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LITHUANIAN - AMERICAN NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL

Maironis

Tomas Venclova in his survey on "Lithuanian Literature" writes that "Lithuanian literature today is among the most interesting in Eastern Europe — it combines archaic folklore traditions with a modern way of thinking; more importantly, it communicates a unique and tragic historic experience".

This year we commemorate important anniversaries of our two leading writers. One is Maironis (1862-1932) as we have come to know the pen name of Jonas Mačiulis, and the other is Vincas Krėvė (1882-1954). They both were key figures in the development of Lithuanian language, Maironis in verse and Krėvė in prose, and thanks to their accomplishments today we have a literary language that all our writers are indebted to.

Maironis was born at the estate of Pasandravys, county of Raseiniai, on October 21, 1862, 120 years ago. He studied literature at the University of Kiev and the Kaunas Theological Seminary. He was granted his Ph.D. in Theology at the Theological Academy of St. Petersburg, where he remained as professor of moral theology. In 1909 he became the rector of the Kaunas Theological Seminary where he addressed the seminarians publicly in Lithuanian, breaking the customary habit of using Polish or Latin. He started publishing his poetry in the underground press in 1885, wity a poem "Miškas Ožia" (The Forest Sighs) in Aušra (the Dawn), published in Germany, since the czar's regime forbade the printing of Lithuanian publications in Latin characters, wishing to establish use of the Russian cyrillic script foreign to us. His first collection of poems P a v a s a r i o b a l s a i (Voices of Spring) appeared in 1895 under the pseudonym Maironis. This collection grew into ever-expanding six editions that reflect better than any other of his books the poet's development.

Maironis is well-known to our readers in America. His most patriotic and religious poems are still being sung in the coal mine regions of Pennsylvania, in the summer camps of Dainava, in our song festivals, gatherings and picnics, sometimes without realization that the writer is our nation's most prolific "dainius". "Marija, Marija" and "Kur bega Šešupe" or "Užtrauksim naują giesmę" are among our popular songs that we often identify with folk songs or "dainos". Maironis is not only a great lyric poet, but also the poet who, according to the editors of The Green Oak (Algirdas Landsbergis and Clark Mills), "established norms of poetic language and diction, and introduced a number of formal and other innovations". He lent maturity to our literary language. Without Maironis, "the patriotic poet" as some critics call him, Lithuanian awakening would have taken much longer. He was the poet of the "Young Lithuania" and more particularly, the poet who so swiftly changed the poetic language that gave us many first rate poets.

Even the Soviets, as Juozas Brazaitis observes, "at first did not allow anything of his to be printed. But being unable to squelch popular admiration for the nation's great poet, it allowed the commemoration in 1947 of the 15th anniversary of his death. In the introduction to a selected edition of his writings (1956) it was recognized that 'the best poetic works of Maironis have become an irreplaceable part of Lithuania's cultural heritage'."



Commemorations

This year we are celebrating two important anniversaries: It is 120 (1862) years since the birth and 50 (1932) years since the death of Lithuania's Awakening poet — Msgr. JONAS MAČIULIS — MAIRONIS

To familiarize our readers with his work, we present a few of his poems in translation.

Lithuania

Ten kur Nemunas banguoja

The Nemunas flows in strong repose And waters our native soil, Biruté's song in our brother's tongue Can lighten the ploughman's toil.

As our rivers cross the eternal strand, So shall our songs resound in every land. Where the jewels gleam, where the rue is green And graces a maiden's wreath, Where the cuckoo's cry fills the forest high, Our cottages stand on the heath.

Where the rue blooms and speckled birds rejoice,
There our mother awaiths the wanderer's voice.
When the sun of spring scatters shades from the ling.
When the hay meets the reeper's hand,
When the stubble-corn is all cold and torn—
Even fair is our native land.

In winter's snows, in summer's ecstasy,
None is dearer, lovelier than thee.
In the sun's bright rays or in clouded days
Our heart returns to our home,
Where our fathers rest and their memory is blest,
Where our sweat has watered the loam.

