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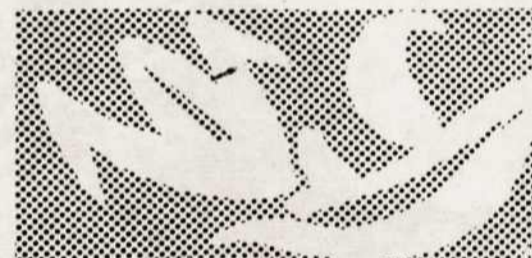
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The Heart of Christmas 1969

REV. ALBERT J. CONTONS

Christmas is the feast which speaks most to our heart. How can our hearts be unmoved as we contemplate the Nativity scene of Bethlehem?

But if Christ were to be born in 1969, how different the scene might be. Modern science could provide live TV coverage in color by Telestar. Angelic choirs could be recorded in stereophonic sound. Shepherds could arrive by truck. Magi could call long distance for precise information about the expected birth of a new king. Such is the glory of modern man and his conquest of the material world about him.

Yet in other ways the scene would be essentially the same as two thousand years ago. Just as then, the world yearns for peace and justice. The star of Bethlehem would be dimmed by the flashes of aerial dogfights between Israeli and Arabs. The night silence of Bethlehem would be shattered by exploding bombs, by the crushing poverty of a million and a half Arab refugees in the Holy Land. Such is the shame of modern man and his poverty of spirit.

A LOOK INTO OUR HEART

We can point a finger of blame at world leaders: of Israel and Arab countries, of South and North Vietnam, of America and the Soviet Union. And yet, more appropriate it is to point a finger of blame at ourselves, at our own hearts, at our own poverty of spirit.

After the Second World War Albert Camus, the great French writer, spoke at Columbia University. He told how his generation was born at the beginning of the First World War, had seen the Ethiopian War, Spanish Civil War, the Second World War, the rise and fall of Hitler. "Born and bred in such a world, what did we believe in? Nothing... The world in which we were called to exist was an absurd world, and there was no other in which we could take refuge... If the problem had been the bankruptcy of a political ideology, or a system of government, it would have been simple enough. But what had happened came from the very root of man and society. There was no doubt about this, and it was confirmed day after day not so much by the behavior of the criminals but by that of the average man. The facts showed that men deserved what was happening to them. Their way of life had so little value... The poison which impregnated Hitlerism has not been eliminated; it is present in each of us."

When we reflect on the meaning of Christ's birth,

we see how much man needs Christ, how poor in spirit we are. We see how man's heart - our heart - needs to be changed, to be uplifted, ennobled by God's grace. Man looks into his heart, and is free to answer the call to glory or sink into shame.

THE GREAT MYSTERY

This is the great mystery of Christmas: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling - pitched his tent - among us." No longer did God want a tent put up by Moses in the desert, or the temple built in Jerusalem. God "pitched his tent" in the human nature of Jesus.

The Word, the Second Person of the Trinity, was not content to be a written word or a spoken word. The Word became man. As God-Man He became involved in our joys and sorrows, our hardships and triumphs, our life and death. The Word revealed itself in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, in His life, death and resurrection.

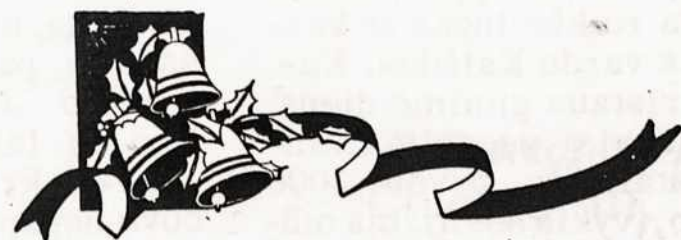
Jesus speaks to our heart and invites us to be lifted up, to share in His divine life: "The words that I have spoken to you are both Spirit and life."

Jesus invites us to enter His kingdom - one of joy and peace, of justice and love. But first we too must be born again in Christ: "I solemnly assure you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being begotten of water and the Spirit."

In our own heart, each of us stands on the threshold of glory or shame. Each day decisions confront us and summon us to greatness of heart and spirit. We look to the Child of Bethlehem, the fulfillment of our highest hopes, for courage in time of hesitation, strength in time of weakness.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

For the heart of every K of L'er may the Christ Child do what Isaiah the prophet speaks about God: "He strengthens the weary, and to the feeble he gives power. Youths faint and grow weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in God will regain strength; they will sprout wings like eagles; they will run without weariness; they will walk without tiring." (Isaiah 40, 29-31)



GRUODIS

Kristaus Mėnuo

Kiekvienas metų mėnuo turi savo paskirtį arba reikšmingą pavadinimą, pavyzdžiui: Vasaris - Lietuvos atgimimo mėnuo; kovas - šv. Kazimiero mėnuo; gegužė - Marijos Dievo Motinos mėnuo; liepa - Dariaus ir Girėno mėnuo; spalių - šv. rožančiaus mėnuo; lapkritis - Lietuvos kariuomenės mėnuo; tačiau gruodis yra vienas iš reikšmingiausių ir visuomeniniu ir religiniu požiūriu.

I. VISUOMENINIU ARBA TAUTINIU ATŽVILGIU:

Gruodžio mėnesį gimė dr. Vincas Kudirka, didysis Lietuvos žadintojas ir pranašas, kuris savo raštais ir veikla pažadino visą tautą ir išpranašavo jos prisikėlimą. Gruodžio mėnesį įvyko 1905 m. Didysis Vilniaus Seimas, kuris savo reikšmingais nutarimais daug pasitarnavo atbudusiai tautai ir atsikurusiai valstybei. Gruodžio mėnesį 1922 metais prisikėlusią Lietuvos valstybę pripažino De Jure: Amerika, Anglija, Prancūzija, Italija ir Japonija. Gruodžio mėnesį laikinoje Lietuvos sostinėje Kaune atsikūrė visos valdinės Lietuvos įstaigos, mokyklos ir įmonės 1919 metais. Gruodžio mėnesį iš gyvųjų tarpo pasitraukė ir mums vyčiams gerai žinomi Amerikos lietuvių veikėjai: Varnageris ir kun. Zdanavičius - Seirijų Jonas - poetas, rašytojas. Ir pagaliau 1928 m. gruodžio 23 d. mirė Lietuvos vyčių himno autorius kun. M. Gustaitis.

II. RELIGINIU POŽIŪRIU

Gruodžio mėnuo ypač mums vyčiams, yra reikšmingas ir kasmet minimas vardu Kalėdos. Kalėdos yra Kristaus gimimo diena, kurią švenčia visi pasaulio tikintieji ir ateistai. Šis, beveik 2000 metų senumo, įvykis nesiliauja mūsų stebėjęs, kad visagalys Dievas

gimė silpnutėliu kūdikiu, išaugo į vyrą, kentėjo, mirė ant kryžiaus, kėlėsi iš numirusių ir vėl išžengė į dangų, iš kur buvo atėjęs.

Štai trumpa jo gyvenimo istorija.

Remdamasis tos istorijos duomenimis apie vidurį ketvirtojo šimtmečio Romos vyskupas, taigi kartu ir popiežius, Liberijus, paskelbė, kad gruodžio mėnesio 25 diena bus švenčiama, kaip Kristaus gimimo diena - šventė ir tuo būdu Roma 354 metais pirmą kartą su didelėmis iškilėmis atšventė pirmas krikščioniškas Kalėdas. Tačiau praėjo keli šimtmečiai nuo to paskelbimo iki Kristaus gimimo šventę pradėjo švęsti ir kiti kraštai bei tautos.

Gana vėlai krikščioniškų Kalėdų šventė pasiekė ir mūsų tėvynę Lietuvą - tik keturiolikto šimtmečio pabaigoje ir penkioliktojo pradžioje, priėmus lietuvių tautai krikščionybę. Atseit Kalėdos yra Didžiojo pasaulio Pranašo, Mokytojo Kristaus gimimo diena ir todėl gruodžio mėnesio vertė ir reikšmė padvigubėja.

Kristus savo darbais, savo mokslu, savo stebūklais žemėje, savo įsteigta ir daugumoje pripažinta bažnyčia ir jos testinumu paliko viltį, kur nėra užgesusi iki šiol ir niekad neužges. Nors antras tūkstantis metų baigia nugrimsti ir paskęsti praeities jūroje ir nors slenka metai, dešimtmečiai, gyvenimas keičiasi, bet Kristaus paskelbtos tiesos žmonijoje nemažėja, nenyksta, nes su Kristaus gimimo diena, Kalėdomis, kasmet jos sutvirtinamos.

Kad Kristus - Dievas tapo žmogumi, tai buvo naujos žvaigždės pasaulyje pasirodymas Betliejaus Kūdikiu Jėzaus gimimo dienoje. Nuo to laiko ir prasidėjo nauja era - krikščionybės era. Tai buvo nepaprastas įvykis, kurį taip giliai paveikė pasaulio žmoniją.

Kristaus gimimo diena arba Kalėdos duoda mums suprasti esantį Dievą, kuris iš nieko sutvėrė, pasaulį ir kuris laiko jį savo rankose, bet su tokiu betliejiniu kuklumu, lyg, kad jo visai nebūtų, lyg kad Jis neturėtų balso arba galios pasaulio ir žmonijos šeimoje bei jų reikaluose.

Vyksta amžių paslaptis. Garbė Dievui aukštybėse - ramybė geros valios žmonėms! Kristus gimė taikai ir mirė už ją. Tai giliai prasmingas pavyzdys, nes taikoje glūdi laisvė, tiesa ir laimė.

Pranašas Izaijas pažymėjo, kad Kristus yra šviesos vizija. Tai ką reiškia šitoji pranašo vizija ir kas yra toji šviesa? Tai Kristus. Tačiau ne tik Kristus yra šviesa, bet ir tikėjimas į Kristų yra šviesa. Pirmiausiai Jonas Krikštytojas buvo siųstas liūdyti apie šviesą, kurią ir pats Kristus paskelbė: aš, šviesa, atėjau į pasaulį, kad kiekvienas, kuris tiki į mane nepasiliktų tamsoje. O šiandieną tos šviesos tikrojo liudininkė yra bažnyčia.

Kristaus bažnyčia skelbia ir moko, kad Kristus gimė žmonijai, kad ji galėtų tapti Dievo vaiku. Kristaus žmogaus gimimas yra didžiausias žmonijos istorijos įvykis, kuris atvertė žmonijos gyvenime naują istorijos lapą. Kristus neatėjo sunaikinti nei pasaulio nei žmonijos, bet atėjo parodyti naują mokslą, nurodyti naujus kelius ir padaryti žmoniją savęs verta. Jis savo paskelbtomis tiesomis ir pasiaukojimu idealistiniam pasauliui padėjo sulaužyti bestiališką žmonijos prigimtį, nutiesdamas šešėlius darniam žmonijos bendradarbiavimui.

Kristus savo gimimu, savo darbais, įrodė, kad Jis yra tiesos ir taikos simbolis. Todėl Kalėdos ir primena žmonijos vadams ir kiekvienam geros valios žmogui, kad taika, kaip tiesa, yra tikrai viena,

už ką kiekvieno yra pareiga kovoti. Kol bus žemėje pavergtųjų -nebus taikos. Pavergtųjų tarpe randasi ir mūsų tauta - lietuvių tauta.

Jei tauta nori išlikti gyva, ji turi būti tikinti. Tautos miršta, kai nustoja tikėjimo. Tam nereikia įrodymo - tai istorinė aksioma. Bet ar lietuvis šiandieną laikosi šios aksiomos, spręsdamas savo tautos, savo krašto problemas?

Tačiau turime neužmiršti ir bent artėjančių Kalėdų metu prisiminti, kad Kristus gimė kančiais ir kad kiekviena kančia neša idėjinį atgimimą, paremtą viltimi. Po

19 šimtmečių toji pati Kristaus paliktoji viltis yra gyva, veikia ir veiks iki pasaulio pabaigos. Ji neaplenkia nei vieno, ji neaplenks nei kenčiančios mūsų tėvynės Lietuvos ir jos žmonių. Mat Kristus atnešė pasauliui didįjį džiaugsmą ir negestančią viltį ir nutiesė kelią į nesibaigiantį gyvenimą ir nurodė tiesą, kurios laikydamiesi nenukrypsim nuo nutiestojo Kristaus kelio, lydinčio į gerovę, taiką ir ramybę, kuri yra skirta geros valios žmonėms.

Turint galvoje, kad Kristus gimė kovai su piktu, įsidėmėtina

ir tai, kad suskambėję Kalėdiniai varpai ragina ne tik susikaupimui, bet ir šauksmui aktyviai įsijungti į idealistinę kovą, kurią beveik prieš 2000 metų paskelbė Kristus - žmonijos Atpirkėjas.

Tad švęsdami ateinančias Kalėdas, Kristaus gimimo dieną, turime prisiminti visada ir visur, kad esame lietuviai, krikščioniškos organizacijos nariai - Lietuvos Vyčių nariai ir, kad kovojame už pavergtą mūsų tėvų ir protėvių žemę - tėvynę Lietuvą ir už sujungimą jos išblaškytų po platus pasaulį vaikų.



C H I C A G O

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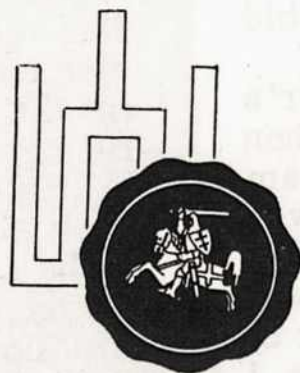
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GREETINGS



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Chesterton

Champion of Christmas

Francis Howard



Gilbert Keith Chesterton

It is sometimes forgotten that Gilbert K. Chesterton, the English writer and convert to Catholicism, never missed a chance to speak up for his faith.

Chesterton used to keep London literary circles in a gay uproar with his unexpected outbursts. When he wasn't crossing swords with George Bernard Shaw, he liked nothing better than to take on the rationalistic journals of the country. Frequently these editors laid themselves wide open, and they found out that "G.K.C." didn't hesitate to needle them unmercifully.

Once, a co-called "progressive weekly," THE CHRISTIAN COMMONWEALTH, came out with a Christmas number in which a writer sought to prove that the Saviour's Birthday was merely the survival of a superstitious feast held to celebrate the season when the days began to lengthen.

This was too much for Chesterton. No sooner had his sharp eye fallen upon the article than he proceeded to tear the whole magazine apart, exposing it as a hodgepodge of absurdities. "So this is a 'progressive organ'," he declared. But he, for his part, had never been able to make out what the "progressive movement" was, "except that is rather like a policeman who always tells people to 'move on' without telling them where to go."

Chesterton must have chuckled to himself as he went about describing, in his column in THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, what that "progressive weekly" was offering its readers for Christmas: "On one page is a defense of Christian Science, on another a review on eugenics, on another a number of interesting articles about table-rapping and mediums, on another a diatribe by an energetic suffragette, on another an excellent article by Mrs. Edward Carpenter on Pagan Sun Worship; and last, but not least, a page specially dedicated to my old friends, the food reformers."

G.K.C. was frankly flabbergasted by the writer's attitude toward Christmas. He dryly observed: "When a learned man tells me that on December 25 I am really astronomically worshipping the sun, I answer that I am not. I am practicing a particular personal religion, the pleasures of which (right or wrong) are not in the least astronomical. If he says the cult of Christmas and the cult of Apollo are the same, I answer that they are utterly different; and I ought to know, for I have held both of them. I believed in

Apollo when I was quite little and I believe in Christmas now that I am very, very big."

So far as Christmas being pagan in origin, Chesterton disposed of that claim without any word-mincing: "Let us note exactly how much it really means. It amounts, so far as our knowledge goes, solely to this that primitive Scandinavians did hold a feast in mid-winter. What the dickens else could primitive Scandinavians do, Especially in winter? That they put on the largest log in winter; do the professors expect such simple pagans to put on the largest log in summer? It amounts to this, again - that many tribes have either worshipped the sun or (more probably) compared some god or hero to the sun. Just so, many a poet has compared his lady to the sun - without by any means intending that she was a solar myth."

It was not surprising that this stout champion of Christmas became a wholehearted Dickens enthusiast. In the author of A CHRISTMAS CAROL, Chesterton found a kindred spirit. Who could help but admire the writer who had lived so completely for the holiday? G.K.C.'s unbounded admiration led him to write a popular biography of the novelist. He was well aware that the season's gaiety and gift-giving made the great Victorian as gleeful as a youngster catching sight of a bulging stocking on Christmas morning.

There is no doubt that Chesterton became the foremost of modern authorities on Charles Dickens. Few critics have made more valuable comments on another writer. When word came to Alexander Woollcott that Chesterton had died, the American columnist took down from his shelf the latter's work on the "Carol" author, and then alone by himself, as a fitting memorial, reread these words:

"We have a long way to travel before we get back to what Dickens meant; and the passage is along a rambling English road, such as Mr. Pickwick traveled. But this at least is part of what he meant; that comradeship and serious joy are not interludes in our travel; but that rather our travels are interludes in comradeship and joy, which through God shall endure forever." (The Marion)

MARY SAVE US is no ordinary book of prayers. The circumstances in which it came to be written, and eventually published, form a unique and moving story.

The annexation of Lithuania by the Soviet Union during the Second World War was followed by mass deportations to labor camps in the northern part of Russia and Siberia. In one of these Siberian camps four Lithuanian girls, their religious feelings unextinguished by cruel and bitter surroundings, resolved to write a series of prayers. They wrote them on odd scraps of paper, and bound them together into a book. Eventually the book reached Lithuania, and from there found its way to the West.

