski Trip to be held at Purity Springs, E. Madison, N.H. The date is Feb. 8-10th. Only 40 persons will be permitted. Council members will have first choice and then others; provided there is room. So contact Rudy as soon as possible and sign up, or you'll be left out in the cold.

We were the hosts for the Second New England Bowling Rolloff. A large group of bowlers took part. After bowling the participants went to the Lithuanian Citizen's Club, where a buffet was awaiting them. A songfest followed along with dancing music for

those who could remain.

Congratulations are in order to Anthony "Buddy" Zaremba and Mary Kraunelis on their engagement. They are contemplating a June wedding... Fran Daniels recently was home for a furlough from the Air Force... Laureen Marie Casper entered the world on Nov. 2nd, the daughter of Joe & Loretta (Lesciskas) Casper... That dazzling T-Bird is owned by Frank Stankus. How about a ride, Frank!... A large group of C-17ers went to Worcester, where they enjoyed the wonderful variety show staged by C-26... Welcome to Boston - Tony and Joanne Shalna, who recently moved to our city due to Tony's position at Minneapolis-Honeywell. Don't be strangers to our meetings!... Boston has challenged Worcester's C-26 to an inter-mural bowling match. Results will be given next month... The Hiking Society is planning another trip before the big snows come, so they won't be forced to use snowshoes for the next hike.

This reporter wishes to extend to everyone "Linksmų Kalėdų ir Laimingų Naujų Metų!" A reminder that 1963 will be our Jubilee Year. So start saving for that great Convention in Boston, August 14-18th.



New England District Convention Sept, 30, 1962 - Waterbury, Conn. (Photo by J. Rossi)

So. Worcester, Mass. C-116

"Onyté"

All the members of C-116 wish to extend to all K of L'ers and their friends the best wishes of the Holy Season. May it be a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year for all.

We have had a very busy Fall season as can be seen by the following activities. A Military Whist Card Party was held and the committee headed by Mildred Lapinskas, by their hard work, once again realized a substantial profit. Barbara Mazeika, Charles Lapinskas, Gladys Pinkus, Patricia Pinkus, Marion Lukason, Alex Kardokas, Dorothy Sinkavitch and Mildred Buda were the members who worked so hard to make the party a success.

A Halloween Masquerade Dance was held at the beautiful-rebuilt Maironis Park. Financially the dance wasn't too successful as attendance wasn't the greatest. But all who did come enjoyed themselves very much to the music of Joe Drumstas. Al Krasinskas and Bob Paluses were the jolly bartenders and Bea-Bea Kavadaras, Trudy Zibinskas and Dot Sinkavitch, our helpful waitresses. Joan Cashman, Chairman of the dance, was the belle of the ball. Very appropo, too! Six good sports came in costume: Jack "Cool Man" Kasper, Aldona "Eylash Doll" Kasper, Joe "Bathing Beauty" Rovezzi, Ginny "Angel Lips" Chjnicki, Bernice "Golliwog" Kavadaras and Shirley "Russian Marine" Rovezzi. John Yurkenas really gave his all at this dance - he had about three different dance partners for just one number. As mentioned before - the dance was a social success.

Our Spiritual Advisor, Fr. Tamulavicius arranged a Pilgrimage to the North American Martyrs Shrine in Auriesville, N.Y. Altho cool and brisk, it was a cheerful Sunday morning in the land of crosses. We were particularly impressed with the altar in the Coliseum which was built on the idea of a fort. It was a day well-spent with a good deal of spiritual satisfaction. Thank you, Fr. Mike, for suggesting this trip.

Besides the spiritual aspect of the trip, it was one that filled us with plenty of good food. As most of the group packed a lunch, it was

one continuous meal all the way home. Mrs. Karas (Mildred Lapinskas' mom) brought a whole "skilandj" and shared it with the entire bus load of pilgrims. Our bus driver was the very pleasant and well-known - Joe Andrews. By the way, who is "Skinny-Neck-Teddy?"

We welcome to the fold the following new members: Kenneth Cashman, Anthony Kunsitis and lovely Mary Rozanski. Mary promises to be a very active member as on the first day she offered to bake some goodies for the following meeting. Nice to have all the new members on board.

