



Servant of God, Archbishop George Matulevicius, MIC

The Bishop Fought the Communists

(cont. from p. 5, col 7) principles of communism for they were destroying goods that belonged to the state.

After the incident mentioned at the beginning of our narrative the communists no longer attempted to billet soldiers in the bishop's house, but they sought to harm him in different manner. In hopes of getting at the bishop, they frequently searched his residence. Bishop Bucys, MIC, long time friend of Bishop Matulevicius mentions one such incident:

Once a searching party came to the bishop's residence looking for weapons... The bishop told them that there were no weapons in his house. But the searchers were not satisfied with this; they inspected everything and every place. This time the bolsheviks were successful: they found a toy cap gun. They took it to the bishop and said:

"You said that there were no weapons. and here is a cannon."

"You couldn't even kill a sparrow with that cannon," the bishop laughingly replied.

"But still it is a cannon," insisted the bolshevik as he threw down the pistol and left.

The bishop's residence was searched many more times by the communists, who were looking for a pretext to seize and try him as an enemy of the state. They even dared search his house when he lay sick in bed. Then, too, they found nothing, but stole the ring which had been given to the

bishop by the Lithuanian government on the occasion of his ingress.

Bishop Matulevicius did not fear the communists and resisted them strongly. When they began a program of anti-religious propaganda and forbade the teaching of religion in schools, Bishop George defended the Catholic position. In the cathedral he delivered a fiery and convincing sermon about illegal government interference in religious matters. The sermon was so effective that the bolsheviks were forced to desist at least in part. At the same time, despite the threats of the communists, he proclaimed to all the faithful of Vilna a pastoral letter about Catholic education.

The bishop's courage and prudence commanded the respect even of the communists, who feared to do him harm lest they arouse the faithful who loved their shepherd dearly.

When the bolsheviks fled the city in 1919, the bishop stood at his window watching. He was an easy target for the bullet of an angry soldier. But no one shot at him. To the contrary many of the soldiers doffed their caps to him in farewell, so great was their respect for this fearless fighter, who had told their officers that he, too, was a communist.

He had forsaken worldly treasures and honors for service in the army of One whose greatest weapons were prayer and a life of poverty, chastity and obedience.

VILLAGES LOSE NAMES

"The picture of the Lithuanian village is changing. The individual homesteads are disappearing, the boundaries of villages are changing. Simultaneously, the old names of the villages are disappearing. The collective farms have acquired entirely new names. The young generation sometimes does not recall the old names of former villages in their region. Many of them say: 'I live in Janonis (name of a revolutionary Lithuanian poet. Ed.), in the third brigade. I'm traveling to Chapayev (name of a Bolshevik military leader during Russia's Civil War. Ed.), the first brigade. I've been to the second brigade of the 'Paris Commune.'

"... The second aspect is much more important. It concerns the geography of our villages, the history, language, and cultural traditions of our countryside. The names of these villages are disappearing

today. Only the people of the older generation know the village of Rygiskiai (native village of the famous Lithuanian linguist, Jonas Jablonskis, Ed.). Now we have here the second brigade of the Griskabudis kolkhoz."

The author of the article is highly critical of the situation and suggests that the new labor brigades be named after the old villages and not merely numbered. He is also critical of the names of new kolkhozes. Names of villages, he says, must be protected as carefully as historical monuments, and goes on to call for assistance of teachers of Lithuanian language and history.

(Valstieciu Laikraštis, Vilnius, August 1, 1968)

(Comment: The Communist Party does not share the concern expressed in the article. Also, the proposals advanced by the author are not easily compatible with the Party's policies which aim at erasing from the minds of the young

generation all that is connected with Lithuania's past. The history of Lithuania is hardly taught at all in schools (a few lessons as an appendix to the history of the Soviet Union). And the geography of Lithuania receives only a cursory glance in the course dealing with Russia's geography. The gradual elimination of the name of Lithuanian towns and villages therefore fits into Moscow's general de-Lithuanization effort. Ed.)

Baltic Youth for Namibia

On Saturday, June 22, Baltic Youth for Freedom, a group consisting of members of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian youth and student organizations, staged a demonstration in the United Nations Plaza to protest the existing South African policy in Namibia.

The Baltic group carried signs and two big balloons demanding that all United Nations members actively support the present resolution reaffirming the rights of Namibia. The signs also demanded that the United Nations take all other necessary actions against South African colonialism and some spoke out against the existence of colonialism as a universal malady.

The group identified with the Namibian problem through their continued efforts to cause United Nations intervention in all cases of existing colonialism including Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Fr. Richard Saudis of Chicago, Ill., at his own request, has been appointed to pastoral work in Wrangel, Juneau, Alaska.

EDITORIAL

INSURANCE with A HEART

Life insurance is still more. It is Peace of Mind.

