

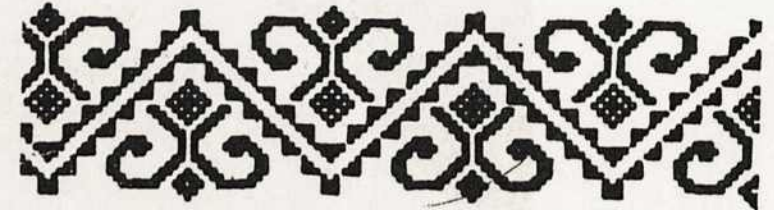
The Madonna di San Sisto, by Raphael, also known as the Dresden Madonna
(See p. 5)

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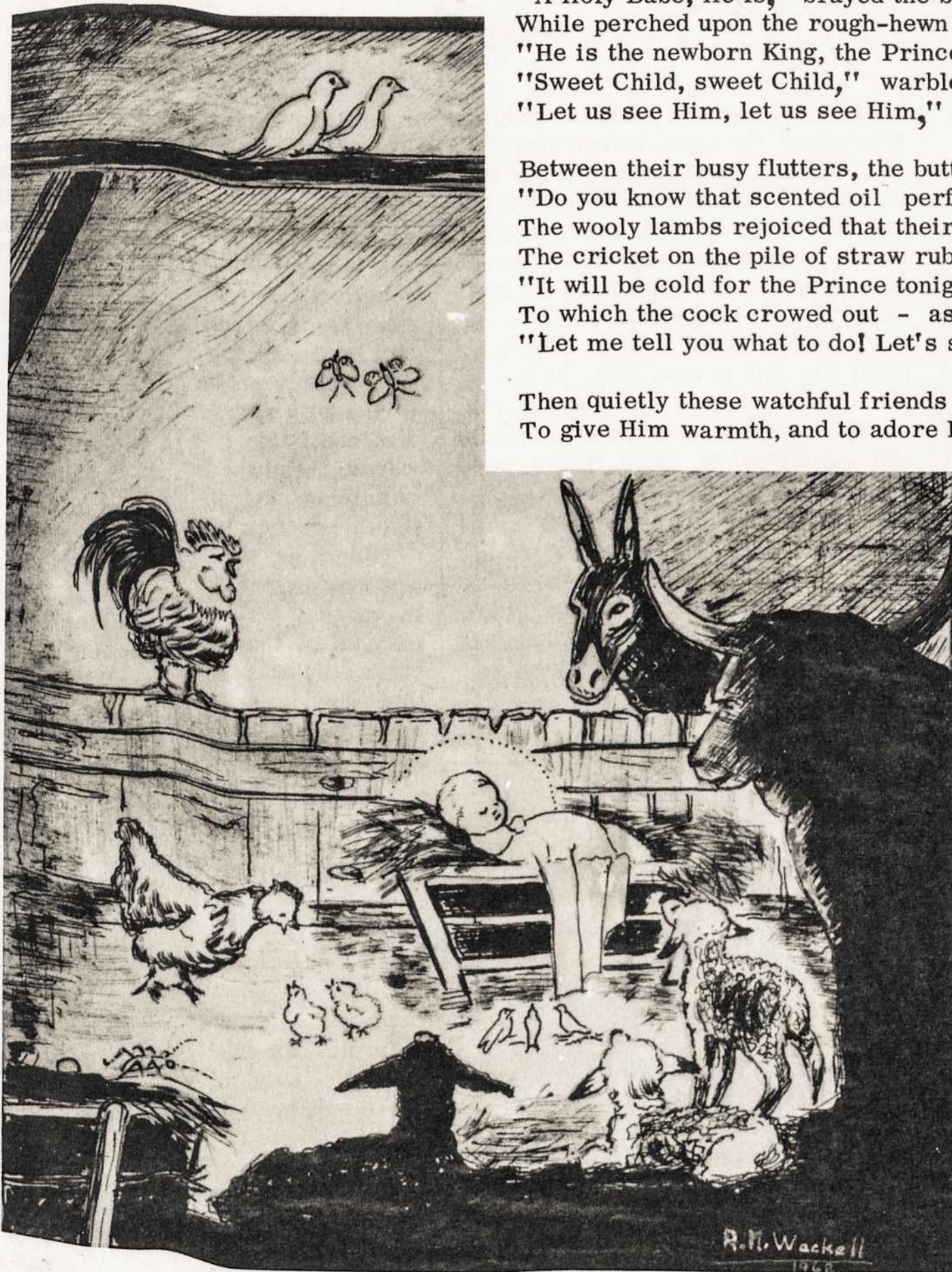
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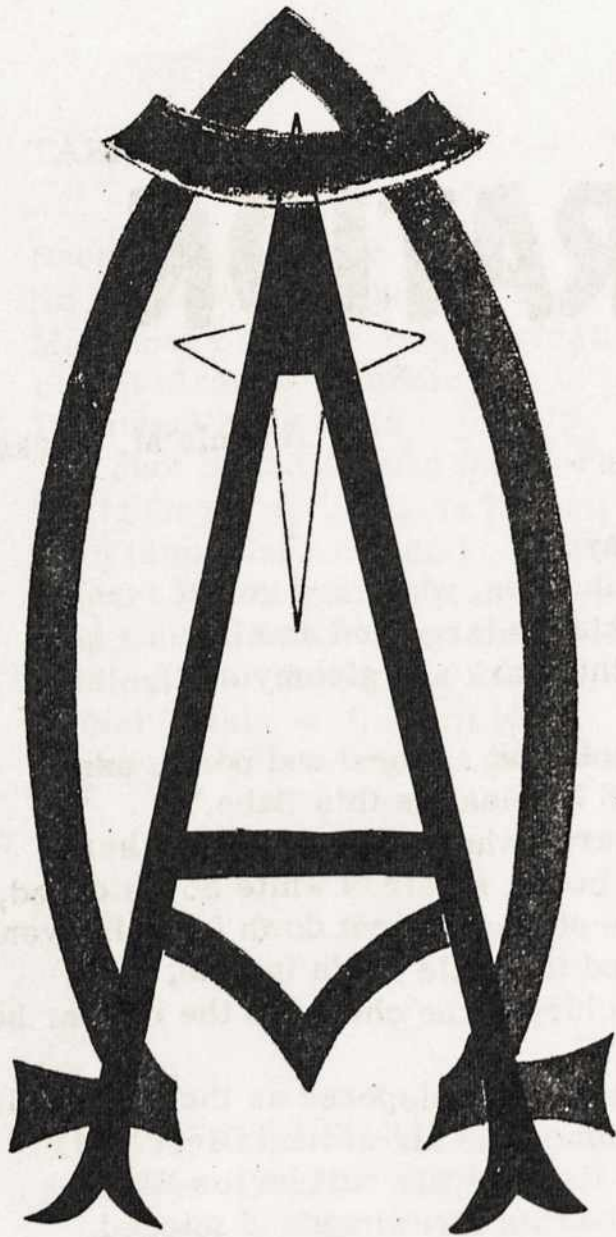
In a dreary stable on a manger of hay
Lay the small Child Jesus wrapped in linen, white and gold.
Around His crib there gathered creatures large and small
To welcome Him, to talk of Him in this dark and gloomy stall.

As they gazed at Him, in wonder, spoke out an aged and portly ox:
"Do look, my friends, how small and helpless is this Babe."
"A Holy Babe, He is," brayed the burro who had brought Him here.
While perched upon the rough-hewn beam, a pair of white doves cooed,
"He is the newborn King, the Prince of Peace, sent down from Heaven."
"Sweet Child, sweet Child," warbled the little birds in tune.
"Let us see Him, let us see Him," chirped the chicks to the mother hen.

Between their busy flutters, the butterflies whispered as they hovered:
"Do you know that scented oil perfumes the air around Him?"
The woolly lambs rejoiced that their fleecy coats will be for Him.
The cricket on the pile of straw rubbed its forewings and intoned,
"It will be cold for the Prince tonight. It will be cold."
To which the cock crowed out - as softly as he could,
"Let me tell you what to do! Let's stay here this raw night through."

Then quietly these watchful friends around the sleeping Child assembled
To give Him warmth, and to adore Him, this newborn Babe of Bethlehem.





NO PEACE WITHOUT GLORY TO GOD

Peter P. Cinikas, MIC

The great message of Christmas was given to the lowly shepherds of Bethlehem.

An angel with the brightness of God spoke the story of the birth of the Saviour, Who is Christ. In the angel a multitude of the heavenly army appeared and they praised God saying: "Glory to God in the highest: and on earth peace to men of good will. (Luke 2, 14):"

God must be praised and unless He is praised there will be no peace amongst men of this earth. The honor that is due to God must be rendered before there can be any peace amongst men of good will.

