

Fraternal
Benefit
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Society

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SAS

Official publication
of the
Lithuanian Catholic
Alliance

No. 2

February 1993

Vol. 76



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Lithuanians to Elect President

Lozoraitis Opposes Brazauskas



ALGIRDAS BRAZAUSKAS

The clock is ticking down as the big day is closing in for Lithuanians who will cast their vote for the republics first president under the new constitution and free nation.

As high as seven contenders were in the running of the presidential race just a short time ago and now the number has come down to just two, Algirdas Brazauskas and Stasys Lozoraitis.

The popular Brazauskas is acting president of the newly elected Siemas (parliament) and was highly favored in the early

polls. At the time the polls were taken, Lozoraitis was not an announced candidate.

Dr. Kazys Bobelis hung in until the very end but was unable to get the necessary 20,000 signatures by the set deadline.

Former Chairman of the Supreme Council, Vytautas Landsbergis chose not to oppose Lozoraitis narrowing the field down to the two men.

Brazauskas appointed Bronislavas Lubys as the new Prime Minister. Lubys noted the new government would be no less demanding on the Russian troop withdrawal a position supported by Brazauskas.

The Prime Minister and his cabinet are pictured in the Lithuanian section on pages 8-9.

Lozoraitis was born in Berlin, Germany, August 2, 1924. He studied at Kaunas, Lithuania and the University of Rome.

In 1943 he began working with the Lithuanian Legation at the Holy See and in 1947 was appointed attache. In 1953 he became First Secretary and in 1970 he received the title of charge d'Affaires.

In November, 1983 he was recognized as the Lithuanian representative in Washington while continuing to hold his position as representative to the Vatican.

On October 2, 1991 he was named Ambassador to Washington, DC.

Under the new amendments to



STASYS LOZORAITIS

the constitution, Lozoraitis qualifies as a candidate due to his many years of service as a diplomat.

Lithuanians will cast their ballots on February 14. A candidate must receive 50% of the votes cast plus 1. If neither candidate receives this required amount there will be another day of balloting. This procedure continues until one of the candidates received 50% plus one.

Lozoraitis' younger brother, Casimir was named Ambassador of Lithuania in the Vatican and presented his credentials to the Holy Father on July 11, 1992.

Florence Eckert ... Abandoned Souls

She was sitting in a wheelchair rocking her body back and forth and singing. As I came closer, I tried to make out the words but failed to do so. What's the name of that song you're singing, I asked?

In a timid, high pitched voice the woman answered, "yes, I'm singing, I'm singing", and now that I was standing directly in front of her I could see her face. She wasn't singing at all but rather quietly and pitifully crying.

"Hey, you're sad", I said, "why are you so sad when you look so pretty?" She was wearing a stylish silk floral print dress and appeared to be in her seventies or early eighties.

"Yes, I'm sad", she said, I'm real sad" and now she no longer whimpered her pitiful song but instead opened up and cried freely.

"Don't be sad", I said putting my arm around her, "you look so pretty in that beautiful dress and your hair looks like you just had it done".

Then I heard a long dissertation about what good is it to be dressed up, what does she have to do and where can she go. Then she pointed to all the old people lined up and down the hall in wheelchairs most of them with heads bent and eyes closed, just sitting there. She was bringing to light a sad truth which I was already aware of in a small sense, but was now witnessing first hand--and the impact was overwhelming!

This was a nursing home, and I might say a very nice, well kept,

nursing home. However it was still just a nursing home, a place with a stigma attached.

Older folks with no one to care for them have a deep-seated fear of some day being sent to a "nursing home". This is brought to light on the popular television show "Golden Girls" when Dorothy threatens her mother Sophia whenever Sophia steps out of line. "Remember Shady Pines Mom", is all Dorothy has to say and Sophia immediately gives in to her daughter's demands.

To the aging individual of our modern day society the thought of being placed in a nursing home instills such a fear that they sometimes reach that plateau before their time simply from the worry of that fast approaching day.

I was at this nursing facility visiting a neighbor who had a massive stroke and was unaware of the world she was still living in, or so the doctors say. All the while I visited with her, held her hand, talked to her and prayed a Rosary, I wasn't so sure the doctors were 100% right.

I told my friend that I knew she could hear me and I told her I knew she was trying to answer me. I told her that her mouth was moving and even though the words were not coming out I knew she was trying to answer me. I told her I realized how frustrating it must be not to be able to reach out. I tried to explain how the part of her brain that controls her speech and her movements was damaged but so long as she keeps trying to speak

along with the help of her medication, one day it will all come back and she'll be home again with family and friends.

She squeezed my hand and kept making loud noises and I read a few passages from one of her favorite authors. Was my time spent with her wasted? I think not. I'm not sure of what it did for her, but I do know what that visit did for me.

Now it was my little friend in the wheelchair who was squeezing my hand and she was very conscious of her surroundings. She too needed comforting.

Looking outside I said to her, "you know --- you're not missing anything out there today. It's raining cats and dogs and it's so gloomy and chilly."

I introduced myself and asked her name and we had a nice little chat. I gave her a few thoughts about how to overcome her loneliness and as I said my farewell I gave her a much needed hug. Walking away I asked for a smile and it was genuine. As I rounded the corner I left her smiling, at least for that little moment.

