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**The Knights
of Lithuania**



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MŪSŲ TAUTA

MIRTIES PAVOJUJE

Visi gerai žinome, kad lietuvių tauta savo istorijoje ne vieną kartą išgyveno mirties pavojų. Gal būtų dar tiksliau sakyti: ji beveik visą praeities laiką gyveno mirties agonijoje. Deja, šis nelmtas mirties pavojus grėsė tautai ne iš vidaus, ne iš pačios tautos silpnybių. Priešingai, tauta buvo sveika, sąmoninga ir gyvastinga. Šios ypatybės sudarė nuostabų lietuvių tautinės išvermės branduolį ir atsparos pagrindą prieš nuolat gresiantį milžinišką pavojų.

Tikrąjį pavojų mūsų tautinei egzistencijai sudarė mūsų geografinė padėtis. Kitaip sakant, mūsų kaimynai: vokiečiai, lenkai ir rusai. Jų imperialistinė politika mūsų teritorijos atžvilgiu buvo ta didžioji ir vienintelė grasmė tautinei gyvybei. Sunku suprasti, o juo labiau pateisinti, tų didžiųjų kaimynų priešišką nusistatymą taikingos Lietuvos atžvilgiu. Dar skaudžiau yra kiekvienam lietuviui tai, kad tie patys kaimynai, viešai ar slapta, yra neigė mums pagrindines tautinės egzistencijos ir apsisprendimo teises.

Nebūtų tikslu dabar kartoti ilgą mūsų tautos egzistencinės kovos istoriją su vokiečiais ir lenkais. Tiesa, jie yra padarę mums daug gilių ir nepamirštamų žaizdų, tačiau šiuo momentu jie mums tiesiogiai nebegresia. Vokiečių ir lenkų ambicijas į mūsų kraštą, bent laikinai sutramdė trečiasis rytų kaimynas, drauge okupavęs ir mūsų tėvynę.

Gyvenamuoju momentu mes, kaip tauta, esame patekę į tokį beviltišką mirties pavojų, koks dar nėra mums grėsęs visoje istorijoje. Mūsų rytų kaimynas - Rusija, - likvidavęs bet kokias lenkų ir vokiečių pretenzijas į Lietuvos teritoriją, pasidarė vienintelis, visagalis, neribotas valdovas, neturįs nei konkurentų, nei varžovų Pabaltijo erdvėje.

Čia reikia atvirai pripažinti, kad ne komunizmas, kaip politinė ir ekonominė doktrina, sudaro gyvybinį pavojų mūsų tautai, bet nacionalistinis rusiškas imperializmas, pridengtas komunizmo kauke. Nepaslaptis yra, kad imperialistiniams ir rusifikacijos tikslams nuslėpti net oficialus Rusijos vardas išmestas iš savo imperijos pavadinimo. Pasipuošę visai beprasmiu Sovietų Sąjungos vardu, dabar rusai nežmonišku įniršimu vykdo carų nebaigtą tautų naikinimo politiką.

Carinė Rusija per 120 okupacijos metų mirtinai smaugė lietuvi, siekdama sunaikinti tautą, o jos teritoriją padaryti nedaloma Rusijos imperijos dalimi. Lietuvos vardas jau nebeegzistavo nei žemėlapiuose, nei Europos tautų sąrašuose. Oficialiai Lietuva jau buvo numarinta.

1940 m. komunistinė Rusija, jėga okupavusi Lietuvą ir radusi ją atgijusią, tučtuojau kibo į tautos naikinimo darbą pačiomis radikaliausiomis priemonėmis, pasiryžusi carų nebaigtą misiją galutinai užbaigti. Tautiniam atsparumui sulaužyti, rusai panaudojo tokio masto ir tokio žiaurumo priemones,

kokių sveiko proto civilizuotas žmogus negalėjo nė įsivaizduoti. Masiškai kankino ir brutaliai areštavo nekaltus žmones, šimtus tūkstančių ištrėmė į Sibirą. Iš likusių tėvynėje atėmė nuosavybes, o ūkininkus pavertė baudžiauninkais taip, kad neliko nė vieno lietuivio, ekonomiškai nepriklausomo nuo jų valdžios. Užplūdo kraštą kolonistai - "didieji broliai" - rusai ir užėmė vadovaujančias vietas. Policinė rusų kontrolė supančiojo ne tik visą kraštą, bet ir kiekvieną individą. Krašte įgyvendino absoliutinę nelaisvę ir geležine uždanga atskyrė lietuvi nuo laisvojo vakarų pasaulio.

Carų laikais lietuvis turėjo vieną mažą langą į vakarus, į Prūsus. Ten jis galėjo organizuotis ir apsirūpinti lietuviška spauda. Komunistinė Rusija uždarė ir tą langelį. Ji lietuviškąją Prūsų dalį kolonizavo ir pavertė integraline Rusijos dalimi. Lenkiją nustumė į vakarus, dabar rusai apžiojo Lietuvą iš visų pusių taip, kad nebeliko kliūčių jai praryti ir suvirškinti.

Pažvelkime į šiurpulingus pavyzdžius. Kas atsitiko per 50 metų su didelėmis tautomis Sovietų Sąjungoje? Ukraina ir Gudija tiek iškankintos, kolonizuotos ir surusintos, kad jau neberodo savo tautinių gyvybės ženklų. Mirties tyła viešpatauja jų teritorijose.

Nors oficialiai Sovietų sąjungą sudaro vadinamosios tautinės respublikos su savo konstitucijomis ir valdžios aparatais, tačiau iš tikrųjų jos negali savarankiškai tvarkyti net mažiausių savo vidaus reikalų. Respublikas valdo tik rusai ir tik jie jas laiko griežčiausioje kontrolėje. Faktiškai nėra jokios sovietinių respublikų sąjungos. Ne tik sovietų respublikos, bet ir jų sferoje esančios valstybės yra subordinuotos absoliutinei Rusijos diktatūrai.

Kas atsitiko su Vengrija ir Čekija, kai tie kraštai pabandė savo reikalus patvarkyti be rusų žinios, atseit, nepriklausomai? Jugoslavija ir Kinija tik per plauką, bent tuo tarpu išvengė rusiškos priespaudos. Bet ar ilgam? Vadinasi, ir čia tas pats rusiškas nacionalistinis imperializmas užkerta kelią tautoms į laisvę, nežiūrint, ar jos komunistinės, ar ne.

Mums reikia galutinai nusistatyti ir pripažinti, kad ne komunizmas, kaip toks, bet Rusijos imperializmas šiuo metu yra mūsų ir kitų tautų vienintelis ir pagrindinis priešas. Laikas visoms tautoms ir net visoms komunistų partijoms pasipriešinti Rusijos vykdomam genocidui, nes jis vienodai grėsia ir komunistinėms valstybėms. Tik viena Rusija dabar praktikuoja genocidą ir tik ji viena už tai yra atsakinga. Mūsų kova prieš tautos naikinimą turi būti sukoncentruota prieš Rusiją, prieš jos neribotą imperializmą. Juk ne fikcinė Sovietų Sąjunga okupavo ir naikina Lietuvą, bet Rusija. Reikėtų tai skelbti pasauliui raštu ir žodžiu, kad žmonės ir tautos suprastų tikrąjį pavojaus šaltinį ir jungtinėmis jėgomis jam pasipriešintų.

Minėdami vasario 16-tąją Lietuvos nepriklausomybės atstatymo dieną, pirmiausia sukaupkime visas jėgas gelbėti tautai iš mirties pavojaus. Prateškime jos gyvybę, kad bent ateityje turėtume tvirtą pagrindą į nepriklausomybę ir laisvę. Kitaip, mūsų pastangos, kovos ir aukos nustos bet kokios prasmės.

Didžiosios šventės proga sveikiname Rusijos okupuotą tėvynę ir visus lietuvius pasaulyje.

THE KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA IN TODAY'S WORLD

Rev. John Sharnus

Everyone today is screaming about his rights. I have a right to do this or that. Nobody is saying anything about his responsibility.

We must remember that to every right there is a corresponding responsibility. I have a right to live. I have a right to a pursuit of happiness. But I also have an obligation of contributing to the happiness of others.

I have a right to a job. But I have an obligation to give my full share of work for my salary. I have a right to say what I am now saying and you have a right to object, but you have no right to attack me or prevent me in anyway.

People who live in these United States and enjoy the good blessings of God in our country, have no right to trample on or to burn or to destroy our flag which is the symbol of my country.

Before we got into World War II, the President of the United States had to humiliate himself. He had the responsibility of apologizing to Hitler, because an American sailor simply tore down the Nazi flag from the German embassy in San Francisco. He had to apologize for this insult to the symbol of Germany, to the German leader.



When Americans, like the hard hats, see the American Flag desecrated on our public streets, they as Americans have not only the right but the responsibility to be resentful. No one has the right to burn, to destroy, no matter how much they disagree.

It is indeed a pleasure to be here this evening and see all clean-cut-American Lithuanians. I am happy to be here this evening with you Knights of Lithuania, men

and women who realize the value of things. Today the world has lost its sense of shame. Nothing is any longer sacred or holy. Everything is all right and legal. You can do anything you want. You can say anything you care to. This is the reason for our trouble in the world today. We have lost the sense of sin. We have lost the bond that ties us to God.

As members of the Knights of Lithuania, you appreciate the obligations that you have with God and respect his laws. That is why we congratulate you this evening. You are a bulwark, a storm fence holding back the tide of evil of sin.

We congratulate you on your 55th Anniversary and ask that God may continue to watch over you - to enlighten your minds - and strengthen your will, so that you may do God's will here on earth and reach your eternal destiny.

May God bestow upon you his choicest blessings, so that you may continue to work, according to your wonderful motto and goal - for God and country. **ĄČIŪ!**

(Presented at the C-29, Newark, 55th Anniversary Dinner Dance, Oct. 1970, at Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Newark, N.J.)



QUARTET IN HEAVEN

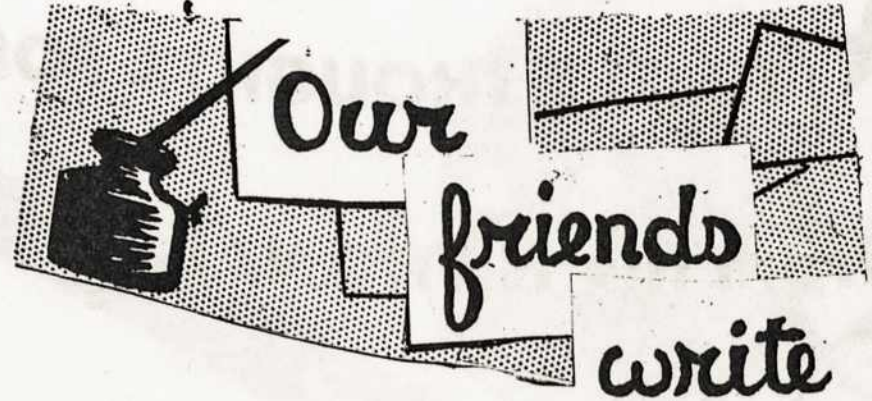
Matt Talbot was a drunkard,
St. Dismas was a thief,
Magdalene a play-girl
And Tom without belief.

But there they are in heaven
Smiling down upon us now
As each holds a tilted halo
To a badly battered brow.

So the sin of all you sinners
Doesn't definitely damn
For your Wasness doesn't matter
If your Isness really Am.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 23, 1970



Dear Dr. Stukas:

It was thoughtful of you and a number of other members of the Lithuanian National Catholic Youth Organization to let me have your views concerning Simas Kudirka. Like you, I was shocked and saddened when I learned how the defection attempt was handled, and I can assure you that I have taken steps to make certain that such an incident will not happen again. I am determined that America will live up to its proud tradition of guaranteeing the safety of refugees.

with my best wishes to you and to the members of your organization,

Sincerely,

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 13, 1970

Dear Miss Sankus:

I appreciate your sending me a copy of "The Knight".

Please be assured that I was highly honored to be chosen as recipient of the "Friends of Lithuania" award during the 57th National Convention.

My efforts in behalf of Lithuania and other Soviet-dominated countries shall be intensified during the next session of Congress.

Kindly extend my greetings and warmest wishes to the Knights of Lithuania.

Sincerely yours,

Roman C. Pucinski
Member of Congress

Telegram



650P EST JAN 20 71 PB162 CTA279 WJ084
WW BTA105 BA GOVT PDB BT WASHINGTON DC 20 456PEST
DR. JACK STUKAS
1467 FORCE DRIVE MOUNTAINSIDE NJER
SHARE YOUR DEEP CONCERN ABOUT DEATH SENTENCE IMPOSED ON VYTAUTAS
SIMOKAITIS AND HAVE ALREADY CONTACTED SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN
AND PRESIDENT NIXON URGENT EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A COMMUTATION
OF SENTENCE. WILL FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY.
REGARDS,
CONGRESSMAN PETER W. RODINO, JR.