The creature must recognize his Creator and bring respect and honor to His Name. The created must not act as though he himself is the cause of his own existence upon this earth. The feeble being must raise his head and pour out his heart to the All Mighty One and acknowledge His greatness.

Peace of mind, heart and soul will be his reward if he renders glory to All-Powerful Who made it possible for him to praise Him with all his mind, heart and soul.

Many dictators, caesars and kings throughout the ages, before and after the birth of Christ, have tried to lord it over all without regard for the law and the honor of God. Every age has known rulers that acted as though they alone were the cause of their empires or kingdoms. They would not render honor to Him Who gave them life and power. Many such men wanted the honor for themselves.

More often than not, the kingdoms and countries of such rulers were rarely at peace; strife, conspiracies and injustices were the characteristics of their reigns; their ruling years brought them very few genuine honors and their memories were short-lived. God shed no permanent honors upon them because they refused to recognise Him.

Kings and dictators are not the only ones who sometimes fail to render honor and glory to God. We little people, in our own various little ways, are often guilty of neglecting our duty towards God.

Intense discontent with the ways of God, laziness in working for God, malice for the creatures of God and innate selfishness mark our daily lives. God is often forgotten during our daily routine.

All praise and all glory to God in the highest, Who dwelt amongst us as a Child of Bethlehem, and brought peace to us because we are men of good will.

All men, whether they be kings or peasants, presidents or citizens,

must remember their sole purpose, The greater honor and glory of God. Each, in his own way, must bring that glory to God or be content to go unrewarded. Peace on this earth will always elude them and they will constantly be striving selfishly and experiencing frustrations. Discontent will be their characteristic of life.

St. Luke's account of the event, in the 20th verse of the second chapter, continues the narration with the words: "And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they have heard and seen."

Even as the shepherds returned praising God in wonderment of all the things they had seen and heard, so the peoples of the world whether they be kings, dictators, or presidents, whether they be citizens or lowly peasants, should return to the practice of praising and honoring God because of the many wondrous things they have seen and heard of the creatures of God.

And truly, all that will fill their hearts and thoughts with highest praises of the Creator will feel their hearts overflowing with a joyous, heavenly peace. It will be hard for them to feel malice and hatred for their fellowman, because they will be men of good will towards all men. Peace will be their prized possession.

This Christmas, all should strive to attain to this peace that Christ wills for men upon the occasion of memory of His birth.

Madonna, Child

REMAIN AN INSPIRATION TO ARTISTS

By Stanley Pieza

The Madonna and Child always has been a favorite subject of artists depicting the Christmas story.

Perhaps this subject affords inspiration to more artists than any other in world history. The event is told in simple words by St. Luke in the second chapter of his Gospel. It follows:

"And She brought forth her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."

The greatest painters through centuries and contemporary ones have attempted to recreate the scene of the nativity showing especially the joys of the face of the Madonna, the Virgin Mother of Christ. Perhaps of equal inspiration to the artists is the face of the Infant Jesus.

St. Luke, a companion of St. Paul, describes the scene of the nativity tersely. He does not give it any color. He does not describe the location of the manger, nor does he describe Mary or the Child Jesus. However, from the few words of St. Luke, the artists have created masterpieces that grace some of the best known world museums, cathedrals, and private libraries.

Some of the great masterpieces of the Madonna and Child are in the shrines of Lithuania, such as the Siluva, and the most famous one, Our Lady of Vilnius. These and other Madonnas have been an inspiration to Lithuanians ever since their conversion from paganism to Christianity in the 15th century.

As the Gospel spread around the world, the image of Christ captivated the minds and hearts of primitive natives and the peoples of many races and nations. A negro in the African bush envisioned the Madonna and Child in Negroid characteristics; in China, the Madonna becomes Oriental, and in South America, the Madonna is a Latin.

In the pre-Renaissance and Renaissance periods, the artists created their greatest Madonna masterpieces in oils and marble. Among them were Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Rubens, Fra Angelico, Corregio, Gentileschi, Michelangelo and Bernardino di Biagio.

The artists of all lands have used their imagination in painting the Madonna and Child. There is belief that St. Luke did a portrait of the Blessed Mary from life, and that the painting is in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome, Italy. This basilica, erected in the fourth century, was the first house of worship dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

The actual development of the Madonna and Child was started with the Italians, whose creations are known world over. The German artists followed a little later.

The masters portray with their deft brushes the timidity and youthfulness of the Virgin while the Christ Child is shown usually in a playful mood. The German masters portray the Christ Child as a chubby infant.

During past centuries and in recent years, the peasants of Lithuania have carved the Madonna and Child from wood and placed their creations in wayside shrines, on tiny altars in their homes, and in the churches.

The Blessed Mother and Child images have inspired the Lithuanian people during wars and in peace.

Typical of the devotion of the Lithuanians to the Mother of Christ is the tiny prayer book written by a young girl in Siberian exile. Having no pen or printing material, the young girl wrote her prayer book with a pencil in the Lithuanian language and entitled it:

"Marija, Gelbėki Mus. . ." ("Mary, Help Us...")



The Miraculous portrait of "Our Lady of Vilnius."



Virgin and Child with Saints, by Sano di Pietro



"Our Lady of Siluva," in Lithuania



This portrayal of the Holy Mother & Child is acknowledged as one of the most beautiful ever executed. It is Raphael's "Madonna and Child", known also as the Cowper or Michalini Madonna.

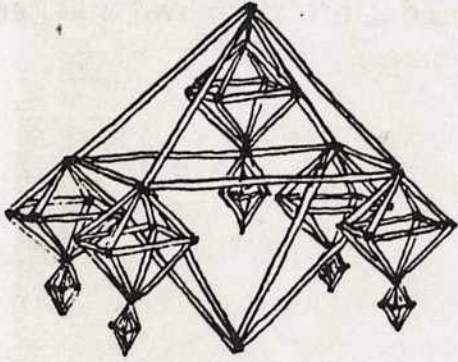


This "Madonna and Child" is believed to be painted in the late 15th Century by Jean Hay, called Clouet the Elder. It is valued at \$100,000.



A modern interpretation of the Virgin Mary and Jesus is done in bold, stark relief by the contemporary artist Frere Eric who titles his work "Negro Virgin and Child."

By Norma Lee Browning



USE OF STRAW

REVIVES LOST

YULETIDE ART

Each year, Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry features a beautiful array of Christmas trees of all nations, as part of its "Christmas Around the World" program. . . and each year, the Lithuanian tree, covered with delicate geometric ornaments made of white drinking straws, wins the title of "The Most Photographed Tree in the World." Responsible in great part for the growth of popularity of this tree and others similarly decorated in various parts of Chicago and the rest of the country was the late Mrs. Roze Mazeliauskas, a K of L'er from Chicago, Ill. A few months before her death (Oct., 1960), Mrs. Mazeliauskas was interviewed by Norma Lee Browning of the Chicago Tribune. To honor her memory, and her contribution of reviving this lost art, we present this reprint of Mrs. Mazeliauskas' interview which appeared in the Dec. 21, 1959 issue of the Chicago Tribune.

* * * * *

The Christmas heroine of Chicago's Little Lithuania, around 30th and Halsted Sts., is a perky, twinkly eyed 78 year old lady whose new nickname is Šiaudinukų Motina - Mother of the Straw Ornaments.

Her real name is Mrs. Roze Mazeliauskas. She is a tavernkeeper's widow and you would think she had just been named prima donna of the Metropolitan opera. Making Christmas tree ornaments out of soda straws has become the biggest thing in her life.

Not for Sale

This isn't a commercial. You can't buy the little lady's soda straw dreams. She stays up all night spinning new ones and then gives them away. She'll give them to you, to President Eisenhower, to anyone - as long as people keep bringing her soda pop straws.

The result is that a great many American homes these days are displaying Lithuanian Christmas trees.

Mrs. Mazeliauskas' fairy tale ornaments have revived a lost art in Lithuanian folklore and made the Lithuanian Christmas tree the most spectacular in the yuletide pageant of trees of all nations. There is one on the White House lawn and one in Chicago's Science museum in Jackson park.

Now an Institution

The Lithuanian Christmas tree has become an institution. And only a few years ago no one had ever heard of it.

In the first place, old time Lithuanians didn't have Christmas trees. In the second place, when they adopted them in this country, the trees were American style tinsel - until Mrs. Mazeliauskas began weaving her memories from the fragile, lacy patterns of the past.

This reporter found the Mother of Straw Ornaments in her three room, second floor rear flat in south Union street, the residential heart of Chicago's Little Lithuania.