I was on my way to work now and driving past the bus terminal I observed a group of older men and women boarding a bus marked Atlantic City. I thought to myself, many of these people take this trip day after day. Why couldn't they schedule a bus trip to a nursing home maybe just one day a month and visit with their less fortunate peers.

Then I thought of another scene I see most every day on my way to work which really tears at my heart strings. Little babies, some in strollers, some holding hands with the caretaker. Faces expressionless, walking like robots.

These are the children from the day-care centers. Their mothers have put them there because they have to work to "make ends meet."

Sad but true, some mothers must work. However too many of the women of the 90's work for other reasons leaving these precious little ones robbed of the love they deserve and NEED.

When I was growing up, if the family budget couldn't afford it, we didn't have it. And guess what? I made it through life without any scars and without the help of a school guidance counselor. We all had personal counselors in my day and they were called "parents".

Children need LOVE and all the high priced toys in the world will never take the place of that love. They need a Mom around all the time so that they feel secure and wanted and so she's there to give a hug or kiss when it's needed.

Old people need love too! Sitting in a wheelchair with nothing to do but exchange sad tales with each other turns them into zombies as it does to the little children.

We can't turn back the clock but we can make a few adjustments.

If we must have nursing homes and day-care centers let's put them in the same building.

What a joy it would be for these old folks to have these little children running around or to hold in their laps and rock back and forth while humming lullabies instead of sobbing tears.

What a joy it would be for little ones to be held-to be read to-to be cared for by those who learned how to care as they rocked many a cradle in their day.

Think about it. I do. I think about a lot of things these days and wonder why I feel so all alone in my thoughts.



GARSAS

Publication No. (USPS 214-320)

Published Monthly Except July and August

Published by LITHUANIAN CATHOLIC ALLIANCE

71-73 S. Washington St., P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703-0032

Telephone 717/823-8876

Second Class Postage Paid at Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Notice to: Garsas

71-73 S. Washington St., P.O. Box 32, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18703-0032

Subscription \$5.00 per year

Father Werenfried van Straaten, the 'Bacon Priest' turns 80

He is probably the greatest beggar of the century. Thanks to his rousing words and the relief organization he founded, 2.5 billion dollars have gone through his hands and hat. The poor in the world are his "bank"; ranging from the millions of German exiles from the East who were dispelled by the Soviets to the refugees of all continents, and above all the Catholics wherever they were or are being persecuted, or where the church cannot put her mission into practice because of the lack of means.

Father Werenfried van Straaten, a Dutch Premonstratensian, has been underway in the whole world since 1947, holding out his hand and preaching on love at the rate of 90 speeches and sermons per month in the last two decades. In order to stabilize this campaign he founded "Aid to the Church in Need", which was later recognized by the Holy See as an International Association of the Church according to Pontifical Law. From the very beginning he has done nothing else but to "try to dry God's tears everywhere He weeps."

On January 17, 1993, Father Werenfried celebrated his 80th birthday. He will not allow himself to be pressed into taking stock of his life. He is much more concerned about a project about which he would like to talk: "Finally we can rebuild the Church in Eastern Europe and above all in Russia" he says with infectious enthusiasm. "Yes, the church in Russia can rise again after 70 years of dictatorship and state atheism, and when I say the Church of Russia, I mean both the Orthodox and Catholic Churches."

This priest, with his strong stature and known everywhere as the "bacon priest" since he requested a piece of bacon from the Belgian housewives for the

German refugees, has only recently returned from a journey to Russia. It was a typical journey for him including 25 sermons and speeches in ten days in Catholic and Orthodox churches, investigation trips in order to sound out the people's needs and meetings with the highest authorities - the Patriarch of Moscow, Alexij II, the Orthodox bishops of Novgorod and St. Petersburg and Archbishop Kondrusiewicz, the spiritual leader of the Catholics in European Russia. His plan is definite: Christ's Church in Russia should come to life again, in which brotherly love between Catholics and Orthodox is stabilized, and aid will be for the benefit of both.

One has to be enthusiastic about that. One has to plunge into it. 80 years? Father Werenfried does not feel it. In January, for the fifth time, another 20 years of his life are beginning. And they should be lived with the same young enthusiasm as he plunged into an adventure without limits in 1947. What Cardinal Frings said was indeed correct as he called him a "headstrong Fleming" and a "modern Genghis-Khan, because wherever he has been, there is nothing left."

While his will "to dry the tears where God weeps" is the obvious reason why Father Werenfried feels so much younger than his birth date proves, he summarized the philosophy of his life, in other words the Theology of his life in the following way: "People are better than they are made out to be, and God is also better than we think." It was with these words that Father Werenfried also closed his speech to the European Special Synod, which took place in the Vatican in October 1991 to seal the regained freedom of communication between the Church in

the West and the East. This sentence made the Pope and the other Synod fathers smile, but also moved them because of the truth in it. Father Werenfried had been invited to the synod by Pope John Paul II personally in recognition of his services in the rescue of the Church once persecuted by communism.