★ **TIMELY THOUGHTS FOR TODAY . . .** ★

from the NATIONAL HEROS WE HONOR THIS MONTH . . .



. . . Of Liberty and Tyranny . . .

"The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people, just now, are much in want of one. We all declare for liberty, but in using the same word we do not all mean the same thing. With some the word liberty may mean for each man to do as he pleases with himself, and the product of his labor; while with others the same word may mean for some men to do as they please with other men and the product of other men's labor. Here are two, not only different, but incompatible things, called by the same name - liberty. And it follows that each of the things is, by the respective parties, called by two different and incompatible names - liberty and tyranny.

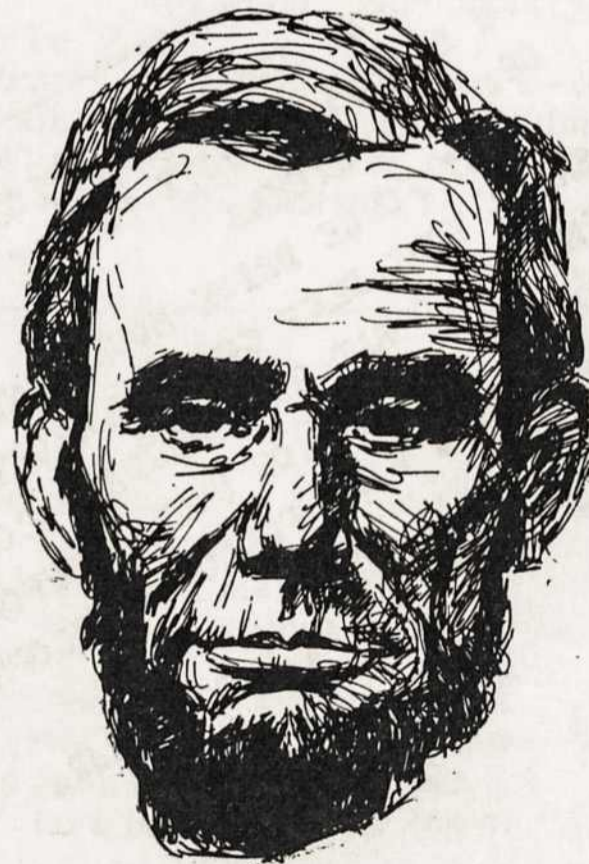
The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as a liberator, while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the destroyer of liberty, especially as the sheep was a black one. Plainly the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon a definition of the word liberty, and precisely the same difference prevails today among us human creatures, even in the North, and all professing to love liberty. Hence we behold the processes by which thousands are daily passing from under the yoke of bondage, hailed by some as the advance of liberty, and bewailed by others as the destruction of all liberty . . ."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN, from his
Baltimore Address, 1864

. . . Of Religion and Morality

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness - these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked, Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

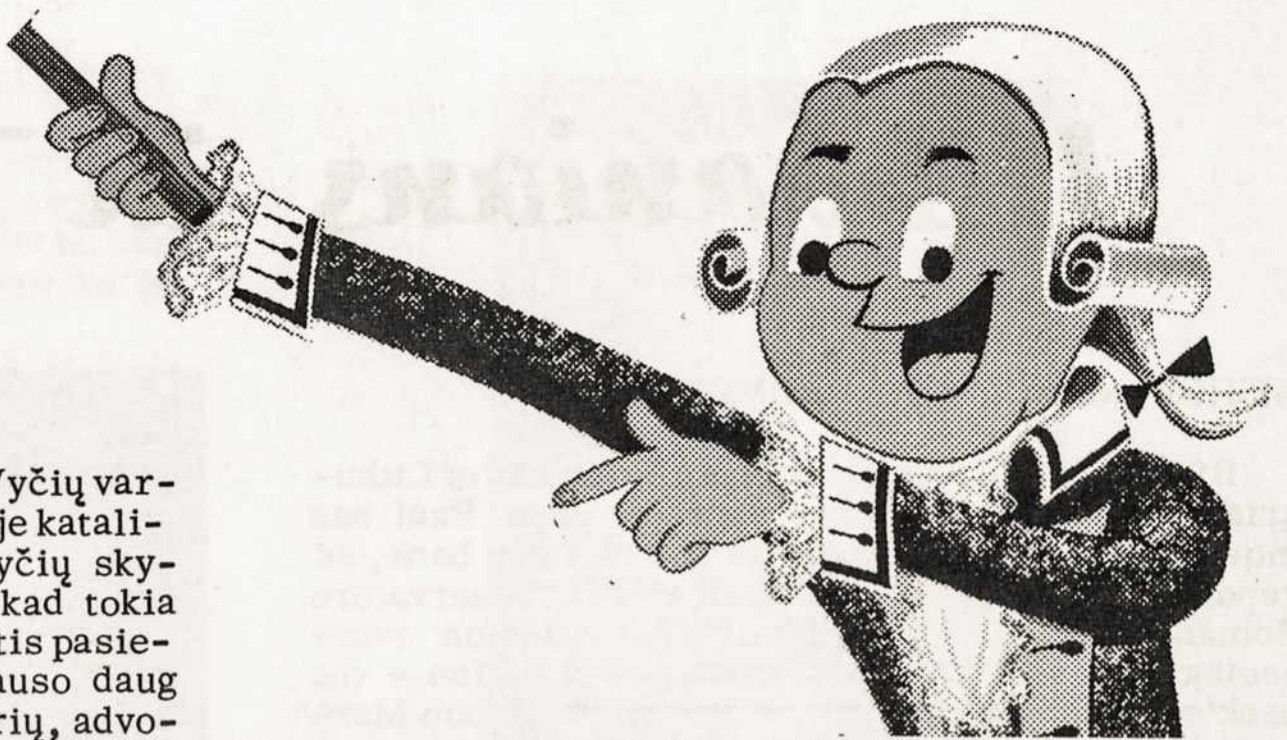
GEORGE WASHINGTON, from his
"Farewell Address" - 1796



VYČIAI, PABUSKIME!

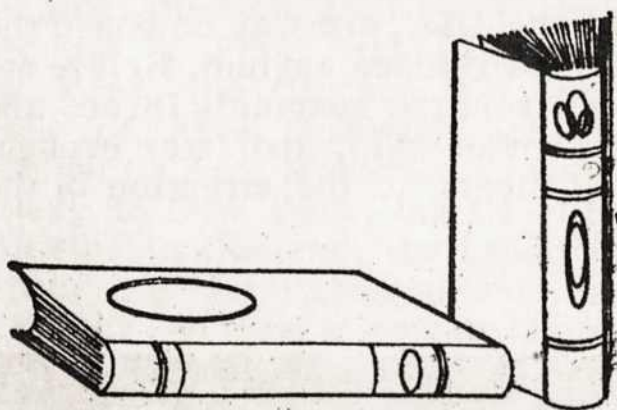
Juozas Sadauskas

Kodėl mes paskendome tyloje? Kitados Vyčių vardas ir jų veikla mirgėjo visoje lietuviškoje katalikiškoje spaudoje. Jeigu Drauge nebūtų Vyčių skyriaus, tai mūsų išeivija visai pamirštų, kad tokia organizacija dar gyvuoja. Mūsų organas Vytis pasiekia tik savo narius. Nors vyčiams priklauso daug aukšto mokslo žmonių - daktarų, profesorių, advokatų, dvasiškių, lietuviškos visuomenės veikėjų, plunksnos mėgėjų, garbės narių, - bet visi yra paskendę tyloje ar tik susirūpinę savais reikalais. Liūdna ir skaudu, kad mes patys mariname savo mielą organizaciją. Jie kartais galėtų parašyti žinelių ir straipsnelių iš savo apylinkės bei Vyčių veiklos. Tai pagyventų visą Vyčių organizaciją. Žinotume, ar ten Vyčiai dar gyvuoja, ar jau išnyko. Bent koki rašiniai, ypatingai primenantieji veiklesnių narių vardus, pagyventų vytišką dvasią. Tokios žinėlės paskatintų ir kitas kuopas veikti. Kiek žinau, Vyčiams priklauso ir jaunesnės kartos mūsų brolių ir sesių, kurie tikrai ir gerai naudoja lietuvišką plunksną, tik reikia juos įtraukti į darbą. Pavyzdžiui, mūsų lietuviškoje spaudoje kai kurių draugijų bei visuomeninė veikla aprašoma plačiai, bet pamirštama Vyčiai ir kitos senosios draugijos bei jų veiklesni nariai. Kartais net visai ignoruojamos Vyčių kuopos ir kitos senosios kartos draugijos ir jų veikėjai. Toks spaudos bendradarbių elgesys atšaldo senąją kartą ir čia išaugusius nuo lietuviškos veiklos. Nukencia ir mūsų lietuviška spauda, nes vienašališkų



žinių vengia skaityti. Mums, lietuviams, visoms kartoms, reikėtų atsisakyti minties, kad aš didesnis, mokytesnis už kitus. Kitados, mūsų išeivijoje, niekad nebuvo girdėti tokių minčių, ypatingai Vyčių vadų ir lietuviškos visuomenės veikėjų tarpe. Dabartiniai laikai reikalauja visas mūsų jėgas sujungti ir vieningai dirbti. Kitaip nėra pagrindo mums nei tautiškai išsilaikyti, nei išlaikyti savąsias lietuviškas parapijas. Juk visiems yra žinoma, jei kuri lietuvių parapija užsidaro, tai ir visas lietuviškas veikimas palaipsniui numiršta. Mums daugiau reikėtų kunigų Jutkevičių, dr. prof. Jokūbų-Loretų Stukų, A. ir E. Pakalniškių, Pranų Vaškų, prel. J. Balkūnų, kun. Norbutų, Vincų-Stasių Pavių, Pranų Gudelių, Marijonų Lukienių ir daugiau tokių pasišventėlių vyčių, kurių vieni plunksna, kiti savo iškalbingu žodžiu ir darbu išlaikytų lietuvių dvasią.

Broliai ir sesės, vyčiai ir vytės, dirbkime mūsų mielos organizacijos pirmūnų pavyzdžiu, kad kiekvienoje lietuvių apylinkėje nuolatos skambėtų Vyčių vardas, kaip kitados jis aidėjo mūsų visoje išeivijoje.



KNYGOS / BOOKS

Liudas Dovydenas - MES VALDYSIM PASAULĮ, dviejuose tomuose. Įdomūs atsiminimai iš bolševikmečių okupuotoje Lietuvoje.

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AWAKENING LITHUANIA

Florham Park Press announces the second printing, SOFT COVER, of "Awakening Lithuania," by Dr. Jack J. Stukas. This interesting, readable work on the rise of modern Lithuanian nationalism, provides a historical background of the Lithuanians, describes the beginnings of the national renaissance, depicts the struggles of Lithuanians for their rights, and

cultural progress during their years of independence. Illustrations by John Subacius. Special SOFT-COVER price to Knights of Lithuania: \$2.00, plus .50 for packaging and postage. There is a limited supply of 1st Edition, hard cover books available at the special price of \$3.00, plus .50 for packing and postage. Order from and make checks payable to Dr. Jack J. Stukas, 1467 Force Dr., Mount-ainside, N.J. 07092.

Lithuanians in The News

BISHOP MARCINKUS PROMOTED

Bishop Paul C. Marcinkus, an American of Lithuanian descent, and close aide of Pope Paul has moved up to the top post in the Vatican bank, as reported recently in the Vatican's *L'Osservatore Romano*. It said a cardinals' commission overseeing the Institute for Works of Religion - the bank's traditional name - has named Bishop Marcinkus as president of the institute's administrative office. The post, roughly equivalent to chairman of the board, was previously held by Alberto Cardinal di Jorio.

The Bishop is a native of Cicero, Ill. Until now, he was secretary of the administrative office. A former official of the Vatican Secretariat of State and an interpreter for Pope Paul, Bishop Marcinkus is the man who makes arrangement for all papal trips and serves as an unofficial bodyguard for the pontiff.



Bishop Marcinkus confers with Pope Paul VI, during Lithuanian Chapel Blessing.



At the Lithuanian-American Council Congress, Bismark Hotel, Chicago. L. to r. - Dr. C.K. Bobelis, newly-elected president of the Council, Robert Brieze, president of the Seafood Producers Ass'n. who witnessed Simas Kudirka's ordeal, Eugene Bartkus, retired president of the L.A. Council.

Photo - V. Noreika

K of Lers at Chicago's Protest Rally for Lithuanian Seaman Kudirka
Second from left: Bishop V. Brizgys, State Senator F. Savickas,
Rev. A. Zakarauskas, S. Balzckas.

Photo - V. Noreika



FATHER ZAK' NEW PASTOR OF NATIVITY

The Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas was recently appointed pastor of Nativity BVM church, 68th and Washtenaw, Chicago. Before this appointment he was the chaplain at Holy Cross hospital, where he is popularly known as "Father Zak".

Father Zakarauskas has been chaplain at Holy Cross hospital for the past four years and celebrated his silver jubilee in the priesthood during the first year of his service at the hospital in 1966.

