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ŠV. ŠEIMYNOS BĖGIMAS Į EGIPTĄ

POV. DIRKIS

Kai Herodas sužinojo apie naujai gimusį Kūdiki, jo akys sužairavo pykčiu. Pasiuntinius, kurie jam tą žinią pranešė, liepė įmesti į kudrą krokodilų maistui. Mat jis galvojo, kad gali netekti iš Antipatro paveldėto vainiko; atseit ta žinia Herodo protą visai sumaišė. Jame užsiliepsnojo dydis pavydas. Jam rodėsi, kad jo vainikui iš gimusio vaikučio pusės grėsia didžiausias pavojus. Okas svarbiausias, kad rubino akmuo jam kalbėjo: Herodai, Antipro sūnau, žydu karaliau, ko dreivi? Jei žinai, kur tas kūdikis, kurį motina pagimdė pasauliui, kad viešpatautų tavo vietoje, išžudyk visus kūdikius. Štai tarpe karininkų yra juodas Manasenas, kuris trokšta kraujo. Jį pasiusk su budelių armiją į Betkurį saugo tik piligrimo senelio lazda ir silpnos moters ašaros.

Rubino akmuo nustojo kalbėti ir bute užviešpatavo tylą. Herodas sudavė į varinį varpą ir sušaukė visus dvariškius, ir pasakė: darykite ką jums išakysiu – šaukė Herodas. Ir kol sužibės rytojais vakaro danguje pirmoji žvaigždė, kad mano karalystėje neliktų nei vieno pirmagimio. Mano ir Herodijados sūnus irgi turi žūti – nenoriu ir jo savo akimis matyti. Taip aš noriu, taip išakau ir taip turi būti padaryta.

Prasidėjus vaikų egzekucijai, Herodas atsistojo mozaika išklotame lange ir patenkintas klausėsi motinų verksmų ir vaitojimų, kurie girdėjosi Judėjos žemėje. Gulėdamas ant nepaprasto puošnumo pagalvių, kas valandą Herodas priminėjo pasiuntinius su pranešimais. Kaip įrodymas buvo atnešami jam pilni indai nužudytų mažųjų kūdikių kraujo. Susierzinęs garuojančiu krauju, Herodas

ėmė jame maudytis. Ir juo tolyn, juo jis labiau siuto ir nekantriai kaukė pranešimo iš Betliejaus, į kurį buvo nusiuntęs žvairą Manasę. Budeliai turėjo atsirasti prie stainelės dar prieš aušrą ir naujągimį kūdikį nužudyti.

Bet kaip tik pasigirdo balsas: Kelkimės ir bėkim! Marija matė, kaip geraširdis senukas Juozapas išvedė iš tvarto pilką asilėlį ir apkrovė jį krepšiais bei paėmė į rankas kelionės lazda.

Ką darai? – paklausė jo Marija tyliu ir švelniu balsu. Juozapas atsakė: gelbėkim kuo greičiausiai kūdikį! Jį persekioja budeliai! Turim iš čia bėgti – rodydamas į pabalnotą ramaus asilėlio nugarą. Marija irgi buvo pasiruošus. Naktis buvo klaiki. Vėjas nešė iš tolumos gąsdinantį laukinių žvėrių kaukimą – staugimą. Prieš Betliejaus stainelę buvo išstysusi didelė ir tamsi tyrumų berybė. Debesys laikė uždengę žvaigždes. Tačiau iš rytų brėkstelėjo švieselė.

Susijaudinusi Marija pažiūrėjo į tyliai alsuojantį Kūdiki ir atsargiai priglaudus prie krūtinės vos, vos susilaikė nepaglosčiusi, nepabučiavusi, nes nenorėjo jo pabudinti iš saldaus miego.

Miegok, mažyti, miegok! Marija kuždėjo sau: tegul tavo akutės nemato tos liūdnos ir baisios valandos. Ir kuo gi tu kaltas vaikeli, kad tave nuo užgimimo valandos persekioja blogybė ir neteisybė? Kodėl tavęs jie ieško, – kodėl piktai galybė nori man tave atimti – vienintelį mano džiaugsmą? Miegok mano mažyti ir būk ramus! Marija buvo pilnai pasiruošus kelionei ir laikė prie krūtinės priglaudus kūdikį.

Toje tamsioje prieblandoje Juozapo veidas švitėjo nuostabia

šviesa. Marija prisiminė tą valandą, kai Nazarete prieš ją atsistojo angelas Gabrielis ir, kai tokia pat šviesa per lango stiklus užliejo jos kūną. Lygiai tokia škaisti. O kai ji išėjo iš namo, žmonės kalbėjo: "Ši mergelė atrodė lyg žėrinti auksu aušrai!" Ta begalinė šviesa juos pakindavo. Ir dabar ta pati angeliška šviesa spindėjo Juozapo veide. Beto, šv. Šeimynos globėjo judesiai buvo tokie greitai ir gražūs, atrodė, kad jo rankos su sparnais. O kai Juozapas ką kalbėjo – balse skambėjo nežemiška išmintis.

Laikas bėgo. Blanco rytai, Pilkos uolos dar tebesnaudė tolimybėje. Marija dar kartą pažiūrėjo į tuščias ėdžias, kur ant šieno buvo atspausťas mažo kūdikio atvaizdas į stainelės slenkstį, prie kurio neseniai klūpojo trys iš rytų išminčiai ir atnešė kūdikėliui dovanų ir tuos takelius, žolė apaugusius, kuriais pirmieji atbėgo kūdikį pasveikinti piemenėliai. Gaila buvo skaisčiai Motinai palikti tą vietą, su kuria tiek daug brangių atminimų ją rišo. Marija giliai atsiduso. O jos atsidusimas sukėlė gamtoje nerimą. Atrodė, kad tai tūkstančiai medžių būtų gailiai sušlamėję.

Tai tokioje gamtos aplinkoje šv. Šeimyna apleido Betliejų. Jai bebūnant kelyje tuojau pabudo danguje aušra. Marija atsigrežus pamatė rausvo purpuro rytus ir besisklaidantį ant Jeruzalės rūką. Žibantys bažnyčių-šventyklų bokštai maudėsi kraujo pašvaistėse. Rūpestingai apdangščiusi miegantį sūnelį Marija savo kvapu šildė jo veidą. Tai buvo šaltas rytas ir ant jų krito stambūs, stikliniai rasos lašai.

(Continued on page 4)

Lithuanians in OLYMPICS REPRESENT THEIR OPPRESSORS

Eleven Lithuanians took part in the Olympic Games in Mexico City. They won eight medals: one gold, two silver and five bronze - a very good ratio for a small team. But there is a tragic difference between the Lithuanians in Mexico City and the representatives of, say, Switzerland and Belgium. While other small countries - including former possessions of the Western colonial powers - proudly displayed their colors and medals, the name of Lithuania was not mentioned. In an act of supreme irony and humiliation, the LITHUANIANS IN MEXICO CITY HAD TO REPRESENT THE COUNTRY WHICH OPPRESSES THEM - THE SOVIET UNION.

Six Lithuanian oarsmen participated in the rowing competition. Apolinaras Grigas was one of the two men in double sculls. The 23-year old student of journalism has considerable international experience behind him and was European champion in 1967.

Lithuanians provided five oarsmen for the eights. They all won bronze medals when their eight arrived third. The senior member among them is Zigmantas Jukna, three time winner of European championship. Others are: Vytautas Briedis, Juozas Jogelavičius, and Antanas Bagdanavičius. Both the double sculls and the eights were trained by Ričardas Vaitkevičius, participant at the Tokyo olympics. Significantly, the Soviet fours were staffed by Latvians.

Danielius Pozniakas took the gold medal in the light heavyweight class. In boxing, heavyweight Jonas Cepulis won silver medal after being defeated in a gruelling fight by George Forman of the U.S.

Stasys Saparnis was a tough competition in pentathlon. A medal-winner in the world pentathlon championship in 1967, he was one of the leading competitors in Mexico City and received a silver medal as a member of the Soviet pentathlon team which won the second place.

Modestas Paulauskas of international fame was one of the outstanding players of the Soviet basketball

team. According to his coach: "Modestas is 23 years old. He has been playing basketball since he was 15. He is a universal basketballer: he can play defense, attack and even center. He is distinguished for his powerfull, technically smooth breakthroughs, impossible to stop by the defenders. Modestas is one of the most strong-willed basketballers in the world. In the most difficult situations, he is able to take the initiative and thus to inspire his teammates." Paulauskas has been entered into the symbolic world All-Stars team.

The good showing of the Cuban basketball team was partly due to the coaching of Stepas Butautas, an olympic veteran and member of the Soviet basketball team (together with J. Lagunevičius, K. Petkevičius, and S. Stankus) that won the silver medal in the Helsinki Olympic Games in 1952. Butautas managed to wield a reasonably strong team from rather inexperienced players. Not surprisingly, the Cubans used the Lithuanian basketball style - fast break and quick passing.

The success of Butautas has made him a much sought after coach. Peru, for instance, has been trying to sign him to coach their basketball All Stars. So far Butautas' resolve is to go back to Lithuania and to transmit his rich basketball experience to young Lithuanians.

In addition to the Lithuanians, the Soviet Olympic team featured a dozen each of Latvians (Janis Lusins, javelin) and Estonians (Rein Aun, decathlon, Tonu Lepic, broad jump).

The American sportcasters (especially the Associated Press and ABC TV) hardly covered themselves with glory in their coverage of the Soviet team. The Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian athletes were constantly referred to as "Russians". It would seem that in this day and age even sports reporters should have elementary knowledge of history and geography.

(ELTA)

(Continued from page 3)

Juozapas klausė: dėl ko dangus šiandieną verkia? Taip jis verkia, nes šiandieną yra ašarų diena, jis pats sau atsakė ir prisiminė kai jam Viešpaties angelas sapne apreiškė, kad bus karaliaus Herodo įsakymu, išžudyti visi Betliejaus pirmagimiai. Beto, jį išpėjo, kad keltųsi ir bėgtų į gražią Egipto šalį. O Marija tik džiaugėsi, kad kiekvienas asiliuko žingsnis nešė jos vaikelį tolyn nuo budelių rankų. Saulė jau aukštai užkopė dangaus skliautuose. Prieš jų akis išsitiesė išgrįstas aukso spinduliais ir žalia žolė kelias. Jie traukė per gražią Hebrono pa-

kalnę, tarp šv. Jono ir alyvų medžių, tarp Judėjos kalnelių. Kad ir tokioje gražioje gamtos aplinkoje vis dėlto šv. Seimyna alko. Marijos akyse žibėjo nuovargis.

