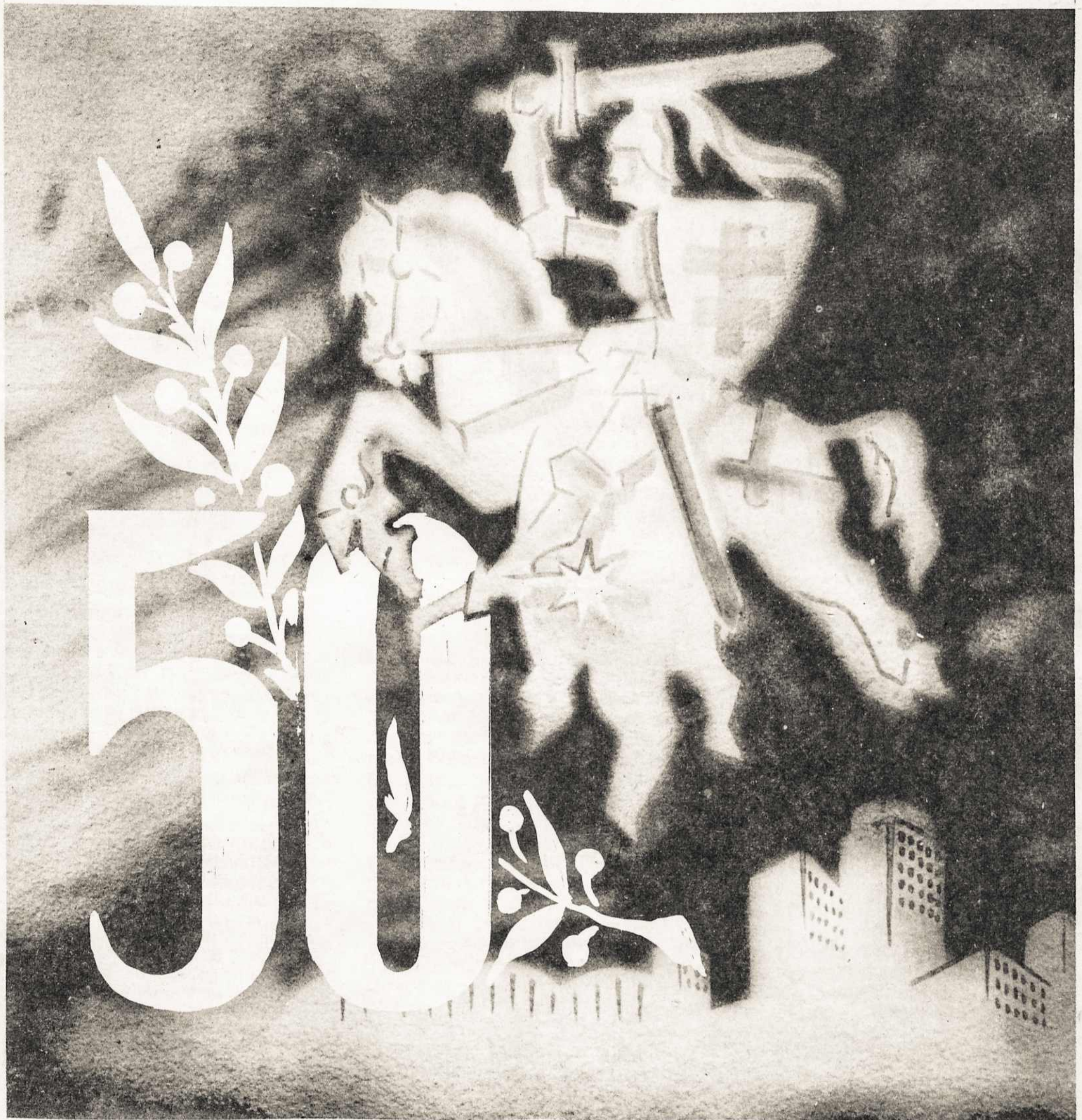


1968-  **WYTIIS**

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

FEBRUARY
 VASARIS
 Vol. 54 - No. 2



FEBRUARY - 1968

Didžioji Diena - Vasario 16-ji, P. Dirkis	3
Vyčių Daina, A. Aleksis	4
The Flags of Lithuania	6
LWRR, The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing, A. B. Mazeika	7
1918-1968, J. Yanulaitis	9
Weighing the Values, J. Boley	10
Lithuanians in the News	11
Lietuvių Tautinis Menas	12
Oficialus Skyrius - Official News	14
K of L Calendar	14
Iš Sendraugių Gyvenimo	15
Juniors News	16
Membership, L. Pauksta	17
Vyčiai Veikia - Council Activities	18
Membership Listing	20
Convention	21

SUPREME COUNCIL OFFICERS

Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius
Spiritual Advisor
8300 Longworth
Detroit, Mich. 48209

Al. Wesey-Vasiliauskas, Pres.
72 Steamboat Road
Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. 11024

Stanley Vaitkus, 1st Vice Pres.
518 Hialeah Court
Vandalia, Ohio 45377

Leon Pauksta, 2nd Vice Pres.
6942 So. Artesian Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60629

Longinas Svelnis, 3rd Vice Pres.
43 Gage Street
Needham, Mass. 02192

Mary Kober, Rec. Sec'y.
2 Bayview Avenue
Port Washington, N.Y. 11050

Helen Zimmer, Fin. Sec'y.
1840 W. Wabansia Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60622

Stella Sankal, Treasurer
473 E. 148th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44110

Larry Janonis, Trustee
2124 Ellis Avenue
Bronx, N.Y. 10462

Eleanore Laurin, Trustee
6800 So. Rockwell Street
Chicago, Ill. 60629

Konstant J. Savickus, Legal Adv.
4107 So. Archer Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60632

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

John Evans (I-I)
6845 So. Western Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60636

Vincent Ed. Pavis (M-C)
705 Cassius Avenue
Youngstown, Ohio 44505

Albert Jaritis (N-E)
75 Gates Street
So. Boston, Mass. 02127

Larry Janonis (NY-NJ)
(Address under Trustee)

COMMITTEES

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS

Rev. John C. Jutt, Hon. Chr.
41 Providence Street
Worcester, Mass. 01604
Charles J. Grigaitis, Chr.
10 Park Terrace Road
Worcester, Mass. 01604

LITHUANIAN CULTURAL

Marcella Andrikis
200 Herschel Avenue
Waterbury, Conn. 06708

RITUAL

Edward Daniels, Chr.
78 Providence Street
Worcester, Mass. 01604
Rita Pinkus
76 Providence Street
Worcester, Mass. 01604
Joseph Boley
163 E. 71st Street
New York, N.Y. 10021

Published monthly Oct. through May, bi-monthly June-July and Aug-Sept by the Knights of Lithuania. Second class postage paid at Chicago, Ill. Subscription - \$4.00/yr. All correspondence should reach the editors by the 5th of the month preceding the next issue. The editor assumes no obligation to return any material not solicited.

"VYTIS" Staff

Irene K. Sankus, Editor
2520 W. 68th Street
Chicago, Ill. 60629

Theresa Strolia, Council News
15325 Sequoia Street
Oak Forest, Ill. 60452

Staff Assistants:
Gerry Mack, Marilyn Kareiva

District Representatives:
Loretta Stukas (NY-NJ), Eleanore Laurin (I-I), Frank Gudelis (M-C), Leonard Valiukas (Calif), Susan Boraskas (N-E)



SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Jack Stukas, Chr.
1016 Schliefer Road
Hillside, N.J. 07205
Joseph Paulukonis, Treas.
915 W. Carmen Street
Chicago, Ill. 60640
Johanna Jakunas, Sec'y., Rt.
Rev. Msgr. John Balkunas,
Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius,
Walter Svekla

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Leonard Simutis, Chr.
6916 So. Maplewood Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60629
Eleanore Laurin, Sec'y.
(Address under Trustee)
Prof. Alexander Aleksis,
Anthony Mazeika, Ignas Sakalas

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Juozas Sadauskas (M-C)
1513 Larchmont Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44110
Frank Vaskas (NY-NJ)
105 Lincoln Park
Newark, N.J. 07102
Vincent Samaska (I-I)
2415 So. Sawyer Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60623
Albert Jaritis (N-E)
(See add. under N-E Pres)
Adele Petras (Calif)
337 N. Fairview
Burbank, Calif. 91505

DIDŽIOJI DIENA

VASARIO 16

POV. DIRKIS

1968 m. Vasario 16 d. sukan-ka lygiai 50 metų nuo atsiradimo Didžiosios Dienos, dėl kurios tūkstančiai Lietuvos sūnų ir dukrų aukojosi ir kovojo daugiau, kaip 100 metų su Rusijos caru žandais ir kazokais. Tai buvo ilgas ir sunkus kelias, žuvusių kovotojų aukomis nuklotas.

1795 m. Lietuvai praradus valstybinį savarankiškumą, tauta paskendo gudžios nakties tamsoje. Pirmas lietuvių tautos išniekinimas įvyko 1796 m., kai Rusijos carienė Kotryna įsakė sudraskytos Lietuvos teritoriją padalinti į gubernijas ir vietoje Lietuvos vardo vartoti "Severo - Zapadnyj Kraj", o pačią tautą pavadino "svetlovolosyj - goluboglazyj narod litovsky". Ir taip sekė vienas po kito ne tik pačios tautos, bet ir jos kalbos bei papročių niekinimas. Užviešpatavo toks laikas, kuomet lietuvių kalbai nebebuvo vietos nei bažnyčioje, nei nuosavoje gričioje.

Nežiūrint beviltiškos padėties, troškimas nusikratyti pavergėjais diena iš dienos augo ir stiprėjo. Nors nuginkluota ir išniekinta, bet Lietuvos kariška dvasia išliko gyva iki 1831 m. Troškimas atgauti laisvę pirmiausiai iššaukė 1831 m. T. Kosčiuškos vadovaujama ir 1863 m. Sierakauskio vadovaujama ginkluotus sukilimus, kuriuose tūkstančiai patriotų draug su jų vadais žuvo, nepasiekę tikslo. Tačiau tų kovų kančios, vargas ir ašaros bei kraujo klanai laisvės troškimą tik užgrudino. Po nepasisekusio paskutinio ginkluoto žygio Lietuvoje Rusijos priespauda, persekiojimai ir siautėjimas visu klaikumu užviešpatavo. Tų laikų Rusijos vidaus reikalų ministerio Petro Valujevo galybę tęsė Repino, Muravjovo - Koriko ir Kaufmano žygiai lietuvių tautą amžiams sunaikyti. Iš tų laikų caro rietininkų įsakymų aiškiai matyti, kad Lietuvai ir lietuvių tautai buvo vilamas amžinas antkapis, rašonas nekrologas ir ant jos kapo stomas mirties kryžius.