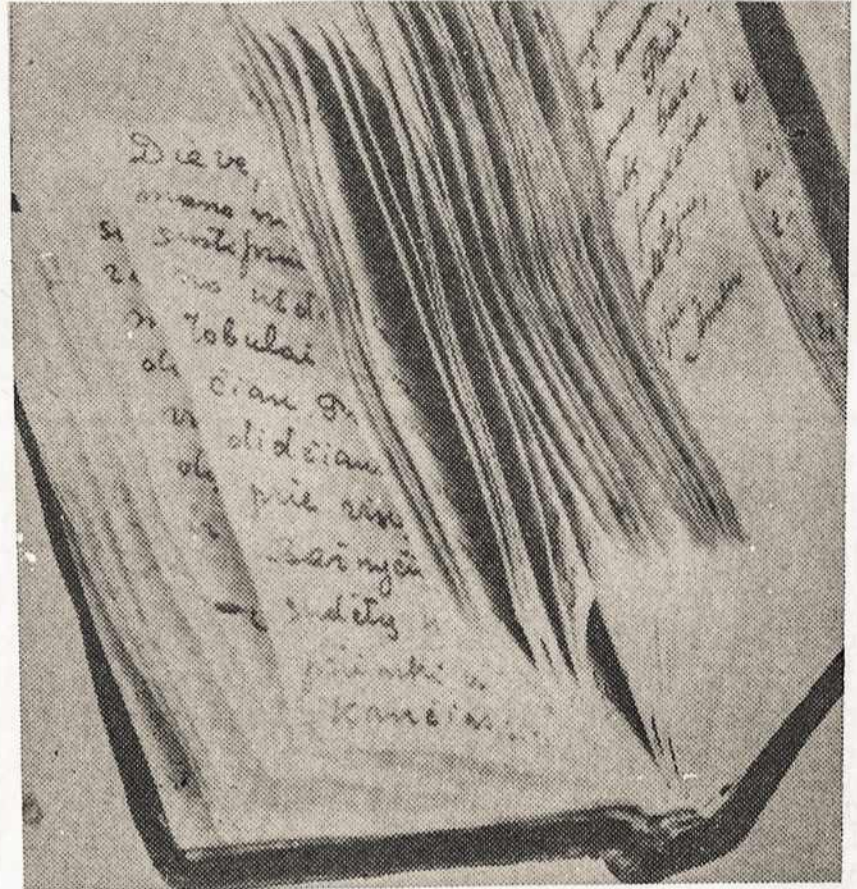
The first Lithuanian edition was published in the United States in 1959, and since then the prayers have been translated into many languages. In 1960, three English editions in the U.S.A. came out, with a preface by Cardinal Cushing. By today the prayerbook has been translated into eleven languages and has climbed to a circulation of over one million.

"A Christmas Prayer" ("Kalėdų Malda") is especially touching. The English and Lithuanian texts follow:

Prayer Book from a Siberian Camp

"A CHRISTMAS PRAYER"

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



"KALĖDŲ MALDA"

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

Juožas Bulevičius



1869 - 1969

Mūsų akimis žiūrint, koks keistas buvo pasaulis prieš šimtą metų. Nebuvo tada nei radijo, nei televizijos, nei telefono, nei automobilio. Tikrai fantazijų pilnas romanų rašytojas tegalėjo išsivaizduoti, jog žmogus kada nors skraidys kaip paukštis, o mėnulis buvo tikrai nakties žiburys, duodantis romantišką foną (background) jaunatviškom svajonėms. Miesto gatvėje ant stulpo nedrasiai žybcioja aliejaus ar gazo lempa, kuri suburia daugiau šešėlių nei šviesos. Saulei nusileidus, lauke ir viduj tamsoka.

Mūsų mielas Mykolas ateina į šį pasaulį dar didesnėj tamsoj - dvasinėj tamsoj. Jojo visas kraštas per keleta dešimtmečių buvo kentėjęs rusų vergiją, nes prieš 74 metus, kai didieji kaimynai pasidalijo Lietuvą, didžiausia jos dalis teko rusų caro valdžiai. Tai buvo bene tamsiausias iki tam laikui amžius lietuvių tautos istorijoj. Nuo 1864 m. jau buvo uždrausta ir lietuviškas knygas spausdinti ir net skaityti. Tai buvo amžius vargo mokyklos, kai vaikas galėjo tikrai prie motinos kelių pritūpęs pasimokyt skaityt iš jos senos maldaknygės, ar kokio keliaujančio siuvėjo trumpai, slapta pamokytas pirmuosius ABC. Paaugęs gi, ypač tarnaujant pas dvarponį, jis buvo po lenkų įtaka. Tokioj tai tamsioj, rusinamoj ir lenkinamoj Lietuvoj gimė ir pirmuosius 22 savo gyvenimo metus praleido Mykolas Norkūnas.

Atvykęs į Ameriką jis bando įvairių darbų, ir ūkyje ir fabrike. 1895 metais jis platina lietuviškas knygas kurias jis gaudavo iš Prūsų per vokiečių agentūras - darbas už kurį Lietuvoj jam teko paragauti ir kalėjimo. Susidėjęs su Adolfu Zdanavičium jis įsteigia laikraštį Bostone. Jis randa laiko lankyti ir vakarinę mokyklą. Vėliau, sukūręs šeimą, jis pramoksta dirbti draugijoms vėliavas, ženklelius, juostas, ir jam tenka daug važinėti per lietuvių kolonijas jieškant užsakymų.

"Kada gimė idėja jaunimo organizavimo negaliu nuspėti datos," skaitome paties Norkūno raštuose. "Bet 1910 metais buvome sudarę South Bostone gana plačią centro valdybą, bet vietiniai nepakvietė susirinkiman savo klebono. Sekantį sekmadienį kle-

NORKŪNĄ PRISIMENANT

LIETUVOS VYČIU 56-me SEIME

bonas bažnyčioj (juos) išvadino Marijavitais, ir visi kaip žydėlio bitukės išlakstė." Po dviejų metų Katalikų Susivienijimo seime, jis perstato katalikų spaudos atstovams savo naują sumanymą, viešai dar neskelbdamas, kad neduoti progos daktaro Šliupo sekėjams susiorganizuoti prieš katalikus. Neužilgo Norkūnas parašo atsišaukimą į laikraščius, kviesdamas tvirti jaunimo federacija ir dar prideda jojo su Bugnavičium sudarytą konstitucijos projektą.

Sekantį pavasarį, balandžio 27 d., 1913 m., Lawrence, Mass., įvyksta organizacijos steigiamasis seimas, dalyvaujant dešimčiai asmenų iš Maine ir Massachusetts, kurie apsėdę aplink vieną stalą parapijos salėj, po mišijų, svarsto pačius pirmuosius klausimus. Pirmuoju pirmininku išrenkamas pats organizacijos sumanytojas, Mykolas Norkūnas. Tą vasarą, Katalikų Federacijos kongrese, Pittsburghe, jis skaito referatą jaunimo klausimu ir sėkmingai apgina naujai sukurtą organizaciją nuo visų užpuolimų. Buvo, tačiau, nepasitenkinimas "Sakalų" vardu. "Bet Federacija", Norkūno žodžiais, "neturi autoriteto pakeisti organizacijos užvardinimo. Paprašiau parinkti tinkamesnį užvardinimą. Kun. Kaupas pasiūlė 'Lietuvos Vyčiai'. Sutikau ir padėkojau."

Daug metų vėliau, turbūt 1948, prisimindamas tų pirmųjų metų veiklą, jis rašo: "Pats negaliu suprasti iš kur man buvo toji energija, rašinėti,



Autorius, Lietuvos vyčių garbės narys, New Yorko senjoras, Juozas Bulevičius (Joseph Boley) yra profesionalas aktorius, šiuo metu vaidinąs "Great White Hope", L.A.

važinėti, na ir kešeniuką kratinėti, taip gi ir su Šliupo jaunimo organizacijom kovoti."

Taip tai prasidėjo jaunimo organizacija, kurios rūpesčiais ir vargais kėlės ir gulė, gyveno ir mirė mūsų brangusis šių metų sukaktuvininkas. Taip tai pradėjo kilti kaip aras Amerikos padangėje naujas sąjuūdis, kuris dar šiandien mus masina, vilioja, laiko savo globoj, o gal net savo vergijoje ir neleidžia mums iš jo įtakos išsilaisvinti; organizacija, kuri neduoda mums ramybės, kuri verčia mus nors dalelę savo dienų ir savo energijos jai pašvęsti.

Koks jis buvo, tas, rodosi, paprastas žmogelis, kurio įtekmė Amerikos lietuvių gyvenime nesiliauja veikusi iki šiai dienai? Nesistebėsim, jei jaunimui, vos bepradedančiam veikti su Vyčiais, bus sunku įsivaizduoti, kad mūsų tarpe buvo toks narys, kuris neskaičiavo nei darbo valandų, nei išlaidų, nei nusivylimų, bet visą savo paaukojo savo mylimam jaunimui, kad jis nežūtų tai mažai, išsklaidytai, kenčiančiai lietuvių tautai. Net ir mes vyresnieji, vartydami jo ranka rašytus pageltusius lapus, negalime atsistebėti jojo meile Vyčiams, kuriuos jis laikė taip reikšmingus, taip reikalingus mūsų tautai. Jis tą pirmąjį Vyčių obalsį taip pasisavino, kad jis liko jam kelrodžiu per visus gyvenimo bandymus, ir jokio kito obalsio jis niekur nevartojo.

Iš jo laiškų, straipsnių, paskaitų greitai pastebime, kad jis buvo religingas žmogus, pilnai atsidavęs Dievo globai. "Jei man Dievas leis iki tam laikui pagyventi," dažnai užtinkame jo laiškuose. Arba linkėjimą "Te Galybių Dievas laimina tamistos pastogę." Velykų proga jis sveikina: "Laibūna taip linksma kaip buvo Kristaus mokiniams kuomet Išganytojas kėlės iš numirusių. Aleliuja." Jo religingumą pastebėjome ir Vyčių seimuose: šeštadienio ryto Mišių jis niekuomet nepraleisdavo.

Jis begalo mylėjo jaunimą. 20 metų po Vyčių įsteigimo jis rašo: "Gal iš manęs kai kas tyčiojasi, jog lendu tarp jaunimo supuvęs senelis. Noriu veikti jaunimo labui ir tautos gerbūviui. Be jaunimo ir senių nebus. Taigi nenustosiu jiejų galimybių kol protas ir širdis tvaksės."

Vienas didžiausių jo rūpesčių buvo lietuvių kalba. Jis kruopščiai seka jaunimo kalbas, jų korespondencijas organe. Jis didžiavosi tais kurie stengėsi vartoti savąją kalbą, ir už jų pastangas juos apdovano-davo savo iš Lietuvos nuotraukomis ar kitomis dovanėlėmis.

"Kuo mes galime įrodyti jog esame Lietuvos Vyčiai? Atsakymas trumpas: tuom kuom skiriasi tauta nuo tautos - tai sava kalba."

Jis neapgaudinėjo savęs kartais girdimais pateisinimais. "Kokia kalba," jis sakė, "tokia dvasia." "Nesmerkiu svetimų kalbų, bet sava kalba jau būtina."

"Brangūs Vyčiai", jis rašo, "atgimkime kokiais buvome ir kokiam tikslui organizacija gyvuoja. Pilnai perskaitykime konstituciją ir ritualą, ten surasim ką reiškia Vyčių organizacija, kaip pasiekti laipsniai, atsakant tik savoje kalboje. Ar tai pildoma?"

"Perskaitykite spalio VYTI. Kiek ten meilės išlieta Vyčiams naujo pirmininko Juozaičio vis savoje kalboje. Kiek meilės Vyčių milžino, Centro Dvasios Vado kun. J. Jutkevičiaus. Būkime ir mes Vyčiais ir savo meilę išliekime jiems taip pat sava kalba



MYKOLAS NORKŪNAS - 1915 metais

kaip jie mums, o visas organizacijos kliūtis išsklaidysime kaip cigareto dūmus. Džiugu skaityti toki raportai valdybos. Bet persikelkim į kuopų korespondencijas, čia jau akis (reikia) užsiklot, jau Vyčių dvasia išblanko. Taigi, kuopos, mylėkite savo Centro ir Apskričių vadus, kaip jie jus myli. Tą meilę išreiškite jiems rašydami į VYTI vytiškoj savo kalboj ir dvasioj. Nesibijokite klaidų, tas klaidų nedarą kuris nieko nedarą. Redaktorius klaidas pataisys su mielu noru. Bet jau būsit su kūnu ir dvasia Vyčiai.

Savo užrašuose jis komentuoja apie Prano Civilkos kalbą Naujos Anglijos suvažiavime, 1941 m. Norwoode, kad tai buvusi "viena iš gražiausių kalbų pasakytų čia gimusio ir augusio jaunikačio. Jis ištiesai jo kalbą cituoja ir prideda: "Šis suvažiavimas pasiliks gal vienas iš išpūdingiausių. Visame susirinkime nesigirdėjo kitos kalbos kaip lietuvių. Suvažiavimą vedė taipgi Amerikoj gimęs ir augęs Bronius Kudirka. Raštininkė taip pat gimus ir augus Amerikoj, labai gražiai parinktais žodžiais kalba ir rašo lietuviškai - Panelė Aukštikalnytė iš Worcester.

Lapkr. 1, 1950, jis rašo laišką Vyčiui Sadauskui: "Buvau surinkęs vardus rašytojų į VYTI kurie rašė lietuvių kalba. Suradau daugiausiai parašytų Juozo Sadausko (Senelio). Visiems buvau paskyręs dovanėles, bet Seneliui dvigubas. Priimk brangusis Seneli aukštos vytiškos pagarbos pareiškimus, ir lai Dangaus Galybė pripildo Tamstos protavima vytiška dvasia ir stiprina Tamstos dešinę gražiais aprašymais Vyčių veiklos."

Gruodžio 11, 1932, (jis) rašo Vyčiui Sadauskui: "Kaip Tamista skatinat mane prie Vyčių istorijos, tai jau visai ne vietoj. Ne esu literatas... Medžiagos galėtau suteikt pusėtinai, bet ją konstruktyviai sutvarkyti esu tarp nykštukų nykštukas..."

Vienok šis "ne literatas" septyniolika metų vėliau praneša: "Per trumpą laiką parašiau 34 eiles (Reiškia eilėraščius - J.B.), taikant jaunimui ir Vyčiams, ir 14 trumpų - po dvi eilutes. Spaudon dar nesuuntiau, kadangi šiuo laiku spauda užimta nelaimingais išvietintais (D.P. - J.B.)."

"Jau keli metai kai parašiau gražų aprašymą 'Legendą apie Kanklininką Kedonį'; visuose laikraščiuose pakartojo. Taipgi 'Girių Operą'. Nuo kompozitoriaus Žilevičiaus gavau pagyrimą. Parašiau 'Lietuvių Keturių Dienų Vestuves'...

"Parašytau ir daugiau, bet naminis gyvenimas, gyvenimas kokio nelinkėtau ir priešui."

"Eiliavimas sekasi, bet reikia turėti ramybę, kad nedarytų perškadų; jei tik kiek sudrumsčia, viskas subyra."

Ne vieną laišką baigdamas jis surimuoja kupletą. Pavyzdžiui:

Vyčių dirvoj medžiok, šaudyk, žuvauk,
Ir in Chicago seiman trauk. (Sad. 7/16/33)

Štai pradžia eilėraščio, kurio data yra geg. 10, 1948 m:

Vyti jaunas, vyti narsus,
Sveikink ankstų rytą,
Gaisrais nudažytą.

Šerk žirgelį Juodberėlį,
Balnok jį skubotai,
Imk kardelį prie šalies.

Piliakalnių ir pilelių
Laužai jau liepsnoja,
Vyčių sesės brolelius bučiuoja ...

Atminkime, kad šias eilutes rašo jau 79 metų poetas. Jo laiškai pilni poetiškų išsireiškimų, jūmoro, pamokymų, jaunatviškos energijos, entuziazmo. Ne vieną Vytį jis pavadina Jenarolu, nors vėliau gal ir pipirų jam duoda. VYTIES redaktorę Grendelytę jis kartais vadina bituke. (Jis labai mėgo bičių ūkį.) Kai jis laukia "kregždutės," reikia suprasti, jis kalba apie laišką, kuris jam atskrenda kaip paukštelis. Jis buvo gamtos mylėtojas: mėgo "medžioti, žuvauti, uogauti, grybauti." Taip pat jis prisipažįsta, kad "mano yra ugniška simpatija prie 'art', poezijos ir rašėjų."

Seimo bankete 1948 m. tarp kit ko štai kaip jis kalbėjo:

"Ei, Vyčiai, gyvenam Tautai ir Bažnyčiai - tai Vyčių originalus ir neskolintas obalsis. Turim ir kitų, bet tai skolintas nuo Pavasarininkų 'Dievui ir Tėvynei' ..."

"Baigdamas norėsiu palinkėti: vyrams susilaukti baltų ir plikų galvų; moterims ir šių dienų mergaitėms tik baltų galvų; visiems, visoms skaitlingų šeimų ir šimtų anūkų susilaukti ir kartu dalyvauti Vyčių seimuose ir susirinkimuose.