What started Father Werenfried's adventure was a Christmas article in 1947 in the Abbey-newspaper in Tongerlo, Belgium - "No Place At The Inn" - written for 14 million Germans who, because of the Agreements of Yalta and Potsdam, were expelled from their Eastern European native lands. After he had traveled all over Flanders in an old Peugeot collecting between 400 and 500 kilograms of bacon per day, he brought aid to the "knapsack priests", and after that he started the chapel trucks and the building of churches in the German Diaspora. And then in 1952, on the eve of the beginning of the terrible "scientific" persecutions to wipe out the church in Eastern Europe, the organization was ready for its task: they were more clever than their enemies in financing the formation of seminarians, sending religious literature and means of transport and building churches and chapels. Father Werenfried constantly hears the almost eternal cries of the masses, ranging from the Chinese, Indochinese and Korean refugees to the need of evangelization in the Third World Countries. The organization no longer has limits. Father Werenfried has placed the whole world in his beggar's hat.

The case of the Wall and the secret realization of the prophecies of the Mother of God of Fatima on the conversion of Russia only stimulated this "incurable optimist" Father



FATHER WERENFRIED van STRAATEN

Werenfried even further. It is a question of keeping a vow in the 80's: to resurrect the Church in Russia.

If you would like more information about this wonderful work or to receive a copy of Father Werenfried's newsletter, "Mirror", please contact:

Aid to the Church in Need
P.O. BOX 576
Deer Park, NY 11729-0576
or call toll free: 1-800-628-6333



Hearing Focuses on Ethnic Russians in Non-Russian Successor States to U.S.S.R.

One of the most volatile problems facing the non-Russian successor states to the former Soviet Union involves the presence of millions of ethnic Russians and military troops under Russian command on their territories, said an expert on the region at a recent Commission briefing.

Paul Goble, a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for Peace, estimated that approximately 25 million ethnic Russians and 1.5 million Russian troops are now living

outside of Moscow's sphere of influence in the 14 newly-independent successor states.

The briefing was also addressed by Dr. Heino Ainso, Counselor of the Estonian Mission at the United Nations, and Vladimir Averchev, Counselor of the Russian Embassy in Washington. An invited representative from Moldova's U.N. Mission was unable to attend.

Goble said the explosive combination of ethnic minority politics backed by the presence of

sympathetic military forces in the former republics "represents a threat which is extremely difficult for the international community to deal with."

He cited the Baltic nations and Moldova as areas where significant tension between ethnic Russians and local populations already exists and said there is an "increasing assertion" in Moscow that military force could be used to defend ethnic minority rights.

Goble noted that unless the West pays close attention to the

problem "we are going to see massive conflicts" erupt in the successor states.

Averchev noted that the problem of ethnic minorities in "non-indigenous" states has arisen in many areas following the collapse of communism. He called for extension of citizenship to "every person who is on your territory."

Otherwise, he claimed, "we'll face a situation between ethnic groups that may easily result in an explosion."

After Independence

Do American Balts Have Any Rights in the Baltics?

Some individuals and Baltic organizations in the U.S. have suggested that Lithuania's Seimas or parliament create one or two seats for representatives of Lithuanian organizations in the West. These seats would recognize, and reward, the long-standing and important contribution of the emigre community in regaining Lithuania's independence.

Obviously, some American Lithuanians would like to have their cake and eat it too. They want to remain in the U.S., as U.S. citizens, but also have citizenship, voting, and representations rights in Lithuania.

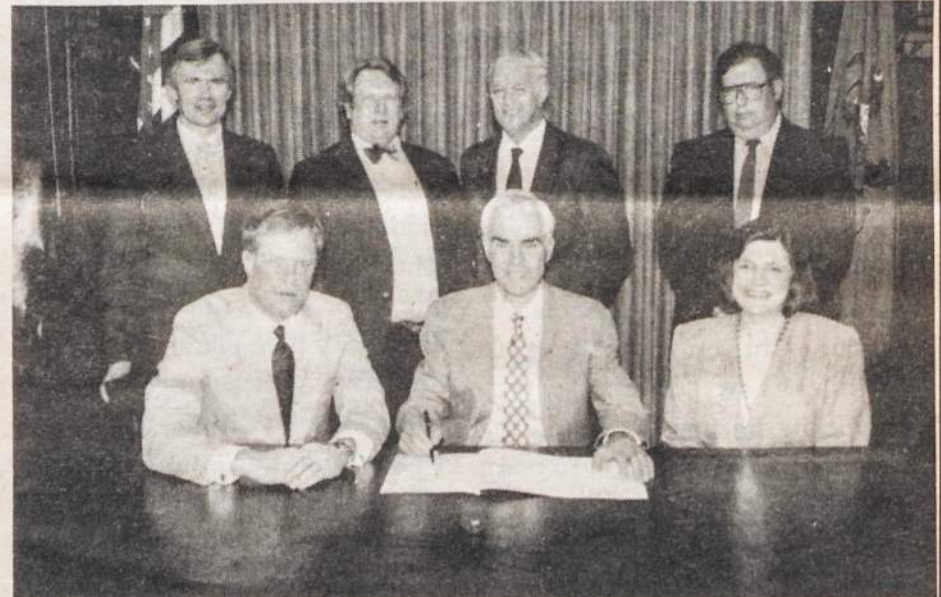
One can only try to surmise what drives such proposals. Is it a desire to influence public opinion in Lithuania from the Seimas forum? To advise the Lithuanian government? To influence it in taking certain political directions? Or is it a creative way to expend the monies that have accumulated in many an organization's coffers by using the funds on trips and part-time residences in Lithuania?