Tačiau Lietuva ir lietuvių tauta nepasidavė numarinama, ji buvo gyva ir palengva pačiose savo šaknyse pradėjo leisti naujas atžalas. Vyskupas Valančius su savo brošioromis ir blaivybės skyriais užvaldė Žemaitiją; dr. J. Basanavičius Tilžėje sušvito su "Aušra", kurioje paskelbė tautai naują, šviesų rytojų artėjant. Dr. V. Kudirka Ragainėje "Varpu" garsiai skambino nepriklausomos Lietuvos prisikėlimo artėjančias Velykas. Tomas Vaižgantas, lyg vaidilutė su "Tėvynės Sargu" nebedavė pažadintai tautai daugiau užmigti, o Maironis savo "Pavasario Balsais" ėmėsi judinti visą lietuvių jaunąją kartą. Tai buvo tautos galiūnų galybė, ne tik išiebusi naują Aušrą, bet ir sulaikiusi tautos laidotuves ir prikėlusį ją iš nuomaro bei sustiprinusi viltį į tikrą nepriklausomybę.

Būdinga, kad "Aušros" šviesos "Varpo" garsų ir knygnešių žygio sustabdyti nei Muravjovo kartuvių virvės, nei Kaufmano žandarų galybė nebepajėgė. Lietuviai susižavi tų pranašysčių ženklais ir prisiminę savo bočių didvyrišką praeitį vėl renkasi apie savo vėliavas, ir tuo metu prasidėjęs ir Rusijai nelaimingai pasibaigęs karas su Japonija, jau bent iš dalies davė progos įgyvendinti kai kuriuos siekimus, būtent: atgaunama spauda, įvyksta 1905 m. Didysis Vilniaus Seimas su reikšmingais nutarimais, prasideda gaivalingas Lietuvos kaimo ir darbininkų judėjimas, net krašte sukilimai. Tauta atgavusi savo spaudą ir dar kai kurias lengvatas, pradėjo nepaprastu greičiu darytis ryžtingesnė savo žygiuose.

Tautai ryžtingai nusiteikus, išsiliepsnojo pirmas pasaulinis karas, sukėlęs daug vargo bet ir vilties, kad pagaliau visos tautos žadintojų pranašystės išsipildys ir jau 1917 m. rugsėjo 18 d. sušauktas Vilniuje iš 214 atstovų Lietuvos

gyventojų seimas ir išrenkama iš 20 asmenų tautos atstovybė - Lietuvos Taryba. Vokiečių okupacinė valdžia nenori Lietuvių Tarybos pripažinti, neleidžia skelbti seimo nutarimų ir nesiskaito su jokiais Lietuvių Tarybos reikalavimais, siekdama per tą Tarybą surišti Lietuvą federaciniais ryšiais su Vokietija, ir to pasėkoje Tarybos 1917 m. gruodžio 11 d. nutarimu, ir tik dėka pačioje Taryboje įvykusio skilimo tas nutarimas buvo anuluotas ir Vasario 16 d. Aktu paskelbtas visiškas valstybės nepriklausomybės atstatymas.

Šiandieną mums atrodo simboliška, kad Vasario 16 d. aktas lyg atsitiktinai buvo parašytas, pasirašytas ir paskelbtas senoje Lietuvos sostinėje Vilniuje Gedimino kalno papėdėje ir nuaidėjo po visą plačią Lietuvą, kaip mistiškojo Geležinio Vilko gandas. Tai ir buvo simboliška, nes tą dieną buvo įstatymiškai ikūnytas visos tautos nuo pat 1795 m. puoselėtas, atkakliai pasiektas ir labai daug aukų kainavęs troškimas - Lietuvos Nepriklausomos Valstybės idėja, tą dieną virtusi faktu ir tokiu likusi amžiams.

Vasario 16 d. yra Didžioji Diena, lietuvių tautos triumfo diena, kurios nebeužtemdys ir naujoji žiaurioji rusų-bolševikų okupacija.

Mat paskelbti pasauliui laisvės aktą nebuvo taip sunku kaip ją apginti. Kaiminams pasikesinus prieš Lietuvos laisvę prisiėjo ją ginti. Lietuvos savanoriai, eidami ginti krašto laisvės nuo užpuolikų iš anksto žinojo, kad laisvės idealas, kaip labai trapi gėlė turės būti palaistyta jų krauju. Pralietas savanorių kraujas, paaukotos geriausių ir tauriausių tautos vaikų gyvybės ir visos tautos besąlyginis pasiryžimas ir davė Vasario 16 d. aktui tikrąją prasmę.

Šis įvykis yra įrašytas lietuvių tautos istorijoje, kaip vienas iš gražiausių epizodų, parodančių lietuvių buvusį vieningumą, laisvės troškimą ir aukos dvasią.

VYČIU DAINA

Skaisti trispalvė vėliava
Brangi Tėvynė Lietuva.
Dėl jūs pašvesime gyvybę.
Aukščiausi, duoki mums stiprybę!

Visi mūs priešai sudrebės.
Tauta vergijoje nekenčės.
Nes jau suėjom į vienybę.
Mes Vyčiai ginsim Tėvynę!

Valio darban, valio visi.
Mus laukia ateitis šviesi.
Valio darban, valio visi.
Mus laukia ateitis šviesi!

50 METU LIETUVOS
NEPRIKLAUSOMYBĖS
MINĖJIMO PROGA

A. Aleksis

Con moto

X Skais-ti tri-spal-vė vė-lia-va bran-gi tė- vy-nė Lie-tu-va.

poes rit.

< Dėl jūs pa-švė-si-me gy-vy-bę Aukš-čiau-si duo-ki mums stip-ry-bę!

A. T.

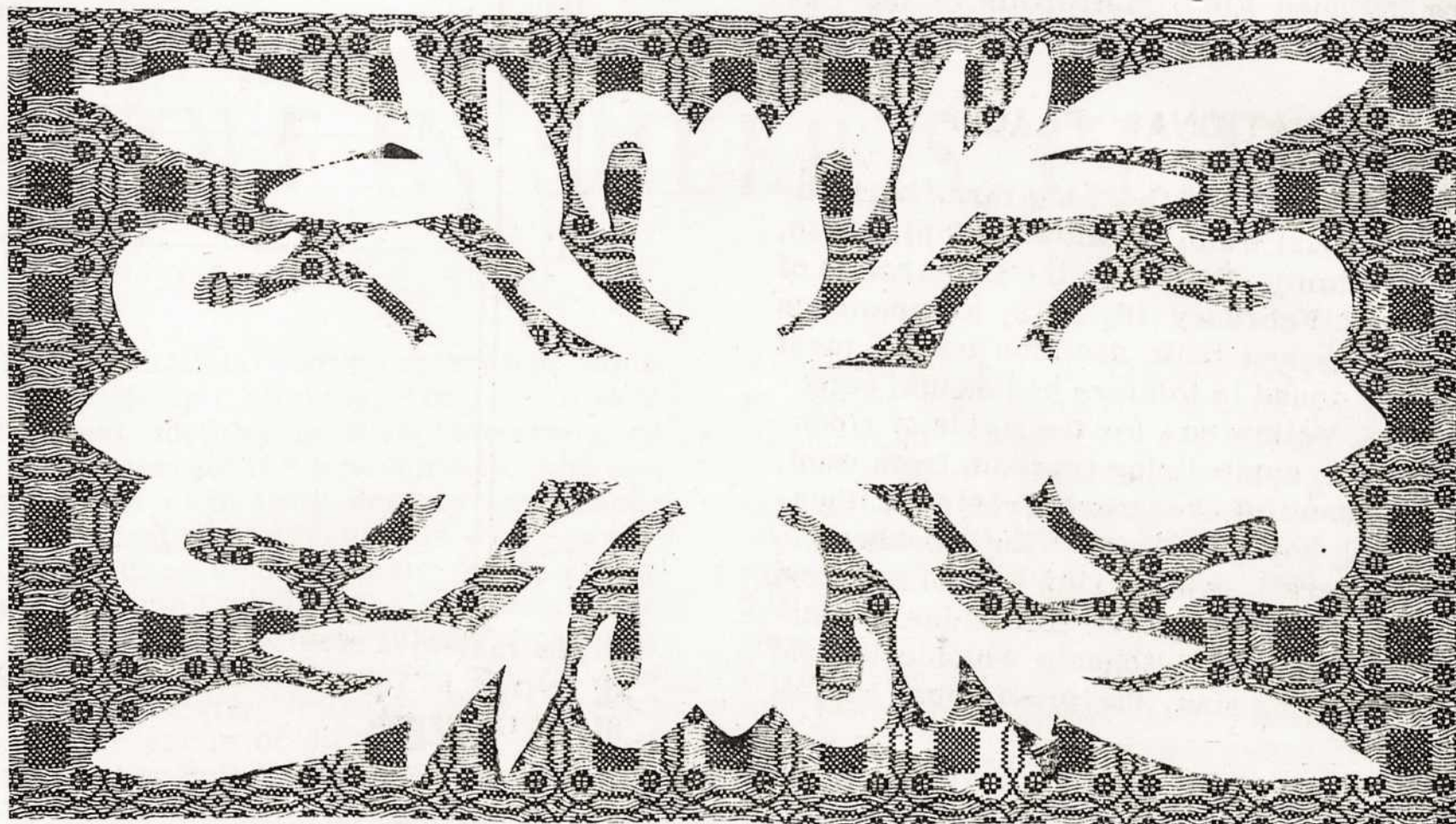
Vi-si mūs prie-šai su-dre-bės Tau-ta ver-gi-joj ne-ken-tės.

Nes jau su - ė - jom į vie - ny - bę mes Vy - čiai gin - si - me Tė -

vy - ne! Val - lio dar - ban, va - lio vi - si, mus lau - kia a - tei - tis šviesi, Va -

lio dar - ban, va - lio vi - si, mus lau - kia a - tei - tis švie - si, va - tis švie - si!

