




'The Easter Lily — See Page 20''

APRIL — BALANDIS

 **VYTTIS**

• 1979 •
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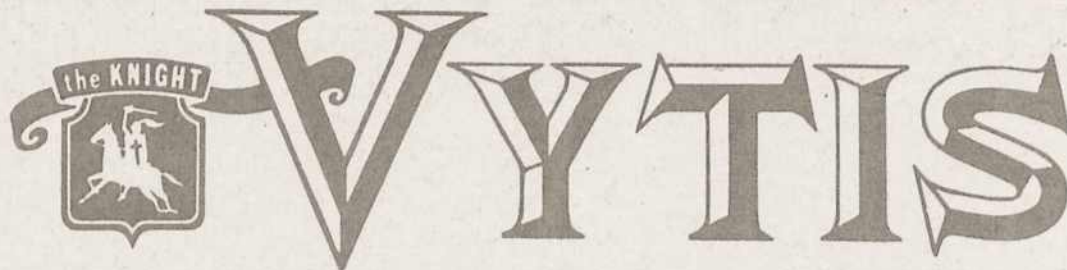
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SHARING IN THE CHRISTIAN EASTER EXPERIENCE

In the Vatican Museum there is a long corridor containing an exhibition of tombstones, yes, tombstones. On one side are displayed examples of pagan art and on the other there are samples of Christian art dating from the age of the Catacombs.

On the pagan stones can be seen carvings of swords and shields and almost on every one there is the word "Vale" (Farewell). On the Christian tombstones are found engravings of the cross or a wreath or a fish or, at times, the figure of the Good Shepherd. On one stone there is the following inscription in Latin: "Alexander is not dead, but lives above the stars".

The contrast between the pagan and the Christian attitude towards death is striking. The pagans considered death as an ending, both of life and of everything else. The Christians, on the other hand, saw death as a beginning, as an entrance to a new life, a different life, a higher life.

Each year on Easter morning this same Christian attitude towards death is revived and strengthened and illuminated by the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. The empty tomb in which Christ had lain for three days did not and does not have the inscription "Vale" (Farewell) on the crumbled entrance stone.

That first Easter morning the closest followers of Christ, not only the Apostles but the holy women as well, were blessed with what might be called the "Easter experience".

After the initial confusion and doubt at the sight of the empty tomb, the wondering, wandering Apostles Peter and John were dumbfounded to hear to exited Mary Magdalen tell them that the Messiah was alive, that she had seen Him and even talked with Him that morning. And quicker than it takes to dot an "i", they remembered Christ's words, became convinced of



this astounding truth and believed that Christ had truly risen. It took several days before all the Apostles and disciples underwent this Easter experience. Thomas the Doubter was apparently the last to become convinced, but his heartfelt words: "My Lord and my God!" became the proof that led billions to believe in Christ.

The Easter experience that permeated the minds and hearts of the original followers of Christ was meant to be shared by all Christians till the end of time... this means by you and me at this moment of time in 1979.

This experience of the truth that "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again" is an act of faith, not in those words as such, but in Christ Himself.

To understand this more clearly we must realize that there is a great difference between everyday, human faith and the special, gift-of-God supernatural or divine faith. The truth of the Resurrection of Christ can be accepted on human faith in historical

records written down by human writers. The Gospels contain such history, hard facts, eye-witness testimony. But the Easter experience we are talking about does not come from history or human testimony, but directly from God. We must possess the historical facts, but we use them as stepping stones towards an act of Faith in Jesus. Belief in the facts of history does not produce in us the Easter experience.

Sharing in the Easter experience means believing a DIVINE testimony, believing in Christ, the Person who was truly God and truly Man. It means recognizing Him in the "breaking of the bread", as happened to those disciples on their way to Emmaus. It means accepting the total Christ, Man and God, His example and His teaching, His commands and even His wishes.

Therefore, the Easter experience cannot be tulips, bunnies, spring time and colored eggs.



Not one of the Apostles and closest friends of Jesus actually saw Him rise from the dead or leave the tomb. However, on that first Easter Sunday morning and on subsequent days, they did see Him, walk and talk with Him, eat with Him, see Him perform miracles. Day after day the Easter experience grew within them: the firmest conviction, the unshakeable knowledge that Christ who had died on the Cross was

alive, was with them and would not die again. The Easter experience of the Apostles was based on Faith, not history.

Through our Baptism we receive a precious gift from God — the Faith, which is the key that unlocks for us a share in the "Resurrection of Christ" experience preached by the Apostles. If by our unwavering Faith in Jesus Christ we are prepared and determined to conform our minds and hearts, our lives and actions to His, we will discover within ourselves that joyous, glorious Easter experience which Christ wants us to have. This rededication of ourselves to the Risen Lord will inspire us with a more perfect fidelity to His Person, to His Words, to His Church, to His Sacraments... in a word, to the total Christ.

Perhaps, at this point, we can understand more clearly why the Sunday of the Resurrection of Our Lord is the basic and fundamental solemnity of the whole Catholic Church calendar. This feast brings us face to face with the entire life, the death and Resurrection of the whole Christ. It provides an opportunity to make a total commitment to Our Saviour, His teachings and His Church.

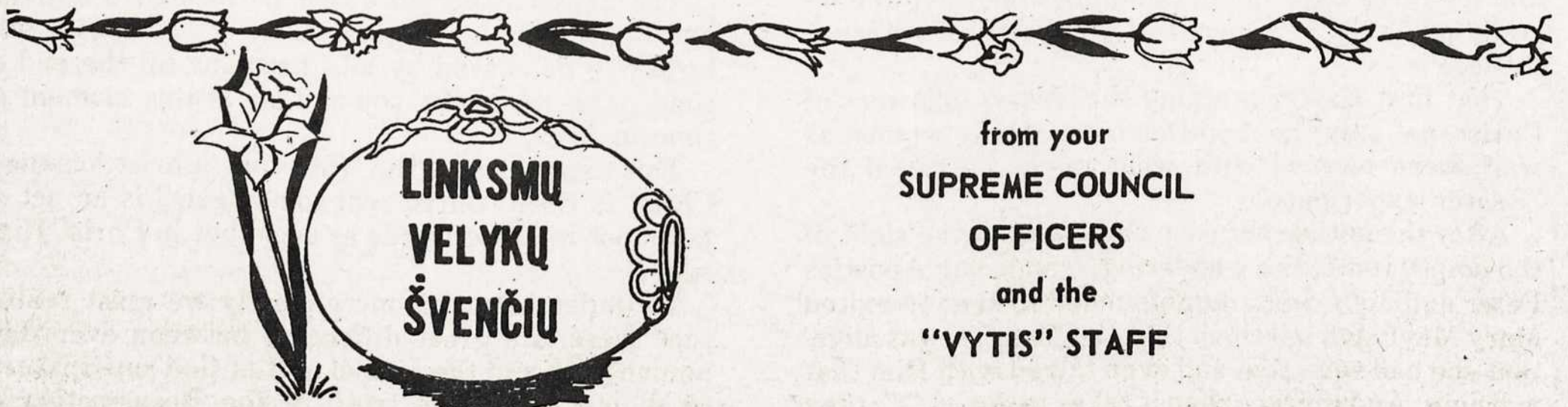
Our response to Christ on Easter morning, therefore, should be whole-hearted, unconditional, zealous, like that of the Apostles and first disciples. We, too, are His disciples and are counted among His closest friends with whom the Risen Lord desires to share HIS RESURRECTION EXPERIENCE.

Fr. A. A. Jurgelaitis, O.P.

It is my wish and my prayer that all Knights of Lithuania, their families and friends share in the Christ-centered Easter experience of deeper Faith in Him, of stronger Love for Him and of a livelier Hope in His victory over sin and death.

A happy, holy Easter Season to all!

Fr. A. A. J., O.P.
Spiritual Advisor, Supreme Council



from your
SUPREME COUNCIL
OFFICERS
and the
"VYTIS" STAFF



ELYKOS

LAISVOJE

LIETUVOJE

D. Mickutė-Mitkienė

Mūsų tėviškės miškų ir upių pažiba —
Kadugiai, žilvičiai.
Kai mergaitės namo grįžo su pašventinta verba —
Jais kvepėjo gryčios.

Verda vaškas. Sesė rašo spilkute —
Bus gražių margučių!
Bus Velykos su purienomis raiste,
Su pirmom žibutėm.

Šventą ugnį namo neša kempine
Paaugliai vaikučiai.
Broliai stato palei svirną supynes,
Supsis učia, učia...

Saulei tekant, skamba giesmės ir varpai,
Aidą neša vėjas.
Kėlės Kristus! Buvo miręs tik trumpai —
Mirtį nugalėjęs!

Džiaugsmo eisenos šventoriuose linksmai
Plaukia, tartum upės,
Jom šventyklos — mūsų Viešpaties Namai
Triskart apsisupę.

Dunda vieškeliai, keleliai ir takai,
Grižtančių — be skaičiaus.
Namuos likę ir seneliai, ir vaikai,
Laukia velykaičių.

Kai pavasarį vėl keliasi gamta,
Puošiasi jaunyste,
Tėviškėlė, nors šiandieną pavergta —
Kelsis vėl, kaip Kristus!

1977.III.27

Easter Message

*Let's unite—heart
and soul. Easter is the
season of unequalled
spiritual warmth. It's the
time for all men to
reflect on the miracle of
that morn—to face
each day with faith.*



MSGR. JOHN SCHARNUS, PASTOR

HOLY TRINITY LITHUANIAN CHURCH

Newark, New Jersey

ŠVIESŪS ATSIMINIMAI!

VELYKOS LIETUVOJE

Vytautas Dambrava

Nuo apyaušrio dundėjo sunkūs vario būgnai. Jie budino žmones, kėlė ramiai sau snaudusį pavasarį. Jų garsas pasitiko ir bažnyčion beskubančius: važiuojantieji dar greičiau suragino arklius, pievų takeliais ar paupiais traukiantieji — žingsnį paspartino. Jau brėško. Būgnai tilo.

REZUREKCIJA

Bažnyčioje pilna žmonių. Daugelis visą naktį čia praleido, budėdami ir laukdami. Ten, prie šalutinio altoriaus, stovėjo uniformuoti vyrai, suvyniotas Kristus, o viršuj, gėlėse, skendo Švenčiausiasis...

Pro plačiai atidarytas bažnyčios duris nesulaikomai veržėsi žmonių srovė. Prie altoriaus neramiai sukinėjosi vaikai, dairydami tai į karste prisikėlimo laukiantį Visagalį, tai į zakristijos duris, tai vargonus, kurie atrodė luš, nebeišlaikydami choristų ir visos apylinkės muzikantų, susinešusių dūdas, klarnetus ir smuikus, kad tik "visokia dvasia galėtų pagarbinti prisikėlusį Viešpatį".

Ir kai nuskambėjo varpelis, žilagalvis kunigas, apsiautęs sniego baltumo kapa, nuskubėjo prie Kristaus. Žmonės, kaip vienas, siūbtelėjo ton pusėn. Vėl, kaip kiekvienais metais, vienam buvo paduota nešti mirtį nugalėjusio Kristaus stovylėlė, kitam kryžius, perjuosta raudona stula, trečiam Velykų žvakė...

Kunigas prisiartino prie altoriaus. Keletas akimirksnių ir jis, laikydamas monstranciją rankose, atsisuko į žmones.

Prisikėlimas!

"Linksmą Dieną mums nušvito,
Visi troškom džiaugsmo šito:
Kėlės Kristus, mirtis krito,
Aleliuja, Aleliuja, Aleliuja..."



VELYKŲ VARPAI

Ir niekad, rodos, neįtoto senasis varpininkas tiek savy jėgos, kiek šį rytą. Lyg ją savo rankose būtų laikęs... Lyg jis būtų davęs ženklą nubust rytui, atgimti pavasariui, čiulbėti paukščiams ir visas pievas saulės spinduliais nužerti...

Varpų gaudimas ir Prisikėlimo giesmė, užtvindė džiaugsmu visų širdis. Šioji galingoji giesmė, kuri veržėsi giliai iš žmonių krūtinių, kuri gaudė vargonais, skambėjo trimitais, verkė smuikais... Procesijai išslinkus šventorium giesmės ritmui pritarė ir trenksmininkai būgnai. Už varpinės sproginėjo paraku užtaisytos beržo kaladės... Šventoriuje sveikino procesiją tekančios saulės spinduliai...

Giesmės žodžiais žmonės guodėsi ir raminosi. Dažnas nesuprasdavo, ko jam visu kūnu eina šiurpas, ko rieda skruostais ašaros, ko liūdna ir ko graudu šioje linksmybės ir pergalės procesijoje? Tačiau kiekvienas jusdavo, jog šios ašaros yra ne sielvarto, bet džiaugsmo ir vilties ašaros.

Ir kada procesija, apėjusi trečią kartą apie šventorių, grįždavo bažnyčion, visi nušvitusiais veidais klausydavosi Aušrinės, paskui Mišių pamokslo — ir velykinių giesmių.

Po prisikėlimo pamaldų lietuviai pasipildavo į šventorių, spausdami pažįstamųjų rankas, o šypsena dar labiau nuskaidrindavo jau aukštai pakilusi pavasario saulutė.

Jaunimas nebeišlaikęs skubėdavo prie vežimų, ieškodavo šiene suslėptų įvairiaspalvių margučių ir čia pat, kalendami į dantis, tikrindavo, kieno stipresnis. Vyresnieji dar klupinėjo prie šoninio altoriaus, ieškodami pašventintų ryšulėlių su velykiniu valgiu...