"Bet norėsiu ir nuo jūsų prašyti man patarnavimo. Tai - tai kad mano karstnešiai būtų Vyčiai, ir ant kapo sugiedoti Vyčių Himną."

Pranešime apie Vyčių istorijai medžiagos rinkimą jis sako:

"Darbas greit stumti negalim. VYTIS 24 puslapiu Nors imu tik ištraukas, bet reikia visas perskaityti ir tada daryti ištraukas. Dirbau daug, padirbau labai maža. Su kliūtimi buvo atkakli kova. Būdamas su šeima, tankiai buvo stuboj uždrausta mėsinėle groti, net buvo išimta elektros žiburiai. Syki užėjo audra, jog vargiai išgelbėjau mašinukę nuo sudaužymo.

"Pabaigoje lapkričio 1943 m., persikėlęs ant



1949 ELIZABETH, N.J., SEIMO PARADE

skurdžios farmukės, žiemos laiku miegamajam kambaryje nakties laiku termometras nupuolė iki 20 laipsnių, tai jau virtuvėj reikėjo tupėt prie pečiaus.

Pabaigoj gegužio kun. Juras suteikė Palangos koplyčioje kambarį, bet vasaros dienomis vieną dieną termometras pakilo arti 110 laipsnių, nes lubų nėra, tik stogas, per kurį inkaitina kaip pirtyje. Bet čia vieta gera, rūsyje, erdvi ir švari, tai galima ir dainuot ne tik grot."

Gruodžio 4, 1949, Bostone įvyksta jo 80 metų sukakties banetas. Susirinkusiems draugams ir bendradarbiams jis taip kalbėjo:

"Nesijaučiu, kad tai buvo mano igimti gabumai iškelti idėją, kuria jus šiandien didžiuojatės. Jaučiau kad buvau tik kaip įrankis kokio pašaukimo, nematomos jėgos, kaip 'radar', valdomas iškelti idėją ir sunkiausiose valandose išsaugoti ... Vyčių dirvą ardamas teko išlieti daug prakaito, išgerti kibirai kartybių ... Mano nuopelnai pasilieka lašelis vandens upės srovėje ... Jūs, parinktieji lietuvių, tautos ir bažnyčios sūnūs-dukros, panorėjote mano giliai įdubusias akis prabalaivinti vakarotamsiose gyvenimo valandose. Te jums atlygina Danguis Galybė už jūsų jaunas, kupinas artimo meilės širdiles. Lai pasilieka jūsų darbeliai paminklu tvirtesniu už granitą Vyčių ir Lietuvos istorijoj."

Iškilingai atšventęs savo 80-įjį gimtadienį, jis yra kviečiamas Kalėdas praleisti su Lušais ir Meškūnais, Waterbury, turbūt neperseniai atvykusius iš Lietuvos. Prieš Kalėdas jis siunčia jiems raščiuką: "Gelmėje savo pasenusios širdies Tamistoms dėkoju už užprašymą svečiuosna laike iškilmingos šventės Užgimimo Karalių Karaliaus. Tai nepaprasta laimė mano tamsiose valandose."

Po Naujų Metų, padėkojęs Meškūnams už vaišingumą "tam niekšam žmogeliui," jis atskleidžia vaizdelį iš savo tuometinės padėties:

"Jonui parodiau mano sūnaus biznio vietą, bet vidun negalima buvo ineiti, kadangi tai buvo švenčiame Nauji Metai. Norėjau užsukti į jo gyvenamą vietą (rezidenciją), bet būtume užtrukę kokį pusvalandį, o laikas jau buvo vėlokas. Tai vieta kur apsigyvenę turtuoliai. Namai viens nuo kito apie 100 pėdų, tarp medžių ir gėlynų. Namas susidedantis iš 12 kambarių, puikiai išfornishiotų 8. kiti tušti.

Tai gi gal užtenka dėl dviejų asmenų.

"Pas dukteris norėjau Joną užvesti, bet šventė, tai išvaikščioję pas gimines. O kaip tas kuris išaugino? Jonas matė mano palocių, bet džiaugiuos ir iš to jog ramu ir kaltas esu dėkoti Gerajam Dievui."

Po parašo prideda dar "94 Bradford St., Lawrence, Mass." Reiškia, savo laiškam tuomet jis naudojo kun. Juro klebonijos adresą. Jis su kun. Juru buvo artimi bičiuliai. Kun. Juras jam ne kartą buvo pagelbėjęs apmokėti jo kelionių į Vyčių seimus išlaidas.

Sekančių metų rudenį (spalio 30, 1950), jau paskutinį, savo giminaičiams Meškūnams jis rašo:

"Apie savo sveikatą nors ir didžiuojuosi, kad gerasis Dievas man jos nesigaili, bet vis gi kaip kada tai ir subraška. Čia tai mano tremties gyvenimas gal paveikia. Blogas kambarys ir valgyklose netinkamas valgis pagal mano metų. - Bet reikia gerajam Dievui už viską dėkoti."

Sausio 1, 1951. Beliko tik trys mėnesiai ant šios žemės vargti. Jis dar siunčia vieną prašymą į Waterbury, Meškūnams:

"Sužinokite kada būna Vyčių kuopos susirinkimas, ir kada būna Ateitininkų susirinkimas. Sis man daugiau rūpi kaip viskas. Aš būtinai norėčiau būti nors mažam jų tarpe.

"Nau, brangi Nelyte, tu tikra darbšti bitukė, paskubėk surasti ir kaip galint man greit pranešti. Ne-laukim niekada rytojaus, ką turime (daryti - J.B.) skubėkim daryti šiandien.

"Apie Vyčių susirinkimą greičiausiai surasite pas kunigus, apie Ateitininkų pas savo profesorių Aleksį. Pasakyk jam kad tai nori žinoti jam žinomas baltaplaukis. Ta proga stipriai pakratyk nuo manęs ir jo dešinę. Jūsų neramus giminaitis, Mykolas."

Vasario 7, 1951, jis pajieško poros adresų Cleve-lando apylinkėj gyvenančių.

Vasario 14, 1951, jis atviruku Juozui Bulevičiui klausinėja apie būsianti seimą New Yorke. Jistaipgi daro pastabą, "kad tie patys seimo ženkleliai netinka delegatams ir svečiams. Jie turėtų būt kiek skirtingi. Svečiai turėdami tokius pačius ženklelius gali ir balsuoti."

Dar savaitė vėliau - Vasario 21 - jis atsiprašo Senelio, kad negalėsiąs šv. Kazimiero šventės iškil-mėse dalyvauti, nes kovo 4, Cambridge, Mass., įvyks jų apskrities lietuvių katalikų seimelis, ir "aš turiu svarbių reikalų jame būti."

Ar pavyko jam tuos svarbius reikalus sutvarkyti nežinome, bet Vyčių seimo ženkleliai tikrai liko ne-peržiūrėti, nes po penkių savaitių šeši garbingi Vyčiai nunešė jo karstą su jo lavonu į kapus. Ten visi dalyvaujantieji Vyčiai atsisveikino su juimi kaip jis prašė - sugiedodami Vyčių Himną. Gi tos savaitės Pittsburgho "Lietuvių Žinios" parašė, kad "mirė vienas iš didžiausių Amerikos lietuvių".

Kiekvienas mūsų gal kiek skirtingai jį vertinsi-me kaip žmogų ir kaip visuomenininką. Bet manau, kad dauguma mūsų sutiksime su Vyčiu Juozu Lauč-ka, kurs su Norkūnu susipažino 1931 metais Bostone: "Tuoju suvokiau, kad tai idealistas žmogus. Ta-čiau drauge pamačiau, kad jo idėjoms įgyvendinti jam smarkiai kliudo jį ištikęs visiškas apkurtimas ir formalus išsimokslinimo stoka. Kita jo "defek-tyvinė kliūtis buvo, kaip jis pats neretai nusiskūsdavo - mišri šeima. Gal todėl jis L. Vyčių susirinki-muose karštai kalbėdavo už lietuviškų šeimų sukūri-mą, nes jam pačiam teko patirti kai kurių skaudu-mų sukūrus mišrią šeimą. Abelnai, man jis atrodė tragiška figūra: štai buvo šviesus idealistas, kuriam nebuvo lemta nei aktyviai savo idėjas skleisti, nei įgyvendinti."

Su visais savo trūkumais, jis buvo mūsų. Jis Vyčių idėjai paaukojo visas savo jėgas, visus savo resursus, paskutinį savo kvapą. Prisiminkime jį daž-nai savo maldose ir savo darbuose, ir savo vaikų vaikams papasakokime apie jį. Tai buvo vytis iš Vytauto laikų. Kuklus, nieko dėl savęs nereikalau-jas, bet dvasioje milžinas. Jojo jau nėra, bet jei giliai savo lietuviškoj širdy įsiklausysime, išgirsi-me aidėjant iš anapus jo ugningus bei švelnius žo-džius, kuriuos jis mums parašė iš ligoninės (1938 m.), manydamas, kad tai jau jo paskutiniai:

"Brangūs Vyčiai, tęskit savo tikslą. Mylėkite sa-vo tėvų kalbą. Būkite sargyboj bažnyčios ir tautos. Neužmiršiu jūsų ir amžinasty. Mykolas Andrius Nor-kūnas."



MYKOLAS NORKŪNAS COMMEMORATIVE SESSION at the 56th National Convention

LETTERS from AMERICA

Each year millions of letters are written by Americans to friends and relatives overseas. In the year ended June 30, 1968, some 517,680,698 letters, according to the U.S. Post Office Department, were sent abroad from the United States. They may have written casually about every day affairs. Yet taken together they are the bearers of a momentous message - the story of America.

In 1950 the American Council for Nationalities Service launched a Letters from America campaign to encourage Americans to write regularly to their friends and relatives overseas and to use their letters to promote good will and a better understanding of America. Since the campaign was started, the number of letters sent abroad from the United States has almost doubled. This year Letters from America Week, one of the highest lights of the campaign, had its 19th annual observance May 19-25.

Letters are people speaking to people. They continue to be one of the simplest and most effective means of bringing the truth about America to other peoples, since they are the direct testimony of trusted friends and relatives. At this time they are particularly important both in building international understanding and good will and in offsetting criticism of the United States as a result of the war in Vietnam, racial conflict at home, and the violence and turbulence in American cities and universities.

The importance of letters has been widely recognized by public officials and the Letters from America campaign has been endorsed by succeeding administrations in Washington. President Eisen-

nower, for example, said: "Each American who writes to someone abroad is a potential ambassador of good will and understanding. No statements about the 'American Way of Life' made by government officials have a better impact on the people of other lands than the personal accounts of individual Americans writing from their local communities about their schools and homes and work. I hope more Americans will write to their friends abroad."

President Johnson was equally emphatic. In voicing his support of Letters from America, he said: "Writing a letter to someone abroad is an act of personal diplomacy that can convey as much conviction to its recipient as an official statement of policy. I hope that more and more Americans will become good international neighbors by the simple and effective gesture of sending letters from America."

The significance of Letters from America was well stated by the late Adlai E. Stevenson, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations during the Kennedy administration. "The Letters from America program encourages Americans who have friends and relatives abroad to communicate with them in ways which build understanding of our country as it really is. A letter that speaks of friendship across national frontiers and oceans contributes to the security of our nation and every nation. For it is from friendship, not from implements of war, that all men must derive their deepest security."

If you are not already in regular correspondence with your relatives and friends abroad, now is a good time to begin. You, too, can speak for America and with your relatives and friends abroad, now is a good time to begin. You, too, can speak for America and for international good will.

(For a free letter-writer's guide, write to American Council for Nationalities Service or A.C.N.S. at 20 West 40 Street, New York, N.Y. 10018.)

Seasons Greetings

to all

K of L

members and their families

from your

SUPREME COUNCIL
OFFICERS

and the

"VYTIS" STAFF





OFICIALUS SKYRIUS

OFFICIAL NEWS



ELECTIONS

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

Your national officers and committee chairman cannot operate on an efficient basis if the current officer's names are not available. Let's close the K of L "Communication Gap" NOW!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our National Financial Secretary reminds us that membership dues will be due in January 1970. If a new member joins a Council, the dues are as follows:

\$100.00	Lifetime Member
5.00	if member joins from January - March
3.75	- April - June
2.50	- July - September
1.25	- October - December
2.50	- Additional family member (No "Vytis")
7.00	- Couple (First Year Only)

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

SUPREME COUNCIL MEETINGS

The first meeting of the newly elected and appointed Supreme Council Board was held immediately after the Convention Banquet. Ideas were discussed and plans were made for the current K of L year. Irene Sankus, "Vytis" Editor, submitted her resignation to the Board. She requested that she be relieved of her duties by the end of the year.

Supreme Council officers and chairman, along with other interested parties, met on Sun., Nov. 30th at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel in Chicago. A report of the meeting will appear in the next issue of "Vytis".

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 de-

tails 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.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you move and the "Vytis" is mailed to your old address, it is often impossible to send a duplicate copy to you. To avoid additional expense and to assure yourself of receiving the "Vytis" promptly, send a notice of your new address to the National Financial Secretary, Helen Zimmer, 1840 Wabansia Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60622.

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.

ASSOCIATE NON-LITHUANIAN SPOUSES COMMITTEE AND PANEL REPORT

As directed in the Resolution (appearing in 3 issues of the Vytis), Rights and Privileges to be determined by a special study group panel at the forthcoming Convention" the special Panel was conducted Saturday afternoon.

About the only disadvantage brought out in the discussion was the possibility of control of the organization by individuals who might not truly have the purpose of the organization at heart. This was dismissed by the group with the argument that the associate member have his or her eligibility for holding offices limited to the Council level only and then only to the offices which would not include President or any Vice President, thereby excluding the pos-

sibility of a District or Supreme Council Office, and position of control.

The majority of the group also talked about the importance of our organization's growth and even survival... too many members, good, active members are lost, if they marry a non-Lithuanian who is excluded when the member and the children belong, and they do not want to have the family divided. It is even more difficult to enroll new members who are married to non-Lithuanians; it is almost impossible to get a man or woman to join when their spouse, standing next to them, is told he or she cannot join. Who needs this kind of organization when there are so many, with also worthwhile causes which do not split the family. The children of these families are also, in most cases lost to us. We cannot survive by losing present members; we cannot grow by keeping our doors closed to prospective members.

Another comment made was that even a purely nationalistic organization might find it difficult to attract members based on the non-Lithuanian principle and we, who are also a religious group should be even more rigorous in our efforts to keep the family together.

When our organization was founded, it was not done so to save Lithuania. It was formed for the mutual benefit and self-help of the Lithuanians here in the U.S.A. and to keep them together. In the past fifty plus years our purposes have evolved into keeping the Lithuanian language, customs, culture and causes alive as long as possible. Here again K of L offers a means for doing this. Individuals cannot do it alone. It takes organization of people who are concerned - to plan, inspire, keep up continued awareness and interest. But, an organization needs members, something we cannot hold or get unless we place our purposes before some ideas which were formed for the people and the needs which were important fifty years ago.

Most of the members who have worked for the organization for fifty-fourty or thirty years are the most concerned and agree on the need for some such action proposed regarding Non-Lithuanian spouses Associate Membership and the discussion ended with the resolve to ACT.

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, if necessary, and to advise what is technically necessary to accomplish the change, again if necessary. If this should result in the necessity of approval by two-thirds of the now defined active councils, Frank Zager of Detroit volunteered to handle the correspondence and follow-up.

The new proposed resolution is as follows: (Ref. By-Laws pp 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 next Convention.

ELEANORE H. LAURIN, Moderator

LITHUANIAN AFFAIRS PANEL

Charles Grigaitis - Moderator; Irene Wood and Albert Zakarka - speakers.

It was discovered that all K of L councils do not have Lithuanian Affairs Committees. The discussion which took place examined ways on motivating council members in the direction of working on Lithuanian Affairs Committees. The following ideas and suggestions evolved:

Since the struggle to maintain Freedom is an integral part of a Lithuanian's nature, it can be manifested by K of L'ers working on the Lith. Affairs committee. The writing of letters to our government officials, newspapers and other means of communication has proved to be an effective means of promoting the Lithuanian cause in the past. It was discussed on how to inspire many more K of L'ers as well as non-K of L Lithuanians to write these letters.

Suggestions on how to organize and conduct letter writing sessions:

1) Take a half hour of council meeting time to write letters. The advantages of this would be that writing materials and subject matter information would be in one place and the committee would more or less contact a majority of council members to work on this project;

2) That the council treasury absorb the cost of the postage;

3) Meetings should be held at least once a month apart from the regular council meetings;

4) One council does not grant the point for ritual degrees that would be allotted for a Lith. Affairs committee member unless that person wrote 50 letters or more during the year.

Council bulletins or newsletters can play an important part in Lith. Affairs. They can contain background articles on topics to be written on that month.

Argument used in persuading members to write and be Lithuanian minded:

This particular committee was set-up to keep the Lithuanian question alive. No matter how small our effort, but as long as there is an effort, Congress cannot let the Lithuanian question die.

Aside from the very important letter writing, contact with the public is another aspect of Lithuanian Affairs.

At Folk Festival, Lithuanian art or other similar exhibits, the co-ordinators should have amply supplies of brochures and pamphlets about Lithuania, so that passersby could take them and thus promote interest in Lithuania and her plight.

In summation: K of L members should become very much aware of the Lithuanian question, want to help restore the lost Independence of Lithuania and be proud of their heritage and want to make those Lithuanians who have achieved success better known, not only among us, but throughout the country.

DIANNE DANIELS, Panel Secy.