Agitato



THE FLAGS OF LITHUANIA

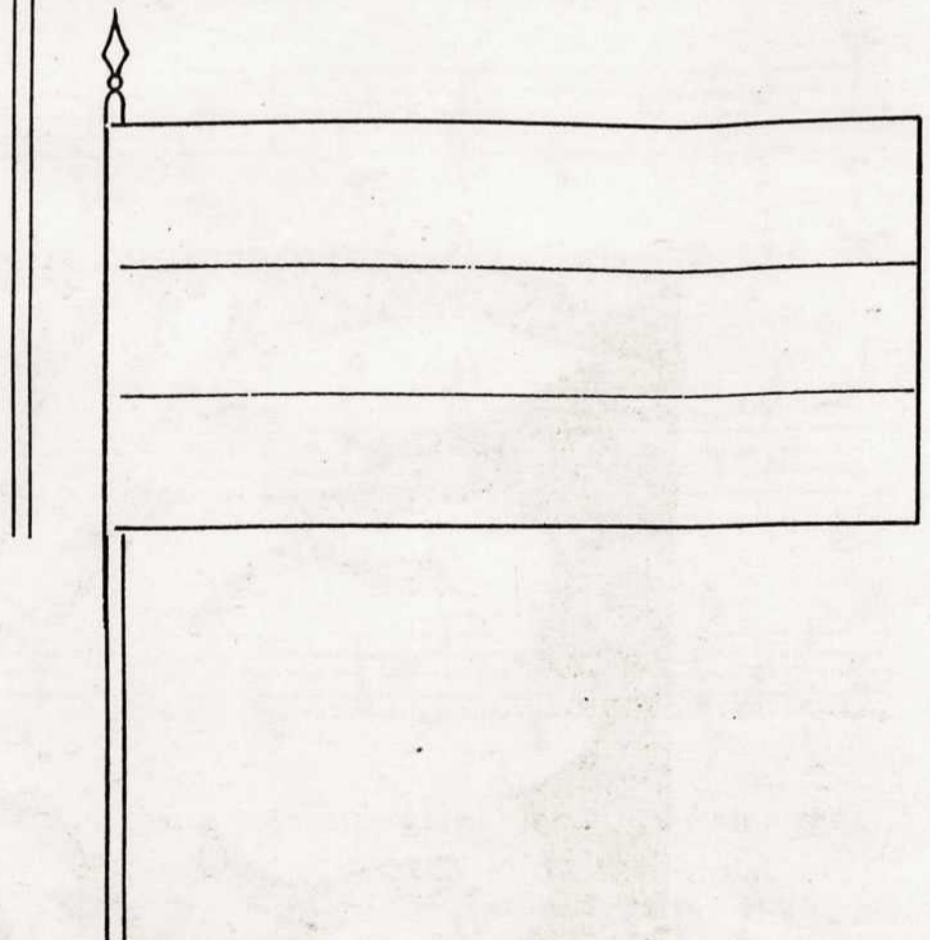
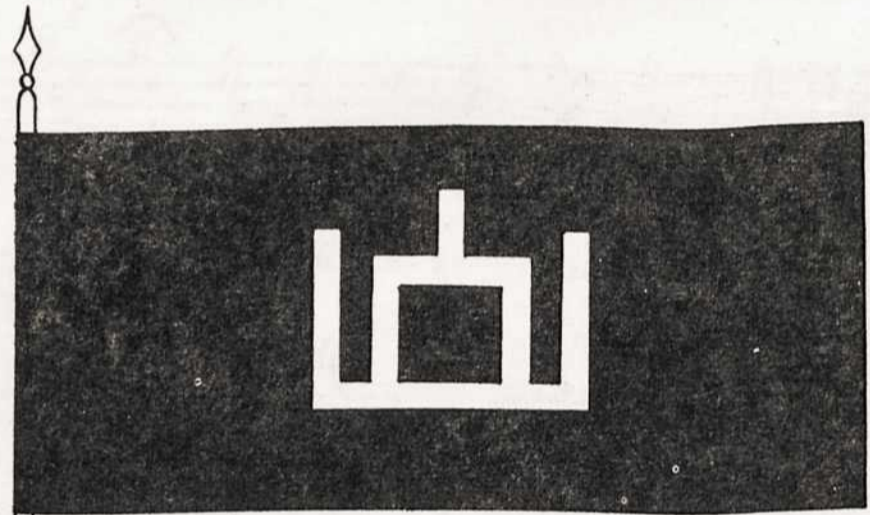
Lithuania has two flags:
the standard and the national.

THE STANDARD FLAG

THE STANDARD FLAG. . . is used on solemn occasions and was flown over the residence of the President of the independent Republic of Lithuania. According to paragraph 8 of the Lithuanian Constitution, "the emblem of the State is a red flag with a white knight." The origin of this flag dates from the 14th or early 15th century. The knight bears a shield emblazoned with a double-barred cross, symbol of endurance. This white knight or "Vytis" as it is termed in Lithuanian, signified the coat of arms of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. This coat of arms, the "Vytis", is found in the great seal of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Vytautas the Great, and in many old maps and engravings, and was used on coins in Lithuania in ancient as well as in modern times. The "Vytis" appears on one side of the flag; on the other there is a design of a triumphal arch resembling a trident, a symbol which was used by the mighty Gediminas, Rex Lithuanorum et Ruthenorum, at the beginning of the 14th century, when his empire included Kiev, metropolis of the Ukraine.

THE NATIONAL FLAG

THE NATIONAL FLAG. . . has three horizontal stripes of equal width - yellow (at top), green, and red (at bottom). Following the Declaration of Independence of February 16, 1918, a committee of artists, who based their decision on the most popular colors found in folklore and songs, selected the colors. Yellow was for the fields of ripening rye or wheat, symbolizing freedom from want; green for the beautiful evergreen forests of Lithuania, symbolizing hope; and red - "the most beautiful color of flowers" symbolizing love of country. This flag was approved by the Lithuanian Constituent Assembly of free Lithuania which convened May 15, 1920, in Kaunas, the provisional capital of Lithuania.



(This material was obtained through the courtesy of Petras P. Dauzvardis, Consul General of Lithuania at Chicago).

LITHUANIAN WORLD REVIEW

BACKGROUND

The Soviets are increasing their propoganda and agitation among Lithuanians living in West Germany. Most likely, the accelerated propoganda is a test case, or probe, for export to the United States where the great majority of Lithuanians live. This is why the test case of the Soviets is important. The new propoganda poison is wrapped in a sweet, slick sugar coating - a periodical by the name of "Nemuno Kraštas", or "Land of the Nemunas". The magazine is ostensibly printed in West Germany and bears no public taint of its Soviet origin. "The Land of the Nemunas" is allegedly printed within a few miles of the East German border in Wittzenhauser Werra. There is reason to believe that the periodical is smuggled into West Germany from behind the Iron Curtain.

The editor of the "Land of the Nemunas" is a "Volkdeutch" or Ethnic German from Klaipėda, Lithuania. This Lithuanian speaking German is wed to a woman who owns a patched up printing press. As a result, all the prerequisites for a "Made in Germany" are present to delude Lithuanians living in the West.

The periodical is not recognized by most European Lithuanians as authentic, its source is too obvious. It is professional in most details and is very well written since it sports a "West Germany" in the letterhead, it can reach the United States without registering as communist propoganda.

The periodical receives some funds from the United States from unsuspecting individuals and conceivably, as a way for the Soviets to finance its operations. In this manner the suspicions of German authorities are reduced, however, the Germans will undoubtedly become aware of the cover in time.

Getting back to the editor of the paper - he is not a journalist, but a semi-skilled laborer and is unqualified to publish the periodical on his own. The paper has an appealing format but is a typical example of Soviet "grey" propoganda. The contents are falsified and unidentified material is intended for future distribution to Lithuanians throughout the world. The idea of a periodical is to indicate that Lithuania remembers her sons and daughters and caters to considerable emotion. The intention is to neutralize opposition to the communist rule of Lithuania and subsequently, to build friends in her behalf. The editor, one by the name of Albert Annies, is sponsoring a Lithuanian "exhibit" in various cities of Europe, to kick off the circulation publicity.

It is with deep interest that Lithuanian World Review, presents the following fable, based on facts, by our European-based correspondent, John Norakas. This fable on genuine Soviet deception is entitled "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing".

ANTHONY B. MAZEIKA

THE WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

Each of us is familiar with the ancient fable about the wolf in sheep's clothing. The sly old wolf concealed his real identity in sheep's clothing to more effectively penetrate the lonesome flock to ensnare his prey and ultimately destroy the sheep.

Recently this simple childrens tale was rewritten in a more modern and dramatic form, not by the brothers Grimm although the tale takes place in Germany, but by the Department of Propaganda and Agitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. It must be noted that this particular group of authors has produced more fairy tales than both the brothers Grimm and

Andersen combined! The new version is guaranteed to delight and shock the modern and more sophisticated adult reader and goes as follows.

Once upon a time a huge flock of sheep from the far off land of Lithuania fled from their pasture. It was a small and pretty pasture and as such was coveted by a huge bear who lived in the East. The Lithuanian sheep wandered westward and further westward and the greater part of the flock sailed beyond the seas out of the reach of the huge mean old bear from the East. But a few were too late, too tired, too sick or too exhausted to make the long voyage beyond the seas to the Land of the

Great Eagle and stayed behind, alone and abandoned in the divided nest of the Black Raven. Each group looked behind them and saw the return to their Lithuanian pastureland barred by a huge curtain of iron. New shepherds had entered the old Lithuanian pasture with a strange tongue and clenched fist. Those who went far away across the sea forgot their bretheren in the land of the Black Raven most of the time, although they continue to send some fodder over by mail every once in a while.

The huge brown bear did not however forget the Lithuanian sheep in the far off land of the Black Raven and plotted to ensnare them since they were alone, old, sick, feeble and exhausted. At first the bear sent beautiful sounds over the magic waves of the air to beguile the tired sheep in the land of the Black Raven. The sheep ran from the waves. Then the huge bear sent newspapers to the Lithuanian sheep in the land of the Black Raven, but the sheep noticed the sign of the bear and threw the papers back at his feet.

The great bear from the east became enraged and violent. He roared and groaned since he could not cross over the curtain he himself had built. Then one day the old bear noticed a starving shaggy ragged wolf by the name of Albert Annies. The wolf was not a Lithuanian but had lived in the pasture of Lithuania and knew the sheep very well, but was not one of them. Albert had been a friend of the invader from the West and was a stranger among the Lithuanians. Albert the wolf however was an ambitious wolf and dreamed of being a shepherd-prince of the Lithuanians, but alas poor Albert was ignored. Albert had married a woman of the land of the Black Raven who owned a magic printing press! The huge bear was delighted. Albert said the bear "Allow me to use your press" and I will make you a rich wolf and a prince among the Lithuanians in all the world! Albert the wolf was impressed but ruefully replied. "How can I a wolf be their prince. Look at my fangs, my claws and my shaggy long tail. They will run from me!" The bear said, "Dear Albert use your printing press". I will provide you with money and materials and together we will print a magazine called "Nemuno Kraštas" with which we will ensnare the sheep of Lithuania in the land of the Black Raven and far across the seas in fact in over a dozen countries. But dear tsar bear said Albert the wolf won't they catch on to me? Oh no cried the bear. We will mix enough truth with fiction, and will put a false label on the magazine and will add honey to that and the sheep will come. And sure enough Albert did what the huge bear from the steppe told him and published his magazine and called it "Nemuno Kraštas" ("Land of the Nemunas"), though it would more accurately be named Land of the Volga where the great bear lives. Albert the wolf prints the magazine in the ancient Lithuanian language in the land of the Black Raven to elude the laws of the King of the Land of the Great Eagle which require the labelling of propaganda from the land of the bear on the Volga. The bear was happy. His trap was laid and he sent Albert the Wolf to Germany among the Lithuanians in Hamburg, Bremen, Hannover and Munich. Albert brought many fascinating items with him and put on

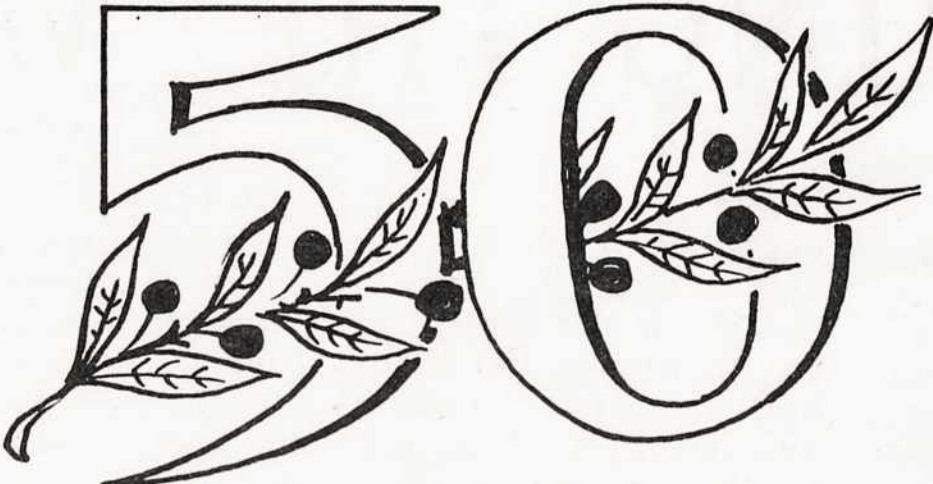
exhibitions in these old towns and the Lithuanian sheep came because someone told them pictures of their pastureland were to be shown - but they were few, for the wise among them could smell the stench of the wolf even though Albert the wolf had covered himself with the wool of the Lithuanian lambs and spoke their language. The more perceptive of the old Lithuanian lambs noticed the red stains of blood tracked to the West from the land of the bear and fled.