Good Luck to Jack Kasper, who has been appointed Coach of the C.Y.C. Basketball Team. . . Dennis Sabonaitis has rejoined the Choir - this time as a Tenor. The last time he sang with the basses. Did your voice change that much, Dennis? . . . Best of luck to Barbara Mazeika on her new job at State Mutual. . . We hear rumors that Ann Markvenas is going to Florida in November. . . Our deepest sympathies to Millie Buda on the recent death of her sister. . . Ann Miller and Dot Sinkavitch must be real rooters of the Holy Cross Football Team as they can be seen at all of the games. . . Besides going to school, Dot Glaster has been working like a beaver at the Fair. . . Bob Paluses has been going fishing every Friday night after bowling. A few weeks ago, he was joined by Bart March and John Yurkenas. Guess who caught all the fish? You guessed it! Bart and John, of course. . . Wonder were Vin Savage goes every Friday after bowling? . . .

ILL. - IND. DISTRICT

District News

"Zelda"

1963 Chairman: Religious Rev. A. Zakarauskas, Membership Irene Sankus; Juniors Vincent Samaska, Lith. Afrs. Albert Zakarka, Rituals Alexander Mockus, Choir Zena Savokaitis, Archives John Cibulskis, Civic Afrs. Walter Tenclinger, Publicity - Lith. Albin Manst, VYTIS Helen Zimmer, Bulletin Loretta Macekonis, Social Calendar Terry Strolia.

On Oct. 28th approximately thirty bowling enthusiasts traveled to Kenosha, Wisc. for a Bowling Party hosted by Rev. A. Miciunas. Even with the helpful hints of Rev. B. Uzdavinas, some of our bowlers just

couldn't bowl, but they enjoyed the day anyway. We then feasted on a hearty dinner in St. Peter's Parish Hall, after which the skilled (or lucky) bowlers received cash prizes.



Guests of Honor at Ill.-Ind. Bowling Party. l. to r. Al Manst, Rev. John Savukynas, Rev. Anthony Miciunas, MIC, Rev. B. Uzdavinas, MIC, and Dr. V. Balciunas.



Bowling Party Guests

The K of L Choir performed at the Jesuit Youth Center on Nov. 10th for the "Vilniaus Dienos Minėjimas" and the following day they participated in the "Holiday Folk Fair" at Navy Pier. In answer to the many questions about our Choir record, it has been cut and will be on the market before long. (See photo).

Rev. J. Walter Stanievich and Robert Boris were in town to discuss the VYTIS and other K of L business. Rev. Vincent Andruska, Loretta Kassel, Walter Tenclinger, Helen Zimmer and the visitors enjoyed dinner at the "Martinique" and "The Diamond Head" Restaurants (which incidently

are owned by Lithuanians or spouses of Lithuanians). Saturday evening, the District Officers and others were able to socialize with the guests, through the gracious hospitality of Irene Sankus. Sunday's hostesses were Loretta Kassel and her mother, who prepared a most delicious meal.

The Marian Fathers Annual Auxiliary Banquet was held at Sharko's Restaurant. Among the honored guests were K of L members: Msgr. Alavičius, Rev. J. W. Stanievich, Consul & Mrs. Dausvardis, Judge Alfonse Wells, Robert Boris, Leonard Simutis, Sr. and Mr. & Mrs. A. Rudis. Loretta Kassel, attired in Lithuanian costume, was one of the evening's hostesses. Seated at the K of L table were Rev. A. Zakarauskas, Rev. J. Savakynas, Estelle Rogers, Loretta Macekonis, Dolores & Lorraine Wainauskas, Al & Julie Zakarka, Al Plienaitis and Pete Gagle. Dolores Rupp, Irene Rakaitis, Helen Zimmer, Helen Sirvinskas, Walter Tenclinger, Stanley Simulis, Andy & Dolores Yuknis and others also attended.

The Lithuanian Cultural Congress held its Convention in Chicago in November. Loretta Kassel, VYTIS Editor, was on the Presidium of the Press Section, along with the Editors of LITUANUS, ATEITIS and SKAUTŲ AIDAS when the Press held its meetings at the Jesuit Youth Center.

Our condolences and prayers are extended to Eleanore Laurin, Chairman of the District Board, in the loss of her mother. Also to Genevieve Giedraitis and her family on the loss of their grandfather.

