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OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

OCTOBER -
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Vol. 55
No. 8

KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA - COUNCIL 79
CHURCH OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE
13100 SCHAEFER
DETROIT 27, MICHIGAN



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56th NATIONAL CONVENTION - NEWARK, NEW JERSEY
His Excellency Vincentas Brizgys of Chicago and Congressman Peter W. Rodino, Jr
of New Jersey greeted by National President, Dr. Jack J. Stukas at Lithuania
Cultural Exhibit. (V. Maželis Photo)

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Presenting...

56TH NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 21-24, 1969
Robert Treat Hotel
Newark, New Jersey



STATE OF THE ORGANIZATION REPORT

The 56th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania State of the Organization report was compiled from the reports of the Supreme Council Officers and Chairmen.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

It was our pleasure to have as our Spiritual Advisor for the past year, The Reverend Albert J. Contons of Boston, Mass. In addition to attending several Supreme Council meetings and representing the K of L at various functions in his local area, Father Contons wrote several articles for publication in the "Vytis", was extremely helpful to all officers and chairmen, especially those in his area, and assisted Rev. Albin Janiunas and the New England District in presenting a Religion Workshop. His most interesting talk, which he presented at the Saturday Luncheon, will appear in the next issue.

At the request of the newly-elected Supreme Council Board and with the consent of the Lithuanian Priests League president, the Rev. John Jutt, Father Contons will remain as our Spiritual Advisor. He has prepared a Spiritual Program for 1970 which appears in this issue under "Official News".

PRESIDENT

As our National President, Prof. Jack J. Stukas of Newark, presided at all Supreme Council meetings, which were held in Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Youngstown and Newark. He was in continuous contact with the Supreme Council officers and the committee heads throughout the year. The K of L is truly appreciative to Prof. Stukas for the time and effort he extended for our organization. His complete report to the convention appears in this issue.

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Executing his duties as First Vice-President in

charge of Juniors, Stanley Vaitkus submitted regular articles to the "Vytis" as well as encouraging the Junior councils to send news articles of their activities. Extensive correspondence with the junior leaders throughout the country was maintained to encourage a larger membership. However, as of convention-time, only five junior councils reported: C17 So. Boston, C26 Worcester, C96 Dayton, C116 So. Worcester and C133 Los Angeles. Successful rallies were held in the New England and the Mid Central Districts, plus the annual Camp Dainava K of L Week. In addition to representing the Supreme Council wherever possible in his district, he also met with Spiritual Advisors, counsellors and/or Juniors officers and members of Chicago, Cleveland, Dayton, Detroit, Youngstown, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Tupelo, Mississippi regarding the organization of junior groups.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

Leon Pauksta, our Membership Vice-President, conducted an excellent membership drive in addition to preparing monthly membership articles for the "Vytis". During the past K of L year, 115 new members were enrolled, 25 councils gained new members and 15 councils attained net increases in membership. One council, C18 of Cambridge, Mass. was reorganized. His only regret was that the total membership decreased slightly due to the fact that many "current" members became delinquent. He stressed how important it is to maintain the current membership in addition to enrolling new members. Results of the Drive and award winners are listed elsewhere in this issue.

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

The National Vice-President in charge of Senior activities, Longinas Svelnis, attended Board meetings and participated in the reactivation of C27, Norwood, Mass. and was instrumental in the very

successful 2nd annual C17 Alumni Reunion Night. He continued to correspond with former K of L'ers in the New Britain, Hartford and other Connecticut areas regarding the prospects of forming new seniors councils. He reported that the active senior groups are in So. Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, New York, and Youngstown. The Pittsburgh Seniors are inactive and unfortunately no word has been received from the Providence C103 group.

RECORDING SECRETARY

During her term of office as Recording Secretary, Nancy Kober, assisted the president whenever possible with his correspondence and other duties and attended all but the Youngstown Board meeting. Meeting notices were sent and minutes of the meetings were prepared and sent to all S. C. members. She also prepared a list of council officers, the S.C. executive board and committees and mimeographed most of the reports for the national convention. All this was accomplished only by much correspondence with the councils and board members.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Helen Zimmer, our National Financial Secretary, capably handled her difficult job. Her report showed that although we gained a total of 100 members overall, we lost 135 members, thereby reducing our membership by 35 for a total of 1,667. Only three councils remain in the 100 and over group and they are: C79 Detroit with 195 members; C112 Chicago, 166; and C26 Worcester, 135. There are 43 councils including 7 Senior councils. One council was reorganized, C18 Cambridge, and one council, C103 Srs. of Providence was dropped for non-payment of dues.

TREASURER

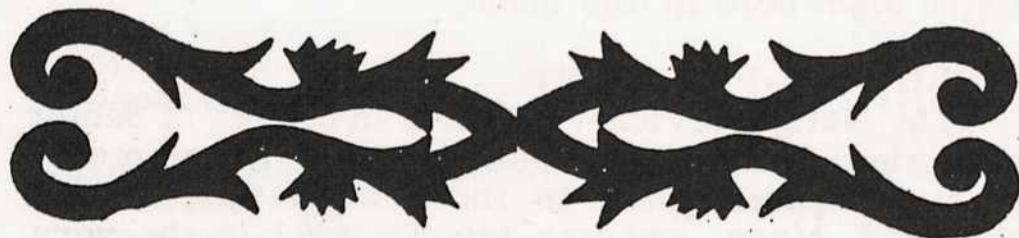
During her term of office, our National Treasurer, Stella Sankal, discharged her duties with efficiency and cooperated with all parties concerned. The records of our organization's finances are properly maintained and the funds wisely invested. Her completed records were made available to the national trustees during the convention.

TRUSTEES

Eleanore Laurin and Larry Janonis, our National Trustees, audited the treasurer's records and reported that the national treasury and accounts were in order.

LEGAL ADVISOR

After the resignation of Konstant Savickus, Anthony Young was appointed to replace him as our National Legal Advisor. Mr. Young assisted whenever called upon during the past year. However his poor health prevented him from attending the convention.



ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

Under the leadership of District President Leon Pauksta, another successful year was realized and the K of L name was known both in the Lithuanian and non-Lithuanian circles. Unfortunately the District juniors activities were temporary suspended due to the lack of willing and qualified leadership. However the Seniors, the councils and the K of L Choir, under the direction of Faustas Strolia, continue to flourish. The District's K of L Man of the Year award was Presented to Aldona and Felix Daukus of the Sophie Barcus Radio Family at the annual "M of L" Banquet. In addition to the many regular council activities, the following successful affairs were sponsored: Seniors Garden party; "Memories of Lithuania" Banquet; St. Casimir's Day; ritual presentations; bowling socials; 4th of July picnics; Golf Day; and many other events. "The Trumpet", the district's bulletin informs the membership of the varied activities. The K of L continues to be well received in the Chicagoland area.

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

During the past year, the Mid-Central District continued progressing under the leadership of Vincent Ed. Pavis, District President. Among the activities were the: 21st annual District Convention held in Dayton; annual Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation; Mid-West Bowling Tournament, hosted by C19 Pittsburgh; and the annual K of L Camp Dainava Week in addition to the commemorations of Lithuanian Independence Day and St. Casimir's Day. At the present time, the district consists of nine affiliating councils, C19 Pittsburgh, C25 Cleveland, C79 Detroit, C96 Dayton, C102 Detroit, C111 Srs Youngstown, C134 Cincinnati, C139 Detroit and the Cleveland Seniors. Periodically the "Knight-O-Gram" is issued for dissemination of news and views within the district. The district continues to strive to increase membership and promote youth group.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

President Albert Jaritis of the NED reported that the district consisted of 11 regular and 2 senior councils plus 2 junior groups. C18 Cambridge was reactivated but some problems have occurred with C103 Srs of Providence. In addition to the regular St. Casimir's Day commemoration, the Lithuanian Independence Day events, bowling rollofs, dances, picnics, etc., several councils held successful Founders Days. Also initiated was a most successful district sponsored Television Mass celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Lithuanian Independence on Station WNAC, Channel 7, Boston. This was the first color television Mass over this station and due to the attendance and success of the presentation this district was invited back in 1970. Other ventures were a Religious workshop under the tutelage of Rev. Albert Contons and hosted by C1 Brockton and the newly formed Speakers Bureau. District conventions were held at C7 Waterbury and C30 Westfield.

NEWYORK-NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

The District, with Larry Janonis as President,

consists of 12 councils with a membership of 371. Regular convention meetings were held. The district publication continues to be a source of contact between the councils. Council 29 of Newark continues to remain the largest council, but all of councils sponsor various events such as St. Casimir Day commemorations, dances, picnics, cultural events and, of course, this year the district itself hosted the national convention.

CALIFORNIA

Our California district consists of the Los Angeles Seniors and C133 Los Angeles. Although the junior group has ceased to exist, primarily because most of the members became eligible for the regular council, efforts are being made to reorganize the youth group.

"VYTIS"

Since the last convention 10 issues were published, 8 monthly and 2 bi-monthly with printing handled by the ViVi Printing Co., of Chicago, and mailing, Harper and Co., Chicago. Although costs have generally risen in the printing and mailing fields, the "Vytis" has remained within a projected budget primarily due to the Christmas Campaign. The 1968 Christmas issue grossed \$640.00, the highest figure to date. Editor Irene Sankus was assisted by Theresa Strolia, council news, by Gerry Mack, layout, and by Marilyn Kareiva, mailing, along with some assistance from the various appointed District representatives. The editor expressed her appreciation to Povilas Dirkis of the Chicago Seniors for his untiring efforts on behalf of the "Vytis".

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Honorary Chairman Rev. John C. Jutt's report will appear in the next issue. Chairman Charles Grigaitis handled all of his duties as required and his report is included with Father Jutt's report. Through the efforts of this committee, we are able to promote the name of Lithuania and our organization to the non-Lithuanian population.

LITHUANIAN CULTURAL COMMITTEE

Due to the resignation of Marcella Andrikis for poor health reasons, the president appointed Mary Jankowski to complete the term as chairman. Mrs. Jankowski was most active in the NED cultural activities and also in her home council. She made several suggestions for promoting Lithuanian cultural on a national level which will be reviewed in the next issue.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

The committee consisted of Rita Pinkus, Joseph Boley, and, due to the death of Edward Daniels, Frank Zager who was appointed to complete the year. Chairman Rita Pinkus reported that many councils do not notify the Supreme Ritual committee upon presentation of the various degrees and therefore this year there appears to be a very poor showing in degree presentations. The records show that only 7 First Degrees, 4 Second degrees, 9 Third Degrees and no Fourth Degrees were presented. Either there are no degrees being



presented or there is a definite lack of communication between the national and local officers.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

On behalf of the chairman Leonard Simutis, Sr. and the rest of the committee, secretary Eleanore Laurin reported that the one remaining candidate, Anne Klem of C90 Kearny, who was approved at the 1966 convention will receive Honorary Membership at this convention. The committee also submitted and endorsed the NED's resolution to present Honorary Membership Posthumously to Edward A. Daniels, C26 Worcester, at this convention. Several other candidates have been presented to the committee for future review.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

In order to fully publicize the Knights of Lithuania, the Public Relations Committee members must be the eyes, the ears, and the tongue of our organization. The committee, consisting of Juozas Sadauskas (MCD), Frank Vaskas (NYNJ), Vincent Samaska (IID), Albert Jaritis (NED) and Antanas Skirius (CAL) did their utmost to publicize their district events in the local press, some in the Lithuanian press and other in the English press.