Saulė nepaprastai liepsnojo vidurdienyje. Medžių šešėliai pasidarė labai trumpi. Svilino nepaprastas karštis. Visa pietų gamta tiesiog sunkiai dūsavo nuo karščio. Marijos ir vaikelio veidai degė, lūpos džiuvo, akys ašarojo. Marija savimi nesirūpino, bet rūpinosi kaip padėti mažyčiui. Tuo tarpu Juozapas nusilenkė pamatė kelio viduryje, kur niekas neauga, platų lapą, kurį pakėlęs rado lašelių vandens, kuris ne tik apkepu-

sias lūpas kūdikiui suvilgė, bet ir širdelę atgaivino. Mažutis pravėrė akis. O Marija tik žiūrėjo į jį ir džiaugėsi.

Tą vakarą pirmutinė žvaigždė, kuri iš aukštybių pažiūrėjo į žemę, negalėjo atsistebėti iš to, ką matė. Vaikelis ramiai miegojo prie motinos krūtinės, o raudonas nusileidžiančios saulės spindulys nudažė geltonai Marijos plaukus. Visa Hebrono pakalnė griežtė nuostabią spalvų simfoniją. Marija pasilenkus prie vaikelio ir pasiklausius lygaus jo kvėpavimo, tyliai niuniavo: mik mažulėli, išlikęs gyvas ir nepalistas Herodo budelių rankų.

LITHUANIAN NEW YEAR'S CUSTOMS

PROF. JACK J. STUKAS

In greeting the New Year, Lithuanians hoped that the New Year, would be more prosperous, and happier than the past one. They not only hoped, but also tried to predict what the New Year would bring. For example, one member of the family group would dress himself in old, worn-out clothes, while a pretty daughter would dress herself in new clothes. The New Year would be greeted by ousting the person with the old clothes from the home, and permitting the newly-attired maiden to enter. Then the other members of the family would turn over their drinking glasses on the table and throw the empty bottles into a heap in the corner. The men would rush outside and start carousing and wrestling. Each man attempted to subdue the other, for it was said that the winner would have good luck the remainder of the year. When all returned inside, the lady of the house would place a new tablecloth on the table, and bring an assortment of new foods and beverages. The head of the house would drink a toast, first, followed by the hostess. What remained would be thrown up to the ceiling.

The youth would make merry until midnight. Even the youngsters were awakened at midnight so that they would not sleep away their opportunity for good fortune. Having met the New Year, everyone continued to make merry, and wished one another well. Later various shenanigans would begin... the boys would dress like girls, the girls like boys, others would don costumes imitating bears, goats and other animals. The entire village would participate in these halloween-type festivities, rituals, and playlets symbolizing the end of the old year, and beginning of the new. To mark the end of the old year, in some areas a nail was hammered into the wall, and an animal's horn hung on it.

The New Year in Lithuania was also steeped in legend as well as fantasy and paganistic beliefs. It was said that at midnight the spirits of the dead also awakened. The old pagan Lithuanians believed that at the end of the year the dead had to be fed. In the Lithuania Minor or East Prussia sector, fires were left burning and benches placed near them so that the dead could warm themselves. It was said that in the morning footprints of the dead could be seen in the ashes.

New Year's Eve in Lithuania was also marked by games and stories of magic and prophecy. Two things were uppermost in mind: marriage, and death. Especially active in this sort of activity were the maidens of the village. For example, on New Year's eve, a maiden would sneak away from the family for a brief moment to the nearest crossroad, and with a

rake, level out the snow. In the morning, she would try to ascertain who went on his way during the night. If the wayfarer was on foot, she would marry a poor man; if he rode a steed, she would marry a wealthy person. If the wayfarer had moccasins, she would live a very humble life, and if he wore shoes, she would have everything in her future married life. But if no one passed during the night, this would mean she would not be married for another year.

It was also believed, in old Lithuania, that on New Year's Day it was possible to influence and forecast the success of the year's crop and the husbandry of the animals. If four glasses of beer were consumed in unison, each sheep would have four lambs.

If dogs were punished on New Year's Day, during the New Year they would not be faithful and watchful of prowlers. If one fell from his horse or carriage, then the year would bring a good grain crop. If you were the first to arrive home from church on New Year's Day, then you would be the first in all tasks for the year, and would be the first to harvest the grain. Favorable weather on New Year's Day would indicate a prosperous year. Fair weather signified that the summer would bring a bountiful harvest; a starry sky - a good increment of animals; a snowy day - the cows would give much milk during the year.

There are many, many more Lithuanian legends, beliefs, fantasies and stories concerning the New Year. Those that I have mentioned should suffice to indicate that the Lithuanians of old met the New Year in a jovial, festive and indeed unique manner.

IN THE WINTER

I love the snowflakes falling white
More than twinkling stars
Though they are our night's companions -
They're from us so far!

I love to open my house door;
The guest snowflakes I do invite...
My heart is chanting. Life's burden is light
When all the fields are white.

When the white veil enwraps the earth
I think - she is my bride
More beautiful than the sleeping swan
Which reed does hide.

Ben. Rutkūnas

THE LITHUANIAN NATIONAL REVOLT of 1941

A. M. Budreckis
Published by Joseph Ka-
počius, Lithuanian En-
cyclopedia Press (Book
Review by A. V. Snieč-
kus) So. Boston, Mass.

Historical accounts of World Wars I and II are again gaining the public's interest. The "Guns of August," an account of WW I German military movements and "The Thousand Hour Day" dealing with WW II Poland, are illustrative of these works. To this be added "The Lithuanian National Revolt of 1941" by Algird Budreckas.

English speaking people will find Mr. Budreckas's book enlightening and significant. Enlightening because it focuses attention on a geographical area of Europe that is perhaps less known to most Americans than Korea in June of 1950; significant because of the detailed portrayal of events and

personalities that Western historians have scant and frequently misleading information.

In view of the modest amount of English language literature available on Lithuania, not to delve into its style or quality, the refreshing pace of "Lithuanian National Revolt" is gratifying to the casual reader - "Sunday night was gloomy; the Kaunas streets were filled with retreating Red Army men as well as armed rebels... Would there be a fight for Kaunas? Would the Lithuanian Activist Front stage the revolt? ... Dawn was breaking. Finally the revolt commenced. A small party started out from Vilijampolė to Senamiestis. It crossed the Neris River by boat and hurried to the designated police station, dressed in civilian clothes, grenades and revolvers bulging in their pockets. The precinct station was surrounded and occupied ... thus was formed the Senamiesties partisan staff." The analysts will readily obtain objective data - 'the Stockholm paper Afton Bladet confirmed that the revolt embraced all three Baltic States, that there were 150,000 insurgents in the Bal-

tic States creating difficulties for the Russians with widespread sabotage." The import of the following passage will draw analysis from every reader - "... the Germans were faced with the fact that over 100,000 armed Lithuanian patriots had demonstrated that they knew how to fight and die for their country ... the Germans were forced to consider... the determined will of the Lithuanian nation and accept the facts."

Thus with style, authority and depth, the author relates the Lithuanian National Revolt of 1941. The reader will muse at Machiavellian tactics employed by the Nazis and Communists and occasional subtle humor. There are paragraphs that call for more attention to detail while others are redundant at times. The two maps should have been more detailed so as to permit the reader to trace the events of the book for a better understanding of the partisan movements. However, the volume in its entirety serves as an invaluable contribution to the academic community. It renounces beyond dispute, Soviet contemporary attempts to rewrite the history of Lithuania.

Sister M. Jurgita

RETURN

The waters are exhausted,
bridges are needed no longer.
Let us go through the drought
to the promised land.

Bridges are needed no longer,
the steps of my Father,
remaining at the bottom of the sea,
lead home.

The darkness confuses
the steps of my Father.
How can I return
when I do not see them?

FRIENDSHIP

A dark infinity pours out
with the sleep of night.

I will taste cold,
dreamless bread.
I will hold it in my hands
and break it,
leaving some for another.

He will come with dawn-
a face unseen in dreams -
we will both eat
at one table.

EVENING

Fallen fruit trees
press their golden tribute
to the earth.

To be united again,
again to revive
the morning
and to begin again
with a light heart.

But the wind shatters,
the storm tears apart,
and there is no more fruit.

(Translated by: Antanas V. Saulaitis)

Lithuanians in The

NEWS



Bendruomenės Balso programos redakcinis kolektyvas 1968 metais minint dešimties metų veiklos sukaktį. Iš kairės: H. Savickas, M. Kaulinytė, S. Jurskytė, V. Muraska, J. Skladaitis, E. Saulytė (L.V. Garbės Narė), R. Krušinskienė, A. Gaigalaitė ir A. Gaigalas. (Nuot. V. Gruzdžio)



BALZEKAS MUSEUM OF LITHUANIAN CULTURE. (Upper left) K of L members visit museum and view IID award presented to Stanley Balzekas, Jr. L-R: Irene Sankus, "Vytis" Editor, Anthony Yuknis, designer of K of L commemorative stamp, John G. Evans, IID Board Chairman and Mr. Balzekas. (Upper right) Museum directors and K of L members, Vincent Samaska (left) and Dr. A. Jerome received 'Zemaitės Raštai' from author, Liudas Kairys (center). (Lower left) Barbara Norkunas, award winning Lithuanian artist presented her art exhibit last December.





SENUŠ PALIEKANT IR NAUJUS SUTINKANT

Nesustojanti ir nesustabdoma laiko tėkmė ir vėl nusinešė amžinybėn vienerius metus. Besižvelgant po juos, be abejo, prisimename, kad juose buvo nemažai įvairumo ir visokių nuotykių: smagių ir nesmagių, gerų ir blogų. Šioje šalyje neramaus būdo gyventojai griovė miestus - juos degino, visuomenėje įvedė nesugyvenimą, ideologinę kovą. Plačiame tautų ir valstybių gyvenime nepadaryta jokio progreso taikos linkme, o atbulai atgijo tautų naikinimas, pav. Čekoslovakijos, neleidžiant savų tautinių aspiracijų reikšti ir t.t.

Mūsų gi tautiniame gyvenime buvo padaryta nemaža ir gerų darbų: buvo suruošta Šokių šventė, palikusi nepaprastų išpūdžių; įvyko pasaulinis lietuvių seimas, kuriame po visus kontinentus išsiblaškę mūsų tautiečiai dalyvavo ir išsirinko keturiems metams valdybą; įvyko mūsų organizacijos - Lietuvos Vyčių - istorinis 55 seimas Philadelphijoje, palikęs neišdildamos pėdsakius, paliktus prie istorinio JAV varpo, išrenkant naują centro valdybą, su dideliu patriotu ir aukštos erudicijos vyru prof. dr. J.J. Stuku priešakyje. Dedama daug vilčių, kad naujai išrinktam pirmininkui vyčiai pakils ne tik laiškų rašime, bet ir kultūrinėje veikloje.