There is no valid reason why Lithuania, Latvia, or Estonia should create a seat for representatives from the West. Anyone now residing in the West who wishes to become a member of parliament can easily do so by relocating to the Baltics, meeting residency requirements, and then standing for election, just like all local politicians.

The fact that Lithuanians worked hard to help the country regain its independence is not in dispute. Many hours, and dollars, were spent for that purpose. What is at issue is whether these efforts now merit special recognition. They do, but not to the extent of creating seats in the Seimas. Creating such seats to represent absentee viewpoints would perpetuate and deepen the chasm that now exists between the two communities not only in politics but also in outlook on life. Granting seats to Lithuanians in the U.S. would only reaffirm their privileged status.

Already, Lithuania is splintered by a variety of political opinions and factions. Is there

Childhood Immunization Act Signed into Law



Proponents of the Childhood Immunization Act join Gov. Robert P. Casey at the bill signing in May 1992. Featured at the signing include: (front row) House Speaker William M. Maleski; (back row) Dr. Allen Kohrt; Dr. Mark Rubin; Dr. Richard Baltz; and Larry Light, Pennsylvania Medical Society.

Commenting on the act, Maleski said that our children are our legacy and our most precious resource. As a preventive measure, immunizations improve our children's health and provide proven long range cost savings for the state's health care system.

any need to add new ideological divisions to the Seimas? There is always room for new thinking, and it can come from anywhere in the world. But to give it special status via absentee representation is not a very good idea.

American Baltic News



Pazaislis: Home and Haven to Lithuanian Sisters of St. Casimir

By Sister Julie Shainauskas

The architecture of Pazaislis (Pah-zhice-liss) is one the most beautiful and valuable of art monuments not only in Lithuania but in all of northern Europe.

The financier-founders were Christopher Zigmant Pac (1621-1684), great chancellor of the grand Duchy of Lithuania and his wife Clara Genevieve Isabel, countess deMazly Laskaris (died in 1685).

When in Italy, C.Z. Pac became acquainted with the Camaldolese monks, whose very strict lifestyle of silence, prayer and work, attracted him. The hill on which he had the Church and monastery built was called Mons Pacis, Hill of Peace, after the establisher. The Lithuanian people called it Pazaislis because it was aside of the Zaistis river.

The church was begun in 1667 and blessed in 1712 with the name of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The interior frescoes were painted by Michael Archangel Palonis. The entire structure cost the founders eight million gold pieces.

The monks suffered from the ravages of the wars. In 1812 Napoleon's army ransacked the Church and stole many precious items. In 1831 Czar Nicholas I, closed the monastery and dispersed the monks to other

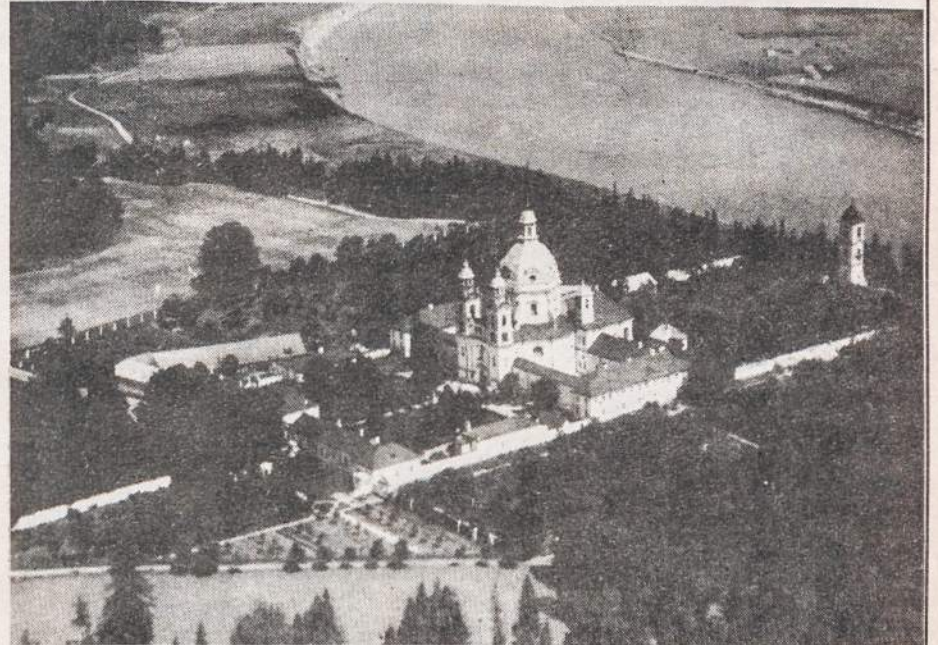
monasteries. The orthodox monks took over and changed much of the format and even painted over some of the frescoes.

With the beginning of the war in 1914, the orthodox monks withdrew, taking with them the archives, paintings and many treasures, among which was the miraculous picture of the Mother of God. The Germans made an army hospital of the place, doing much damage to the monastery and Church. After the Germans withdrew, the buildings were without any caretaker.

In 1920, the Sisters of St. Casimir of Chicago were invited to establish a foundation in Lithuania. Mother Maria Kaupas, foundress, arrived with four Sisters and accepted the buildings and grounds for the first foundation in Lithuania.