S.C. CULTURE COMMITTEE

Frank Gudelis, the treasurer of this committee, presented a financial report covering the period of July 1, 1968 to June 30, 1969:

Adult's Lithuanian Language Records	
Balance - June 30, 1969	\$397.15
Sales	<u>28.50</u>
	425.65
Postage	<u>1.53</u>
Balance - June 30, 1969	\$424.12
Children's Lithuanian Language Records	
Deficit - June 30, 1969	\$245.46
Sales	<u>15.00</u>
	230.46
Postage	<u>.98</u>
Deficit - June 30, 1969	\$231.44

"Lithuania and Lithuanians" - A Selected Bibliography

Deficit - June 30, 1968	\$ 38.52
Sales	2.50
Deficit - June 30, 1969	\$ 36.02

Unpaid Accounts - 16 sets Adults Records and 2 sets Children's Records shipped to Robert Boris in 1961 and 1962 \$ 36.00

CANON FABIJONAS KEMESIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Committee, Chairman Dr. Jack Stukas, Treasurer Joseph Paulukonis, Secretary Joanne Shaputis, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Balkunas, Rev. Victor Krisciunevicius and Walter Svekla, who this year completed their three year term, did a most capable job. The cooperation of all is required to meet the annual \$1,000 Scholarship Award. This year's award winners are introduced elsewhere in this issue. It is hoped that the newly elected group will complete plans for a Memorial Fund that would enable family and friends of a deceased K of L member to contribute to the Fund in the member's name.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The committee completed its work at the last convention and presented the approved revised work for printing. However, several revision and editing errors were made and an amendment or correction flyer will be printed after the next Supreme Council meeting.

ARCHIVES

The custodian, Eleanore Laurin, reported that the National Archives, kept in Chicago, are in process of being reassembled and cataloged. After the latest remodelling at the K of L Bldg., more space may be available for easier and more efficient access to the tons of archive material. This project shall begin in the near future, and progress reports shall be submitted to the S. C. Board during the coming term. A special mention of thanks is due Ignas Sakalas who has been a very conscientious Guardian Angel of the Archives to date.

ASSOCIATE NON-LITHUANIAN SPOUSES

As directed in the Resolution "Rights and privileges to be determined by a special study group panel at the forthcoming Convention" the special Panel was conducted Saturday afternoon. The participants in the discussion formed a nucleus committee composed of the original committee or representatives, Longinas Svelnis and Juozas Sadauskas, who were asked to immediately formulate a new resolution and present it to the Supreme Council Legal Advisor and a parliamentarian, to review and advise if the passing of this resolution should require any changes in our present By-Laws, and to advise what is technically necessary to accomplish the change. The new proposed resolution is as follows: (Ref. by-Laws p.p. 25 & 26) "Resolved that the following be added to the Knights of Lithuania By-Laws. Article V add Item "e" Associate Non-Lithuanian, Practicing Catholic Spouses. Add Item 7. An Associate Non-Lithuanian, Practicing Catholic Spouse can hold office only in a Council, up to,

but not including Vice President, will not be Delegate or Alternate to District and National Conventions and will not hold any office on the District or Supreme Council Board. The Convention Delegates approved extension of the original "Associate Non-Lithuanian Spouses" Committee until the next Convention.

YOUTH CAMPS

Following the precedence set during the past convention, the Supreme Council will, in addition to donating \$100.00 to the youth camp at Camp Dainava in Manchester, Mich., will also donate \$100.00 to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in Putnam, Conn., for their Youth camp program.

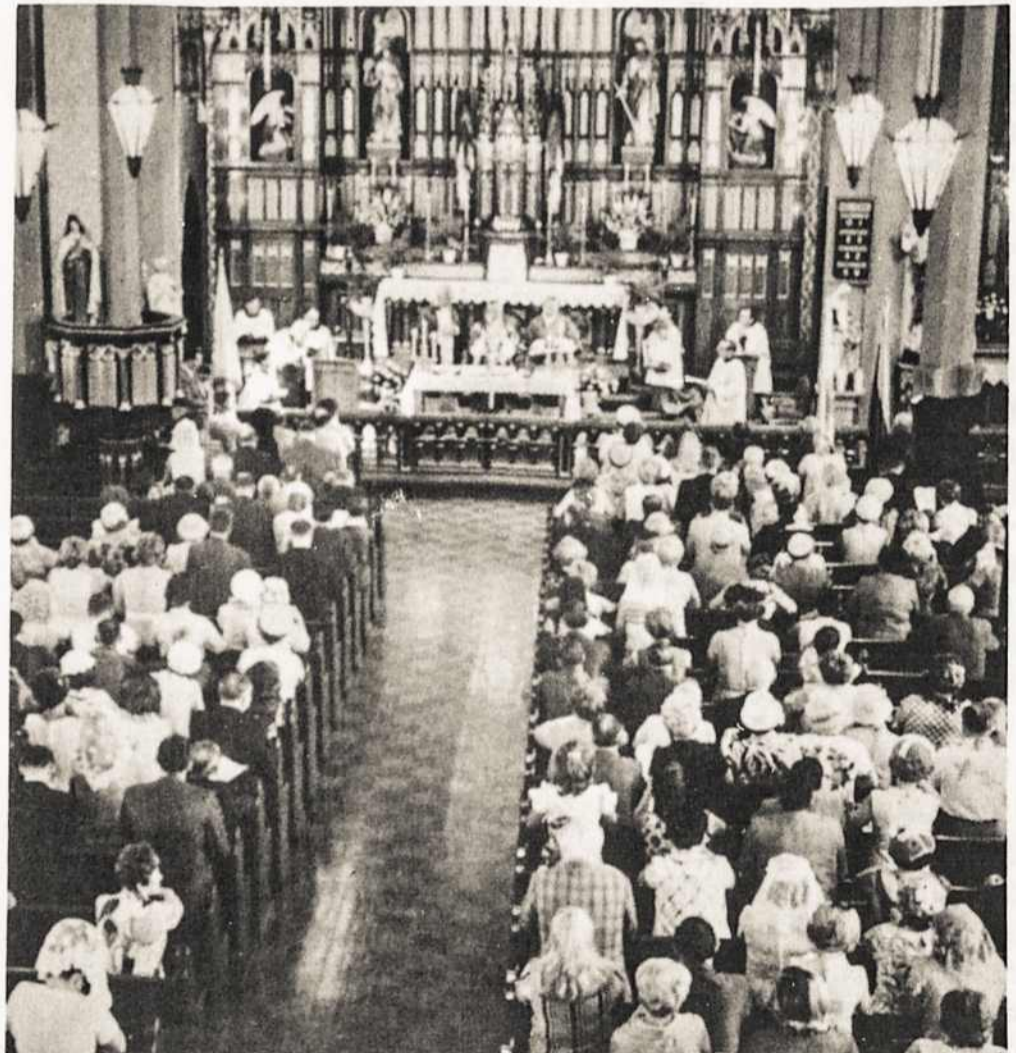
LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL - "TARYBA"

As the K of L is a member of the "Taryba" and is entitled to three votes at their meeting, the following served as our representatives: John G. Evans (IID past president and current Board Chairman), Stanley Vaitkus (National 1st Vice-President), and Leon Pauksta, (National 2nd Vice-President).

"VYČIU VEIKLA" COLUMN

Again we would like to express our appreciation to the administration of DRAUGAS for permitting us the space for our weekly column. The Marian Fathers continue to be most cooperative and helpful in many phases of our organization. Emilija Pakalniškienė of Chicago, with the assistance of her husband, continues to do a most capable job as editor of the column.

Knights of Lithuania
56th National Convention
August 21, 22, 23, 24, 1969



Sunday Mass

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 56th ANNUAL CONVENTION

To satisfy the desires of many of our members for brief annual reports, I will mention just the highlights of the work done by your President and other Supreme Council Members since our last Convention. We met for meetings as follows: August, Philadelphia; October, Chicago; January, Boston; March, Youngstown, Ohio; and June, Newark. Your President was in continuous contact with Supreme Council officers and heads of committees throughout the year on various organizational matters. I received exceptional cooperation from all, for which I am very grateful . . .

GREETINGS . . . Your President greeted the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM at Putnam, Conn., on their 50th golden jubilee . . . Greeted the editorial board of the Lithuanian Catholic daily, "Draugas", with a check for \$50.00, as an expression of our thanks for their weekly column on organizational activities and for publishing numerous articles about us . . . Greeted his Excellency, Bishop Anthony L. Deksnis, on the occasion of his appointment as Bishop for the Lithuanians of Europe . . . Greeted Council I, in Mass., on their 25th jubilee. Greeted the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance Convention in Waterbury, Conn., and informed them that our Supreme Council has agreed to help them increase their membership by fostering K of L participation in the Alliance . . . Greeted our former spiritual Advisor, Rev. V. Krisciunevicius, on his 20th anniversary as a priest. We thanked him for his wonderful contributions as former spiritual advisor.

APPOINTMENTS . . . Appointed Mrs. Mary Janowski, of Worcester, Mass., to fulfill the unexpired term of Miss Marcella Andrikis, of Waterbury, Conn., as chairlady of the Cultural Committee. Miss Andrikis resigned for health reasons . . . Appointed Mr. Anthony Young, of Boston, Mass., as our Legal Advisor, replacing Mr. Konstant Savickus, of Chicago, who resigned. Appointment to be ratified by this convention . . . Appointed Mr. Frank Zager, of Detroit, Mich., to fill the post of Trustee, vacated by the death of Edward Daniels, until this convention. Condolences were sent to Mrs. Edward Daniels on the passing of her husband, and we requested Rev. J. Jutt, offer a Mass for the repose of his soul.

ACTIVITIES . . . Spoke on the Tragedy of the Baltic States as your President, to the Rotary Clubs, of Secaucus and Rochelle Park, N.J. . . . Was Toastmaster, for the mammoth Baltic Cultural Festival, at the War Memorial Building, Trenton, N.J., which was aired on WSOU, Radio Voice of Seton Hall University . . . Was the main speaker at the Lithuanian Independence Commemoration at Newark, N.J., also in Amsterdam, N.Y., which was sponsored by the local K of L Council.

HONORS . . . Was honored by the Latvians of N.J., at a special Independence Celebration at Priedainej, Howell Township, N.J. Your President was given the coveted Pro Merito Silver Medal and Citation by



the American Latvian Association on behalf of the Latvian Free World Federation, "in recognition of the recipient's active support and encouragement of the efforts to liberate the Latvian people from foreign occupation, and to re-establish a free and independent Latvian nation, thereby furthering the cause of International Justice and the right of self-determination of all peoples . . . Agreed to serve on the Honorary Committee of the 7th American Lithuanian Congress, to be held in Detroit, Mich., at the Statler Hilton, Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1, 1969.

ORGANIZATIONAL DECISIONS . . . It was decided to table K of L participation in the "Jaunimo Žygis Už Tikėjimo Laisvę", (Youth For Religious Freedom) movement, which was to have developed a Lithuanian Youth Mission to the Pope, for lack of proper direction on the part of organizers of this movement. Miss Rose Ann Sadauskas, of Cleveland, O., was our contact with this movement, and we are grateful to her for her time and efforts.