Tačiau naujieji metai, kad ir neša daug gerų vilčių, bet tamsūs šešėliai kelia gąsdinančią grėsmę, nes tarptautinė padėtis nieko gero nežada ne tik lietuvių kenčiančiai tautai, bet ir visam pasauliui, jo žmonijai, kurios maža dalimi ir mes esame.

Nežiūrint visų tų grėsmių, mes įpareigoti Aukščiausiojo gyventi ir dirbti ne tik sau, bet ir savajai lietuvių tautai, bei savajai vyčių organizacijai, dėl kurios įkurimo ne vienas padėjo savo gyvybę. O ypač šiomet, kai yra įvedama Mirusiųjų Vyčių pagerbimo ir prisiminimo šventė.

Gerai žinome iš gyvenimo patyrimo, kad nei laimė, nei geresnis būvis patys savaimė neatsiranda ir kad žymioji dalis, mes patys, tą gerį sukuriame savo intensyviu darbu ir triūsu. Labai dažnai susiduriame su visokiais nesmagumais, liūdesiais, nepasisekimais, kurie užtemdo tą laimės siekimą. Tokiaime momente privalome parodyti atsparumą ir tęsti savo kasdienes darbus ir siekti užsibrėžto tikslo, kaip siekė mūsų vyčiai pirmūnai, kurdami šią organizaciją.

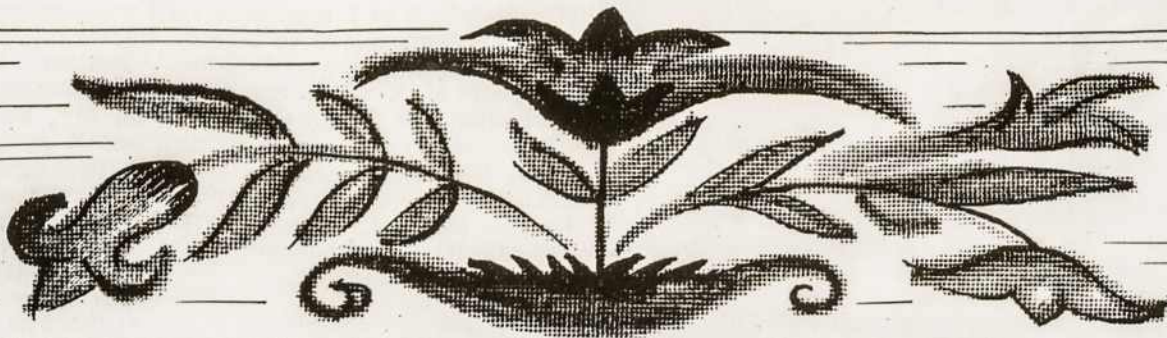
Geresnė ateitis ir dabar priklauso mums patiems, žinoma, jeigu savo darbais, kūryba dalyvausime. Tuos, kurie nepajėgia akių pakelti į aukštumas ir išgyventi į

ateities reikalavimus, pati istorija išmes ir sunaikins.

Už tai, žengiant per Naujų Metų slenkstį, reikia kuo daugiausiai to uždegančio ryžto, kuris visus stumte stumtų į aktyvų darbą, į tikslo siekimą, į užsibrėžtą laimėjimą.

Įžengus į Naujus Metus tektų atkreipti rimtą dėmesį į mūsų "Vyti", kuris yra mūsų veiklos ir kultūrinio gyvenimo avangarde. Gerų norų jį skaityti neužtenka. Laikas jau jam parūpinti finansinę paramą - pakelti prenumeratą ir aprūpinti kondensuoto turinio raštais. Atseit, reikia pasiryžti būti redaktorės talkininkais. Kadangi "Vyti" yra mūsų tarnas, tai ir jo atlyginimas neturi būti ignoruojamas. Iš "Vyties" daug reikalaujame, bet "Vyties" redakcija iškelia savo reikalavimus. Lieka kurčios daugumos ausys. Dabartinėmis gyvenimo sąlygomis turėtume būti jautrūs savajam organui. Juk kiekvienas vytiš, o ne kas kitas yra savojo žuranlo, savosios spaudos ramstis. Tad visi su nauju užsimojimu naujuose metuose pradėkime remti "Vyti" pinigais, raštais, korespondencijomis, nuotraukomis ir t.t.

POV. DIRKIS



Profile...

Meet OUR NATIONAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

FATHER Albert Contons



It is difficult to summarize Father Contons' many accomplishments in the community of Boston and his many activities among the Lithuanians of the United States. He has always been an able leader and organizer. His heart is ever on fire with the love of God and an attachment to the land of his father and mother - LITHUANIA with its language and customs.

He prepared himself for the seminary by attending Boston Latin School. From 1941 to 1948 he studied at St. John's Seminary, Boston, and was ordained a priest of God in Holy Cross Cathedral by Richard Cardinal Cushing on May 6, 1948.

His first assignment was as curate in St. Peter's Lithuanian parish, South Boston. In 1953 he was

appointed instructor at St. Sebastian's Country Day School, Newton, Mass., where he teaches French at the present time. Since 1962 he has also been serving as chaplain of the Cenacle Convent in Brighton, Mass.

Father Contons continued his academic interests at Boston College, where he received the M.A. degree in Economics in 1953, and at Laval University, Quebec, where he pursued advance studies in French during the summers of 1962-1964.

He has devoted himself untiringly to the Lithuanians, and the Lithuanian Catholic Press, especially the VYTIS. From 1952 to 1961 he served as National Spiritual Director of the Knights of Lithuania. In 1958 he wrote a booklet entitled ST. CASIMIR on the 500th anniversary of the Saint's birth. During the summer of 1960 Father Contons led a K of L Pilgrimage to the Eucharistic Congress in Munich.

In 1960 Father Contons was appointed by Cardinal Cushing to serve as President of the Auxiliary of the Sisters of Jesus Crucified. During his term of office (1960-1967) he assisted the sisters in raising funds for the construction of their new Motherhouse chapel and for St. Joseph's Manor Nursing Home in Brockton, and presently serves on their Lay Advisory Board.

During his spare time (vacations) Father goes skiing up in New Hampshire and Vermont, and enjoys swimming near the Cape, travel, and tennis, of which he is the coach at St. Sebastian.

Much of Father Contons' priestly life has been devoted to youth. Especially grateful are our young Lithuanian Americans, and our newcomers of recent years who found in him an understanding, warmhearted and tireless advisor.

PHYLLIS M. GRENDAL



OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

SUPREME COUNCIL MEETS

The Officers and Chairmen of the Supreme Council met at the Sheraton-Boston Hotel in Boston, Mass., on January 12th. A report to the membership will appear in a subsequent issue.

DUES PAYMENTS - 1/5/68

C #	City	% PD	1968	1969
17	So. Boston	21%	43	9
18	Cambridge	-	0	1
26	Worcester	13%	113	15
79	Detroit	28%	213	60
100	Amsterdam	83%	35	29
112	Chicago	43%	169	72
Pgh. Seniors		100%	2	2
Cleve. Seniors		57%	37	21
New York Seniors		29%	21	6

ELECTIONS

All Districts and Councils should have held their election of new officers during the months of September and October. To date, the national recording secretary HAS NOT received the names and addresses from Many of the councils and districts.

Your national officers and committee chairman will be able to operate on a more efficient basis IF the current officers' names are available to them. YOUR cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

RULES FOR THE 1968-1969 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, 1968.

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 1, 1968, until April 1, 1969.

Earn FIVE points for each new or rejoin member you enroll thereafter until July 10, 1969.

Membership totals will be supplied by the national financial secretary according to her records as of August 1, 1968. Council awards will be presented for the greatest percentage of per capita increase based on these figures.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our National Financial Secretary remind us that membership dues will be due in January, 1969. If a new member joins a Council the dues are as follows:

\$5.00 if the members join from
January - March
3.75 April - June
2.50 July - September
1.25 October - December

2.50 Non-Subscribing
7.00 Couple (first Year)

Dues should be collected for a FULL YEAR. Member record sheets and applications for new members are available without charge from the National Financial Secretary. Membership cards are available for social members at a cost of \$0.10 each.

K of L Calendar

JANUARY - 1969

- 5 - C-41 Brooklyn - Queens, 10TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION with Mass, Breakfast, Evening Program and Dance. Transfiguration Parish, Maspeth, N.Y.
- 11 - IID ANNUAL CHOIR DANCE, Pakstas Hall, Chicago, Ill.
- 12 - TELEVISION MASS sponsored by the NED, Cardinal Cushing TV Center, Boston, Mass.
- 12 - SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING, So. Boston, Mass.
- 31, 2/1 & 2/2 - C-3 Philadelphia, ANNUAL WINTER WEEKEND, Lake Harmony Lodge.

FEBRUARY

- 1 - C-36 Chicago, VALENTINE DANCE, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 9 - IID ANNUAL "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA" Banquet, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 15 - C-1 Brockton, ANNUAL SNOW-FLAKE BALL, Brockton, Mass.
- 22 - C-112 Chicago, CANDLELIGHT BOWLING PARTY, Laredo Lanes and K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

MARCH

- 2 - NY-NJD ST. CASIMIR DAY COMMEMORATION AND DISTRICT MEETING, Host C-109, Great Neck, N.Y.
- 2 - IID ST. CASIMIR DAY COMMEMORATION, Our Lady of Vilna Parish and K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 9 - IID QUARTERLY MEETING, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"LET'S MAKE 1969 a KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA YEAR! "

First of all, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the confidence placed in me, by the Knights of Lithuania, in electing me President at the Philadelphia Convention last year. I hope to prove worthy of this honor and distinction by giving the organization my very best, and to utilize and build on the programs the presidents who have preceded me have started.

In the New Year, I plan to assist our Vice President For Membership in fostering the organization of new councils and reviving weak or no longer existing ones. This should be done by concentrating on obtaining the full and needed cooperation of the pastors and priests of our various Lithuanian parishes throughout the country. We hope to prove to them by deed that the Knights of Lithuania are indeed worthy of their cooperation. One area in which we should give particular concentration is the coal mining region of Pennsylvania, which once comprised the hearth of Lithuanianism in America.

As I indicated at our last Supreme Council meeting in October, in Chicago, I plan to strengthen the team spirit in our organization, because only as a united, strong team - all pulling together toward the same goals and in the same direction, can our organization survive in this unsettled generation of dissent.