BORN IN Cicero in 1917, he attended St. Anthony's parish school, Quigley Preparatory seminary, St. Mary of the Lake seminary, and did graduate work at DePaul and Loyola universities.

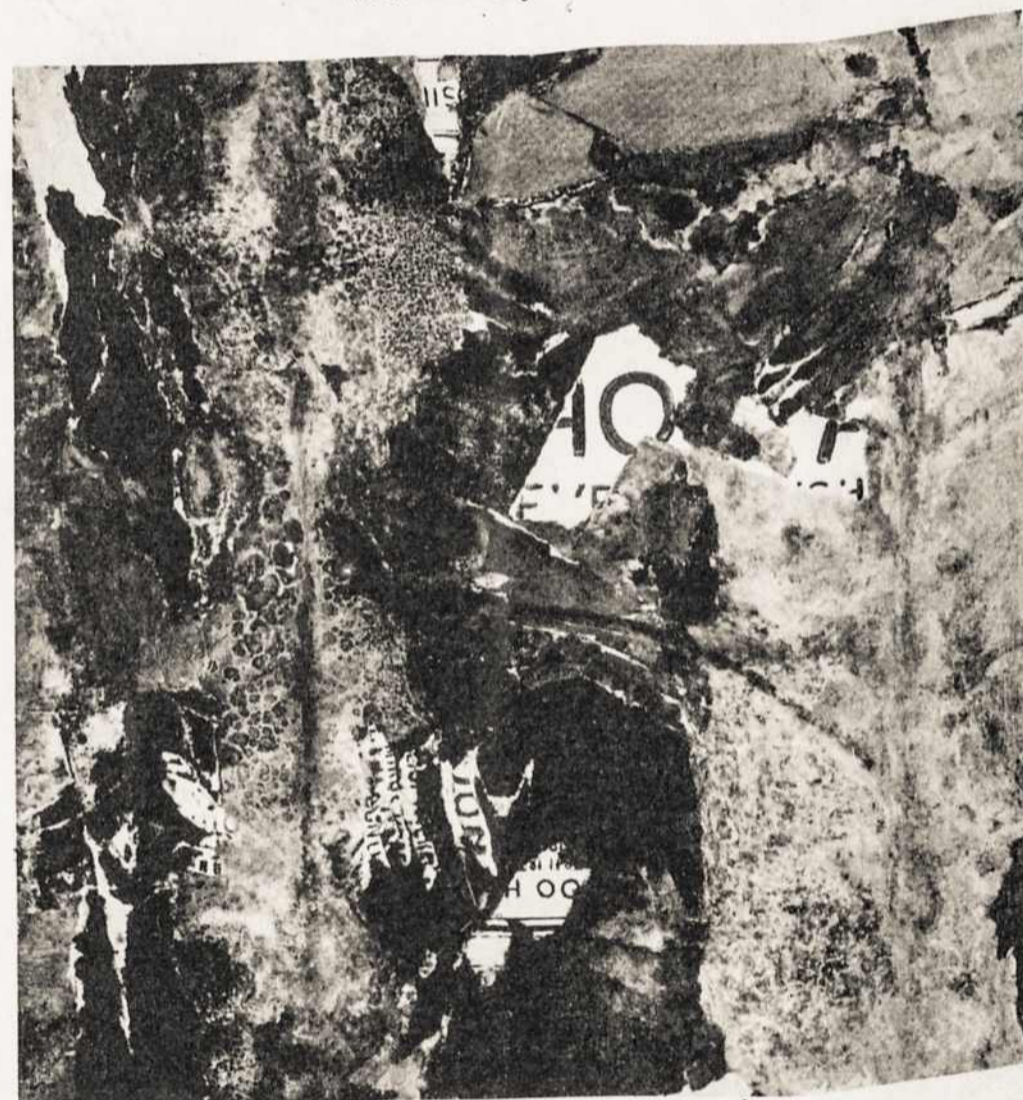
Before becoming chaplain at the hospital, Father Zakarauskas was an assistant pastor at Nativity BVM, Holy Cross and St. George churches and was also chaplain at the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse.

He has taught at Quigley Preparatory seminary, St. Casimir academy, St. Casimir Junior college and Maria High school. In 1964-65 he was a translator for the Archdiocesan Metropolitan Tribunal.

Father Zak is a member of Marquette Park Council 112, Chicago.



Rev. Anthony Zakarauskas



One of Mr. Zoromskis' Works.

KAZIMIERAS ZOROMSKIS

Lithuanian artist, KAZIMIERAS ZOROMSKIS recently presented a very successful showing of his art work at Seton Hall University.

Mr. Zoromskis studied at the Vilnius Art Academy, at the Art Academy in Vienna and at the Royal Academy in Rome. The artist has taught at the Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia and the Catan Rose Institute of Art in New York, and presently teaches at the Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts.

Mr. Zoromskis has exhibited at the Huntington Hartford Museum in New York, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, the National Academy in New York, the Chicago Art Institute, the Bogota Museo de Arte Moderno, and the Madrid Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno, as well as at the Phoenix Gallery in New York, the Ciurlionis and Riccardo Galleries in Chicago, the Liberty Gallery in Philadelphia, the International Institute in Detroit, the Biblioteca Nacional in Bogota, Colombia and the Madrid Museo Nacional de Arte Moderno.



Lilian Sukis, of the Metropolitan Opera.

LILIAN SUKIS RETURNS TO MET

LILIAN SUKIS, a star of New York's Metropolitan Opera, returned from her stay in Europe briefly to sing Euridice in Gluck's opera "Orfeo" at the Metropolitan, on Dec. 19, 24, and 30. The part was a "first" for her. The 1970-71 season brought her many other "firsts" - her Vienna State Opera debut as Violetta; Pamina in Munich, Mimi in West Berlin. On Mar. 17 and 19, for the Mobile Opera Guild, Miss Sukis will portray Marguerita in "Faust", another new role for her.

JUNIOR NEWS



A new Junior K of L Dance Group was organized in November, 1970, by Elena Nakrosis, president of C-90, Kearny, N.J. The group, consisting of children of C-90 members, is called the Knights of Lithuania Children's Dance Group, is directed by Mrs. Nakrosis. They made their debut on December 20, at the Lithuanian Catholic Community Center, Kearny, during the Holy Name Christmas Party. Members of the group include: James Gelenitis, Paul Gelenitis, Bernie Kohanski, Stephen Nakrosis, Edmund Rokas, Danny Nakrosis, John Nakrosis, Greg McBride, Scott McBride, David Gelcius, Diane Mazur, Sandy Staskus, Audrey Kohanski, Joyce Mazur, Linda McBride, Vicky Staskus, Betsy Gelenitis, Cathy Rokas, Cathy Nakrosis, Joanne Staskus.

MEMORIES OF A FREE LITHUANIA



by Jack J. Stukas

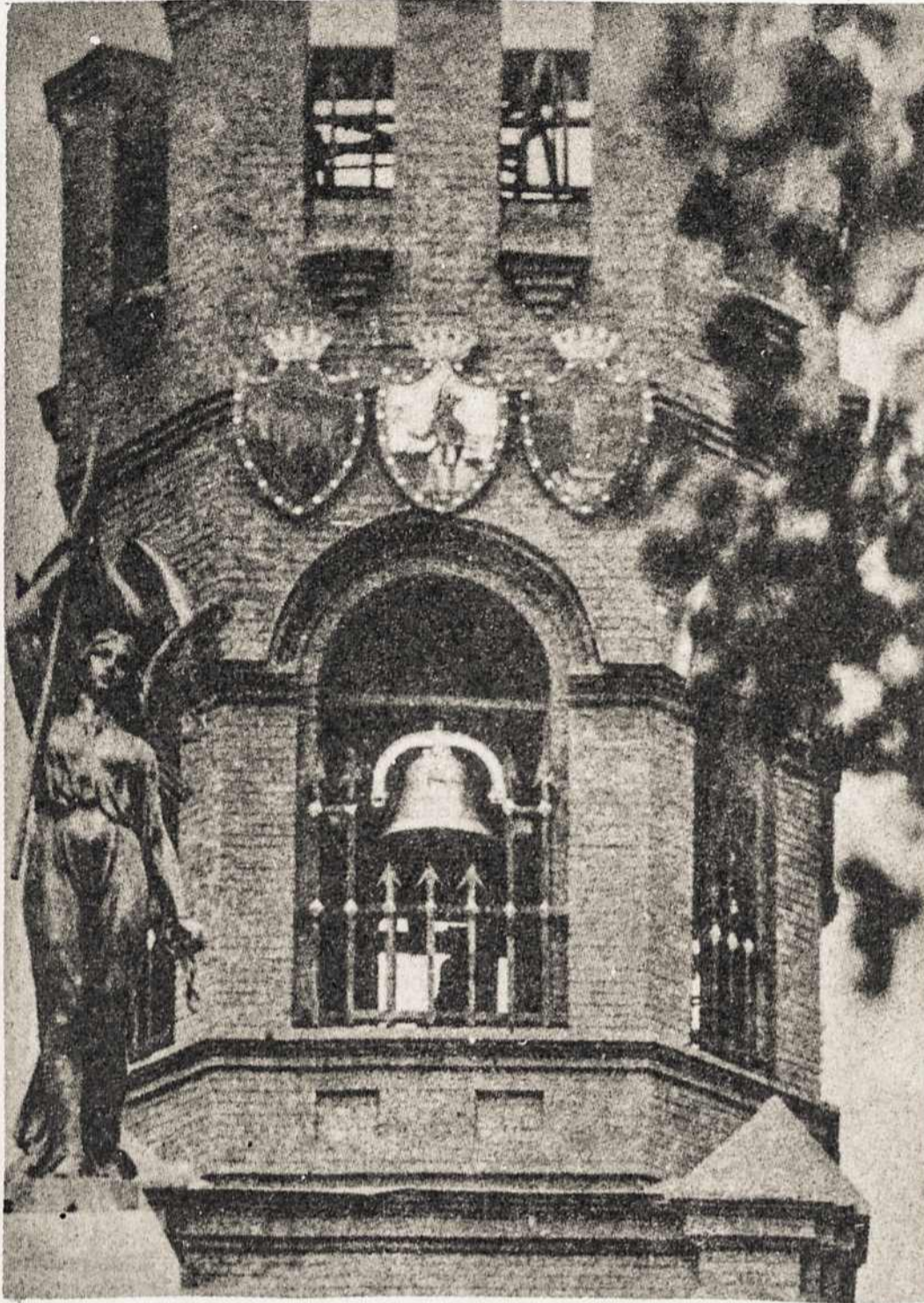
MONUMENT OF FREEDOM - KAUNAS

Fifty three years ago, on February 16th, 1918, a small group of Lithuanian intellectuals assembled in Vilnius, the ancient capital of Lithuania, and under the leadership of Dr. Jonas Basanavicius, who had led the Lithuanian people to a new national awakening, presented the world with the now famous document, which is known as the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence. It reads as follows:

"The Taryba (or Council) of Lithuania, as the sole representative of the Lithuanian nation, supporting its claims on the recognized principle of self-determination of nations, and on the decisions of the Lithuanian National Assembly - made at Vilnius from September 17th through 23rd, 1917; ... hereby proclaims the re-establishment of the independent state of Lithuania on a democratic basis, with its capital at Vilnius, and announces the separation of that state from all political ties, which

previously have linked it with other nations. In addition, the Taryba or Council of Lithuania, declares that in order to fix definitely the foundations of the State of Lithuania and its relations with other states, a constituent assembly, elected by its inhabitants in accordance with democratic principles, will be convoked as soon as possible.

February 16th, the date of the declaration of Lithuanian independence, is a great day in Lithuanian history. The Council members who met in Vilnius and proclaimed the Independence Document, took their lives in their own hands and had signed their death warrants by affixing their signatures to it. Lithuania had regained her independence, but the Germans still held the land. There were no funds, no administrative apparatus, no army. Lithuania was a war-torn, ravaged country. But "where there is a will, there is a way", the adage goes... Lithua-

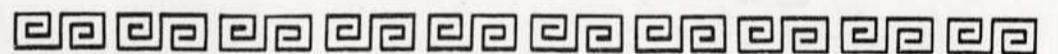


The Lithuanian Liberty Bell, in the War Museum, Kaunas.

nians from all corners of the globe sent money to rebuild the country, or hurried home. Against innumerable odds and difficulties, a provisional government was formed, an administrative order established. Volunteers flocked to join the new Lithuanian army, which consisted of ex-soldiers with guns salvaged from the Russian army; raw, country lads with farm horses to form the first cavalry, school boys and farmers. The Lithuanian army, barely organized, had to defend the country from the Russians - who had oppressed Lithuania for 120 years; and also from the German troops and the Russian forces of Bermond-Avalov. It later also had to contend with the Bolsheviks and finally with Lithuania's old allies, the Poles, who jubilant at the recovery of their own freedom, sought to prevent the establishment of an independent Lithuanian state and to renew the old Polish-Lithuanian union. Earl J. Harrison, formerly British vice-consul in Kaunas, provisional capital of Lithuania following the invasion and occupation of Vilnius by the Poles, quotes the English writer E. W. Polson Newman, as stating: "It is remarkable how they managed to extricate themselves from this threefold mess... Look-

ing back on these critical days, one wonders how the Lithuanians managed to raise an army capably of defending the country against so many enemies. It was a remarkable achievement and reflects the highest credit on the military qualities of this fighting race". Among the first great power to recognize the reborn Lithuanian state was Germany, because the Germans did not relish the absorption of Lithuania by any other power. The conclusion of the Peace Treaty with Lithuania by Soviet Russia opened the door for recognition by other states which had refrained from recognizing Lithuania in order to "preserve the territorial indivisibility" of the former Czarist Russian Empire. On September 21st, 1921, Lithuania was admitted into the League of Nations. A year later, de jure recognition of Lithuania was also extended by the United States, Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan. Lithuania had again become a sovereign member of the international community of nations. During the little more than two decades of independent life, the reborn Lithuanian state made great progress in almost every sphere of activity. Dr. Owen J. C. Norem, former U.S. ambassador to Lithuania, in his book, "Timeless Lithuania," says that Lithuania had accomplished much more in her brief 20 years of independence than our own South did in 120 years since the Civil War. In 1940, together with her sister republics of Latvia and Estonia, Lithuania was treacherously and ruthlessly occupied, enslaved and forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union.