We requested the Lietuvių Fondas (Milijoninis Fondas) for a donation to defray expenses incurred in publishing a book on Lithuanian Culture in both languages (English and Lithuanian) to be utilized by our Councils, compiled by Rev. St. Raila, and edited by Loretta Stukas. No response to our request was received.

A \$3000.00 loan was approved for a K of L Building in Chicago remodeling loan, with a token 1% interest charge, and a scheduled repayment date of five years with an option to extend the repayment date. A donation of \$500.00 was made to the Mortgage Redemption Drive. The donation and loan were made, because of our interest in aiding such building activity, and due to the fact that this building would become property of the Supreme Council in the event that the Illinois-Indiana District and Chicago seniors were no longer able to keep the property.

Several younger member of Council 41, Brooklyn, expressed their disapproval to the Supreme Council, for your president's attending a concert in Brooklyn, given by a Lithuanian soloist from Vilnius, capital of occupied Lithuania. Inasmuch as concerts by this artist were given in other cities in the U.S. and Canada, which were attended by clergymen, journalists and prominent professional people and had been given complimentary reviews in the Catholic press and due to the fact that neither the

Supreme Council for liberation of Lithuania, the Lithuanian American Council, nor our diplomatic representatives issued any directives concerning attendance at these concerts, the Executive Board - Supreme Council - expressed its complete support of me in my judgement as President, and freedom to act as an individual. The Supreme Council also expressed its strong disapproval of the manner in which picketing was conducted at the concert by some members of Council 41, which was publicized in "Darbininkas", as being done by the Knights of Lithuania. The Supreme Council therefore adopted the following resolution: "Resolved, that public demonstrations utilizing the name of the Knights of Lithuania organization are not permitted without prior approval received from either the Supreme Council or the local District Executive Board". The President of Council 41, apologized for the Council, for remarks made against me at a council affair, by one of their members.

FUTURE PLANS . . . Your President will try to coordinate plans for a thrilling K of L excursion to Rome, on the occasion of the blessing of the Lithuanian Martyrs Chapel, in St. Peter's Basilica, on June 28, 1970. (For additional details, see "Official News".)

Through personal contact with Congressman Peter

W Rodino, Jr., of New Jersey, your President has succeeded in having him introduce a Bill in Congress (H. R. 13368), providing for the issuance of a special POSTAGE STAMP, to recognize the independence of the Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. (Congressman Rodino is this year's unanimous choice for our Friend of Lithuania medal and citation).

Your President agrees with Mr. Leonard Valiukas, of California, that we organize a special committee or "Task Force", which would review our present status and prepare forward-looking proposals for our future growth and strength. Some of our younger intellectuals should be selected, and their conclusions implemented at our next convention. The K of L should be the strongest, and most important organization in our communities, and its influence sought. We have the power, and we need the direction!

Concerning this convention, your President has assisted the hard-working, dedicated committee in inviting important people in the Lithuanian American world to participate in the convention and in our various session programs. Discussion panels have been set up for examining the areas and problems that need our attention the most.

DR. JACK J. STUKAS

SPIRITUAL PROGRAM FOR 1970

The following spiritual program is suggested for K of L members and councils for 1970.

A. INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION. Members are urged to take part in a new K OF L READING CLUB. The books selected are religious books which will help members gain a deeper and balanced insight into religious questions of our day. The books suggested are available as inexpensive paperbacks and may be obtained in most religious bookstores. Those who prefer may order the package of four books by sending a check for \$7.00 before Nov. 15, 1969 to: Rev. Albert Contons, 200 Lake st., Brighton, Mass. 02135.

(If any selection becomes unavailable, another may be substituted.)

1. Feb. Who Is Christ
by Anthony Padovano Ave Maria Press \$.95
2. May Apologetics And The Biblical Christ
by Avery Dulles, S.J. Newman Press \$1.50
3. Sept. Creation And Covenant
by James Plastaras Bruce Publishing Co. \$2.50
4. Nov. Popular History Of The Catholic Church
by Philip Hughes Macmillan Co. \$1.95

B. COUNCIL PARTICIPATION. Councils are encouraged to cooperate with their spiritual advisor in planning religious discussions using the above books as themes. Council spiritual advisor, guest speaker, or qualified members may be invited to present a talk on the topic, followed by discussion.

C. SPECIAL K OF L RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES.

1. February 16. Religious and civic observance of Lithuanian Independence.

2. March 4. St. Casimir, patron of K of L and Lithuanian youth.
3. May 13. Consecration of Lithuanians to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, as requested by Our Lady of Fatima.
4. Annual religious event - district religious workshop or religious day.

REV. ALBERT J. CONTONS
Supreme Council Spiritual Advisor



Welcome to the K of L at the Newark City Hall

Congressman PETER W. RODINO, Jr. - Twelfth Recipient of the Knights of Lithuania AWARD MEDAL.

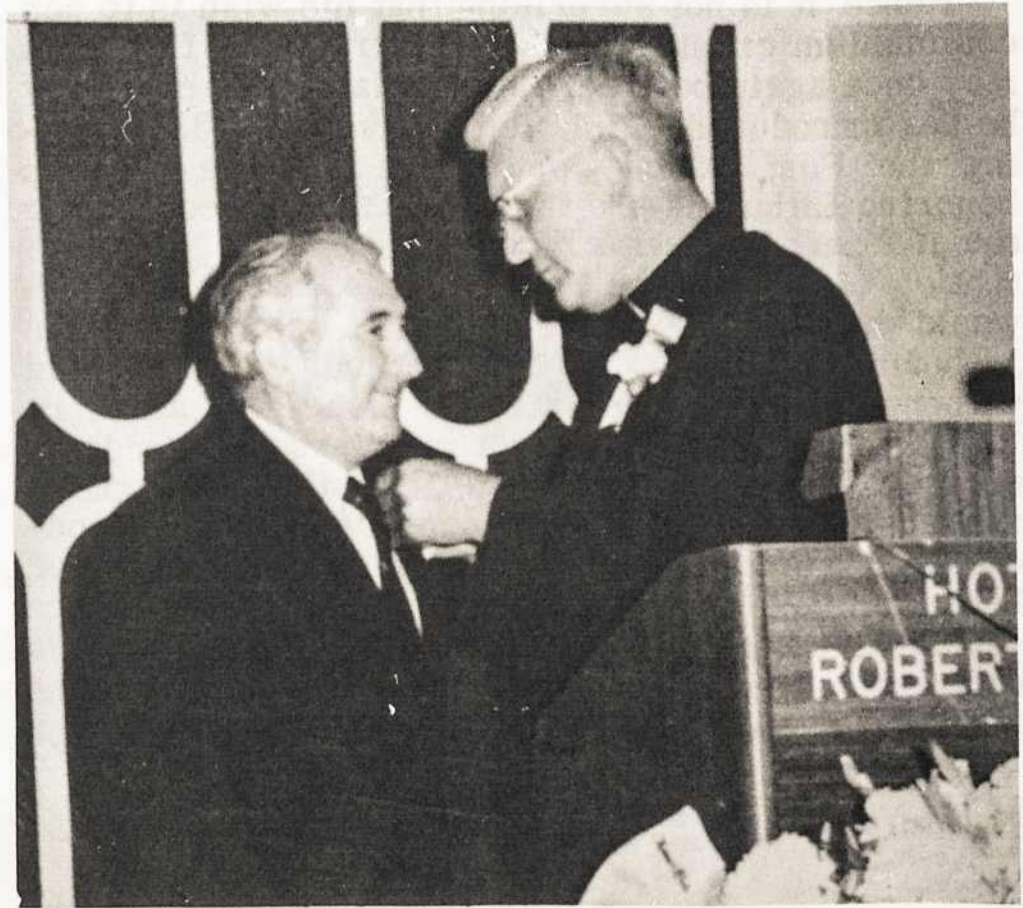
Because of her imperialistic actions, Soviet Russia, within the past few years, has had to suffer bad world opinion. Because it had spread so far among peoples living outside of the limits of the Soviet group of nations, the Soviets stepped up their propaganda machine. It became so effective that many were convinced that the bolsheviks had changed to such a degree that it was now possible to live peacefully with them. Newspapers, some of them of the highest calibre, carried feature articles, and television channels, some with great followings, carried special programs which clearly espoused the Soviet communistic cause. This indeed is regrettable because it demonstrates that the Soviets are winning their propaganda battle, to the continued enslavement of countries like Lithuania behind the Iron Curtain.

We, Lithuanians, know that Soviet propaganda is what it has always been - nothing but a lie. An event which happened in the spring of this year is proof of this. Deeply concerned about the future priestly needs of the Church in Lithuania, three priests, Fathers Dumbliauskas, Tamulevičius and Zdebskis, made a request of the Cult Ministry to permit the acceptance of more students into the seminary and the ordination of more seminarians to the priesthood. For this request, legitimate in every way and made with the utmost of respect, Father Dumbliauskas was tried in court for "insulting the Soviet Union". Fathers Tamulevičius and Zdebskis were at once stripped of their right to function as priests and were ordered to seek civil employment within 24 hours or face exile. Well may we ask those taken in by Soviet propaganda: does this indicate that the Soviets have changed in such a way that it is possible to live and coexist peacefully with them?

Fortunately, the thinking lover of mankind, the thinking American is able to distinguish between what the Soviets say and do. Thinking men can listen to Soviet propaganda but at the same time they can see through it all. Men like these continue to give hope to small nations like Lithuania, enslaved behind the Iron Curtain now for almost thirty years. Men like these continue to keep America as a beacon light, to which all enslaved nations look, for encouragement and for the will to live and pray for a better day to come. One of these men is the man who graces our head table this evening and whom we especially honor today at this banquet formally closing this year's national convention.

The Honorable Peter W. Rodino, Jr. was born in 1909 in Newark, N.J. After his early education, he received a law degree in 1937 at the University of Newark. He has lived and continues to live in his home town of Newark. In January, 1949, he began service as a Congressman from the tenth district of New Jersey. He has served Congress ever since and today he is the senior member of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation.

In Congress, he is recognized as an authority on immigration and refugee settlement. In 1965, he won a 17 year battle to remove discriminatory national quotas and humanize, as it were, the country's im-



migration program. His humanitarian efforts along this line enabled families separated by immigration barriers, to be reunited, and permitted many unfortunate victims of Soviet tyranny to find refuge and haven in America. Among these were not a few Lithuanian families.

Recognizing communism for the tremendous evil that it is, he fought it vigorously and without letup. For this fight, the Veterans of Foreign Wars saw fit to honor him with their Silver Star of Merit and the Catholic and Jewish War Veterans with their distinguished service awards.

To the Lithuanians, he has always been a TRUE FRIEND not only because many of them are his constituents but more so because of his honest conviction that Lithuania has been unjustly enslaved by a cruel Soviet. Not a year has gone by since 1949 that he has not been instrumental in introducing a resolution in Congress in behalf of Lithuania's freedom. He has ever been faithful in having inserted in the pages of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, resolutions passed by various Lithuanian groups in New Jersey. He has always considered it his solemn duty to be present at Lithuanian functions. This duty was always fulfilled with extreme pleasure.