Above all, since the times in which we live demand we adapt, adjust and change in order to survive and to grow, together with my colleagues on the Supreme Council, we shall do our best to streamline not only the structure of the Knights of Lithuania, but also our procedures, projects and activities. In other words, we in the K of L similarly need the fresh air and modern spirit of Ecumenism that has led to needed and welcomed changes in the Catholic Church.

It has been repeatedly stated, that the Knights of Lithuania are concerned more with their own organizational matters, than with other Lithuanian organizations and their projects. Of course this is not true, but we should show the other organizations by means of an effective public relations program, just what we are doing and how very much we desire to and do cooperate in all worthwhile Lithuanian endeavors. Our support and participation must be made known to all by the various means available to us.

The Supreme Council should support and be an active part of numerous cultural activities, i.e., publishing books, organizing exhibits, producing various programs, and further expand the already broad breadth of our important Lithuanian Affairs Committee by not only writing letters, but helping



form delegations to visit political, civic and cultural leaders who can aid our cause.

As we are the inheritors of a great tradition, we must also take steps in being the logical inheritors - the benefactors - of the great Lithuanian Roman Catholic Alliance of America, by making membership in this insurance organization an attractive option for our K of L'ers, and by assisting this organization in its future direction. If we falter, then this great Alliance may falter for lack of youthful support.

In talking about youth, in the months ahead let us seek to make the generation gaps in our membership bridges and not walls in working toward our common goals. We should increasingly direct our energies and efforts to building a strong and viable Juniors Movement which is essential to our very existence and growth!

Yes, let's make 1969 a Knights of Lithuania Year; better still, a banner year for our K of L!

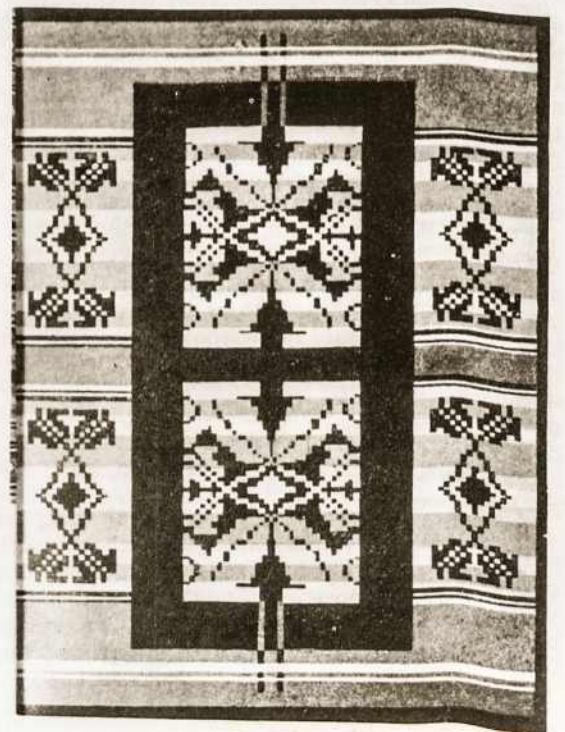
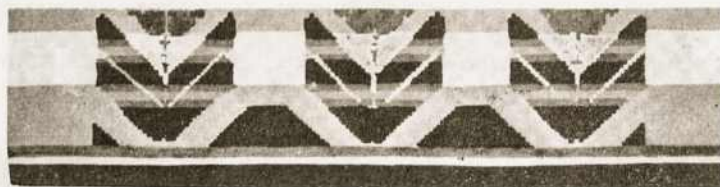
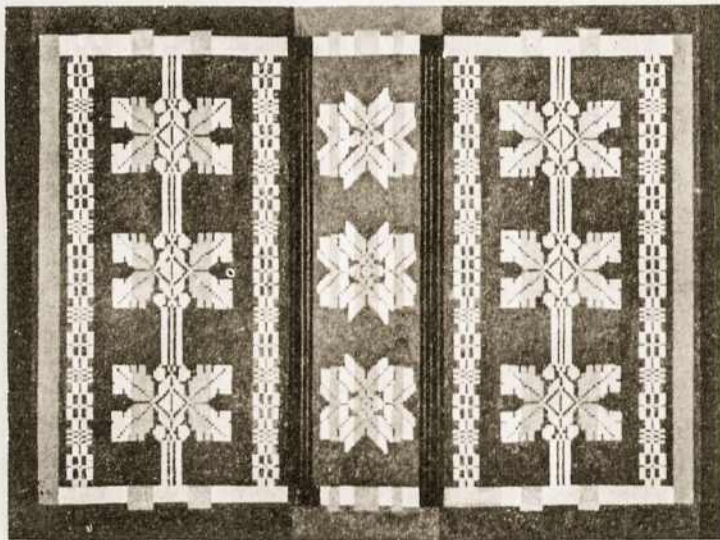
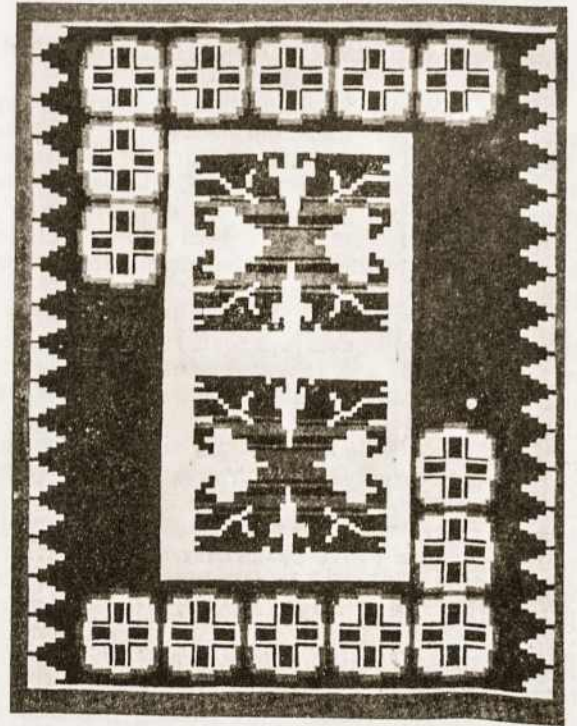
DR. PROF. JACK J. STUKAS
PRESIDENT

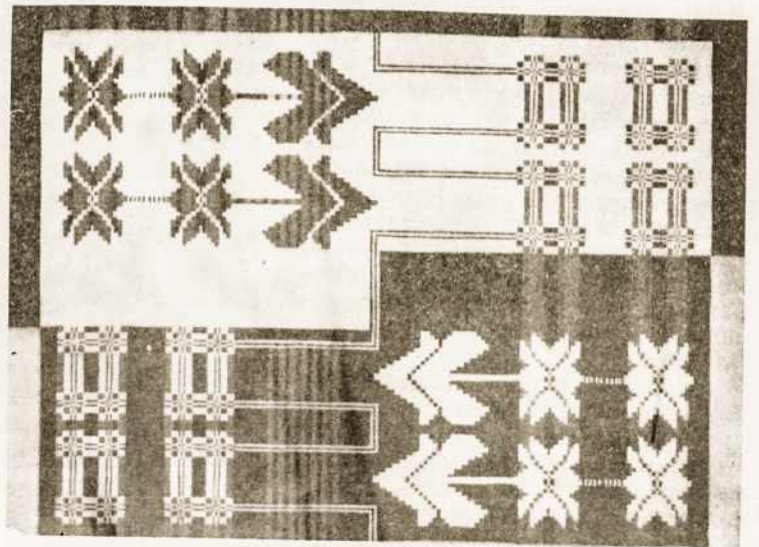
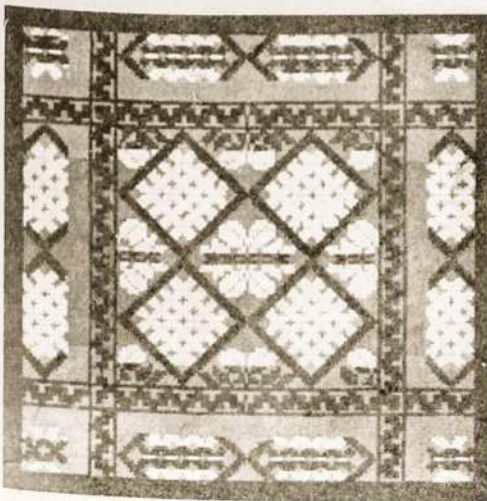
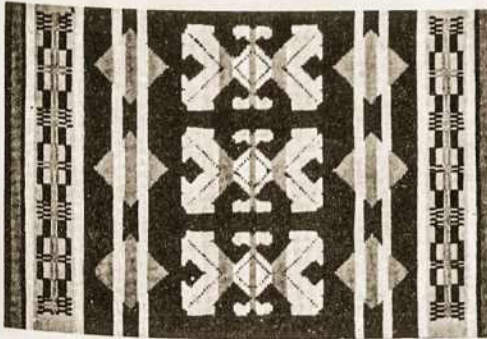
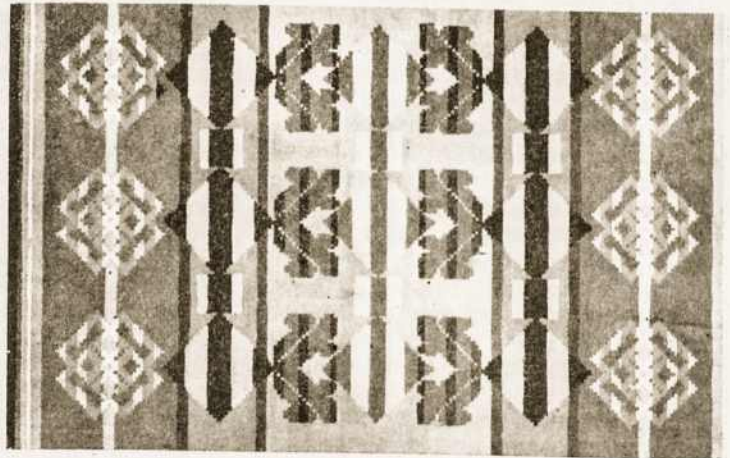
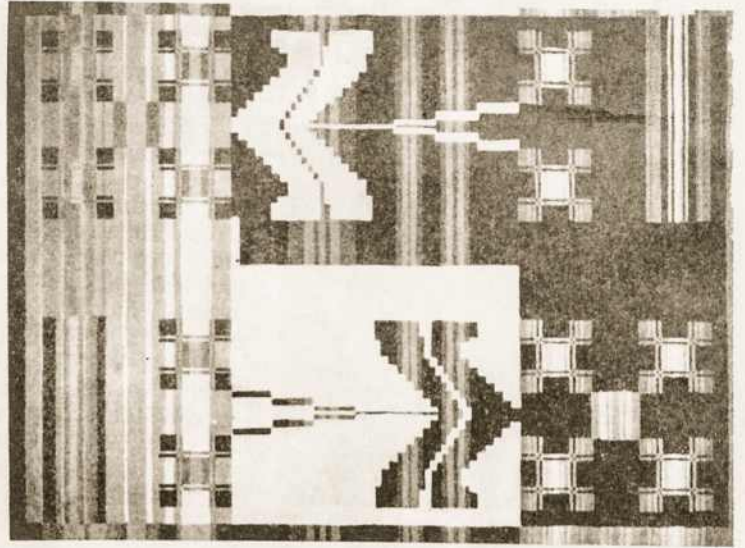
SUPREME COUNCIL
MEETING

Sunday, January 12
So. Boston, Mass.