In an attempt to force the Soviet System and tenets of Communism on the Lithuanian people, not only was the political and economic life of the country ruthlessly destroyed, but a veritable storm of terror and violence was released upon its hapless victims. From June 14th through 17th, tens of thousands of



LIETUVOS KANKINIŲ PAMINKLAS

Šv. Petro Bazilikoje, Romoje
kalbės pasauliui ilgus amžius.

* * *

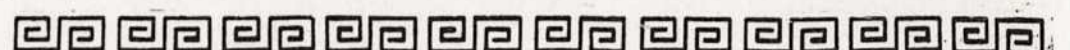
Aukodami šiam paminklui
palikime ateičiai jo kurėjų tarpe
savo ir savųjų vardus.

* * *

Laiko liko nedaug,
ši proga niekad nepasikartos.

Aukas siųskite:

LITHUANIAN MARTYRS' CHAPEL FUND
2701 W. 68 St. Chicago, Ill. 60629



Lithuanians were arrested, tortured, executed and cruelly deported to the remote regions of the Soviet Union.

When the Soviets re-occupied Lithuania following the Nazi invasion, in mid-1944, they continued mass deportations of the population, and accelerated the sovietization of Lithuania with severe attacks on religion, and policies of russification, and collectivization. As a result, Lithuanian freedom fighters, formed the nucleus of a closely-knit, armed resistance movement against the Soviets. It has been estimated that some 30,000 lives were sacrificed in the Lithuanian underground movement for the cause of freedom, which ceased to exist by 1952.

Today, throughout the Free World, the struggle for re-establishment of Lithuania's independence is carried on by diplomatic representatives of pre-war, independent Lithuania, that still enjoy diplomatic accreditation, also by numerous organizations of Lithuanians throughout the world.

The plight of Lithuania under its Soviet oppressors was especially dramatized and brought into the public eye most recently by the brave but unfortunate

Lithuanian seaman Simas Kudirka, whose attempted defection from Communism was tragically denied by the US Coast Guard, and who was brutally beaten by his "comrades" before being forcibly returned to his ship. Also notable was the successful hi-jacking of a Soviet plane into Turkey by Lithuanians Pranas and Algirdas Brazinskas, who also chose drastic means to escape from the yoke of Communism into the light of freedom. Millions more like them in Lithuania live the dream of a some-day-free Lithuania. Their hope for the future of Lithuania depends upon the United Nations - its honesty and sincerity in facing the critical issue of restoring sovereign rights and self-government to those nations, large or small, who have been forcibly deprived of them.

On this - the 53rd anniversary of the declaration of Lithuanian independence - Americans of Lithuanian descent who have helped so much in the rebuilding of independent Lithuania, must and will resolve again, that freedom and independence be restored to Soviet-oppressed Lithuania.

Kas bus, kas nebus, bet lietuvis nepražus!" Come what may, Lithuania will always be!

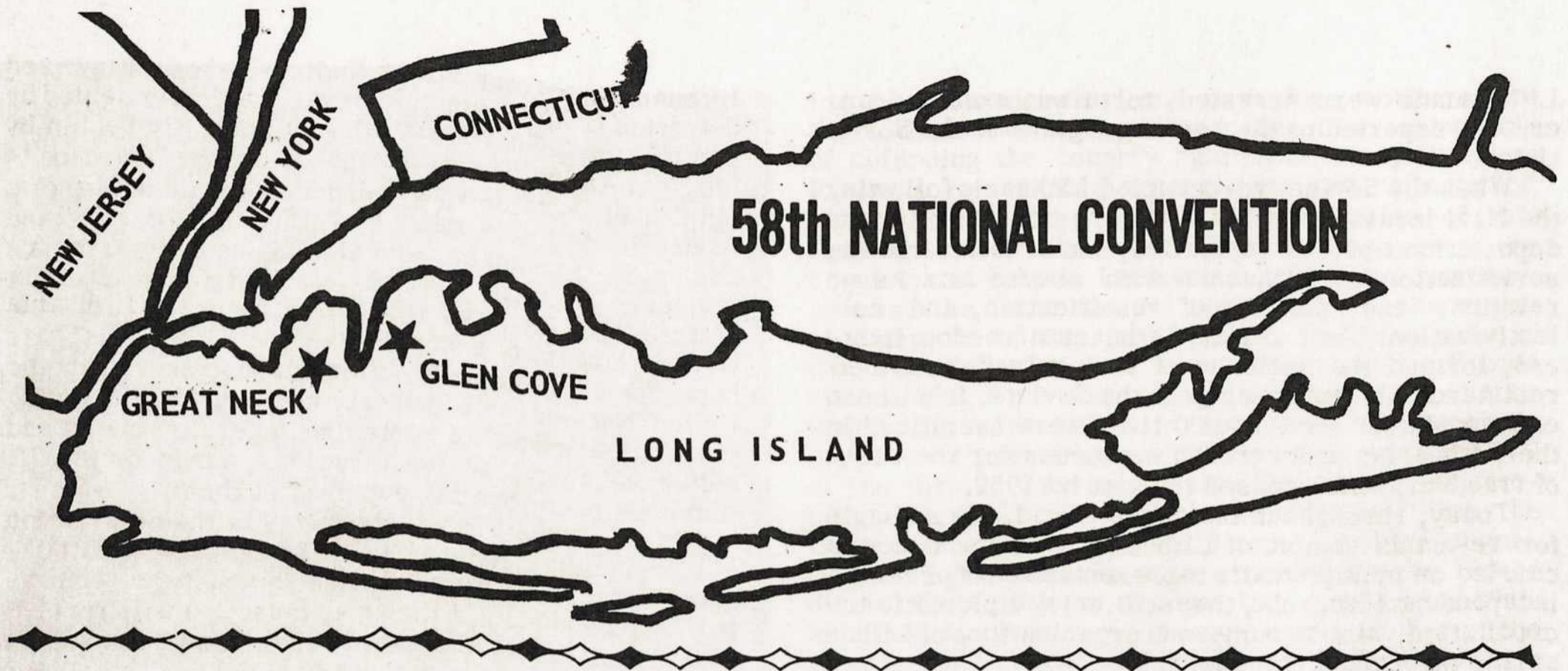


L A I S V Ė S D V A S I A

Jau užgęso laužai
Lietuvos miškuose
Ir mirtis
Visus žiedus išskynė . . .
Blizga kraujo lašai
Ištaškyti purve
Tų, kurie savo laisvę
Čia gynė . . .

Nors jie žuvo visi,
Bet dvasia jų gyva.
Ji žingsnius mūs
Į ateitį lydi . . .
Dar pavasaris grįž
Ir vėl gėlės pražys,
Nes ir kraujas
Pavasary žydi . . .

EILĖRAŠTIS IR NUOTRAUKA ROMUALDO KISIELIAUS



AUGUST 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 1971

HARRISON HOUSE
GLEN COVE, LONG ISLAND

HOSTS: GREAT NECK COUNCIL NO. 109

Our Great Neck Council is honored to host the 58th National Knights of Lithuania Convention this year, and it is our happy privilege to extend a warm welcome to all delegates and friends.

In the history of our small Council, we have never hosted a National Convention and it is indeed a great challenge to us. Our meetings will be serious and meaningful, but the long weekend will also offer opportunities for pleasant recreation, making new acquaintances and renewing old friendships. All activities will take place on the premises; we need look no further to make our Convention enjoyable. We will make every effort to see that our guests have a pleasant stay, at the same time endeavoring to achieve our organizational purposes.

The Harrison House offers resort-type environment for meetings and recreation - complete privacy in a spacious setting. Your days will 'zip' by - there's so much to do!

THERE WILL BE NO REGISTRATION FEE.

Rates are as follows:

\$37.00 per person, per day, up to MAY 1, 1971.

\$40.00 per person, per day, after MAY 1, 1971, subject to space available.

(All rates are based on double occupancy).

Above rates include: lodging, three meals, service gratuities, all K. of L. social activities, and the use of all recreational facilities.

Councils and Districts are urged to elect their delegates soon in order that reservations may be made early to take advantage of the lower rates. (For the ladies, the first twenty-five to register will receive a beaded flower arrangement).

Getting away from usual Convention practices, the 58th National Convention will commence with a get-together on Wednesday evening, August 11th (preceded by dinner at 6:00 p.m.), and the First General Session on Thursday morning, August 12th. Departure is Sunday afternoon, August 15th. PLEASE NOTE: No one may arrive prior to Wednesday, August 11th, or depart later than Sunday, August 15th.

All Councils and Districts will receive literature on the Harrison House. Be on the lookout for it; we know you will like what you see.

LIETUVOS KARO AVIACIJOS 50 METŲ SUKAKTIS

Jurgis Juodis

Šiandieniniame, moderniame kare aviacija lemia laimėjimą. Be jos ir geriausias karo vadas būtų trumparegis ir bejėgis šių dienų kovos lauke. Aviacija yra karo vado akys, - sako aviacijos gen. št. pulk. J. Rapšys. Taip pat ji yra ir plieno kumštis - smogiamoji jėga, naikinanti priešo išteklius ir paraližuojanti veiksmus užnugaryje. Prisiminkime tik paskutinį Didįjį Karą. Kas paklupdė didžiausią pasaulinę karo jėgą - Vokietiją - jei ne aviacija.

Nepriklausomybės kovose, kada mums truko ginklų ir maisto apie aviaciją ir svajoti buvo neprasminga. Nebuvo nei lėktuvų, nei lakūnų.

O, vis dėlto, aviacija gimė. Gimė iš nieko. Pažvelkime į tai istoriškai.

1615-1682 m. Titus Livijus Buratinis, italų mokslininkas, fizikas - architektas, gyvenęs Lietuvoje D. L. Kun. Jono Kazimiero dvaruose, kaip finansinis patarėjas, paruošė skraidančio aparato projektą - "Skraidantį slibiną." Ši konstruktyvinė idėja atkreipė Leonardo da Vinči ir aviacijos pirmūno anglo George Cayley dėmesį.

Šimtmečiui praėjus, žemaitis Aleksandras Griškevičius, susiūdomavęs aviacija, ruošė projektus ir rašė knygas apie areostatų valdymą ore.

Dar šimtmečiui praėjus, 1913 m., kaunietis muzikas - instrumentų meistras J. Garalevičius savo vargonų dirbtuvėje sukonstravo sklandytuvą, kuriuo sėkmingai pakildavo ir nusileisdavo Pažaislio smiltynuose.

1919 m. sausio 30 d. gimė pirmieji mūsų oro sakalai. Prie karinės inžinerijos kuopos buvo sudarytas pirmasis aviacijos būrys, kuris vėliau sudarė kuopą ir dar vėliau aviacijos dalinį.

Pirmasis aviacijos viršininkas buvo inž. Petronis. Jo žinioje buvo: 7 karininkai, 4 civiliai ir 30 mokinių.

Pirmasis lietuvis karo lakūnas buvo kar. Pr. Hiksa, baigęs aviacijos mokslus Anglijoje.

1919 m. vasario mėn. prie Jėzno priverstinai nutūpęs bolševikų lėktuvas "Sopwith", paimtas į nelaisvę, virto pirmuoju Lietuvos Karo Aviacijos lėktuvu. Jis, paženklintas lietuviškais ženklais - baltais kryžiais - kovo 1 d. pirmą kartą pakilo į orą. Jį valdė ltn. V. Rauba. Pirmoji mūsų aviacijos auka buvo lak. instruktorius ltn. Fricas Šulcas, žuvęs avarijoje 1919.X.28 d.