Po valandėlės visais keliais riedėdavo vežimai, vėl takais ir takeliais pasišokinėdami grįždavo vaikai...

Jau iš tolo jiems šviesdavo kaimo sodybos, baltuodavo smėliu šviežiai nubarstyti takeliai, akį traukdavo sutaisytos lysvės...



VELYKŲ STALAS

Trobos vidus blizgėdavo. Namuose laukdavo balta drobe užtiestas stalas, o ant jo velykiniai valgiai — su tradiciniu kumpiu, su paršiuku, paukštiena, skaniai kvepiančiais pyragais ir kitais skanumynais. O vaikų akys nenuslysdavo nuo kiškio dovanų — margučių.

Pašlaksčius švėstu vandeniu Velykų stalą, sukalbėjus malda, pasidalinus šventintu valgiu, visi sėdavo prie stalo iškilmingų pusryčių. Čia pat prasidėdavo ir margučių mušimas. Po ilgo gavėnios pasniko visi valgydavo tiek, kiek tik širdis trokšta. Ypač mėgindavo neatsilikti su kumpiu, kad trečią dieną liktų tikėtai kaulas, kurį, nunešus galulaukėn, galima būtų žemėn užkasti, nes kitaip, pagal gyvą prietarą, vasarą ledai galėtų javus išdaužyti.

LINKSMYBĖS

Po pusryčių prasidėdavo kitos nesuskaitomos linksmybės. Ypač jaunimui. Vieni mušė kiaušinius, ieškodami stipriausio, kiti jais mainikavo, ritinėjo arba plukdė loveliuose ant ežero... Kiti skubėjo į klonus ar sodus pasisupti įtaisytose supynėse. Lalauninkų būriai eidavo per kaimus, su giesmėmis ir dainomis, viliodami kiaušinius, merkdami akį merginoms, krėsdami išdaigas... Visais kaimais skambėdavo dainos, muzika ir juokas...

Į pavakarį atbildėdavo vežimas su marškomis uždengtu kubilu vandens. Smalsuolių būriai sekėdavo paskui vežimą, prašydami parodyti, kas yra kubile. Tada vežėjai nuimdavo nuo kubilų marškas ir, pasėmę kaušą vandens, šiupteklėdavo... Kiek būdavo tada juoko. Ir niekas nepykdavo. Žinodavo, kad daugiausia vandeniu aplietas turės gerą sveikatą, susilauks Dievo palaimos...

Saulei pasislėpus, dar ilgai lietuviškas kaimas džiūgėdavo, o senieji kalbėdavosi apie naują sėją, naują vasarą ir naują derlių...

Kokie šviesūs praeities atsiminimai. Šiandien Velykos Lietuvoje neturi anos linksmybės, tačiau jos lieka tautai didžioji Vilties šventė. Velykos kasmet kartoja, jog kančia mus lydi kryžiaus keliu į prisikėlimą.

Tad — Aleliuja!

“LAIKAS”



Photo R. Kisielius

THE CHRONIC COMPOUND IMPAIRMENT OF ZEAL

The Anniversary of Seventy-five Years of Powered Flight was highly celebrated around these parts. What with the Wright Brothers being home folks and all.

My husband, Joe, who is an Aerospace Engineer, spent three days at the Air Force Museum studying the history of Aviation.

One night he talked me into going to a big dinner with him. I learned a lot of things from the guest speakers.

One of the things I learned about was the Chronic Compound Impairment of Zeal. That's how scientists and engineers talk. They didn't fool me for a minute.

I got to thinking how this would apply to an organization like the Knights of Lithuania.

This phenomenon can happen to any of us. For many different reasons.

Sometimes it makes people stop coming to meetings. Sometimes they even quit the club. Whole councils disappear.

Otherwise, it just causes members to sit around and do very little.

They've been at the drawing board too long. No matter what they design on paper — it doesn't work in the air.

Too many times, they worked very hard and somebody else got the credit.

Too many times, they worked very hard and nobody noticed.

Too many times, they worked very hard and only received criticism. Out of 100 good deeds, they made one little mistake and everybody remembered the mistake.

Too many times, the leaders have been in office too long. They are working in a stagnant atmosphere. It

makes the other members lazy and lethargic. A brand new set of officers and chairmen can bring in new ideas and give others a chance for some glory. This stirs up the air and everybody wakes up.

In a small group, let everybody play musical chairs and change places regularly. Let the member who is highly critical get his chance to "do things right".

Whoever thought up the ruling that the Executive Board of the Supreme Council change every three years was very astute. Let us all do likewise.

The VYTIS is a fine place to give everybody a pat on the back. Does your council have a good reporter who goes out of the way to dig up the good deeds of your members every month? Next month, they'll try even harder. That's how things get done.

In a larger group, often everybody breaks up into cliques. This can be disastrous. Chronic Compound Impairment of Zeal can set in very quickly. It's like building rocket ships out of cement. Projects can never get off the ground.

If you are a member of a clique — just for the heck of it — go over and talk to somebody else at the next meeting. Give them a hug. Maybe even a little kiss on the cheek. Who cares? Aren't we all Lithuanians?

Our cause is too big for pettiness. Let's learn how to say "I'm sorry" and "thank you" very, very often. We need each other. We need to work together. We need lots of zeal!

That's what the man said! By Jupiter! (Er — I mean Perkūnas) I think we're going to make it!

Aldona Ryan
Vice President of Membership
Council #96, Dayton, Ohio



KITI METAI — KITI LAPAI

NUOTYKIS SUBATOS VAKARA, MAINIERIŲ MIESTELYJE — JŲ ŠNEKTA

Ed Note: The following is written both "tongue in cheek" — and a bit seriously, as a tribute to all who, in spite of their lack of a command of pure Lithuanian, did nonetheless keep some semblance of the language alive. Read on — we're sure you'll ALL identify with a good part of these "memories".

Ižangos būdu reikalinga paaiškinimas. Kaip įvairiose Lietuvos vietovėse nuo seniausių laikų išsivystė skirtingos tarmės, daiktų pavadinimai ir išsireiškimai, taip čia Amerikoje kas panašaus įvyko, ypač Pensilvanijos mainose — anglių kasyklose. Dažnai atsitinka, kad tūlas lietuvis atvažiuavęs į šį rajoną sunkiai susikalba su vietiniais, o vietiniai vargiai supranta ateivį. Ir abu vadinasi lietuviais. Nevienas čia gimęs jaučiasi kažkaip nuskriaustas, kad jo kalba neatitinka ateivių kalbai. Galvoja arba jis neišmoko lietuvių kalbos, arba šie svečiai nelietuviai. Iki šiol jis skaitėsi esąs geras "lietuvys", nes gerų lietuvių sūnus.

Mainieriai išmargino savo šnekta pasisavintais įvairumais, kad yra mažne negalima švariai kalban-

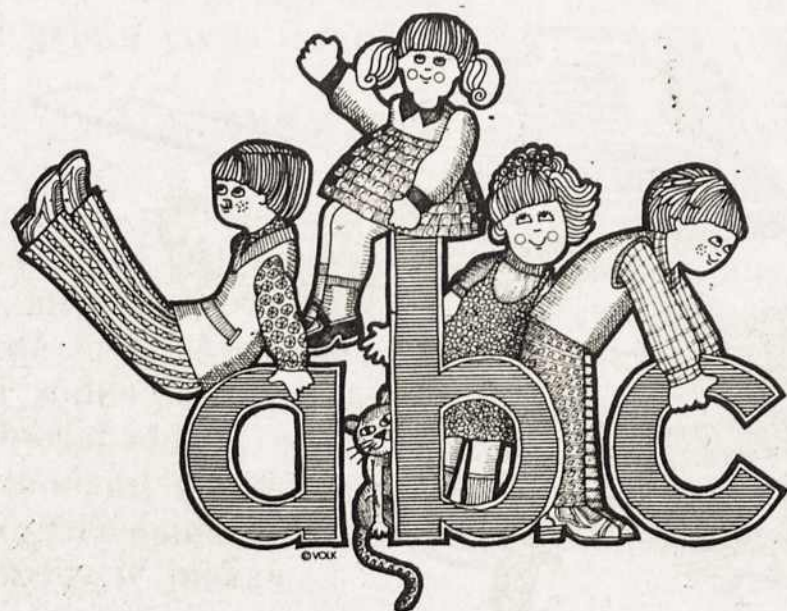


čiam juos suprasti. Jeigu Lietuvoj vilniškiui yra sunku susikalbėti su kupiškietiu, tai čia daug didesnis vargas.

Nors stuboj mamė vis liepdavo mums šnekėti lietuviškai, išbėgę į strytą prisirinkdavome tiek svetimų žodžių iš frentų ir badžių, kad mamė kartais nesuprasdavo ką šnekame. Visgi, biskį po biskį, mamė priprato prie tų žodžių ir ilgainiui pati pradėjo juos jūzėti. Papė greičiau priprato prie mūsų žargono, nes mainose išgirdavo daug kitų kalbų: lenkų, italų, ungurų, na, ir amerikonų.

Kaip tan bebūta, nuostabu, kad iki šiai dienai, tėvams seniai mirus, daug mūsų amžininkų, kad ir šluodami, tarpusavyje susišneka savotiška lietuvių kalba. Tai įrodo, kad jų mislyjimas pasiliko lietuviškas, nors kai kurie šnektos žodžiai svetimi. Įdomu, kad senstančiuose ima reikštis tam tikras atgimimas ir pavėluotas domėjimasis patraijyti čysčiau šnekėti lietuviškai. Ir kai kas pamokina kaip pafiksiuoti misteikus, jie neužsigauna ir nefylina insaltinti. Kai kur net sugalvoja geimus vienas kitą klausinėdami kaip reikia šitą ar aną tinkšą vadinti lietuviškai.

Man atrodo, kad daugumoje mušs padėjo išlikti "lietuviais", kad ir luošais, neatlyžtinis tėvų spaudimas stuboj visad šnekėti lietuviškai ir net traijyti skaityti lietuviškai. Be abejo daug padėjo ir siuntimas subatomis į lietuvių škūlę, kur vargamistra, kuri vadindavome profesoriumi, mokydavo skaityti iš



elementoriaus. Kitų tyčerkų nebuvo. Klebonas mokydavo lietuviškų poterių, katekizmo ir kaip eiti spaviedies. Išmokom ir poteriauti Mišias iš lietuviškos maldaknygės. Galėčiau bečyti, kad ir šandie dar yra tokių moterų, kurioms nereikėjo eiti į vaiską ir kurios neišsimūvino į didelius miestus, jei parapijoj dar yra lietuvis kunigas, kurios temoka spaviedotis tik lietuviškai. Fer šiūr, jos nemoka kaip pasakyti griekus angelskai. Joms tikrai nebūtų zzy eiti spaviedies kitoj bažnyčioje.

Dėl tėvų nesiveržimo į anglų kalbą, mes išlikom "lietuviais". Bet augimas tokiose aplinkybėse nebuvo fanės. Tuoj po stardavimo eiti į škulę, tėvai manydavo, kad vaikai su sykiu gali visur susikalbėti angelskai. Jeigu jiems reikėjo eiti į banką, pas daktarą, arba šapyti į kokį štorą, tėvai vesdavosi paprastai vyriausią vaiką tlumočiumi. Nevermai, kad tik teturėjo aštuonerius ar devynerius metus. Jis jau eina į škulę! Kiek čia susidarydavo koronės ir vaikiškos sarmatos. Kiek klanų ašarų išlieta! Mamė pakuždom akina pasakyt sėlzmonui, kad praisas per brangus ir liepia paprašyti, kad gal galėtų biskį numušti. Sarmatinuosi prašyti, o mamė vis baksi alkūne ir kartoja paprašyti. Derėkis jei drīsti. O jeigu nemoki kai ką pasakyti, mamei buvo tiesiog nesuprantama, ką mes veikiame visą dieną škulėje.

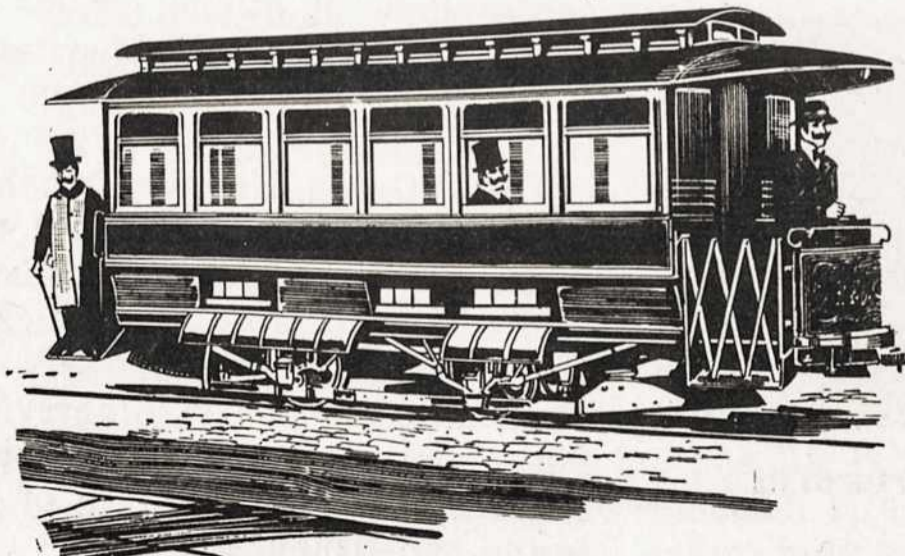
Vieną subatos vakarą, jau buvau išsiprausęs mediniame cėberyje, kai mamę sugriebė gumbas. Neturėjo kur dėtis. Ji ekspleinino man kokių jai reikia iš drugštoria, ji sakė — aptiekos — žolių, kurios, pagal susiedką, yra gera liekarsta ne tik nuo gumbo, bet ir nuo visko.