In joy and hardship, quietude and strife, Be the land beloved more than life. There the boyars rode to their Prince's abode And made the Teuton flee. Our homage is due and our hearts are true To the land of our liberty.

In her cause our fathers strove and bled,
In her cause our blood shall yet be shed.
May the Lord of grace defend the place
Where the bones of our ancestors lie.
May Thy powerful hand protect the land
Where Thy children suffer and die.

Shed still upon our home Thy mercy's light; Still hear us, Lord of everlasting might.

Translated by RAFAEL SEALEY



Portrait of Jonas Mačiulis-Maironis by Pranas Lapė. An illustration in M a i r on i s — B a l a d è s.



THE LAKE OF THE FOUR CONTONS: EVENING

(Vakaras ant ežero keturių kantonų)

The limpid waters of the lake rocked, green emerald; and oarless, the light vessel swayed where the cool was wafted.

And indolent, the sun went down beyond the Alps; and Lucerne's bells offered to God on high the sparse labors of man and nature. The leaf, still warm with sun, glittered with drops of dew.
The mountain breathed a scent of roses redolent with health.

Peaceful, the golden reveries
I wove in the dawn light;
swiftly they flew, informed
with grace, on the paths of sky.

The Milky Way was their starred guide as the heart went with them toward the remote, beloved land of the fathers.

What recollections, incidents that had once known life dawned and rose, one and then another beyond that dim frontier!

Vertical at the window ledges blossoms of pearl stare up, and in their caps of motley red turn multitudes of dahlias.

And from their childhood, maidens weave their braids with rue; the brother rears the dark bay colt for saddling in the fall.

Oh there, there flows wide the blue sash of Dubysa!... O my tear, why do you slide down my cheek, like a pearl?

They flowed past — my most dear epochs of youth, now so remote, so long ago, one thinks they were but dreams.

What recollections, incidents that had once known life dawned and rose, one and then another beyond that dim frontier!

Translated by CLARK MILLS

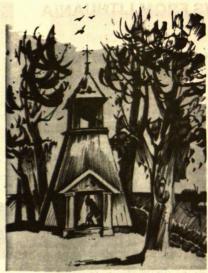


Illustration by Pranas Lapé for Maironis — Baladés



On May 14, 1982 we commemorated the 10th anniversary since the day Romas Kalanta let himself be consumed by the flames while uttering a desperate cry of — Freedom for Lithuania!

We offer our most sincere best wishes to the KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA, who have gathered in Cleveland for their annual convention. Sekmes Jūsų darbe Dievui ir Tevynei!

NEWS FROM LITHUANIA

VITKAUSKAITĖ AND PLUMPA RELEASED FROM PRISON

Two Lithuanian "prisoners of conscience" were released recently, The Chronicle of the Catholic Church in Lithuania (No. 50. December 8, 1981) reports. On October 17, 1981, Ona Vitkauskaitė finished serving her term in the Panevėžys women's camp. She was arrested almost two years ago for disseminating the Lithuanian Chronicle. While in camp, Vitkauskaitė was subjected to the customary abuse and provocations. On July 1, 1981, for instance, she had to participate in an "educational" session, where the camp administration tried to compel her to confess that she was "wrong" and to promise that she would try to "improve". One of the participating officials even accused her of belonging to a certain sect that inculcated "loose morals" in children. Vitkauskaitė refused to oblige them with any regrets and stated bluntly: "If I wanted to change my ways and abandon what you call an "error". I would have to renounce my faith, and that I shall never do". She was then told by an official that in her "character profile" she will be described as "not on the road to improvement". Vitkauskaitė was also told that if her attitudes persisted, she would have to return to the camp in the near future.

During her one-and-a-half year stay in the camp, Vitkauskaitė was constantly branded as a "fanatic, retrograde, and a criminal who slanders the Soviet system". On her return to Kaunas, Vitkauskaitė was met by a "sizeable group of religious believers and young people". They all attended a Holy Mass, during which "They thanked the Lord for Vitkauskaitė's sacrifice and prayer that he may grant endurance and His grace to those imprisoned for their faith".