We worry about wars and rumors of wars. We worry about inflation. We worry about our nation's debts and our shrinking gold reserve. For 60 years that I know of, we have had these worries. Yes, and those who worried all this time have nothing but grey hairs and ulcers as their reward. This nation will always have grave problems. That is the price we must pay for progress... for freedom... for independence. There is little that life insurance can do.

Men love their families. They have hopes and dreams that are dear. But in the depths of night, they have doubts and dreadful fears. Life insurance makes sure that those hopes and dreams can become realities. It, and nothing else, can guarantee that come epidemics and depressions or wars, the values stated in its contracts will never weaken. And that not even Death can destroy, or alter one iota, the plans made for our loved ones. When hazards threaten the welfare today of those dear to us, or our comfort in future years, Life insurance can remove them. Then comes true Peace of Mind.

How wonderful, the power and the beauty of life.

Lastly, life insurance is Sacred Money.

For it is bought through denial of selfish pleasures and luxuries. It is inspired by love, and is, therefore, a child of love. The taking of a wife and the rearing of children is the outgrowth of love. And the desire to help one's children towards worthwhile attainments is based on love.

Money that is saved for those purposes is really stored



V. T. KVETKAS

THE SUPREME Secretary Reports

The specific need, at the specific time, the time the Alliance was founded in 1886 was: To aid its members in case of disability caused by sickness or accident, and to make payment of death Benefits at the time of death to the deceased member's family. At the time of founding, the need to assist one another was a grave necessity, because of problems created by existing conditions, in a new world. The Lithuanian Catholic Alliance excellently fulfilled ITS original purpose.

It is admitted the Alliance in its early days was slow in making progressive changes. Changes commenced in 1934 and in the 1940's big changes took place. Modern plans of Life Insurance were adopted and promotional activities were pushed.

We must continue to create. We must build and we shall continue to prod you to do work for our society. You may look upon these intentions lightly, but they are of significant importance. There must be unity within the ranks of the Lithuanian people in order to be recognized.

The importance of staying together has been demonstrated by other ethnic groups. The proof of it is recent. One of Polish origin was chosen by a major political party to be its

candidate for Vice-President of the U.S.A., because of the large number of voters of Polish ancestry and their well organized large societies. The other party chose one of Greek ancestry, also for Vice-President, and the Greeks are a smaller ethnic group than we of Lithuanian ancestry, but the Greeks have influential businessmen.

In the Lithuanian group, the Catholics are the overwhelming power. By building a strong Lithuanian Catholic Alliance, our people will gain greater prestige and thereby more recognition.

Keep working for the Catholic Alliance during this Drive for new members.

The Drive Goes On

It is believed the important news release, dated September 27, 1968 announcing payment of a Large Bonus for each 10,000 dol. of New Business has encouraged you and other members to commence working to earn the Bonus plus the regular commission. The offer particularly should encourage any retired member of your lodge to earn extra income.

It is said that it is difficult to find prospects. WHY? Our churches are filled with people every Sunday: they are your prospects. It has also been said, many are from mixed marriages and don't speak the Lithuanian language. This is a fact. But that does not mean that they can't become members of the Catholic Alliance.

I have had conversations with agents from two fraternal societies of different national origin groups. They both informed me that they have no trouble getting Lithuanians to join their organizations. You might be surprised to learn that Insurance Laws of the States in which the Alliance does business prohibits discrimination in the (selection) choice and acceptance of applicants for Membership. The intent is plain and simple. Any person of the Catholic faith can become a member of the Alliance. Therefore, your field for work has been expanded. This is the reason other societies are canvassing Lithuanian families for members.

Retired or pensioned members, both men and women, this is your chance to earn extra money.

FILMS IN LITHUANIAN

Ever since the beginning of the Russian Revolution, the Communists have paid extraordinary attention to moving pictures as a means of indoctrination. The same policy was applied to Lithuania after its occupation by the Soviets.

A statistical look at the present state of cinema in Lithuania was made by *Literatūra ir Menas* (Vilnius, no. 24, 1968). According to the weekly, Lithuanian film theaters gave a total of 100,000 showings last year. Soviet and foreign films were seen by 5 million spectators (for a population of slightly more than 3 million. Ed.).

The staple diet of Lithuanian film theaters is provided by Russian films with Lithuanian subtitles. So 20 films a year are dubbed into Lithuanian. Russian movies play to half-empty houses, Western films — even of dubious quality — attract sell-out crowds. The

Journal People Events Places

Jennifer and Stephen Petrosius were found living in a cave near Killarney Heights, Australia. They had retired to the cave near Sidney seventeen years ago and rarely left their cave. Mr. and Mrs. Petrosius lived on the little animals they trapped and on the vegetation of the area. They were "Discovered" by the Salvation Army who brought them baskets and baskets of food. They were told they could get a pension if they filled out certain forms. The Petrosius disappeared when a news story appeared in the local papers and crowds began to visit their cave.