Nevertheless Albert the German wolf in Lithuanian lambs clothing taken from dead sheep by the Russian bear continues to road the land of the Black Raven seeking a stray Lithuanian lamb whom he may deliver to the bear to be devoured. Alberts pockets are full of a strange sounding coin, the ruble, and his office strangely enough receives shiney coins from blind Lithuanian sheep in far away places in the land of the Great Eagle named Chicago and New York and having other strange names. Some of these poor sheep are not close enough to see either the blood or sniff the smell or listen closely to Albert's accent. Others are not perceptive enough to know they are listening to the bear on the Volga who in the course of time as shepherd-jailor of the Lithuanians has learned their language. And so the story goes on and on while the old, tired, sickly and exhausted Lithuanian sheep left in the land of the Black Raven look to the skies for a white sworded knight on a stallion borne on the wings of a great eagle to deliver them from the snares of the bear on the Volga and his little German wolf in Lithuanian Sheep's clothing in the land of the Black Raven!



"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing."
Edmund Burke.

1918 50 1968



Fifty years ago on February 16th, 1918, a group of Lithuanian intellectuals and professionals, none over 35 years of age, met in the ancient capital of Lithuania, Vilnius, where under the leadership of Dr. Jonas Basanavičius, they presented the world with the now famous document which is known as the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence.

February 16th is a great day in Lithuanian History. The Council which met in Vilnius and proclaimed the independence document took their own lives in their hands and signed their death warrants by affixing their signatures to the declaration. Russian rule had lasted 120 bloodstained years. There was much to do in the war-torn country where 50% of the livestock had been killed, 25% of the forests cut and all metal, even door-knobs carried off by one army or another.

Having attained her independence, Lithuanians from all over the world hurried home to rebuild the country. Their efforts built a happy and prosperous nation, reflected in a small national debt and low taxes; a land where there was no actual want. It was mostly a land of small owner-occupied farms.

In the brief 20 years of her independence Lithuania achieved the political, economical and cultural respect of all the great nations of the world... It became a positive member in the family of nations.

An effective democratic state government was created, many new roads and railroads were built, thousands of public schools and hundreds of modern high schools appeared. There were trade schools founded and institutes and academies for trade, handicraft, agriculture, music and art; the University of Kaunas grew with big modern buildings of technical and medical faculties. From these institutions arose a great number of well trained, learned men - scientist, intellectuals, artists, authors, poets and together with them a great deal of periodical papers, much of scientific and belletristic literature, theatres, libraries, choruses which presented operas and concerts of world renown and all kinds of cultural organizations. The towns grew larger and more beautiful, the agriculture rose in an especially high degree producing sugar from beets and packing plants which exported "Lithuanian Hams", and bacon to England and Germany. Commerce and industry grew astoundingly. A merchant fleet was started from the harbor of Klaipeda (Memel) and a Navy was begun. The Lithuanian nation felt the blessings of freedom &

created what it could not and had not ever before achieved in its long history of subjugations. They achieved a standard of life that took other European countries centuries to develop.

When the first Russian garrisons were stationed in Lithuania by the non-aggression pact of 1940 between Germany and Russia, the garrisoned Russian soldiers called the country "Little America," It was embarrassing for Russia to have her soldiers mailing home food parcels and packages containing clothing to their families back in impoverished Russia. Therefore, they had to find an excuse to occupy the country and strip it bare by sending everything they could grab into the Soviet Union thereby lowering the standard of living in Lithuania to that of Russia.

But even today after 25 years of occupation such magazines as Newsweek report that the average Russian citizen regards the Baltic States as their window to the West where the standard of living is still higher than that of Russia. Where the people eat better and dress in a more Western style of dress and are anxious to visit the summer resorts of Palanga on the Baltic Sea.

Russia pushes the Western countries to free their colonies and in the last decade France, England and Portugal have given up their colonies in Africa so that such small countries as Gambia a nation of 300,000 people whose territory extends only 30 miles from the Gambia river bank and 300 miles in length, who raise peanuts for a living and depend on Britain for a million annual subsidy, are now independent! A people without a culture; without a history a mere tribe are granted independence, because the Western nations are cowed into giving up their colonies by the Communist propaganda in the United Nations. But, a country like Lithuania which possesses the oldest living language regarded by philologists as the key to the Indo-European languages. A people who have proved themselves that they could govern and feed themselves without any subsidies, are denied their right by the ironical standards set up in the U.N. We must strengthen our efforts to demand that the question of self-determination for the Baltic States be brought up on the agenda of the United Nations.

JOSEPH YANULAITIS

FEB. '68

WEIGHING THE VALUES

Every dozen years or so, we seem to feel a need for reexamining the structure of our organization. While we're at it, we come up with some unusual suggestions, some of which would affect the very nature and character of the organization, for, we say to ourselves, is this not OUR organization, to do with as we please? This proprietary attachment that we display is interesting. Regardless of which side of the question we line up on, it is WE who have the right answer. Naturally, we all feel strongly about the position we take, sometimes inordinately so, and those who dare to express a contrary opinion become virtually our mortal enemies. This intolerant attitude, unfortunately, works against our very intentions of trying to serve and improve our organization.

These periodic examinations, however, are not all bad. In the course of the discussions, the newer members get a chance to hear, perhaps for the first time, of the true aims of the organization and the circumstances which brought the Knights of Lithuania into being. They may have been members two or three years and have not had an opportunity to hear much of the organization's history, its aspirations, accomplishments and its eminent position in the world-wide Lithuanian community. These discussions are profitable even for those who have been members 20 or 30 years, for the K of L ideals may have been resting on the shelf too long and need an occasional dusting and refurbishing. If our alleged principles are to have any meaning for us and for those who are coming after us, they must be made our very own.

It is to the credit of the delegates of the recent convention that differences of opinion on the procedure of a couple resolutions pertaining to admittance of non-Lithuanians were resolved peaceably,

even amicably. Avoiding rancor and acrimony, the delegates thought it out logically, secure in the knowledge that if enough members favored a resolution - any resolution, good or bad - it would be in their power eventually to adopt it. That these particular resolutions were deemed legally improper to bring to the convention floor was only because our general membership had not shown sufficient interest in them. Though this situation was disappointing to the proponents of the resolutions, it may turn out to have been a blessing, whatever the final disposal of these or similar resolutions. The constitutional delay has given us time to reconsider the advantages and disadvantages the proposed innovations would bring, and to pose to ourselves and others certain pertinent questions: Would the adoption of the resolutions make it easier or more difficult to achieve our goals as spelled out in our constitution? Would we gain much financially? Would our membership be sufficiently enlarged to warrant the tensions that the very thought of the proposed changes evokes among us?

The proponents of these resolutions try to pacify the fearful with the uncertain prediction that no more than 20% of the total membership would belong to the non-Lithuanian category. If by this it is implied that a larger percentage would be wrong and that a little dilution of the Lithuanian family forming our K of L would be practically harmless, then plain logic dictates that 2% - or one-half of one percent - would be equally wrong. It is not the size of the percentage that many members are concerned about, but the soundness of the principle involved. Since the resolutions place no limit on the numbers or percentages, we can be sure that they will not remain constant. When these percentages are projected into the future, one can-

not blame the members for being fearful of inflicting irreparable harm on the organization.

However, those who oppose these resolutions must also consider them with an open mind. They must examine the reasons behind such resolutions. Perhaps if they were told more explicitly what is to be accomplished by the intended alterations, what long-range benefits are being sought for the organization, they would become more amenable to what at present seem to be dangerously radical changes. We might then come upon an alternative that we can more easily discuss and shape into something that we can all live with, something that will fit into the framework of the constitution.

Since many of us have reduced our council activity to social level, we may unconsciously assume that the very purpose of our existence is exclusively social. With socialness as our basis, it becomes natural to conclude that one certainly need not be a Lithuanian, nor even a Catholic, in order to mingle, participate, even contribute one's services toward a relaxed, enjoyable fraternization with any socially-minded group.

We have, however, a more serious function to perform. Granted that we may be lax in discharging our duties as enlightened Lithuanians. But we have not yet repudiated our Knights of Lithuania objectives. We still sincerely and wholeheartedly believe in them. It is these objectives that should guide us in choosing a future course for our beloved organization. The one question we must not fail to ask ourselves whenever a new idea is brought forth, from whatever quarter, is: Is the proposal basically sound? If it is, we should approve it. If it is not, we must firmly lay it aside.

JOSEPH BOLEY.

Lithuanians in The NEWS



DEDICATION OF BLOZIS GYMNASIUM. A stirring tribute was paid to the memory of the last Al Blozis on Nov. 4, 1967 at the Dickinson High School when its gymnasium was formally renamed the Alfred (Al) C. Blozis Memorial Gymnasium. Thomas M. Flaherty, president of the Jersey City Council cut the dedication ribbon. After attaining scholastic and sports honors at Dickinson, Blozis went on to further athletic honors at both Georgetown University and New York Athletic Club, winning championships in the National AAU and the NCAA. He was "rookie-of-the-year" choice in his first season (1942) with the New York pro football Giants. Being ineligible for the draft in WW II, he volunteered in the U.S. Army medical corps complement and and gained a 2nd lieutenant's commission. A few days after his arrival at the front he was killed. The J. C. Journal said, "Al Blozis was the kind of athletic talent that appears only rarely". (Photo by Hudson Dispatch, Union City, N.J.)