Walter & Lisa Cibulskis announced the birth of twin daughters, Suzanne Marie and Ann Marie on Oct. 1st. He-

len Zimmer was the godmother to Suzanne and Frank Jurgaitis, godfather to Ann. That's three girls, isn't it, Wally?

The District committee is making arrangements for the Lithuanian Independence Day Banquet to be held in February. Further details will be announced in the near future.

To All Knights - A Most Holy Christmas Time and a gay and prosperous New Year from the Illinois-Indiana District!

Chicago, Ill. C-36 "Blogas"

On behalf of Rev. Paul Juknevičius, our Spiritual Adviser, and the officers and members of Council 36, warmest greetings for a Happy and Holy Christmas and a most prosperous New Year are extended to all of our fellow Knights throughout the United States.

The officers and members of the council wish to express their deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Mary Laurin, who was called to her eternal reward recently. A Perpetual Mass Membership for Mrs. Laurin was presented to her daughter, Eleanore, our district's past president. Many of our members attended the services on behalf of the council.

Although '62 seemed to be the year for council weddings (four in all), '63 doesn't plan to take a back seat. The word is out already that two more of our active members have announced their engagement. The future Mrs. John Kilkus is none other than our own Lucille Stacy. Our warmest congratulations and best wishes to you

both, Lucille and John, for wonderful life together.

Congratulations to John Maluska who has been appointed Editor of the Darius - Girenas Monthly Bulletin. Keep the presses rolling.

Nov. 3-4 was a busy weekend for many C-36'ers but they enjoyed every minute of - entertaining (and in some cases first meeting) our visitors Rev. Stanievich and Bob Boris, discussing some local and national K of L problems with them, and feasting at Sharko's during the Marian Fathers Annual Auxiliary Banquet there. (See District News for details.)

In last month's issue, we failed to thank the additional members who helped make our "Autumn Twirl in the South Seas" a success. Ačiū to: Rich and Jean Shlaustas, Wally Tenclinger, Rita Gorb, Al and Ann Marie Kassel, Joan Jakunas, Tony Valek, Lou Stacy, Vince Samaska, and others.

And . . . speaking of dances. . . polish your dancing shoes now for the biggest and (we hope) best C-36 Hearts' Dance yet - FRIDAY, FEB. 15, 1963, at the D.-G. American Legion Hall. The Ampol Aires, famous Chicago Polka Band, will provide the music for polka fans, twisters and two-steppers alike! Contact Bob Paul and Vince Samaska if you want to help (and you do, don't you?) We hear even Boston-ites, Detroiters, and other out-of-towners plan to attend.

A highlights of next month's column will be the feature story of the Member of the Month, who will be selected and interviewed very shortly before press time. All nominations will be received by Wally Tenclinger.

Let's support the K of L Junior Fund.



The K of L Choir become recording artists. Pictured left is the Ill-Ind. District K of L Choir in the RCA Studios, recording the first side of their Jubilee Year record, "Te Žydi Vėliai Lietuva."

(Photo by V. Noreika)

Chicago, Ill. C-112 "112 Inquirer"

The Annual C-112 Halloween Party was held at the Our Lady of Vilna Parish Hall. Judging from the happy faces, a good time was had by all who attended. The general costume theme was Children's Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes. Some of the costumes seen were: Jack & Jill, Little Red Hiding Hood, Little Boy Blue, the Beach girl, Beatniks, Gay 90's men, a China girl and many, many others. Prizes were awarded to: Lorraine Wainauskas "The Lamb of Mary had a Little Lamb"; Peter Bagdonas "Fidel Castro" (this is a "fairy-tale"?), and Al & Ruth Dagus "The Elves". Our sincerest thanks to Fr. John Savakynas for his wonderful hospitality. Chairman Cecilia Adas and her committee did a commendable job on the preparations.

Our congratulations to Council member, Judge Alfonse F. Wells, who at the recent elections, won the office of a Superior Court Judge of Cook County, Ill. Our members were present at several of the Reception Parties held in his honor. (See photo of the Sherman House Party on another page.)

Belated birthday greetings to C-Pres. Irene Rakaitis and C-Fin. Secy Al Dagus.