Christmas Shopping??



Well, here it is almost the middle of December - the time when most of us are really hard-pressed for finding appropriate Christmas gifts. You can solve that problem simply. Ease that Christmas shopping rush by arranging for gift memberships to the K of L now. There is stilltime. Write the names and addresses of those hard-to-choose-for people on the regular membership application forms and send their dues along with yours.

That's one of the easier ways to take advantage of the spirit of the Season. Also, you can enroll new members during the pleasant, good-fellowship mood of Holiday socializing. Sign 'em up while their under the influence of nutmeg or mistletoe. As for myself, with all the usual brimful cups of the Season's cheer, I find it somewhat embarrassing getting happy on eggnog. What can I say to people - I'm under the influence of cinnamon?

Meanwhile, everyone is busily cleaning up for Christmas and New Year's parties. Last week I cleaned out my checking account. This week it was the savings account. And, I've already bought this year's gifts with next year's money. But, before all of you do likewise, please remind your fellow members as well as yourselves about dues payments. If all members did so the results may be the most fitting gift indeed for this membership vice-president and your council's financial secretary.

During your Holiday socializing, do not forget that the dues payment drive is in full swing. Special awards will be presented at the next convention to the first councils in the five categories to be 100% paid up. Right now there are not enough dues payments reported to present any meaningful council standings in the dues campaign. But, be sure that those previously in the K of L remain as members by having their dues paid on time. Then, we can go on toward signing up new members.

Remember that the councils that are usually the first to be 100% paid up accomplish that goal the first of the year. With that pace in mind, there certainly is not much time left to help your council lead its category. But, do not let up. Now, during Holiday good-fellowship and comraderie, is the most appropriate time to make those contacts for dues

payments and membership enrollments. Be sure, however, that last year's K of Lers are all in the fold again. Then, go all out to gain those new members.

Best wishes of the season to you all in whatever ventures may be your pursuit during the coming year - be they K of L, social, personal, or business.

LEON PAUKSTA
Membership Vice-President





IS SENDRAUGIŲ GYVENIMO



ŽURNALISTUI POVILUI DIRKIUI 80 METŲ

Š. m. gruodžio 21 d. Chicagoje gyvenančiam veteranui Povilui Dirkiui, žurnalo "Vytis" bendradarbiui sukanka 80 metų amžiaus ir 60 metų žurnalistinio darbo.

Jis yra gimęs 1889 m. gruodžio 21 d. Panevėžio apskr. ir valsčiuje, Vilkapievių kaime, ūkininko šeimoje. Prarapijinę pradžios mokyklą baigė Boguslaviškyje, kur klebonavo jo dėdė, motinos brolis knygnešys kun. Povilas Burbulis. Mokėsi Vilniaus ir Kauno gimnazijose. Pastarąją baigė 1909 metais. Studijavo Kijevo universitete mediciną, Budapešte - kalbas, Kaune - teisę. 1913 m. baigė Tifliso karo mokyklą ir dalyvavo I p. karo operacijose vakarų fronte kaip karininkas. Mūšiuose buvo sužeistas ir paimtas į austrų karo belaidę, kurioje išbuvo 3 1/2 metus.

1918 m. Lietuvai kuriantis grįžo į Lietuvą ir stojo į Lietuvos naujai atkurtą kariuomenę savanoriu, net neaplinkęs savo tėviškės. Kariuomenėje ėjo įvairias pareigas, kaip dalinių viršininkas. Iš kariuomenės kapitono laipsnyje pasitraukė ne į atsargą, bet eiti aukštąjį mokslą.

Iš kariuomenės išėjęs ne tik studijavo, bet ir tarnavo Vidaus Reikalų m-joje įvairiose pareigo-

se: apskr. v-ko, policijos vado, pas. pr. Baro ir Rajono V-ku. Kurį laiką tarnavo Lietuvos Šaulių S-goje: Utenos, Zarasų ir Telšių šaulių rinktinės vadu bei Kauno šaulių rinktinės administratorium, draug eidamas igulos adjutanto pareigas. Vokiečių okupacijos metu: kaip Policijos Depart. Direktorius organizavo lietuvių policiją ir buvo Vidaus Tarėjo Kanceliarijos viršininkas. 1943 m. buvo Vietinės Rinktinės 203 bataliono vadas Marijampolėje, o 1944 m. Kauno Apskr. Komendantūros Ukio v-kas ir komendantu pavaduotojas.

1944 m. kaip ir daugumas lietuvių, pasitraukė į Vakarų ir apsigyveno Bavarijos provincijoje Kemptene, iš kur 1949 m. išemigravo su šeima į JAV; apsigyveno Chicagoje, kurioje ir dabar gyvena dirbdamas spaudos ir kultūros darbus. Yra pensininkas, bet dar vadovauja kelioms organizacijoms. Yra Lietuvos Vyčių organizacijos narys ir žurnalo Vytis bendradarbis. Sukaktuvininkas P. Dirkis nuo jaunystės dienų dalyvauja patriotinėse organizacijose: jis Ateitininkų organizacijos pirmūnas, spaudos darbininkas, savanoris kūrėjas ir net knygnešys. Pastarąjį darbą jam teko dirbti dar vaiku būnant su knygnešiu kun. Burbuliu "Aušros gadynės" laikuose.

Sukaktuvininkas dar ir dabar judrus, darbingas ir su savo sūnūmis ekonomistu Kęstučiu ir inž. Vyteniu priklauso patriotinėms organizacijoms, kuriose dirba organizacinį darbą, skaito paskaitas ir rašinėja spaudoje. Yra parašęs knygą - prof. A. Voldemaro gyvenimas ir darbai. Knyga ruošiama spaudai. Jam pagerbti yra susidaręs organizacijų komitetas, kuriame vyčius atstovauja garbės narys Ig. Sakalas. Pagerbimo vakariene ruošiame 1969 m. pabaigoje Šarkos restorane.



SOUTH BOSTON SENIORS

The council extends their deepest sympathy to Mrs. Patricia Akule, Mrs. Virginia Markuns, Mrs. Florence Tamoshunas and John Sibus on the death of their beloved mother, Tekla M. Zibutis.



Senjorų vyčių susirinkimas, ilgai lauktas, prabėgo. Jis įvyko spalio 5-tą dieną vyčių Paulinos Usalienės namuose. Susirinkimas buvo pradėtas punktualiai. Jį atidarė Ant. Mačiokas, senjorų pirmininkas malda ir paaikškinimu, kad šiame susirinkime turėsime išrinkti nut. rašt., nes nuolatinė - M. Trainauskaitė, dėl susidėjusių aplinkybių neatvyko. Buvo išrinkta Marijona Baranauskienė. Pirmutinis pranešimas - Saulėtos dėžutės finansinis stovis buvo patiektas R. Sadauskienės, prižiūrėtojos ir tvarkytojos. Senjorų finansinį raportą pateikė Stasė Šankalaitė, išdininkė. Jo padarė pranešimą ir apie kortų pobūvį, įvykusį jos mamytės namuose. Iš jos pranešimo supratome, jog kortų pobūvis davė virš šimtinės gryno pelno. Komisijai už gražų darbą buvo pareikštas vytiškas ačiū.

Buvo įdomus pranešimas iš C. L. Kul. Darželio Sąjungos keturiasdešimties metų jubiliejinio minėjimo, kuris įvyko šių metų rugsėjo 7 d. Jis buvo iškilmingas ir prisimintinas, nes vargiai daugiau tokių bus. Clevelando lietuvių istorinio papuošalo minėjimo pranešimą padarė J. Sadauskas ir Ignas Visockas.

Po šių pranešimų sekė skirtingas ir malonesnis pranešimas, kad į šį susirinkimą atsilankė net keturi nauji kandidatai, kurie pažadėjo įstoti į senjorų eiles. Šie būsimieji vyčiai yra: Edvardas ir Juozapina Pranckūnai, Kas. ir Pat-



To Our Fellow Knights and Ladies

LINKSMŲ ŠVENTŲ KALĖDŲ IR
LAIMINGIAUSIŲ 1970 METŲ

K of L Seniors Council 111 - Youngstown, Ohio

"Host Council of this Year's Mid-Central District 22nd Annual Convention"

SU KALĖDŲ ŠVENTE

L. Vyčių Senjorų klp. Chicagoj

sveikina Vyčių narius - res

ir linki sėkmingų NAUJŲ METŲ



ricija Selickai. Nauji kandidatai buvo pasveikinti džiaugsmingomis katutėmis. Naujų kandidatų įrašytojais buvo M. Baranauskienė ir J. Sadauskas.

Po įvairių pranešimų buvo renkami atstovai į vidurinių valstijų apygardos seimelį, kuris įvyko spalio 10 - 12 dienomis, Youngstown, Ohio. Atstovais buvo išrinkti: Paulina Usalienė, M. Baranauskienė, St. Sankalaitė, K. Petkūnienė, M. Trainauskaitė, Ignas Visockas ir J. Sadauskas.

Beje, vyčiai senorai žinodami, kad Clevelando lietuvių radijo va-

landa "Tėvynės Garsai" minės savo 20 metų gyvavimo ir darbuotės sukaktį, nutarė jos veikėjus pasveikinti ir įteikti kuklią aukelę, nes kartkartėmis ir vyčių senjorų vardas nuskamba valandėlės metu.

Baigiant susirinkimą, St. Sankalaitė pakvietė sekantį susirinkimą pas savo mamytę. Jis įvyks lapkričio 23 d., 2 val. p.p. Susirinkimas buvo baigtas malda ir ji buvo sukalbėta ilgamečio vyčio Jurgio Kuzo greitam pasveikimui, nes mūsų mielas Jurgis jau virš trijų savaičių guli Euclid Glonvil

ligoninėje.

Susirinkimui pasibaigus, jo globėjos Paulina Usalienė ir Marijona Baranauskienė, svetingai visus priėmė ir skoningai pavaišino. Visi šio susirinkimo svečiai ir nariai reiškia jom nuoširdų ir gilų vytišką ačiū.

SENELIS

P.S. Kiek vėliau teko sužinoti, kad vytis Jurgis Kuzas, jau apleido ligoninę ir sugrįžęs namo pamažu sveiksta. Dabar jau yra vilties, kad neužilgo ir vėl matysime Jurgį lietuviškame judėjime. Linkime geros sveikatės.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

and a HAPPY NEW YEAR

from C - 17 S South Boston

to all of our friends and members
of the Knights of Lithuania

JUNIOR

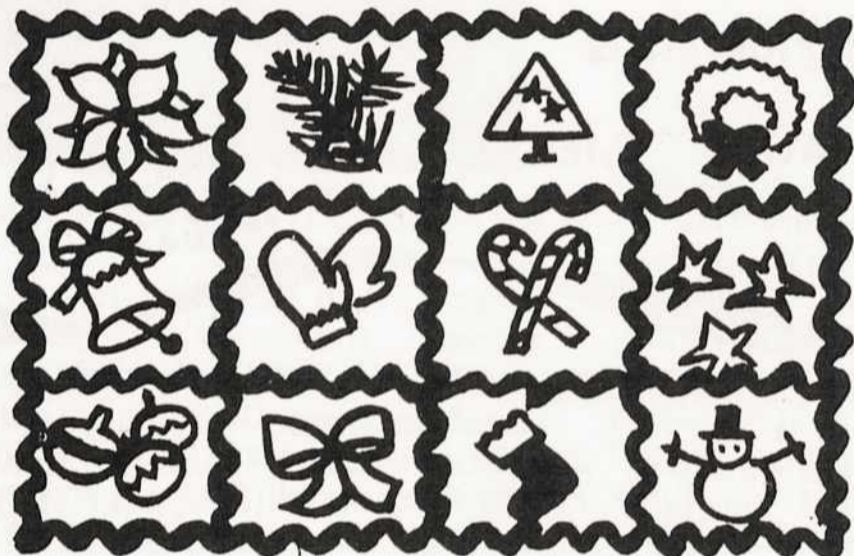
NEWS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING PLACE MATS

MATERIALS NEEDED: Cardboard, Greeting Cards (Chicago Juniors used Christmas cards, however, any greeting card such as birthday, get-well, even post cards, may be used) Colored Paper Strips and/or Rick-Rack, Glue.

1. Cut rectangles of lightweight cardboard to measure 9" by 14".
2. Cut 4" squares from greeting cards and glue over the entire surface of rectangle.
3. Trim (as illustrated) with rick-rack and/or strips of colored paper.

Optional: Shellac to protect surface.



After reading our former Junior Vice President Stanley Vaitkus' article regarding the youth of our nation, Michael Krivinskas, member of C-3 Philadelphia and currently a student at Drexel Institute of Technology, wrote the following: "I agree with your fine work and sincerely believe that in our youth, especially in our High School and College students, lies the hope of posterity. I know that our fellow Lithuanians throughout the world are united in our strong and closely knit culture. The Lithuanian people have maintained their national ties in this world..." "THE CRIMINALS", which follows, was written by Mr. Krivinskas.

THE CRIMINALS

The pages of history resound now and forever of the achievements of the Lithuanian European. Once lead by her staunch and disciplined leaders, Lithuania spread from the Baltic to the Black Seas, creating the ONE biggest nation in all of Europe. The Lithuanians, as well as their fellow Northern Baltic neighbors, have proven themselves to be of good stock. Tall and many times of light hair at birth

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR

to all my

K of L Friends

Dianne B. Daniels

1st Vice-President

Member of C-3

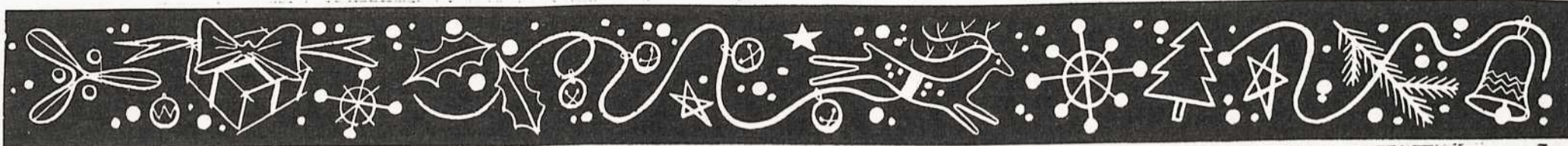


and later on in life, with pleasant and worthy features, the people of the Baltic States are high in the intellectual capacity which has allowed their kind to become great social and scientific leaders.

Orderliness and cleanliness too have prevailed to undying degrees. Lithuanian families surrounded, due to changes in their neighborhoods, by slums, filth and crime have maintained their honor and dignity at the price of much hardship. First and second generation Lithuanians living in the U.S. can tell most vividly of the financial and other suffering which their parents and grandparents withstood.

But today, "things are changing!" The alleged reason for all the instability and anarchy we are seeing today has been called none other than discrimination. Our televisions and mass media literally scream this to be correct and unquestionably the reason for all the troubles we have today. The racism of the White people, it is said, has lead the non-white communities to riot and loot and steal. The exploitation of these people, they say, has lead to such disruption. But why then did this not happen 30, 40, 50 or more years ago when these same or worse conditions prevailed on the newly settled European person who had left his homeland because of suppression or war to come to the U. S. - did he too not have a right to be angry?

Being led today, into a distorted and corrupted vision of the great principles which led our parents and grandparents not so long to "overcome" their handicaps, the high school and college students are being perverted almost beyond comprehension. The leaders of the anti-establishment movements are distorting the minds of the youth and are committing CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY! Like the Nazi Storm Troopers, these leaders are, in their own ways, destroying all that has been held in reverence by our people for centuries!



VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



MID - CENTRAL DISTRICT

V.V. L. VYČIŲ APYGARDOS SEIMELIS

Kaip jau mūsų spaudoje buvo minėta vidurinių valstijų L. Vyčių apygardos metinis seimelis įvyko Youngstown, Ohio, spalio 10-12 d.d. ir jį globojo youngstowniečiai senjorai. Jų skaičius nors ir nedidelis, bet pajėgus. Jam vadovauja vidurinių valstijų pirm. Vincas ir nutarimų rašt. Stasė Paviai. Vyčių org. milžinai šį seimelį, pirmą kartą pakvietė į Youngstowną ir savo bendraminčių pagalba iškiliai ir garbingai pravedė.

Spalio 10 d. vakare, mielų Pavių namuose susirinko didokas skaičius vietinių vyčių ir keletas svečių iš kitų kolonijų.

Spalio 11 d. rytą, Ohio viešbutyje, kur daugumas delegatų buvo apsistoję, buvo galima lengvai tai vienur, tai kitur susitikti savo bendraminčių. Laikas bėgo greitai. Delegatai skubėjo vykti į Gondolier restoraną.

Pusryčius pradėjome malda, kurią sukalbėjo garbės narys Pranas Gudelis. Vincas Pavis džiaugėsi matydamas tiek svečių iš kitų kolonijų. Jis pristatė svečius.

Po visų kalbų ir sveikinimų, V. Pavis paprašė J. Sadauską sukalbėti malda.