Relentlessly he has fought to gain every possible advantage for Lithuanians in this country to continue their struggle for the restoration of Lithuanian independence. To them he has, time and time again, been a source of encouragement and strength to carry on despite terrifying odds. His efforts in behalf of Lithuania's struggle for freedom stems from a deep founded and sincere conviction that her cause is a most righteous one, one for which it is worth making extreme sacrifices. His is a conviction that communism is a system, so diabolical and ruthless in all its aspects, that it represents a danger to all nations, even our own United States. His is a conviction that Soviet Russia, in depriving Lithuania of her God-given right to rule herself, acted cruelly and against all principles of justice and charity and that concrete steps must be taken by the free world to right the injustice committed.

Hence it is not surprising that his wish is to see communism crushed so that countries like Lithuania may once again be free. This explains why presently he has introduced legislation (H Con. Res. 13368) asking the Post Office Department to issue a stamp honoring Lithuania and the Baltic States recognizing the independent status. Thus he hopes that the attention of at least the United States if not the world, would be focused on the injustice committed upon Lithuania by the Soviet and that our country would without delay take steps to do something about it.

Because of his constant readiness to condemn communism for the evils it has inflicted upon the nations it has enslaved, because of his deep concern for the restoration of Lithuanian Independence; because of his determination to use the influence of his high office to aid Lithuanians in their efforts to make Lithuania once again free, because on numerous occasions he has proved himself to be a

TRUE FRIEND OF LITHUANIA in her struggle to regain her rightful place among the free and independent nations of the world, it is indeed now a high honor and a special privilege for me to present at this time, with the approval and in behalf of the officers and members of the Knights of Lithuania Youth Organization, the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA AWARD MEDAL, to that fearless and determined defender of Lithuania's just right to freedom and independence, the distinguished and highly-respected Congressman from the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey, the Honorable Peter W. Rodino, Jr.

REV. JOHN C. JUTT
Hotel Robert Treat
Newark, N. J.

Given on August 24, 1969 at the closing banquet of the
K. of L. National Convention.



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Write to: Loretta Stukas -
1016 Schliefer Rd., Hillside, N. J. 07205

REZOLIUCIJOS

RESOLUTIONS

At the 56th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania, held at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, New Jersey, August 21-24, 1969, the clergy, delegates and guests unanimously passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, despite its tremendous propaganda efforts, Soviet Russia continues to enslave Lithuania against the free will of her people; and

Whereas, House Concurrent Resolution 416, passed by Congress some three years ago, calls for our President to bring the question of the freedom of Lithuania and the Baltic States before the United Nations organization and further calls for free elections under the guidance of the United Nations to take place in those countries:

NOW WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Convention respectfully urge the Government of the United States to fulfill the conditions of House Concurrent Resolution 416 in behalf of the restoration of the independence of Lithuania and the other Baltic States;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Convention manifest its sincerest gratitude to the Government of the United States for its consistent and continued non-recognition of the Soviet annexation of Lithuania and the other Baltic states:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of these resolutions be sent to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of State, the Honorable William Rogees, to the Ambassador of the United State Delegation at the United Nations, to the Honorable Chairmen of the Senate and House Foreign Relations Committee and to the press.

* * * * *

The 56th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, N. J. (August 21-24) unanimously passed a resolution of warm greeting and sincere congratulations to you, Mr. President, upon your election as President of the United States. We assure you of Wholehearted support of our Government's Vietnam policies. Soviet Russia's continued forcible domination of small nations indicates the urgency of executing H. Con. Res. 416 passed by Congress three years ago and calling for freedom for the Baltic States. The convention pleads with you, Sir, to present the question of the Baltic States to the United Nations without further delay.

Western White House
San Clemente, California

* * * * *

At the 56th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, N.J. on August 21-24, 1969, the clergy, delegates and guests unanimously resolved to express their undying faith in Christ and his Catholic Church and the unswerving loyalty to His Holiness, Pope Paul VI, particularly during these troubled times. The convention further resolves to express its profound gratitude to his Holiness for the appointment of the Most Reverend Anthony Deksny, D.D. as Bishop of all Lithuanians in exile in Europe for the Lithuanians in the United States have always held Bishop Deksny in the highest esteem.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Supreme Council officers, when attending regularly scheduled Supreme Council Executive Board meetings be reimbursed for traveling expenses, up to \$25.00 per meeting: Spiritual Advisor, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Financial Secretary, Treasurer. Reimbursement shall only be made when the officer attends a meeting located outside of his District. The President and Secretary, essential to the Supreme Council meetings, will be reimbursed in full for their traveling expenses.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that Attorney Anthony O. Shallna, Honorary Consul of Lithuania at Boston, who was appointed on August 7, 1939, and this being his 30th anniversary, the Knights of Lithuania congratulate him on his continued activity in behalf of Lithuania.

* * * * *

Atsižvelgiant į Kun. Viktoro Kriščiunevičiaus 20 metų kunigystės sukaktį ir atsimerant jo ypatingus darbus Lietuvos Vyčių naudai nuveiktus, jam einant Centro Valdybos pareigas, 56-asis Lietuvos Vyčių seimas nuoširdžiai sveikina Jubiliatą Kun. Kriščiūnevičių ir linki jam geriausios sveikatos, Dievo palaimos ir kuo geriausio pasisekimo visuose darbuose. Lietuvos Vyčiai niekada neužmirš jo meilę Lietuvos Vyčiams daugelį kartų pareikštą ir parodytą.

BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of our Knights of Lithuania, WHEN FEASIBLE, do their utmost to strengthen our Lithuanian parishes by REMAINING active members of the parish organizations and councils in order to help preserve our Lithuanian language and culture.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that The Knights of Lithuania wholeheartedly endorse the efforts of the Baltic Appeal to the United Nations (BATUN) to impress the representatives of the various missions to the United Nations with the tragic situation of the Baltic Nations - Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia - caused by the illegal occupation and subjugation by Soviet Russia and to seek their assistance in bringing up the case of the restoration of independence and freedom to these subjugated nations, and specifically at this time, promises support and participation in the Baltic rally and protest demonstration on Saturday, September 20th, two to five o'clock at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, East 47th Street to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the diabolical Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact that condemned the Baltic Nations to an existence as nations incorporated in the Soviet group of nations and deprived of all human and civil rights.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the trustees are voting members of the executive board, and

WHEREAS, they are subject to the same financial expenditure as the other board members,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Trustees be reimbursed their travel expenses on the same basis as the other Board members.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Lithuania, assembled in Newark, New Jersey for their 56th National Convention unanimously agree to, extend their full support to the American Lithuanian Council (Taryba) in their activities and wish them much success with their up-coming 7th American Lithuanian Congress to be held in Detroit, Mich., on Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1, 1969.

* * * * *

Išklausė skaitytą Garbės Narystės Komisijos raportą a) priimti Naujosios Anglijos Apygardos nutarimą šiame 56-tame Tautiniame suvažiavime pomirtiniai į Garbės Narius pakelti Edward A. Daniels iš Worcester, Mass. 26-tos kuopos; ir b) priimti Vidur-centrinės Apygardos nutarimą sekančiame suvažiavime paaukštinti Robert Boris iš Detroit, Mich. 102-ros kuopos.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the Supreme Council of the Knights of Lithuania donate \$100.00 to the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception, Putnam, Conn. for their Youth Camp Program.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates to the 56th National Convention meeting in Newark, N.J., unanimously extend their congratulations on the 50th Anniversary of the publication of "The N.Y. Daily News" and, we continue to look forward to the newspaper espousing the cause of Lithuania, her sister Baltic Nations, Latvia and Estonia, and all Captive Nations that are enslaved by Soviet Communism.

* * * * *

We, the members of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, N.J. for the 56th National Convention, hereby express our sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the District Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Peter Zemeikis and the clergy of the New York-New Jersey District for their untiring efforts in arranging the spiritual activities of the 1969 National Convention.

* * * * *

We, the members of the Knights of Lithuania, assembled at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, N.J. for the 56th National Convention, hereby express our appreciation to the Officers, committee and members of the New York-New Jersey District for their untiring efforts in arranging a successful and enjoyable Convention.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the members of this 56th National Convention acknowledge for their untiring efforts in conducting an orderly convention, the Presidium members, the Sgts-at-Arms and the members of the Convention committees.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates assembled at the Robert Treat Hotel in Newark, N.J. for the 56th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania Unanimously expressed their appreciation to the Lithuanian and English press for their coverage of this 1969 Convention and for their cooperation and coverage throughout the entire year.

* * * * *

"Vieningai veikime ištikimybėje savo idealams!"

"Let us work united and faithful to our ideals."

Convention Motto

ANNUAL CANON FABIJONAS KEMEZIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Once again, member Knights contributed generously to maintain the National Scholarship Fund . . . and once again, several young K of L'ers will receive much-needed assists in their pursuit of higher learning!

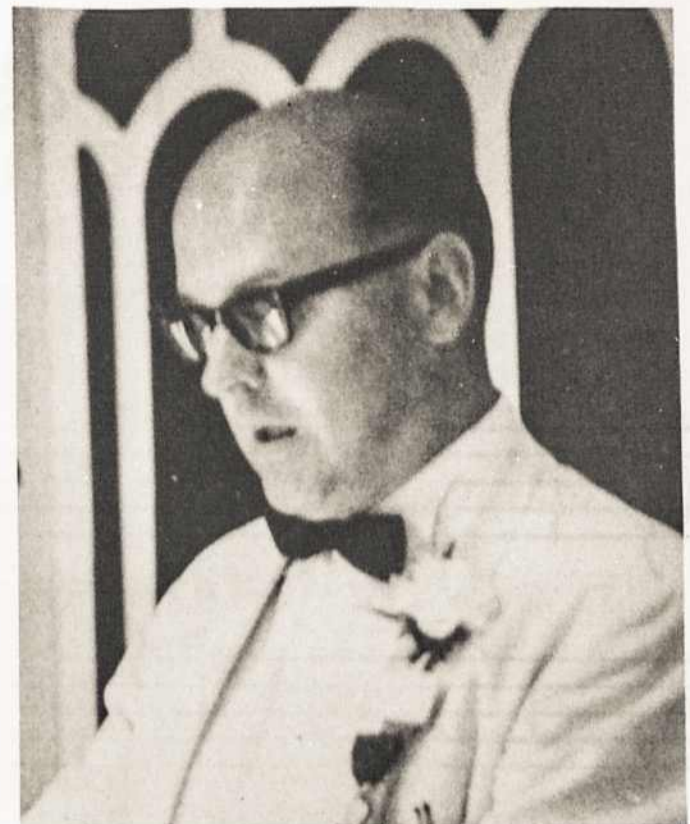
The awards were announced during the Convention's Closing Banquet by Scholarship Committee Chairman and National President Dr. Jack J. Stukas. Following are his remarks and comments on the recipients qualifications:

The Board of trustees of the Knights of Lithuania Scholarship Fund is pleased this evening to award the 12th annual Knights of Lithuania Scholarship stipends to three **DESERVING MEMBERS**. Many highly qualified candidates made the selections especially difficult this year. This year's Selection Committee included yours truly as chairman; Rev. John Jutt of Worcester, Massachusetts, Monsignor John Balkunas of Maspeth, New York, and Walter Svekla, of Philadelphia. The selections have been based on an extensive and thorough investigation and analysis of the applicant's previous academic records, financial need, character, religiosity, organizational service and dedication to the principles of the Knights of Lithuania.