In 1940 with the Soviet occupation, the Sisters were dismissed from all the places in which they were ministering to the people. The Russians used Pazaislis as a tourist base, archives, and later as a psychiatric hospital and a home for the aged. They neglected the maintenance of the buildings and grounds.

The Church, buildings and grounds were officially returned to the Sisters on January 27, 1992. Because the buildings had been used as a museum, they are



PAZAISLIS, Lithuania, also called Mont Pacis - Mount Peace, the site of the former Camaldolese monastery and church. In 1920, the monastery was passed on to the SSC's to become the Lithuanian foundation and novitiate. Now after 50 years of Soviet occupation, the Lithuanian government has returned the site to the Lithuania SSC's. Both German and Russian armies have caused great damage and neglect, especially of the living quarters.

unfit as living quarters. The Sisters trust the support and generosity of friends and benefactors to help in the process of repairing the structures. One of the most immediate needs is the installation of a heating system.

Now that independence and religious freedom have been granted, the Sisters are eager to expand their apostolic works--the academic and spiritual education of youth and adults, the ministry of health care, and providing spiritual renewal for people by preparing a retreat

center on the premises. Please help by sending your contributions to:

PAZAISLIS FUND
c/o Sisters of St. Casimir
2601 West Marquette Road
Chicago, IL 60629-1984
Tel: (312) 776-1324

And please, support with prayers also! Thank you and God bless you and yours!

The Lithuanian Congregation
of the Sisters of St. Casimir
Sister Jone
General Superior

Vaivorykste The Rainbow Club

Some very dedicated foster families in Lithuania have taken orphans and abandoned or abused children under their care. Often the caretaker is a grandmother living alone and taking care of her grandchildren, or a relative who has set another place at his table for a child in need. The standard of living for these families is not

high, and the foster children under their care do not receive the humanitarian assistance targeted for orphanages and children's homes.

The Lithuanian Embassy in Washington has a list of over 400 such families in Vilnius. Most of the children are between the ages of ten and eighteen. About a quarter of them are

younger. The list includes children of Lithuanian, Polish and Russian descent.

Anyone who would like to brighten the day of one or several of these youngsters by sending them a card or small gift should contact the Embassy to inquire about "The Rainbow Club". The Embassy will send the donor the name, address,

and birthday of the child. Direct financial assistance is also possible.

Call or write:

"VAIVORYKSTE"
c/o LITHUANIAN EMBASSY
2622 16th STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20009
(201) 234-2639

Former Heavyweight Champ Turns 90

Many old timers recall the days of boxing when Lithuanian born Jack Sharkey was heavyweight champion of the world.

Sharkey (Juozas Zukauskas) was born of Lithuanian parents November 26, 1902 in Binghamton, New York.

He started boxing at the age of 16 and became a professional boxer 6 years later.

Sharkey rose to fame in 1926, when he defeated Harry Willis. The following year he knocked out Jim Maloney.

There were 75,000 people present to see him fight Jack Dempsey on July 27, 1927 which brought a record box office total of \$1,083,580.

Sharkey worked his way into competition for the world champion title having his first encounter with European champion Max Schmelling in New York in 1930. That bout ended in defeat for Sharkey but two years later, on June 21, 1932, he defeated Schmelling in the 15th round, thus becoming world



JACK SHARKEY

heavyweight boxing champion. The following year he lost his title to Primo Carnera, and in 1936 after losing to Joe Louis in the 3rd round, he retired from boxing.

The Encyclopedia Lituanica notes: "His ready identification with his Lithuanian background has made Sharkey into a hero both among the Lithuanian-American community and in Lithuania."

K of L District Meeting

The Amber District of the Knight's of Lithuania held its district meeting at St. Joseph's Church, Scranton, PA. The meeting was hosted by Knights of Lithuania Council #74. Monsignor Peter Madus was celebrant of the Eucharistic Liturgy.

Following Mass, a buffet luncheon was served in the church hall. A meeting was held after lunch with President John Mickunas presiding.

Delegates at the meeting elected the following officers

President, Elsie Kosmisky, Anthracite Council #144; Vice-President, Dorothy Banos, Pittston Council #143; Secretary, Ann Helen McDonald, Anthracite #144;

Treasurer, Eleanor Vaicaitis, Anthracite #144; Trustee, Charles Yuscavage, Pittston #143.

The next meeting will be the St. Casimir's Day convention to be held March 14, 1993 at St. George's Church, Shenandoah, PA. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 A.M.

Luncheon will be served in the church hall. Donation is \$10.00. Host Council is Anthracite #144.

Reservations can be made by contacting Anna Helen McDonald, The School House, Kaska, PA 17959. Dead line is March 2, 1993.

Third Degrees will be presented at this meeting.

"I'm So Bored with the U.S.A."

by Stede Ingram

Editors Note:

The following article was taken from a Lithuanian Weekly. After reading the article, your comments would be appreciated.

Two months ago I left my home in America and travelled half-way around the world to the small, former Soviet republic of Lithuania. Without the support of any organizations, I came here to live and teach English for a while. When I tell people, both in America and in Lithuania, about this decision they look surprised and perplexed. After this first reaction they come to one of two conclusions about me: "you are completely crazy!" or "You must be a saint!"

Why would any normal person choose to leave America, where life is easy and you can buy anything, to come to Lithuania, where simple comforts like hot water are scarce?