— Bėk, sūneli, ir parnešk tų žolelių. — Bėgti bėgiau, bet aš tų žolių iš viso nepažīstu ir nemoku kaip jas pavadinti angelskai. Vietinis aptiekorius prūsas ir lietuviškai nesupranta. Mamė prisiminė, kad gretimame miestelyje yra lietuviška aptieka. Turėjau greitai apsirengti ir važiuoti strytkariu ieškoti lietuviško drugštoria. Lauke tamsu ir kad pila tai pila. Užsimoviau raberiais, kad nesuspoilyčiau šiūsų, užsivilkau reinkočiu ir pasiėmęs ambrelą ištraukiau į strytą, kur buvo strytkario rėlės. Nedaug buvo česo, nes aptieka užsidarė kaip dešimts. Išėjęs pro duris,



patamsyje užmyniau katinui ant kojos. Šis paleidęs riksmą taip mane išgąsdino, kad beveik nenusiverčiau porčių stepsais. Visus kaulus būčiau subreikinęs. Einant saidvoku visur buvo balų, o prie stryto kampu buvo daug apsemtų vietų, taip kad perdžiumpyti būtų labai sunku. Stryto lemos nedaug davė šviesos ir nebuvo galima žinoti kaip gilus vanduo. Kai stojau, vanduo pusiau kelių! Prisėmiau abu šiūsus ir raberiai ničnieko nehelpino. Sušlapo pančiakos ir kojos. Žliugsėjo žengiant. Tamsoje ir tokiam lietuje, kur tu stosi ar sėsi nusiauti šiūsus ir išpilti vandenį? Gerai, kad nebuvo labai šalta.

Nuvažiavęs į nepažīstamą miestą, išlipau iš strytkario ir pažiopsojęs pasiklausiau ir susiradau lietuvišką drugštori. Nebuvo jokio trabelio gauti liekarstų ir, pasiglemžęs baksiuką po katu, strytkariu važiuoju namo. Raidas atgal buvo daug malonesnis, nes lietus pradėjo apstoti ir pagaliau visai sustapino. Bėje, dabar jau nerūpėjo, kad pamiršiu liekarstų vardą, kuri važiuodamas buvau kartojęs be perstojimo kaip poterius. Radau mamę dar skausmingai kenčiančią. Raidaviai ėmiaus paruošti jai pagalbos pagal jos nurodymus. Užkaičiau arbatos iš parvežtų žolių pirma gražiai išplovęs čainyką, kuri vis laikydavome su rusiška arbata ant pečiaus lentynos. Mamė užgėrė gurkšnį kitą karštutėlės žolių arbatos be cukraus, be medaus, be nieko. Aš palaikiau jai torielkutę, kad nenubėgtų arbatos ant dresės. Mamė išbaigė puoduką ir atgulė ant lončės. Pasėdėjau prie mamės iki skausmas atslūgo. Buvo aišku, kad liekarstos pamačina. Mamė, kiek atsigavus, sakė, kad fylina daug geriau ir jeigu reikės dabar galės pati po adynos užsivirinti daugiau arbatos. Labai gražiai padėkojo už paslūžinimą ir liepė eiti gultų, nes jau labai vėlu, o ryt anksti į bažnyčią. Nusiaviau šiūsus, iškračiau likučius vandens į sinką ir šlapias pančiakas padžioviau už pečiaus, kad per naktį išdžiūtų. Pasakęs mamei gudnait, basinyčia nuraninau ant antro floro. Skubėdamas, prie lovos paslydau ant karpetukės ant kljonkinių padlagų ir vos susigriebiau nepuolęs. Palindau po blankietais ir persižegnojęs greitai ir giliai užmigau. Net negirdėjau kaip sieninis dziegorius apačioj išzvanijo dvylika.



Stasys R. Vaičaitis,

LITHUANIAN DAY AT THE PA STATE CAPITAL



The Senator admires gift of "Margučiai. Rita Shevokas escorts two of her dancers to their positions for the next dance number.



At the official proclamation in Harrisburg are from left: Anne Roman (C-146), Eleanor Vaicaitis (C-144), Senator Joseph E. Gurzenda, Jr., Stanley Vaicaitis, Cultural Chairman, John Koons (C-144), Governor Milton J. Shapp, Carol Grabauskas (C-146), Monsignor Joseph Neverauskas (C-144), Elsie Kosmisky (C-144), Mary Koons (C-144), Joseph Mackalonis (C-146) and Clem Kosmisky (C-144).



Schuylkill Lithuanian Singers and C-144 Junior Knights perform at State Capitol, Harrisburg, PA.

February 16 was officially proclaimed Lithuanian Independence Day in Pa. The idea was suggested by Stanley P. Vaicaitis, our National Cultural Chairman, to State Senator, Joseph E. Gurzenda, Jr. The senator concurred with the proposal and presented the proclamation prepared by him for the governor's signature. As one of his last official acts, Governor Milton J. Shapp signed the document January 10, 1979, in the presence of K of L representatives from Anthracite Council 144 and Harrisburg Council 146.

In observance of Lithuanian Independence Day, a program of Lithuanian folk dances and songs was presented at the State Capitol in Harrisburg, on Feb. 13. The concert, performed by the Schuylkill Lithuanian Choral Group, made up mostly of K of L-ers of C-144, took place on the grand marble staircase in the rotunda of the Capitol. The group was directed by Stanley Vaicaitis.

The second portion of the program comprised five Lithuanian folk dances, performed by the Junior Knights of Lithuania of Anthracite Council 144, under the directorship of Rita Shevokas of New Philadelphia. The singers and dancers, dressed in traditional Lithuanian costumes, made a colorful contrast against the clean white marble of the grand staircase.

Senator Joseph Gurzenda, Jr. welcomed the performers, thanked them for their presentations and encouraged all ethnic groups to preserve their individual heritages and faithfully transmit them to their progeny.

Two of the Jr. Knights, in behalf of all participants, presented the Senator with a basket of Easter eggs (Margučiai) artistically etched in Lithuanian motifs by Mrs. Anne Morgalis of Minersville. The Senator in turn autographed souvenir booklets for each of his young constituents.

ČIA ILSISI...

Saldžiausios širdies kapinėse, Lawrence Massachusetts, vos keliolika žingsnių nuo vartų, stovi ant kapo nedidelis juodo granito antkapis su įrašu:

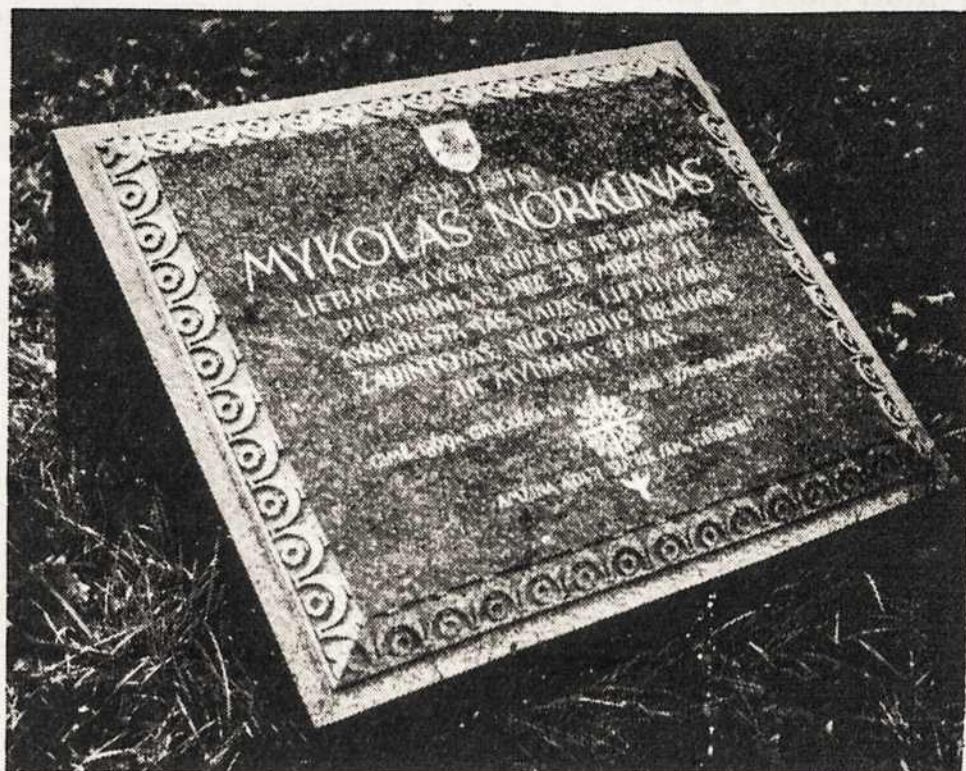
Čia ilsisi Mykolas Norkūnas, Lietuvos Vyčių kūrėjas ir pirmasis Pirmininkas. Per 38 metus jų nenuilstamas vadas, lietuviybės žadintojas, nuoširdus draugas ir mylimas tėvas. Gimė 1869 m. gruodžio 1 d. Mirė 1951 m. balandžio 1 d. Amžiną atilsį suteik jam, Viešpatie.

Kažin ar užklysta kas į tą tylų kampelį? Ar sustoja kas pabendrauti bent valandėlę, su tuo Milžinu, kaip GARSAS pavadino jį jam mirus, mūsų brangaus tėvynainio karštai degusia lietuviška dvasia, kuri dar ir dabar turbūt gaubia jo žemiškus palaikus.

Tuoj po jo mirties, buvo rūpintis surasti jam šiltesnę vietelę, arčiau lietuvių, kuriems jis paaukojo visas savo jėgas. Buvo kalbama ir ieškoma vietos jo kūnui kitur, kur jo vardas būtų dažniau minimas, kur jis iš savo kapo į brolius lietuvius galėtų dažniau prabilti. Patogesnėje vietoje jo kapas galėtų būti ikvėpimo ir stiprybės šaltinis. Pastačius dar tinkamą paminklą, jo kapas taptų viena Amerikos lietuvių šventovių. Tokia kryptimi daug kas rimtai galvojo.

Buvo minimos trys vietos: Marianapolis, Naujoje Anglijoje, seselių vienuolynas ir šv. Kazimiero kapinės Chicagoje. Marianapolio idėją dauguma rėmė. Erdvi, graži vieta, tais laikais dažnai lietuvių lankoma ir ne per toli nuo savųjų. Čia būtų buvę lengviau ir šeimos sutikimą gauti. Dėl seselių vienuolyno, neperseniai išikūrusio, buvo klausimas apie jo pastovumą. Jo padėtis dar nenusistovėjusi. Tinkamiausios lietuviškos kapinės Amerikoje ir pastoviausia vieta buvo šv. Kazimiero kapinės Chicagoje. Ten tikrai tiko Norkūną palaidoti. Tik gaila, kad atstumas nuo jo likusių saviškių neleido nė pagalvoti apie jo kūno perkėlimą. Vyčių vadai manė Marianapolis primuminčiausia vieta šiam tikslui, nors kai kurie priminė, kad Marianapolio tuometinė padėtis buvo labai sunki ir jo ateitis neaiški.

Dėl pagrindinės minties — iškelti kūną kitur — buvo skirtingų nuomonių. Gal visuomenei būtų nepriimtina atskirti jį nuo žmonos, kurios kapas greta jo. Ar negalima būtų atsiekti to paties tikslo su mažesniu vargu paliekant kūną kur jis yra, o paminklą pastatant Marianapolyje ar kur kitur. Tos minties laikėsi Pranas Gudelis ir jo keli kolegos. Jie teigė, kad nebūtų tinkama atskirti jį nuo žmonos ir kitų šeimos narių. O paminklą, arba kryžių, galima būtų pastatyti



šv. Kazimiero kapinėse, Chicagoje. Radus tinkamą vietą, būtų galima Norkūno biustą padėti. Visaip galima tą didįjį vyti pagerbti, pavyzdžiui, išleidžiant Lietuvos Vyčių istoriją. Kompozitorius A. Aleksis karštai rėmė istorijos leidimą, nes pats Norkūnas buvęs tuo reikalu ilgą laiką susirūpinęs.

Kun. Jonas Jutkevičius tačiau nematė nieko peiktino išskirti to didžiojo visuomenininko kūną iš savųjų ir nukelti į lietuviškesnį centrą. Netiktų tai daryti, jei tai būtų prieš šeimos norą, "bet čia esu tikras, kad Norkūnas nepaisytų... Jo žmona pielijo ir pielijo jam už tai, kad jis prie lietuvių laikėsi". Be to jei šeima sutinka, tai nieko daugiau nereikia. Reikia tik atsižvelgti į tikslą. Čia reikalas yra visuomeninis ne individualinis. Aš sutinku su Matačinsku, kad paminklas be jo kapo būtų tuščias dalykas. Marianapolyje būtų geriausia, nors jo dabartinis stovis nepergeriausias. Su seselėmis... kažin ar jos pasiliktu, jei atsidarytu kelias į Lietuvą". Jis taip pat tarėsi su bendrove dėl bronzinio biusto.