1919.XII. 16 d. pirmąją karo aviacijos laidą sudarė šie lakūnai ir žvalgai: A. Gustaitis, V. Rauba, J. Kumpis, T. Šakmanas, P. Brazdžiūnas, K. Graužinis, K. Kanauka, J. Zauka, A. Babilius, R. Sidlauskas, L. Virbickas, V. Jablonskis, J. Pranskevičius, V. Firantas, A. Vasnevskis, A. Stašaitis, J. Dobkevičius, V. Elisonas, S. Stanaitis, B. Sidaravičius, V. Švitris, L. Peseckas, V. Ruseckas, V. Šenbergas, S. Tūmas, K. Brazdžionis, T. Sereika,

S. Sabas, J. Šabanavičius, J. Šalkauskas, G. Bezumavičius, M. Vaičekauskas, L. Šliužinskas, V. Lišauskas.

1920.IV.1 d. suformuota Pirmoji Oro Eskadrilė, kuriai vadovavo vyr. ltn. Pr. Hiksa. Mėnesiui pralinkus, lėktuvo avarijoje žuvo - pirmasis lietuvis lakūnas vyr. ltn. V. Rauba. Kiek vėliau, bombarduojant lenkų užimtą Varėną, žuvo - ltn. Juozas Kumpis. Su juo skridęs ltn. Prancėvičius pateko į lenkų nelaisvę. Tuo būdu Rauba buvo pirmoji mūsų aviacijos auka kovoje dėl nepriklausomybės.

Tėvynės laisvės kovoms nutilus, mūsų aviacija buvo pradėta organizuoti iš pagrindų. Štai 1922 m., jau iš savų aviacijos dirbtuvių pakilo į orą, pirmasis lietuviškas lėktuvas DOBI I, kurį sukonstravo jaunas, gabus inžinierius ltn. J. Dobkevičius. ltn.



Tau Jaunoji Lietuva - J. Juodis

Dobkevičius, kaip gabus konstruktorius, buvo žinomas toli ir už Tėvynės ribų. Jo sukonstruoti lėktuvai siekė tuo metu pasakišką greitį. Deja, jis žuvo su savu DOBI III - lėktuvu.

Dar J. Dobkevičiui gyvam esant, pradėjo kilti antras gabus lakūnas - konstruktorius vyr. ltn. Antanas Gustaitis, kuris 1925.VII.14 d. išbandė pirmąjį savo lėktuvą Anbo I (Anbo - Antanas nebijo būti ore). Ir tų pat metų rugsėjo mėn. su Anbo I atliko pirmąjį skridimą į Rygą.

Po to greitai pradėjo masinę ltn. A. Gustaičio sukonstruotų mokamųjų ir žvalgybinių lėktuvų gamybą. Žibėjo Lietuvos padangėje baltakryžiai plieno paukščiai: Anbo I, III, IV, VI, ir VIII. Anbo VIII buvo lengvasis bombonešis, kuris drauge buvo ir paskutinis mūsų aviacijos ir generolo A. Gustaičio, to meto aviacijos viršininko kūrinys.

Ištikrųjų paskutinį kartą mūsų aviacijos lėktuvas pasirodė viršum Kauno aerodromo 1940.VIII.18 d. Ši istorinį skridimą atliko av. kap. K. Rimas, demonstruodamas aukštąjį pilotažą, jau sovietų aviacijos šventėje.

Lietuvos Karo Aviacijos lakūnai, tiek karo, tiek taikos metu, buvo mūsų Tėvynės pasididžiavimas ir garbė. Savo drąsiais skraidymais, sumanumu ir drąsa toli išgarsino Lietuvos vardą už Tėvynės ribų.

1939 m. liepos 13-20 d. Kauno aerodrome, ori-nėse sporto varžybose, kuriose dalyvavo Lietuva, Estija, Latvija ir Suomija, be to, vokiečių ir lenkų reprezentacinės ekipos, pirmoji vieta teko Lietuvai. Varžybas laimėjo av. kap. K. Rimas ir div. lak. L. Kinaitis.

Sunku būtų suskaičiuoti kiek kartų oro sporto varžybose yra laimėjęs pirmąsias vietas maj. J. Pyragius. Nidoje 1936.VI.16 - 17 d. Maj. J. Pyragius sklandytuvu pasiekė rekordą, išsilaikydamas ore 22 val. 36 min., užimdamas 4-tą vietą pasauly.

Dariaus-Girėno žygis 1933.VII.15-17 d. per Atlantą neranda sau lygaus pasauly, neskaitant lak. Lindbergo, skridusio iš New Yorko į Paryžių, Dariaus-Girėno skridimas su nepritaikytu lėktuvu - Lithuanica I - kelionei per Atlantą, skambėjo po visą pasaulį. Šie lietuviai lakūnai drąsuoliai, perskridę



ANBO Virš Kauno - J. Juodis

Atlantą, žuvo Soldino miškuose, netoli nuo savo Tėvynės labai miglotomis aplinkybėmis. Bet jų paliktas testamentas - Tau Jaunoji Lietuva! - ir šian-dien įkvepia mus kovai dėl Lietuvos laisvės.

Kap. Pr. Gudynas žuvo savo kūnu pridengęs ministro pirmininko prof. Augustino Voldemaro gyvybę priešais Valstybės teatrą, nuo plečkaitininkų kul-
kų.

Per šį, teroristų plečkaitininkų atentatą, prieš ministrą pirmininką A. Voldemarą, nukentėjo ir antras adjutantas - aviacijos pirmūnas majoras Leonas Virbickas, kuris buvo smarkiai sužeistas.

Kas nėra girdėjęs pulk. L. Pesecko sėkmingo nusileidimo su degančiu lėktuvu? Tai nėra buvę aviacijos istorijoje. Italų, prancūzų ir vokiečių to meto spauda, šį lietuvio lakūno žygį laikė drąsiausiu aviacijos istorijoje.

Aviacijos parašiutininkas kap. Marcinkus iš 5 kilometrų aukščio krisdavo, neatidaręs parašiuo ir, tik pasiekęs 100 metrų nuo žemės, išskleisdavo parašiuotą ir laimingai nusileisdavo.

Mūsų karo aviacijoje, be karininkų lakūnų, buvo ir puskarininkiai lakūnai su tomis pačiomis teisėmis ir pareigomis. Iš jų ypačiai pažymėtini Vincas Leleika, Untis, Janula, Garunkštis, Lesčius, Zyzas ir kiti.

Legendarinis lakūnas maj. Mikėnas kartą praskrido apačia Geležinkelio tilto.

Nebuvo nuostabu, kai kap. K. Rimas, skrisdamas galva žemyn, savo šalmu nuimdavo anteną nuo aviacijos angarų, arba puskarininkis parsinešdavo telefono vielų ant lėktuvo sparnų.

Karo aviacija augo ir plito. Ilgainiui nebegalėjo išsitemti Kauno aerodrome. Dalį teko nukelti į Šaulius ir į Panevėžį.

Karo lakūnų iniciatyva įsteigtas Lietuvos Aero Klubas, kuris išsivystė į civilinę aviaciją. Veikė oro susiekimo linijos. Lakūnų mokykla išleido daug kvalifikuotų lakūnų. Buvo ir moterų lakūnių. Antina Liorentaitė ir Jadvyga Jautokaitė.

Per trumpą laiką Lietuvos civilinė aviacija pradėjo pirmauti Europos tautų tarpe.

1934.III.5-8 d. civ. lak. Julius Kumpikevičius savo lėktuvu Smolik 18 parskrido iš Prahos į Kauną.

1935.IX.14-21 d. Liet. Aero klubo lakūnų grupė - Hiksas, Krygeris, Garolis, Pyragius ir Gaižauskas sudarė oro traukinį. Jie apskrido kelią Kaunas-Ryga - Talinas - Helsinkis ir atgal.

Aero klubas neišvengė ir aukų. Pirmąja auka krito lak. V. Juodis. Jis žuvo avarijoje 1934.VIII.26 d.

Pirmosios Lietuvos Tautinės Olimpiados orinio sporto varžybose dalyvavo ir laimėjo: skraidimą - L. Kinaitis, J. Dovydaitis ir S. Mockūnas; sklandymą - J. Pyragius, V. Strazdas ir V. Dovydaitis; modelizmo - V. Ožinskis, V. Šakalys ir P. Motiekaitis.

Kas žodžiu, kas plunksna, kas teptuku, o lietuvis lakūnas savo drąsa, tarnavo tėvynei.



Mardi Gras

— LITHUANIAN STYLE



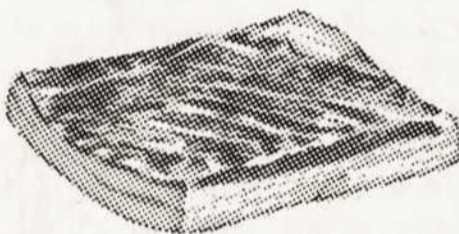
In Old Lithuania, a rigid lenten fast of 40 days was followed. Even at the beginning of the 20th century during the 40-day lenten period, Lithuanians did not eat any meat nor even dairy products. Milk was consumed by infants and small children only. During lent, Lithuanians ate only herring, beet and cabbage soups, rice, and potato pancakes fried in vegetable oil.

The Lithuanians not only fasted from meat products, but also excluded all forms of merriment during the lenten period. On Shrove Tuesday, the night before Ash Wednesday, the Lithuanians ate heartily and ate up to 12 courses of various meats for they believed that in so doing, meat would be in abundance for the following 12 months. On Shrove Tuesday, or "užgavėnių vakaras" as they called it, they also ate such foods as mashed peas and rice, boiled with pork; bacon, a sausage made of rice and animal blood called "vėdaras", and potato pudding called "kugelis". It was also traditional to have potato pancakes and doughnuts of various sorts.



For the pre-lenten celebration, Lithuanians brewed good, old-fashioned beer, for it was said, that "whoever drinks water on Shrove Tuesday, will suffer thirst for the balance of the year." The lenten meal was usually followed by traditional games of chance, which were surrounded with many superstitions... In the Dzūkija or Southern part of Lithuania, it was said that if the sower of grain would rub his hands with meat or bacon on Shrove Tuesday, the birds would not eat his seed at planting time. And if the fats from the foods eaten were applied to the necks of bulls, then the harness

would not bite into their flesh. This superstition was common in the Suvalkija section of Lithuania, near the Polish border. It was rumored that snakes were afraid of jellied pigs feet - headcheese, or "košeliena" as it was called. Therefore if you rubbed your hands with the jellied pigs feet on Shrove Tuesday then no snake would bite you.



On Shrove Tuesday Eve, there would be a great battle between Lašininis and Kanapinis, two mythical figures, translated: Mr. Bacon and Mr. Hemp. Kanapinis would try to take the meat from Lašininis to hang it until Easter. But Lašininis would not give up the meat. When the merrymakers heard some unusual sounds outside the cottage, as the wind howling through the trees or the wailing of cats, they would exclaim: "Listen, Lašininis and Kanapinis are fighting."

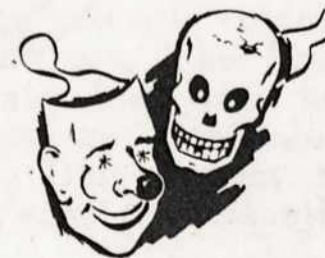


The young people on Shrove Tuesday would go sleigh riding. Having harnessed the horses to the sleigh, and hanging various bells to it, they would attempt to ride as far away as they could, occasionally rolling out into the snow, for it was said that then the flax crop would be richer. If a sleigh was not available, then the householders would journey as far as they could on foot. Those who stayed at home on Shrove Tuesday, would suffer a bad crop the next summer. In some sections of Lithuania, even bee hives were transported as far as

possible and returned... so that the coming season bees would bring honey from afar and be healthy bees.



The most important pastime of the Lithuanians on Shrove Tuesday, was a mardi-gras nature, donning masks and costumes. Some costumes were made of reversed furs, with a straw cord for a belt, and padding on the back to produce an effect of a hunchback. In their hands the merrymakers would have whips and wooden swords. The masks were made of the painted bark of large fir trees, or faces were blackened to prevent recognition. In the Zemaitija or Samogitian section of Lithuania, these costumed merrymakers would go from village to village, making much noise. Some would play on the accordion or fiddle, others on any piece of metal capable of producing a large noise. They would seek out the old maids of the village, to "punish" them for not marrying before Shrove Tuesday. Many merrymakers would dress as gypsies, others as beggars. Some were accompanied by animals: a goat, a bear, a crane or makeshift scarecrow, which in Zemaitija was called "Morė, Morė or Kotrė." About midnight, the scarecrow would be taken into the hills and burned, signifying the end of the pre-lenten festivities. ... And that is how Lent was ushered in old Lithuania . . .



K of L ADVERTISOR

FEBRUARY

- 7 I-I. DISTRICT BOWLING SOCIAL,
Woodmac Lanes, Chicago, Ill.
- 14 C-116 INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM
Lithuanian Club, Worcester, Mass.
- 27 I-I. DISTRICT "MEMORIES OF LITHUANIA"
BANQUET, K of L Bldg. Chicago, Ill.