Perhaps I am a bit crazy, if sanity means thinking the same as everyone else. However, I am certainly not a saint. I am glad that I am helping people in a minor way by teaching them English, but my reasons for coming here were primarily selfish.

Last year I completed my undergraduate degree at a respected university and, despite the recent "recession" in America, I believe I could find a stable job at some company in the U.S. I could be making enough money to rent my own apartment, go out to a movie or a bar once in a while, and even save up to buy a car in a year or two. At this moment I could be relaxing in my cozy living room after a day's work, eating a slice of pizza, and watching MTV. So why would I forfeit a life of such wealth and comfort to come to a country where my room is barely heated and I make about one dollar per day? For me the answer is obvi-

ous: I would be entirely bored in America.

I would work my eight hours each day, come home eat dinner, maybe visit some friends or watch TV, and then go to sleep. This would be my schedule for five days each week, fifty weeks per year. In a familiar, comfortable environment it is too easy to settle into a daily routine and very difficult to have new experiences. Since I have grown up in America, it is hard for me to find anything new and different.

On the other hand, in Lithuania everything is unfamiliar and exciting to me. Each day I see or hear something unexpected. I am constantly meeting new people each a unique personality and outlook on the world. In America you must always search to find new experiences, while here they are unavoidable.

And why are new experiences so important? The reasons are countless, but the most basic of them is fighting boredom. Going through my mundane schedule in America day after day would only lead to dissatisfaction and frustration. In Lithuania daily life for me can be an adventure, and there are endless opportunities to pursue extra interests (like writing for a newspaper). In a familiar environment it is too easy to become trapped in monotony, while unfamiliar surroundings provide constant stimulus and the freedom to grow.

I can easily live with minor annoyances like cold water and crowded buses when I am constantly meeting new people and trying new activities. As the old proverb says: "You can't buy happiness." In America I might have money and comfort, but I would not be happy. So for now there is no place I would rather be than right here in Lithuania.

Lithuanian Weekly

Societies Plan Mardi Gras



The combined societies of St. Casimir's, St. John the Evangelist and St. Joseph's Churches met recently to make plans for the Mardi Gras dinner dance to be held Saturday, February 20, at Seton Auditorium, beginning at 7 p.m. Cost of ticket is \$10. Everyone is welcome for an evening of fun.

Those present at the meeting were, seated, from left, Judith Riker, Nancy Roth, Rose Ludzia, Frances Shoppel, Rosemary Durling, Barbara Carey Ann Soha and Diane Dutter.

Standing from left, Father Mark Rosetti, Sadie Malinowski, Maureen Miller, Carrie Trowbridge, Frank Keder, Billy Carey, Steve Soha, Stanley Dziedzic, Charley Stegura, Tom Opeka, James McGill, Peggy Mikluschak and Peter Dutter.

Get Well Wishes

Get well wishes are extended to Anna Stranch who recently underwent surgery and is recovering at home.

Ann serves on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance and is active in the Lithuanian Women's Club.

Anna Stranch's family was pictured in the October 1991 issue of Garsas having over

\$40,000 in LCA certificates.

Get well wishes go out to Rev. John Kuzinskas, Pastor of Nativity BVM Church, Chicago, ILL, who is recuperating following major surgery. Father Kuzinskas is a member of Lodge 100.

We thank former Board member Albina Poska for keeping us informed with news from the Chicago area.

Ryncavage Joins LCA



JOSEPH RYNCAVAGE

We are pleased to welcome Joseph Ryncavage of Wilkes-Barre as a new member of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance.

Mr. Ryncavage is District Sales Coordinator in the Supplemental Health Mkts.

His application was approved just in time for his birthday, January 28, so we also wish him a very Happy Birthday.

Mr. Ryncavage has been accepted into Lodge 222, Wilkes-Barre, PA. He is now eligible for all the benefits offered to LCA members including his free monthly issue of GARSAS.

George Sadauckas Elected President



Mr. Sadauckas pictured with Insurance Commissioner, Cynthia M. Maleski at the Pennsylvania Fraternal Congress annual meeting held at East Mountain Inn, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

Mr. George Sadauckas was elected President of the Fraternal Societies of Northeastern Pennsylvania for the year 1993.

Mr. Sadauckas is a Trustee on the Board of LCA having held that position since 1981.

Secretary of Lodge 155 he is credited with having enrolled 56 members in his 46 years with the Alliance.

Mr. Sadauckas is President of Lithuanian Beneficial Association; former officer of the Greater Lackawanna Builders Association; Past President St. Michael's Holy Name; Past Commander Catholic War Vets; Past

President Lithuanian Bowling League; Gold Card member Taurus Club; Member Elks Lodge 123; Member Am Vets Post 59 and member American Legion 920.

He is a retired employee of the Pennsylvania Gas and Water Co. and resides at 119 S. Rebecca Ave., Scranton, Pa., with his wife the former Verna Braukas who is also a member of LCA Lodge 155.

Other officers are:

1st Vice-President, Rita Simalchik, Ladies Pa. Slovak Catholic Union; 2nd Vice-President, Peter Salak, Ukrainian Fraternal Association; Sec/Treas. Bernard Golubiewski, ROCMAS.

We Get Letters

The following letter was received from a new subscriber to the GARSAS.

Gentlemen:

Just a few lines to thank you for starting my subscription so promptly. I read everything that was in English, and plan to be a subscriber for a long time.