The selections we Trustees have made should help the worthy and deserving Knights and Ladies in furthering their college education. This year, the awards total \$1000.00, and will be paid to the

recipients in two installments, one-half before the start of each semester. Our heartiest congratulations to the three **WINNERS**.

The first award, in the amount of \$500.00, goes to **BIRUTE BASKAUSKAS**, of Council 112, Chicago, Illinois. Birutė plans to study nursing at the Ravenswood School of Nursing in Chicago, has been active in raising funds for the support of Lithuanian television in Chicago, teaches a Lithuanian folk dance group, is active in the Knights of Lithuania Choir and currently serves as Illinois-Indiana District Recording Secretary. Of Birutė Baskauskas, her teacher, Sister Pulcheria said: "She has a deep desire to be of help to others. She has chosen the Nursing profession because she wants to help those in pain and in need. She is a credit to the Knights of Lithuania". Our Scholarship Committee is especially pleased to grant Birutė this award because of her great financial need. All of her references agreed, that she is most deserving of our assistance. The two additional awards we are making this year, go to the following candidates:



macy there. In his own words, he state in his application: Through the Newman Club and other campus organizations, I hope to continue to develop my leadership potential in order to become a valuable asset to both my community and my church."



\$300.00 is awarded to **WALTER HRYSZKO**, vice president of Kearny, N.J. Council 90, Juniors. He has been active in sports, and managed a Little League Team. He is on the Newark Archdiocesan Pastoral Youth Committee, and is very active in his parish. His teacher, Mr. DeMaio, said of him: "He is well respected as a leader by his fellow students." Walter has been accepted to Maryland State University and plans to study phar-

KOSTAS

SKRUODYS

\$200.00 is awarded to **KOSTAS SKRUODYS**, of Jersey City, N.J., Member of Newark Council 29. He has been active in the Scout Movement, and participates in various Lithuanian activities especially in the K of L. His instructor at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, Dr. Benassi, found him "to be a good student of sterling character, dependable, hard working and cooperative." Kostas is currently studying Business Management at St. Peter's College and hopes to go into the management field upon graduation and completion of his military reserve duties.

VYČIA SEIMO VALSAS

(K of L CONVENTION WALTZ)

Words and Music
Liudas Stukas

WE'VE GATHERED TO - GE - THER FROM NEAR AND A - FAR, AT THE
 CON - VEN - TION BALL. LET'S ALL SING OUT AND GIVE OUT WITH A
 CHEER, VA - LIO, VA - LIO EI, VY - ČIAI. IT'S NOW THE
 FIF - TY SIXTH TIME THAT WE'VE MET, AS KNIGHTS FOR GOD AND
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 GET THE CAUSE WE ARE RIGHT - ING FOR. DAI -
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 SIAI MES VY - ČIAI. KAD BU - TU LAIS - VA BRAN -
 GI LIE - TU - VA. VA - LIO, VA - LIO MES VY - ČIAI. DAI -
 ČIAI.

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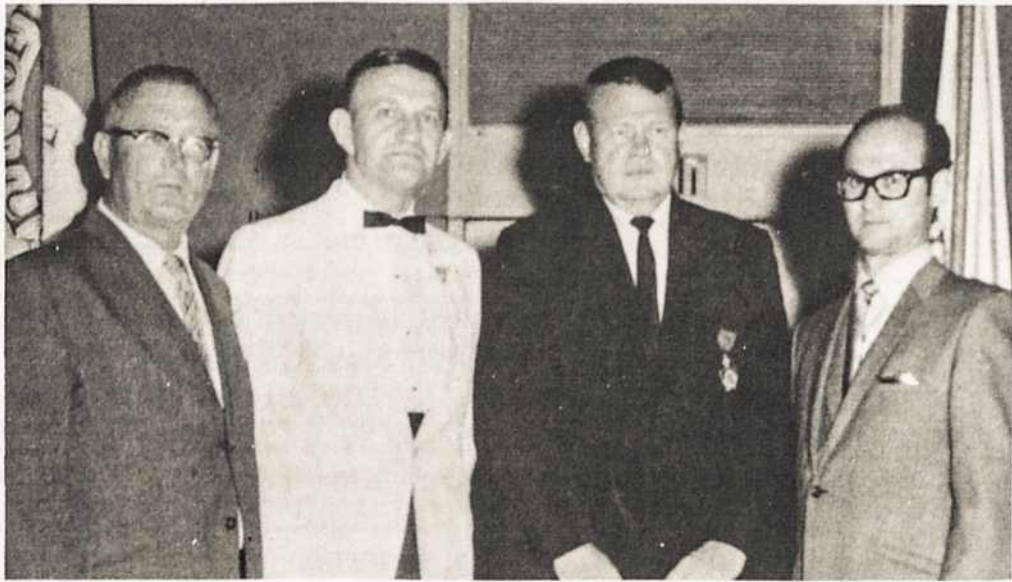
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 Vysk. Antanas Deksnys, D.D., Bishop for Lithuanians in Europe
 Clifford P. Case, U.S. Senator, New Jersey
 Dwight L. Chaplin, Special Assistant to President Richard M. Nixon
 W. Ernst Minor, Special Assistant to Vice President Spiro Agnew
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 Hon. Anicetus Simutis, Lithuanian Consul General of New York
 Hon. Anthony O. Shallna, Lithuanian Consul of Boston
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 Hugh J. Addonizio, Mayor of Newark
 Joseph M. Healey, Mayor of Kearny
 Thomas G. Dunn, Mayor of Elizabeth
 Walter C. Jaskievicz, S.J., Director Lithuanian Program, Fordham University
 Sisters of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother M. Aloysa, Putnam, Conn.
 Lithuanian R.C. Alliance of America, Leonard Simutis, Pres., Chicago
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 Kun. V. Karalevicius, Jersey City, N.J.
 Kun. Pranas Bulovas, Maspeth, N.Y.
 Kun. Jonas Pakalniskis, Maspeth, N.Y.
 Kun. Pijus Kekesis, Maspeth, N.Y.
 Kun. Stasys Raila, Maspeth, N.Y.
 Kun. A. Rackauskas
 Father Walter Masiulis
 Rev. Francis A. Ruggles, Ridgewood, N. J.
 Kun. Jurgis Gurinskas, New York, N.Y.
 Rev. John Savukynas, M.I.C., Chicago, Ill.
 Kun. Dr. Stasys Viliusaitis
 New Jersey Lietuvių Taryba, Valentinas Melinis
 Rev. John Pakalniskis, Maspeth, N.Y., \$10.00
 Anthony J. Young, Honorary Member, C17, So. Boston, \$25.00
 Mary L. Lucas, Honorary Member, C96 Dayton, \$10.00
 Joseph Sakaitis, Honorary Member, C26 Worcester, \$10.00
 Gene Gobis, C100 Amsterdam, "Vytis" Fund, \$5.00

Matas Zujus, Honorary Member, Wilkes Barre, "vytis" Fund, \$20.00
 Jonas Sprainaitis, Honorary Member, C61 Paterson, "Vytis" Fund, \$10.00
 P. Pola Gludadienė, Cleveland Seniors, \$10.00
 Frank Vaskas, Honorary Member, C29 Newark, "Vytis" Fund, \$10.00
 Prof. A. J. Aleksis, Honorary Member, C7 Waterbury, \$20.00
 Daniel Degutis, C52 Elizabeth, \$5.00

CANON FABIJONAS KEMELIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Report of Treasurer
 July 11, 1968 - August 1, 1969

Mr. & Mrs. Kurpowic, C139	\$ 25.00
Miss Ann Mitchell, C52	10.00
Anthony J. Mazeika, New York S.	5.00
Miss Gene Gobis, C100	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Zager, C79	10.00
Prof. Jack J. Stukas, C29	25.00
Algirdas Kačanauskas, C29	50.00
C139 Detroit	75.00
Frank Vaskas, C29	5.00
C10 Athol	5.00
C26 Athol	5.00
C26 Worcester	100.00
Miss Phyllis Grendal, S. Boxtton Srs.	10.00
Antanas Buknis, Cleveland S.	50.00
Antoinette Naujelis, C19	10.00
Steponas Bucmys, C96	10.00
C3 Philadelphia	50.00
C52 Elizabeth	10.00
C19 Pittsburg	25.00
Faustas Strolia, IID K of L Choir Dir.	60.00
C100 Amsterdam	10.00
New England District	50.00
C1 Brockton	25.00
Frank Gudelis, C96	10.00
C111 Youngstown Seniors	10.00
New York Seniors	37.00
C3 Philadelphia	25.00
C96 Dayton	10.00
C30 Westfield, Mass.	10.00
C29 Newark	60.00
C17 S. Boston Seniors	100.00

DONATIONS RECEIVED DURING CONVENTION

Antanas Buknis, Cleveland Sr.	50.00
Jonas Sprainaitis, H.M. C61	15.00
Felicija M. Grendal, H.M. C17 Srs.	10.00
Leon Pauksta, C112	10.00
Longinas Svelnis, C17 Srs.	10.00
Joseph Sakaitis, H.M., C26	5.00
Genevieve Gobis, C100	10.00
Prof. A. Aleksis, H.M. C7	20.00
Rev. Pakalniskis, C41	10.00
Al Wesey, C109	50.00
Marcella Andrikis, H.M., C7	5.00
Irene Sankus, "Vytis" Editor, C112	10.00
Daniel Degutis, C-52	5.00
C-10, Athol-Gardner	5.00
Stanley Vaitkus, H.M., C96	10.00
C26, Worcester	25.00
Illinois-Indiana District	100.00

Steponas Bucmys, C96 10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Stukas, H.M. C29 10.00



MEMBERSHIP REPORT (1968-1969)

District New Member Standings

New York-New Jersey	- 38 new members
Illinois-Indiana	- 33 new members
New England	- 19 new members
Mid-Central	- 18 new members
California	- 7 new members

Council Award (50 or over membership)

C 26 Worcester - 2%, 2 new, 135 total
(This was the only council in this category to attain 100% paid membership.)

Council Awards (Under 50 membership)

C 90 Kearny	- 31%, 9 new, 42 total
C100 Amsterdam	- 17%, 6 new, 40 total
C 17 So. Boston	- 16%, 7 new, 49 total

Individual Awards (50 or over membership)

*Leon Pauksta - 40 pts., C112 Chicago
Joseph Chaps - 35 pts., C 79 Detroit
(*Mr. Pauksta as Membership Chairman presented the 1st place award to Mr. Chaps.)

Individual Awards (Under 50 membership)

Mildred Grinewich - 85 pts., C 90 Kearny
Antanas Skirius - 50 pts., L.S. Srs.
Special Awards to Juozas Sadauskas, Cleveland Seniors and Vytautas Radzivancy, C41 Brooklyn.

100% Paid-Up Dues	- First Councils
11-29 category	- Los Angeles Seniors
30-59 category	- C100 Amsterdam and the Cleveland Seniors (tie)
60-99 category	- No Winner
100 & Up category	- C26 Worcester

As of August 1969, was had a total of 1,667 members, with a total of 115 new members for the 1968-69 membership drive.