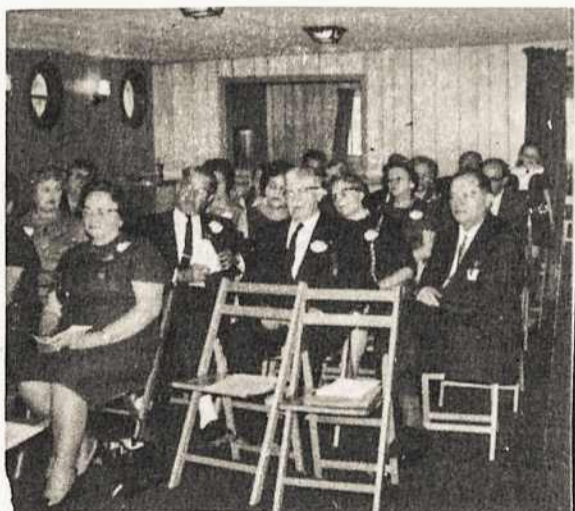
Po pusryčių prasidėjo vidurinių valstijų apygardos seimas, kuri žodžiu ir malda atidarė pirm. V. Pavis, paprašydamas sugiedoti Lietuvos himną. Toliau Vincas pristatė Loreta Blumienę, vyčių senjorų 111-tos kuopos nut. raštininkę, kuri perskaitė pačio puikiai paruoštą sveikinimą.

Po youngstowniečių sveikinimų, pirm. pakvietė garbės narę Marijoną Luką ir Juozą Sadauską tarti žodį. Pastarasis savo žodyje kiek plačiau prisiminė apie šios apygardos veiklą. Ragino visas kuopas priklausančias šiai apygardai turėtų savo korespondentus, kurie rašytų "Vytį" ir kitus lietuviškus laikraščius. Garbingą žodį dar tarė 1-sis vice-pirmininkas Pranas Gudelis ir nut. raštininkė Stasė Pavienė. Ji po trumpo sveikinimo, perskaitė pasutinio seimelio nutarimus, kurie buvo priimti be pataisų. Tada seimelio vedėjas paprašė delegatus viešai pasisakyti kurią kuopą ir iš kokio miesto atstovauja. Vėliau buvo eita prie įvairių raportų ir naujų sumanymų. Pirmas raportas buvo paties pirm. V. Pavio. Raportas buvo įdomus ir daug sakančias, ypatingai jaunučių vyčių reikalu, kurie vasaros metu, savo

atostogas praleido Dainavoje. Antras raportas buvo pateiktas 1-mo vice-pirmininko P. Gudelio, kuris bendrai prisiminė ne tik jaunučių atostogas, bet ir ritualų komisijos reikalus bei darbuotę. Pranas yra šios kom. pirm. Dar du raportai buvo atsiųsti raštu - šios apygardos dvasios vado kun. dr. Tito Narbuto ir išd. M. P. Petkaus. Jie buvo užgirti katutėmis.

Vyčių visuotino seimo pranešimą padarė Pranas Gudelis su pastaba, kad visuotinių seimų pravedamoji tvarka turėtų būti kiek pakeista. Iš spaudos veikimo raportus pateikė J. Sadauskas ir Marijona Luką, ragindami, kad visos kuopos turėtų savo korespondentus, kurie veiklos žinias skelbtų mūsų spaudoje. Toliau buvo išklaušyti pranešimai ir iš kuopų veiklos. 19-tos kuopos, Pittsburgh, Pa. pranešimą padarė J. Alešunaitė, 25-tos kuopos, Cleveland, Ohio raštu atsiuntė E. Konsaitis, Clevelando senjorų vyčių raportą padarė Ignas Visockas, 79-tos kuopos Detroit, Mich. raportą atsiuntė raštu P. Zagaras, 96-tos, Dayton, Ohio pranešimą padarė M. Lukas, 102-tos raportą padarė G. Vaskeiliūtė, 111-tos kp. vyčių senjorų raportą padarė L. Blumienė. Nebuvo raportų iš 134-tos ir 139-tos kuopų.

Ignui Visockiui pasiūlius, buvo nutarta 1970 metų vid. valst. sei-



22nd MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT CONVENTION - Youngstown, Ohio

LINKSMŲ ŠVENTŲ KALĖDŲ ir LAIMINGIAUSIŲ 1970 METŲ

Linkėjimai Visiems "Geros Valios" Lietuviams
ir ypatingai Visiems Vyčiams!

LIETUVOS VYČIŲ VIDUR-CENTRINIS APSKRITIS K. OF L. MID - CENTRAL DISTRICT



1969 - 1970 VALDYBA

REV. FATHER TITAS NARBUTAS - Spiritual Director
VINCENT ED. PAVIS - President
FRANK GUDELIS - 1st Vice-President
MISS GRACE VASKELIS - 2nd Vice-President
MRS. STELLA F. PAVIS - Secretary
MRS. STELLA SANKAL - Treasurer
ADA SINKVITS, VICTORIA CEPULONIS and PAULINE USELIS - Trustees
STEPHEN ONAITIS - Sgt-at-Arms.

FRANK GUDELIS - Ritual Committee Chairman
JOSEPH SADAUSKAS - Lithuanian Affairs Committee Chairman
MRS. MARY L. LUCAS - Representative and Correspondent to the VYTIS



mą šaukti Clevelande. Ji globos vyčiai senjorai.

Baigiant seimelį buvo eita prie naujos valdybos rinkimo. Buvo išrinkti sekantieji pirmūnai: pirm. Vincas Pavis, 1-sis vice-pirm. Pranas Gudelis, 2-sis vice-pirm. Gražina Vaškeliutė, jaunosios kartos Detroito uoli veikėja, nut. rašt. - St. Pavienė, išd. - Stasė Sankalaitė, centro valdybos ir Clevelando senjorų išd. Išdo globėjomis buvo išrinktos Paulina Usalienė, Ada Sinkevitz ir Veronika Omlor. Spaudos komisijoje pasiliko tie patys - M. Lukas ir J. Sadauskas.

Seimelis buvo baigtas dviem maldomis ir dviem himnais. Atkalbėti maldas buvo paprašytas J. Sadauskas už Stasi Markauską, kuris antrą kartą buvo išvežtas į ligoninę ir Jurgį Kužą, kuris tuo metu dar buvo ligoninėje, bet dabar jau pamažu sveiksta namie. Kita malda buvo sukalbėta naujos valdybos geresniai sekmei. Po šių maldų buvo sugiedota Amerikos V. V. L. Vyčių apygardos seimelis.

Apie 8-tą val. vakaro, vėl visi sugrįžo į Gondolier restoraną, kuriame įvyko iškili vakarienė. Ją pradėjo Vincas Pavis nuoširdžiais

sveinimo žodžiais ir Pranas Gudelis trumpa maldele. Kadangi youngstowniečiai nebuvo numatę jokios programos, bevalgant trys daytonietės vytės - Marijona Lukas, jos sesutė, Veronika Omlor ir Ada Sinkevitz sudainavo keletą lietuviškų liaudies dainelių, kurios visus sužavėjo ir pažadino kitus pasekti dainininkes - sudainuoti dainų, pasakyti linksmų nuoti dainų, pasakyti juokingų anekdotų, kurie dalyvius prajuokino iki ašarų. Ši linksma programa nusitęsė iki 11:30 val. vakaro. Visi nenoromis apleido šį linksmą, lietuviškos dvasios vakarėlį.

Vakaro programėlę išpildė mūsų dainiai ir juokdariai: Al. ir Joanna Shigo, Jonas Arunskis, Ignas Visockas, M. Trainauskaitė, P. Gudelis ir gražiabalsė V. Čepulionytė, kuri tikrai atnešė Detroito vyčiams didelę garbę. Ypatingai jaudino ji visus savo gražiaja lietuvių tarme.

Sekmadienį 10 val. ryto, daugumas delegatų ir svečių skubėjo į St. Kolumbo katedrą išklausti šv. mišių. Po pamaldų ir vėl visi grįžo į Gondolier restoraną, kuriame įvyko iškilusis bankietas bei seimo užbaigimas. V. Pavis visiems pri-

statė svečius: Stasę Sankalaitę, naująją išd., garbės narę M. Lukas, St. Pavienę, nut. rašt., J. Sadauską, spaudos kom. narį ir Praną Gudelį, kuris buvo paprašytas palaiminti šiuos pietus.

Bankietui besibaigiant, pirm. V. Pavis prabilo į visus džiaugsmingais ir pasigėrėtiniais žodžiais, džiaugdamašis seimo darbingumu. Paskui pakvietė kitus seimelio dalyvius tarti žodelį. Šie džiaugėsi apygardos veikla ir dėkojo Youngstown'o senjorams už jų nepaprastą vaišingumą.

Dar sykį tebūna ačiū jums, brangūs youngstowniečiai vyčiai.

SENELIS

DETROIT, MICH., C-79 Soffi

The stars did not show at Lola Valley park, but about 90 members braved the shower forecast and came to the annual family day picnic on Sept. 6. After a slight rain, a "yummy" spread of Sloppy Joes by Sophie, beans by Betty and potato salad by Dorothe, made everyone forget their calorie count. Chairman, Jerry Zager and his co-chairman, Charles Milius, extend their "Lietuvišką Ačiū" for a lot

of hard work to their committee and all others who gave a helping hand. A horseshoe competition was held, and once again Emil Byville emerged as the victor of the trophy.

Our four national convention delegates were Frank and Sophie Zager, Valentina Hotra and Gerald Zager. Sophie reported on various activities of the convention when C-79 resumed with their first meeting on Sept. 3. Much has been written about the "happenings" in the October issue of the "Vytis". However, we think this bears repeating. The Saturday "Awards Luncheon" featured the presentation of the Membership Drive Plaques, and Joseph Chaps received an award for the second consecutive year. We are mighty proud of Joe. Also, showing an example of hard work at the convention were our two, young "first-time" delegates - Valentina Hotra and Gerald Zager. Tina, who served as secretary on the Juniors panel, was elected to the national Lithuanian Affairs committee; and Jerry, who served as Sgt-at-arms during the convention, was elected to the Scholarship committee.

And, to close the generation gap Frank Zager filled a post on the

Resolutions committee and was elected to the national Ritual Committee. Tina Hotra indicated at the September meeting an urgent need for a Junior Council at Divine Providence in which children can pursue religious and social activities on a Lithuanian scale.

Several of our '79ers, Bernie and Adeline Vitkus, and Bingo and Pete Stanulis came in to Newark to enjoy the convention's Lithuanian Luau.

The convention ball was a happy-friends-affair, with Irene and Joe Belza, Adele and Pete Gibbas and Vincie and Joe Matucak joining our Bingo and Pete Stanulis. Coming in from Schenectady, N.Y. were Joe and Sophie (Kazlauskas) Golojuch for a surprise visit with Sophie and Frank Zager, and helped celebrate Frank's birthday on Aug. 23.

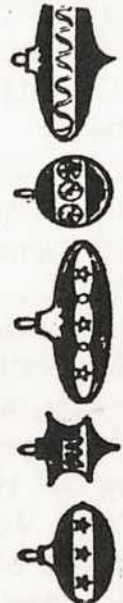
Prior to the convention, the Zagers stopped for a visit with Isabelle McKinley (nee Dopkus of Amsterdam, N.Y.), and her husband, Milton, at their new home in Ridgefield, N.Y. Here, the "guests" and "hosts" were so carried away with "socializing" that they never made it back in time for the Lithuanian Luau.

Speaking of thanks, it goes without saying that the convention committee put themselves to an immense undertaking. To all of you wonderful people we say THANK YOU!

Soffi Snooping - Would you believe a Lithuanian "Jean Dixon"? Yes, Adele Vale who four days before the annual family day picnic predicted rain - and it DID rain. But once the threatening cloud passed, all was well... There's a world of memories wrapped up in those photographs of the Scandinavian trip that Bill and Ona Walls made in July... Also, globe trotting for a tour of Spain in December are Dr. Bruno and Antoinette Zilvitis... Cel Yunck retires in December. We hate to see her leave us, but we wish her and hubby, Harold, many happy hours of lounging in the Florida sands... Joe and Mary Kazlauskas are now residents of Toledo, Ohio. We are glad to see them pop into Detroit occasionally . . . Joe and Violet Panavas, and Vicki Chepelonis, weekended in Youngstown, Ohio, on Oct. 10-12, for the M-C District convention ... Get well wishes to Bill Walls and Helen Keller who have been sick of late . . . Also



Turn - on - the - '70s
Council 79
extends
Merry Christmas,
12 Times
Happy New Year,
with old and
new Friends



To my
K of L
Friends . . .



Frank Gudelis, H.M.
Dayton, Ohio
Member of C-96

- pres. - Frank Zager
- v. pres. I - Sophie Zager
- v. pres. II - Violet Panavas
- rec. sec. - Magdalean Smailis
- fin. sec. - Jos. Chaps
- treas. - Leon Galinskas
- trustees - Emil Byville,
Bolis Walls
- Gerald Zager



on the sick list were Frances Alksnes and Jos. Miknis... Bertha and Frank Janus are "expecting" their first grandchild - anytime now... That birthday cake for F.Z. at the convention ball was a real treat from the McKinleys. It turned out to be pizza . . . Oct. 19 will be a day to remember for Antoinette Baron. She heard a chorus outside her house and looked to see their son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Beverly, marching up with a huge cake - and "seventy" candles, yet!

This is the season to make merrie. But 79'ers will be asked to assume an immeasurable undertaking in being a part of a Building Fund Drive for the new Lithuanian church.

To all, a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

DAYTON, OHIO, C-96 FBP

Our religious chairman, Pat Zelinkas, made arrangements for an Evening of Recollection on Oct. 16 held at Holy Cross Church.

The idea was so good that Father Titus asked the council to open the program to the Parish. The evening began with a family style dinner in the church hall catered by Mary Lucas and her helpers. The formal and informal dialogue and recitation of the rosary followed.

Our evening ended with Mass and receiving Holy Communion in both species. Retreat master, Father Thomas Fortkamp, CPPS, held our attention throughout the whole program. All went home most inspired and are still reviewing the evening.

After having such a great time at the Juniors wiener roast in Sept. we held a council cook-out at the same Taylorsville Dam on Oct. 19. Mother Nature gave us a beautiful Fall Sunday to spend the day out. Kitty Prasmantas handled the food for the cook-out - with Joe Gecas and Mike P. Petkus hauling out the refreshments. Juniors Mark and Steve Vaitkus, Mary Mikalauskas supplied the live music.

On this same day Father Titus Narbutas and Frank Gudelis headed for Cincinnati to be guests at C-134's monthly meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Maezer hosted the meeting at their home.

Sarah Petkus prepared the meat and decorated the hall for our an-

nual Halloween Party on Oct. 25. The women brought covered dishes, the men pitched in for the expense of the meat plus enjoyed an evening of playing cards. What caused John Veigel's sad look? Our Juniors came all out in costume. Games prepared by Jon Prasmantas, Vicky Zelinkas and Michael Petkus kept the children busy for quite awhile. Julie Prasmantas won for most original costume, Georgie Mikalauskas, funniest; Cathy Sinkwitz, prettiest. Of our regular members Frances Mikalauskas made an authentic looking witch - she had a few of the little ones blinking! Only other adult dressed for the occasion was Anita Goldick! What happened to the rest of us?

On Oct. 10-12 Joe and Ada Sinkwitz, Mary Lucas, Ernie and Veronica Omler, Frank Gudelis and Charles Petkus headed for Youngstown, Ohio for our annual District Convention. A 'well spent weekend' report came back with our members... Our District President Ed Pavis, his wife Stella and their committee must be thanked for their fine hosting.

ODDS and ENDS... Cleveland's Al Shigo had Mary and Ada concerned with his 'accident' for a few moments. Al is still up to his old tricks. His wife, Joanne, calmly weathered it all . . . A warm welcome to the council's newest member, Joe Gudelis... Kitty Prasmantas finally recovered from her poison ivy caught at the Jr. wiener roast. Kitty was out rounding up pine cones for her Christmas wreathes... A speedy recovery is sent to Adele Kvietys after her recent accident . . . Engagement congratulations go to John Petkus and Jane Windmiller . . . Showing off their 1970's are Pat Zelinkas, Joe and Bea Noreikas . . . Years of happiness are wished to Mike and Molly Petkus in their new home . . . Ada Sinkwitz hosted our Oct. 'sewing circle' - we always lack sewing but never gab . . . Joe Sinkwitz had his rock collection, rock projects and prize winning table on display at the Salem Mall's Mardi Gras Week Celebration . . . Eloise Berczelly has put 'friends' back in her good graces after her winning at St. Peter's OGNIB . . . A speedy recovery is wished Ildephonsas Bucmys after his recent surgery... Kitty Prasmantas did a great job



KATHY SINKWITZ, daughter of Joe and Ada of Dayton, admires the Lithuanian Christmas Tree at the Conv. Cultural Exhibit.

in decorating the Lithuanian Hall for their adult Halloween Party on Oct. 31. Her talent is unending... John and Ann Scott are so proud of their son Jerry. Jerry has not only been successful with his combo 'The Crystal Rains' but has gone on to write music for the group, also.

Our November birthday celebrants are Eugeni Gecas, Polly Pietrzak, Anita Goldick, Mike Dailley, Ada Sinkwitz, Janet Veigel and Gus Blum. With Thanksgiving in the air, many of our members used this period of time to celebrate their anniversaries: John and Adele Kvietys, Mike and Alice Petkus, Pete and Paulette Petkus, Mike and Fran Petkus, John and Ann Scott, Joe and Hilda Cernevicius.

NEW
YORK -
NEW
JERSEY
DISTRICT



NY-NJD

F. V.

The NY-NJ district met here on Oct. 19. The gathering took place at the Lithuanian Catholic Community Center and the meeting was called to order by president Larry Janonis and opened with prayer by Rev. Alfred Zemeikis of Our Lady of Sorrows, Kearny, N.J.