She was virtually entombed in tangled cobwebs of twine and a fantastic fairyland of fragile, airy soda straw ornaments in every conceivable shape and design.

Sent out Widely

No, the rush was already over, she said. She had already sent huge cartons to St. Louis, Washington, Arizona - any place there was anyone who wanted a Lithuanian Christmas tree. No charge.

"These are for you," she said. She scooped them into a carton, which cleared the table so she could start over again.

She likes making soda straw ornaments. It gives her something to do, especially at night. She is a nocturnal creature, sleeps only about two hours, and spends the rest of night spinning her memories of Lithuania into the lacy patterns of her crocheting, tatting, or her soda straws.

"Do you drink? Say yes," she said quickly, then unwound herself long enough to fetch a quart of home-made krupnikas - made from boiling spirits, honey, water, and herbs.

"It's my own recipe, Boiled it six hours," she said. "You have to know how to make this - like, the straws."

She poured the krupnikas into two dainty liquor glasses, lifted her glass, and said, "Sveiks!" (To your health).

"Now," she said, "I show you how I dream straws."

Many Fantastic Designs

She first cuts the soda straws (she buys boxes of 500 for 35 cents) in various sizes, then threads a big fat home-made needle with twine, and starts sewing. What comes out is a myriad of fantastic geometric patterns and designs windmills, bird cages, bells, stars.

"Special for you, a football," she said, holding up a delicate, fairylike, fretwork straw mobile art object.

She never dreams up the same design twice. She never tires of her creative doodling. As a matter of fact, she says, it's much easier than the ornaments she used to make in Lithuania from real rye and wheat straw.

Part of the credit for reviving the lost art of Lithuanian straw ornaments must go to Mrs. Josephine Dauzvardis, wife of the Lithuanian consul in Chicago.

Fourteen years ago Chicago's Science museum called on Mrs. Dauzvardis to help decorate a Lithuanian tree for their Around the World Christmas tree exhibit.

Six Month Search

Mrs. Dauzvardis spent six months searching for someone who might re-

call something of the early traditional Lithuanian ornaments.

One day she casually mentioned it to Mrs. Mazeliauskas. A spark of recollection lit up her eyes.

"Why, yes. . . I had forgotten," Mrs. Mazeliauskas said: "Fifty years ago, as a child in Lithuania, I made ornaments of straw, eggshells, and paper to decorate our home for the holidays." (There were no Christmas trees; the ornaments were hung around the house.)

Without more urging, Mrs. Mazeliauskas made the ornaments. She was a little frustrated at first because Chicago had no rye and wheat straw but she tried her handiwork on soda sippers and found them to be more durable and satisfactory than real straw.

Three Days of Work

She spent three solid days and nights making enough straw trinkets for the Science museum's tree and then with the consulate family trekked into the museum laden with enough cartons for a safari - and labored 12 hours to get them strung.

The Lithuanian delegation departed with some apprehension, wondering whether their tree might not seem too simple and unassuming in the forest of other glittering and gai-

ly bedecked trees.

The Lithuanian tree, dressed only in white airy splendor, became an overnight sensation - and so did Mrs. Mazeliauskas.

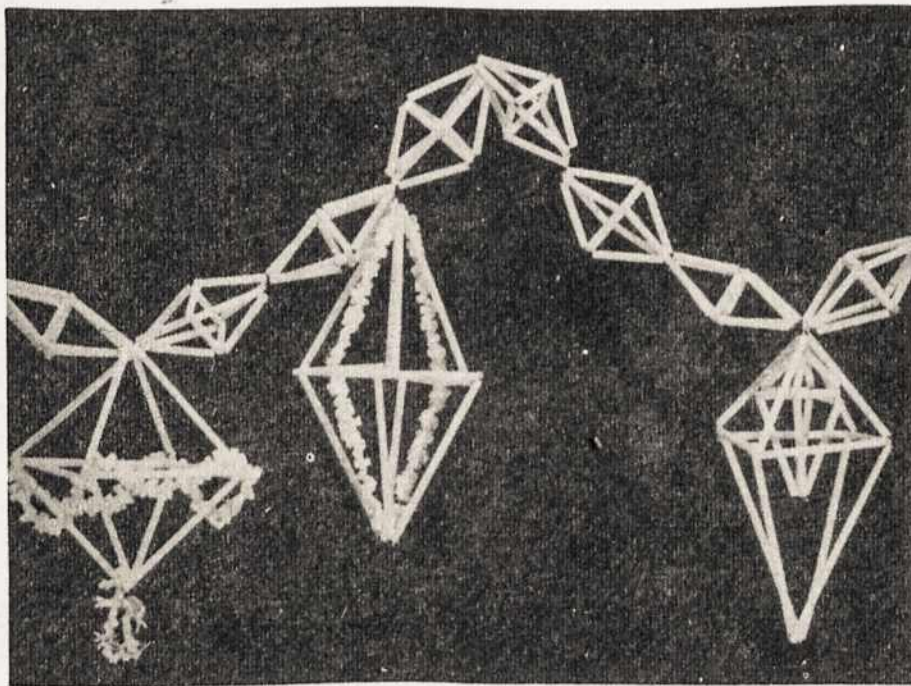
She began demonstrating her work at clubs, museums, schools, and out of her original samples grew an entire new art project, now carried on by students at the Maria High school and headed by Sister M. Gratia Listaitė, art instructor at the school.

With Mrs. Maziliauskas' guidance, Sister Gratia learned the art of straw ornament making and has carried it into the classroom.

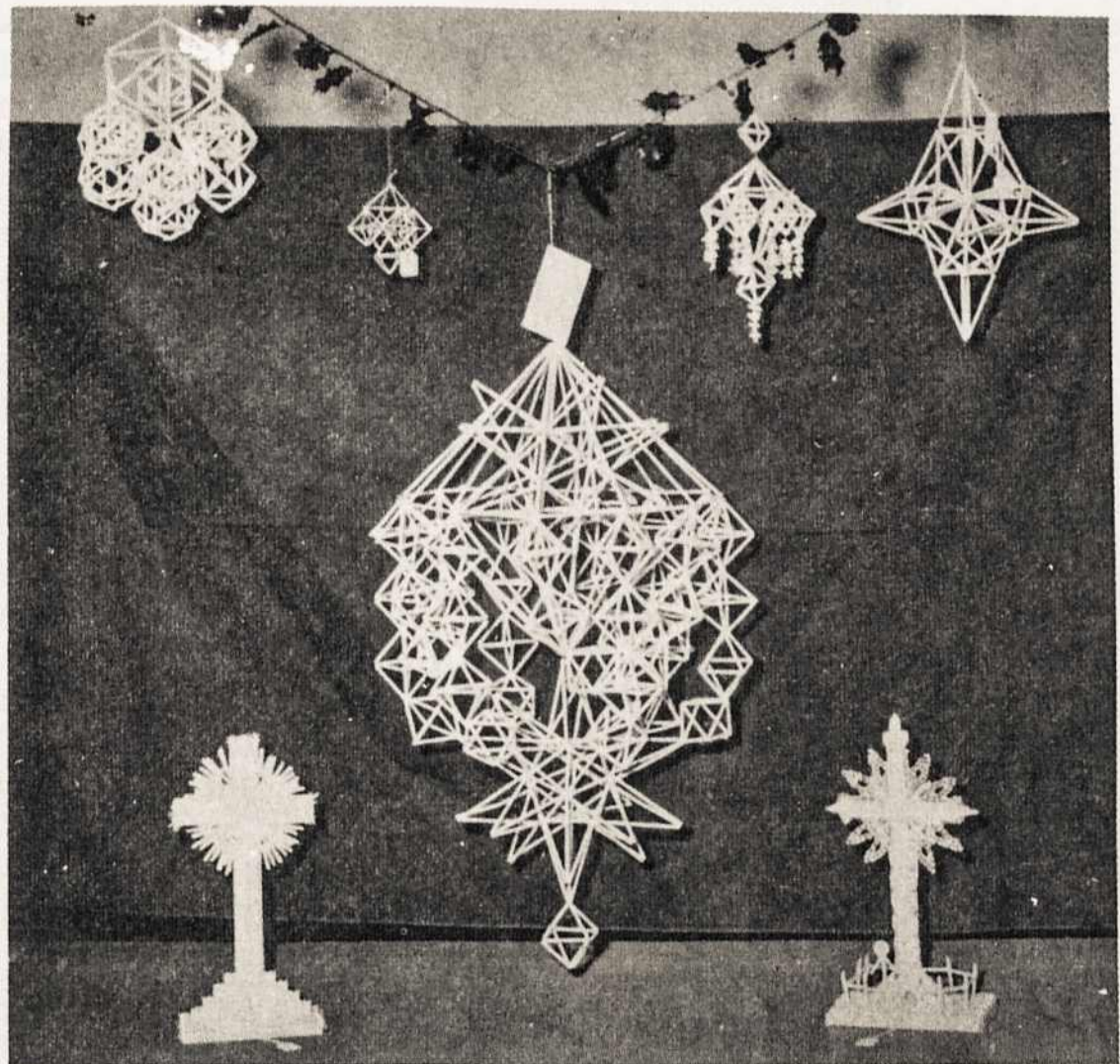
This year and for the last few years the museum's Lithuanian tree has been sponsored and decorated by Sister Gratia and her Maria High school art students.