Buvo aplankytas Norkūno sūnus ir kelios dukterys ir plačiai tuo reikalu pasitarta. Atrodė, kad šeima į jų tėvo kūno perkėlimo klausimą žiūrėjo gana palankiai. Tėvams Marijonams jau anksčiau buvo įteiktas šis sumanymas. 1952 m. sausio mėn. kreiptasi į Marijonų vadovybę Chicagoje su klausimu, kaip jie žiūri į šį projektą ir ar priimtina Marianapolio vieta.

Po poros savaičių buvo gautas iš kun. V. Atkočiaus Marijonų Provincijolo, atsakymas: "Tariausi šiuo reikalu su savo patarėjais, ir kolektyvi Provincijos Tarybos nuomonė buvo nekelti a.a. p. Norkūno kūno į Marianapolį. Tačiau Provincijos Taryba nebūtų priešinga, jeigu Lietuvos Vyčių Organizacija norėtų pareikšti savo pagarbą a.a. Norkūnui pastatydama lietuvišką kryžių tinkamoje vietoje Marianapolyje jam atminti". Tuo baigėsi Norkūno palaikų perkėlimo klausimas.

Beliko, šeimai sutikus, pastatyti ant Norkūno kapo

kokį nors atskirą Vyčių paminklinį ženklą, žinoma, nenustelbiant jau ten netoliese stovinčio ir šeimos sklypą dominuojančio gan didoko šviesaus akmens paminklo. Esamomis sąlygomis tinkamam antkapiui sukurti pakviestas dar laisvoje Lietuvoje pasižymėjęs dailininkas, Vytautas Jonynas.

Paminklo komisijai Jonynas pateikė du projektus su tekstu ir vytim, kaip Vyčių ženklą, o apačioje su lietuviško kryžiaus viršūne, kuri simbolizuoja tikėjimą ir lietuviškumą. Po kryžium — saulė labai tinka religinio turinio įrašui: "Amžiną atilsį suteik jam, Viešpatie".

Aplink lentą turėjo būti lietuviškų ornamentų papuošimas, kuris simbolizuotų tėvynės pievų gėles. Man rodos, tokia paminklinė lenta labai papuoštų patį kapą ir būtų nepaprastai graži atmintis savo kūrėjui nuo Vyčių organizacijos.

Dailininkas rekomenduoja juodo granito paminklą.

Dėl teksto tariamasi ne tiek dėl turinio, kiek dėl kalbos.

Organizacijos pirmininkas A. Vasiliauskas siūlė įrašą anglų kalba. Ypačiai nelietuviškoje aplinkoje praeiviui ir mūsų pačių jaunesnėm kartom paminklo reikšmė anglų kalba būtų suprantamesnė. Čikagietis James R. Cherry stipriai įrodinėjo anglų kalbos naudą: tegul visi tų kapų lankytojai pažįsta garbingą Vyčių pirmtaką ir pačią organizaciją. Argumentai rodėsi įtikinami.

Atvirkščiai galvojo Juozas Sadauskas, Paminklo Komisijos narys. "Mes žinome", jis rašė, "kad a. a. M. Norkūnas buvo atsidavęs Vyčiams ir lietuvybei su kūnu ir siela, tai ir įrašas turi būti lietuviškas. Velionis ir iš amžinybės gali pareikšti protestą prieš anglišką tekstą".

Kun. Jonas Jutkevičius nesvyruodamas laikėsi lietuviškosios linijos: "Beveik visi nori, kad tekstas būtų angliškai. Aš nesutinku... netiktų ant jo kapo. Svetimtaučiams nesvarbu. Lai būna lietuviškas!"

Ir lietuviškai buvo įrašyti tie keli nuoširdūs įvertinimo žodžiai. Aukso raidėmis. Į juodą granitą.

Tik ant paminklo užpakalinio šono paaiškinta: "Erected by Knights of Lithuania in Loving Memory of their Founder. A.D. 1954".

Dėl juodojo granito buvo truputis vargo. Pasirodė, kad jis nelengvai surandamas, bent Long Island apylinkėj, kur paminklas buvo užsakytas. Praėjo kelios savaitės ir dar nesurasta juodo granito. Praėjo visas mėnuo, artėjo paminklo pašventinimo diena, o darbas dar nepradėtas, dar vis ieškinėjama juodo granito. Tada buvo atšaukta padaryta sutartis ir užsakymas perduotas Settinelli & Sons firmai, Quincy, Mass., kurios kieme tuo metu gulėjo kaip tik mūsų tikslui tinkamas gabalas juodo granito. Ir tuoj pat prasidėjo akmens piaustymas, formavimas, šlifavimas. Vos porai savaičių belikus iki Naujos Anglijos Apskrities suvažiavimo ir paminklo šventinimo, paminklų dirbtuvė atsiklausė, ką daryti su raidėmis. Komisijos

buvo pageidauta jas paauksuoti tikru auksu (gold leaf). Dirbtuvė jau suradusi tam darbui specialistą, bet jis reikalauja aukšto atlyginimo. Kadangi kiti raidžių užbaigimo būdai nebuvo patenkinantys, komisijos kviečiamas, New Yorke gyvenęs bažnytinio meno meistras, Jonas Subačius nuvažiavo į Massachusetts ir pridėjo paskutiniuosius tikro aukso pagražinimus.

Sekmadienį, balandžio 25 d., dalyvaujant gausiam būriui Vyčių ir Garbės Vyčiui prel. P. Jurui vadovaujant, paminklą pašventino organizacijos dvasios vadas kun. A. Kontautas, pamokslą pasakė Lietuvių Reikalų Komisijos pirmininkas kun. Jonas Jutkevičius, žodį tarė Paminklo Komisijos pirmininkas Juozas Bulevičius. Centro pirmininkas A. Lola padėjo ant kapo gėlių vainiką. Pabaigoje sugiedotas Vyčių Himnas.

Taigi ši pavasarį sukanka 25-ri metai kai Lietuvos Vyčiai tuo kukliu akmenėliu pagerbė savo organizacijos steigėją ir, apsupę jo kapą, prisiekė "ugdyti savyje lietuvišką dvasią, branginti, mylėti ir vis daugiau vartoti lietuvių kalbą bei lietuvišką dainą, ir išlaikyti lietuviškus papročius".

Juozas Bulevičius



CONVENTION NEWS...

ILLINOIS — EXPECT THE UNEXPE

Rushing canyon waterfalls... Deep ravines and carpets of forestland that stretch past river bluffs and craggy hills... A bustling city with harbored yachts... Sleepy villages... Towering pines and lakes once owned by the kings of France and Britain... Colonial forts and settlements... A prehistoric treasure larger than the Pyramids... Thundering symphonies & Country fiddles... Haute Cuisine, frontier feasts & fests... Some far-off post card wonderland? It's ILLINOIS!

A surprize we think you'll enjoy as you discover the myriad of sights and sounds, the flavor of a place made for fun. A surprize that's made for people.

Illinois is where the opposites come together. Where the road of Chicago's nightlife isn't very far from the gentle whisper of prairie grass or the soothing trickle of a drowsy backwoods stream.

If you think Illinois is just a place to pass through during a trip "from here to there" — look again.

THE PRAIRIE STATE THAT'S MORE THAN A PRAIRIE. Illinois gives you a jolt when it comes to finding rugged, rocky places... the kind people expect to see only out West. Although we're known for our rolling green and russet prairie, there are discoveries hidden away in the Illinois wilderness.

Like the 240,000-acre Shawnee National Forest... a massive blanket of woodland, coiling streams and rock formations covering nine counties in Southern Illinois. A few of the unexpected things you can expect in Illinois.

Cradled between the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers like an irregular wedge of pie, Southern Illinois is a place you'll find hard to forget. They call a portion "Little Egypt: because of a resemblance to the banks of the Nile River Valley. Here, towns carry exotic names like Thebes, Joppa, Karnak, Mermet... and Cairo. The smooth and dark Cairo delta is where the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers merge in a dramatic confluence at what is now Fort Defiance State Park.

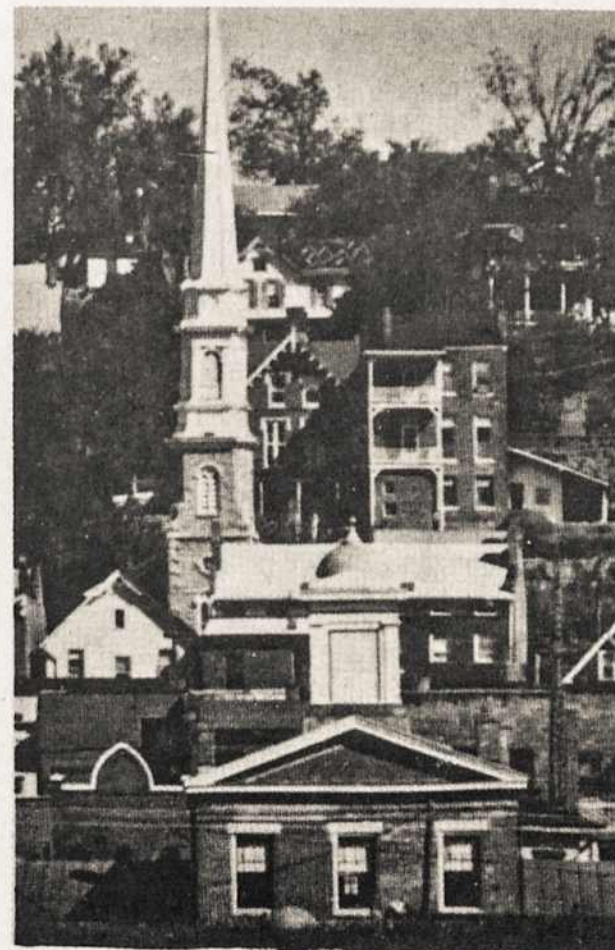
Easy to remember and enjoy is Garden of the Gods in the Shawnee Forest whose scattered sandstone formations were first sculpted by wind and rain 200 million years ago. The rugged Ozark Mountain foothills of Illinois reveal mysteries, too.

PLACES WHERE YESTERDAY NEVER PASSED. The old colonial settlement of Bishop Hill in Western Illinois remains much the same as when Swedish Utopists arrived in 1846. An old country school is still used by Bishop Hill residents for special events.

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The tiered streets of old Galena in Northwestern Illinois give you another glimpse into the past. The once boisterous boom town still echoes its golden heyday as Illinois' commercial center, now replaced by a thriving antique and recreation trade. Historic sites like the hilltop home of President U. S. Grant.



Galena's tiered streets reveal dozens of antique shops and historic sites such as the home of President U. S. Grant.

Amish farmers of Arthur and Arcola still cling to their pasts and tend their fields with hore-drawn plows. At local shops visitors can watch bearded Amish craftsmen practice arts handed down from father to son for more than a century.

But Illinois goes back further — 8,000 years, to when prehistoric Indians roamed and hunted the Mississippi River Valley. At the Koster archeological digs near Kampsville you can see layers of unrecorded history painstakingly uncovered.

LAZY STREAMS AND LIVELY LAKES. Illinois' 1.5 million acres of water give you nearly 1,000 chances to pursue your favorite water sport. It it's fishing... we have 180 species to choose from in a variety of locations that range from the deep water of Lake Michigan to the still channels of the Chain O'Lakes in Northern Illinois.

Illinois lakes surprize you with their unexpected size: Round Lake (18,000 acres): Carlyle Lake (26,000 acres); and Lake Shelbyville (11,000 acres).

A LINGERING LEGACY. Rough hewn cabins, century-old courthouses and a restored State Capital Building are only a portion of what's in Central Illinois — the heart of the Lincoln legacy. And it's preserved in more than stone and wood — through festivals and outdoor plays, in a hundred ways that rekindle the frontier lawyer's journey to greatness.

There's Springfield, where Lincoln Home remains as it was during his 17-year residency.

Each summer the Old Capital comes alive with a "Sound and Light Shows" an amazing electronic presentation which brings back the voices and sounds of famous men and events. Visitors also can tour the nearby Governor's Executive Mansion.

A short drive north brings you to Oak Ridge Cemetery where with its towering obelisk, the Lincoln's Tomb marks the President's final resting place.



The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows is the largest outdoor devotional site in America.

STEEL AND CLASS MOUNTAINS REFLECTING IN A BLUE LAKE. There are no second thoughts about our Number One City — CHICAGO. The cloud-high mountains are man-made. The Chicago Story will appear in the next issue of "VYTIS".

When you visit Illinois for the 66th National Convention of the Knights of Lithuania come prepared for a surprising change. Brace yourself for yawning city canyons as well as lonely woodland paths. Expect to see revines and hills and winding rivers that the first explorers knew. See little towns lost in time, and wide open water where you can ski and fish. Wander through a French fort — or a Swedish colony — or the Lithuanian colonies of Chicago and of course — Lithuanian Plaza.

Expect the unexpected and call it Illinois!

(Material supplied by the Illinois Office of Tourism)



NATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

[TENTATIVE]

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15TH

- You can either join the K of L Golfers for their Annual Golf Tournament held in conjunction with the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce.

OR

Enjoy a most interesting tour of Chicagoland including a visit to the Lithuanian Plaza in the Marquette Park area for shopping and a visit to the Balzekas Musuem of Lithuanian Culture.

- In the evening, your choices are the L.C.C. Golf Banquet at the Country Club.

OR

- Theater-Dinner Party in the North Michigan area.