Reports were given by various officers and committee chairmen.

A very brief report dealing with past national convention was given by delegates Loretta Stukas and Helen Kulber. A complete report will be presented at next district gathering.

The district expresses sincere thanks to Lithuanian publications for excellent coverage given the 56th national conclave. We also at this time wish to express our thanks to the Lithuanian-American Veterans Post of Newark for coming out with their color guard on Sunday Aug. 25 at Elizabeth to participate in Convention Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul's Church and also taking part in ceremonies at the dedication of Monsignor Kemezis Place following Convention Mass.

Mandate committee reported that nine councils were represented at meeting.

The most important item on the day's agenda was the selection of district executive board for 1970 term. Miss Ann Klem of C-90 Harrison-Kearny, elevated to honorary membership in Newark, was chosen president; V-P's Edward Schmidt, Newark and Nancy Kober, Great Neck, N.Y.; Secretaries Mrs. Eleanore Gelenitis, Kearny

and Mary Stonis, East Orange; Treas. Loretta Stukas, Hillside; Trustee, Joseph Sable Linden; Rituals, Ann Mitchell, Elizabeth, Joseph Boley, Brooklyn, and Larry Janonis, Bronx; Cultural group will be selected later; Publicity, Frank Vaskas and Helen Kulber.

The meeting brought to a close with prayer by Anthony Kober of Great Neck, N.Y. and singing of the K of L Hymn.

The district extends heartfelt sympathy and condolences to our honorary member Prof. Alexander Aleksis in the recent passing of his son Norbert.

NY-NJ DIST.

Councils of the District are requested to appoint ritual chairman and to work with the District committee which consists of Joe Boley, Larry Janonis and Annie Mitchell. Any information required will be sent on request, so you can bestow your qualified members with the degrees they earned and deserve as members of your council.

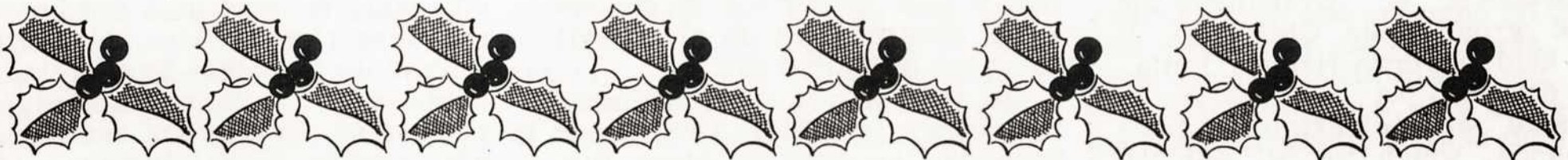
Let's make the NY-NJD report for 1970 outstanding in numbers and honored members. For information write to: Annie Mitchell, 221 Elmwood Terrace, Linden, N.J.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., C-3 Rudi

It was so nice seeing everyone at the National Convention in Newark. Those of us who attended enjoyed every minute and we hope everyone else did too. At this time we would like to extend a great big THANK YOU to the Convention Committee.

After the Convention reports and vacation stories we started off a new K of L year with election of officers. We now have a lady President - Lillian Sasnauskas. Lillian has held just about every office in our Council and at last she is our President. We wish her every success in her term and we know that she will do a terrific job. Actually it will be a "Women's World" around C-3 because all the officers except one are women. We suspect that the voting males drew the line at the office of Treasurer and elected Walt Svekla to keep the books balanced. The other officers are: V-P Loretta Staniskus, Rec. Secy. Irene Ozalis, Fin. Secy. Irene Svekla and Trustees, Agnes Mickunas and Dianne Daniels.

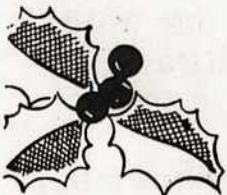
It hasn't been all work around C-3 because in the Social Department our members attended the



SEASONS GREETINGS

N E W Y O R K - N E W J E R S E Y

D I S T R I C T



Thanks to all of you who helped make our 1969 National Convention an enjoyable and successful one.





May the Blessings
of Christmas
Remain With You
throughout the New Year

COUNCIL 3
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

"Council 3 hopes to see everyone in Rome
and Chicago next year!"

TO ALL



COUNCIL 90

KEARNY, N. J.

performance of Grandinélé the dance group from Cleveland. It was held at Town Hall in Phila. The dancers put on a very impressive and entertaining performance, which we all enjoyed immensely.

To keep right with the season of goblins and witches, a dozen or so members attended the Halloween party hosted by the St. Casimir's Veterans Post. The Green Giant and his carrot-colored leafy-headed friend (Margie and Charlie Petronis) were among the costumed guests, who all had a marvelous time.

We hear the reason why Joe Janulaitis and Loretta Staniskus bought new cars was so that they could get to the meetings in a more speedy and sporty fashion. Joe is driving a Canary Yellow Mustang and Loretta has a new gold Bonneville - safe driving gang.

We really made Nov. 2, K of L Sunday. The schedule for the day ran like this: Mass and corporate Communion, breakfast for the members where installation of officers took place, monthly meeting and then off to the Club Honey

Dew in New Jersey for supper and polka dancing. All in all a very busy, but enjoyable day.

In the 'Happy Announcement' Department we have Tony Burch becoming engaged to Alena Pinkus (C-26 Worc.) They have an August wedding in mind. And a visit from the stork is expected by Alberta and Chuck Wiegand, sometime in late February.

We from Council 3 wish to extend sincere seasons Greetings to all K of L members and their families.

NEWARK, N.J., C-29

The Wanderer

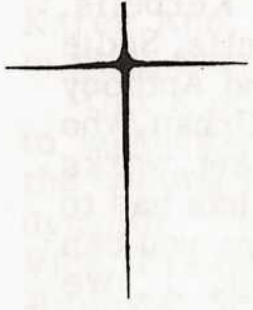
The most important item on council's agenda was the yearly election which took place on Oct. 21, chosen as the executive board for 1970 term were President Kazys Sipaila, V-P Edward Schmidt, Secretaries the Misses Ann Abromaitis and Mary Stonis, Treas. Mrs. Eva Sharon, Trustees Albinas Zukauskas and Wesley Zostautas.

Our annual dinner-dance on Oct. 11 came off in very fine fashion. There was a nice attendance on hand and one and all had a most

enjoyable time of it. A low bow in the direction of Mrs. Christina Yakavonis and Mary Stonis, chairman and co-chairman respectively plus other members of committee who worked so untiringly to make the event the success. At the dinner invocation was offered by our pastor Rev. John J. Scharnus, who also offered a prayer for the repose of the late Monsignor Ignatius Kelmelis, pastor Emeritus of Holy Trinity, who passed on to his eternal reward on Oct. 7. Our member and national president Dr. Jack J. Stukas extended greetings on behalf of Supreme Council and also gave a very timely and interesting talk re the situation in our parish and urged his hearers to give their time and full support to Holy Trinity parish in all phases of activity. Proceeds of evening went towards the upkeep of the Lithuanian Wayside Cross on the grounds of Holy Trinity parish.

We welcome back Walter Sharon Jr. who return to our midst after having served military duties for quite some time in Vietnam.

Our congratulations to member Kostas Skruodis upon his receiving



A
Blessed
Christmas
and a
Most Prosperous
New Year

Jack and Loretta
S T U K A S
Members of C-29

LINKSMŲ ŠVENTŲ
KALĖDŲ



LAIMINGŲ NAUJŲ METŲ

Linki Amsterdamo Vyčiai
Kuopa 100

A Blessed Christmas
and a
Joyous New Year
to all
K of L Members Everywhere

Dottie Dutkus
Rec. Sec'y.
Member of C-61



a \$200 scholarship award from the Scholarship committee of the Knights of Lithuania.

Congratulations are also in order to our pastor Rev. John J. Scharnus on his appointment to the parish priest consultars board of Essex County area of the Newark Archdiocese.

At the close of our October meeting a prayer was offered for the repose of the soul of Monsignor Kemezis, who formerly was C-29's spiritual director and had been pastor of Holy Trinity Church for 47 years. The council will have a Mass offered in his memory.

ELIZABETH, N.J., C-52 Little Susie

Our parish recently held a Card Party and the council was well represented, either in person or by financial donations. Stanley Valatka, Mary Motecus and Ann Baronas were among the lucky winners... Mrs. Edward Milewski, our financial secretary, will be getting busy going after the members for their dues with the New Year coming on . . . Mr. & Mrs. William Garby of Hawaii are vacationing stateside and are enjoying them-

selves. Just ask Lillian who had a super special lucky day at the track!

Charles Oskutis was the father of the bride on Nov. 22, when he gave his niece, Mary Louise, away in marriage. Many members attended the festivities at the Lith. Liberty Hall . . . Our pastor, the Rev. Peter Zemeikis, informs us that the altars will be remodelled after the Christmas holidays according to the Pope's directive . . . Charlie Rusteika still is knocking those big pins. Made the headlines quite a few times... Good to see Charlie Surplus recover from his illness... Best of blessings and happiness to Charlie and Ruthie Brazinski in their new home... Monday nights we find Peter Kasilionis, Norbey Wysocki, Frankie Miller and Tony Markevich at the Mother of Perpetual Help Novena. Then onto Vinnie and Helen Cuperwicz's of Linden for coffee and cake. Nice arrangement . . . The boys, which include our adopted knights, Joe Pazauskas and Nick Brooklynite are planning their yearly vacation trip overseas - like Spain, Greece or Africa . . .

Hope everybody enjoyed their

Thanksgiving and presume all are now ready for Santa Clauss. In case anyone needs sizes, etc. of the Elizabeth group, this correspondent will gladly furnish the information, which reminds us to say - Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

AMSTERDAM, N.Y., C-100

Smile & Sparkle

At the November session, Prof. Joseph Olsauskas, chairman of the nominating committee, proposed that all the 1968 officers be reinstated for the new year. All present approved and the new officers are: Spiritual Advisor - Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Pres. - Anthony Radzevich, V-P - Genevieve Gobis Secy - Irene Wood and Treas. - Sophie Olbie.

Our parish assistant, Rev. Anthony Grigaitis is the newest addition to our council. Anna Yunker was his booster.

Father Baltch showed us slides of his trip to Munich, Germany, and various sections of Bavaria and Austria.

Polly Ziausys brought in some good old fashioned cheese. Sophie Olbie and Gene Gobis took care of

the dessert and coffee. Anna Yunker surprised us with some "liquid dessert!"

"NEWS BITS" . . . On Oct. 18 the St. Casimir's Ladies Auxiliary sponsored at Smorgasbord. Sophie Olbie made a good barmaid. Ann Beleckas, Edna Stokna, Ann Radzevich served on various committees. The food was excellent. They ran out of it two hours after the serving started... Ed Liberis, president of the Police Benevolent Association, is busy getting ads for the yearly Policeman's Ball . . . Pete Hayes, while away from home, recently had an uninvited guest. This same guest visited his business establishment. Tough luck, Pete. We sympathize with you . . . Many K of L'ers at-

tended the Hobo Ball on Oct. 25, the event being sponsored by the A.L.C. Ladies Auxiliary. Our "snoopy" reporter spotted Father Baltch, Irene Wood, Ginny Miciulis, Pete Hayes, Gene Gobis, Don Hblleran, Matt and Isabelle Orante, Ed and Polly Ziausys, Charles and Sadie Karbus and Helen Radzevich enjoying the good food and music. Ginny is now convalescing with a sprained ankle. Could be she danced too much! Get well quickly, Ginny! . . . Our national legal advisor, Atty. Anthony C. Stokna, was chairman of still another event - the 50th anniversary of the American Lithuanian Club. A dinner dance was held on Nov. 22. Various K of L'ers served on the committee. In addition to Tony, they

are Prof. J. Olsauskas, Matthew Kazlauskas, Michael Kerbelis, Irene Wood, Ginny Miciulis, Sadie and Charles Karbus, and Anthony Radzevich . . . Pauline Urban, who is a cashier at Lou's Market, works on Monday nights and has had to miss our meetings. Hope you can attend our Xmas banquet. . . We hope to see Ed and Eleanor Barauskas at the Tower Inn this year. Last year, a big snow storm kept them away . . . What happened to our former President, Don Nikstenas? We hope to see you Don at our next meeting . . . Then there is John Gerutis - all he does is sell Plymouths and Chryslers to our members! How about taking some time off and making the next get-together.



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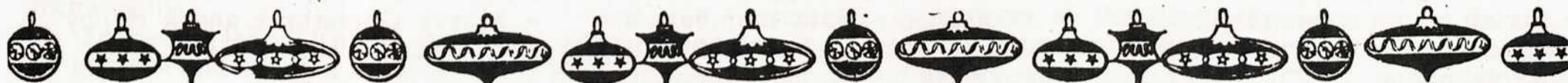
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BEST *Christmas* **WISHES**

to the
Knights of Lithuania

Vytiškai,
JOHN SPRAINAITIS
Member of C-61



Cheer ILLINOIS - INDIANA DISTRICT

IID Taitytė
Our Thanksgiving Season Horn of Plenty included plenty of occasions on which the K of L'ers took the opportunity to give thanks, by support, to the many organizations for their contributions to the Lithuanian community and causes.

Just to mention a few, we can begin with the variety evening of entertainment, "Humors and Music", for the benefit of the Lithuanian Photo Archives, at the Jesuit Youth Center. Past District President John Evans (C-112) was Chairman of this event. Other

members attended the St. Casimer Jubilee Commemoration and were pleasantly entertained by our singing, swingin' District President Algird Brazis.

Some of our K of L ladies attended the dinner and Fashion Show at the luxurious "Martinique" at the invitation of the Chicago Lithuanian Women's Club. Annually, this group of ladies sponsors the unique "Amber Ball", at which our Lithuanian Debs are presented, second to none, among the other Deb Cotillions. Funds from their various functions during the year are also given for scholarships. Our Past Juniors V.P. Genevieve "Gigi" Maluskawas co-chairlady, assisted most ably by our present Juniors V.P. "Cis" Matul.

Those who attended the Lithuanian TV party at Pakstas Hall enjoyed an evening of dancing, re-

freshments and socializing on into the morning hours. Many thanks to Helen Zimmer, who is not only one of the Program Directors, but also now Treasurer on the Board of Officers, for the invitation.

Thanks to the "Pearl Mesta" of our District, Estelle Rogers, we K of L'ers of the area attend most of these events and so many more, of the Chica-Go-Go Lithuanian affairs.

Some of the members missing at these events were certainly absent for reasons acceptable by our S.C. and District Juniors V.P.'s. Lorraine and Frank Svelnis, our Past S.C. Treasurer, became the proud parents of their first bundle of 7 lb., 10 oz. of sheer joy . . . Kathleen Alice, on Oct. 28. Congratulations to Lorraine and Frank.

More Best Wishes are in order

for Wally and Carol Tenclinger for their second addition to the band - Karen Ann, a 7 lb. 11 oz. bundle of bliss born Oct. 31.

Our K of L Choir is also pleased to announce their new officers for the coming year. President is that dynamic Vytautas Bilitavicius; Vice President is charming Zita Reimytė; Secretary is our "Draugas" Vyčių Veikla Editor Emilija Pakalniškienė and Treasurer is our dear, dear patron of the Choir - Juozas Juska.

The annual Memorial Mass for deceased K of L members was held Sunday, Nov. 2, at Our Lady of Vilna Parish with District Spiritual Advisor Rev. John Savukynas officiating. Immediately following, the members gathered at the K of L Building for the Brunch and solemn program.

Honorary Member Ignas Sakalas introduced the honored guests at the head table - Rev. John Savukynas, District Spiritual Advisor; Algird Brazis, IID President; Alex Budris, Seniors V.P.; Vytautas Bilitavicius, Choir President; Irene Sankus, "Vytis" Editor; K of L Choir Accompanist John Byanskas, and Special Guest, Honorary Member Joseph Boley (Bulevi-

cius), who while in Chicago as a part of the cast of "The Great White Hope", attended this, among the various other functions of Lithuanian activities in Chicago. Mr. Boley enriched the audience with his remarks regarding the purposes of the K of L which our now "Past" members have worked for and have passed on to us to continue or fulfill. For this continuance of now a traditional event, we thank Chairman Vladas Palionis, Ignas Sakalas, Alex and Mrs. Budris, Mrs. Petrulis, Vince Samaska, the Building Trustees and Mrs. Cicevicienė.

The first preliminary Convention Committee meeting accomplished much since it was held in the warm, relaxed atmosphere of Irene Sankus' home. As we all know, the best plans are laid under the influence of sociability. District president Algird Brazis presided with Dist. Secretary Loretta Macekonis taking notes. Mr. Brazis and Eleanore Laurin, past Convention Chairlady agreed to contact the Sheraton Hotel and the Palmer House, for arrangement comparisons. The accommodations arranged for by Cis Matul and the Palmer House were very

fine, but having weighed the various factors, as was decided later, the Convention will be held at the Chicago Sheraton, as in 1964.

Leon Pauksta, now Board Chairman, Father John Savukynas, Estelle Rogers, Albert Zakarka, were the other committee members present. Of course several other items of importance were discussed and will be revealed as a more total itinerary is developed. Everybody showed so much enthusiasm and we know this will continue and increase.

CHICAGO, ILL., C-36

CC

On Nov. 18 our council was proud to present the Captive Nations Commemorative Medal to the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture. Our member, Stanley Balzekas, Jr., accepted the commemorative set from council president Vince Samaska.