Membership Breakdown: Priests with council - 76;
Individual members - 819; and couples (386) - 772.

District Total Member Standings: New England - 488;
Mid-Central - 467; New York-New Jersey - 371;
Illinois-Indiana - 299; and California - 42.



PANEL DISCUSSIONS

The Supreme Council arranged for the panel discussions for benefit of the delegates attending the convention. The following panels were held: Juniors, moderator Stanley Vaitkus; Ritual, moderator Rita Pinkus; Seniors, moderator Longinas Svelnis; Lithuanian Affairs, moderator Charles Grigaitis; Lithuanian Culture, moderator Mary Jankowski; and Associate Membership, moderator Eleanore Laurin for Alexander Wesey. Each of the panels brought forth new ideas and a variety of suggestions. Summaries of each panel will appear in subsequent issues of "Vytis".



CONVENTION MASSES

The Friday and Saturday Convention Masses were held at the Robert Treat Hotel with special permission. The Sunday Mass was held in Sts. Peter and Paul Church, home parish of Council 52, Elizabeth, N.J.

Convention Opening Mass Celebrants: Rev. Peter Zemeikis, NYNJ Spr. Adv., Rev. John Jutt, Honorary Member and Hon. Chrman Lith. Affairs Comm., and Rev. Albert Contons, Natl. Spr. Adv. Holy Mass for Deceased Members, Celebrants: Rev. Contons, Rev. J. Walter Stanievich, former Natl. Spr. Adv., and Spr. Adv. C-102 Detroit, Rev. Jutt and Rev. Zemeikis. Sunday Holy Mass: His Excellency Vincentas Brizgys, Rev. Jutt and Rev. Stanievich. In attendance were: M sgr. William Fur-

long, representative of Archbishop Boland, and the Reverends Titus Narbutas of Dayton, Dominic Pocius of Kearny, Peter Zemeikis and Joseph Pragulbiskis of Elizabeth and Stasys Liubius of Lithuania.



PRESS AND RADIO COVERAGE

The outside world was made well aware of the events surrounding the 56th National Knights of Lithuania Convention, through the concerted efforts of the Convention's publicity committee.

On the radio, advance news of the convention was given over various Lithuanian radio programs, not only in New York but also throughout the U.S. On Saturday of the convention, Rev. John C. Jutt, Honorary Chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs committee, was interviewed regarding his committee's work in particular and the K of L in general by Dr. Jack J. Stukas over the latter's "Memories of Lithuania" Radio Hour. Also, the Voice of America included extensive news of the weekend convention activities in its broadcasts, directly to Lithuania.

Excellent advance and post-convention coverage was received from Lithuanian papers - Darbininkas, Draugas, Dirva, Garsas, and others, and also by numerous local American papers. In fact, photographers and news writers from the Newark News, the Newark Star-Ledger, the Elizabeth Daily Journal, the Kearny Observer and the advocate were present and covered the Banquet, the Sunday Mass and Street Dedication and several other events.

FRIDAY LUNCHEON

The Honorable Anicetas Simutis, General Consul of Lithuania, was the guest speaker during the Convention's Friday Afternoon Luncheon. He spoke on the Convention's theme "Vieningai veikime, ištikimybėje savo idealams" . . . "Let us work together, united and faithful to our ideals," stressing in particular the importance of idealism in working for Lithuania's freedom from Communist oppression, and in keeping her culture alive among our members. Mr. Simutis represents the government, in exile, of free Lithuania, and serves Lithuanians of the greater New York area.

Algirdas Kacanauskas, director of the "Rūta" Ensemble, organist at Annunciation Church in Brooklyn and member of Newark's Council 29, was master of ceremonies for the luncheon. Specially honored during the affair were National President Dr. Jack Stukas, and District Presidents - Larry Janonis, NY-NJ; Albert Jaritis, New England; Vincent Ed Pavis, Mid-Central, (represented by Stanley Vaitkus), and Leon Pauksta, Ill.-Ind. (represented by

Eleanore Laurin). Also, among the honored guests were the Rev. John Balkunas, pastor of Transfiguration Church, Maspeth, and Matas Zujus, Honorary Member and Editor of "Garsas", and Rev. Peter Zemeikis, N.Y.-N.J. District Spiritual Advisor and Administrator of Sts. Peter & Paul Church, Elizabeth.

SUPREME COUNCIL MEETS

The newly-elected Board met in the Convention Hospitality Room immediately after the Closing Banquet. In attendance were: Rev. John Jutt, Dr. Jack Stukas, Diane Daniels, Longinas Svelnis, Dorothy Dutkus, Helen Zimmer, Stella Sankal, Albert Jaritis, Stanley Vaitkus, Irene Sankus, Valentina Hotra, Eleanore Laurin, Mary Jankowski and Anne Bender. A summary of the meeting will appear in the next issue.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED

President Stukas received word that two new bills were introduced in the House of Representatives: on August 6, 1969, Congressman Peter W. Rodino, Jr., 10th District, New Jersey, introduced H. R. 13368 to provide for the issuance of a special postage stamp to recognize the independence of the Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia; and on August 13, 1969, Congressman Samuel S. Stratton, 35th District, New York, introduced H.R. 13546 to provide for the issuance of a special postage stamp to recognize the independence of the Republic of Lithuania. Both bills were referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

LITHUANIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Hundreds of people visited our Lithuanian Cultural Exhibit in Salon F, finding it a great place to meet with friends and discover unusual facts of "old" Lithuania.

Many around the hotel the day before the convention had a "prevue peek" of what went on into the makings of this exhibit: Alexandra Merker finding helping hands to carry in her fine oil paintings, bas-reliefs and sculpture in iron ... John Subacius "smuggling" in a 5'4" mannequin... Ellie Nakrosis with Lithuanian dolls from Our Lady of Sorrows' school... Robert Novak bringing his award winning collection of Lithuanian stamps and coins... Helen Kulber carrying Rev. A. Kezys, SJ's nationally acclaimed photographs ... As Joe Boley goes up the stairs one is aware that he is carrying the memorabilia of M. A. Norkunas to display for the first time... Mary and Mildred Grinevich greeting all as they show an old linen towel with - Labas Rytas - woven into it ... Milda Kvedaras with the help of her daughter, brought out Milda's most colorful handloomed articles for all to see and buy... Louis Stukas and Kazys Sipaila bringing in dozens of cartoons too precious for even a "peek" until their contents are locked safely in the showcase. Mary Kober rushes thru the lobby carrying an old authentic Lithuanian costume for the mannequin... Regina Schmidt follows with a modern Lithuanian costume... A nostalgic scent of Lithuanian gardens fills the hotel as Ann Mitchell comes thru - an arm full of rue and mint ... Eleanor Gelenitis is approached by several delegates wanting a sample



swig from her partially filled bottle of liquor brought from Lithuania by her father in the 20'... Dotty Dutkus' wooden doll finds her way down from the convention suite... Anne Klem trying to sneak in with a spinning wheel under one arm and a Lithuanian house gable decoration (horses' heads) under the other. Already in the Exhibit room are the many unusual and beautiful loans from Mr. V. Mamaitis, Mr. J. Veblaitis, Mrs. Leskaitis (Vince Jonuškaitė-Zaunienė), Mrs. A. Trečiokas, Louis Stukas, among others.

Salon F made a magical change - a bit of Old Lithuania emerged - result of the wonderful cooperation of so many who responded most willingly by lending their precious articles, by obtaining from others unusual items and by coming personally to advise and assist. John Subacius masterfully suggested the proper settings, Helen arranged and rearranged, Louis and Kazys filled the showcase, Bob brought out his stamps and coins, Anne displayed her collection of dozens of decorated eggs (etched and also bee's waxed) and brought out the Christmas tree covered with straw ornaments, displayed a few of her straw crosses and stars. It was fascinating to watch Joe Boley Display his collection on M. A. Norkunas. While the room was being put into order, the Lithuanian "lady" sat by a spinning wheel and watched, and soft Lithuanian music filled the air.

The Cultural Exhibit resulting from the unusually fine cooperation of all the people mentioned - members and non-members - was most gratifying.



SATURDAY LUNCHEON

"Public Relations" was the central theme of the Saturday Luncheon, and awards and honors were bestowed on several groups of K of L'ers for their work in this important field, in one way or another.

The chief awards bestowed were Membership Awards . . . given to those individuals and councils who recruited the most new members and/or kept the highest percentage of present members on the active rolls of their respective councils and districts. These awards - for "Public Relations" work at its best - were presented by the National Second Vice-President, in charge of membership, Leon Pauksta.



Mistress of Ceremonies for this Luncheon, Loretta Stukas, former Editor of VYTIS and Publicity Chairman for the convention, introduced and rendered honorable mention to, a number of Knights of Lithuania "unsung heroes", active especially in Public Relations work, (see picture). Seated: Rev. John Jutt (Lith. Afrs. Honorary Chrmn.), Mrs. Stukas, Prof. Aleksis, Rev. Contons, Falisa Grendal, former VYTIS editor and Rev. Dominick Pocius. Standing: Frank Vaskas, (P.R. for NY-NJ Dist), Juozas Sadauskas (P.R. for Mid-Central Dist), Irene Sankus, VYTIS Editor, Albert Jaritis (P.R. for N.E. Dist.), Eleanore Laurin, Mr. Pauksta and Helen Kulber.

A special surprise award of Gold Cuff Links, was presented, on behalf of the Convention Hosts, to Professor A. J. Aleksis for his long time, constant, and very active interest in the affairs and betterment of the Knights of Lithuania, and for setting such a fine example for young and old Knights alike.

As a fitting climax to the event, Rev. Albert Contons, National Spiritual Adviser of the K of L, instructor of French at the St. Sebastian Country Day School in Newton, Mass, and Chaplain of the Cenacle Convent in Brighton, Mass., presented a very thought-provoking and timely talk on "Freedom and Religion". A reprint of this talk will appear in a future issue of VYTIS.

DEDICATION OF "MSGR. KEMEZIS PLACE"

A highlight of the Convention's Sunday morning ceremonies was the official dedication of "Msgr. Kemežis Place", the street bordering Sts. Peter and Paul Lithuanian Parish in Elizabeth, N.J. The street was renamed by the City of Elizabeth to honor the late Msgr. Michael Kemežis, pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul Church from 1935 to his death on January 3, 1969, in recognition of his many contributions to the betterment of the city of Elizabeth

and its citizens. Msgr. Kemežis was also an active K of L member. In 1935, he organized the present Elizabeth Knights of Lithuania, C-52, and remained an active member until his death. He also served as District Spiritual Adviser for many years, was National Spiritual Advisor in 1940 and 1941, and was always available to assist in K of L endeavors whenever called upon.



Immediately after the Convention Mass, delegates and guests gathered at the street bordering the church yard, and watched Mayor Thomas Dunn of Elizabeth uncover the street sign, officially renaming the street "Msgr. Kemežis Place". Assisting the mayor were the present administrator of Sts. Peter & Paul Rev. Peter Zemeikis, Bishop V. Brizgys of Chicago, Msgr. William Furlong (representative of Newark's Archbishop Boland and a

classmate of Msgr. Kemežis), and Councilman Turk of Elizabeth. The late monsignor's family, namely, his brothers Dr. Vyto and Joseph with their families, and his sister Veronica, were also honored guests at the ceremonies.