WATERBURY, CONN., COUNCIL 7

Dean of Knights of Lithuania Honorary Members and author of K of L Anthem Professor A. J. Aleksis arranged an Ecumenical Concert of vocal and instrumental sacred music featuring six major religious beliefs and nine nationalities. The special event was held at St. Joseph's Church, Sunday, January 7th. It was sponsored by the St. Joseph's Lithuanian Church Choir and the Waterbury Chapter, American Guild of Organists to further the unity of faiths and peoples in glorifying God and advancing human peace and progress. It also ushered in "LITHUANIAN FREEDOM YEAR" in Waterbury - the first in a series of events planned for 1968 to mark the FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY of Lithuania's Reconstituted Independence in 1918. May the Almighty lift and sustain the spirit of the suffering Lithuanian nation, Soviet-subjugated and struggling for freedom and sovereign statehood since 1940.

K of Lers responsible for organizing the event are Rev. A. Edward Gradeck, pastor of host church, standing; Professor A. J. Aleksis, seated in center and Miss Marcella Andrikis, concert co-chairman seated right. The concert received much coverage in the local press and radio publicity.



LIETUVIŲ TAUTINIAI



Šv. Jurgis kariauninkas. Tai mėgiama, labai dažnai koplytėlėse užtinkama skulptūra. Lietuvos herbą Vytį seni žmonės dažnai vadindavo Jurgiu.

Senoji lietuvių skulptūra yra išimtinai savamokslių skulptorių kūryba. Dalinai ją galima būtų priskirti prie taikomojo meno, nes buvo skirta koplytėlių papuošimui. Koplytėlių statyba Lietuvoje buvo labai išplitusi. Koplytėlei papuošti reikėdavo nuo keturių iki dvylikos statulėlių. Jas gamino meistrai populiariai dievdirbiais vadinami. Dauguma tai nežinomi kaimo menininkai. Tik keletas vardų yra išlikę iki šių laikų. Vienas iš jų: Svirskis išsiskiria iš kitų tuo, kad jis savo kryžius, apsuptus statulomis išdroždavo iš vieno medžio. Darbavosi jis Panevėžio apylinkėse. Sakoma, kad jis mokėsis pas tuo laiku Lietuvoje gyvenusį garsų italų tapytoją Andrioli, kuris sukūrė daug paveikslų Lietuvos istorijos temomis.

Daugumoje buvo vaizduojami lietuvių kaimiečio širdžiai artimi šventieji. Rūpintojėlis, besirūpinąs žmonių vargais. Sv. Izidorius jaučiais dirvą beariąs. Sv. Jurgis kovotojas su blogybėmis. Sv. Ona, taip primenantį lietuvišką močiūtę savo dukrele nuolat besirūpinančia.

Tarptautinėse liaudies meno parodose lietuvių skulptūra yra sukėlusį labai daug susidomėjimo. Šiuo laiku leidžiama didžiausia meno enciklopedija savo straipsnį apie liaudies skulptūrą pailiustravo kaip tik lietuvišku šv. Antanu.

Nepriklausomybės laikais daug skulptūros buvo surinkta muziejuose išgelbstint iš tikros pražūties. Mat pasenę koplytėlės su visomis statulomis būdavo sudeginamos. Tuo būdu yra žuvę labai daug vertingų meno paminklų.

Šiai trijų aukštų koplytėlei apgyvendinti reikia dvylikos statulų. Kiekviena turi būti kitokia.



Šv. Jonas krikštytojas

Angelas artojas



NIS MENAS

Sopulingoji Dievo
Motina



Sv. Antanas
iš didžiausios
Meno Enciklopedijos

← Sv. Barbora



Dievdirbys su savo darbais

→
Sv. Mykolas
arkangelas



Sv. Izidorius



Rūpintojėlis



Sv. Ona



Skulptūrinis
Svirskio kryžius

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

ST. CASIMIR'S DAY

March 4th is the feast day of our Patron Saint and Protector - St. Casimir. It is a day that all Councils and true K of L members should observe.

Customarily each council commemorates the day by receiving Holy Communion in a body, followed by a breakfast or evening banquet with an appropriate program. The councils have also taken the opportunity to present Third and Fourth Degree medals and certificates to qualified members at the program.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REQUEST

Although all of the Council's have been contacted, no response has been received from the following regarding a listing of their Executive Board: C-5, C-7, C-10, C-13, C-14, C-18, C-19, C-19S, C-25S, C-27, C-41S, C-61, C-82, C-90, C-102 and C-103 S. In order to prepare a complete and up-to-date listing, it is necessary that our national secretary receives the required information immediately.

RULES FOR THE 1967 - 68 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

SPECIAL AWARDS will be presented to councils in each of the following categories for being first to have their council dues 100% paid-up: First category - 11-29 members; 2nd - 30-59 members; 3rd - 60-99 members; and finally, 100 members and over. These awards will be based on the national financial secretary's membership records as of August 1, 1967.

Credit for enrolling members will be earned only if the following rules and dates are observed:

TEN points can be earned for each new or rejoin member enrolled from August until April 1, 1968.

EARN five points for each new or rejoin member you enroll thereafter until July 10, 1968.

Membership totals will be supplied by the national financial secretary according to her records as of August 1, 1967. Council awards will be presented for the greatest percentage of per capita increase based on these net increases.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our National Financial Secretary Helen Zimmer reminds us that membership dues were due in January 1968. If a new member joins a Council, the dues should be as follows:

- \$4.00 if member joins from
January - March
- 3.00 April - June
- 2.00 July - September
- 1.00 October - December

- 2.00 Non-Subscribing
- 6.00 Couple (First Year)

Dues should be collected for a FULL YEAR.

"VYTIS" THANK YOU

May we express our thanks to those who responded to the request for Christmas greetings. Your support of the "Vytis" in such numbers was greatly appreciated. The following were the supporters: The Mid-Central District and their Councils 25, 25S, 79, 96, 102, 111 S and 139; the New England District and their Councils 7, 17, 30, 78, 116 and 135; the Illinois-Indiana District and their Councils 13, 36, 112 and the Chicago Seniors; and Councils 3, 41 and 109 of the NY-NJ District. Many individual officers and members also supported the project.

At this time, we would also like to thank Rev. Mykolas J. Vembre of Brockton, Mass. for his continued financial support of the "Vytis".

K of L Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 8 - C-36 Chicago HAWAIIAN NIGHT, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 10 - C-1 Brockton Annual SNOWFLAKE BALL, Walkover Club, Brockton, Mass.
- 10 - I-I District MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA BANQUET, The Farm Club, Chicago, Ill.
- 11 - NEW JERSEY LITHUANIANS Commemoration of Lithuania's Independence, 3:30 Mass at Cathedral; 6:30 Banquet at Robert Treat Hotel.
- 16-18 - Lithuanian Philatelic Society's XIII - LITH-PEX, Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, Chicago, Ill. (See page for details)
- 25 - CULTURAL PROGRAM, Golden Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence, Worcester Lith. organizations TARYBA, Worcester, Mass.

MARCH

- 3 - C-3 Philadelphia Annual St. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMUNION BREAKFAST, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 3 - I-I District ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMEMORATION, Hosts C-36, Chicago, Ill.
- 10 - NY-NJ District Annual COMMUNION RECEPTION at Mass commemorating St. Casimir with breakfast and district meeting following, Hosts C-29, Newark, N.J.

APRIL

- 21 - NED JUNIOR RALLY, St. Peter's Church, So. Boston, Mass.

MAY

- 5 - M-C District JUNIOR RALLY, Our Lady of Consolation Shrine, Carey, Ohio

JULY

- 3-4 - I-I District Annual JULY 4th PICNIC, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

AUGUST

- 22-25 - 55th NATIONAL CONVENTION, Hosts C-3, Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.

IŠ SENDRAUGIŲ GYVENIMO

PARAGINIMAS VYČIAMS

Kaip mes vyčiai jau žinome, "Drauge" turime skyrių - "Lietuv. Vyčių Veikla", kurį redaguoja ir tvarko ne kas kitas, bet dinginga vytis E. Pakalniškienė, talpininkaujama vytiškos šeimos ir kitų org. mylėtojų ir plunksniškos dirvos artojų. Mes turime būtidėkingi tėvams Marijonams, kurie ne tik gyvu liet. žodžiu žadina ir gyvina lietuvių mūsų išseivijoje, bet jie pajėgia išleisti didžiausią ir plačiausiai skaitomą dienraštį "Draugą", kuriame ir mūsų vardas praskamba visam laisvam pasauliui, ypatingai, kai šiame skyriuje pasirodo vieno, kito žymėnio veikėjo nuotrauka bei jo platesnis aprašymas. Pavyzdžiui 286 "Draugo" numeryje tilpo mūsų jaunųjų vyčių, didelių veikėjų ir siekiančiųjų aukštus mokslus nuotraukos - Mirgos Pakalniškytės ir Danio Mažeikos, kas gražiai papuošė "L. Vyčių Veikla" skyrių. Jį mėgsta skaityti daug "Draugo" skaitytojų su pasigėrėjimu, nes nori sužinoti kas dedasi vyčiuose,

ką jie veikia. Būtų įdomu sužinoti kiek mūsų pačių vyčių skaitomą laikraštį, kuris įvertindavo mūsų organizacijos veikimą praeityje savo tautai, lietuvių ir dabar nemažiau remia vyčių gražiuosius puoselėjimus.

Dabar ir mums vyčiams reikėtų pažiūrėti į tuos laikraščius, kurie turi atviras skiltis mūsų veikimo žinėlėms, o ypatingai šiais 1968 metais. Kada tėvai vaikams, vaikai tėvams, taip pat ir giminės bei draugai vieni kitiems perka mažesnes ar didesnes dovanas ir jomis, kiek pasidžiaugę - jas padeda arba visai numeta į pamirštą vietą. Manau, gal būtų daugiau naudingiau ir nepamirštamiau, vietoje kokios mažavertės dovanos užprenumeruoti saviesiems dienraštį "Draugą", "Vytį", ar kitą liet. katalikišką laikraštį, kurie juos lankys šešis kartus, kiti gal mažiau savaitėje ir suteiks žinių, kokių tik mūsų norai ir mintys pageidauja. Neskaitant jokių laikraščių - nė lietuviško, nė amerikie-

tiško, žmonės dvasiniai miršta. Vyčiai, nebūkime tokiais, kad kiti mums tik pasakotų, kas pasaulyje dedasi ir kad mes turėtume jų klausyti! Būkime mes pirmesni žinovai, kokiais buvo mūsų pirmieji vadai ir sielotojai dėl savo tautos, katalikiškųjų bažnyčių ir pačios tėvynės Lietuvos, kur nūnai reikia daugiau pajėgų iškovoti laisvę, tikybą, tautybę ir žmoniškumą, kuriuos plėšte plėšia iš mažų ir didelių ne kas kitas, bet tas pats ir dar aršesnis plėšikas - rusas, komunistas. Tai mes, vyčiai, ir visi lietuviai, kurie neskaitome jokių laikraščių, be jokio atidėliojimo prenumeruokime "Draugą" ar kitus gerus lietuviškus katalikiškus laikraščius, kad daugiau ir greičiau sužinotume, ką daro komunistai ir kaip jie rengiasi užkariauti visą pasaulį, ko laisva žmonija labiausiai bijo ir prieš tuos žmonių žudytojus kiek galėdama bendrai kovoja.