A tear was shed by all when the Reverend Paul Juknevicus gave his farewell speech at our last meeting. After 25 years at Immaculate Conception, Father Paul is retiring.

Welcome to Father Vince Planckis as our new council spiritual advisor.



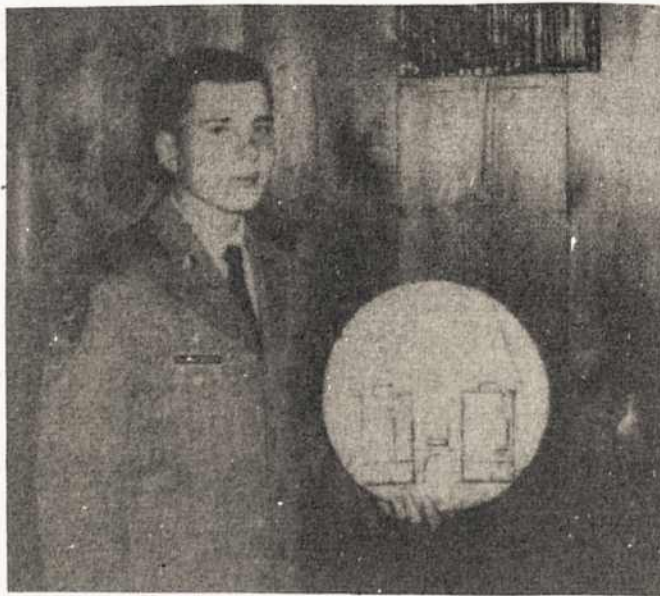
CHICAGO
IN 1970

The home of our member, Stanley Balzekas, Jr. and his wife, Irene, in the Beverly Hills section of Chicago, was recently selected for the DAR (Daughters of American Revolution) Walk. The committee selects homes for their outstanding architecture, interior furnishings and outstanding collections. The Balzekas' had on display, a large collection of Lithuanian amber and other Lithuanian memorabilia to show the 3,000 visitors who viewed the home and were able to see the fine artistic and scholarly work Lithuanians are doing and have done in the past. Stanley, in addition to being the guiding light of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, never misses an opportunity to promote Lithuania and Lithuanians.

During our October meeting, we held election of officers with the following results: Pres., Vincent Samaska; 1st V-P., Walter T. Zemgulis; 2nd V-P., open; 3rd V-P., Kazimera Petrulis; Rec. Secy., Christine Chernius; Treas., Frank Svelnis; Fin. Secy., Anne Marie Kassel; Corres. Secy., Helen Zimmer; Sgts-at-arms, Jerome Janus and Napoleonas Sapkus; Trustees, Anthony Wallunas and Peter

Butkus.

Congrats to all and we are looking forward to a busy year.



Cadet Robert Balzekas, son of Stanley and Irene of C-36, is pictured holding one of his Lithuanian works of art. Robert was chosen to have his art work exhibited at the St. John's Military Academy in Delafield, Wisc., where he is a first year student.

CHICAGO, ILL., C-112 "??"

Council recipients of beautiful Lithuanian Motif engraved plates, awards for the IID Membership Drive sponsored by Frank Zapolis,

were John Auksciunas, Leon Pauksta, George Jonikas and Julie Zakarka. John also won a National Membership Certificate at the last convention. All four are most deserving, as they are always active and ever K of L-minded at all Lithuanian functions.

Bewitching time for 112ers and friends was held on Halloween night at the super-doooper Krivickas Rathskeller. It's reported that all of the party-goers, goblins, spooks and all had a groovy time.

5th Wedding Anniversary congratulations were extended to the Beinoras' by a number of K of L friends. Carl and Sophie's gift was a "Madonna and Child" painting by Paukštienė... A little birdie tells us that the new home of Andy and Dolores Yuknis in the Burr Ridge section of Hinsdale is truly a candidate for "Home Beautiful"... Ruth Dagis, our council's most accomplished entertainer, has now added the guitar to her list of talents. She also plays a great organ and a mean accordin. When's the next performance?... Congratulations to our member, Lorraine Wainauskas Svelnis and her husband Frank, former C-36 president, on the birth of their first off-



Merry Christmas to all the K of L'ers
I know or would like to know.
Don't forget - this is the only
Christmas Greeting you get.

PETER V. GAGLE
C - 112



My Sincerest Wishes for each of you
Linksmiausių šventų Kalėdų
Laimingų, taikingų Naujų Metų ir
Neilstančios dvasios vyčių darbuose

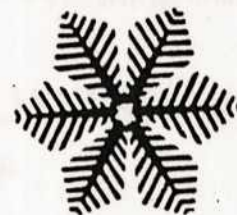
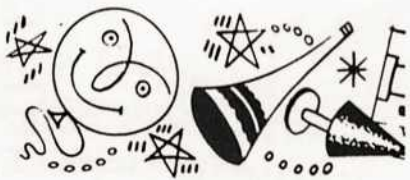
Hon. Member
ELEANORE H. LAURIN



spring Kathleen Alice, who arrived on Oct. 28.

Congratulations to our outgoing officers, who did an outstanding job during their term of office and best wishes to the new, who were elected at our September meeting. Our new leaders are: Pres., Albert Zakarka; V-P., Ruth Dagus; Rec. Secy., Albina Gaides; Fin. Secy., Albert Dagus; Treas., Monica Kasper; Corres. Secy. Geraldine Mockus; Trustees, Irene Rakaitis and Albert Raubiskis; and Sgts-at-Arms, Edward Krivickas, Albert Schulicke, Algis Skudra, and Andrew Tatusko. Under their guidance, we know that we will again have a most successful year.

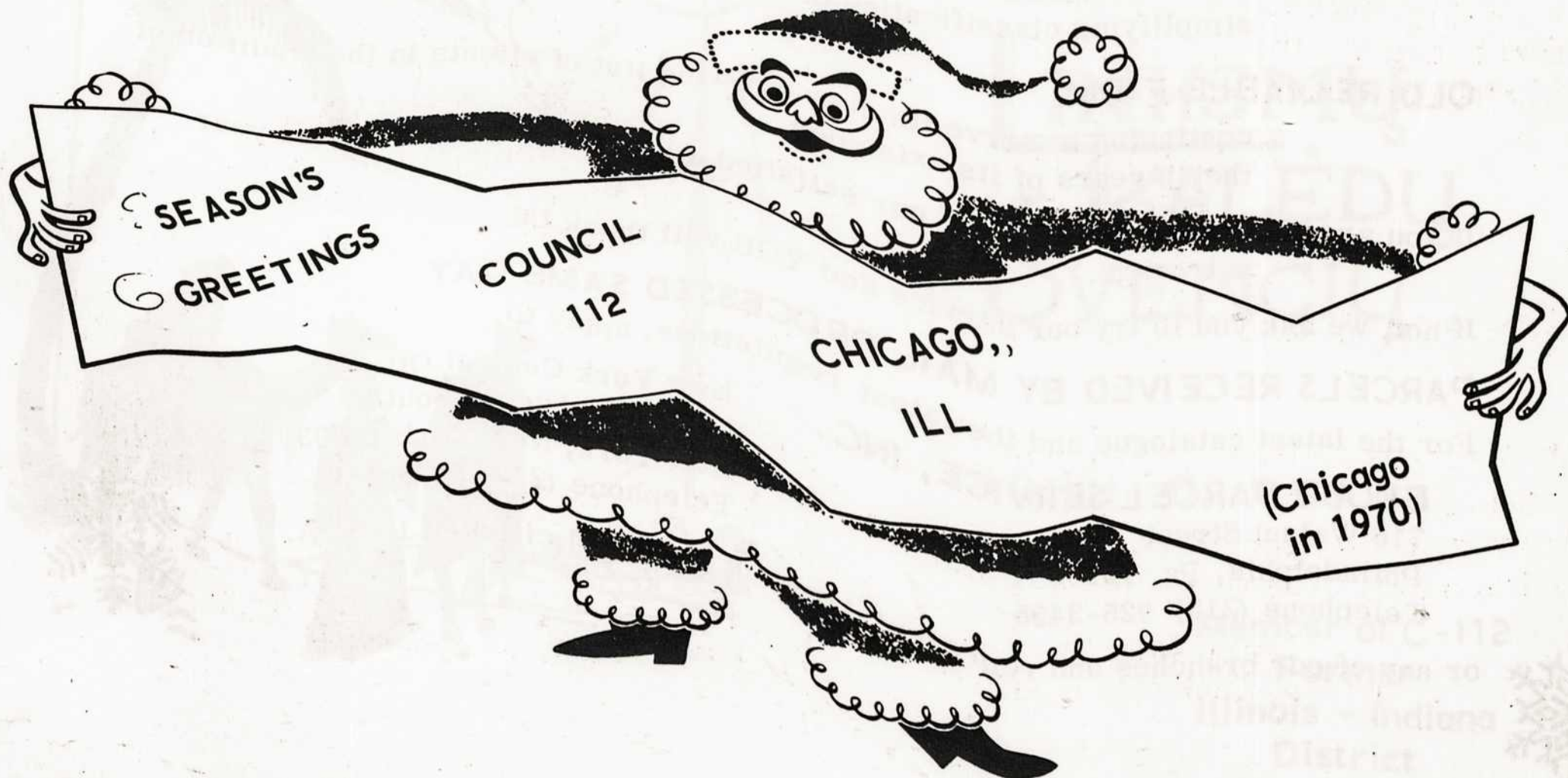
With our hard-working financial secretary - Al Dagus, and our national membership V-P - Leon Pauksta checking up on us, we had all better pay our 1970 dues Now!



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Well - Wishers

- Council 116, So. Worcester
- Council 139, Detroit
- Cleveland Seniors
- Father Albert Contons, Mass.
- Helen Zimmer, C-36
- Gerry Mack, C-112
- Faustas and Terry Strolia, C-36
- Marilyn Kareiva, C-112
- Albert Raubiskis, C-112
- Vincent Samaska, C-36
- Albina and Lillian Kodis, C-36
- Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Wallunas, C-36
- Frank Vaskas, H.M., C-29
- Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Petkus, Sr., C-96
- Stella Sankal, Cleveland Srs.
- Julie and Al Zakarka, C-112
- Algerd Brazis, C-112
- Estelle Rogers, C-112
- Stanley Vaitkus, C-96
- Larry Svelnis, C-17 Srs.
- Joe and Ada Sinkwitz, C-96
- Council 30, Westfield, Mass.





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CHRISTMAS



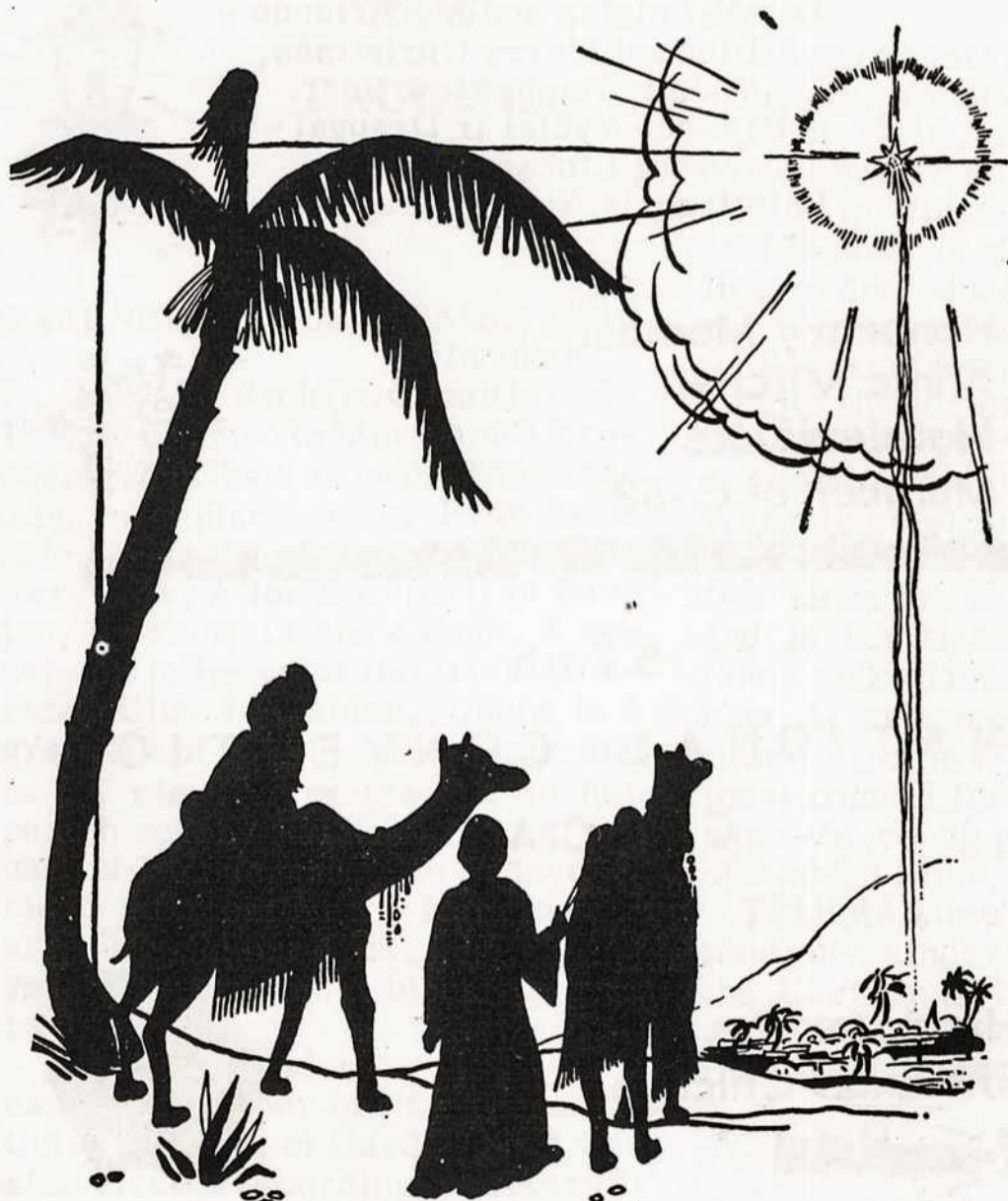
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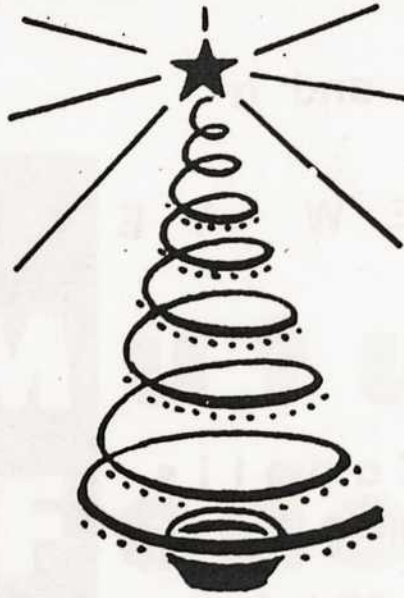


LINKSMŪ
V KALĒDU
SVENČIU

JOHN G. EVANS

Member of C-112
Former
Illinois - Indiana
District
President

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



to
YOU

IRENE K. SANKUS

"Vytis" Editor

Member of C-112

**LINKSMŲ KALĖDU
VISIEMS VYČIAMS**

nuo

C - 7

WATERBURY,

CONN.



GREETINGS

from

NEW BRITAIN, CONN.

to all

FELLOW KNIGHTS and LADIES

"Kūčių vakare lauždami švęstą duoną, minėkite ir tuos, kurie kariauja Vietnamo ir mūsų brolius bei seseris kenčiančius Lietuvoj".

**MARGIE A. SENK
(DAVIDONIS)**

Senior Member

Council 10

Athol, Mass.



To All Knights and My Friends -
A Blessed Merry Christmas,
A Jolly Happy New Year.
Brangūs Vyčiai ir Draugai -
Šventų Linksmų Kalėdų,
Laimingų ir Sveikų Naujų Metų.