Petras Plumpa

STALIN'S TREATMENT OF LITHUANIAN COMMUNISTS

In a continuation of an article begun in the first part of Vytis No. 6, the author (pseudonim L.M.) asserts that Stalin did nothing to save four Lithuanian communists (Požėla, Greifenbergis, Čiarnas, Giedrys) who were sentenced by a Lithuanian military court and executed for their unsuccessful attempt to seize power in December, 1926. According to the article, Stalin distrusted some Lithuanian communist leaders, especially Požėla, for their deviations from Moscow's line. Lithuania has no common borders with the USSR, Stalin was "afraid" that a successful coup might have created a "Lithuanian socialism" different from the Russian model.

"Stalin destroyed almost all the Lithuanian communists who lived in the USSR", L.M. writes. According to the census of 1926, 41,400 Lithuanians were living in the USSI at that time, including 2,700 Communists. Only those survived who collaborated with the GPU (Soviet Secret police) and who had severed all contacts with their relatives in Lithuania, stayed away from the Lithuanian Clubs in Moscow and Leningrad, created mixed families and forgot their native tongue".

(Vytis, The Mounted Knight)

"Why do we let the Baltic Nations Suffer in Silence?"

"... Our public attention and concern has long been concentrated on the need for national self-determination for the peoples of the Third World, the oppressive policies of the current regimes in Chile and El Salvador, the security of Israel and Iranian affairs. This just concern for human rights is laudable.

"However, why must it be applied selectively? The peoples of Eastern Europe have suffered 40 years of Russian occupation and Communist oppression and our government and media are afraid to draw a parallel between the invasion of Afghanistan and the military takeover of the Baltic States. Are these nations not worthy of our just concern for their basic national and human freedoms? Why do we let them suffer in silence?"

(Cesar Surdokas, The Baltimore Sun)

Anastazas Janulis (sentenced to 3.5 years in strict regime camps)

"... Someone who lives with God, realizes that everything in this world is relative: happiness and unhappiness, joy and suffering, even freedom and bondage, health and illness... Youth, I wish you Faith, Hope and Charity..."

(From an undated letter to a high

school student).



Ona Vitkauskait

Lithuanian Life - Styles

THE FOLK COSTUME OF ZANAVYKIJA

The province of Zanavykija (Sāduvija) consisted of wide, fertile plains of arable land. The farms of the peasants were large and abounded with groves and orchards. The people of Zanavykija, proud of their large animal herds, their rectangularly-arranged farm buildings, gardens, and fenced-off homesteads, enjoyed a good life. On holidays, their finely woven attire, fine horse and carriages attested to their prosperous heritage.

The clothes of Zanavykija were of dark colours, large prominent patterns and wide cut. The farmers' wives and daughters wore wide "hundred-pleated" skirts with multi-coloured, tulip-patterned aprons, the designs of which looked as if painted. Handsomely varied in pattern, the clothes also differed in complexity, composition, colour, and texture.

The holiday costume of Zanavykija had a rich, festive look created by the diligent work of the village women and girls. Wide shirt sleeves were embroidered or woven with pick-up-patterns. The skirt was long and wide, sometimes consisting of as many as nine panels.

Partially concealing it, the two-panel apron was wide and usually woven with large and small tulips, or patterns of stars and large tulips in overlay. The bodice, of a short cut, was either checked or richly patterned. Finally, a well coordinated headdress crowned the head.

* * *

FUTURE EVENT

DO YOU WANT TO SEE 10,000 LITHUANIANS IN ONE PLACE?

The 68th annual Lithuanian Day will be held at Lakewood Park, Barnesville, PA, Sunday August 15. Vitalis Žukauskas, of New York, will entertain along with the Harmonija Quartet of New York. Also participating will be Liepsna, Lithuanian Dancers of Elizabeth, N.J., the Junior Knights of Frackville, and New Philadelphia and the Žarija Choir. For further information contact: Mrs. Anne Carlitus, P.O. Box 192, Ringtown, PA. 17967.



Woman's folk costume, Lukšiai, near Sakiai; Man's holiday dress. Griškabūdis; Woman's national costume, Barzdai; Rear view of woman's winter garb. Sintautai, near Šakiai. Girl's Sunday dress. Lekėčiai near Šakiai.