THURSDAY, AUGUST 16th

- A free morning to sight-see, shop and visit Chicago.
- Opening Mass in the beautiful King Arthur Room, Radisson-Chicago Hotel, followed by a special luncheon.
- Official opening session of the 66th National Convention.
- For the evening — plans are being made for a gala "Folk Fest" with merchants presenting their wares of amber, woodcrafts, weavings, etc., and entertainment provided by the K of L Choir, the C-36-112 Juniors, the K of L Dancers.



FRIDAY, AUGUST 17TH

- Morning and afternoon business sessions.
- Noon Mass.
- For the evening — a Lithuanian South Pacific Fete will be held in the K of L Bldg. and Garden. Plan to bring your South Pacific-Hawaiian outfits (prizes will be awarded).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH

- Morning and afternoon business sessions.
- Noon Mass.
- The Convention Ball and Dinner-Dance. Grand Ballroom — Chicago Radisson Hotel.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19TH

- Closing Mass, Nativity B.V.M. Church.
- Official Convention Photo.
- A specially-planned (prepared by our super cooks) Buffet Luncheon and Farewell Party.

MEMORIES OF JOHN G. EVANS, SR.

Who was born into time on January 27, 1917 and born into eternity October 7, 1978.

The entire membership of the Illinois-Indiana District was saddened and shocked to hear of the sudden death of John G. Evans, Sr., who since joining the organization back in 1953 was a very active and devoted member of the Knights of Lithuania. It was rare indeed when he was not present at a function sponsored by the IID or one of its councils.

One of John's true loves was the annual IID's "Memories of Lithuania" banquet. From the first event in 1960 until the 1978 event, he was always involved either as chairman, co-chairman, or a very active committee member. He publicized the event, sold tickets, supplied whatever was necessary, and hosted committee meetings for this important K of L function. When the IID held the affair in the K of L Building for several years, it was John who convinced the committee to enhance the event by holding it in a larger and more spectacular place — so that it would not only publicize our organization but also commemorate Lithuanian Independence Day in a finer manner. Through his personal friendship with Vic Gentile of the Martinique - Drury Lane complex, he obtained the 1st Sunday in February for our "Memories" banquets and we are continuing in this tradition — the 19th Annual "Memories of Lithuania" dinner was held on February 4, 1979. It was a joyous and sad occasion for many of the committee members for they truly missed John, but many felt his guiding spirit.

His K of L activities and positions held were endless and earned him his Fourth Degree. He served the Illinois-Indiana District as president for several terms, vice president, and as chairman for the sports committee, annual K of L Day picnic, raffle, golf outings and St. Casimir's Day commemorations along with serving on almost every committee of the IID. In his home council 112, he also served several years as president and chaired or was a committee member for their Fall dances, Christmas socials, New Year's Parties, 50th Anniversary Dance, St. Casimir's Day, K of L Choir's Record committee. John worked with the K of L Building Trustees on a special Fund Drive committee that helped save the K of L building in Chicago.

He represented either Council 112 or the IID at many national conventions, served on the Chicago Convention committees and would have been a prominent member of the 1979 National Convention committee.

But John's activities were not limited to the Knights of Lithuania, as he was also very active with

his parish, Nativity B.V.M.; served as a director of the Holy Cross Hospital, and also the Midland Federal Savings and Loan Association. The Marquette Chamber of Commerce, the Lithuanian Photo Archives; the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce of Illinois, the Don Varnas American Legion Post, Nativity BVM Holy Name Society, the Cardinal Mundelein Council of the Knights of Columbus, the Chicago Lithuanian Society, and the American Lithuanian Council were some of the organizations in which John served as an officer. He also frequently aided the Lithuanian newspaper, "Sandara" in their fund drives.

The Lithuanians in Chicagoland area will always remember John for his efforts in initiating and promoting the "Avenue of Flags" at both the St. Casimirs Lithuanian Cemetery and the Lithuanian National Cemetery. At all important occasions, fifty American flags along with the Lithuanian and the Catholic Archdiocese flags are flown at the two Lithuanian cemeteries. This venture was organized under the auspices and is still maintained by our two Lithuanian American Legions Posts — Don Varnas and Darius-Girenas.

John Evan's personal career as a funeral director began in the Bridgeport area in 1941 with his future father-in-law Stanley Mazeika. After returning from military service in World War II, John continued in his chosen field and in 1962 became the head of the Mazeika-Evans Funeral Homes. His sons are continuing the business with chapels in the Marquette Park and the Evergreen Park areas.

Our K of L condolences to the bereaved Evans family — sons John (Whitey) Jr. and Stanley, and daughters, Joyce Paliulionis and Marcia.

In the hearts of many K of L members, our "Memories of Lithuania" banquets will always be a memory of John G. Evans, Sr.

iks



At K of L Banquet, the late John G. Evans, Dr. George Wiltrakis and Rev. A. Gurėnas.

LIETUVOS KATALIKU BAŽNYČIOS KRONIKŲ SVARBA

Jau nuo 1972 metų okupuotoje Lietuvoje eina pagrindinio leidinio, pavadintas Lietuvos Katalikų Bažnyčios Kronika.

Jos pasirodymas buvo didelė staigmena ne tik mums, išeivijos lietuviams, bet ir patiems okupantams bei jų talkininkams prisitaikiusiems lietuviams.

Išvilkinimas viešumon kronikose konkrečių faktų su pavardėmis ir vietovėmis apie juodus okupantų ir jų talkininkų darbelius buvo jiems ypač nemalonus. Tad nenuostabu, kad buvo įkinkytas saugumas ir visa okupantams tarnaujanti prisi-taikėlių armija tam pagrindinio lei-diniui likviduoti, o leidėjus nu-bausti taip, kad nebemėgintų to darbo imtis.

Bet lietuvių tauta išugdė didvyrius ne vien anais senais istoriniais laikais, jų atsirado ir šiandien, kada okupantai stengiasi visus pavergtuosius taip nužmoginti, kad bet kokia idealizmo kibirkštėlė būtų visai užslopinta.

Ir taip pačiu sunkiausiu mūsų tautai momentu, pačioj juodžiausioj priespaudos nakty Liet. Kat. Bažnyčios Kronika atėjo su savo vien dvasiniais ginklais, lyg jaunutis Dovydas prieš savo priešą Galiotą ir jį nugalėjo.

Liet. Kat. Bažnyčios Kronika pasiekė Vakarų pasaulį, ir šiandien jos išverstos į daugybę kalbų, skelbia apie lietuvių kančias ir jų teisių mindžiojimą pavergtoje tėvynėje.

Daugelis kitataučių stebisi mūsų brolių dvasine stiprybe ir pasi-aukojimu kilniems Katalikų Bažnyčios ir Tautos reikalams. Jų vardai: N. Sadūnaitė, V. Petkus, B. Gajauskas, Plumpa ir daugybė kitų — jau yra žinomi visoje Europoje ir čia, Amerikoje.

Bet tam kronikų išpopuliarini-

mui, išvertimui į kitas kalbas ir jų išleidimui yra reikalinga ne vieno ar kelių lietuvių talka, o šimtų ir tūkstančių. Tai ne kelių pasišventėlių žmonių darbas, o daugelio, kurie savo darbu ir lėšomis prie to prisidėtų. Deja, pas mus išeivijoje kol kas tos plačios talkos dar neatsirado. Dirba daugiausia keletas pasišventėlių, bet šiandien jau atėjo laikas įsijungti į tą darbą platesnėms lietuvių masėms.

Ypač Chicagoje yra gera proga tą darbą paremti, kadangi čia veikia Liet. Kat. Bažnyčios Kronikoms Leisti Sąjunga, besirūpinanti Kronikų leidimu lietuvių kalba (jau išleistas IV tomas), anglų kalba I ir ispanų kalba I tomas. Angliškasis vertimas, nugalėjęs daugybę įvairių kliūčių, pasirodys jau šiomis dienomis. Jų oficialus leidėjas yra Loyolos universitetas Chicagoje. Tačiau vertimu, lėšų sutelkimu ir jų išplatinimu rūpinasi minėtoji sąjunga ir prašo visų lietuvių kad ir nedidelės talkos ar aukos. Jeigu jos nariai kreipsis su prašymu tą darbą paremti, neatsisakykime, bet parodykim bent dalį to idealizmo, koku dega jos leidėjai okupuotoje tėvynėje.

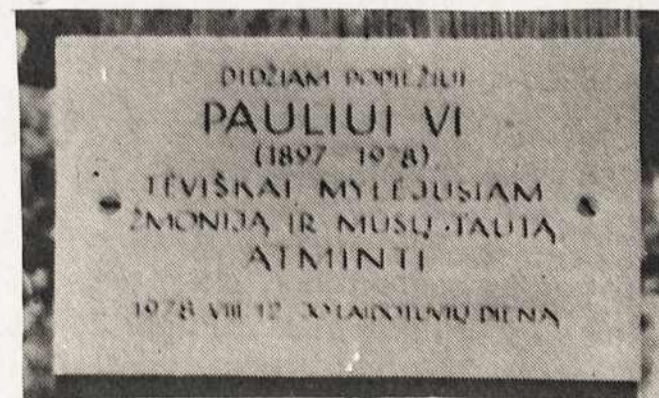
Be to, tenka pažymėti, kad Liet. Kat. Bažnyčios Kronikoms Leisti Sąjunga jau parūpino I tomo ispaniškąjį vertimą, kuris irgi yra spaustuvėje ir dar šiais metais bus išleistas. Taip pat tuoj bus pradėta versti ir į prancūzų kalbą. Tie visi darbai negalės būti atlikti be talkos daugelio geros valios tautiečių, jaučiančių dalį įsipareigojimų už suplanuotų darbų sėkmingą įvykdymą.

Todėl junkimės visi, kuo galėdami, prie šio kilnaus patriotinio žygio, nes darbo rankų niekad nebus perdaug.

A.P.B.



Traditional Lithuanian memorial of oak erected in the churchyard of the Parish of Biržai, in Soviet-occupied Lithuania, inscribed "To the memory of the great Pope Paul VI (1897-1978) who loved mankind and our nation as a father — August 12, 1978 — the day of his burial".



Dedication plaque on Lithuanian memorial of oak in the Church yard of Parish of Biržai.

(Photo Lithuanian American Catholic Services).

JUNIORS CORNER

(ed. by A. M. Kassel)

CONVENTIONSHIPS...

As you know, a new resolution was passed at the '78 convention stating "that two conventionships of \$25. each be awarded to each Junior Council".

If you are interested in applying for a conventionship, please contact your District First Vice-president for forms as soon as possible.



SPRING

Today is a beautiful day
The sky is clear
There are no clouds
I am Going for a walk
The weather's fine
Nevertheless, rain is coming
And how is it in Chicago?
Here it is very beautiful
It's really like summer today
In Spring the flowers bloom
Did you water the flowers
The boy is climbing a tree
Large birds were flying
Let's go swimming somewhere



PAVASARIS

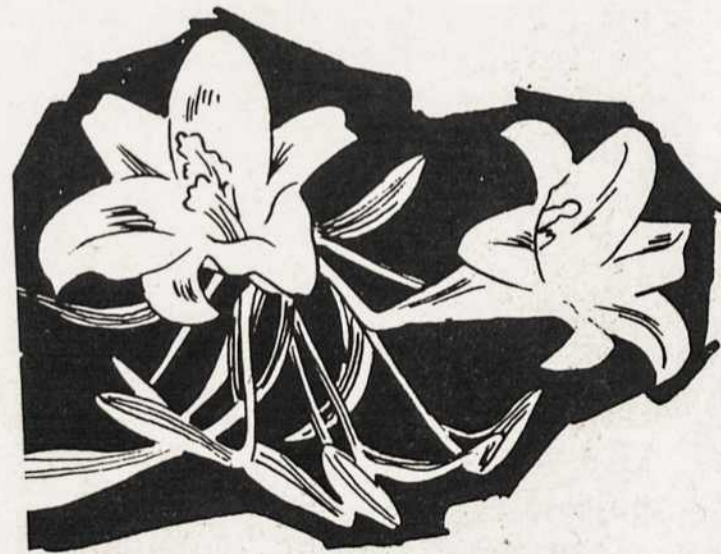
Šiandien yra labai graži diena
Dangus grynas
Nė debesėlio
Aš einu pasivaikščioti
Puikus oras
Tačiau ateina lietus
O kaip Čikagoje?
Čia labai gražu
Šiandien jau tikra vasara
Pavasarij žydi gėlės
Gėles laistei
Berniukas lipa į medį
Skraidė dideli paukščiai
Važiukime kur nors pasimaudyti



OUR COVER

The Easter Lily on this issue's cover is reproduced from a painting by renowned artis, J. A. Carroll. The subject, a symbol of Easter has been used in religion and art for many centuries to signify purity. Long before the Christian Era, religious festivals were marked by the use of lilies. Constantine, the first Christian Emperor of Rome, when he in-

stituted the first Easter Parade in observing The Resurrection, ordered his court to appear in finest raiment, and the ladies of the court to wear lilies in their hair. The Easter lilies used so widely today in church services on Easter are actually Bermuda lilies. They came into use in comparatively recent times, but today, as centuries ago, they represent new life, and the beauty of a good life.



LIETUVOS ATSIMINIMŲ ŠVENTĖ CHICAGOJE

Nors baisi žiema spaudė Chicago, bet vasario 4 d. Lietuvos Vyčių apskrities renginys Lietuvos Atsiminimų vardu praėjo su pakilia nuotaika. Atsilankė arti 300 svečių. Neatbaidė jų nei sniego pusnys, nei -5 laipsnių šaltis. Lietuviai mėgsta vyčių parengimus ir kartu pamini Vasario 16.