Honorary Member
Annie Mitchell
Matulevičiūtė
Member of C-52



57th

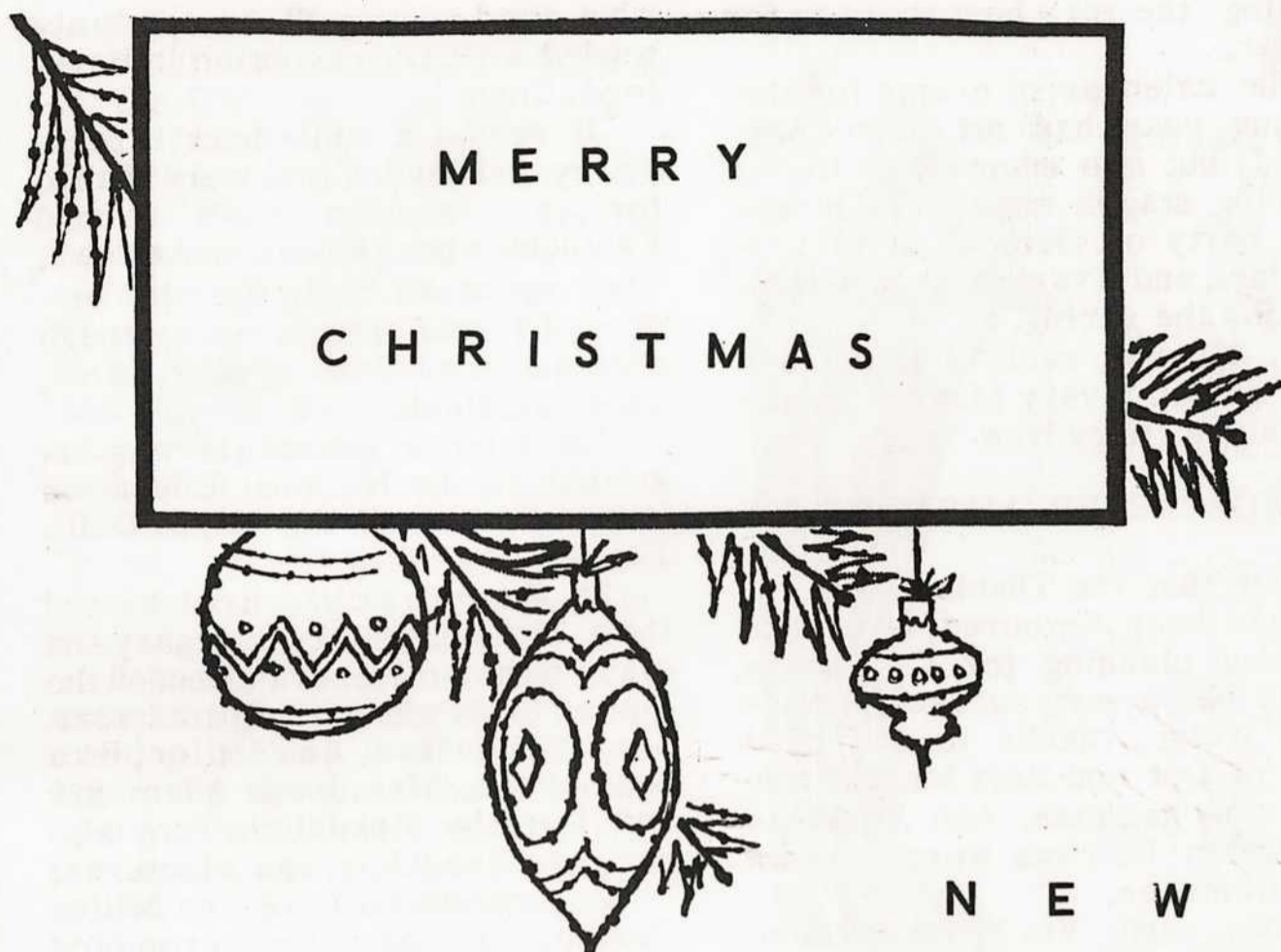
**NATIONAL CONVENTION
CHICAGO**

AUGUST

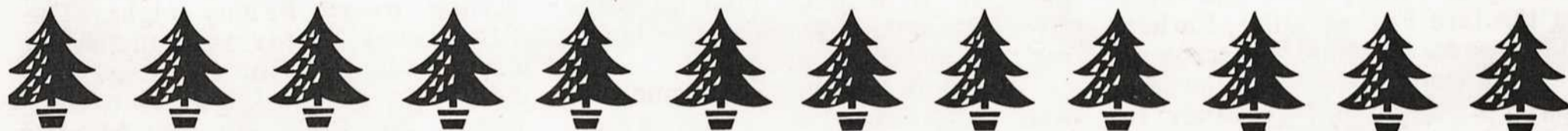
1970

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N E W E N G L A N D
D I S T R I C T



NE W
ENGLAND
DISTRICT

GARDNER-ATHOL, MASS., C-10
Vincukas

Recently Richard Genaitis of C-10 was married to Miss Donna Broderick of Charlestown. The wedding took place in St. Francis de Sales Church and was performed by Very Rev. Allan Campbell of Saujus, a friend of the couple. A reception followed at the Irish American Club in Malden. Donna is a graduate of Northeastern Univ. and is an elementary teacher in her parish school. Dick, also a graduate of Northeastern, is an investment counselor with Income Realty of New England. We wish the young couple many blessings and happiness.

Lennie Davidonis recently became a member of the Lithuanian Outing Assoc. of Gardner and was also elected recording secretary at

the annual meeting. Bill Wisnauskas was elected Financial secretary.

Congratulations to Father Al Volungis, former spiritual advisor of C-10, who was recently named pastor of our Lady of Vilna Parish in Worcester.

Member of the month: I would like to introduce an old-timer in our K of L ranks this month. He is Al Rodski of Gardner. Al, now married to the former Pauline Wesockas of Athol, is the proud father of a healthy son, Peter Alvin, who recently celebrated his first birthday. Al has been with the post office since his return from the Navy and is remembered by many as a fancy polka dancer. Wedded life has kept Al at home, but he still finds time to attend K of L meetings and local council functions. We of C-10 wish the young people many years of wedded bliss.

At this time I would like to extend my sincere best wishes for the Christmas holidays to all our area K of L members along with the VYTIS staff.

WORCESTER, MASS., C-26

"Dzūkelė"

Our president, Val Baziliauskas, says this of 1969: "It has been a very good year. Thank you all. Without being able to mention everyone, I would like to mention specially my executive board. Certainly this good year is the result of the efforts of a highly capable and conscientious board of officers who lessened my work load considerably. Again, thank you all". The officers for 1970 were installed by our spiritual director, Rev. Justin Steponaitis, at our November meeting: Pres. - Val Baziliauskas; 1st V-P - Charles Grigaitis; 2nd V-P - Edmund Grigaitis; Fin. Secy. - Alena Pinkus; Treas. - Rita Pinkus; English Secy - Anne Bender; Lith. Secy. - Olga Kersis; Auditors - Janice Tagman and Helen Gillus; Sgts -at-Arms - Mary Jankowski and Allen Gregonis; Lith. Affairs - William Grigas; Cultural Chr. - Wanda Pajeda.

You would find it interesting to sit in on the conversations of the following girls who spent most unique vacations: Christine Delonis in Hawaii, Theresa Ciginskas



in the French West Indies, Dana Pauliukonis in Europe, and Claire Grigaitis in Mexico.

Anthony (Morky) Morkunas is a patient at the U.S. Veterans Hospital in West Roxbury, Mass. While he expects to spend several weeks there, we certainly wish him a rapid recovery.

Wedding congratulations to: Linda (Godek) and Neal Cleary who were married in September and to Jerilyn (Stowe) and Charles "Chipper" Tagman, Jr. who were married in November.

The bowling season is off to an excellent start with 46 active bowlers meeting each Thursday evening. So far, Joan Krusas leads with the high average for women, while Danny Lettic leads for men. Team captains are: Richard Karalus, Richard Desautel, Richard Ivanauskas, Alex Proditkas, Danny Lettic, Eddie Grigaitis, Joe Zalieckas and Paul Roland.

Rev. Alphonse Volungis has been named to succeed the late Rev. Michael Tamulevicius as pastor of Our Lady of Vilna, home of C-116. Like the late Father Mike, Father Al is a past spiritual director of our C-26, so it is very natural for all of us to join together in

wishing the very best there is for Father.

The calendar of events for the coming year has not been completed, but two events are in the planning stages now: Our Christmas party on Dec. 13 at Maironis Park and a variety show scheduled for the spring.

In closing, each of us wishes each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SO. WORCESTER, MASS., C-116
Darata

Now that the Thanksgiving turkey has been devoured, everyone is busy planning for Christmas.

We had a very successful Military Whist, thanks to the hard work of Dot and Bart March, who were co-chairman. Ann Yurkinas and Helen Daltwas were also on the committee.

Mary and Vic Mrozinski are back from Florida with terrific tans. Bet when the snow starts to fall, they'll wish they were back!

Father Botek spent time with his Dad in Florida visiting relatives. Everyone seems to be heading for the warm climate.

Although we don't see much of Ann Markvenas we still hear of

what she is doing. She recently attended a CCD Convention in Hartford, Conn.

It seems a while back, Frank, Terry and Ruch Ciras were headed for a vacation down around Kentucky when the car broke down. They spent all their time in Hershey, Pa. and brought back enough chocolates to last a year. Wow, what calories!

Miss Irene Adamaitis was installed in the National Education Honor Society of the Kappa Delta Phi. Congratulations!

St. Casimirs Church celebrated their 75th Jubilee Anniversary and many of our members attended the mass. Those who participated were Trudy Zibinskas, Ann Miller, Rita Skamarock, Mrs. Irene Adamaitis and Dorothy Sinkavitch. Tony Miner, our President, was a lecturer.

Congratulations to Ann Miller Paxton, who has been promoted secretary to the President of State Mutual. We are real proud of this gal.

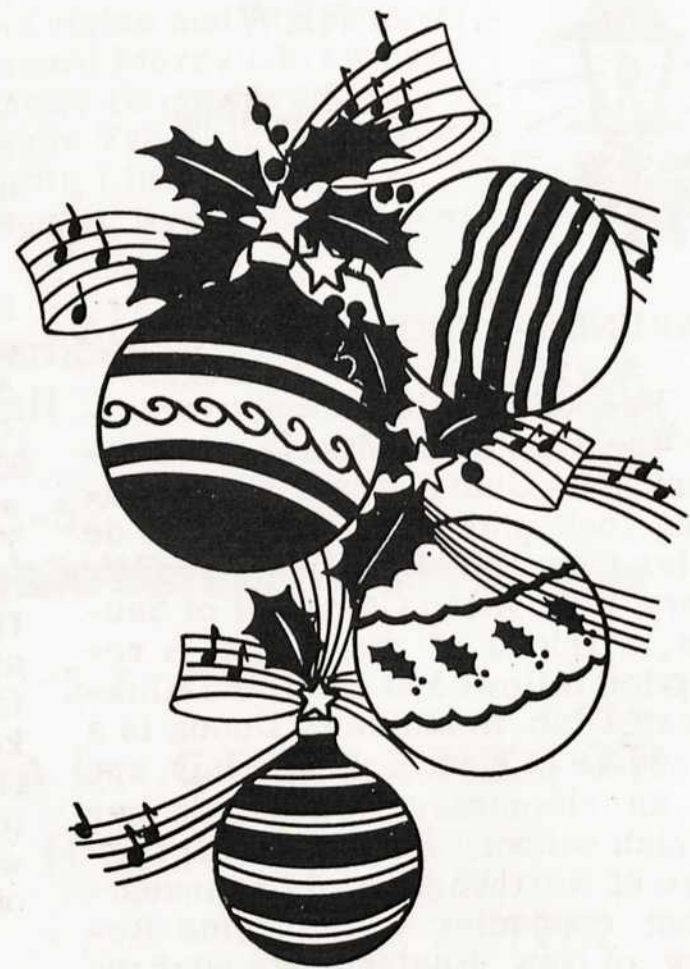
Our bowling league is going strong every Friday night. The Big Power so far is team No. 4 captained by Bob Paluses and helped by Father Urban, Ann Yurkinas, Joe Balukonis and Marion



TO OUR
K OF L FRIENDS

COUNCIL 17

SOUTH BOSTON, MASS.



K of L Calendar

Lukason. For individual achievement, it looks like John Andruska is the Big Ace - so far anyway. His Hi Average is 104.8 and a Hi Triple of 352. The most improved "male bowler" is Joe Balukonis who has made his average 10 points higher than last year. The girls haven't been doing too badly either. Dot March has a Hi Average of 94.5 and Rita Skamarock is running a close second with 93.3. Our most improved "girl bowler" is Helen Daltwas. She has moved up from the bottom of the list to a 81 average. Keep up the good work Helen!

Ann (Brownie) Miller had a wonderful time at the Wine Tasting evening held by C-17 So. Boston, Mass. By the time the affair was over Ann couldn't tell one wine from the other, but she had a smile on her face, all the way home.

We of C-116 wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



DECEMBER

- 1 - "REMBRANDT AFTER 300 YEARS" Exhibit and Luncheon, Women's Guild, Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, The Art Institute, Chicago, Ill.
- 6 - "CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD" Lithuanian Day, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, Ill. The Christmas Play performers include the Chicago Juniors.
- 7 - C-36 Chicago, BOWLING SOCIAL, Archer-Kedzie Lanes, Dinner, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 13 - C-26 Worcester, CHRISTMAS PARTY, Maironis Park, Worcester, Mass.
- 14 - C-100 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BANQUET, Tower Inn, Amsterdam, N.Y.
- 14 - Illinois-Indiana DISTRICT MEETING and RITUAL PRESENTATION, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
- 20 - C-112 Chicago, ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

JANUARY - 1970

- 10 - Lithuanian Television's POBŪVIS, Pakstas Hall, Chicago, Ill.
- 24 - IID Choir, ANNUAL DANCE/BUFFET, Pakstas Hall, Chicago, Ill.



AL JARITIS

and

JOHN and ALICE

OLEVITZ

and

VALERIE

and

JOHN CASIMIR

Members of

C - 17

To All From

Waterbury's C - 7
Members .

Joseph and Ann Rutkauskas
John Alanskas
Ed and Mary DiNapoli
Anthony Alexander
Alexander Aleksis
Marcella Andrikis
James Valaitis
Otto Shatas
Lillian Paulauskas



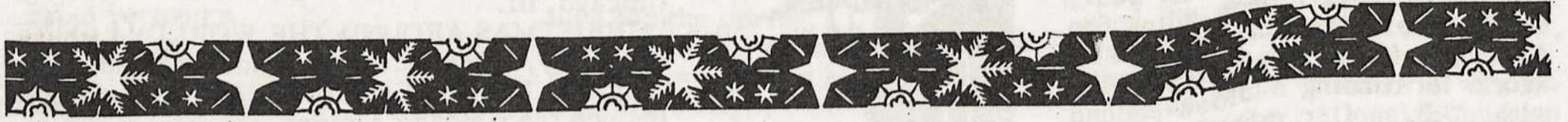
and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR



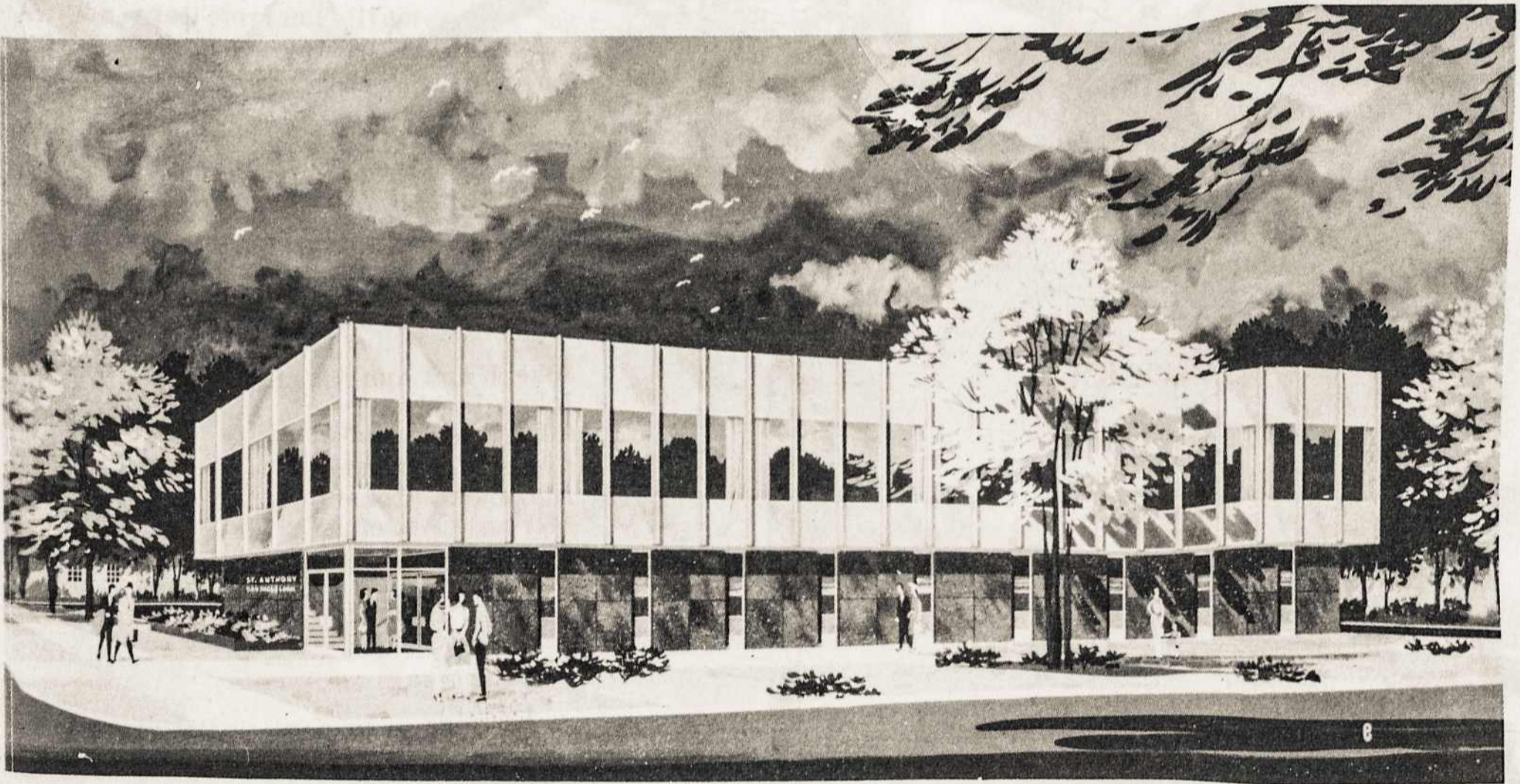
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Joseph F. Gribauskas
Executive Secretary
(Member of Council 14 - Cicero)

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