I donate to L.C.R.A. so receive their information. However, GARSAS provides me with

Lithuanian current events more thoroughly and more often.

I am 50% Lithuanian. My grandparents came from the old country approximately 100 years ago, but my cousins and I are still very interested in the welfare of the country.

I look forward to further issues of GARSAS. Thanks again.

Sincerely,
Nancy Lewis
Sun City, AZ

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS NAUJOJI



Bronislovas Lubys — ministras pirmininkas



Povilas Gylys — užsienio reikalų ministras



Romasis Vaitiekūnas — vidaus reikalų ministras



Audrius Butkevičius — krašto apsaugos ministras



Rimantas Karazija — žemės ūkio ministras



Jonas Prapiestis — teisingumo ministras



Vytautas Kriauza — sveikatos apsaugos ministras



Dainius Trinkūnas — Kultūros ir švietimo ministras



Eduardas Vilkelis — finansų ministras



Gintautas Zintelis — ryšių ir informacijos ministras



Teodoras Medaiskis — socialinės apsaugos ministras



Jonas Rimantas Klimas — miškų ūkio ministras

VYRIAUSYBĖ



Julius Veselka — ekonomikos ministras



Leonas Vaidotas Ašmantas — energetikos ministras



Algirdas Vapšys — statybos ir urbanistikos ministras



Jonas Biržiškis — susisieki-
mo ministras



Albertas Ambraziejus Sinevičius — pramonės ir prekybos ministras



Algimantas Matulevičius — ministras be portfelio savivaldybių reikalams

NAUJOJI VYRIAUSYBĖ PRADEDA DARBĄ

Paskiri ministrai pasisako dėl savo veiklos programos

Gruodžio 10 d. po to, kai ministras pirmininkas Bronislovas Lubys, pristatė savo vyriausybės sąstatą, laikinai einantis prezidento pareigas Algirdas Brazauskas savo dekretu patvirtino septyniolikos asmenų ministrų kabinetą.

Jis yra tokios sudėties:

Julius Veselka — ekonomikos ministras;

Leonas Vaidotas Ašmantas — energetikos ministras;

Eduardas Vilkelis — finansų ministras;

Audrius Butkevičius — krašto apsaugos ministras;

Dainius Trinkūnas — kultūros ir švietimo ministras;

Jonas Rimantas Klimas — miškų ūkio ministras;

Albertas Ambraziejus Sinevičius — pramonės ir prekybos ministras;

Gintautas Žintelis — ryšių ir informacijos ministras;

Teodoras Medaiskis — socialinės apsaugos ministras;

Algirdas Vapšys — statybos ir urbanistikos ministras;

Jonas Biržiškis — susisieki-
mo ministras;

Vytautas Kriauza — sveikatos apsaugos ministras;

Jonas Prapiestis — teisingumo ministras;

Povilas Gylys — užsienio reikalų ministras;

Romasis Vaitiekūnas — vidaus reikalų ministras;

Rimantas Karazija — žemės ūkio ministras;

Algimantas Matulevičius — ministras be portfelio savivaldybių reikalams.

Kaip iš sąrašo atrodo, yra tik vienas ministras be portfelio. Anksčiau buvo manoma, kad bus ir kitas — išeivijos reikalams.

Tačiau, paaiškėjus, kad Pasaulio Lietuvos Bendruomenė šiuo metu tokios ministerijos nenori, išeivijos reikalus kol kas tvarkys PLB būstinės pareigūnai Vilniuje.

Pagal Lietuvos Konstituciją, Lietuvos ministras pirmininkas Bronislovas Lubys Brazausko patvirtintąjį ministrų kabinetą

turi pateikti Seimui, kuris jį svarstys ir tvirtins. Naujoji vyriausybė pradeda savo darbą, prisiekusi Seime, kad bus ištikiama Lietuvos Respublikai, laikysis Konstitucijos ir įstatymų.

Rašant šias žinias, dar nebuvo žinoma, kada Seimas patvirtino vyriausybę ir priėmė jos priesaiką. Tai turėjo įvykti pereinamos savaitės viduryje.

Nuo ko pradės ekonomikos ministras

Julius Veselka, tapęs ekonomikos ministru, rengiasi išjudinti gamybą. Jis norėtų mažinti pelno mokestį prioritetinių šakų įmonėms, kad joms atsirastų galimybių parduoti daugiau produkcijos. Jei pramonė išves parduoti daugiau produkcijos, galės ir žaliavų daugiau nusipirkti.

Artimiausias tikslas — gauti kreditų iš užsienio. Pasaulio bankas jau paskyrė \$60 milijonų.

Ministro nuomone, ekonomikos tvirtinimo principas toks: pasiskolinti, pagaminti, diegti naujas technologijas, parduoti.

Užsienio reikalai

Užsienio reikalų ministras Povilas Gylys ketina laikytis konstruktyvaus kurso, pirmiausia apsižvalgius, kas jau nuveikta toje srityje. Jo manymu, reikia siekti gerų santykių su visais. Gylys, lig šiol dirbęs universite-
te, buvęs Sąjūdyje, po to nuo Maskvos atsiskyrusioje Lietuvos Komunistų Partijoje, patyrimo užsienio politikoje neturi.