Martinique restorano puošni

salė suskamba maršais; žygiuoja garbės svečiai su kons. Daužvardiene, vysk. Brizgiu ir kitais; suaidi sol. Zapolienės giedami himnai. Pirm. A. Brazis atidaro vakarą ir paveda dr. L. Kriaučelūnui vadovauti. Invokaciją sukalbėjus vysk. Brizgiui, prasidėjo vakarienė, o po jos turininga programa. Kons. Daužvardienė dėkojo vy-



"Memories of Lithuania" Banquet, IID, Head Table. Chairman V. Samaska welcomes guests.



Lithuanian Boy and Girls Scout dancing group.



Lithuanian Girl Scouts singing group.

čiams už pastangas kovoje dėl Lietuvos laisvės. Telegramomis sveikino meras Bilandic ir kiti. Ta proga pagerbta Skautų S-ga jos 60 metų sukaktį minint. Skautų S-go. pirm. L. Milukienei pirm. Al Brazis įteikė garbės žymenį. Ji atsidėkoda pareiškė, kad vyčiai ir skautai dirba veik tą patį darbą, kad lietuviškas jaunimas kalbėtų lietuviškai ir išlaikytų lietuviškas tradicijas bei papročius. Dr. V. Vasaitienė apžvelgė skautų veiklą. Ji kalbėjo gražiai lietuviškai. Gaila tik, kad Tarptautinė Skautų S-ga išbraukė pavergtų tautų atsikūrusius skautus. Šiuo metu lietuvių skautų yra per 4000.

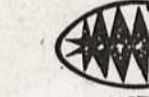
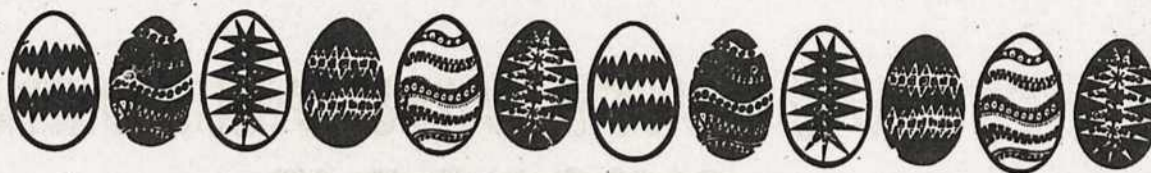
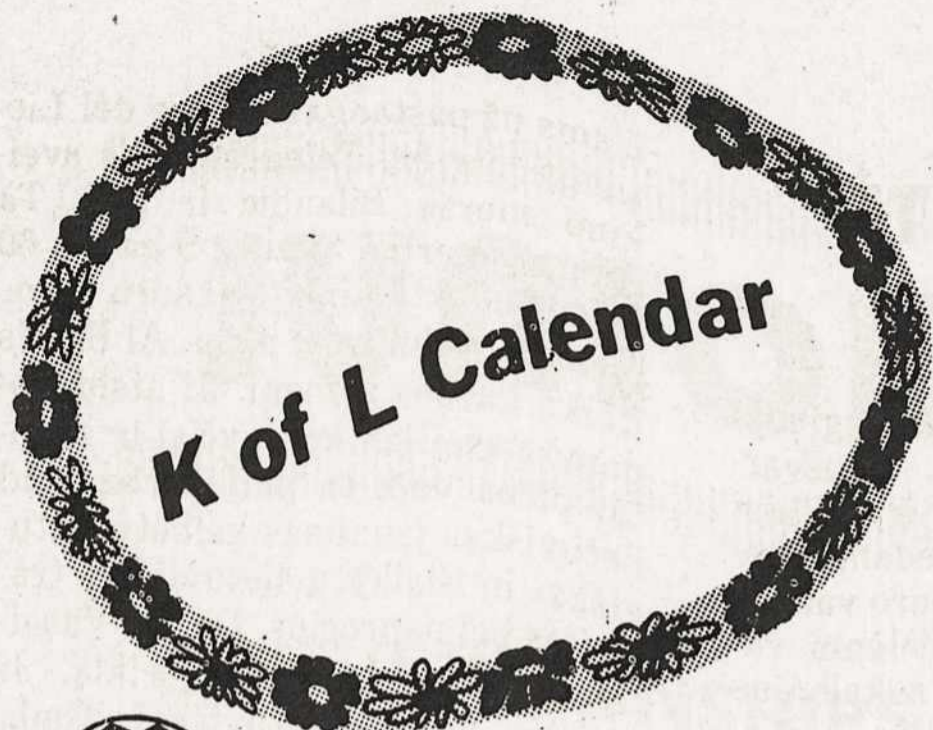
Skaučių grupė, vedama Alekšienės, su gitarų pritarimu padainavo keletą dainų, o tautinių šokių grupė ved. Martienės sušoko kelis šokius. Dainos bei šokiai pakėlė nuotaiką. Valio mūsų jaunimui!

Šventės rengimo komitetas — Irena Sankus, V. Samoška, H. Kaspar ir kt. — nusipelnė padėkos. Džiugu, kad tokių gabių darbininkų Lietuvos vyčiai turi. Sėkmės ir toliau darbuotis, ypačiai artėjant Lietuvos Vyčių seimui Chicagoje.

Bal. Brazdžionis



Knights of Lithuania Award of Distinction presented to the Lithuanian Scout Association. Pictured: IID President Algerd Brazis, Mrs. Lilė Milukienė, Board President National Lithuanian Scouts Assn. M-C Dr. Leonas Kriaučeliūnas.



APRIL

21 C-110, Maspeth SPRING POLKA FESTIVAL, Transfiguration Parish Hall, Maspeth, N.Y.

28 IID K of L ANNUAL CHOIR BENEFIT DINNER & DANCE, K of L Bldg., Chicago, Ill. (Postponed from January).

29 M.A.D. BOWLING GET-TOGETHER

MAY

5 "A Lithuanian Evening with Vitalis and Marija Zukauskas". "Vakaras su Vitaliu ir Marija Zukauskais", St. George Parish Hall, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

18-20 MIDWEST BOWLING TOURNAMENT, Dayton, Ohio, C-96, Hosts.

19 M.C.D. CONVENTION, Holy Cross Church, Dayton.

JUNE

3 M.A.D. SPRING CONVENTION, Newark, N.J. C-29, Hosts.

AUGUST

12 65TH ANNUAL LITHUANIAN DAY, Lakewood Park, Barnesville, Pa. C-144 sponsors.

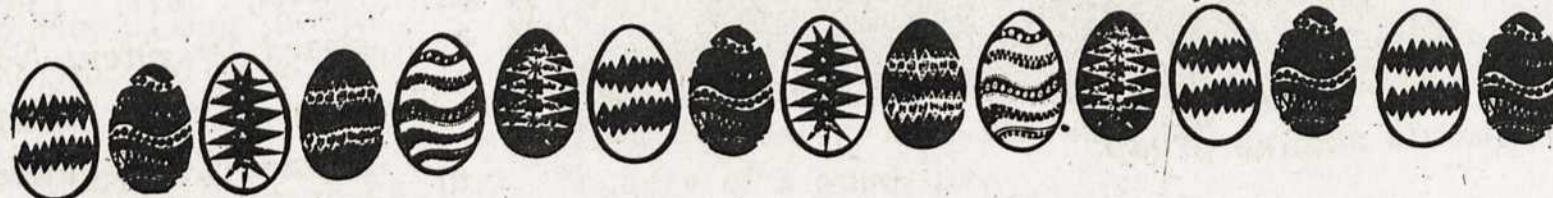
16-19 66TH NATIONAL K OF L CONVENTION, Hotel Raddison-Chicago, Chicago, Ill., IID Hosts.

SEPTEMBER

29 C-110, Maspeth DINNER DANCE

NOVEMBER

3 C-12, N.Y., 65TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER DANCE, Our Lady of Vilnius, Rev. George Gurinskas Parish Hall, New York, N.Y.





Vyčiai Veikia

Council Activities

Edited by

Mrs. J. Zukas, 9 Charles Street, Port Washington, L.I., N.Y. 11050

ILLINOIS-INDIANA DISTRICT

Congratulations to K of L members Vince Samaska, John (Whitey) Evans, and Joseph Stannaitis on their election to serve as Board of Directors for the Lithuanian Chamber of Commerce of Illinois.

Our December Business meeting was held in the K of L Bldg. and was chaired by Pres. Algerd Brazis. Following a very full and interesting meeting, the delegates and guests enjoyed a social hour and the delicious napoleonas baked by our own Emilija Pakalniskis. Hostesses for the evening were Gerry Mack and Monica Kasper.

Re-elected for another 3-yr. term as Bldg. Trustee was Alexander Mockus (current pres. of the Board of Trustees); Trustee-at-large, also re-elected, was Clemente Vidzius; and new Bldg. Trustee Paul Binikis. Congratulations to all three men; we know they will do their usual great job for the K of L.

Many business and social events were cancelled in January due to the never-ending snows. ("Blizzard of '79" was the newscasters' description). Among the K of L events postponed were C-36's Bowling Social and the Annual K of L Choir Benefit Dinner-Dance. The Choir event was rescheduled for Apr. 28 at the K of L Bldg., and everyone is cordially invited to participate and to support our Choir. Pres. Estelle Rogers, Director Faustas Strolia, and Dance Chm. John Auksciunas promise an evening of good food and drink, delightful entertainment, and the companionship of K of L friends.

Congratulations to Faustas Strolia on his appointment as the Musical Director for the Youth Congress in London.

Condolences to the families of K of L members Mary Srupsa and Tekla Stroga of C-36, Vyto Bickus of C-112, and Vincas Petrauskas of the Chicago Srs.

DATES TO REMEMBER: Apr. 28, K of L Choir Dinner-Dance; July 4, Annual K of L Day Picnic; Aug. 16-19, Natl. Conv., Chicago Radisson Hotel.

C-112 - CHICAGO, ILL.

Following the council's Dec. business meeting, we had a most unusual social — an evening of dining and socializing at Bill's Pizza, which is co-owned by our member Joe Kulys. Lithuanian Pizza?

Many holiday parties were enjoyed by K of L members. One of the most enthusiastic party-goers was council member and former IID Pres. Andy Yuknis who enjoyed the singing, dancing and entertaining, but his wife Dolores heard all of his "oh, my aching knee" when the festivities ended. A very delightful couple!

Condolences to Prudencija Bickus on the sudden death of her husband, Vyto; to One Skever on the death of her father (who was 101 years young); and to Alice and Rita Tomczak on the death of their mother, Mary. We will remember the deceased in our prayers.

When the snows came to Chicago on the New Year's weekend, it snowed, and then snowed some more. Our January business and Board meetings were cancelled, but we all kept in touch via

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the K of L hot-lines.

Congratulations to our own State Senator Frank Savickas who was appointed Assistant Illinois Senate majority leader. Frank is the first legislator of Lithuanian descent in Illinois, and in his new position, the highest ranking Lithuanian state official in Illinois history. We are proud of his accomplishments and always enjoy his attendance at our various K of L affairs.

Fifteenth Ward Alderman Kenneth Jaksy, on completion of his 4-year term of office as alderman, resigned in order to become a special assistant to Senator Savickas in the capital, Springfield. In a newspaper quote, he stated "I have enjoyed being alderman and serving the people of the 15th ward, but this new opportunity of serving all the people of Illinois offers new challenges for me". Our best wishes to this active K of L member!

LT 99



MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT

C-96 - DAYTON, OHIO

At the Jan. 8 meeting our Lithuanian Affairs Co-Chairperson, Stefanija Raštikis, brought many items to our attention. She was most emphatic in encouraging members to write to Victor Petkus and Petras Paulaitis. Lithuania was mentioned in question form on the TV program "Cross Wits". Did you catch it? Jr. Advisor Chris

Mantz thanked Fran Petkus for taking care of the Jr Bazaar items at the Winter's Tower in Dec. This gave the Jrs some added income. Harley Karns is still making an appeal to all Knights to help our council's Archives Committee complete a set of all issues of the VYTIS. For information on missing issues, please write to Mr. M. Harley Karns, 135 Volkenand St., Dayton, Ohio, 45410.

Congratulations to Cecelia Lisankis who completed qualifications to become a First Degree Knight. August & Mary Ann Blum have been added to our Social Committee for this year.

Our council had a "Clean the K of L Cupboard Day" on Jan. 28 at the church hall. With the help of Gus & Mary Ann Blum, Harley Karns, Eleanor, Chris & Joe Mantz, Aldona Ryan, Elinor Sluzas, the Sgt-at-Arms, Joe Ryan & Joe Mantz, were well satisfied in taking inventory this year. A few items of value were found amongst the "debris".

Word has come back that Mike & Donna Jean Dailey are really enjoying their new life in Arizona. Congratulations, belatedly, to Mary Lucas for having her recipe, Chick-Kabobs, published in the Dayton Daily News Favorite Recipe Contest.

Get well wishes are sent to Sally Miller after recent surgery as an out-patient, and Pat Smiley who is trying to whip a bout with pneumonia.

Prior to Christmas, Rev. Cornelius Bucmys, OFM, Editor of the Darbininkas, Brooklyn, N.Y., was in Dayton for a weekend to take care of the spiritual needs of Holy Cross parishioners. Not only did the parishioners have the opportunity to meet with Fr. Bucmys, but his cousins, Knights Ildefonsas & Steponas Bucmys, had a family reunion.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sarah Petkus on the loss of her father, Herbert O'Dell. We

pray his soul is at peace.