St. George's Church Shenandoah, PA

"DAUGHTER OF THE STARS ..."

... is the meaning of Shenandoah in American-Indian. And it was truly towards the stars that the poor Lithuanian immigrants were gazing when they came here in the 19th and 20th centuries, hoping for a better life for themselves and their children. But tremendous struggles had to be overcome. They especially had a difficult time in trying to establish a Lithuanian parish. Shenandoah St. George's Lithuanian Parish by Dr. Antanas Kučas, printed on the occasion of the diamond anniversary (1891-1966) of the parish, describes these undertakings most vividly. The English translation for this history of the parish was done by the current pastor Msgn. Joseph A. Neverauskas.

In the book, His Excellency, Bishop Joseph McShea writes to Msgn. Joseph A. Karalius: "From 1869, when the Lithuanians first came to Shenandoah. . . . they have always had a zeal and reverence for their holy faith The hardships they endured not only because of separation from their homeland but also because of the difficulties they encountered even in establishing their own parish in Shenandoah, have made them very staunch, self-sacrificing Catholics."

Msgn. Joseph Neverauskas, who tookover from Msgn. Karalius in 1970, continues to uphold the proud traditions of the parish. To him and to his parishioners we extend a harty Ilgiausių Metų!. St. George's Parish, 129 S. Jardin St. Shenandoah, PA 17976. 717 462-0231.

Lithuanians in the News



President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan with Lithuania's Charges de Affaires Stasys and Mrs. Ona Bačkys at a supper party given by the White House to the diplomatic corps

CONGRATULATIONS

to the 68th Annual Lithuanian Day held at Lakewood Park, Barnesville, Pennsylvania, on Sunday August 15th. The pre-Lithuanian Day Banquet will be held at Annunciation Hall, Frackville, Pa. on August 14. Proceeds from this affair will be for the establishment of the Lithuanian Cultural Center and Museum. The museum will be dedicated in September, 1982.

Chairman for this year's affair will be Edmund Carlitus, Co-Chairman — William Cebulskie, Secretary — Anne Carlitus, Treasurer — Helen Chesko, Spiritual advisor — Rev. Algimantas Bartkus, and Chairman for the Banquet — Joseph Yezulinas. Honored at the banquet will be Anna Klizas Wargo, National Cultural Chairman of the Knights of Lithuania and one of the founders of the Anthracite Council of the Knights of Lithuania. Also honored will be Stanley J. Vaičaitis, founder and director of the Schuylkill County Lithuanian Chorus Žarija. Featured in the program on Sunday at Lakewood Park will be Vitalis Žukauskas, the Liepsna Lithuanian Dancers of Elizabeth, New Jersey, the Junior Knights of Frackville and New Philadelphia and the Žarija Choir.

For further information contact Edmund Carlitus, Chairman, (717) 889-3839.

SWISS COMMENT ON SUSLOV'S ROLE IN LITHUANIA

A letter on Mikhail Suslov's genocidal role in Lithuania was published in the Swiss daily Der Bund (Feb. 4, 1982). When the Red Army reentered Lithuania's territory in 1944, Suslov came along with it. He was entrusted with a special task - to reimpose the Communist regime - and was given the reins of government in Lithuania, including the stalinist state security police of sad memory. The reimposition of the Soviet regime in Lithuania was accompanied by unprecedented terror. Arrests were followed by mass deportations of the Lithuanian people to Siberia. Even the Lithuanian communists were opposing Suslov's excessively cruel methods and repeatedly asked Moscow to recall him. This request was eventually granted in 1946, but it did not have any negative impact on Suslov's career. He rose to become the chief ideologist of the Soviet regime - the Swiss commentator concludes.



His Excellency Bishop Vincentas Brizgys addressing the audience at the 30th Anniversary commemoration of the Lithuanian Community in Detroit, on April 16, 1982.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I enjoy in getting the *Bridges* newspaper. I hope the *Bridges* continues in its endeavor to bring the people of Lithuania's struggle for independence, to the forefront.