MARCH

- 6 C-100 CORPORATE COMMUNION AND DINNER
St. Casimir's Church and Brothers Restaurant,
Amsterdam, N.Y.
- 7 I-I. DISTRICT ST. CASIMIR'S DAY MASS
AND BREAKFAST. Immaculate Con-
ception Church and K of L Bldg.
Chicago Seniors, Hosts.

MARCH

(Cont.)

- 14 N.Y.-N.J. DISTRICT - ST. CASIMIR'S DAY COMMUNION
BREAKFAST AND MEETING - Our Lady of Sorrows Church and Hall,
Kearny, N.J. C-90, Hosts.

APRIL

- 24, 25 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT, DANCE AND BANQUET, of
Memories of Lithuania Radio Hour, directed by J.J. Stukas,
Lith. Liberty Hall, Elizabeth, N.J. (Concert) and Holy Trinity
Church and Hall, Newark, N.J. (Mass and Banquet).

MAY

- 21, 22, 23 MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT,
Ford City Bowling Alleys and Ford City Holiday
Inn, Chicago, Ill. I-I. District, Hosts.

AUGUST

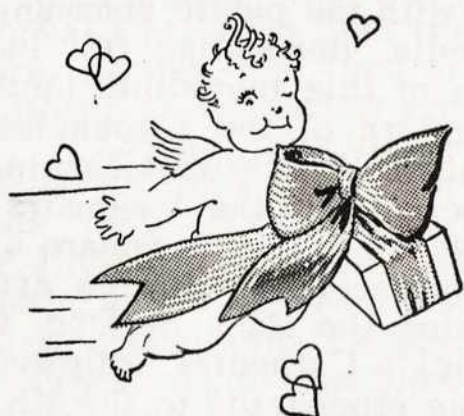
- 11-15 58th NATIONAL K OF L CONVENTION,
Harrison House, Glen Cove, N.Y.,
C-109, Great Neck, Hosts.

WON'T YOU BE OURS?
Join the K of L today!

VYČIAI VEIKIA



COUNCIL ACTIVITIES



MID- CENTRAL DISTRICT

DAYTON, OHIO - C-96

FBP

With holiday activities in the air, council functions have been at a minimum. One thing followed through...the girls' annual December dinner out. Thanks to arrangements made by Marianne Podoyak, Elinor Sluzas and the telephone squad, we had a lovely time at Suttmillers. Never a lack of gab at this function and NO dishes.

We are pleased to hear Polly Pietrzak will continue with the council's bulletin for 1971. Polly has done an excellent job with this project the past year. Our bulletin is a vital organ for members who are unable to make the monthly meetings. Also good news: Ida Kavy is continuing with her chairmanship of the telephone squad. This year Ida will be aided by Veronica Omlar, Alice Petkus, Ann Kondrotas, Mary Miller and Laurreta Pant.

Like all parishes, Holy Cross



President Stukas looking at the remains of the Coliseum while touring Rome.

began the World Synod program on Jan. 6. We were pleased to see some of our K of L'ers taking part in the organizing of this very important church-lay function. Members in charge of various aspects of the program are Ann Scott, Elinor Sluzas, Eloise Berczelly, Pat Zelinskas, Jim & Carol Urban, John & Jane Petkus, Joe Gecas, John Scott, Mike & Alice Petkus.

Upon receiving a call from our Nat'l President, Dr. Jack Stukas, our local President, Joe Noreikas, made arrangements with Fr. Titas Narbutas to have members attend a regular Mass on Dec. 6 for the intention of the Lithuanian sailor involved in a most unfortunate incident. We are grateful to know our government has given their assurance that such an act will not occur again to mar our national policy and will maintain an open door to all human beings.

Pat Zelinskas, our religious chairman, along with Eloise Berczelly and Cathy Mantz made the annual visit to the Dayton State Hospital with gifts from the Knights. Pat made her annual appeal for members as their religious project for December to visit the shut-ins not only during the holiday season but during the rest of the year as well.

The Juniors were kept busy by their advisors, Kitty Prasmantas and Elinor Sluzas. First, they held their annual Dress Affair....dinner out! Then, those able, participated in singing at the Christmas and New Year's Day noon Masses. One added feature this year - our singers were accompanied by Junior Mary Mikalauskas on her guitar. We have just found out that Mary has been playing the guitar at some of the children's Masses at Our Lady of Mercy Church, where she attends school. What other Juniors have hidden talents that we have not heard about?

On Jan. 2 a Eucharistic Vigil was observed at Holy Cross. It began with evening Mass at 7:30 and ended at 12 midnight. Participation by the Knights and parishio-



1971 Cleveland Senior Officers. Front row: Ignas Visockas, 1st V-P; Stella Sankal, President; Jule Salasevicius, 2nd V-P. Back row: Charlotte Petkunas, Trustee; Ed Pranckevicius, Treasurer; Rose Sankal, Trustee; Peter Zigmantas, Sgt-at-arms; Mary Trainy, Secretary; Kazimera Sadauskas, Financial Secretary.

ners at this evening of adoration and special prayers was most inspiring.

ODDS AND ENDS....

The Sinkwitz's, Joe, Ada, Jim and Cathy, closed up 'shop' and headed for Florida for a warm holiday celebration. Florida was also visited by Mike, Alice and Mary Petkus. Felix and Helen Goldick are still traveling the country. This time they went to Maryland, Florida and Alabama. Tina Kavy received a nice Christmas gift from her parents, Stan & Ida Kavy, - a trip to the Rose Bowl to see her school team in action (unfortunately defeated) and also to take in the UD vs UCLA basketball game.

George Mikalauskas was in charge of movies for the children at the Lithuanian Club's annual children's Christmas Party. Kitty Prasmantas tells us the Lithuanian Club's annual New Year's party was again a tremendous success. Good to see Joe Gudelis home for the holidays. The Veigels, John, Irene and Bob were home for the holidays as were Joe and Ann Boeke. Our prayers remain with Mike Veigel who is still stationed

in Vietnam.

A very speedy recovery is wished Eva Leasure who has been hospitalized. We are learning from John Berczelly that sun and medicine don't mix. John has had a sunburn from a fishing trip that he is having a difficult time getting rid of. Congratulations to Alex & Polly Pietrzak on their newest grandchild-it's a girl.

January Birthday greetings go to Jerry Podoyak, Joe Gecas, Mary Miller, Mike J. Petkus, Sr., Elizabeth Scott, John Berczelly, Charles Vangas, Jim Richey, Paulette Petkus and Ray Omlor. Members celebrating anniversaries in January are Joe/Amelia August, John/Anita Goldick, Henry/Lauretta Pant, Ray/Mildred Steinbrunner and Ray/Betty Omlor.



Tourists in Rome relaxing after a busy day - Tony Kober, Loretta Stukas, Mary Kober, Sophie Kokalas, Father Kinta, Edmund Kokalas.



NEW YORK- NEW JERSEY DISTRICT

N.Y.-N.J. DISTRICT - Dottie Dutkus

The Date: Sunday, Dec. 13, 1970.

The Place: St. Michael's Church Hall, Bayonne, N.J.

The Setting: The outdoors was a scene from winter wonderland. The trees shimmered with their coating of ice. Indoors the decorations had the aura of festivities. The tree was decorated with Lithuanian ornaments and the hall was decked with holly.

The Occasion: New York-New Jersey District meeting.

Host: C-67, Bayonne, N.J.

President, Ann Klem, called the meeting to order. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Rev. A. Matulis. Michael Grigaliunas welcomed all delegates and guests to Bayonne.

Mary Kober of C-109, Great Neck, N.Y. invited all to attend the National Convention to be sponsored by that Council this year. Her inspiring resume of the coming Convention was well received by all present.

Our District participated at the Masses for Simas Kudirkas at St. Peter & Paul's Church, Elizabeth, N.J. and at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. Members sent telegrams and demonstrated in his behalf.

Helen Kulber, Public Relations Chairlady, gave a detailed report of her many activities and never once had she forgotten to mention the K of L, or Lithuania, at the affairs she attended.

C-100 - Amsterdam, N.Y. has extended an invitation to the District to hold the June meeting in Amsterdam. They have promised a full day of activities. Delegates agreed to charter a bus and make it a "K of L Day".

For our winter sports fans, Dottie Dutkus is organizing a Winter Weekend.

The Annual St. Casimir's Day Mass and Communion Breakfast will be held on Sunday, March 14, 1971, hosted by C-90, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Kearny, N.J.

Shorty Oskutis of Elizabeth, N.J. was the lucky winner of our basket of cheer.

Attention All N.Y.-N.J. District Council Financial Secretaries: Michael Grigaliunas has been elected the District's Financial Secretary. Please send a copy of your dues payments to him at: 223 Prospect Ave., Bayonne, N.J. 07002.

After the meeting a social was held during which President, Ann Klem, demonstrated the fine art of creating Lithuanian Christmas tree ornaments made of straw.

A hearty Lithuanian "thank-you" is extended to Bayonne members for their hospitality - especially since the council has been inactive for a number of years.

NEW YORK SENIORS

The Simas Kudirka case kept us busy sending letters and telegrams. So far, sympathetic and en-

couraging replies have been received from Senator James L. Buckley, Congressmen Wayne L. Hays, John M. Murphy, and Joseph P. Addabbo. Admiral C.R. Bender, US Coast Guard Commandant wrote in behalf of John Volpe, Secretary of Transportation. Contacts were also made with the public communications media, demanding full investigation of this incredible incident and return of the Lithuanian seaman to the U.S. by Soviet Russia. Many participated in the demonstration on Nov. 28 in Times Square at the military recruiting station and also attended the Mass on Dec. 6 at St. Patrick's Cathedral, followed by a solemn procession to the UN. It was good to see other nationalities, including Latvians and Estonians (via UBA/BATUN), represented at these events. The N.Y.-N.J.



Vytautas Radzivanas (C-41) represented the Lithuanian Youth at the Baltic Rally at the United Nations on October 18, 1970.

District Meeting was postponed on account of the Mass.

Helen Kulber, representing the Federation of Lithuanian Women's Clubs and the Baltic Women's Council, addressed the national conference of the Women's Association For The Defense of Four Freedoms* for Ukraine, Inc. (*of speech, conscience, from fear, and want) at the Commodore Hotel on November 28. Among the speakers at the evening banquet was Mrs. Gladys Brooks, wife of a Prisoner of War, who urged everybody to write to "Dear Ambassador" at The North Vietnamese Embassy, Paris, France, asking that POW's be released or, at least, permit free flow of mail. The 300 persons attending arose spontaneously when the President, Mrs. Ulana Celewych, introduced Helen and conveyed sympathy to Lithuanians on the Kudirka tragedy.

Vytautas Radzivanas and his lovely wife from Australia, Birute,

(C-41), Mr. & Mrs. Kestutis Miklas, and Helen represented Lithuanians at the Heritage Groups' Birthday Ball for Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew at the Hotel Commodore. Helen sent a Lithuanian birthday card to the VP, noting that he missed a good time, and received a formal Christmas card from him and Mrs. Agnew. She then sent them a Lithuanian Christmas greeting.

Lacking time to send to the British Lithuanian Council in London for the "Christmas Is Banned In Lithuania" stickers, she applied the stickers issued by the Lithuanian Physicians' Association on the front of 200 envelopes, lettering the message underneath, and sent about 150 Lithuanian Christmas cards to relatives, friends, newspapers, radio-TV stations, public officials, and non-Lithuanians.

Several K of L's plan to attend the Washington's Birthday Dinner at the Park Sheraton on Feb. 22. Senator James L. Buckley is Honorary Chairman.

"Knights of Lithuania" was again listed in the Catholic Actors Guild Souvenir Journal for the dinner honoring Cornelia Otis Skinner at the New York Hilton. A remark about Sir John Gielgud's magnificent performance in "Home" prompted Helen to brag about the hand written note he had sent her several years ago from London, stating that his grandmother was, indeed, Lithuanian. Thereupon, a handsome young fellow at the table said he was of Lithuanian descent - Peter Galman (Galmanas), the "Tom" in CBS-TV's serial "As the World Turns".