LIETUVIŲ TAUTINIS MENAS

KILIMAI





IŠ SENDRAUGIŲ GYVENIMO



PALYDĖJUS AM ŽINYBĖN M. TARUTIENĖ, CLEVELAND, OHIO

A.a. Margarita Tarutienė mirė rugsėjo 24 d. ir buvo palaidota rugsėjo 28 d. A.a. velionė buvo gimusi rugp. 10, 1910 m. Vokietijoje, Essen mieste, bet po poros metų, jaunutė Margarita su tėveliais grįžo į Lietuvą, į Kybartus, Vilkaviškio apskrityje. Čia - savotėvynėje Lietuvoje užaugo, lankė pradinę mokyklą, priklausė įvairiems chorams, nes nuo mažų dienelių turėjo skambų balsą. Ji susipažino su Vincu Noreika ir jie sukūrė lietuvišką šeimos židinį, susilaukė dviejų dukrelių - Rasos ir Romos ir jas gražiai ir moksliskai augino iki komunistas rusas užpludo mūsų tėvynę Lietuvą - 1949 m. Margarita su savo šeima, kaip ir daugelis mūsų brolių ir sesių su ašaromis turėjo atsisveikinti su savo mylima tėvyne Lietuva ir laikinai prisiglaudė vakarų Vokietijoje, kur jos pirmas vyras Vincas Noreika mirė. Ji čia begyvendama su savo dviem dukrelėm, susitiko su Zigmū Taručiu, kuris irgi leido savo vargingas dienas. Margarita ir Zigmas Tarutis sumainė aukso žiedelius ir neužilgo gavę proga, 1951 m. apleido šią šalį ir su mažom dukrelėm, kaip ir kiti pabėgusieji iš tėvynės Lietuvos - atkeliavo į laisvės šalį - Ameriką. Ši lietuviškoji šeimynėlė, vienus metus išgyvenę Pittsburgh, Pa. atsikėlė į Clevelandą, kuriame gražiai išsikūrė vedė darnų lietuvišką šeimyninį gyvenimą.

A. a. Margarita kaip ir tėvynėje Lietuvoje priklausė Šv. Jurgio liet. parap. bažnyčiai chorui ir organizacijoms kaip A.L.R.K.M. Sąjungos 26-tai kp., A.L.K.S. 142-tai kp. ir vyčių senjorų kuopai,

kurioje a.a. Margarita daugiausiai dabavosi.

Jai esant pašarvotai kiekvina vakarą susirinkdavo didokas skaičius žmonių, o ypatingai vyčių senjorų. Vieną vakarą vyčiai buvo pakvietę kun. A. Goldikovskį, kad tėvelis atkalbėtų rožančių. Jų pirmininkas J. Sadauskas psakė jausmingą ir vytiškos dvasios atsisveikinimo kalbą. Ramovėnų vardu kalbėjo Knistautas, o Eidimantas - L. B. vardu. Šv. Jurgio parap. choras, vadovaujamas muz. Prano Ambrazo sugiedojo "Marija, Marija" ir "Iš šios mūs žemės, ašarų klonio". Vyčiai senjorai netik atkalbėjo rožančių su tėveliu Goldikovskiu, bet jie buvo užsakę dvejus Šv. Mišias ir didelį krepšį gyvų gėlių papuošti savo mielos narės karstą. Daug bendraminčių vyčių a.a. Margaritą palydėjo į kapus, nes jie jau žinojo, kad velionės širdyje visada giliai liepsnojo vyčių meilė ir jų idealai. Tai buvo aišku, nes ji ir karste gulėdama nesiskyrė su L. Vyčių org. ženkleliu. Su juo buvo ir palydėta į amžinybę.

Tėvelis Goldikovskis atnašavo šv. mišias šv. Jurgio parapijos bažnyčioje ir a.a. Margarita buvo palaidota All Souls kapinėse. Iš kapinių visi grįžo į Šv. Juozapo klubo salę, kur Zigmas Tarutis su šeima visus palydovus pavaišino ir visiems pareiškė gilų ir nuoširdų ačiū.

Liko nuliūdime vyras Zigmas, dvi dukteris - Rasa Sukienė su vyru ir Roma Tatarūnienė su vyru bei devyni anūkučiai. Geroji lietuve, motina ir vyte, tebūna tau ramybė Viešpatyje.

Senelis



Alex Budris, Chicago Seniors president, addressed guests at the K of L Bldg.



Clevelando Vyčiai didžiuojasi su Juozu Sadausku, matydami žurnalizmo medalį jam įteiktą per 55-tą Seimą, Philadelphijoje. Pirmoje eilėje - Stella Sankal, Juozas Sadauskas ir Mary Trainy. Antroje eilėje - Ignas Visockas, Antanas Maciokas, George Kuzas ir Ben Karklis.



Cleveland'o Sendraugių atstovės VCA Suvažiavime: Charlotte Petkūnienė, Julie Salasevičienė ir Rozė Sankalienė.



1969 Cleve. Sendr. Vald. 1-mojeil. A. Mačiokas, pirm., J. Salasevičienė, 2-ras v-p, I. Visockas, 1-mas v-p. 2-roj eil.: S. Sankal, išd., M. Trainy, nt.rašt., P. Zigmantas, marš., K. Sadauskas, fin.rašt., B. Karklius ir K. Petkūnas, patik.

JUNIOR NEWS



URGENT PLEA TO PARENTS - Let's Strengthen the Juniors

"What can I do to put life into our Junior organization?" is a question many of our members

are asking.

On January 1, 1969 you will be able to participate in a long range plan for quantity and quality goals.

The first step in the development of Juniors will be the establishment of clear and measurable goals. Goals unite the team and focus its efforts; they distinguish between ends and means. We can get excited about goals and their attainment.

MEMBERSHIP goals naturally come first. The total number of Juniors governs everything else, including the number of councils needed, the manpower (volunteer and professional) needed to establish and serve those councils, expansion of council service, and financial resources needed to ensure success for the entire expansion.

MEMBERSHIP growth must be accompanied by program enrichment. Such enrichment starts with trained counsellors capable of guiding boys and girls through an outstanding, relevant Junior Knight experience.

At the present time the Juniors have a strong framework, but we must expand this movement on which so many hopes and dreams depend. We have three overriding needs in meeting current responsibilities.

1. We need to make our Juniors more relevant to today's world. We need to be flexible - very flexible. We need not sacrifice one iota of principal, but we need to take a long and searching look at the packaging of Junior Knights so that it has meaning and appeal to all the boys and girls.
2. We need to recognize that we must have significant growth to guarantee JUNIORS existence. Growth is the language that all people understand as a measure of success.
3. We must strengthen our emphasis on the Catholic, American Lithuanian youth. It is imperative that we keep our youth in Lithuanian parishes.

Parents, you hold the key to the success of the above goals. Therefore I urge all of you to consider becoming active Junior counsellors. Please organize a new Junior council in your city. It is the duty of every parent to sign up his children into the Junior K of L, NOW. This is the only way we can keep alive the Knights of Lithuania spirit.

STANLEY J. VAITKUS
JUNIORS VICE-PRESIDENT

JUNIOR PROGRAM

The program of Activities of the Junior Council is determined by the Junior Counsellor, Spiritual Director, officers and members of the Junior Council. The Junior K of L Guide Book, which can be obtained from them Supreme Council 1st Vice President, contains many valuable suggestions. Suggestions given in the Guide Book should be used as much as possible, as they are the type of activities that will best acquaint the youth with the Knights of Lithuania Organization, its purposes, goals and ideals.

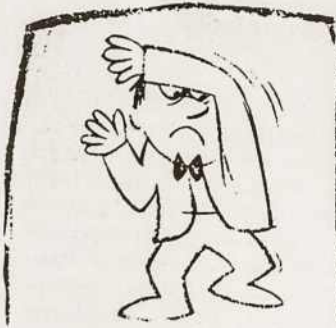
Special Note:

Juniors start planning for
CAMP DAINAVA NOW!

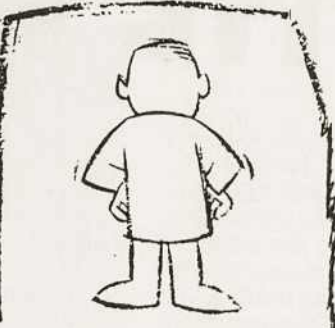
JUNIOR ANNOUNCEMENT
ALL JUNIOR COUNCILS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND
NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OFFICERS RECENTLY
ELECTED TO:

STANLEY J. VAITKUS,
ADDRESS INSIDE COVER

A FINANCIAL SECRETARY EARLY PROBLEM!



Don't fight it



Face the job



Send statements



Contact counts

DUES ARE DUE!

Yes, it's that time again! As a year begins anew so must we. It's the time for all of us to renew our memberships. We have all just been through costly Christmas shopping and, more than likely, expensive New Year entertainment. But, K of L dues payments surely will not bring any of us to public aid enrollments as well.

At this time of year, as far as the K of L is concerned, the important thing is getting those dues in. In fact, they are overdue.

To many of us dues are mainly a matter of just making the payment. How about the guy or gal who collects them? On the average, he's contacted you a number of times. He's probably sent out more than one dues notice to slower payers by now. He's made countless telephone calls. He's made personal reminders wherever K of L'ers may meet. That's your council financial secretary. Then, when he gets your dues, his other jobs begin. He must keep council records up-to-date, notify the supreme council financial secretary of payments, arrange for proper distribution of dues, confirm "Vytyis" renewals and mailing list additions. Your prompt dues payment is always gratefully appreciated. But, for financial secretaries, it is more difficult receiving than giving. Now that Holiday socializing has passed, many of us should find time to assist those always-working financial secretaries.