They also made the decorations for President Eisenhower's Lithuanian tree in his pageant of peace display of Christmas trees of all nations. They also have created new Lithuanian designs of exquisite and fragile beauty, unmatched by anything modern industry has devised.

But it was Mrs. Mazeliauskas who rekindled the lost art from cobwebby memories of her native soil; and her most cherished Christmas gift is the name her people have bestowed on her - Šiaudinukų Motina - Mother of the Straw Ornaments.



An outgrowth of the popularity of Lithuanian Christmas ornaments in Chicago is an annual Lithuanian Christmas Ornaments Contest, sponsored by C-36 members Frank and Eleanore Zapolis. Pictured are the 1962 Contest winners.





President's Message

As we approach the end of the year, many council officers and committees are finishing their term of office. At the January meeting, many new persons will be elected to guide their councils during 1964. What will the elections be like? Will serious thought be given as to whom is best qualified for a particular office? Will new persons be encouraged to accept positions, so they can inject new ideas? Will outgoing officers render assistance to their successors?

These are the questions to consider as we approach election time. Indifference, and lack of interest in the election will be detrimental not only to your council, but to the entire organization.

Declinations to accept office may be eliminated or kept to a minimum if the current officers would approach members in advance and ask them to accept nomination for a specific office. Lacking the knowledge of just what the duties are of a particular office may be the reason many times, why members hesitate to accept nomination. This can be solved by having the constitution and K of L manual handy.

It is the duty of officers and committee members to plan and present an activities program for the council's consideration. Once the program is approved, the entire membership should become concerned and render their wholehearted support.

Compatibility and close cooperation of officers, committees and members will bring us all closer to the goals for which we are striving.

On the occasion of the Birthday of the Child Jesus, it is my great joy to extend to each and every member of the Knights of Lithuania sincere wishes that you be abundantly showered with His Blessings and Graces. May the Blessings and Graces bestowed, instill within you the desire to show your love for Him by working for the K of L high ideals and principles. It is my hope that the New Year will be a most happy, healthy and prosperous one for every K of L'er and his loved ones.

Šventų Kalėdų proga, nuoširdžiai sveikinu visus Vyčius ir Vytes, linkėdama, kad Kūdikėlis Jėzus paimintų visus gausiomis malonėmis. Linkiu, kad Naujieji metai atneštų daug laimės, džiaugsmo, geros sveikatos ir tvirtą pasiryžimą darbuotis Dievo ir Tėvynės labui.

Helen T. Shields, President



THE SHOT THAT WAS HEARD AROUND THE WORLD

NURSE BERNADETTE PIEZA TELLS
HOW IT RESOUNDED IN TUNISIA

It was November 22, 1963, in a far distant country from the shores of the United States. It was in Tunis, Tunisia, North Africa.

From nowhere a shot rang out in Dallas, Texas, that was heard even in Tunis - and around the world.

Ten young nurses of the U.S. Peace Corps were at dinner in their apartment in Tunis, capital of Tunisia, on the day that is to become the Black Friday of the United States - Nov. 22.

A young Arab boy, with tears on his cheeks, burst into the nurses' dining room, and excitedly shouted:

"Your President is dead: he was shot in the head!"

The boy informed the nurses that an assassin brought sudden and tragic death to their beloved President, John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

Among the nurses present in the dining room of the Tunis apartment was the tall and blue-eyed 21-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Pieza of Chicago.

Bernadette related in letters to her parents and to her sister, Mrs. Joanne McGlone, how she and the other nurses and the people of Tunisia were shocked by the news of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Friday, 8:30 p.m., Nov. 22, Bernadette wrote the following to her parents:

"Tonight I came home from Arabic class and all happy. While partaking of a delicious banana cream pie, a Tunisian boy burst into our room, and excitedly informed us: "Your President is dead; he was shot in the head!"

"My stomach turned. How tragic! Our President and the founder of our Peace Corps was assassinated in Texas. At first, we doubted whether our Tunisia boy informer was right; we just could not believe such a thing, the death of our President."

"We turned our radio, there was a lot of static, but we heard enough - the President was killed! Oh, it's the most horrible feeling. It's unbelievable. Here we are so far away in a foreign country, where we are to spread American culture, honesty, gentleness, and our President is killed. How terrible it sounds. The Tunisian boy, in fact, had tears. You should have seen our tears. . .

"We Peace Corps volunteers feel sick, sick in our hearts, that someone even thought of killing this great man, the President, the founder of the Peace Corps and who has done so much good for the United Nations and for world peace."

"You must realize, mama and papa, that we in Tunis were highly affected by the tragic happenings in

our beloved country, the United States. We are in mourning. Let me tell you, since being in the Peace Corps, we have become so loyal to America and our President Kennedy."

Bernadette describes the following in her letter to her sister:

"After the sudden death of President Kennedy, everything was closed in Tunis, the movies and the cafes, for three days. People were silent."

"On Monday, the funeral day of the President, we had a memorial service for him at the big American cemetery near Carthage. This was most impressive. Taps were sounded which echoed across the graves. Yes, Nov. 25, the funeral day, was one to be remembered in Tunisia. . . I never felt more like an American, for being away from your own country just makes you so much more loyal to our President and our country."

"We pray and hope God blesses our new President Johnson."

* * * * *

The sound of that tragic "shot" will resound in our hearts for many years. . . May its echo forever serve to inspire us to work harder and more vigorously to achieve world peace.

Ed.

VYČIŲ ORG. TURI DAUGIAU KALBĖTI

J. Sadauskas

Kaip mes jau visi žinome, Amerikoje randasi L. Vyčių organizacija, kuri šioje šalyje gyvuoja jau 50 metų. Ji šiais metais mini savo jubiliejinę sukaktį. Šiais metais turėjo savo didelį jubiliejinį seimą So. Boston, Mass. Jame buvo padaryta keletas svarbių nutarimų, išrinkta josios naujoji vadovybė, kurios priešakyje nūnai stovi kun. Vl. Stanevičius ir Elena Šaulytė. Vienas kaip dvasios vadas, o kita, kaip pirmutinė, moteriškos lyties, centro pirm. L. Vyčių org. istorijoje. Deja, bet juodu turi ir gabius pagalbininkus - B. Kavadaraitę, L. Švelnį ir dar kitus. Pastarųjų vienas privalo organizuoti jaunųjų lietuviukų skyrius, o kitas senyvesnio amžiaus mūsų brolius ir seses; bet ligi šiolei dar nieko nesigirdi ir nežinia, kaip ilgai tokia tyla tęsis. Juoba, mes spaudos bendradarbiai jau gavome nuo L. Vyčių org. vadovės paliepus bei paragimus kelti vyčių vardą ir jų obalsį mūsų liet. spaudoje, nes "Vytis" išeidamas vieną kartą į mėnesį, negali daug ką pasakyti mūsų liet. visuomenei. Tiesa, seniau L. Vyčių org. vardas ir darbai skambėjo visoje Amerikoje ir net pačioje Lietuvoje. Jų chorai, galima sakyti, gyvavo kiekvienoje didesnėje liet. kolonijoje. Jie ruošė didžiausius koncertus, statė scenoje įžymiausius ir įvairiausius veikalus. Jie turėjo kiekvienoje liet. kolonijoje ne po vieną korespondentą, bet po kelis. Jų plunksnos negulėjo stalčiuose, bet jos dirbo dienomis ir naktimis. Vyčių naujų narių vajai būdavo praversti pasekmingiausiai ir skaitlingiausiai. Jie turėjo ne dešimtis veikėjų, bet šimtus ir jie didžiumoje vadovavo kitoms draugijoms bei organizacijoms. Žinoma, praeities vyčių veikėjai buvo kilę iš tėvynės Lietuvos, kuriems daugiausiai terūpėjo tik motutė Lietuva. Bet nūnai jie negali tuo didžiuotis, nes L. Vyčių org. šiandien susideda didžiumoje iš antrosios ir trečiosios kartos, o buvusieji jų nariai vieni jau ilsisi amžinybėje, o kiti sulaukę gilesnio amžiaus pasitraukę iš L. Vyčių eilių sau tyliai leidžia ramų gyvenimą ir žiūri į jaunosius, kaip jie sielojasi dėl savo mylimos organizacijos ir lietuviybės.