Hope you have saved the weekend of May 18-20 to spend time in Dayton. Dist. Pres. Aldona Ryan has her agenda for the Spring Meeting on May 19 all lined up. John A. Berczely, Chm. of the Mid-West Bowling Tournament, has his committee well set and all functions ready to go. All we need now is you!

I would like to wind up the column with two thoughts. One is from Dear Abby. "Someone has said that there are four kinds of 'Bones' in every organization. There are the wishbones, who spend their time wishing someone would do the work. There are the jawbones, who do all the talking, but very little else. Next, there are the knucklebones, who knock everything anyone ever tries to do. And finally, there are the backbones, who get under the load and do the work". You members who are not attending meetings and functions, make a change now and join the "backbones". You are the losers who don't participate.

There will be a resolution printed in the VYTIS regarding Associate Members. This resolution has been drawn up by our council for delegates to vote on at the coming Natl. Conv. We would like to add a thought at this time in regard to our Associate Members. As of Feb. '79, there are two councils in the M.C. Dist. who have made contributions to the Dist. Treasury. The monies were raised through special council functions. Chairpersons for these projects were Associate Members!

FBP

C-79 - SOUTHFIELD, MICH.

Jubilation was the key word on Jan. 23 as news flashed that Detroit was selected for the GOP Presidential Convention in 1980. This may inspire a number of members to become "involved", but the convention represents an

unparalleled opportunity for Detroit.

In another vein, member Bertha Janus also emits jubilation and genuine pride on the event of her cousin's Mother Marija (nee Kazimiera Kaupas) beatification being sought by the Order of Sisters of St. Casimir.

Mother Maria, who was foundress of the Order with the Mother House located in Chicago, was born on Jan. 8, 1880, in Gudeliai, Lithuania. One of 11 children, Mother Maria left Lithuania at the age of 18. She settled first in Scranton, Penn.

Her determination and belief that young Lithuanian girls aspiring to a religious life should attend and be educated in Lithuanian-staffed institutions led to a succession of "opening" operations. Mother Maria established the first Lithuanian school in Mt. Carmel, Pa.

In 1920, she went back to Lithuania after Lithuania regained its independence, and together with 4 nuns began this kind of "pioneer" work in opening a school and convent. There is a school and convent in Pažaislis (Mt. Peace) in Lithuania. The St. Casimir sisters also staff a school in Avellaneda, Argentina. Mother Maria assumed the responsibility of planning and opening 53 institutions in 13 states.

For her endeavors her congregation has received numerous awards, one of the most important of which was the designation, in 1956, in Chicago, of a large complex to be known as the "Lithuanian Plaza". It comprises an area including Maria High School, Holy Cross Hospital, St. Casimir Convent & Academy, Church of Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Darius & Girėnas Monument.

The obstacles she encountered in her "pioneer" work, the courage and commitment she faced, overcoming all difficulties, symbolizes the dedication that characterized Mother Maria's life. This devoted

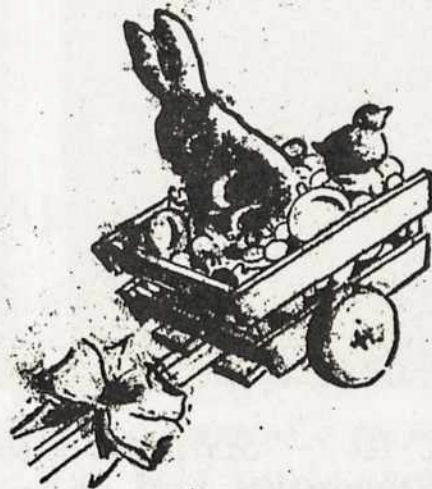
nun has shaped and influenced generations of Lithuanian students.

Mother Maria died on Apr. 17, 1940. We hope the prayers of her Order will be realized in the process for her beatification.

Apologies to Bertha Janus who was inadvertently omitted from our council's roster of elected officials: Bertha is our Ritual Chm. and an excellent one at that!

Realizing an "impossible dream", Helen Patocki, her daughter Elaine Redmond, and little daughter Eve, returned from an "unbelievable, dream-come-true trip", as she described it, to Greece. They walked the narrow streets of Athens, climbed hundred of steps leading to Acropolis, walked the ancient ruins of the Parthenon, and were awed by the gigantic rock where St. Paul preached when he came to Athens. Elaine and Eve climbed the steep rock with other visitors from many lands to view Athens from still a higher plane. Grandma Patocki admitted to staying "below the rock".

Their tour guide made arrangements to spend a day cruising to the islands of Paros, Aegina and Idhra (Hydra). The threesome sailed through the Peloponnesian Straits, and with some imagination could hear the songs of the mythological sirens. They toured inland into the mountains to ancient land of the Oracle of Delphi which was absolutely awe-inspiring. Travelling about 280 kilometers up and down around narrow roads, and with no guard



rails, "a person really had to have confidence in the driver".

Since this was a holiday season, Helen, Elaine and Eve were taken at Christmas Eve to the ancient Plaka to a Laverina for dinner and entertainment. They enjoyed the music, dancing, singing and throwing of flowers, as well as breaking of plates to show appreciation of the entertainment. Later, Evie, who is a 6th grader at Queen of Martyr's School and enjoys culinary arts, expressed compliments to the cook on the delicious soup and new exotic foods.

After they left the Laverina, Elaine began to sing "Silent Night". The others joined in singing Christmas Carols, each group in their native tongue.

Among other sights viewed by the Patocki-Redmond clan were the ruins of Knossos and King Minos, and saw many beautiful treasures still intact for over 4000 yrs. Some of the friezes and statues have been removed to museums for protection from further deterioration by the elements and age.

For diversion, they strolled along the beaches of the Aegean Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and several bays and coves.

Among the highlights of the trip was celebrating Elaine's birthday (Dec. 27) and Evie's birthday (Jan. 6). They found an ideal spot, atop a mountain in Athens where a tiny church is located at the side of a sheer drop. There, with a breathtaking view, they all enjoyed dinner in a restaurant situated on the other side of that mountain. "Every meal, like every turn of the head, was an adventure".

Upon their return home, a native person walked up to the waiting trio and gave them flowers, and wished "Ka-lay Kronia" to the "nice ladies". We might add that it's nice to see them home safe and sound.

Soffi



NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT

C-10 - ATHOL-GARDNER, MASS.

North Worcester County was plagued by slushy, messy, freezing floods that caused problems and regrets for pedestrians, motorists, and especially home owners. We in North County always seem to suffer the most during the winter storms. We are glad it is now over.

Our council held a Human Rights Vigil in St. Francis Church on Jan. 10. It is a shame that no-one outside of the K of L members availed themselves of the beautiful services conducted by Father Steponaitis.

We welcome to our ranks two new members from Gardner, Helen Simkunas and Beatrice Jodaitis Richard. Bea was delighted to learn that her dad and Fr. Steponaitis hail from the same Sintautai parish in Lithuania.

The Lithuanian Club in Athol has donated the Lithuanian Encyclopedia (in English) to the Athol Library, consisting of 6 volumes. Several books have also been placed in the Gardner Library through the generosity of the Supreme Council.

Frank Anoris suffered a back injury recently in a fall. We are glad to hear that it is now all mended.

We of C-10 wish all the readers of the Vytis a Blessed and Holy Easter.

Personality of the Month: This gentleman needs no introduction as he is as well known to the people in the Dist. as he is in his own council. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Charles Genaitis came to Gardner, as a young man and was graduated

from Gardner H.S. He earned his B.S. Degree in Education at Bridgewater Teacher's College and later obtained his Masters in 1961 from Fitchburgh State College.

Charlie entered the teaching field years after graduation, — waiting until he was more financially secure. He taught in the Gardner School system for 18 years, retiring in 1976.

He is married to Blanche Jonaitis and is the father of two and grandfather of three. Charlie has served as Treas. of the Gardner Teacher's Assoc., Secy. of our K of L, a Red Cross First Aid Instructor, a 35-year member of Sacred Heart Parish Choir, a Director of the Lithuanian Outing Club in town, and a former Chaplain of the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

We of C-10 wish Charles Genaitis many more years of comfortable retirement and much traveling.

Vincukas



Interior of St. Francis Church, Athol, Mass.



C-10 - Spiritual Advisor Rev. Steponaitis and lector, Pres. Bill

Wisnaukas, during Human Rights Vigil Services.

C-141 - BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

We are all involved in our busy lives with many aspects of "living", but every once in a while we look back to our Lithuanian family heritage. We do not have a local newspaper, nor radio program, nor TV program in the greater Bridgeport area, so it is only through "live" programs presented by Lithuanian organizations that we can learn about their affairs and culture. We can be better informed to talk about our background, about today's Lithuanian activities — in our area, in the whole U.S.A., and in Lithuania, by becoming more knowledgeable about Lithuanians. It is by attendance at functions sponsored by these organizations that will encourage them to continue with their work.

The program for the 61st Anniversary of Lithuanian Independence Day (Feb. 16) was observed in two phases this year. This anniversary commemorates the end of a century of Russian oppression in 1918 of the Lith. nation which was established 727 years ago. It also decries the forcible occupation of the Baltic countries of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania by the Soviet Russians in 1940.

The first phase of the commemoration was held Feb. 11 with 11 A.M. Mass at St. George's Church. Rev. Francis J. Pranckus, Pastor & Spiritual Advisor of our council, celebrated the Mass for the intention of all Lithuanians — bringing to mind the violations of freedom of religion in Soviet occupied Lithuania. Those who were able attended this Mass dressed in Lithuanian costume, and took part in the offertory procession.

The Lithuanian Independence Day program was commemorated on Feb. 25 in the parish hall commencing at 4 P.M. Rev. Casimir Pugevičius, K of L Natl. Chm. of Lith. Affairs, and Exec. Director of Lith. Catholic Religious Aid, was



C-141, Bridgeport, Conn. Pres. A. Trainis, Mrs. B. Schmidt, Mrs. M. Liaukus, Rev. F. Pranckus assist with flag prior to Lith. Independence Mass, Feb. 11, 1979.

the keynote speaker. His address was delivered both in Lithuanian and English. A cultural program of music, song and dance was presented. A coffee hour followed.

Our council held their monthly meeting in the afternoon of Feb. 18 in the parish club rooms. A covered dish supper followed. Members were reminded that Brotherhood Week began on that day.

We are always happy to report on the accomplishments of our members. Walter Devanas directed two one-act plays which were shown at the Scenario Dinner Theatre, next to the Fairfield Community Theatre, on two weekends in February. We are pleased at his success.

Al Trainis

C-26 - WORCESTER, MASS.

The music of LES BROWN AND HIS BAND REKNOWN and SPIKE JONES AND HIS CITY SLICKERS is as opposite as night and day. Yet, both bands enjoyed

the sweet taste of success for many years. Like an orchestra, every organization has its own style, its own manner of "making music". It's good to read in the "Vytis" each month, via Council News, the norms mastered by each council to make "harmony" within its group. We'd like to share our "arrangement" with you:

In spite of high competition in bowling, Alex Pridotkas' team once again finished in first place at the end of the first half of the season.

The two daughters of Aldona & Robert Shumway welcomed a baby brother this past winter. Aldona teaches Lithuanian in the Worcester "Night Life" program, and her husband is a prominent Worcester attorney. Congratulations!

With pride and pleasure do we translate the following which appeared in the Jan. 20 issue of the Marian Fathers' DRAUGAS: "Sister Joyce Ridick, S.S.C., was recently written into the fourth edition of the highly regarded

women's almanac, **THE WORLD WHO'S WHO OF WOMEN**.

Sister Joyce was once our council's recording secretary. Today she's a clinical psychologist. Sister's parents, John & Ann Ridick, are members of our council.

Personal and family health problems have temporarily taken Mildred Lapinskas from her Lithuanian Affairs duties. Her niece, Patricia Kardokas, has volunteered to continue Millie's efforts for a while.

Rita Karrytais was a co-chairperson recently for an impressive meeting of economists in the Worcester area. Rita works at the Norton Company here.

Several K of L'ers are among the governing board at Maironis Park. We'd like to congratulate Kazys Adomavicius, Francis (Algis) Glodas, Edmund Grigaitis, Withold Ivaska, Ray Jakubauskas and Stephen Walinsky, Sr. who were installed by our pastor, Father Anthony J. Miciunas, M.I.C., at the January installation program.

Mary Duggan, a clinical dietitian at Hahnemann Hospital, was an instructor in a course called "Diabetes Update" recently offered by that hospital.

Father Benjamin Uzdavinis, M.I.C., our Spiritual Director, treads carefully! Aware of equal rights and women's lib, Father Ben asked, "Who are the chef-persons for our pre-Lenten party?" The committee was made up of Ann Bender, Dorothy & Al Seilius, Rita Pinkus (our president), Adele & Francis Degutis, and Ann & Steve Walinsky, Sr. It was a kugelis supper.

Frank Roland was hospitalized and a knee operation followed. We wish him a complete and early recovery.

Carol & Bill Grigas co-chaired the January ski-weekend. In their group were Ann & Steve Walinsky, Sr., Ellie & Steve Walinsky, Jr., Peter & Donna Ivaska and Virginia Leleikis. K of

L'ers from other New England councils joined these snow-bunnies and enjoyed a wonderful few days in the mountains.