One easy, but important way, is to remind fellow members about dues payments. If you think back just a couple of short weeks, you probably met most of your council members at various Christmas or New Year parties, dances, banquets. But, during the casual conversations, did you mention dues? How many K of L'ers are greatly concerned whether others remain with the organization? Most may be concerned. But, a lot of them want only to belong to a good group. What percentage take time to assure that a good group exists? How many take time for some simple comment to others? "Say, have you paid your dues yet? Hasn't anyone told you we want to keep you as a member? Well, man, we sure do." Have any of us heard those words. Better yet, have any of us tried to say that to others. Or, even something similar. Not eloquent words surely. But, we all want to belong to some group - to be asked to belong - to be accepted.

Even today's most noticeable social dropouts seek friends. A hippie wants to be as hippie-dippie as any other hippie and accepted as a hippie by other hippies. On a more sensible level, any K of L'er want to hear once in awhile that he is needed in the K of L. No matter who we are certain basic needs do exist. One is social approval. - We want to belong. If we can not make present members feel this, how can we look for new members? Those three sentences in the paragraph above aren't much. You can probably make a better appeal. How about trying it?

Like that old saying, "Good financial secretaries don't fade away. But, why should they overwork another day?" You can provide the reason. Help to remind others about dues payments, that way you'll be helping the K of L and at least three others. You are remaining active. Someone else will stay a member. And a financial secretary knows he has help. He's a little bit happier with his job. You're a better K of L'er. That other member still feels welcome.

Meanwhile, there is recognition for you and your council too. Special awards will be presented again for membership at the next convention. The first councils in the four categories to be 100% paid up will get awards. There will also be awards for the new-member drive. But, do not forget those are based on net membership gains. In other words, you may have signed up quite a few members. But, it is also possible for your council to lose just as many because dues have not been received. Your council did not gain a thing. It barely managed to keep even. First, be sure that previous members are still K of L'ers. There is only one way to do that. Help get those dues in. But, do not let up. Then will be the time to get the new ones.

By the way fellow Vyčiai, have YOU paid your dues yet? Hasn't anyone reminded you you're one of us? Hasn't anyone told you we want you as a member this year? Well, you sure are one of us. And, we sure want you to stay with us.

LEON PAUKSTA
Membership Vice President

VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

DETROIT, MICH., C-79 SOFFI

Much has taken place since we last went to press. Our Detroit "Sock-it-to-em" Tigers are now World Champions and in the process have made "converts" and "believers" out of some of the seventy-niners.

On the other side of the fence we observed bows, belles and mini-skirts at C-79's Fashion Show, held in conjunction with our annual Bunco and Card Party at K-C Monaghan council, on Nov. 3. Proceeds are used for the Kiddies Christmas party and the Catechism Class of Divine Providence and also baskets for the needy of the parish. A big hearty "thank you" to the most efficient committee which included Ann Calvin, Stella Hotra, Bertha Janus, Betty Petroski, Mary Rusas, Magdalen Smailis, Adeline Vitthus, Adele Vale, Cel Yunck and Ann Zilvitis.

Special thanks to two of our members - Mary Rusas and "Madam X" (she prefers to remain anonymous) who made the TV - first prize donation for our Raffle, and to Mrs. Ann Kratage for her nice cash donation. Adele Vale and Ann Zilvitis, who have more ideas than you can shake a gavel at, came up with a spectacular raffle table, as well as wrapped and made up all the lovely bows for all the prizes. Pitching in to help unpack all the donated cakes were Ann Calvin, Betty Petroski, Adeline Vitthus and Cel Yunck who did a terrific job on the Kitchen Brigade. Assisted by Stella Hotra, Vicki Chepelonis was able to contribute to a very successful raffle. Bertha Janus made a skillful contribution, assisting in the Fashion Dept., and Maggie Smailis with the ticket duties. Others who assisted were Julie Belickas, Marge Nashlon and Mary Watt.

One indication that added much

to this Card Party-Fashion Show were our menfolk who set up the card table and chairs and helped "fill-in" in other categories. Kudos to the following gents - J. Kolinke, F. Petroski, A. Dainus, B. Vitthus, C. Nashlon, and F. Zager and son, Tom.

It was a real treat to watch all our models - Ann Banionis, Julia Medinis, Valentina Hotra, Jody Step, Eleanor Mickey and daughter, Jeanine, Bertha Janus, Marianne Newberry and Sidney and Allison Millard. Your chairman, Sophie Zager expresses her sincere gratitude to all the members for prizes, baked goods, stampbooks, cash donations and all other contributions. To each and everyone who attended so generously - labai ačiū.

We cordially welcome to Divine Providence, Rev. Father Alphonse Babonas who arrived on Oct. 23 as the new assistant priest to Father Kundrat at the parish. May he find a life of health and happiness with us.

Soffi Snooping: We haven't seen Pat and Andy Milius around for awhile. But Pat who is on the Lith. Affairs committee, tells us that she has been busy writing letters and at this point has sent out over 100 letters... Bikinis and bathing trunks seemed to be the order of the day winding up the Martin-

Milius festivities on the hottest day the weatherman says he recorded this year. However the guests didn't mind - their swimming pool was jammed along with sun-burns, blisters and good appetites... When Joe Kazlauskas gets tired of urban living he takes his little Mary and they head out to "the farm" in the Irish Hills (near Camp Dainava), where he usually does a little fishing and "loafing". Joe and Mary conducted the successful K of L Youth Camp in August and many thanks to them for a week of fun... Sorry to hear that Sophie Bitner was hospitalized following an automobile accident in which she sustained injuries to her face and a broken jaw. She also required 13 stitches for other injuries. Hope that she will be back on her feet for the holidays... To add to the usual Christmas spirit Vicki Chepelonis and Ann Calvin helped celebrate the holiday season with a gourmet delight, attractively arranged for our Social Hour following the December meeting... Congratulations to Peter Medonis who received two awards for a viola and a violin at the Violin Makers Exhibition in Miami, Arizona... When the F. Zagers visited New York State this fall they visited Gene Gobis of C-100 in Amsterdam and also



C-79 DETROIT. Standing next to the attractive table of prizes for the Council's Fashion Show-Card Party are Ann Zilvitis and Adele Vale.

stopped in at Matt Orante's store where they found a maxi-Lithuanian exhibit which included amber ornaments, leather crafts, tools and weapons, wood sculpture and ceramics, stamps, paintings, national coat of arms and books. His "Arts and Crafts" of Lithuania go on view annually in the store window during commemoration of Lithuania's Republic in February. We really enjoyed your collection, Matt!

DETROIT, MICH., C-139 Ann

Hope all K of L'ers had a very Merry Christmas and that during the coming year they will be blessed with good health and happiness.

Our Council's Halloween Party was a huge success both in attendance and otherwise. The members are still trying to figure out how Laura Kurtinaitis got into her costume. Judy and Chuck Podolski were first prize winners. The next day many of us found out we weren't so limber anymore after participating in some of the games like "Twister", "Love", etc. The food and refreshments were delicious. A big thanks to Stella and Charles Podolski for being such wonderful hosts.

On Sunday, Nov. 17, our annual Turkey Drawing and Card and Bunco Party turned out to be one of the best events of the year both in attendance and profit. Our Committee began to get rather panicky when every available table, chair and standing room was filled and people still kept coming. Chairman Ann Sirvydas, Ticket Chairman Stanley Wesley, and all the members who worked, are to be complimented on the outstanding job they did. We were able to make a generous contribution to our Parish for the renovation of our Church Sanctuary.

It was nice to see our two traveling members during the Holiday. Pat Kuipers (Sirvydas) and her husband spent Thanksgiving week with their parents enroute from Pensacola to Washington, D.C. Ed. Waitkus and his wife came in from New York to spend the Holiday with his family.

C-139 has a new project going - Classes in Lithuanian with Father Krisciunevicius as Instructor. We

meet every Tuesday night at 7:00 P.M., and it is not only beneficial but fun to get together and learn our mother tongue. We extend an invitation to any interested K of L members of our Sister Councils in Detroit to join our classes.

A death occurring in a family is always sad, particularly so when it happens on a holiday. Our Council members extend their deepest sympathy to our Treasurer, Theresa Vaitkunas, on the loss of her father Thanksgiving morning. May the good Lord grant him eternal rest.

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

PHILADELPHIA, PA., C-3

Lakstingala

C-3's officers for 1968-1969: Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Albin J. Neverauskas; Pres. - Albert Ozalis; V-P - Irene Ozalis; Rec. Secy. - Lillian Sasnauskas; Fin. Secy. - Alberta Bekeris; Treas. - Anthony Burch and Trustee - Agnes Mickunas. Officers were sworn into office on Oct. 20 at our Quarterly Communion and Installation Breakfast, following 10:30 Mass. Good luck to them in all their endeavors.

We have recently increased our membership by four: Stan Areskevicius, Joe Beletsky, Bernadette Arino and Mary Labadis. A very warm welcome to all. We are sure they will be a great asset to our council.

C-3 forwent its annual Halloween festivities this year and attended the St. Casimir's War Vets "Masquerade Dance" on Oct. 26. Quite a few members were in attendance and among those seen having a good time were: Irene Svekla who came as "Raggedy Ann", together with the "Mad Doctor", Walter Svekla. Margie and Charlie Petronis were disguised as "He & She Devils", while Diana and Frank DeFelice were "Mr. & Mrs. Frankenstein". John Mickunas came as "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and Agnes Mickunas a "Clown". The prize for the best dressed partygoer went to Julian Greymas, who was "Genghis Khan".

Saturday, Nov. 23, was a fun-filled evening, starting with din-



SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING. MCD representatives Stanley Vaitkus and Stella Sankal along with Emilija and Alex. Pakalniskis, DRAUGAS 'Vyčiu Veikla' Editors.

ner at the Queen's Village Inn, then at St. Casimir's basement for an "Appreciation Party" for the Convention Committee and friends of C-3 who helped us make the Convention a success.

DIBS 'N DABS. Vacationers - Tony Burch and Jim Varevice whiled away their hours amid the tropic pleasures of Puerto Rico, and Loretta Staniskas toured Spain and Portugal ... C-3 extends Best Wishes to Margie and Charlie Petronis on the arrival of their second son, Andrew ... We have had two real K of L weddings recently. On Sept. 7, Dianne Beletsky exchanged vows with Edward Daniels of Worcester, Mass., and on Oct. 12, Ann Alsankas became Mrs. Vyto Morkunas of Worcester, Mass. We wish both these couples much happiness in their married life... Heartiest congratulations to Alberta Bekeris on her engagement to Chuck Weigand; an April wedding is planned... John Mickunas is sporting a new Dodge Coronet and Walt Svekla a Mercury Montego... It seems that no sooner had we welcomed Joe Beletsky into our Council - we bid him a farewell as he left for a tour of duty in the Army ... Belated, but sincere Birthday Greetings to Alberta Bekeris and Joe Yanulaitis (Dec.) ... Many happy returns of the day to Rev. Eugene Wassel, Ronnie Ozalis and Al Ozalis (Jan.).