A delicious brunch in the parish hall, followed the mass & dedication. During the brunch, Mayor Dunn, addressing those gathered, welcomed the K of L to its city and complimented the Lithuanians of Elizabeth and Msgr. Kemežis for their efforts and perseverance in helping keep Elizabeth a pleasant and safe place to live. Councilman Turk, who was instrumental in having the street renamed, also addressed the gathering with a brief welcome. Dr. Vyto Kemežis, on behalf all Msgr. Kemežis' family, thanked the city of Elizabeth and the K of L for the honor paid the monsignor. Jack Stukas was toastmaster for the event.

MYKOLAS NORKUNAS COMMEMORATIVE SESSION

A Tribute to the Founder of the Knights of Lithuania, Mykolas Norkunas, was held in the Grand Ballroom during the final business session. The commentator, Juozas Boley, introduced guests speakers, Dr. Phyllis Cimics, daughter of Mr. Norkunas, the Rev. Peter Shakalis of Lawrence, Mass., and Honorary Member Alexander J. Aleksis of Waterbury, Conn. Full coverage of the commemoration will appear in the next issue.

"CONGRATS" ON A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

By Council cooperation, the New York-New Jersey District again presented a truly enjoyable convention. The Committee: HONORARY CHAIRMAN, Dr. Jack J. Stukas; SPIRITUAL ADVISOR, Rev. Peter Zemeikis; GENERAL CHAIRMAN, Larry Janonis; SECRETARY, Dorothy Dutkus; TREASURER, Edward Schmidt; PROGRAM BOOK CHAIRMAN, Loretta I. Stukas; REGISTRATION, Joann Schmidt, Mary Kober, Anne Mensler, Jeanne Janonis; PRE-CONVENTION ACTIVITIES, Dorothy Dutkus; LITHUANIAN LUAU, Mildred Grenewich, Chairman, and her committee:



MYKOLAS NORKUNAS COMMEMORATIVE SESSION

Bill and Alvena Shergalis, Mary Grinewich, Ellie and John Nakrosis, Dottie Bezgela, Elsie Pamper, Tony Ambrutis, Veronica Kemezis, Dorothy and Walter Staskus; CULTURAL EVENING: Loretta Stukas, chairman, and her committee: Mary Stonis, Kostas and Antanina Skruodys, Edward and JoAnn Schmidt, Kazys Sipaila, Eva Sharon, Helen Radisch, Robert Pechkis, Regina and Helmut Schmidt, Rose and Albinas Zukauskas, Louis Stukas, and Christine Yakavonis; CONVENTION BALL, Larry Janonis, Chr.; SUNDAY BRUNCH: Annie Mitchell, Chairman, and her committee: Norbert Wysocki, Peter Kasilionis, Frances Milewski, Mary Motecus, Ann Baronas, Stanley Valatka, Agatha Naiva, Ann Luksis, Charles Rusteika, Daniel Degutis, Ruth Brazinski; BANQUET, Larry Janonis, Chr.; PUBLICITY: Loretta Stukas, Frank Vaskas, Eleanore Gelenitis, William Senkus, Helen Kulber; CULTURAL EXHIBIT: Kazys Sipaila, Chairman, and his committee: Ann Klem, Eleanore Gelenitis, Ellie Nakrosis, Helen Kulber, Louis Stukas, John Subacius; TRANSPORTATION: Anthony Kober; ART WORK: Rev. Sylvester Catallo, Joseph Leikauskas, John Subacius, August Stukes; MUSIC FOR MASS: Vincas Mamaitis.



HONORARY MEMBERS MEET

Following the Saturday business sessions, the honorary members in attendance at the convention, met for an informal session in the Chicago suite with Falisa Grendal as hostess. The members discussed ways and means to improve the K of L. Selected as the Honorary Membership Special Events Committee were: Alexander J. Aleksis, Chairman, Falisa Grendal, Secretary and Frank Gudelis, Treasurer.

1970 CONVENTION TO CHICAGO

Following the example of the NY-NJ District, the Illinois-Indiana District invited the 1970 National Convention to Chicago. The Convention City of the USA - Chicago - and the members of the IID will eagerly await all of their friends next August. The Chicago motto is always - Come Early and Stay Late!



HONORARY MEMBERSHIP PRESENTED

Elevated to Honorary Membership in the Knights of Lithuania, Anne Klem of Council 90, Kearny, N.J. By special resolution, honorary membership was bestowed posthumously to Edward A. Daniels of Council 26, Worcester, Mass. The Medals were accepted by Miss Klem and Diane Daniels, widow of Mr. Daniels, at the Convention Banquet.

"VYTIS" THANK YOU

The Editor extends her appreciation to the following members who 'assisted' with this convention issue: to Sylvia Shukis, Susan Boroskas and Loretta Stukas for supplying information and data; to Loretta Stukas and Eleanore Laurin for their writing assistance.

Photo credits to the official photographer, Vytautas Mazelis of Ridgwood, N.Y., and to the "unofficial" photographers, Stella Sankal of Cleveland, and Helen Zimmer of Chicago and Stanley Valatka of Elizabeth.

K of L Calendar

OCTOBER

- 10 - MCD "Early Bird" Party, Pavis Residence, Youngstown, Ohio
- 11 - MCDistrict CONVENTION, Marine Room, Gondolier Restaurant, Youngstown, Ohio
- 12 - MCD CONVENTION BANQUET, Gondolier Restaurant, Youngstown, Ohio
- 11 - C-29 Newark, ANNUAL DINNER DANCE, St. George's Hall, Newark, N.J.

NOVEMBER

- 22 - C-17 So. Boston, FALL DANCE, So. Boston Lithuanian Citizens Club, 2nd Flr., So. Boston, Mass.

DECEMBER

- 14 - C-100 Amsterdam, ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BANQUET, Tower Inn, Amsterdam, N.Y.
- 2 - C-112 Chicago, ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS

ELECTIONS

District and Council officer elections must take place either in the month of September or October as per the constitutional change which was approved at the 1964 National Convention.

Immediately after the election of new officers, PLEASE send the names and addresses to the National Recording Secretary Dorothy Dutkus.

The Supreme Council officers, your national Spiritual Advisors, and the national committees cannot operate efficiently without YOUR cooperation. This year - let us ALL cooperate with our national Board.

"VYTIS" DEADLINES

November issue deadline was October 5th.

December (Christmas) issue for all material except the Christmas greetings will be November 5th.

All material except Council News must be sent to the Editor.

Christmas greetings from districts, councils, members and friends of the Knights of Lithuania will be solicited for the December issues. Rates for donations appear in this issue and letters will be sent to all presidents.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our National Financial Secretary Helen Zimmer reminds us that membership dues are \$5.00 per year and will be due on January 1, 1969. She requests that the newly-elected Council Financial Secretaries begin collecting membership dues immediately. Dues should, if at all possible, be collected for a full year.

LITHUANIAN CULTURAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have only a few sets left of the Lithuanian language records SPEED COURSE IN LITHUANIAN. Price is \$3.00 per set postpaid. However, we have a good supply of CHILDRENS PLAYWAY TO LITHUANIAN. The Price on these records has now been reduced to \$2.00 per set postpaid. Please send orders to Frank Gudelis, 129 Rita St., Dayton, Ohio 45404.

NEED YOUR HELP

So that we may complete the binding of the "Vy-tis" for the past few years, we need your help: The following issues are missing from the back files: February 1961; June-July 1961; March 1963 (2 copies); April 1963; January-February 1964 (2 copies); April 1964; May 1964 (2 copies); June 1964; July 1964; November 1964 (2 copies); January 1965; June-July 1965 (2 copies); and March 1966.

Please send the copies to the Editor. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated and will enable us to complete the binding.

RULES FOR THE 1969-70 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

In order to give ALL Councils the opportunity to participate in the Membership Drive, the rules and classifications have changed as follows:

SPECIAL AWARDS will be presented to councils in each of the following categories for being first to have their council dues 100% paid-up: 1st category - 10 and under members; 2nd - 11-29 members; 3rd - 30-59 members; 4th - 60-99 members; and 5th - 100 and over members. These awards will be based on the national financial secretary's membership records as of August 1, 1969, which were presented at the convention.

Council awards for new members will be presented for the greatest percentage of per capita increase based on net increases as follows: Council with Over 50 members; Councils with 26-50 members; and Councils with 25 and under members.

Individual award credits for enrolling new members as follows: TEN points can be earned for each new or rejoin member enrolled from August until April 1, 1970; and FIVE points, thereafter until July 10, 1970.

EXCURSION TO ROME

The Knights of Lithuania Supreme Council has decided to sponsor a thrilling Excursion to Rome - on the occasion of the Blessing of the Lithuanian Martyrs Chapel in St. Peter's Basilica, on June 28, 1970. The tour will be made either independently, or in conjunction with other Lithuanian-American organization.

Jet air transportation, hotel accommodations, meals, sightseeing, and land arrangements will be included in one remarkably low price, with all details taken care of!

If you are interested, please send the following information to the National President, Dr. Jack Stukas, 1016 Schliefer Road, Hillside, N.J. : Name, Address, Council No., Would you be interested in a side trip BEFORE or AFTER the Blessing? How many days do you think the tour should take? Additional comments or questions are welcome.

VYCIAI - KALEDOS NETOLI

Galite palinkėti kiekvienam Vyčių nariui Linksmy Svenčių asmeniškai, su vienu sveikinimu - "Vytyje". Kaina maža, o "Vyčiui" didelė parama. Užsisakykite Kalėdų sveikinimus jau šiandieną.

NEXT SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING

Date and meeting place notification will be sent to the Supreme Council members by the National Recording Secretary.

Social Sidelights

Welcome to the "Sidewalks of New York" and Entertainment with that "Jersey Bounce" was in store for the 1969 Convention Delegates from the time the earliest of arrivals came to the host cities on Wednesday, August 20th, til they bade their fond farewells. On Wednesday, the early bird out-of-towners Jerry Jesulaitis, Barbara Dougherty, newly rejoined old time K of L'er Rita Waitkunas, and a couple of dozen other guests took that "Must" tour of the NBC Studio in New York City.

Perhaps they did not have an opportunity to see old TV stars, but there were a few new ones born - the son of Marcella and Stephen Onaitis and Jim and Kathy Sinkwitz, who "auditioned" for everyone's pleasure.

There aren't many of us Lithuanians around, but there are always a few of us in places where it counts - like the Budweiser Brewery; yes, the bartender who dispensed the free golden lager was a fellow Lith. Of course, another feature of this tour was getting some of the souvenir Clydesdale glasses - no matter how they could get them, by the box or by the bag(s) as Phyllis Grendal finally got hers.

By Thursday, more guests had arrived and joined in on the trip to Asbury Park on the New Jersey shores. Of course, the sun worshipers enjoyed the sand and water, but other preferred to see what adventure the board walk had in store - a little more expensive, but an adventure. Four such venturesome gals were Anne Bender, Dotty Dutkus, Mary Jankowski and Annie Mitchell, who ran into an auction and almost ran out of Convention "pin money" bidding for white elephants or some such treasures.