Taigi šiuo momentu norėčiau prabilti į visus buvusius L. Vyčių org. narius, kurie dar esate pajėgūs ateiti į pagalbą savo vaikams bei vaikaičiams, kas palengvintų pasiekti jų užsibrėžtą tikslą - padidinti savo organizaciją tūkstančiu naujų narių. Antro L. Vyčių org. vice pirm. - Longino Švelnio yra užduotis daugiausiai tik organizuoti vyčių senjorų skyrius. Taigi čio-

nai ir norisi atsiliepti į visus buvusius ir esančius (vyresnio amžiaus) lietuvius-ves vyčių mylėtojus ir draugus, stoti į šios organizacijos eiles, kad vėl josios vardas" praskambėtų didžiumoje liet. kolonijų, kaip kitados. Gal mūsų Longinas turėtų pradėti savo didįjį darbą nuo Bostono, kur randasi daug vyčių idealistų ir jų bendraminčių. Tikiu, kad Bostone būtų galima pasivyti Chicagos senjorų vyčių skyrių, kuris skaitosi virš šimto narių. Be abejo, kad ir Bostonas tu galėtų pasididžiuoti, nes tenai randais, berods, net trys garbės nariai - būtent prel. P. Virmauskis, adv. Young Jankauskis ir F. Grendalytė, o dar prie jų galima priskirti kun. Al. Kontautą, ilgametį L. Vyčių org. buvusį dvasios vadą, Al. Nevierą su žmona ir dar daugiau tokių. Čia įkūrus senjorų vyčių skyrių, tada reikėtų žengti į Detroit, Mich., kur gyvuoja net trys vyčių kuopos ir randasi didokas skaičius buvusių narių, kurie nūnai vyčiams nepriklauso. Jie visi vėl reikėtų gražinti prie šios organizacijos, o šiam darbui ateitų į pagalbą ir L. Vyčių org. centro dvasios vadas kun. Vl. Stanevičius, L. Vyčių 79-tos kuopos dvasios vadas kun. M. Kundrotas, o prie jų dar prisijungtų R. Boris, plunksnos mylėtojas Dainius, vidurinių valstijų L. Vyčių apskrities pirm. P. Zager. O iš čionai turėtų mestis į Dayton, Ohio, kur irgi dar nėra senjorų skyriaus ir parodyti Clevelando vyčių senjorams, kad ir Daytono 96-ta kuopa turi senjorų vyčių skyrių, nes ir šioje liet. kolonijoje randasi gana didokas būrelis buvusių narių ir josios mylėtojų. Žinoma, tik reikia susijieškoti darbininkų pradėti šią organizacinę darbą. Ir čionai privalėtų pirmiausia susisiekti su Pranu Gudeliu, L. Vyčių org. garbės nariu ir su kitais 96-tos kp. veikėjais.

Mes visi jau žinome, kad didžiuma L. Vyčių org. narių turėtų pereiti į senjorų skyrius, o į savo vietas privalėtų prirašyti jaunesnius ir tokiu būdu mes galėtume padidinti savo org. tūkstantine naujų ir sugrįžusių narių. Iš tikrųjų, kaip yra malonų ir garbinga būti L. Vyčių org. nariu. Nuvažiuoji kur į kitą miestą, susitinki vyti-tę, kurie tuojau pasidaro tavo draugais-bičiuliais ir bematant prasideda lietuviška pažintis. Tai kodėl baidytis nuo vyčių ir jų veiklos bei lietuviybės didžiųjų darbų? Tik tapkite šios org. nariais, o patyrę jų idealius siekius, jūs irgi norėsite su jais pasilikti.

Gal kiti mano, kad L. Vyčių org. susideda tik iš darbininkiškos klasės narių? Tačiau taip nėra - jie

RYTŲ IŠMINČIAI PAS KŪDIKĖLĮ JĖZŲ



Pov. Dirkis

Trys Rytų išminčiai: Baltazaras, Kasparas ir Merkelis, žvaigždės vedami, ilgai keliavo į Betliejų, gabendami gimusiam Kūdikui Jėzui dovanas: auksą, smilkalus ir myrą. Jie labai nudžiugo radę prakartėlėje Vaikelį, jo motiną Mariją ir suklaupę pagarbino kūdikėlių Jėzų ir atidarę savo ryšulius davė jam dovanų: aukso, smilkalų ir myros arba kvepalų. Be šių dovanų išminčiai išreiškė dar ir savo pagarbą bei ištikimybę, prideramą kaip Dievui ir Valdovui.

Šių dovanų simbolinė reikšmė yra tokia aiški, kad visai nenuostabu, jog ji buvo teisingai suprasta pačiuose seniausiuose bažnyčios raštuose. Anų laikų poetas Juvencijus pateikė tokią eilutę: "Jie paaukojo auksą, smilkalus ir kvepalus Karaliui, Dievui ir žmogui." Arba kiek plačiau šį įvykį paaiškino šv. Irenejus: "Jie paaukavo auksą, nes Jo karalystė nesibaigs, kvepalų - nes Jis turės mirti ir smil-

kalų - Izraelio Dievui, kuris dabar apsireiškia pagonims."

Kad išminčiai su dovanomis apsilankė Betliejaus prakartėlėje yra aprašyta ir Evangelijos puslapiuose; o smilkalai ir myra yra labai dažnai minimi net šv. Rašte. Ir Mozei ant Sinajaus kalno apsireiškime buvo nurodyta, kad šventi aliejai turi turėti ir myros.

Kas yra auksas, mes žinome, o kas yra smilkalai ir myra, paaiškės iš šių eilučių.

Smilkalai ir myra yra kvapūs medžio sakai, gaunami iš Rytų Afrikos, Arabijos ir vidurinės Indijos. Smilkalai buvo finikiečių žinomi prieš Kristų 400 m. ir plačiai naudojami egiptiečių bei žydų religinėse apeigose. Myra buvo seniau žinoma už smilkalus. Ji jau buvo minima prieš 3500 metų. Egiptiečiai ją brangino kaip balzamavimo skystį. Romėnai vartojo kaip vaistą nuo įvairių kūno negalavimų.

Pagal graikų mitologiją ji savo vardą gavo nuo Myros, Kipro salos karaliaus dukters ir Adonio motinos. Ji buvo neva paversta į krūmą ir to krūmo sakai josios ašaros. Myros kvepalai buvo naudojami laidotuvių metu. Žydai jais apšlakstydavo mirusius; egiptiečiai balzamuodavo turtinųjų kūnus ir apipildavo kvepiančiais milteliais - tik be smilkalų. Smilkalai buvo skirti tik Dievo ar dievų kultui ir jie visad būdavo pagarbiamai laikomi bei taupomi.

Katalikai bažnytinėse apeigose dar ir dabar vartoja smilkalus, bet jau ne tokios rūšies arba sudėties, kaip pirmiau, o iš vietos sudžiovintų žiedų ir sakų. Išminčiai aukodami Jėzui pačius geriausius savo krašto gaminius, neturėjo galvoje tų subtilių aiškinimų, tačiau šv. Dvasia, kuri juos ir evangelijos užrašinėtojus buvo apšvietusi, gal ir norėjo šia perkelta pramse apreikšti Kristaus gyvenimo, mirties ir amžių įvykius.

turi savo org. įžymiuosius ir garbinguosius mūsų katalikų bažnyčios vadus - vyskupą Vincentą Brizgį ir vyskupą Kazimierą Salatką, kuriuodu yra ir šios organizacijos garbės nariais. Vyčiams priklauso keliolika liet. prelatų, kunigų, profesorų, inžinierių, įžymių bankininkų, daktarų, teisėjų, advokatų, muzikų - kompozitorių, mūsų didžiųjų dviejų liet. laikraščių redaktorių, keliolika garbės narių ir nemaža lietuviškos visuomenės veikėjų. Gaila, kad čionai jų visų neprisimenu vardais, bet toki skaičių išvardinti užimtų laikraštyje daug vietos.

Man nekurie pastebėjo, kad būk jiems vienas kitas yra išsitarę: kad prie vyčių priklausyti yra pasižeminimas. Čia parodo, kiek jie žino apie L. Vyčių organizaciją, kurioje yra nariais mūsų išeivijos vyriausi katalikų bažnyčios ganytojai - vyskupai ir jų antrininkai - kunigai. Sakau ir atkartuju, kad su vyčiais bendrauti yra garbė ir pasididžiavimas, nes ir pats jau priklausau virš 47 metų ir niekad dėlto neturėjau jokios negarbės bei pasižeminimo. Tapkime L. Vyčių organizacijos nariais ir ženkime bendrai su jų obalsiu: Tautai ir bažnyčiai, Dievui ir tėvynei.