Heartfelt condolences are extended to Marion Shapiro and the other members of her family upon the death in February of her beloved brother.

And now we end our "jelly bean journal" with best wishes for a Joyous Easter from our president, Rita Pinkus, as well as our pastor, Father Miciunas, our Spiritual Director, Father Uzdavinis, and our entire membership!

Dzūkelė

C-145 - HOLYOKE, MASS.

Throughout the summer Viola Markoski, Della Mikalis, Joan & Laura Laframboise and Nell Ruggles crocheted "granny squares" that when sewn together produced a superb afghan. This afghan was offered as the first prize in a raffle at our annual affair held at Wistariahurst Museum. The colors and pattern were unique, so that selling tickets presented no problem — the afghan sold itself. Second prize was a framed landscape scene from one of Leo & Adele Laferriere's travels, third was a bottle of cheer, and fourth was a crocheted toss pillow made by Viola Markoski.

Immediately after Labor Day, all of us in the council became busier than the elves in Keebler's cookie factory. From the assembly lines came crocheted, filled and fancy pot holders, Lithuanian rope dolls, toss pillows, laminated book marks, vases, urns, and bowls of dried flower arrangements. From the fields we picked pampas grass, eight-foot-tall swamp grass, milkweed pods, and wheat for the "do it yourselves" folks. Indeed Nature's artistic gift to us was this graceful bounty to enjoy in our homes throughout the winter months. While the chromatic sequence varied from antique white to tan to

dark brown, we sprayed some with colors, and others we retained "au naturelle".

The fever caught on and before anyone could say "Šv. Kazimierai melskis už mus", there were more donations for another raffle. First prize here was a twenty-two piece white & gold ceramic manger set, given by Imdcz & Steve Chivas. Also donated by Chivas family were an owl barn board wall hanging, and a dried flower arrangement encased in crystal. Jinx Beaulieu made and presented us with an exquisite macrame handbag.

Even the mothers and friends of our members created articles and baked goods, besides contributing to the financial support for the success of our affair.

Everything was progressing smoothly when on Nov. 15, just about three weeks before our affair became a reality, disaster struck. While fixing a window shade at home, Viola Markoski fell and fractured her ankle. On the same day, later in the afternoon while walking to the bank, Della Mikalis slipped, fell and fractured her wrist. A few days later Adele Laferriere fell and fractured her wrist. Yet these nice people knew the import expected of each member for the success of this occasion. So with limbs in casts they moved about on crutches or with one arm in a sling they conducted business with the other. Some form of a "Croix de Guerre" and a kiss on each cheek for service rendered beyond the call of duty should be awarded to these extraordinary ladies. Our affair was truly a great success.

True to the old saying that "when it rains it pours", it sure did for our council. Al Laframboise was offered an advancement up the ladder of success. But a move to Atlanta, Ga. was necessary. So folks, if ever you pass through Georgia, don't be surprised if you hear the Lithuanian language

spoken with a drawl! Joan, Al, Laura and Brian moved from this area on Dec. 15. As the Laframboise family traveled south, the arm of C-145 stretched all the way south too, for Joan & Al will continue to remain members of our council.

At our Dec. 5 meeting, Joan Laframboise was presented with an honorarium. It should be remembered that through Joan's effort and leadership we triumphed in having Lithuanian classes at the Holyoke High School, our Lithuanian Concerts and Boutiques at Wistariahurst Museum, and mainly, the formation of C-145 here in Holyoke, Mass. "Dėkojame" from all of us Joan, and we shall miss you, too.

To keep our house in order, it was imperative to elect a new council president. Our roster now reads: Pres. Nell Ruggles, V.P. James Adamaitis, Fin. Sec. Viola Markoski, Sec. Imelda Chivas, Treas. Priscilla Bernotas, Ritual Della Mikalis, Historian Julie Pasternak, Lith. Affairs Anthony Ruggles. Already our new president has projected our goals for the coming season.

Margaret Picard



MID-ATLANTIC DISTRICT

C-110 - MASPETH, N.Y.

In an effort to regain independence for the land of their forefathers, Lithuanian - Americans, during the month of February, commemorated the declaration of Lithuania's Independence which took place Feb. 16, 1918. Lithuanian-Americans are striving to arouse public opinion against tyranny and oppression in the land of their fathers.

On Feb. 18 the council sponsored a commemoration of the 61st Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence at Transfiguration Church commencing with the 11 A.M. Mass celebrated by our

Pastor, Rev. Frank Bulovas. Homilist was Rev. Stasys Raila. Several Jrs. carried the flags, and the girls made the symbolic offering of a Lithuanian cross, amber, soil from Lithuania; and a bouquet of flowers with rūta.

After Mass, the congregation of about 150 assembled in the parish hall for a short program. Father Bulovas opened the program with an invocation, and MAD Pres. Larry Janonis and Natl. Pres. Philip Skabeikis extended greetings. Mrs. Nellie Skabeikis was Mistress of Ceremonies, Jrs. Pres. Leo Stungurys and Jr. member Mark Adomaitis read the Constitution in English and Lithuanian, the Dist.'s 2nd V.P. Bro. George Petkavage recited a prayer for Lithuania from MARIJA GELBĖK MUS, and Mrs. Adele Nelson spoke of the progress in Lithuania during their 22 years of independence. The singing of LIETUVA TĖVYNE MŪŠŲ closed the program, and a luncheon was served under the direction of Mrs. Lottie Ulrich. We wish to thank all of our members, friends and parishioners who participated in this commemoration and made it such a meaningful experience.

After our own program, the of-



C-110, Maspeth, members at Lith. Independence Day Commemoration.

ficers of our council and many members and guests went on to the Franciscan Cultural Center in Brooklyn, N.Y., where a major cultural commemoration was presented at 3 P.M.

Marian & Philip Skabeikis became parents of their second child, a girl, Catherine Marija. We extend heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the proud parents and their son Matthew, and to the grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Skabeikis and Mr. & Mrs. John Sidtis, members of our council.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the family of Vincent Kuchinskas, on the death of their father.

We hope and pray for a speedy recovery for our council's Fin. Secy. John Oliva who has been hospitalized.

Council members honored St. Casimir on Mar. 4 during the 11 A.M. Mass at Transfiguration Church.

Ann Sidtis

C-12 - NEW YORK, N.Y.

Judging by the tempo of the January meeting, this should be a banner year for our council. Pres. Joe Sleder kept the business at hand moving at a crisp pace and whoever had the floor at the moment was never gulp prone. Subjects were timely, interesting and clearly presented. Human Rights, or lack of same was intelligently discussed. Joe Remeika had writing paper, envelopes and stamps which he offered gratis to anyone who would pen a letter on the spot to VIP's in the U.S.A. who have plenty of liberty, or to European unfortunates who have none at all. The writers were very busy people.

Plans were finalized to commemorate the 61st Anniversary of Lithuania's Independence. We attended High Mass at Our Lady of



C-110, Maspeth, Lith. Independence Day Celebration.

Vilnius Church, had a short program of remembrance at Fr. Gurinskas Hall, enjoyed a continental breakfast, and then proceeded with our regular monthly meeting. It was well-attended.

Our people looked forward to the bus trip to Scranton, orchestrated by our Helen Shields. A Dist. mini-convention as well as a Communion breakfast was held there on Mar. 11. Knowing the Scranton people we knew it would be a huge success. Scranton has a large Lithuanian colony and these people are known and admired for their generosity and hospitality. For future reference, when and if you stay in that anthracite city, Hotel Casey is recommended. So is Hotel Jermyn, which has an interesting restaurant, the Purple Cow. Here the food is a delight and the portions are king-size.

There was some discussion about reviving an activity at which this council at one time excelled. That would be bowling. A quick survey revealed that most of us haven't visited any lanes since our teen-age years. If we do organize a team, it would hardly be on a competitive basis, — possibly more as a social event, with a sincere desire to keep the ball out of the gutters as much as possible.

Our traveling brethren are still at it. Anthony & Kazimiera Yacovonis are back from Puerto Rico, and Vincent Gendvilas takes a freighter ride to Poland in April. Of course, his ultimate destination will be Lithuania.

A postcard was received from Supreme Council Treas. Teresa Trainis. She and her husband Alphonse spent New Year's Day watching a football game in Pasadena, Calif. It was a clash of two of the mightiest college teams in the nation in an annual encounter known as the Rose Bowl.
The Vet

C-100 - AMSTERDAM, N.Y.

The Convention in Syracuse was especially great for C-100 because of the large representation of the Amsterdammers, the display of Amber by Polly Ziausys, the featuring as one of the soloists at the Cultural program of our Spiritual Advisor, Rev. Robert K. Baltch, and the Rev. Jutt award being presented to our congressman Samuel S. Stratton!

We cannot forget the fabulous Champagne party in Peter Hayes' suite hosted by Peter and all the Amsterdam K of L's in honor of

our man "SAM STRATTON". The suite was jammed. Faustas Strolia and his accordion and songs were an added attraction to all. He had a special song for Congressman Stratton. Flashes of bright lights kept exploding in the room! Cameras were clicking. Everyone wished to have a photograph of Congressman Stratton.

Representing our council were twenty-eight members. Four Juniors attended: Gerry and Alan Drenzek, Lisa Saikal and Michael Mikolaitis.

Polly Ziausys (to the reporter's knowledge, this is a first), recited one of her poems at one of the sessions. Our Jr. K of L'er, Lisa Saikal, represented the Jrs. at the head table at the closing banquet.

We extend congratulations to member Isabelle McKinley who was elected Natl. Trustee.

Six council members received their 3rd degrees at one of the sessions: Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Charles Karbus, Isabelle McKinley, Sophie Olbie, Mary Stanionis, and Polly Ziausys.

We renewed friendships with our Providence pals Phil & Aldona Carter, and Marty Rusgi, Jack Stukas, Frank & Sophie Zager, Jean & Larry Janonis, Mary Stonis, and many, many others.

Thanks a million to the Syracuse council, to chairman Frank Petrauskas, his wife Irene and daughters, and to all the council members who worked so diligently and put on a marvelous Convention.

Sept. 18 found a large group present for the first meeting after the Natl. Convention. Father Anthony Grigaitis said the opening prayers.

President Radzevich had a large pile of correspondence to be read, including the first newsletter from our new Natl. Pres. Philip Skabekis. Reports were given on the Natl. Convention.

Our Cultural Committee co-chairperson, Regina Kot read an article on the waterways of Lithu-



C-100 - Amerstam, N.Y. members with Congressman Samuel S. Stratton during Syracuse Nat'l Convention. L to R: Ann Radzevich, Mil-

dred Whelly, Regina Kot, Congressman Stratton and Helen Augun.

ania. There are 160 rivers and streams in the country of which the principal river is the Nemunas. Currently, there are 20,000 swamps in the country.

By unanimous verbal acclamation, the members asked the same officers to continue at their posts for ONE MORE YEAR. So, the following will remain for 1979: Spiritual Advisor Rev. Robert K. Baltch, Pres. Anthony Radzevich, Vice-Pres. Gene Gobis, Treas. Sophie Olbie, Secy. Nellie Liberis,

Sgts-at-Arms Walter Rusilas, Charles Karbus, & Peter Sargalis. The committee chairmen for the following are: Lithuanian Affairs - Edward Baranauskas, Ritual - Mary Stanionis, Cultural - Polly Ziausys & Regina Kot, Jr. Counselors - Regina Kot & Gene Gobis.

A tasty treat was put on by the Refreshment Committee of Judy Kastravickas, Betty Kuzmich, Mary Stanionis and Helen Wojcik.
Smile & Sparkle

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mos — Sophie Barcus ir Margutis — transliuojamos vidurdienį ir iš ryto. Dabar visos trys programos duodamos įvairiu laiku galės patenkinti visus Chicagos lietuvius.

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DEPART	RETURN	GROUP 30	G.I.T.	CITIES AND NIGHTS
Dec. 22	Jan. 05	\$1049.00	(Apex Fare)	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 3, Leningrad 3, Moscow 2
Mar. 05	Mar. 15	\$ 779.00	\$849.00	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 2
Mar. 22	Mar. 31	\$ 849.00	\$899.00	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
Apr. 12	Apr. 21	\$ 849.00	\$899.00	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
Apr. 23	May 03	\$ 849.00	\$899.00	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 2
May 03	May 12	\$ 849.00	\$899.00	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
May 14	May 24	\$ 849.00	\$899.00	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 2
May 24	June 02	\$ 899.00	(Group 30 fare)	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
June 14	June 23	\$ 899.00	(Group 30 fare)	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
June 26	July 10	\$1249.00	(Super apex fare)	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 5, Kiev 3, Copenhagen 1
July 04	July 19	\$1199.00	(Super apex fare)	Vilnius 5, Riga 3, Leningrad 3, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
July 24	Aug. 07	\$1249.00	(Super apex fare)	Vilnius 5, Rome 5, Moscow 3
Aug. 08	Aug. 24	\$1199.00	(Super apex fare)	Vilnius 5, Riga 3, Leningrad 3, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
Aug. 21	Sept. 05	\$1249.00	(Super apex fare)	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 5, Kiev 3, Copenhagen 1
Sept. 06	Sept. 15	\$ 849.00	(Group 30 fare)	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
Sept. 20	Sept. 29	\$ 849.00	\$899.00	Vilnius 5, Moscow 2, Copenhagen 1
Oct. 15	Oct. 25	\$ 779.00	\$849.00.	Vilnius 5, Warsaw 2

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