By the time the Thursday tourists returned to the Robert Treat, more of the conventioners kept arriving, registering and getting set for the annual greetings and ex-



Lithuanian "Bud" Bartender Frank with Clevelandites Mary Barry, Pauline Uselis and Stella Sankal.



Delegates Mary Kober, Marty Rusgi, Millie Grinewich, Paul Kuzmeskas, Daniel Nichols register with Joanna Schmidt.



Luau guests Stella Sankal, Mary Barry and Tony Alexander of Waterbury enjoy the festivities.

changes of new things to talk about with old friends.

By 8:30 P.M. the guests jammed the busses and rode on to Kearny for the "L.L.L. at L.C.C.C." - Linksma Lietuviška Luau at Lithuanian Catholic Community Center. Here they were met by the congenial Get Acquainted Committee, an unbeatable band and a "finger lickin' good" spread of food to meet everyone's taste.



A Luau is not a Luau without the hula and our hosts provided that too. The young natives of Kearny put on a performance of island dance and song numbers and Laugh Out (Loud) comedy sketches which the guests will long remember. Thanks to the committee and Mildred Grinewich, Chairlady, for a memorable evening.

After the opening session and noon-day Mass on Friday, the delegates, alternates and guests gathered for the special Luncheon honoring the District Presidents. Then after the Junior, Senior and Ritual Panel Discussions in the afternoon, the delegates went off to prepare for the Cultural Evening.

It was standing room only for the Concert at St. George's Lithuanian Hall in Newark. After the greeting by Concert Chairlady Loretta Stukas, the guests enjoyed the performance of the Rūta Lithuanian Ensemble - a number of beautiful folk melodies by Juozas Naujalis. These memorable melodies were presented in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Naujalis, Bard of Lithuanian music.

The second half of the concert performance by "Rūta" included folk songs written or arranged by D. Andrulis, Louis Stukas and Prof. Alexander Aleksis. Master



of Ceremonies Vitalis Zukauskas touched the funny bones of the audience with his humorous interpretation of the opera "Carmen". Then the Council 41 Dance Group, with Director Kazytė Visockaitė and Accompanist Vytautas Strolia, delighted the audience with a number of familiar and intricate Lithuanian folk dances.

After the last number "Malūnas", the concert was closed with rousing renditions of "Lietuviais Esame Mes Gimę" and the Vyčiū Himnas. Singers, dancers and guests stayed on to enjoy the remainder of the evening, socializing with old and new friends.

Grand Ballroom 2 is where the conventioners gathered for the Saturday Awards Luncheon and where Vice President Leon Pauksta announced the Membership and Dues Drive winners for the 1968-69 term. Leon, had the honor of presenting the plaques and certificates to those who had distinguished themselves, but Marty Rusgi had the pleasure of assisting by distributing the awards, with that certain personal little added "award" for the ladies. We understand Leon wants to be the assistant next year.

The Grand Ballroom of the Robert Treat was filled quite early with the myriad of guests who came to the "Ball". In between dancing to the melodic arrangements of Gene Mitchko and his Orchestra, the participants had the pleasure of meeting the new Supreme Council Officers and serenading them as they danced the "K of L Convention Waltz", the new composition

by Louis Stukas, which is well on the way to becoming another K of L "Standard".

Another highlight of the evening was the Fox Trot and Polka Contests. The decisions for the judges were most difficult, but after their deliberations, the selection were made. Christine Delonis and Vladas Gedmintas were chosen as Queen and King of the Fox Trot and Kazys and Dalia Navickas were honored as the Queen and King of the Polka. The Chairmen of the evening had a difficult time convincing the guests the band just couldn't play on til dawn, because everyone wanted to dance on and on.

The convention guests quite a regal "Elizabethan" reception at St. Joseph's Hall after the High Mass and the Kemezis Dedication Sunday morning at St. Peter and Paul Church. The boys had brewed up a special treat before the brunch and Anne Mitchell with the committee, had spread a feast beyond compare for the attendants. After the brunch and a short program, the guests returned to the hotel for the Norkunas Commemorative Session and the close of business - including the bid for the next Convention. Chicago extended the invitation and the delegation accepted unanimously.

The Farewell Banquet was another event where all turned out in their "Sunday Best" for the final formal festivities. After the cocktail party reception for the Supreme Council and Convention Officers and special guests, the honor guests of the Dais joined



LEFT) Luncheon guests. RIGHT) Valentinas Baziliauskas accepts C26 Membership Award from Marty Rusgi.



(Top photo) C41 Dance Group of the New York area entertain the guests at the Friday Concert at St. George's Hall. (Bottom photo) Enjoying the Concert "afters" are Steven and Marcella Onaitis of Pittsburgh, Ada Sinkwitz of Dayton, and Mary Barry and Stella Sankal of Cleveland.

the conventioners in the Grand Ballroom for the dinner and program.

The program began with a greeting by Larry Janonis, Banquet Chairman, and introduction of Irene Veblaitis, Mistress of Ceremonies. Newly re-elected S. C. President and Scholarship Committee Chairman, Prof. Jack Stukas announced the recipients of the K of L Scholarship Awards. Prof. Alexander Aleksis and Eleanore Laurin presented the Honorary Membership Medal to Anne Klem of Council 90, Kearny. Honorary Membership was also bestowed upon Worcester Council 26's Edward Daniels posthumously, as unanimously approved by the convention delegates. With pride and sorrow, Ed's widow Diane accepted the Honorary Membership Medal. Rev. John Jutt then presented the "Friend of Lithuania" Award Medal to this year's prominent non-Lithuanian who has especially distinguished himself with his work and interest in Lithuania's behalf - The Honorable Peter W. Rodino, Jr. Senior Congressman from New Jersey.

The musical portion of the program was a presentation of delightful melodies by the "Zibuoklės" Sextet and Louis Stukas, Director. There was not a person in the audience who did not clap for an encore after their exciting performance, which ended with the singing of the new composition by Louis, the "K of L Convention Waltz".



Honor guests on the Dais were: (pictured) Anne Klem, His Excellency Vincentas Brizgys, Rev. John Jutt, speaking Congressman Rodino, M-C Irene Veblaitis, Dr. Jack Stukas, and Mrs. Rodino. Also Rev. J. Liauba, O.S.M., Consul Anicetas Simutis, Petras Vileisis, Pres. of Lith. Community, Mayor Healy of Kearny, Rev. Peter Zemeikis, Prof. A. J. Aleksis, Eleanore Laurin, Larry Janonis, Dorothy Dutkus, Mrs. Stukas and Mrs. Janonis.

On the non-convention social scene, our young delegates from Detroit set the pace for hospitality, with open house at their suite from Wednesday through Sunday. Even though hostesses Grace Vaskelis, Annette Byrne, Vitalija Vaskelis and friend occasionally went a visiting some other parties you

could always count on finding Gerald Zager or their Worcester buddies Paul Kuzmeskas and Vladas Gedmintas or some other smiling face to welcome you to "625".

The Boston Trio, Charlie Brown (Al Jaritis), with "Peanuts" and Larry Svelnis, as well as the Cambridge man Leo Shakalis, were found at every social gathering of the weekend; that is, when they were not entertaining themselves.

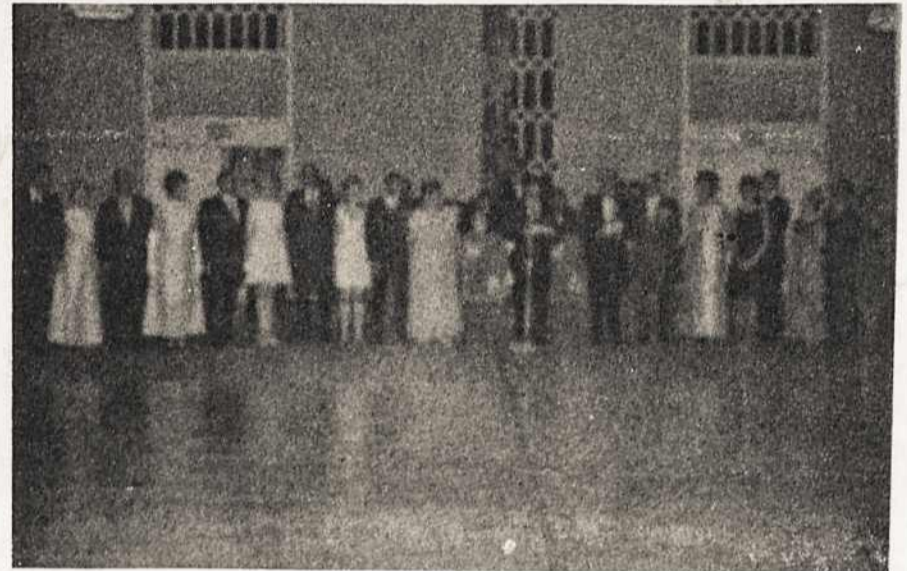
Never let it be said that there won't be at least one cocktail party if Joe Sable is at the convention, and Joe was at this one. Guests were also welcome at the studio suite of Julie and Al Zakarka and Estelle Rogers and Loretta Macekonis. Our Convention hosts - all of the New York-New Jersey District members - entertained one and all at two swinging galas immediately after the Saturday Ball. Kazys Sipaila, Tony Malackas, Tony Kober and Larry Janonis were just a few of our groovy hosts. The Worcesterites, led by "Ted Pinkus and His Harem", entertained all during the convention "after-hours", topped by a procession of followers carrying goodies to the late night Chicago party Sunday evening. This year there were not enough suites available for those hospitality experts, the guys and gals from Philly, Pittsburgh and other points, but they all have already placed their reservations for 1970 in Chicago.



VYTIS
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SUNDAY BRUNCH GUESTS



INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS

You've just got to believe that the management of the Robert Treat, though they had no "Presidential Suite", had a suite the President might occupy, reserved for Chicago when they got word that Eleanore Laurin, Irene Sankus and Helen Zimmer were coming. Here, as usual, the girls and "guest hostess" Phyllis Grendal welcomed many a committee meeting and social gathering. The final biggie was the Birthday Party for Jerry Jesulaitis. "No Office - No Phone - No Business - No Money and Retired" is what we read on the cards Jerry was passing out. Well he may be retired, but Jerry is certainly not tired. This

was proven by the way he out-smiled and out-partied the bevy of beauties like Marcella Andrikis, Julie Aleshunas, Phyllis Grendal, Annie Mitchell and Anne Uznis, just to mention a few, and the host of other guests who had gathered to sing their wishes to Jerry for "Ilgiausiy Metų".

After a phototaking intermission, the champagne corks popped some more and the chorus resounded - Happy Birthday "Longy" Baby - Happy Birthday to you. And the girls formed another line on the other side of the room for their own special expression of best wishes for Larry Svelnis.

Our Young-At-Heart Club

charter members like Prof. Aleksis, Juozas Sadauskas, Matas Zujus and Jos. Olsauskas were not to be outdone either. They and the other young old-timers missed very few of the parties and social events. Their secret must be just being enthusiastic, active K of L'ers.

And then, alas, come Blue Monday and time for that glad/sad party. New York-New Jersey played host for the last time as the visitors met for the "Farewell Coffee And" and chit chat and good-bye pecks and promises to take care and be good until all meet again in Chicago in '70.

ALL MEMBERS, COUNCILS, DISTRICTS ARE
INVITED TO PARTICIPATE!

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