"HEART RENDING CRIES OF AGONIZING SOULS"

Out of an icy slave camp of Siberia has come a Christmas prayer that is touching the hearts of mankind.

While in Siberia, four young exiles of Lithuania wrote a tiny prayer book, for they were not permitted to have prayer books in their Red confinement.

They wrote the prayer book on waste paper secretly and today it has been translated into many languages.

His Eminence Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston in the foreword of the English translation stated:

"These prayers are the heart-rending cries of agonizing souls speaking to the only One to whom they can pour out in accents of love, the beauty of their souls."

The English and Lithuanian texts of the Christmas Prayer taken from the prayer book of the Lithuanian exiles follow:

"A CHRISTMAS PRAYER"

With icy lips,
with tearful cries,
tormented by despair, we fly
to Your straw-covered crib,
O Holy Babe!
Accept our petitions
and prayers,
Accept our longing
and resolves.
Accept the sacrifices of heroes.
Accept the tears
of our loved ones,
their sighs and cares,
steeped in sorrow.
Preserve us all
for a dawning future.
Grant heavenly bliss
of those who have died
in foreign lands
from hunger and hardship .
Through the merits
of Your Holy Mother
and of all the saints,
have pity on my dear ones
and on my whole nation.
With a bruised heart,
I implore You -
cut short the days of our trials.
If you wish a sacrifice,
take it from me,
But give me
the courage and fortitude
of martyrs. Amen.

"KALĖDŲ MALDA"

Suledėjusiomis lūpomis,
ašarotomis akimis,
neveilties iškankinti
puolame prie Tavo prakartėlės,
Šventasis Kūdikieli!
Priimki mūsų prašymus,
maldas,
priimki mūsų ilgesi,
pasiryžimus,
priimki karžygių aukas,
priimki mūsų mylimųjų ašaras,
maldas, skausmu persunktus rūpesčius,
išlaikyki mus visus
gražiai ateičiai.
Suteiki dangaus laimę
svečioj šaly
iš vargo ir bado mirusiems.
Dėl Tavo Švenčiausios Motinos
ir visų šventųjų nuopelnų,
pasigailėki mano mylimųjų
ir mūsų tautos.
Sutrinta širdimi maldauju,
sutrumpink
mūsų bandymo dienas.
Jei reikia aukos,
imki ją iš manęs,
tik duoki man
kankinių drąsos ir ištvermės.

WAS CHRIST

BORN ON



Millions of Christians throughout the world observe Dec. 25th as the birthday of Jesus Christ, the 1,963rd anniversary of the birth of the Savior.

However, there has been some confusion about the actual date of the birth of Jesus, and modern scholars point out the date is quite inaccurate. In fact, historical research has not been able to fix the exact date.

The confusion grew, it is said, from an arithmetic miscalculation by a monk of Rome and the worship of the sun by pagans.

The monk was Dionysius Exiguus, who created the first Christian calendar.

He marked the birth of Jesus as the year 754 after the founding of Rome. However, historians now agree that King Herod died 750 years after Rome was founded. Since Joseph and Mary were in Egypt with the boy Jesus when Herod died, Jesus must have been born anywhere from four and one-half to seven years before the year chosen by the monk as His birthday.

The choice of Dec. 25 as Christ's birth date was a deliberate choice made by the Church of Rome. Early Christians were agreed that the 25th was the date of the Savior's birth, but there was no agreement on what month.

Roman pagans celebrated Dec. 25, the winter solstice, as a great holiday and early popes deliberately selected this day as the birth of Jesus to turn the people from

worship of the sun to the worship of the Son of God. It was not an attempt to Christianize a pagan holiday but to fight against it.

Today the Christian world celebrates Christmas on Dec. 25, and have been doing so since 400 A.D., except some of the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Byzantine churches, which use the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian calendar and thus are 13 days behind the date used by the rest of Christendom.

The Roman Catholic church adopted the Gregorian calendar after Pope Gregory XIII adjusted the Julian calendar in 1582. The Eastern church, however, adhered to the old calendar, and many of its segments continue to follow it. The Greek Orthodox church has been celebrating Christmas according to the Gregorian calendar only since 1924. It still observes Easter according to the old calendar.

Many authorities claim that Christmas was not observed in the first centuries of the Christian church, because Christian custom then was to commemorate deaths of persons, rather than their births. The date of the martyr Stephen, and the massacre of the innocents at Bethlehem had long been celebrated before the birthday of Christ became a feast day.

And in the Eastern church the custom for centuries has been to celebrate the Epiphany on Jan. 6 rather than the birthday of Jesus.

Jubilee Year Projects

VYČIŲ CHORO KONCERTUI NUSKAMBĖJUS

A. P. Bagdonas

Lapkričio 17 diena vyčiams buvo labai reikšminga, nes jų daugybė gausiai sugužėjo į erdvią Dariaus-Girėno salę pasigrožėti lietuviškų dainų skambesiu. Gaila, salė buvo per maža, visų norinčių sutalpinti negalėjo, o pavėlavusieji turėjo stovėti.

Vyčių choras iš 36 choristų, vadovaujamas muziko Fausto Strolis iš pat pirmo pasirodymo sudarė gerą įspūdį. Mergaitės visos tautiniuose drabužiuose mirgančių spalvų, kaip margos paukštelės suplasnojo į paruoštą vietą prie scenos. Vyrai su tautiniais kaklaryšiais ir tamsiomis eilutėmis sudarė gražų foną gėlių spalvų tautiniams drabužiams. Prie pianino jau laukė muzikas J. Byanskas ir pirma Fausto Strolis sukurtą dainą - Už jūrelių marelių, nuskambėjo gyvai ir linksmi. Toliau maišėsi solistų dainos, mišrus choras, moterų choras ir vyrų choras. Programa irgi buvo įvairi nuo lengvų liaudies dainų iki komplikoto Gailevičiaus maršo. Tačiau choras ir solistai savo pareigą atliko pasigėrėtinais, publika jautriai atliepė į dainavimą ir daugelį dainų teko kartoti.

Įspūdingiausiai nuskambėjo Dariaus Girėno garbei sukurtas maršas, kurį choras atliko be priekaištų. Bet į jį buvo įdėta nemaža valandų įtempto darbo.



Vyčių Choro Koncertas, Dariaus-Girėno salėje, Chicagoje.

Moderniškos struktūros kompozicija Andriulio Beržas buvo lyg kažkas naujo, negirdėto, neįprasto. Pabaigai malda už tėvynę L. Šimučio jr. muzika, o L. Šimučio Sr. žodžiai buvo sugiedota susikaupusioj nuotaikoj, puikiai išreiškė vyčių dvasią ir troškimus - laisvę tėvynei.

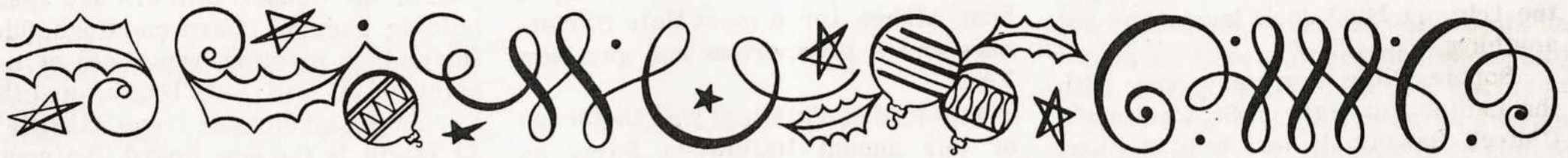
Tenka pasidžiaugti, kad choro tar-sena buvo aiški, suprantama, lietuvių kalba neiškraipyta. Tai didelis dirigento nuopelnas, kuris ypač kreipia dėmesio į gerą dikciją. Žodžiu, choras daug dirbo, kol šiam koncertui prisiruošė, bet užtat davė naują niekur nedainuotą programą, jau vien užtai jam priklauso pagarba.

Solistai V. Liorentas ir Kr. Bartulienė nepaprastai patriotiškai išgyvendami atliko savo dainas ir uždegė publikoj tikrą audrą. Jauni veidai ir gražūs balsai, mieli lietuviški žodžiai tikrai užbūrė klausytojus, užtat turėjo abu bisuoti, nors laikas buvo ir labai ribotas.