This brings to mind the Monday after the K of L convention in Chicago when many of us stayed overtime in the Hospitality Suite to watch Joseph Boley on TV in "Love Is A Many Splendored Thing". In fact, our delegate Helen Kulber overstayed several days and called on Mr. William H. Jepson, Coordinator of Project Services at Kiwanis International to tell him a resolution had been adopted at the Convention commending the Kiwanis for its "Light a Green Candle of Hope for the Oppressed Peoples of the World" project and discussed other matters; and, obtained a "Lithuanian Press" pass so she could observe the Billiards Tournament at the Sheraton-Chicago whenever Joe Balsis (1968 Champion) of Minersville, Pa., and dainty 11-year old Jean Balukas, from Helen's

neighborhood, Bay Ridge-Brooklyn, were in action. (She didn't get to meet the other Lithuanian - R. Riggie). The "pass" was earned later by having Jack Stukas and Romas Kezys announce Joe's exhibition at the Rack-Em-Up in Richmond Hill on their radio programs and published in Darbininkas. Joe never missed a chance to speak Lithuanian no matter who was around - newsmen, radio-TV reporters, etc. Escorted by Honorary Member Adele Gabalauskas from Chicago, Helen visited the Lithuanian Cultural Center and met Povilas Dirkis to congratulate him on his interesting articles in "Vytis" and other publications. Father Algimantas Kezys, just back from a boys' camp where he was chaplain, treated the gals to homemade cake and coffee in the Jesuit Center. She also shopped at Lithuanian stores and dined at "Tulpe". Helen located a member of the Moiseyev Dance Co., who had checked in at the Sheraton, who only spoke Latvian - but no Lithuanian. (They did converse in English). Through the courtesy of Stanley Balzekas, Jr., she attended the dinner at Silver Lake Country Club in honor of Algerd Brazis. Many thanks also to Mr. Balzekas and his staff for a most interesting session at his museum. Thanks also to Bernadette and Joseph Noreikas (Dayton C-96) who drove Helen back to the hotel after she became stranded, immersed in the second floor art exhibit. She inquired about the sculptor of the family group in the court of the American Dental Association and the gracious young fellow in the reception area told about the nice Lithuanians coming into the lobby to warm up while demonstrating at Cardinal Cody's offices to protest action on the Lithuanian Cemetery.

NEW YORK, N.Y. - C-12

Liberty Lady

The annual Christmas Party for the children held on December 13th was something to remember. Chairman Ann Yorkus and Co-Chairmen Ann Montvidas and Betty Waskiewicz arranged a delightful event so that grownups enjoyed themselves as much as the children. Although we had a catered buffet so that the ladies could relax and look pretty, nevertheless the homemade goodies kept appearing on the tables....saw Helen Cuperwicz and Ann Montvidas walk in with two beautifully



Irene and Edward Senken of C-12 with children.

decorated Christmas cakes; the traditional Kucios table under the supervision of Ann Yorkus had the personal touch of almost every lady present from their precious store of Lithuanian recipes. It was a delight to see how attentively the young people listened to Ann Yorkus as she explained in words of understanding the religious significance of Kucios, such as "This is how Jesus comes to the Catholic people on Holy Night" - "A sign of the Christian is to have fish on the table", etc. To hear this at an impressionable age has lasting value. And Santa Claus was none other than Father Kardas, who had a gift for everyone including a personal birthday gift to Edward Montvidas



New Members of C-12: Barbara and Michael Kartanowicz with grandsons, John, Richard and Bobby.



Seated: Ann Yorkus of C-12. Chairman of Christmas Party and maker of straw ornaments, with family.

who shared his special day with us. Father Kardas had won a 25-lb. turkey and gave us an extra treat by donating it to the party; you can rest assured that no one went home hungry. For the first time the Christmas tree was dressed in Lithuanian ornaments. Availing ourselves of the instruction book as published in Vytis, Ann Yorkus and family made some artistic ornaments in time for the party - and even the church Christmas trees were decorated. This has aroused quite a bit of interest and without a doubt by next Christmas we expect to hear many homes will be showing the Lithuanian touch on "Tannenbaum". C-12 annual custom of a Christmas gift was presented by President Yorkus to Pastor Gurinskas and Father Kardas, in appreciation for their guidance throughout the year. As this correspondent wandered around, she noticed Vice President, Lee Waskiewicz busy circulating among the tables, presenting the people with favors of a 1971 calendar book - peeked in the kitchen and found Al Yatkas slicing turkey for the table - chatted with Ed Senken and found out Ed is burning midnight oil these days studying for a promotional examination as Court Officer to the New York Supreme Court. We wish Ed success in his latest endeavor. Stella (Kolesk) Marcinauskas, who still has a fond spot in her heart for C-12, paid us a surprise visit from her farm in Connecticut and we were all delighted to see her.

Happy to report a loyal parishioner of Our Lady of Vilna and a former K of L'er, Barbara Kartan-

owicz has rejoined C-12 along with husband Michael, our first associate member. Double congratulations to Betty & Lee Waskiewicz as they celebrated their 18th Wedding Anniversary on Jan. 31st. It's Betty's birthday and Lee followed on Feb. 2nd. A couple of happy Aquarians.

KALEDU NAKTI BERNELIU MISIOS: As the "Good Book" informs us, it is more blessed to give than receive. C-12, as a sign of brotherhood, gave of its services to all the people who attended Christmas Midnight Mass. For years we have often thought how nice it would be to have a cup of coffee after Mass and comfortably wish one another "Linksmu Kaledu" before wending our way homeward on a cold night. For the first time we decided to make the thought a reality. Therefore, after posting a sign in the lobby of the church, cordially inviting all for a free cup of coffee, a Christmas table was arranged in the church hall and we were gratified to see over 50 people enjoy the treat. The committee thinks the activity is worthwhile to continue as an annual event and our thanks to Joe Kscenaitis, Millie Pietz, Ann and John Yorkus and Mary York. What pleased us most was the appreciative church bulletin notice which in turn we wish to share with K of L. The good Father wrote:

"Mūsu Vyčiai, Council 12 per Kaledas padare visiems dideli siurpriza: po Bernelių Mišiu sukvieta visus į Parapijos salę, kur pavaišino kava, pyragaičiais ir kitais skanumynais. Tai naujas dalykas ir labai gražus. Visi buvo patenkinti kad atsigavindami kava turejo progos pasikalbėti su draugais ir pažistamais".

The close proximity of special days in the American and Lithuanian calendar, George Washington's Birthday on February 15th and Lithuanian Independence Day on February 16th, makes 1971 especially noteworthy. For God and Country may I offer: **GEORGE WASHINGTON'S PRAYER FOR THE UNITED STATES:** "Almighty God; we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government....and finally that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with

that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation."

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

The Tower Inn, Cranesville, N.Y. provided the atmosphere and a bit of Lithuania for the council's Christmas Banquet which was held on Dec. 13. Chairmen were Sophie Olbie and Gene Gobis. A Christmas tree with Lithuanian straw ornaments was the center of attraction. Mr. & Mrs. Emil Mason had this tree on display throughout the Christmas season. Novices at making the decorations were Gene Gobis and Regina Hartvigas. John Hartvigas, Regina's brother-in-law, presented Gene with a sign, "Linksmu Sv. Kaledu". This was placed on the wall behind the main table. In addition to the Christmas decorations, the main table had hay on it with a beautiful Wayside Cross atop. The cross and Christmas wafers, "plotkeles", were provided by Prof. J. Olsauskas. The invocation was given by Rev. Peter Jonaitis. The Very Rev. Robert K. Baltch acted as Master of Ceremonies.

Christmas Eve in Lithuania, the customs and folklore surrounding the event were commented on by Rev. Bernard Gustas. Dennis (Jurkunas) DiLorenzo, of the Amsterdam Recorder staff, was a guest speaker. He recalled his school years at St. Casimir's where he still remembered some Lithuan-



Edward Montvidas, son of Ann, sharing his birthday with K of L.

ian history which Father Baltch had taught him.

Rev. Joseph Anselment, principal of Bishop Scully High School, read a letter prepared by Ann Baltuska and addressed to President Richard M. Nixon in regards to the Simas Kudirka episode. All who wished to sign were asked to do so. President Anthony Radzevich presented a gift to Father Baltch for his untiring efforts in keeping the K of L alive. Gene Gobis enlightened the group on the history of the Lithuanian Christmas ornaments. Mr. Edward Baranauskas, chairman of our Lithuanian Affairs Committee, spoke of the two Lithuanians who escaped to Turkey and also on ELTA.

The program would not have been complete without Christmas songs. Lithuanian carols were also sung by the group. Grab bags were exchanged and prizes were awarded to the winners in several of the games played.



ILLINOIS- INDIANA DISTRICT

I-I DISTRICT

Macekonyte

With a brand new year, we also have brand new officers. At the helm of the I-I District we now have the following leaders: President: Algerd Brazis, 1st V-P (Jrs.): Cecilia Matul, 2nd V-P (Membership): John Auksciunas, 3rd V-P (Srs.): Ignas Sakalas, Recording Secretary: Irene Sankus, Corresponding Secretary: Anna Marie Kassel, Treasurer: Albert Raubiskis, Trustees: Stanley Balzekas, Jr. & Richard Shlaustas, Sgts.-at-Arm: Jerome Jamkus, Napoleonas Zapkus and Alexander Schulicke. Immediately after installation, the board started to merge ideas and efforts toward the annual "Memories of Lithuania Banquet."

The District K of L Hall continues to improve with age. Al Mockus, Catering Manager, occupies his chair in the newly remodeled office. Al contributes his evenings twice a week for inspections and bookings. His self-giving has produced fabulous results. Alongside with Aleksas Budris, Gen-

eral Manager, the building continues to improve in appearance and monetary return.

Though Christmas 1970 is now history, for posterity we should record the tremendous contribution the I-I District Juniors made to introduce the Lithuanian Culture to Chicago residents. Under the direction of V-P, Cecilia Matul, and her two loyal helpers, Helen Pius and Frank Zapolis, the Juniors gave a top performance at the Museum of Science and Industry in the Christmas Around the World program. On Dec. 10th they presented a skit of Lithuanian Christmas Customs. It was a delight. In addition to acting, they all sing and dance.

Not only did the Juniors contribute in providing the program, they volunteered to decorate the Lithuanian Christmas Tree exhibited annually at the Museum. Some of them even enticed their mothers to pitch-in and enthusiasm helped. Credit goes to: Bernice Kasarski, Carolyn Kasarski, Benedikta Kentra, Virginia Kentra, Laurie Kentra, Emily Mikaitis, Aklavina Petrauskas, Helen Pratt, Wanda Radavich, Susan Radavitch, Mary Simonelis, Stephanie Simonelis, Mrs. & Miss Lucille

Vesoto and Wanda Zygmunt. The Lithuanian tree always attracts publicity because of the unusual ornaments. This year it made the newspapers, again. It's a giant "thank you" to the Juniors for bringing the Lithuanian Culture into the view of the public.

The District Choir performed at the Christmas Party of the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce on Dec. 9th providing a program of Lithuanian and English carols with a sing-along ending.

The leaders of the Choir for the new year are: President: Estelle Rogers, Vice-President: Loretta Macekonis, Secretary: Helen Gudauskas, Treasurer: Joseph Juska. For sage advice, John Auksciunas, Vladas Paliulionis and Albert Zakarka, all past-presidents, were elected to constitute the Advisory Committee. Our Director, Faustas Strolia, continues to teach and introduce us to delightful Lithuanian Song.

The Choir convened for 1970 after an enjoyable Christmas Party on Dec. 7th. On Jan 7th rehearsals began, again, with all efforts in tune to another successful Dinner-Dance on Jan. 23rd. With Vladas Paliulionis as Chairman it was a gala



I-I District Choir Officers - 1970-71. Seated: Estelle Rogers, President; Faustas Strolia, Director; Loretta Macekonis, Vice-President. Standing: Albert Zakarka, Revisions; Helen Gudauskas, Secretary; Joseph Juska, Treasurer, John Auksciunas, Revisions. Missing: Vladas Paliulionis, Revisions.



Helen Pius (C-36) demonstrating the Lithuanian Christmas Ornaments at Museum of Science and Industry with I-I District Juniors looking on.

affair. Vladiukas niekad nepasi-
louda!

At the two Chicago demonstrations opposing the return of Simonas Kudirka to the Russian Fishing Vessel after pleading for asylum, K of L faces appeared on the scene. The District Flag was held by Vincent Samaska, C-36 President, at the mass demonstration at the Chicago Civic Center. All District Councils were contacted to have Holy Masses offered for the defector. The District dispatched a telegram to Washington informing President Richard M. Nixon of our vehement opposition to the action of the U.S. Coast Guard. John Evans, C-112 President, took similar action immediately upon being informed of the situation.

CHICAGO, ILL. - C-112 irs

K of L Togetherness - was the key word during the past holiday season as C-112 hosted a Christmas party and a New Year's Eve gala for council members and their friends.

The K of L building was the site of the Christmas Party on



C-36 members viewing ornaments made for the contest. Mrs. Kasarski, Helen Pius, Mrs. Vesota.

Dec. 18. Under the capable direction of Gerry and Al Mockus, the hall was beautifully decorated, the music pleasant, the liquid refreshments ample, and the dinner, served by our K of L caterers - Marlene's - delicious. Council entertainer "extraordinaire" Albie Samaska, with the aid of a very funny friend, amused and perplexed all with their comedy and the "Mr. I. Q." game. Conventioneers will remember Albie as Mr. Hi-Hat.

We were honored to have among the many guests our own Father Anthony Zakarauskas, the new Nativity pastor, and Canon V. Zakarauskas, council spiritual advisor.

After the bewitching hour, some of the partygoers completed the evening's festivities with a stop-over at the enchanting "Knights Inn" owned and operated by C-36 members Rich Shlaustas and Paul



Lithuanian Christmas Ornament Contest sponsored by Frank Zapolis.