NEWARK, N.J., C-29

The Wanderer

C-29 held their yearly elections on Nov. 19 with the following results: Pres. Kazys Sipaila; V-P Edward Schmidt; Secretaries, Helen Radisch, Mary Stonis and



BELATED HOLIDAY GREETINGS

and

BEST WISHES FOR A MOST SUCCESSFUL NEW YEAR

to all from

COUNCIL 90 KEARNY

(Looking forward to seeing you all on the first day
of Convention 1969 in Kearny.)



BROOKLYN, N.Y., C-41 V.B.R.

The big news this year in C-41 is our 10th ANNIVERSARY! Everything the council has been doing was tuned to making this a special year not only in commemoration of the past ten, but as the start of a whole new era of activity.

All through this past year, the council has been establishing within itself a whole list of permanent activities. In this way, we could keep more of our members interested actively and even attract new people into the council by offering them some type of activity which would fill a void that exists in the Lithuanian community in New York for young people. The first was the reactivated Dance Group. The most notable activities were our Communion Breakfast last March and at an International Soccer Festival in Union, N.J. last June. The high point for the group this past year was participation in the Third Lithuanian Folk Dance Festival in Chicago, exactly seven months after the group was organized. This achievement was primarily due to the untiring efforts of our instructress Miss Birutė Barauskaitė, as well as the sacrifices of the members of the group. Now the dance group is again at work preparing for the

10th Anniversary, and an upcoming tour of the Lithuanian areas of Pennsylvania in the spring. Because Birutė Barauskaitė could no longer be our instructress, the group is now under the direction of the highly capable Kazytė Visockaitė. Our dance group has had the fortune to bring several new members into the council ranks this summer, and it appears destined to be one of the most important activities of the council in the future.

The second important permanent activity in the council, for those with literary inclinations was the establishment of a newsletter, the "KARDAS" to improve communication of members within the council. One of the problems that has plagued the council in the past was non-attendance and disinterest of members in the activities. Many others were away at school during most of the year, and other, because of work commitments could not take as active a role in council activities as they would have liked. For all these reasons, a newsletter was started last April, under the editorship of Philip Skabeikis, with Nijolė Meseika, Ronald Volod, Vytas Radzivanas and Carol and Mary Sclafani as the Staff. This Staff nursed the newborn pub-

Joann Schmidt; Treas. Eva Sharon; Trustees Albinas Zukauskas and Wesley Zostautas. Our spiritual director remains in said category.

Many items for the good and welfare of our group were discussed. Meeting was called to order by president Charles Strolis and opened and closed with prayer by Rev. Totoraitis. Also at the close of session there followed the singing of the K of L Hymn. A social hour followed. The gathering took place at St. George's Hall.

From Scribes's Note Book: Our parish church, Holy Trinity, now has a new altar facing the worshippers. Blessing and dedication ceremonies took place on Sun. Nov. 24th, with a concelebrated Mass, celebrant being pastor Rev. John J. Scharnus along with our spiritual director Rev. Peter Totoraitis and Rev. Joseph Barkus O.S.B. The altar, which is of Lithuanian design, was done by Jonas Subacius, well-known Lithuanian artist. Taking gifts of the Mass to the altar were Dr. Jack and Loretta Stukas and Kazys Sipaila, who were the ones who donated the altar to the parish. Mr. Sipaila dedicated it to memory of deceased parents and Dr. Stukas in memory of his father... We are happy to see the following around after recent seige of illness: president Kazys Sipaila, past president Charles Strolis and our spiritual director Rev. Totoraitis. Also by time you read this Christina Yakavonis will be up and around after being in St. James hospital for surgery... Our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to Mrs. Charles Strolis in the recent passing of her mother Benigna A. Kailiunas.

On Nov. 16, at Freehold, N.J. there was the commemoration of 50th anniversary of Latvian Independence. During course of said celebration Supreme Council president Dr. Jack J. Stukas was given a Pro-Merito Silver Medal plus a certificate by the Latvian World Federation. The presentation was made to Dr. Stukas in recognition of his efforts on behalf Latvian Freedom and culture. Our congratulations to Jack on receiving this award. Present at event was Valentinas Melinis of C-29. Val is the president of the Baltic-American Council of N.J.

lication from three makeshift pages through the "baptizing" of the name "KARDAS" with the fourth issue, to an important part of the life of the council. The current staff with Nijole Meseika as Editor, assisted by Carol and Mary Sclafani, Monika Pocius, Leon Staskevicius, Ray Meseika and Ronald Volod, promises not only to continue the role of the "KARDAS" as it is now but even to expand its potentials in the future.

A third permanent part of the council which is presently in its formative period is the vocal ensemble which the council is forming. While six of the council's members are also members of the Annunciation Parish Choir, this is an attempt to fill a need in the New York area for a singing group composed entirely of young people, and there is much enthusiasm in the council for such a group. Mr. Alexas Mrozinskas, former director of the New York Men's Octet has agreed to be the director of the group. Even at this early formative period, it seems that the vocal ensemble will bring some new members into the council, just as the Dance Group and the "KARDAS" has done.

Other activities the council has had in the past year include several parties, outings to Bear Mountain, beach parties, etc. We have attended several affairs as a group: such as the Baltic Cultural Festival in Trenton, N.J.; the presentation of the opera "Gražina" by the Lithuanian Opera Co. of Chicago; had a St. Kazimieras Communion Breakfast; went to "Memories of Lithuania" N.Y. Picnic, at which one of our girls, Genie Malinauskas was chosen Miss Lithuanian Radio; and many other social activities. We ran two very successful dances at Christmas and at Valentine's Day. Members of the council formed the bulk of the Guest Reception Committee at the Lithuanian World Congress chaired by Vytas Radzivanas during Labor day Weekend. Several members of the council went to Lithuanian Day at Lakewood Park in Pennsylvania, and established contacts with some people there, and subsequently the council has taken a special interest in increasing communications between the Lithuanians of Pennsylvania and New York, and perhaps eventually



C-41 BROOKLYN QUEENS, (Upper) Council Dance Group which performed at the 1968 Šokių Šventė, Chicago. (Lower) C-41 and the New York Seniors present a Lithuanian play, 1964. (Photos - R. Kisielius) Griaudzio)

councils in that area will be re-activated.

Those who went there had an interesting talk with Father Bielskis, Pastor of the new Our Lady of Siluva Church in Maizeville, and with some local civic leaders, such as State Assemblyman George Uritis about the revival of interest in Lithuanianism in the coal mining regions. The council plans a tour of this area with its performing groups in the spring.

What have our members been doing? Well, some were attending the Lithuanian courses at Fordham. Phil Skabeikis, Lou Piro and Joan Mazeika had won scholarships to these courses from the Lithuanian Catholic Women's Cul-

tural Society. In all, about 10 members of the council attended, which was the largest representation of any organization from New York. Ray Fitzgerald, president of the council at the time, received his Ph. D. in Physics last June from the City University, and is engaged to a girl in Toronto. Steve Giunta married Miss Delia Kwiatkowski on Aug. 30, and are now busy fixing up their apartment in Jamaica. Most recently, Phil Skabeikis has been in charge of the English Language portion of Lithuanian World Review (WHBI 105.9 FM Sundays 9-10 AM), after Tony Mazeika left to move to New Jersey. Stasys Dėdinas and Bill Statsky also were

married.

In the field of Lithuanian Affairs, our council members participated in a demonstration protesting the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Soviets. Council members are also taking an important part in the efforts of BATUN to visit UN delegations in behalf of the Baltic States liberation. As usual, letters are constantly being written, especially now that the elections have brought about some changes.

Guding the council in the new year of activity are the new officers: Pres. Ronald Volod; V-P. Philip Skabeikis; Secy. Birutė Liobė; Treas. Vytautas B. Radzivanas; and Sgt-at-Arms Rimas Vebeliunas. Committee Chairmen of permanent committees are: Leon Staskevicius, Social; Joan Mazeika, Membership; Robert Novak, Cultural; Vytas Radzivanas, Public Relations and Lith. Affairs, Tony Mažeika, with assistance of Leon Staskevicius and Phil Skabeikis.

The Committee for the 10th Anniversary was chaired by Joan Mazeika, one of the founding members of the council. In addition to a new executive board, we also have a new Spiritual Advisor, Father John Pakalniškis. Our sincerest thanks to Father Anthony Račkauskas for his work with us through the difficult years, and our best wishes to Father John.

All in all, our council seems on the road to a bright future. We will have some activity in the council which will fill a need for many young Lithuanian Americans not presently in our rank, whether it be folk dancing, writing for a newsletter, singing in a vocal ensemble, repairing and maintaining artifacts like the Shrine, participation in Lithuanian liberation, social activity, cultural activity organizational work, and others. This is only the beginning. We've had triumphs and trials in the first 10 years and we have survived and grown. We realize that the next 10 years will depend on our own efforts and the maintenance of a constant influx of newer, younger members. Where there is no posterity, there is no future. Only by offering the young Lithuanian American a widely diversified range of activities of which at least one interests him, will he enthusiastically join. Everyone



C-112 SUMMER OUTING in Marquette Park, Chicago. Council members and friends enjoy a day in 'their' park. (Photos - E. Sulaitis)

should be able to "find his thing" in a council, and in celebrating our Tenth Anniversary, and the 50th Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence, our biggest task in the new era of Council 41 is to unite the young people of New York into a unit working for all the ideals of the K of L Lithuanians who cannot afford to lose their young people from the active community. Our Anniversary is more than just a commemoration of the past, but a look into the future, and what the youth of the community can do. It was in this idea that C-41 was founded 10 years ago, and in commemorating the event we can do no better than to strive to achieve these goals in our coming activities.

ILLINOIS - INDIANA DISTRICT

I-I DISTRICT

"Taitytė"

Shortly before five o'clock on Sat., Nov. 30th, a host of relatives, friends and K of L'ers began filling Nativity Church to participate in the Nuptial Mass and witness

the marriage ceremony uniting Lorraine Wainauskis and Frank Svelnis. Father John Savukynas, District Spiritual Advisor officiated, with soloist Prudencija Bickus, Lithuanian Opera star and C-112 member and, playing the cello, Petras Armonas, "Dainava" Chorus Director provided the musical background.