Baigiant tenka tik pasveikinti dirigentą F. Strolį, choro valdybą ir rengimo komisiją su Eleonora Laurynaite priešaky, kad jie atliko didelį ir reikšmingą darbą ir ne tik vyčiams, bet ir visai lietuvių visuomenei Čikagoje. Tikėkimės, kad jų choro dainos nenustos skambėti ir toliau.



Choras su solistais: Kristina Bartulienė ir Valentinas Liorentas



VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Edited by Mrs. Theresa Strolia, 4541 So. Washtenaw, Chicago, Ill. 60632

N.Y. - N. J. DISTRICT

Philadelphia, Pa. C-3 Sunshine

The results of C-3's November 3 elections are as follows:

President, Charles Petronis; vice-president, Pete Puodziunas; recording secretary, Margie Gestite; financial secretary, Lillian Sasnauskas; treasurer, Pete Shelus, and trustees, Irene Ozalis and Walter Svekla.

Congratulations and best wishes for a successful term. Also, our thanks to the out-going OFFICERS for a job well done.

The Jubilee Dinner-Dance on Nov. 16 was a great success. Dinner immediately followed a cocktail hour, after which everyone made themselves comfortable so they could fully enjoy the program. Joe Boley, the guest speaker, gave a brief resume of the history of the K of L, preceded by the installation of the new officers. Then everyone was entertained by the gracious dancing of the Philadelphia Lithuanian Folk Dancers. I hope the Jubilee Year has been as memorable to your council as it has been to C-3.

On November 17 the Jubilee Year was brought to a close with our Quarterly Communion Breakfast at St. Casimir's.

On December 8, we were hosts for the N.Y.-N.J. District Convention. After the usual discussions were ended, a dinner was served. Since

Christmas was the theme for this occasion, different types of Lithuanian dishes were prepared and Lithuanian Christmas carols were sung. Everyone was in the spirit of Christmas.

NEWS BITES: We were glad to see Ray Pukis at our November meeting - hope he will continue to come. . . Lillian Sasnauskas managed to use every bit of space on the postal cards . . . You can sure spot members of C-3 with their new plaques (A Knight and "Vyčiai-C-3" inscribed on them) for which we thank Al Ozalis. . . A great big WELCOME is extended to Leonora Kaulinis and Felix Kaczanauskas - we're glad to have you on our team. . . FLASH!! Get your ice skates and skis ready, for plans are in progress for our annual trip to the Pocono Mountains. . . Birthday Greetings to Joe Yanulaitis (December).

Elizabeth, N.J., C-52 Nuff Said

All of our "conventioners" are back with pleasant memories of a fruitful convention. Ann Mitchell came back with bowling honors. Others in attendance were Ruth Laucius, Mary Motecus, Jerri Kern, Helen Pinkin, Charles Oskutis, Ed Sharkus, Dan Degutis, Stan Naiva, Norb Wysocky and Tony Mankus.

Mary and Ruth had a pleasant visit in Waterbury with John Alanskas and others. Ruth is awaiting the arrival of a turtle. A turtle? O yes. Ruth enjoyed her nine week vacation. Nice, hmm?

Our congratulations and the best of luck to Dorothy Staton and William Peacock on their engagement

Chas. O. reports his business enterprises are doing well. Good for you, Chas.

A good number of our K of L men participated in the annual Holy Name parade. We missed seeing Stan Naiva, who has been ailing. Get well soon, Stan. Toni Degutis' dad, who is over 70, makes this annual trek of at least six miles with no strain, while some of us younger fellows show some wear.

Our deepest sympathy to Ronnie Krezonis on the loss of her father, and to Charles Oskutis on the loss of his sister.

Here's wishing all friends of C-52 a happy and holy Christmas and New Year.

Amsterdam, N.Y., C-100

Smile and Sparkle

Isabelle (Dopkus) McKinley and hubby, Milton, spent their second wedding anniversary in Amsterdam, N.Y. Gene Gobis missed seeing her, so Gene and Betty Smith drove to Palisades Park, N.J. to spend a weekend with the McKinley's. The girls went into New York City on Saturday. They watched the Columbus Day parade and then met Joe Boley. The three saw "Beyond the Fringe" and then caught the tail end of Jack Stukas' radio program.

Dr. Kindar returned from a hunt-

ing trip in Canada. I know he enjoyed the trip. . . but I don't know if he got anything.

Sophie Olbie was very busy with the Ladies Auxiliary of St. Casimir's Church Bazaar. It was held the last weekend in October. She made a lovely assortment of clothes for a Barbie Doll, which was raffled off.

Anna Yunker supplied the food for our October meeting. . . John Gerutis is doing fine as an automobile salesman. Plymouths, Dodges and Chryslers are his line. . . Here's wishing Eleanore Stakauskas' mother a speedy recovery. . . Birthday greetings to Sophie Olbie, Dec. 5.

ILLINOIS - INDIANA DISTRICT

Chicago, Ill. C-112 "112 Inquirer"

Spiritual Advisor Rev. Zakarauskas, the officers and members of

C-112 extend to all fellow Knights best wishes for a most Holy Christmas and a prosperous and gay New Year.

The K of L Building was the scene of our annual Halloween Party on Fri., Oct. 25. Due to a mix-up in dates, only a few were in costume. But the costumed "Monster" made up for it and was the hit of the night. Many hours were spent not only deciding "who could it be?", but also "is it male or female?". After being awarded the best-costume prize, the unmasking revealed none other than C-36 member Genevieve Giedraitis. Chairman Ed Krivickas and his committee did a good job on planning the evening of entertainment, which included music by the "Top Tones", games and refreshments.

Belated congratulations to Louis Rogers who, by writing over 100 letters for the Lithuanian Affairs Committee, joined the 100-A-Year Club. He received his plaque at the Sept. District Assembly.

Following the pattern of previous

years, the Council officers are again holding regular Board meetings. The November meeting was held at the home of Al and Ruth Dagus, and the December meeting at Irene Rakaitis'. Al Dagus is the new Board Chairman and his wife, Ruth, secretary. These meetings give the officers an opportunity to exchange ideas and prepare for brief, but informative and productive Council business meetings.

Lithuanian Affairs Chrm., Jim Jagiella, got off to a good start by holding a letter-writing session recently at the home of Anele and Ed Pocius. This Committee should really make a good showing this year with such go-getters as Jim and his wife, Mildred, heading it.

December Birthday Greetings to: Rev. John Savukynas, Ceil Kincie, Pete Gagle, Tony Guest and Albina Zemaitis.

Random thoughts!!! The insurance business must be really good this year as Al Mockus is driving a brand-new Chevy Impala. . . Millie and Jim Jagiella will have to move back to



Christmas Greeting

**May this Christmas season be one
of peace and happiness;
And may the coming year be rich
in fellowship with Him,
Who is the giver of all gifts.
May Mary, His Mother,
Bring you closer to Her Son.**

**Supreme Council
and
Vytis Staff**

Chicago from Lansing if they plan to hold any meetings at their home... Would it be right to call Lorraine Wainauskas a "Den Mother" now that she is a leader of 22 Girl Scouts? She certainly looked the part squiring her charges at a recent cookie selling project at Chicago Savings and Loan.

Dates to remember - Dec. 21st., Council Christmas Party, K of L Bldg.; Jan. 19th District Bowling Social at Woodmac Lanes.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

Athol-Gardner, Mass. C-10

Vincukas

The Rev. Pius Juraitis, retired pastor of St. Francis Parish, Athol, died this summer after a short illness. Father Juraitis, a priest for more than 50 years, was a true friend of the K of L. At one time he was condemned to a life of penal servitude by the Soviets, but after nine months of prison hardship he was freed in a prisoner exchange. Bishop Flanagan of Worcester celebrated the funeral mass, and The Rev. John Bakanas of Worcester was eulogist. Please remember Father Juraitis in your prayers.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Jutt, parents of the Rev. John Jutt, our spiritual advisor, on their 50th wedding anniversary. The celebration on Oct. 14 began with a mass in their parish church, St. Casimir's in Westfield, Mass. Celebrant was Father John Jutt, assisted by his twin brothers, the Revs. Julius and Anthony Jutt.

St. Francis parish will be enhanced by a new rectory. It will be ready in time for the 50th anniversary of the parish on Sunday, Apr. 6, 1964. The new rectory is to be erected on the site of the old one which has been torn down. It will feature an office, rooms for the pastor and curates, housekeeping rooms, living room, dining room, and kitchen. It will be a two-story, 15 room, brick structure. The parish comprises about 800 parishioners, mostly of Lithuanian extraction. The present church was built in 1919.