It appears to me that your paper is geared to the Lithuanian community that surrounds themselves around the Catholic Church. This is good, but I'm wondering how many American-Lithuanian Community that you are not getting your message across that are not Catholic, such as myself. So I hope that you have not overlooked this segment of people. The Protestant Lithuanians also could and should be a voice in seeking freedom from the oppression of the Russians. Liberty and the right to independence should be everybodis business that think in this direction.

May you continue in your work with God's help and blessing.

Just a Lithuanian at heart

Eugene Tutlis

Danville, Illinois

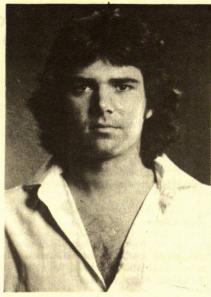
We all agree with you. If we should receive information about other denominations and their activities we will be happy to share it with the readers of Bridges. The newsletter is open to all Lithuanians. — Editor

... I would like to make a couple of suggestions for future issues of Bridges. I am sure many of your readers would find a calendar of coming events in the various Lithuanian communities a valuable addition. I am speaking about those significant events which would be likely to attract a wide audience, e.g. folk dance festivals, song festivals, scholarly conclaves, art shows, etc. I would also be interested in reading a column in Lithuanian geneology which would be of value to those of us doing our family trees. A column of this type might allow us to pool information with others with the same family name or geographical background.

> Kendall F. Svengalis (Zvingelas) Foster, Rhode Island

Thank you for your suggestions. We will try to include as many of the items that our readers want in future issues of Bridges

- Editor



Aleksandras Stankevičius-Stankay

SOMETHING FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

Aleksandras Stankevičius - Stankay has recorded his second 45rpm recording. It contains two songs of his own composition. Stankevičius is the organist at Aušros Vartų (Our Lady Gate of of Dawn) Lithuanian parish in Montreal, Canada and is the director of the parish choir. This choir won the first prize (1,000 dol.) in a contest sponsored by the CBC Radion Station. He is a musician of the "now-generation". and his music (so my younger friends tell me) is similar to the group Genesis. The songs on his second recording are: "Keep it up" and "Dandy Dancer".

tion rates this low at the same time.

FACTS ABOUT LITHUANIA

AREA: 25,210 square miles (65,300 square kilometers).

CLIMATE: The annual mean temperature is 43 degrees F (6 degrees C), or about that of Southern Sweden or Nova Scotia.

POPULATION: 3,215,000 in 1939; 2,711,000 in 1959, and 3,096,000 in 1969. NATIONAL FLAG: Horizontal stripes of yellow on top, green in the middle and red on the bottom.

STATE EMPLEM: Vytis — a mounted white knight on a field of red.

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS: February 16th—Lithuanian Independence Day; September 8th—Lithuanian Kingdom Day.

AČIŪ LABA!!

The following have contributed towards the publication of *Bridges*:

\$50.00 — Rev. S. Morkūnas, Sioux City, Iowa.

\$15.00 — W. Noreika, Brooklyn, N.Y., J. S. Makauskas, Baltimore, MD \$10.00 — B. Kazakaitis, Watertown

\$10.00 — R. Kazakaitis, Watertown, CT.

\$5.00 — Col. A. Pajunas, Villas, N.J., IL., Ed. J. Staskus, Brooklyn, N.Y., Fr. T. Barkauskas, Doylestown, Pa., W. Adamaitis, Rancho Cor., CA., J. Stundzia Methuen, MA., S. Sukis, Waterbury, CT. Fr. A. Valiuska, Phoenix, AZ, W.A. Yaches, Baton Rouge, LA., A. Wayner, Arlington, VA., F. Zebal, Huntsville, AL., W. Memeniskis, Drexel Hill, PA., V. Adomaitis, Jamestown, ND.

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THE NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN - LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY AND THE DELEGATES TO THE SIXTH LITHUANIAN WORLD - COMMUNITY CONGRESS

Following are the results of the elections held on May 7-16, 1982 for the tenth National Council of the American-Lithuanian Community an the sixth Lithuanian World Community Congress. The total votes collected through direct balloting was 8,000 and the results are published here according to regions as published in the April issue of *Bridges*:

Boston Region

(621 votes)

National Council Vytautas Izbickas, Eduardas Meilus, Jr., Almis J. Kuolas, Česlovas Mickūnas Aldona Kairienė.