The bridal party included a few K of L'ers, (the bride's sister Dolores, Richard Shlaustas of C-36, the best man, and Albert Zarkarka, C-112. And, needless to say, the members comprised a good number of the guests, who spent a most enjoyable get together at the reception. The lovely bride and now relaxed groom left the party at midnight for a honeymoon trip to Mexico but the guests continued the celebration as long as their dancing feet and Wally Tenclinger (C-36) and his combo kept them going. Congratulations, best wishes from all of us to Frank and Lorraine Svelnis.

John Evans, District Board Chairman this year, hosted the first board meeting at his home Dec. 3rd. John's relaxing hospitality helped the board members

LIETUVIŲ TAUTOS KANKINIŲ PAMINKLAS

Šv. Marijos Gailestingumo Motinos - Aušros Vartų koplyčia, šalia švento Petro karsto Bazilikoje, Romoje, jau ruošiama.

Kasimo darbai jau baigti, vykdomi sienų ir lubų sutvirtinimo darbai, ruošiami dekoracijų projektai.

Vatikano ir lietuvių archyvuose liks koplyčios aukotojų vardai, kurie bus įdomūs ne tik šiandien, o ir tolimoje ateityje. Reiktų, kad lietuvių vardu ten būtų tūkstančiai. Galima įrašyti savę, savo šeimos narių, savųjų ir pažįstamų kankinių vardus, pasiunčiant auką adresu:

LITHUANIAN MARTYRS' CHAPEL FUND

2701 W. 68th St., Chicago, Ill. 60629

Amerikoje aukos nurašomos nuo mokesčių (Tax deductible).



Alexander Wesley - Vasiliauskas, former national president presents Leon Pauksta, IID president and Bldg. Trustee with \$100 for the K of L Bldg. Fund Drive.



SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING IID representatives Leon Pauksta, Eleanore Laurin and Helen Zimmer.

accomplish the mapping out of many plans for the coming year, including a new special cultural committee, chaired by Stanley Balzekas, Jr., founder of the now famous Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture.

Many social activities were

LIETUVIUI KARIUI P. VIETNAME ...

Matau, kaip Tėvai spaudžia rankas ...
Ir Motinos kryžium palydi ...
Matau, kai veiduose meilė, kančia
-Sudiev, Kary, į tolimą žygi!

-Matau, kai Tavo akys regi žemę
Kai malūnsparniais skrendi ...
Matau, kaip tūkstančiai būdi sutemę
-Tarp jų ir TU kovos nevengi!

Matau, kaip skrenda bombos ir lėktuvai
Dega namai, dūmų stulpai iškyla ...
Matau, kaip priešui smogia kariai
- Daug jų iš apkasų nepakyla ...

Matau, kai švino kulka perveria krūtinę
Ir kraujas liejas džiunglių žemėn ...
Matau, lietuvių kario kelionę paskutinę
-Žmona, vaikai, tėvai, visi išstariam Amen ...

Matau, dar daug karių žengia į mirtį
Kad tik abi Tėvynės būt laisvos ...
-Nutilis priešai gavę didį kirtį
Nors ir tautos kruvinai vaitos ...

Bal. Brazdžionis.

1968.II.23.
Chicago.

scheduled for the Holiday Season and we'll try to highlight them in the future - but for now - the officers and members extend wishes for a happy prosperous and fruitful New Year for K of L'ers all over the country.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

BROCKTON, MASS., C-1 M.A.Y.

After many months of silence, we once again join our fellow members of the K of L in spreading the word of activities and news worthy items. The business year began with election of officers and this year the honors go to Albert Skirius as President-Treasurer, and Robert Dillis as Secretary-Vice-President.

It was decided the council would participate in the cultural picnic sponsored by the NED at Maironis Park in Shrewsbury this past Fall. Committee members selected were Albert and Anthony Skirius, Susan Boroskas, Connie Grein, Sylvia Shukis and Bob and Emily

Dillis. Thanks to the combined efforts of the group, the display was overwhelmingly received. Susan Boroskas and her committee prepared a Kūčių table and was on hand to give detailed instruction on how to prepare the twelve meatless courses. Bob Dillis prepared a traditional Lithuanian Christmas tree resplendent with the intricate ornaments he and his wife and twelve children had made.

All our members are buzzing with the preparations for our 25th annual Snow-Flake Ball. This year's Ball will take place on Sat., Feb. 15th at the Walk-Over Club in Brockton. Dick Pillar and his ten piece orchestra will provide the dance music and refreshments will be on hand. Committees for the dance include: Co-chairmen Robert Dillis and Albert Skirius, Decorations, Susan Boroskas, Orchestra and Hall Sylvia Shukis, Patrons Marilyn Yuskaitis and Al Skirius, Tickets Pauline Pigeon, Publicity Patricia Miskinis and Marilyn Yuskaitis and Program books Al Skirius and Anthony Skirius.

Since our last column Cupid and



We hope the Holidays
were the best and that
1969 will bring all
our K of L friends
all they desire.

COUNCIL 135

ANSONIA, CONN.

the Stork have been busy. Mr. & Mrs. Bob Dillis welcomed their Twelfth child. I say there should exist an award for these wonderful people who give so willingly of their time even though occupied with all the time and love involved to raise such a marvelous family. Mr. and

Mrs. Anthony Grein and son Andy, welcomed a beautiful baby daughter... Adding to the ever growing baseball team of four sons, Mr. and Mrs. John Yuskaitis welcomed a bouncing nine and a half pound bundle of boy (that last pun was allowed only as your truly happens to be the mother!)... Cupid aimed well this year and the glow on the second left finger of Patricia Miskinis's hand, almost matches the one on her pretty face. Much love and happiness are extended to this busy K of L'er and her fiancée.

May we take this chance to wish every one the blessings of a New Year and let us all pray that this year we may come to see a world at peace and the motto of our Knights of Lithuania, more widely practiced "For God and Country" in 1969.

SO. BOSTON, MASS., C-17

C-17 would like to say a Happy New Year and may 1969 be a fruitful one and may each council's membership increase with hard work by the present members going forth and selling the Knights of Lithuania's ideals to the Lithuanians who are eligible.

Wedding bells are breaking up that old gang of mine, Bill Gorski and Lillian Kasauskas tied the knot and after a tour of Canada and Maine now make their home in Norwood, Mass.

Our vacationers: Vic and Hel-

en Grigalunas said 'Aloha' coming and leaving Hawaii, they said the trip was wonderful. John and Betty Grigalunas spent sometime in California and on the way visited Las Vegas. They never did mention whether or not they left some money or took some with them. Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Kapochy also were in Las Vegas and they were able to leave with some 'pinigai', they also visited Hawaii. What gives with this fiftieth state, it must have something that people like. Combining business with pleasure we have Jean Pasakarnis going to Cleveland to attend a medical seminar and also visiting her old alma mater Bowling Green University with some side visits with former college chums.

Don't know if this comes in the way of vacation but Al Jaritis and Leo Shakalis of C-18, Cambridge, went to the Supreme Council meeting in Chicago. Some wonderful adventures were related to this reporter about their trip. They were given the keys to the city upon arrival at O'Hare International Airport. An amusing incident started off the trip right, the driver lost the parking ticket but was able to get out of the parking lot. Then a thrill ride through the highways of the city to the hotel. Onto the Knights of Lithuania Clubrooms, to meet the K of L Choir at their Friday night rehearsal. Upon arrival at the clubrooms at a late hour, most of the choir members left, but still waiting



NEW CULTURAL PICNIC, Maironis Park, Mass. (Left) "Kūčiu" table and traditional Christmas tree sponsored by C-1 Brockton with Susan Boroskas, Al Skirius and Robert Dillis, all of C-1. (Right) Rev. Albin Janiunas, NEW spiritual advisor, Anthony Miner, chairman, and Mary Jankowski, co-chairman, of C-116 and C-26, resp., Al Skirius and Bob Dillis.

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were Faustas Strolia, Leon Pauksta and Ignas Sakalas. Al Jaritis and Leo Shakalis were given a Cook's tour of the clubrooms and the thrill of it all was an almost midnight visit of the K of L Archives. This is a recommended must when any K of L'er visits Chicago. Then tour of the Lithuanian community. On the next day, to the Millionaires' Club, where everyone had a fabulous dinner that made them feel like millionaires. Just shows you who has the money in the K of L and it's not in the suburbs of Boston like everyone is led to believe. The hospitable people tried to perform another act to show the art world that Chicago is right up with the rest of the world. A detour through downtown to view Pablo Picasso's gift to the city of Chicago. It was a brief look and off to the airport. It's nearing departure time and panic-time. Al Jaritis makes a dash to the ticket counter only to be informed that his plane is now on the flight lines and also it's the last plane for the night to Boston. So to make a short ending the boys took the first plane out Monday morning and got to work but not on time. Yes, indeed, boys -



SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING. Faustas Strolia, IID Choir Director, and NED representatives, Al Jaritis, Pres., and Leo Shakalis, C-18.

you never have adventures like that around the old Bean Town.

Vytautas Bruzgys related that he went to Poland and visited his sister and took a side tour of Europe.

The annual fall dance was a success and on the committee were John and Alice Olevitz, Leo and Albina Rudziunas, Jerry and Rita Venis, Bill Zaremba and Bud and Mary Zaremba, Al Jaritis. Thanks to those who attended and BOO to those who didn't.

The second annual Christmas Childrens' party was a successful one and couldn't tell who Santa was because of wonderful makeup.

The regular members had also a party and it was well attended.

The New England District sponsored Television Mass will be in living color. Another first!

We want to welcome back to this area Henrikas and Norma (Razvadauskas) Snipas who moved from New York to Westwood, Mass.

On the recovery list Ruth Stankus and Mrs. Helen Zaremba, Helen Sabiski and Betty Grigalunas.

The Juniors must get a thrill riding with Al Jaritis. This is the second time he has borrowed a car and they have had a blow-out. This happened on the way back from a bowling rolloff in Worcester. Al, next time check the tires, give them a few kicks.

The next issue will have the box scores of the ski-casualties from our ski-weekend.

Remember in your prayers Victor Bernotas, father of Paula Slinger.

Until the next time we meet keep a smile on your face.



SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING. (Left) Officers and guests relax after the meeting. Seated: A. and E. Pakalniskis, J. Paulukonis, J. Stukas, N. Kober, H. Zimmer, V. Samaska. (Standing) L. Pauksta, A. Raubiskis, A. Wesey, J. Nausedas, L. Shakalis, I. Sankus, A. Jaritis, L. Macekonis and S. Vaitkus. (Right) Secretary Nancy Kober, President Dr. J. Stukas and IID spiritual adv. Rev. John Savukynas.