Also belated best wishes to members Vito Rumchek, Ray Krasauskis, Ray Mikalajunas and Casey Gubista. They were elected and/or appointed as Commander, Sr. Vice-Comdr., Past-Comdr's Club Pres., and Service Officer, respectively, of the Darius-Girenas A.L. Post. Judge Alfonse F. Wells was appointed the Judge Advocate of the State American Legion.

C-112 was well represented at the

recent Marian Fathers Annual Auxiliary Banquet held at Sharko's Restaurant. (See I-I District news for details.)

Condolences to Council member Eleanore Laurin and her father, Anthony, on the death of her mother, Mary. Mrs. Laurin was deeply interested in the K of L and we will all miss her support of our organization. She will be remembered in our daily prayers.

Remember! Elections will be held at our December meeting - Tues., the 18th. It is important we all attend and cast our votes for the people we wish to have as our leaders for the Jubilee Year.

Valdyba ir nariai 112-tos kuopos linki visiems "Linksmų Kalėdų" ir "Laimingų Aukšinio Jubilėjaus Metų".

N. Y. - N. J. DISTRICT

Elizabeth, N.J. - C-52

"Nuff Said"

The "New Season" of activities has started. Our 25th Anniversary Mass and Communion Breakfast was held on Oct. 28th, with Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Kemezis as the principal speaker. His words dwelt on the Cuban crisis, the Ecumenical Council, the importance of speaking Lithuanian and preserving our Lithuanian culture and heritage. Those who did not attend missed the important words of Msgr. Kemezis. A sumptuous breakfast was served at the "Twin-City Restaurant" - more than any "growing boy" could eat, as attested by Pete Kasilonis, Ray Zabita and this writer.

A most Happy Birthday to Fr. Walter Karalevicius, our Spiritual Advisor.

Our K of L'ers were well represented in the Annual Holy Name Parade. It was a beautiful day and the five miles were covered very well, by tired, hot and happy feet. Stan Naiva acted as the Marshall for our parish.

Five of our Council were honored with Third Degrees in Paterson. The recipients being: Helen Balandis, Ronnie Krezonis, Ann Baronis, Mary Motecus and Jim Stokas. Congratulations!

A welcome abroad to Henry Mankus. We'll be looking for you at our activities, Henry!

Charles Cheponis and Charles Rusteika are flying to Las Vegas in December. Is it for the purpose of garnering some Christmas money, men? Remember what happened to Chas. Oskutis and Norb. Wysocky last summer!

The Dinner-Dance will be reviewed in the next issue.

PLEASE NOTE:

On Dec. 1, 1962, THERESA PUPINIK, VYTIS Council News Editor, became the wife of FAUSTAS STROLIA, the very talented director of the K of L Choir in Chicago. We extend to Terry and Faustas sincerest congratulations and best wishes for a very happy life together.