Frank Savickas, Democrat, was reelected to the Illinois State Assembly for the 27th district during the November elections. His majority this

time was greater than that of his last win.

Doretta Gelezinis of S. Boston, Mass., was raised to the rank of captain in the Women's Army Corps and is now stationed at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

Dr. Violeta Juodakis, East St. Louis, Ill., has signed up to work in Houei Sai, Laos, as a part of the "Thomas A. Doolley" team working throughout Asia. Dr. Juodakis is a graduate of the Lithuanian Catholic grammar school, St. Theresa, Academy of E. St. Louis and of Illinois University Medical School. Her mother is a graduate of the School of Medicine in Lithuania. At the present time, her brother, Aloyzas, is a student at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, where he will soon become a doctor of physics.

Dr. Jack Stukas, author of "Awakening Lithuania," has issued a second edition of his book. Dr. Jack is National president of the Knights of Lithuania and Director of the International Institute at Seton Hall University, E. Orange, N. Jersey.

LITHUANIANS IN OLYMPICS REPRESENTED THEIR OPRESSORS

Eleven Lithuanians took part in the Olympic Games in Mexico City. They won eight medals: one gold, two silver and five bronze — a very good ratio for a small team. But there is a tragic difference between the Lithuanians in Mexico City and the representatives of, say, Switzerland and Belgium. While other small countries — including former possessions of the Western colonial powers — proudly displayed their colors and medals, the name of Lithuania was not mentioned. In an act of supreme irony and humiliation, the Lithuanians in Mexico City had to represent the country which oppresses them — the Soviet Union.

Six Lithuanian oarsmen participated in the rowing competition. Apolinaras Grigas was one of the two men in double sculls. The 23 year old student of journalism has considerable international experience behind him and was European champion in 1967.

Lithuanians provided five oarsmen for the eights. They all won bronze medals when their eight arrived third. The senior member among them is Zigmantas Jukna, three time winner of European championship. Others are: Vytautas Briedis, Juozas Jogelavicius, and Antanas Bagdanavicius. Both the double sculls and the eights were trained by Ricardas Vaitkevicius, participant at the Tokyo olympics. Significantly, the Soviet four were staffed by Latvians.

Danielius Pozniakas took the gold medal in the light heavyweight class. In boxing, heavyweight Jonas Cepulis won a silver medal after being defeated in a gruelling fight by George Forman of the U.S.

Stasys Saparnis was a tough competitor in the pentathlon. A medal-winner in the world pentathlon championship in 1967, he was one of the leading competitors in Mexico City and received a silver medal as a member of the Soviet pentathlon team which won the second place.

Modestas Paulauskas of international fame was one of the outstanding players of the

U. S. made "Tarzan," shown several years ago, still holds the box-office record — a fact admitted victory of Hollywood over the Kremlin.

(Elta News)

Soviet basketball team. According to his coach: "Modestas is 23 years old. He has been playing basketball since he was 15. He is a universal basketballer: he can play defense, attack and even center. He is distinguished for his powerful, technically smooth breakthroughs, impossible to stop by the defenders. Modestas is one of the most strong-willed basketballers in the world. In the most difficult situations, he is able to take the initiative and thus to inspire his teammates." Paulauskas has been entered into the symbolic world All-Stars team.

The good showing of the Cuban basketball team was partly due to the coaching of Stepas Butautas, an olympic veteran and member of the Soviet basketball team (TOGETHER with J. Lagunevicius, K. Petkevicius, and S. Stankus) that won the silver medal in the Helsinki Olympic Games in 1952. Butautas managed to wield a reasonably strong team from rather inexperienced players. Not surprisingly, the Cubans used the Lithuanian basketball style — fast break and quick passing.

The success of Butautas has made him a much sought after coach. Peru, for instance, has been trying to sign him to coach their basketball All Stars. So far Butautas' resolve is to go back to Lithuania and to transmit his rich basketball experience to young Lithuanians.

In addition to the Lithuanians, the Soviet Olympic team featured a dozen each of Latvians (Janis Lusins, javelin) and Estonians (Rein Aun, decathlon, Tonu Lepic, broad jump).

The American sportscasters (especially the Associated Press and ABC TV) hardly covered themselves with glory in their coverage of the Soviet team. The Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian athletes were constantly referred to as "Russians". It would seem that in this day and age even sports reporters should have elementary knowledge of history and geography.

The Lithuanian, Latvian and Estonian athletes were rewarded by the Soviets with quick return trips to Russia. They were not allowed to wait for the end of the Olympic Games, but were shipped back as soon as their events were completed.