Sakalauskas. The "Knights Inn" is a must for all out-of-town visitors.

John Evans' romantic and comfortable rumpus room was the site of the New Year's Eve gala. Aiding John were the Hosts-with-the-most, Ruth and Al Daxis, who saw to it that everyone had a ball. Did Al miss a dance or a New Year kiss? In addition to the many regular partygoers, we had company of such notables as our staunch 112 social members, Rita and Alice Tomschak and Rich Janik, our Indiana rep Algis Skudra, and the lone C-36 rep Helen Zimmer. Again the music was most entertaining, the food delicious (especially John Evans' secretly prepared baked beans with a not-to-



Illinois-Indiana District Juniors performing at Museum of Science and Industry in Christmas Around the World Program.

be-revealed recipe), and the company delightful. A great way to ring out the old and to bring in the new.

Congratulations to council members who became officers in the Illinois-Indiana District. We wish a most successful K of L year to President Al Brazis, Membership Vice-President John Auksciunas, Secretary Irene Sankus and Treasurer Al Raubiskis and are looking forward to the Mid-West Bowling Tournament which will be hosted by the IID in May.



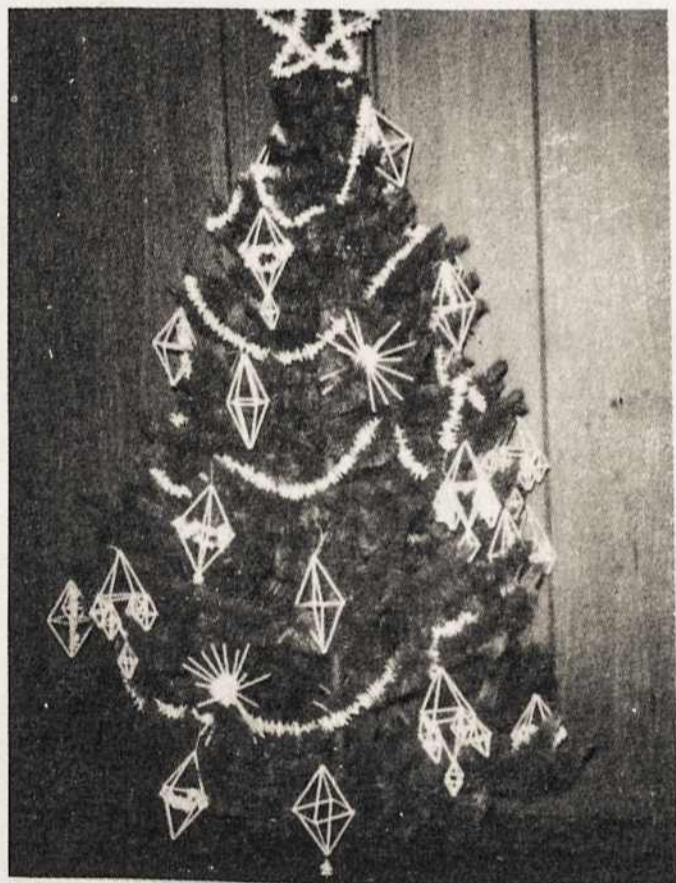
Judges in Lithuanian Christmas Ornament Contest: Mrs. Vesota, Frank Zapolis, Helen Pius, Mrs. Kasarski.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

WORCESTER, MASS. - C-26

“Dzukele”

The Knights of Lithuania recently were afforded an opportunity to show the world just how deeply it lives its motto, “For God and Country”. Take the incident of the poor unfortunate Lithuanian sailor, Simas Kudirka, who was refused asylum in the United States. How like the pattern of the Sorrowful Mysteries: The Agony, “God help me” and The Scourging, being brutally beaten into a pitiable condition. Here is the time when a K of L'er had to refuse to belong to the silent majority and place himself where the action was. Write, talk, protest this incident! Our council is located in St. Casimir's Parish where Father John C. Jutt is pastor. Under Father's direct initiative, much took place. Worcester Lithuanians marched, people were made aware of what had occurred by news releases, television interviews (Ray Jakubauskas and Charles Grigaitis of our council), offerings of Masses for Simas' intention, and countless other methods of bringing the horrible incident to nationwide attention. On the evening of December 8, the night of our council's formal installation of new officers, Father Jutt very kindly offered a Mass for Simas in the name of the K of L



C-100 Lithuanian Christmas tree on display at Tower Inn, Cranesville, N.Y.

(C-26). During the sermon, Father Steponaitis, our spiritual advisor, advised that the yellow, green and red floral piece before the altar was sent by a non-Lithuanian, non-parishioner, as an act of being in sympathy with Lithuania's cause. Can we as Lithuanians think and act differently? No, we cannot and we must act NOW!

We lost a member to death in December, and we offer sincere sympathy to Peter Carroll and other relatives on the passing of his sister, Matilda Carroll. Quiet, refined and unassuming, few of us were aware of the accomplishments she had reached. We had to read about them to learn of them. She was that kind of person. She was best known to us as a registered nurse, and later as a registered embalmer, working together with her brother, Peter, at the Carroll Funeral Home. Illness forced long and horrible pain upon her which she endured patiently. We'll miss this lovely personality which was Tillie's.

The first social after elections was the family Christmas party, planned and directed under the auspices of the new executive board. It was a wonderful affair because it enabled members who ordinarily would be unable to attend to be present with their “little ones”. The Grigas, Grazulis, Godek, Grigaitis, Ivanauskas, Krusas and Walinsky children were there, ready to greet Santa and accept the gift he had brought for them. Actively at work for this party were Steve and Ellie Walinsky, Helen Gillus, Ann Bender, Rita Pinkus, Virginia Lelakis, Mary Jankowski, Carol Grigas and Ron Walinsky. There were undoubtedly others, because this party had to be the combined efforts of many to be as successful as it was.

For bowling, the first half of the season is over and the team of Tommy Karpicus is in first place. Others bowling with Tommy on his team are Joe Sakaitis, Helen Gillus and Ron Walinsky.

Wedding congratulations to Joe Zalieckas and Patricia Kent who were married in November.

Our president, Steve Walinsky, and his board have quite a schedule set for the year, and among the activities in the planning stage for the first quarter of the year are a skating party, Lithuanian's Independence Day commemoration, pre-Lenten supper meeting, and St.

Casimir's Day Communion Breakfast. We invite all our friends to join us.

WORCESTER, MASS. - C-116

Ramblina

We've been rather slow about submitting our news, but that does not mean we haven't been functioning. As a matter of fact, we've been so busy we just haven't had time to write about it.

Let's start with the NED picnic in Sept. As usual, Tony Miner, Irene Adamaitis, Sr. and Jr. and Joanie Adamaitis manned the “Lithuanian Articles for Sale” booth. This booth goes over very well every year because many people love to own authentic Lithuanian articles and there are not many opportunities to purchase these items. When Brockton had their bazaar in Nov., they asked Tony to bring whatever articles he had on hand to sell there, and Tony was glad to oblige. Helping out in the kitchen were these regulars: Anne Miller, Helen Daltwas, Joan Treinas, Ruth Ciras and Trudy Zibinskas. These same members were very happy to attend the Appreciation Dinner which was held at Maironis Park on Nov. 15th. It was great that the committee thought to reward those faithful workers who help to make such a success of the annual NED Picnic.

On the last Sunday in Sept., the following attended the NED Picnic in Athol: Mrs. Irene Adamaitis who was re-elected Recording Secretary and Miss Irene Adamaitis who was elected Chairman of



C-100 Executive Board gathered around Lithuanian Christmas tree. Rev. Baltch, Cynthia Thomas, Sophie Olbie, Edward Baranauskas, Gene Gobis, Anthony Radzevich.

VYTIS
2511 West 71 Street
Chicago, ILL. 60629

Rev. Peter Cinikas, MIC
4545 W. 63rd St.
Chicago, Ill. 60629

Lithuanian Affairs, Anne Miller, Trudy Zibinskas, Ruth Ciras, Joan Treinas, Helen Daltwas and Dottie Sinkavich. Everyone enjoyed the truly Lithuanian hospitality provided by the K of L's in Athol, and Father Yankauskas who originally hails from Our Lady of Vilna in Worcester.

The real swingers in C-116 are those who go bowling every Friday night - they have a great deal of fun and frequent parties. They started off with an "open house" wine-tasting party with cheese condiments at Dottie March's home on Oct. 10. Attending were: Rita and Bob Paluses, Ann and John Yurkenas, Mary and Vic Mrozinski, Irene and Ozzie, Helen Daltwas, Joan Treinas, Ruth Ciras, Paula and Joe Bunevitch, Anna Miller, Trudy Z., Joe and Grace Balukonis. Their Halloween Party (with apples, cider and doughnuts) was held at the alleys on Oct. 30, as was the Christmas Party on December 18. Their New Year's Party (a kielbasi supper) was held at Dottie March's home. These were all due to the efforts of Dottie, who is Chairman of Bowling. Seems as though they've done enough celebrating for the year, - now they'll have to get down to serious business of bowling. We are certain there will be a great many new members wanting to join them - when they find out "where the action is!"

On Nov. 18, under the chairmanship of Dottie March, the council's annual turkey raffle was held in the church hall. It proved to be a great success and we're already booked for the event next year. We are grateful to Anne Miller who donated a lovely fruit basket and two bottles of cheer.

Barbara Mazeika who recently moved into a new apartment extended her true Lithuanian hospitality to everyone at Christmas time and on Dec. 20 everyone had a great time at her "house-warming". They presented Barbara with a lovely hassock.

Everyone was greatly disturbed concerning events surrounding Simas Kudirka, the Lithuanian sailor who sought asylum in this country. C-116 had a Mass offered for his

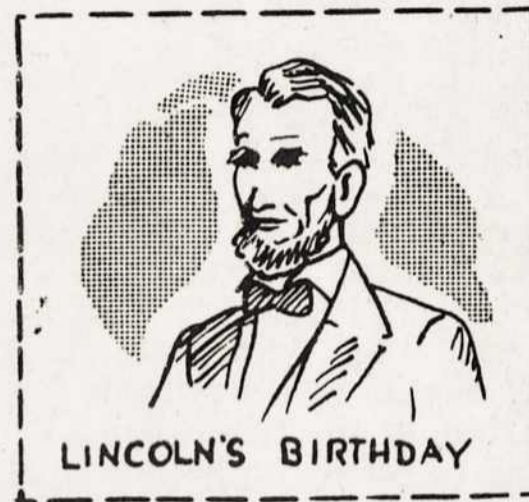
intentions. When the Lithuanians in Worcester had a protest march to City Hall from the Lithuanian Club on Vernon St., seen marching were our president, Tony, and Ann and John Yurkenas. Tony Miner and Irene Adamaitis, Sr. are on the executive committee for the Worcester Area Council of Lithuanian Organizations which is sponsoring the Annual Independence Day Program for Lithuania which will take place at the Lithuanian Club on Sunday, February 14.

The council's annual Christmas Party took place at the White Cliffs in Northboro. Preceding the party, Grace and Joe Balukonis invited everyone to their home for hors d'oeuvres. A wonderful time was had by all that day.

Officers for this year are the following: President: Anthony Miner, 1st Vice President: Mrs. Irene Adamaitis, 2nd Vice President: Anne Miller, Recording Secretary: Dottie Sinkavich, Financial Secretary: Trudy Zibinskas, Treasurer: Bart March, Social Chairman: Dottie March (who is doing a superb job), Cultural Committee: Tony Miner and Irene Adamaitis, Sr., Lithuanian Affairs: Irene Adamaitis, Jr.



C-7 Executive Board. Seated: James Valaitis and Lillian Paulauskas. Standing: Joe Samaska and John Alanskas.



WATERBURY, CONN. - C-7 WJS

The children's annual Christmas Party was held in the club rooms on Dec. 13th. Santa Claus arrived from North Pole to greet the children and to give each child his gift. Lillian Paulauskas and Nell Diggles, who helped make the party a success, advised that Santa had distributed approximately fifty gifts to the smiling faces. James Valaitis and John Alanskas were chairmen of the party.

The election of officers took place on Nov. 13th. The new officers are: President: James Valaitis, Vice-President: Joe Samoska, Treasurer: John Alanskas, Recording Secretary: Lillian Paulauskas, Financial Secretary: Nell Diggles.

Just a word as to C-7's remodeling program. In a warm display of member unity, the funds necessary for this remodeling were mostly obtained from the membership, spearheaded by Chairman, Edward DiNapoli, and championed by our president, James Valaitis. The entire exterior of the K of L building was replaced with vinyl siding, the first floor completely remodeled with an entirely new kitchen, the porch enclosed and an extension of the first floor was made. Base ray heat replaced the old heating system enabling a toastier Christmas all around.

The K of L bowling league which meets every Wednesday night is completing its first round of bowling. The team captained by Janet LaPointe holds first place with three other teams tied for second. The winner of the first round bowls the winner of the second round with both celebrating at a banquet at the American Brass Country Club.