SENELIS

LIETUVOS NEPRIKLAUSOMYBĖS ATMINČIAI

Ten, kur priespaudoj žmonės vaitoja,
Tūkstančiai alkany žmonių,
Ten kasdien mirčia grūmoja,
Nesuskaityta gauja kraugerių.

Ten žmonės neiškentę,
Tironų skurdo ir skausmų,
Eina būryn susitelkę,
Kovoti prieš kraugerius mūsų brolių.

Tad, ant kalnelių aukštų,
Ir toli už juodų debesų,
Aš statyti ten trokštu,
Šviesią pilį su bokštu.

Svajonei ikelti aukso varpus,
Kad jų aidas skardus,
Šauktų kovon visus,
Už Lietuvos tironų darbus.

Saulės Brolis

ŽODŽIAI LIETUVAI ...

Tave apjuosęs Nemunas ir Neris
Sukaustęs laiko šaltis su vėju!
Nešu Tavo vardą per pasaulį vis
Trispalvę iškėlęs virš galvų!

Karai, nelaimės šimtmečiais drasko
Sunkiai alsuoji vergovės pančius...
Išalkęs rusas po kraštą laksto
Kujį ir piūklą isikandęs nasruos!

Kariai, Savanoriai, partizanai visi
Uždegė laisvę su Vilnium širdy ...
Ten kur Nevėžis, Mūša, Dubysa srauni
Skambės dainos piliakalnių glėby ...

O, Lietuva, šaukiu milijonus kartu
Iškęski vargą namuos ir Sibire!
Sugrįšim pasveikint prie Aušros Vartų
Kartu iškelsim trispalvę Gedimino kalne!

Bal. Brazdžionis

JUNIOR NEWS

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL K OF L JUNIOR COUNCILS FROM YOUR SUPREME COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Juniors :

On February 16th, Lithuanians throughout the world will commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence.

Please refer to our National President's article in the October "Vytis". Mr. Wesley requests that all councils and organizations unite and cooperate in putting over this important event. Every council should plan an appropriate program. The program should be, musical, educational and informative.

In conjunction with the above, the Juniors can go one step further.

Here are a few suggestions:

1. Offer help to the parent council in setting up Lithuanian Independence Day exercises.
2. Attend Mass and receive Holy Communion for the intention of Lithuania's martyrs.
3. After all Masses pass out leaflets reminding everyone to help commemorate this event.
4. Wear miniature Lithuanian flags. Starting with school Friday February 16th thru 18th.
5. Submit articles to your school and local newspapers.
6. Request local library to set up a display of Lithuanian books.
7. Try to have radio and TV coverage.
8. Write letters to your local and government officials.

If all Junior Knights will try to follow the above suggestions, you will awaken America and advance one step further in restoring Lithuania's Independence as a free nation.

STANLEY J. VAITKUS
Juniors - Vice President

JUNIOR ANNOUNCEMENT
ALL JUNIOR COUNCILS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OFFICERS RECENTLY ELECTED TO:

STANLEY J. VAITKUS,
ADDRESS INSIDE COVER

IMPORTANCE OF AN ANNUAL JUNIOR K OF L RALLY IN EACH DISTRICT

In order to establish a spirit of unity between Junior K of L Councils, each District should sponsor a Junior K of L rally, annually. The program would be set by the Spiritual Advisors and Junior Counsellors. District Officers should include a Junior Rally in their Program Schedule, and either appoint or select a District Officer or Junior Counsellor who will do the initial work of calling a Junior Counsellors and Spiritual Advisors meeting. Notices for the Rally should be sent to the Junior Councils at least two months in advance. This is necessary, if the Juniors are to have sufficient time to prepare for their participation at the Rally.

A Junior K of L Rally is the only way that Juniors can meet other youths who are working for the same goals in their respective councils. This is where they will become better acquainted with the K of L as a national organization, and the only opportunity to meet new friends who have the same interests.

Expenses incurred in sponsoring a Junior K of L Rally can easily be covered by donations from each council in the District, plus a larger donation from the District itself, and the Registration fees that are paid by the participants of the Rally. All councils of the District should be solicited - and all should feel obligated to make a donation - regardless, if they have a Junior Council or not. Registration fee, no matter how nominal, should be charged. This will make the Juniors feel that they are making some financial contribution.

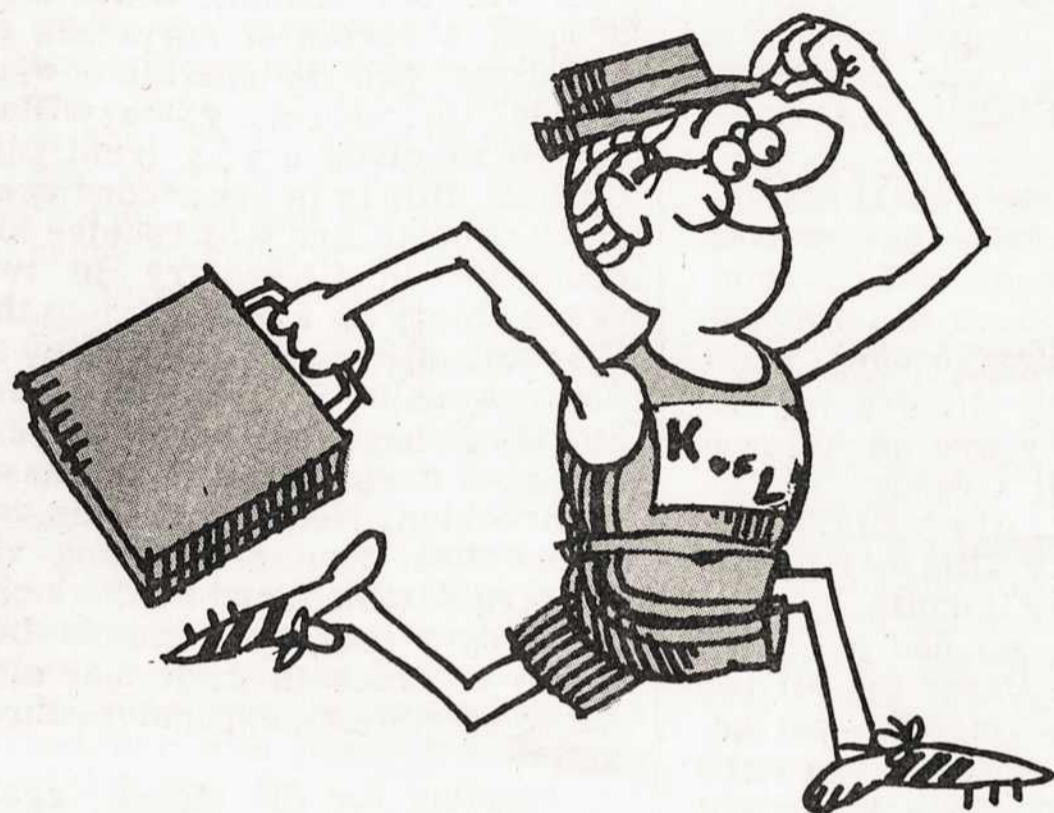
Program Schedule for the Junior Rally should be such that it would place a certain amount of responsibility on each Junior Council, such as making a report of their council activities, and some sort of Variety Program that each council would present. A suggested Junior Rally Program can be obtained from the Supreme Council 1st Vice President upon request.

Junior K of L Rallies are important, in that they tend to spur the activities in each respective council during the year, give the Juniors an incentive to prepare for them, whether it be to give a good report, prepare an interesting program or raise money to enable them to attend the Rally.

A Junior K of L Rally can and should become the highlight of the Year in each District, for the Junior Knights, just as the K of L National Convention is the highlight of the year to our Regular and Senior members of the Knights of Lithuania.

IT'S FEBRUARY 1968
ARE OVERDUE

UNPAID DUES



COUNCIL 112 LEADS

ALL PAID-UP CATEGORIES

OTHER LEADERS

COUNCILS

- 36 -

- 25 SENIORS -

- 10 -

Have you paid this year's dues yet? No? Then there is not much time left for doing so. In fact, you are already overdue - delinquent - and your credit rating sure isn't improving. This year is already into February, and the next convention is less than six months away. Therefore, any time your council had for picking up new members this year is already half gone. Worse yet, the membership indicates that the majority of dues have not been paid.

According to figures based on information received from Supreme Council Financial Secretary, Helen Zimmer here is how the councils ranked nationwide in the annual dues drive. Considering the largest councils first, Chicago C-112's 97% was ahead of the other three councils in the 100-members and more category. With 151 of 156 regular members paid up before 1968 even began, C-112 was outdistancing all councils in the other three categories as well. By the time you receive this issue they should be 100% paid up. In the 60 to 99 member grouping, C-36 also of Chicago, was squeaking by Waterbury's C-7 with rounded-off figures of 11% to 10%. Actually, it was so close the difference was less than one-half of a percentage point. To make it seem even closer, C-7 had two more paid than C-36, but a smaller percentage because of its larger membership. Which proves the larger councils must work that much harder to keep up the percentage paced with others.

Among the smaller councils, the Cleveland Seniors C-25 and C-10 of Athol were turning in dues at

rapid rates. The Cleveland Seniors in the 30-59 member category already had 37 to 40 paid for 95%. With 14 out of 21 on its roster early, Athol was batting 67%. Following the example of these two councils, there is hardly any reason why councils in the smaller groupings are not fully paid up by now. On second thought, using official membership records as of last August, and some hopefully correct addition, there is no reason why councils in the 11 to 29 and 30 to 59-member groups were not 100% paid up before the beginning of the year.

Those two groups consist of 27 councils collecting dues from approximately 795 members. Meanwhile, there are only seven councils in the two larger classifications trying to collect dues from 845 members. But, if you pick out a "zero" in the paid members, it more than likely belongs to the smaller councils. Big Councils 96 of Dayton and 29 in Newark, however, were scoreless at the start of the year.

Before going all out to gain new members be sure that your fellow council members are up-to-date in dues. Keep in mind that the drive for new members is based on net membership gains. Those gains will be based on totals supplied by the national financial secretary according to her records as of August 1, 1967. First, help your council get 100% paid up. Then, go after those prospective new members.

LEON PAUKSTA
Membership Vice President

VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

WATERBURY, CONN., C-7 W.J.S.

The Christ Child's birth emphasizing the role of children was wonderfully upheld by the Knights of Lithuania. On December 17 we played host to approximately 45 children of the Knights and their friends whose ages ranged from a few months to 10 years.

The party was held in the club room from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Christmas presents were passed out by Santa Claus and refreshments of soda and ice cream were served.

Arrangements were made by the recently elected officers: president, James Valaitis, vice president, Joe Samoska, Jr., treasurer, John Alauskas, recording secretary, Lillian Paulauskas, financial secretary, Nell Diggles, and chaplain, Reverend Paul Sabulis. They were assisted by Otto Shatas and Kass Renkun who played Santa Claus.

ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS., C-10 Vincukas

Our council elected the following slate of officers for the coming year: Dr. Henry Gailiunas, pres.; Frank Anoris, vice-pres.; Nellie Melaika treas.; Lennie Davidonis, fin. secy.; William Wisnauskas, VYTIS correspondent; and Rev. Michael Tamulevicius, spiritual advisor.