MID CENTRAL CONVENTION

VYČIAI PRAŠYS MALDŲ LIETUVAI

Lietuvos Vyčių centrinio apskričio seimo metu, kuris įvyko spalio 12 to 13-to, centro dvasios vadas kun. J. Walter Stanevičius Detroito Šv. Antano parapijos klebonas, šeštadienio susirinkime paskelbė, kad visos kuopos bus prašytos įsijungti į maldų verbavimą dėl Lietuvos laisvės, nes "Visi gerai žino, kad vienas laiškų rašymas valdžios atstovams per 20 metų negražino nepriklausomybės Lietuvai." Šiame apskričio seime, minint Vyčių auksinį jubiliejų - 50 metų nuo įsikūrimo - dalyvavo kuopos iš Michigan, Pensylvanijos ir Ohio.

Buvo nutarta daugiau remti Dainavos stovyklą ateinančiais metais, surandant daugiau vaikų stovyklauti Vyčiams skirtoje stovykloje, toliau tęsti laiškų rašymą ginant Lietuvą, svarstyta kėgliavimo reikalai, Carey Ohio maldininkų eisena (pilgrimage) pagaidauta daugiau aprašymo Vyčių veiklos laikraščiuose ir nutarta paaukoti Šiluvos kopyčiai \$50., be tų aukų, kurios skiriamos iš centro ir atskirų kuopų.

Nubalsuota sušaukti kitais metais apskričio seimą vėl Detroite, bet surengs kitos dvi kuopos iš Šv. Petro ir Šv. Antano parapijų, vietoje Pittsburgo kuopos, kurios delegatai neatvyko. Ši seimą surengė Dievo Apvaizdos kuopa. Į naują valdybą įeina šie asmenys: dvasios vadas Kun. Mykolas Kundrotas, Dievo Apvaizdos klebonas, pirmininkas Frank Zager (Detroit 79), pirmas vice pirmininkas Juozas Kazlauskas (Detroit 79), antras vice pirmininkas Juozas Chaps (Detroit 79), išdininkas Petras Luiza (Cleveland), raštininkė Sophie Zager (Detroit 79), išdo globėjos Marion Trainy (Cleveland) ir Stella Padolski (Detroit 139), kultūros reikalų vedėja Alice Kirklis (Cleveland), ritualo vedėjas Bob Boris (Detroit 102), lietuviškumo vedėjas Pranas Gudelis (Dayton), sargyba Mykolas Petkus (Dayton). Tarpe kitų seiman atvažiavusių buvo centro naujai išrinkta pirmininkė Elena Shields iš Philadelphijos ir garbės narys Frank Vaškas iš Newark, N.J. Vakare po susirinkimo buvo šokiai.

Sekmadienį nariai kartu su Vyčių

ir Lietuvos Veteranų vėliavomis dalyvavo Dievo Apveizdos bažnyčioje iškilmingose Sv. Mišiose, kurias atlaikė kun. M. Kundrotas su asistentais kun. J. W. Stanevičiu ir kun. M. Daumantu. Per Mišias giedojo naujas Vyčių vyrų choras. Bažnyčioje Kazimiera ir Mykolas Petkai iš Dayton buvo apdovanoti ketvirtojo laipsnio aukščiausiu Vyčių ordinu.

Seimas baigėsi bankietu parapijos svetainėje, kur dar atvyko kun. Viktoras Kriščiūnevičius iš Sv. Petro parapijos.

Dainius

Detroit, Mich., C-79

Plikas

Our monthly meeting was held on Oct. 2nd with about 37 members attending. Reports were given by the various committee chairman and chairmen were chosen for various coming social events: Mrs. A. Valatka, chairman, card party; Mr. C. Step, chairman, Christmas Kiddie party; and Mr. C. Potocki, chairman, Christmas raffle.

Our monthly First Sunday communion on Oct. 6 was attended by the same hearty group who have been attending regularly for the past year.

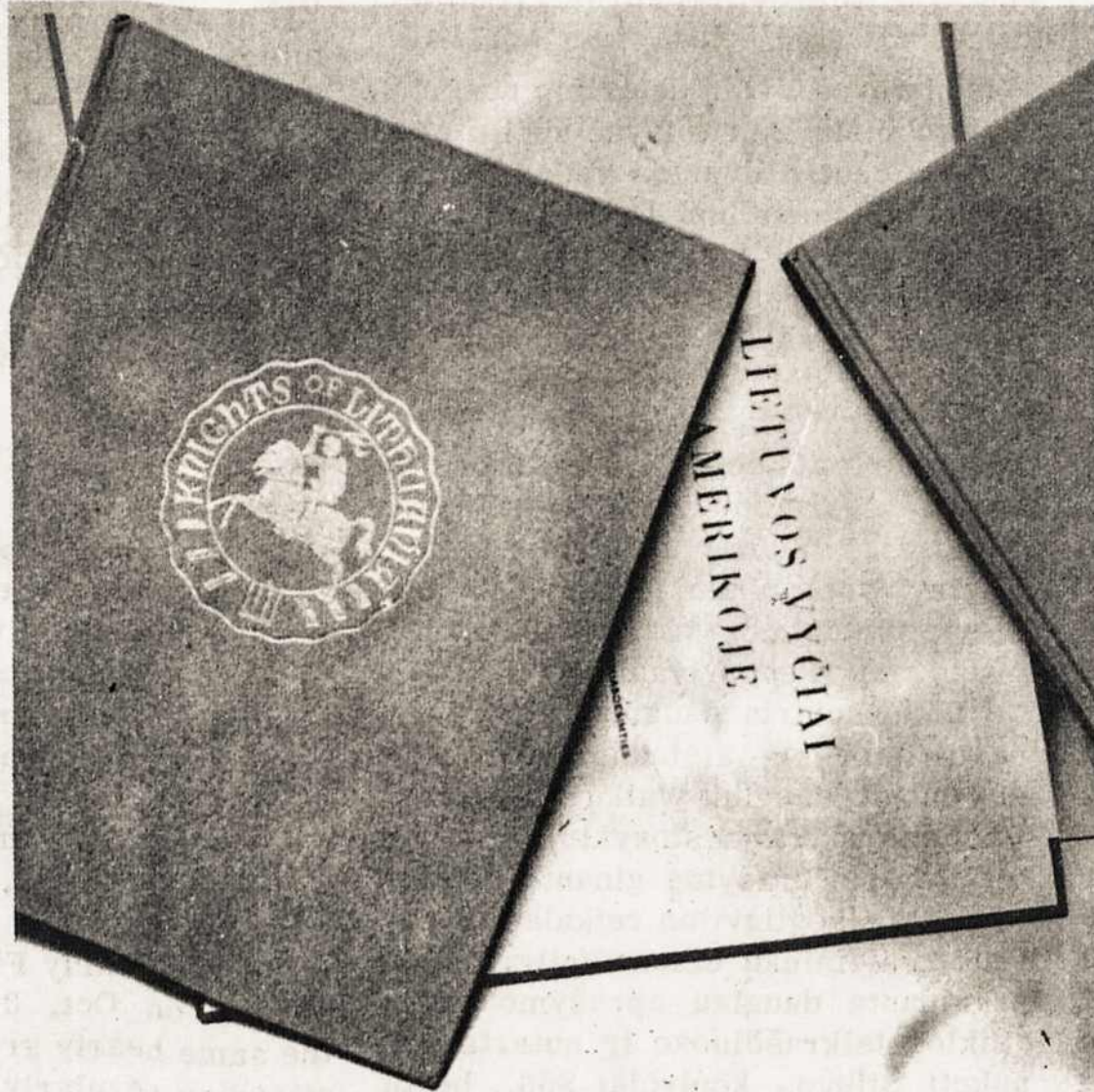
The Mid-Central Convention was held on Oct. 12-13 with our council, 79 as hosts. We had 46 delegates attending the session, with 16 from out of town. The chairman of this event was Mrs. Magdalena Smailis, who did a marvelous job in taking over for the ailing Mrs. Dorothe Martin. Headquarters for the convention was at the Crestwood Motel on Eight Mile Rd. at Greenfield. Due to some construction work on Eight Mile Rd, delegates and guests had trouble finding their way to the parking lot of this motel.

We had the honor of having Miss Helen Shields, our new national president from Philadelphia and F. Vaskas of New Jersey attending.

New officers elected were: President - Frank Zager C-79 Detroit, Mich.; 1st Vice President - J. Kazlauskas C-79 Detroit, Mich.; 2nd Vice President - J. Chaps C79 Detroit, Mich.; Secretary - Sophie Zager C-79 Detroit, Mich.; Treasurer - P. Luiza, Cleveland, Ohio; Sargeant at arms - M. Petkus Dayton, Ohio; Trustee - S. Podolski C-139 Detroit, Mich. and Mary Trainy - Cleveland, Ohio.

Antanas Balcytis-36
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