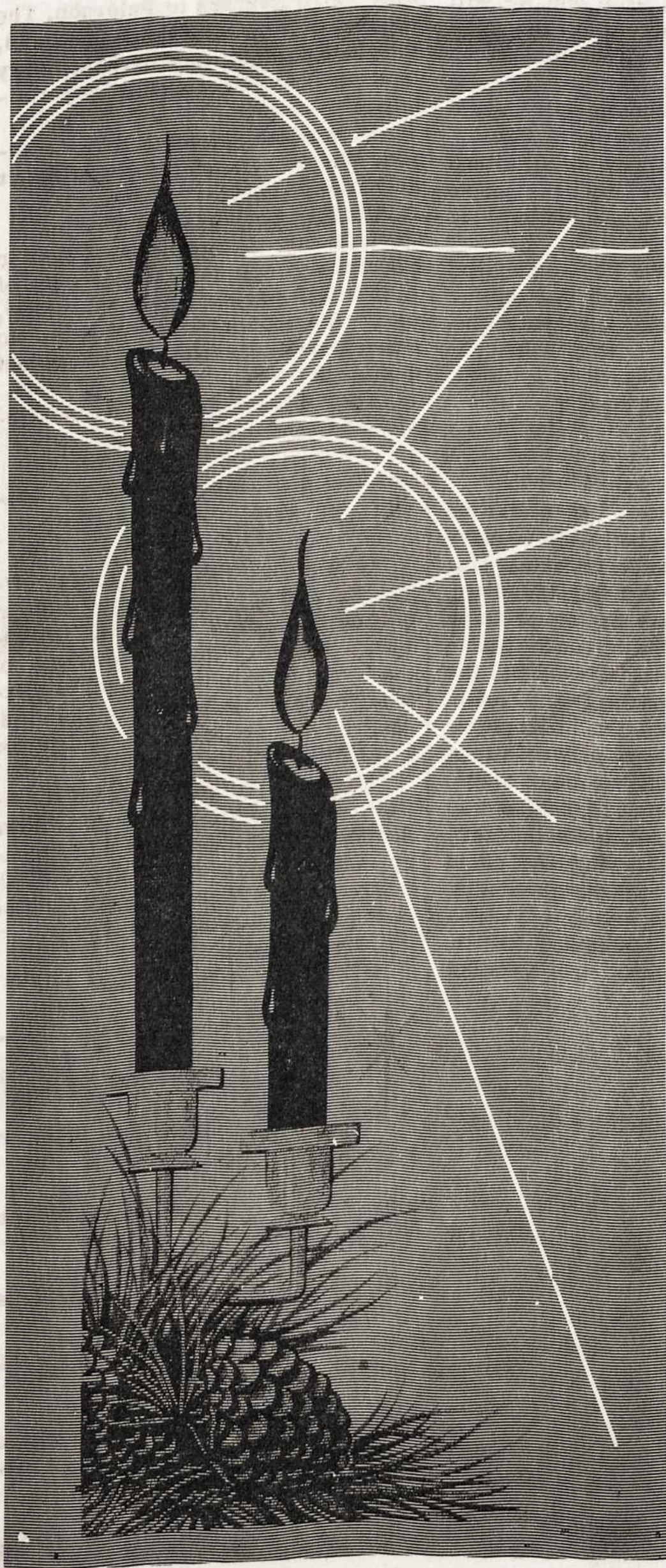
Many thanks go to IRENE SAN-KUS, who is editing the Council News Section for the December and January issues, in Terry's absence. All future council news items should be sent to the following address:

Mrs. Theresa Strolia
3722 West Marquette Rd.
Chicago 29, Illinois

K of L CALENDAR

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| Dec. 9 | Music and Drama Recital, Featuring Carol Bowen, Louis Stukas, and Irene Veblaitis. 4:30 P.M., Lithuanian Liberty Hall, Elizabeth, N.J. | Jan. 19-20 | C-10, Athol Winter Carnival. Dance Saturday, Dinner and Winter Sports Sunday. |
| Dec. 16 | N.Y. - N.J. District Convention St. Michael Hall, Bayonne, N.J., 3 P.M. | Jan. 26-27 | N. E. District Annual Ski Weekend. Purity Springs, Vt. |
| Dec. 23 | C-5, Chicago, Bowling Social and Christmas Party, Queens Recreation and K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill. | Feb. 2 | C-1, Brockton, Snowflake Ball, Brockton, Mass. |
| Dec. 25 | C-41, Brooklyn-Queens, Annual Christmas Dance, Annunciation Hall, Brooklyn, N.Y. Twist and Polka Dance Contests, Ray Butrumas Orch. Admission \$1.50 | Feb. 8-10 | C-17, So. Boston, Mass. Annual Ski Trip, Purity Springs, E. Madison, N. H. |
| | | Feb. 10 | Ill.- Ind. District - Annual Commemoration of Lithuanian Independence Day "Martinique" Restaurant, Chgo, Ill. |

Antanas Balcytis-36
6819 S. Washtenaw Ave.
Chicago 29, Ill.



A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Let us pray that strength and courage abundant be given to all who work for a world of reason and understanding ❀ that the good that lies in every man's heart may day by day be magnified ❀ that men will come to see more clearly not that which divides them, but that which unites them ❀ that each hour may bring us closer to a final victory, not of nation over nation, but of man over his own evils and weaknesses ❀ that the true spirit of this Christmas Season —its joy, its beauty, its hope, and above all its abiding faith— may live among us ❀ that the blessings of peace be ours—the peace to build and grow, to live in harmony and sympathy with others, and to plan for the future with confidence.