Our council held their annual Christmas party on Dec. 10 at the Colonial Hotel in Gardner. We enjoyed excellent dinners. It was no wonder that we enjoyed such royal treatment. We later learned that the chef was a Lithuanian. Gifts were exchanged, and an enjoyable evening followed. Present at the party were Bill Waslaske and his fiancée, Evelyn Henesey from Dorchester. They plan a spring wedding. Congratulations, Bill.

Our sympathy is extended to the

Kondratas family on the recent death of their father, Joseph Kondratas of Worcester.

The Genaitis family spent the holidays visiting their daughter, Lil Erickson and family in Arlington, Texas.

Congratulations to Sparky Morunas on her recent engagement.

LAWRENCE, MASS., C-78 Angel

C-78 elected officers for the year 1968. They are as follows: President, Emil Grenda; Vice-President, Dorothy Blazeovich; Secretary, Mary Blazeovich, and Treasurer, Irene Baublis.

On Dec. 16, we had a Golden Age Christmas Party for all the older members of our parish. Those over 65 years of age were invited to be our guests at this affair. The success with which this event was acclaimed, indicates that we certainly will make it a yearly affair. It began with a social hour at 6 P.M. and continued with a Lithuanian buffet set up by the girls in our council. This was followed by a songfest of Lithuanian Christmas carols. Prizes were awarded for the oldest couples, for the most grandchildren, the oldest bachelor (incidentally, one of our members, John Umpa walked away with that one) and for the oldest person. Gifts were given to all those who did not receive special prizes.

The girls of C-78 met at the Blazeovich house, prior to the party, to make Lithuanian Christmas ornaments for the Christmas tree which was decorated for the party. Our special thanks to Mrs. Grenda for the "Linksmų Kalėdų" cake. To Irene Baublis and her mother who had charge of buying and wrapping one hundred gifts - to Mary Neveresky, Shirley Gobush and Joan Lisauskas, our Kitchen Committee - and most important of all, our deepest thanks to Emil Grenda who worked harder than anyone to make this Christmas Party the success it was.

C-78 welcomes two new mem-

bers, Mr. and Mrs. John Narkas. We are very happy to have them both with our council. Christmas brought a series of surprises to members with the sparkle of diamonds. Our secretary, Mary Blazeovich received a ring from Bill Gobush. Bill is in his second year at Dartmouth and will receive his doctorate in Chemistry in two years. Mary is a secretary to the Director of Reentry Technology at Avco Missile Systems Division. Shirley Gobush, our past president received a ring from Frank Rawa of Brooklyn, New York. This romance has been blossoming via Eastern Airlines, and by the looks of things, they both should buy plenty of stock in it. It may turn out to be quite an expensive courtship!

Heading for the slopes again this year for the K of L Ski Weekend at King Pine in East Madison, N.H. - Irene, Mary, Dot, Dan, Bill and Mike.

SO. WORCESTER, MASS., C-116 Onytė

Our members ushered in the holiday season with a Christmas party on Dec. 10 at the Chez Ami restaurant in Westboro, Mass. It was a gala occasion, you might say a shimmering one, especially some of the outfits our gals had on. We were honored by the presence of our spiritual advisor, Fr. Albin Yankauskas and curate Fr. Justin Steponaitis. Many thanks to Dorothy Sinkavitch and Anthony Miner for making the arrangements for this annual Council Affair.

"I'll be home for Christmas" was the theme of some of our members who have been away for a long time. Home for the holidays and having a happy reunion at Midnight Mass were Bernice (Kavadaris) Marks and her husband in from Cape Cod; Maryann (Sienkiewich) and her husband, who is in the Diplomatic Corp and daughter, in from Dominican Re-

public, they are enroute to Africa on their new assignment. Bernice (Burdulis) and Emilio Fernandez in From Maryland. The John Kaspers and family came down from Cape Elizabeth, Maine. It was nice to see all these nice folks, and we wish them all much success in their endeavors.

Johnny Savage traveled clear across the country, from Seattle, Washington to be home for the holidays. He is in the service and made the unexpected trip back home. Even joined us at the bowling alleys one Friday night. His brother Vinny came home from his new job at Cape Kennedy, Florida. So you see it was a real happy occasion at the Savage home.

Barbara Mazeika left immediately after the holidays for a two week skiing trip to Switzerland. She is an expert skier and will do justice to the Swiss Alps. Bon voyage and don't forget the sitz marks.

Ann Miller and Dorothy Sinkavitch went to New York for the holidays to enjoy the lights and see some plays. Both girls are dropouts from the weight watchers and their New Years resolution is, back to the diet.

Plans for our Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration are in the final stages, so don't forget the date, Feb. 25. We promise it will be a very memorable day.

Another date to be jotted down in your calendar is April 21. That is the date the Junior Rally will be held in South Boston.

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

DETROIT, MICH., C-79 SOFFI

We dread the first snow. It's not that we don't appreciate the Zhivago-like enchantment that snow brings to the trees and the rooftops. We just hate the thought of winter. And wintry it was on Dec. 31 for our annual New Year's Eve party, but the fun and excitement will long be remembered. So many were responsible for the success of this event. A special debt of gratitude to our chairman Clem Patocki and his hard working committee who spared no effort in

ALL DISTRICT, COUNCILS and other LITHUANIAN ACTIVITIES will be announced in our K of L Calendar provided the events are called to the attention of the editor well in advance of the date. We suggest that an announcement of the event be sent to the "Vytis" as soon as a date is selected.

their usual great help and loyal cooperation.

Without doubt, the youngsters enjoyed our annual Children's Christmas party held on Dec. 17 at the Providence parish hall. There the stage was transformed into Santaland. Each year the parties get bigger and better; many thanks to chairman Charlie Step who was assisted by a fine committee. The important order of business, of course, was meeting Jolly Old "Pete" Baron - we mean Santa!

The annual Raffle was held following the Kiddies party and the success of it is credited to Mrs. E. Paurazas and her co-chairmen Joe Chaps and Sophie Bitner.

One of our nicest events of the Christmas season - and "a first" for Divine Providence was that the choir was augmented at the Midnight Mass by a choir of brass instruments. The instrumentalists performed some 16th century carols and motets. They also did the traditional songs and carols of the season. In addition the choir presented a few "folk-type" carols which were accompanied by two guitars; one of the guitar players was Ralph Valatka, Jr. Others who were instrumental in bringing

about this presentation were John Stanievich, and William and Jerome Byville.

Just can't forget to mention that the Lithuanian Table of 12 prepared dishes depicting Kučios which Jody Step had arranged for the Roundtable of Christians and Jews at the Armenian Hall was an attractive setting. She was capably assisted by Stella Hotra. Labai ačiū, as this was another event in keeping with the spirit of Christmas.

Soffi Snooping: Charles Milius, of Montreal, brother of Andy Milius has been a frequent visitor at the Martin residence. Dorothe Martin has a lovely daughter, Phyllis. Now watch out here's the announcement - they're being married in June... A beautiful diamond ring can now be seen on the left hand of our former secretary Ruth Grasha. Congratulations!... In the last month, the Bitners have been besieged by several unfortunate incidents. Daughter, Peggy, is on the sick list as a result of an auto accident, and mother, Mrs. Sophie Bitner, nearly suffocated from a smoldering faulty wire while asleep on Christmas night. Because of the persistent barking of their

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 20)

YEAR 1968 IS LITHUANIA'S ANNIVERSARY - A GOLDEN YEAR

The Lithuania Philatelic Society will hold its XIII-LITHPEX, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Lithuania's Declaration of Independence and also the issuance of the first Lithuanian postage stamp, on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, February 16, 17, and 18, 1968, at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 4012 Archer Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

Hours will be from noon to 10:00 P.M. on Friday, 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. on Saturday, and 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday. Admission is free.

The U. S. Postal Department will set up a temporary postal station with a stock of material on hand at the agency and will furnish a special cancellation for the event. It will be open from 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. on Friday, 12:00 Noon to 8:00 P.M. on Saturday, and 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday.

dog "Spunky" the sleeping clan was awoken in time to save them from any disaster... We were sorry to learn of the passing of Jack Jatis. He was a staunch K of L'er and he will be greatly missed... Two of our couples "from way back when" will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversaries; Frank and Sophie Zager on Feb. 20th, and Joe and Geraldine Chaps on Mar. 7th. Each have 3 sons. Best wishes are extended to them.

This coming year should be resolved with participation by our members. Take part by working, attending, and "getting involved". Every single act of service enriches you personally, and emphasizes the real purpose of this council - to support the K of L. Try to come to a meeting or two. How it's run is up to YOU.

Congratulations from council 79 upon the 50th anniversary of the commemoration of Lithuania's Independence.

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

N.Y. - N.J. DISTRICT F. V.

The N.Y. - N.J. district held a meeting in this N.Y.C. at Our Lady of Vilna parish hall on Sunday Dec. 3rd. It was called to order by president Larry Janonis and opened with prayer by Rev. Antanas Kardis, assistant at Our Lady of Vilna, who also gave a short greeting on behalf of parish & C-12 hosts for the day.

Minutes of district meeting held in September at Elizabeth, N.J. were read and accepted. The Mandate committee reported that six councils were represented at the session. There was a good attendance on hand despite inclement weather. President Janonis gave a report on rituals and announced that third degree rituals would be given qualified candidates in March.

Mary Kober gave a report on district bulletin. The issuance of the quarterly publication has proven its worth in more ways than one.

President Janonis gave a report of executive board meeting held at Newark recently. Charles Strolis

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

PAID MEMBERSHIP

JANUARY 13, 1968

<u>C#</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>% Pd</u>	<u>8/67</u>	<u>1/68</u>
1	Brockton	0%	19	0
3	Philadelphia	0%	44	0
5	Chicago	0%	10	0
7	Waterbury	10%	96	10
10	Athol	67%	21	14
12	New York	0%	31	0
13	Chicago	0%	12	0
14	Cicero	0%	10	0
17	So. Boston	2%	41	1
17S	So. Boston	25%	32	8
19	Pittsburgh	5%	39	2
25	Cleveland	11%	28	3
25S	Cleveland	95%	40	37
26	Worcester	3%	145	4
27	Norwood	0%	8	0
29	Newark	0%	100	0
30	Westfield	0%	29	0
36	Chicago	11%	74	8
41	Brooklyn	0%	28	0
41S	Brooklyn	0%	25	0
52	Elizabeth	0%	23	0
61	Paterson	0%	4	0
67	Bayonne	0%	4	0
78	Lawrence	0%	11	0
79	Detroit	65%	181	117
82	Gary	0%	2	0
90	Kearny	0%	18	0
96	Dayton	0%	93	0
100	Amsterdam	73%	37	28
102	Detroit	0%	41	0
103S	Providence	0%	14	0
109	Great Neck	0%	21	0
111S	Youngstown	0%	17	0
112	Chicago	97%	156	151
113	Linden	0%	23	0
116	So. Worcester	0%	52	0
133	Los Angeles	0%	5	0
133S	Los Angeles	55%	33	18
135	Ansonia	0%	50	0
139	Detroit	0%	27	0
	Chicago Seniors	0%	39	0
	Pittsburgh Seniors	0%	2	0

NOTE: C-6 Hartford informed the Nat'l. Sec'y. that are no longer active; C-18 Cambridge, no dues received for 1967; C-24 Chicago, no longer has any members so council is officially dropped.



55TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

PLAN TO ATTEND!



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR NOW!**

August **22-25**



Some of "Our Committee Chairmen" at work. (l to r) Helen Shields, Alberta Bekeris, Ronnie Ozalis, John Mickunas, Irene Svekla, Dianne Beletsky, Walter Svekla, Agnes Mickunas. Standing: Joe Yanulaitis and Irene Ozalis.

Lithuanian affairs chairman gave a report and urged membership to keep up their good work in this phase.

The Spiritual committee report brought forth a suggestion that in the future our spiritual director, Rev. Peter Zemeikis, give short discourse on topics such as Christian Doctrine, the vernacular changes, etc.

It was announced that the annual Communion and Breakfast of the district would be held at Newark, N.J. on Sun., Mar. 10th, with C-29 as hosts. The district meeting would take place on the same day. The Event would also be a commemoration of the feast of our patron St. Casimir. The meeting closed with the singing of the K of L Hymn and prayer by president Janonis.

We wish at this time to express our sincere thanks to C-12 for the hospitality to delegates and guests while in their midst.

Notes on the cuff: Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Virginia Dutkus and Joseph Drumstas on their becoming engaged. Miss Dutkus is a member of C-61 Paterson and vice president of our district while Joseph Drumstas is a member of Worcester, Mass., C-26 and a past trustee of the Supreme Council... Our heartfelt condolences and sympathy are offered to Jack and Louis Stukas and the entire Stukas family in the recent passing of their father; may he rest in peace... Condolences also to Mrs. Ann Jatis (Juozaitis) as well as other members of family and relatives in the passing of her husband Jack L. Jatis. The deceased was past national president of the Knights of Lithuania and an honorary member as well, and did much to promote the good and welfare of our organization and was a familiar figure at all of our national conventions. He will be sorely missed; please remember him in your prayers... Condolences also offered to Newark C-29 president Kazys Strolis, Mrs. Anna Pocius and other relatives in the recent passing of their mother Ursula Strolis. May she rest in peace.

AMSTERDAM, N.Y., C-100 Smile and Sparkle

C-100 held its annual Christmas banquet at the Chelsea House, Sun., Dec. 17th. The dinner was opened with a prayer offered by Rev. Anthony Grigaitis. After dinner, President Donald Nikstenas turned the program over to Attorney A. C. Stokna, who was the Master of Ceremonies for the affair. Speakers included the Rev. Bernard Bustas, Troy, N.Y., Rev. John Ruokis, Canajoharie, N.Y., Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Dr. Aldona Baltch, Michael Kerbelis, and Matthew Kazlauskas.

Guests drew Christmas candy canes which listed prophecies for 1968. Prizes were won by: Milda Zemaitis, Ann Kutchis, Sadie Karbus, Rev. Bernard Gustas, Ruth Ralys, Marcella Rimkus, Isabelle Orante, Donald Holleran, and A.C. Stokna.

Christmas carols were sung in English and Lithuanian under the direction of Rev. Robert K. Baltch.

Present at the dinner were: Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Rev. Anthony Grigaitis, Rev. Bernard Gustas, Rev. John ruokis, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Beleckas, Mr. and Mrs. George Gravrogkas, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kerbelis, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ziausys, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Karbus, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Olechowski, Attorney and Mrs. A. C. Stokna, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Radzevich, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Kazlauskas, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lekutis, Mr. and Mrs. John Svedarckas, Mr. and Mrs. James Kazikaitis, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Ralys, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Orante, Mrs. Ann Kutchis, Mrs. Frances Kopranski, Mrs. Sophie Olbie, Miss Helen Radzevich, Assoc. Prof. Irene Wood, Troy, N.Y., Mrs. Anna Yunker, Mrs. Marcella Rimkus, Mrs. Susan Mikolaitis, Miss Genevieve Gobis, Mr. Donald Holleran, Mr. Peter Hayes, Mr. Joseph Olsauskas, Mr. William McCune, Mrs. Milda Zemaitis, Miss Milda Zemaitis, Mr. Donald Nikstenas.

In charge of the arrangements were: Genevieve Gobis, Sophie Olbie, Eleanor Olechoski, and Donald Nikstenas.

ILLINOIS - INDIANA DISTRICT

I-I DISTRICT

"Taitytė"

A nice way for Chicago to start out the New Year - was to host the Supreme Council Meeting, January 13th and 14th. Our New York-New Jersey visitors were President Al Wesley, Acting Secretary Nancy Kober and Public Relations Pro-Frank Vaskas. The Boston booster was Al Jaritis representing New England. Treasurer and guardian of our funds - Stella Sankal made a solo trip from Cleveland and 1st V.P. smiling Stan (Vaitkus) dropped in from Dayton. The Saturday meeting, which took place in the Sheraton Chicago Hotel's Tropical Room, was attended by the Chicago S. C. Board members Irene Sankus, our "Vytis" Editor; Leon Pauksta, Membership V.P.; Helen Zimmer, Financial Secretary; John Evans, District President, Eleanore Laurin, Trustee; Konnie Savickus, Legal Advisor; Jay Paulukonis, Scholarship Treasurer, (formerly of Worcester); Vince Samaska, I-I Dist. Public Relations; Leonard Simutis, Honorary Membership Chairman and Mrs. Emilija Pakalniskis, "Draugas" Vyčių Veikla Column Editor. District Board members who also attended were Father John Savukynas, Loretta Macekonis, Cis Matul, Joe Nausedas, Aleksandras Pakalniskis, Al Raubiskis and Estelle Rogers. The guests enjoyed a dinner in the Lake Ontario Room after the meeting and an informal social gathering in one of the suites where there was time to chit-chat and catch up on what's been going on in K of L circles everywhere. Frank Savickas, our Representative in the Illinois Legislature also dropped in later in the evening, with a few guests, to meet our visitors.

The Sunday schedule was crowded with quite a few stops. After Mass at Our Lady of Vilna Church, Father Savukynas invited the visitors for a bit of socializing at the parish rectory; a quickie cook's tour was made of the K of L building and a few phone calls were sandwiched in to check if the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)

ARE YOUR 1968 DUES PAID ?

SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING



During the recent Supreme Council meeting held at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel on Jan. 13th, the following were present: (l to r) seated: Konnie Savickus, Helen Zimmer, Stella Sankal, Nancy Kober, Al Wesey, Rev. John Savukynas, Leon Pauksta, Stan Vaitkus. Standing: Frank Vaskas, Estelle Rogers, Leonard Simutis, Irene Sankus, Al Jaritis, Joe Nausedas, Eleanore Laurin, John Evans, Alex. Pakalniškis, Emilija Pakalniškis, Jay Paulukonis, Cis Matul, Vince Samaska, Loretta Macekonis.



After the meeting, those in attendance enjoyed dinner at the Sheraton's Lake Ontario Room. (Upper left) Frank Vaskas, Stella Sankal, Leon Pauksta, Al Raubiskis. (Upper right) John Evans, Nancy Kober, Jay Paulukonis, Helen Zimmer, Al Jaritis, Irene Sankus, Leonard Simutis. (Lower right) Al Wesey, Eleanore Laurin, Stan Vaitkus, Cis Matul, Joe Nausedas, Loretta Macekonis, Father John Savukynas, Estelle Rogers.

(Photos on this page - Al Raubiskis)



Antanas Bacevicius Sr.
6944 So Maplewood
Chicago 29, Ill. 60629

Return Requested:

VYTIS
1625 W. Marquette Rd.,
Chicago, Ill. 60636

snowed - in La Guardia and Dayton Airports were open yet. After that was a kugelis and smorgasborg dinner at Sharko's, where much to the delight of Stan, Al and the others, Lithuanian was spoken in many dining sections and "Ilgiausiu metu" rang out loud and clear from an adjoining banquet area. Then Al, Nancy and Frank unpacked their snow shoes and spare wings, bade their farewells and headed for home. Stella, the wise one, took the train back to Cleveland. Irene Sankus served a nite cap or two at her home for the survivors who stayed on to say farewell to Al Jaritis and Stan Vaitkus later that evening. Now all that's left is pleasant memories and that anticipation of the next visit with our K of L friends from afar.

Of course the fun of the new year actually began with the Choir's big New Year's Eve Party. And boy did we ever ring out the old and welcome in the new. In spite of the 10 below zero temperature, the K of L building was filled to capacity. Vladas Paliulionis, Al Zakarka, Leon Pauksta and other committee members are

to be complimented for the arrangements. There was food and music aplenty with Al Matulis setting up the "spirits" and Joe Nausedas spreading the champagne cheer. The pace setters were some of our Seniors like Ignas Sakalas, Alex Budris and Teklė Norbut, but everyone started 1968 with the right swing.

CHICAGO, ILL., C-112 "Slim"

We would like to say how much we enjoyed all the delicious goodies and punch that Ruth Dagis made for our last meeting. It was a real delight to have the caroling and sing-a-long with the council members.

Well, by about this time I think that we all have just about recovered from the New Years' Eve party. Vladas Paliulionis and his committee certainly did a great job. There were more hats, horn, streamers, and noise-makers than were seen by us for a while.

The count down was started by Pete Gagle and Al Zakarka. And then at the bewitching hour of 12:00 midnight (when Cinderella lost her shoe) 1968 was brought in with a toast of pink champagne.

Joe Nausedas made us feel as though there were no bottoms to our glasses. The champagne was so good that even Louis "Stilts" Rogers (our Root Beer drinker) had two glasses. Leon "The Sheik" Pauksta and Ed Krivickas and a couple of our other bachelors enjoyed wishing everyone a "Happy New Year" especially the ladies (the kisses were pleasurable).

Al Raubiskis, chairman of the bowling social, did a terrific job; setting up the bowling, arranging the tables at the hall and other miscellaneous preparations with his committee - Al Zakarka, Ed Krivickas and Leon Pauksta.

Julie Zakarka, who is a gourmet connoisseur, did a fabulous job of preparing Mostaccioli with meat sauce. It was a real delicious meal and we all went away feeling several pounds fuller.

We celebrated two birthdays at the board meeting: one for Joe Nausedas and the other for Lorraine Wainauskas. For some reason, neither of them could blow out their candles too easily - they're not that old - it's just trick candles that don't blow out. You have to drown them and you better believe it.

Mrs. Ludis Kairys, Mrs. Frank Zapolis and Mrs. Stanley Balzekas Jr. Mrs. Kairys and Mrs. Zapolis were co-chairmen for the reception given by the Art Council of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture at the opening of the exhibit of Vaclovas Ratas, prominent Lithuanian artist. Mrs. Balzekas is the wife of the museum's president. (Photo - J. Kasakaitis)