World Congress

Vytautas Izbickas, Eduardas Meilus, Jr., Almis J. Kuolas.

Candidates Česlovas Mickūnas, Stasys Rudys.

Connecticut Region
(735 votes for National Council and
732 votes for World Community
Congress)

National Council
Petras Vileišis, Juratė Vaitkutė, Ignas
Budrys, Vaiva Vėbraitė-Gustienė, Alfonsas Dzikas, Steponas 'Zabulis.

Candidates Linas Balsys, Albina Lipčienė

World Congress Viktoras Vaitkus, Petras Vileišis, Vytautas 'Balčiūnas, Ignas Budrys

Candidates Vaiva Vebraitė-Gustienė, Albina Lipčienė.

Florida Region (515 votes)

National Council
Angelė Karnienė, Henrikas Lukaševičius, Mačys Šilkaitis.

World Congress
Henrikas Lukaševičius, Kazys Gimžauskas, Simas Velbasis, Antanas Gudonis

Candidates Sigmas Strazdas

Michigan Region (455 votes)

National Council
Algis Rugienius, Saulius Anužis, Vytautas Kutkus, Jonas Urbonas

World Congress Algis Rugienius, Jonas Urbonas, Vytautas Kutkus.

Candidates
Vytautas Petrulis, Adolfas Damušis

New Jersey Region (583 votes)

National Council
Danguolė Didžbalienė, Rimantas Bitėnas, Valentinas Melinis, Rasa Ardytė-Juškienė, Algis Alinskas.

Candidates Julius Veblaitis

World Congress Valentinas Melinis, Rimantas Bitėnas, Algirdas Brazinskas

Valentinas Šernas, Julius Veblaitis

New York Region (770 votes)

National Council
Romas Kezys, Kazimieras Pugevičius,
Kornelijus Bučmys, Vytautas Alksninis,
Aleksandras Vakselis

Candidates Regina Ridikienė, Jonas Adomėnas

World Congress Kornelijus Bučmys, Kazimieras Pugevičius, Algirdas Šilbajoris, Aleksandras Vakselis, Jonas Adomėnas

Candidates Aloyzas Balsys, Kęstutis Miklas

Ohio Region

(561 votes)

National Congress Romualdas Bublys, Zita Kripavičiūtė, Raimundas Kudukis, Vincas Akolaitis

Candidates Juozas Ardys, Bronius Krokys

World Congress
Romualdas Bublys, Zita Kripavičiūtė,
Edmundas Lenkauskas

Candidates Raimundas Kudukis, Vincas Akelaitis

Southeastern Region (623 votes)

National Council
Gabrielius Mironas, Juozas Gaila, Rimantas Stirbys, Algimantas Gečys, No candidate for the 5th member

World Congress Linas Kojelis, Teresė Gečienė, Gabrielius Mironas, Juozas Gaila

Candidates Jonas Stelmokas, Feliksas Andriūnas

Western Region (406 votes)

National Council
Ričardas Kontrimas, Juozas Kojelis,
Vytautas Černius

Candidates Romas Nelsas

World Congress

World Congress
Rimantas Dabšys, Vytautas Vidugiris,
Algis Raulinaitis.

Candidates Raimonda Kontrimienė

Middle West Region
Ist section
(1950 votes in the National Council
1953 — World Congress)

National Congress
Petras Kisielius, Antanas Razma, Rasa Šoliūnaitė, Emilija Sakadolskienė, Mykolas Drunga, Jurgis Šarauskas, Ferdinandas Kaunas, Birutė Jasaitienė, Jonas Borevičius, Birutė Vindašienė, Danguolė Valentinaitė, Kęstutis Sušinskas, Loreta Stončiūtė, Marija Remienė, Viktoras Garbonkus

Candidates Modestas Jakaitis, Aleksandra Likanderienė, Anatolijus Kairys, Bronius Juodelis

World Congress
Petras Kisielius, Antanas Razma, Ferdinandas Kaunas, Jurgis Šarauskas, Mykolas Drunga, Kazys Laukaitis, Jurgis Janušaitis, Tomas Remeikis, Jonas Borevičius, Birutė Jasaitienė, Jonas Račkauskas

Candidates

Birutė Vindašienė, Danguolė Valentinaitė, Marija Remienė, Modestas Jakaitis

II section

(423 votes - National Council, 403 votes - World Congress)

National Council

Birutė Vilutienė, Vytautas Janušonis, Kazys Ambrozaitis

Candidates

Ramutis Pliura, Kazvs Domarkas

World Congress Birutė Vilutienė, Kazys Ambrozaitis

Candidatai

Kamutis Pliura, Kazys Domarkas

III section

(National Council - 183 votes, World Congress — 176 votes)

National Council Albinas Reškevičius

Candidates

Algimantas Antanėlis

World Congress

Petras Balčiūnas

Candidates

Jurgis Sklerys

JUNE 14 PROCLAIMED BALTIC FREEDOM DAY IN THE U.S.

On January 27, 1982, US Congressman from Illinois, the honorable Henry J. Hyde, sponsored and introduced into the House of Representatives a resolution (H.J. Res. 386) designating June 14 as Baltic Freedom Day. The resolution was read three times in the U.S. Congress and was passed on June 14. A similar resolution (S.J. Res. 201) was introduced in the U.S. Senate on February 25th and March 22nd by the senator from Michigan, the honorable Donald W. Riegle, and was voted upon and passed on June 9th. It became Public Law PL 97-196. On June 18, the President of the United States signed the proclamation which we reprint in full.

The Senators and Congressmen who voted for the resolution. Following their names is their telephone and room numbers.

CONGRESSMEN

Addabbo, Joseph P. (N.Y.)53461 2256 Albosta, Donald Joseph (Mich.) 53561 1318 Anderson, Glenn M. (Calif.) ... 56676 2329 Andrews, Ike (N.C.)51784

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Our readers are urged to write to their respective congressmen and senators and express their thanks.

NEWS FROM THE YEAR OF THE LITHUANIAN PARISH COMMITTEE

In our first writing to American Lithuanians, we stated that "during this year this committee will direct the thoughts of all Lithuanians toward the concerns of Lithuanian Parishes. Also, we will try to draw as many Lithuanian individuals, institutions, and organizations into concrete work in their parishes."

"In these efforts, we ask for and await help, especially from priests in parish work and those in special ministry. Similarly, we await help from Parish Councils, Religious Communities, organizations, and indeed, all Lithuanians and Lithuanian Americans."

Since our first circular, we have met and prepared pertinent materials which could help our parishes begin their own projects, based on their own individual circumstances.

This is the beginning. Now we need all of your help — that of parish priests and those in special ministry, Parish Councils and Year of Lithuanian Parish Committees. We want to hea your suggestions, wishes, advice, and opinions. We sincerely believe that with discussions between ourselves — parish leaders and our committee — we will be able to find the most useful ways and means to achieve the greatest results in this program.

As we reported earlier, this fall we are planning a national conference to discuss this program and the concerns of our parishes. Our national conference will be most fruitful if as many interested people in the parishes as possible take part in these discussions. Hopefully all Lithuanian Parishes in America will be represented. For this to be planned, we need your help and support.

We ask all Lithuanian Parish Councils or committee chairmen and members, Catholic community group leaders, religious organization chairmen and indeed, all our brothers and sisters who are concerned about the needs of Lithuanian Parishes, to join with us as we reach out to serve our Parishes: Our Second Home. We will try to give this program every kind of help and support.

We gratefully await a letter from you during the coming month. Our address is:

Year of the Lithuanian Parish Committee 23420 Harms Road Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143. 1982,N.6.



Baltic Freedom Day

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The independence of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia was extinguished in 1939 as a result of a nefarious deal struck between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany. Hitler handed Stalin the three Baltic republics as a bonus to secure his cooperation in the destruction of Poland and to obtain a secure eastern frontier which enabled him to launch war against the western democracies. Subsequently, hundreds of thousands of Baltic nationals were deported to the Soviet Union where many of them perished in prisons and forced labor camps. The darkest day of that great human tragedy occurred on June 14, 1941, when their homes and jobs were taken by Russian settlers.

Today, some of the survivors of these mass deportations are citizens of the United States. Their aspirations for a better future for the peoples of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have helped to bring new meaning to our nation's commitment to freedom for all people. The United States has never, over the intervening forty-one years, recognized the forcible incorporation of the Baltic states into the Soviet Union.

As a nation, we remain dedicated to the furtherance and preservation of the fundamental human rights and freedoms of all people and take note on this special day of our hope that the blessings of liberty will one day be part of the national life of the courageous people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

The Congress of the United States by Senate Joint Resolution 201 has authorized and requested the President to proclaim June 14 as Baltic Freedom Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I. RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate June 14, 1982, as Baltic Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to reaffirm their belief and hope that the citizens of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia and of all nations will one day achieve through peaceful means the goals of democratic freedom and self-determination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF. I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixth.

Ronald Reagan

GERA ŠEIMININKĖ COOKING LITHUANIAN STYLE

LEMON SOUP CITRININE SRIUBA

Ingredients

3/4 cup rice or pearl barley
1 tbsp. butter
2 qts soup stock (chicken or beef)
2 egg yolks
2 cups light cream
juice of u lemon

In tightly covered pan cook washed rice or barley with butter and about 2 cups of the soup stock. Beat egg yolks till light, adding cream. Pour cooled soup stock slowly into egg. Add lemon juice. Heat, do not boil, add cooked rice or barley. Serve how with very thin lemon slices floated on surface.

MILK SOUPS PIENINĖS SRIUBOS

Ingredients:

Use any ONE of the following: Barley (grucė, miežinės kruopos) Rice (ryžiai) Wheat grits (kvietinės kruopos) Home-made noodles (kleckiukai, tarkainiukai, švilpikai) Potato balls (bulviniai kleckiukai)

For any of the first three cereals: use about 3/4 to 1 cup washed cereal, boil in 2 cups or more salted water till done, then add 2 qts. scalded milk, salt to taste, and a spoonful of butter.

Home made noodles, use standard noodle dough, cook in same proportions and method as above. Different type noodles are fashioned thus:

kleckiukai — soft egg-noodle dough, dropped by spoonfuls into boiling water.

tarkainiukai — force dry noodledough through a potato grater;

švilpikai — take small bits of noodle dough, flatten and shape into small rolls by rolling the dough gently over the surface of a vegetable grater.

Potato balls (bulviniai kleckiukai) — grate peeled raw potato, drain off liquid. Add enough flour to potato pulp to hold form. Salt to taste. Form into small balls. Drop in boiling water. Boil 5 minutes. Add scalded milk, salt, butter.

Professor Marija Stankus-Saulaitė and Gintaras Aukštuolis will teach the following courses in Lithuanian this fall at the University of Illinois. Lith 101, Lith 104 — language courses, 221 — Prose, 332 — grammar. Students may also register for independent work 299 and 399.

A summer camp for American Lithuanians, who do not speak Lithuanian will take place in Manchester, Michigan. It is geared for those who wish to explore their heritage. The camp will take place August 8-15, at the Lithuanian campsite Dainava. The cost is 75 dollars per person. For two or more from the same family —65 dollars. For further information: Mrs. Jadvyga Damušis, 25830 Forestview Drive, Southfield, MI 48034. Phone 313 354-0746

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

... according to the latest U.S. Census bureau records, there are 832,000 Lithuanians or people of Lithuanian descent in the U.S.

published by the Lithuanian - American Community of the U.S.A., Inc. Through this newsletter, the publishers hope to re-establish ties between the detached, mobile Lithuanian-Americans and their Lithuanian heritage by presenting items on Lithuanian culture, conditions in the homeland, events and personalities in America, and the aspirations of all who subscribe to the idea that Lithuania desires to be an independent and free nation again.

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