Miškų ūkis

Per tuos pačius vienerius metus buvęs Vagnoriaus, Abišalos, dabar jau trečiojoje vyriausybėje, miškų ūkio ministras Jonas Rimantas Klimas sako, kad dabar didžiausias uždavinys yra aprūpinti žmones miško gėrybėmis, mediena, malkomis ir kt. Ūkininkams mediena parduodama pigiau, nes neįperka.

Bet žmonės galėtų daugiau

(nukelta į 10 psl.)

NAUJOJI VYRIAUSYBĖ PRADEDA DARBĄ

(atkelta iš 9 psl.)

kūrenti malkomis, kurių miškuose labai daug. Kaimų ir miestelių gyventojai, susitarę su miškininkais ir urėdais, galėtų kirsti sausuolius ir vežti iš miško jau nukirstą medieną.

Eiguliai turi teisę duoti malkų veltui. Svarbu, kad mediena nesupūtų. Sniegolaužas galima rinkti nemokamai.

Ministerijoje vyksta du svarbūs pasitarimai:

Pirmame dalyvauja Rytų Lietuvos miškininkai ir miškotvarkininkai. Jie aptaria miškų grąžinimą savininkams Rytų Lietuvoje. Šis kraštas kelis kartus buvo okupuotas, todėl iškyla daug sudėtingų ir skausmingų problemų. Vieni gyventojai turi caro laikais išduotus nuosavybės dokumentus, kiti — lenkų okupantų.

Forsuoti žemės grąžinimo šiame Lietuvos regione negalima, būtinas atsargumas, kompetencija bei tolerancija. Dėl to ministerija kreipsis į Lietuvos Seimą.

Kitas pasitarimas skirtas nacionalinių parkų problemoms. Sukviesti visų nacionalinių parkų vadovai. Pasitarime buvo ir etnografų, nes nacionaliniai parkai — ne tik miškai ir ežerai, bet ir kaimai, kuriuose gyvena audėjos, tautodailės meistrai. Reikia juos registruoti, nes kaimas prarado savitumą.

Sveikatos reikalai

Sveikatos ministras Vytautas Kriauza, buvęs ministro J. Olekės pirmasis pavaduotojas, į klausimą, ar neteks gyventojams daugiau mokėti už gydymą, atsako: Ir dabar mokame, mokėdami mokesčius. Ateityje didesnis procentas šių mokesčių eis į ligoninių kasas, kurios mokės už gydymą.

Dėl aprūpinimo vaistais, jis sako, kad Lietuvoje vaistų yra nemažai, tik dėl įvairių priežasčių jie nepatenka į vaistines. Trūksta apyvartinių lėšų — laisvų pinigų, už kuriuos galėtų pirkti iš sandėlio.

Teisingumo reikalai

Jonas Prapiestis, teisingumo ministras, sako, kad teisingumo sąvoka, ministrams keičiantis, nesikeičia.

Esą teisingumą vykdo tik teismas — jis visų pirma turi laikytis įstatymų. Ir labai būtų gražu, kad visi, tai suprasdami, stengtųsi teismui padėti, kad nebūtų netikusių epitetų apie socialistinius teismus, jei priimami kokios nors politinei grupei nepriimtini sprendimai.

Svarbu, kad pagaliau teismo sprendimai būtų gerbiami, o jeigu jie kam atrodo neteisingi, kad būtų pasinaudojama įstatyme numatyta procedūra, kaip tuos sprendimus skųsti, protestuoti aukštesnei teisminei instancijai.

Vidaus reikalai, prekyba, transportas

Vidaus reikalų ministru paskirtas buvęs Šiaulių komisaras plk. Romasis Vaitiekūnas policiją norėtų padidinti, sutelkti žmones kryptingam darbui.

Ankstesnių vyriausybės prekybos ministras Albertas Ambraziejus Sinevičius į buvusį postą sugrįžta, žinodamas, kad visko

bus 47% mažiau. Savo programoje sieks, kad būtų gera gyventi, nes pramonė gamina, o kultūra naudoja.

Transporto ministras Jonas Biržiškis, išsilaikęs savo poste, keičiantis vyriausybėms, parlamentams, mano, kad, dirbant konkrečių darbų, sritis aiški, be politinės maišaties.

Klausiamas, ar kelionės bilietai atpigs, atsako, kad tai priklausys nuo vyriausybės politikos, nuo to, kiek transportas bus subsidijuojamas, kiek rinkos sąlygomis bus pradėta suktis.

Po truputį griauinant monopolines struktūras, siekiama paskatinti konkurenciją. Tai būtų normalus kelias. Bet Lietuvos transportas turi funkcionuoti visais atvejais.

Savivaldybių reikalai

Anksčiau buvęs pramonininkų pirmininku, dabar ministeris be portfelio, Algimantas Matulevičius rūpinsis savivaldybių reikalais. Klausiamas, kodėl jis sutiko dirbti vyriausybėje ir koks ryšys bus tarp pramonininkų ir savivaldybių, naujasis ministras aiškino:

“Ne paslaptis, kad naująją vyriausybę formavo pramonininkų asociacijos vicepirmininkas Bronislovas Lubys. Mes esame seni kolegos, o kolegos vieni kitiems

turi padėti ne tik žodžiais, bet ir darbais. Kai Lubys pakvietė mane dirbti vyriausybėje, aš nesiveržiau, bet suprasdamas dabartinę situaciją, pasitaręs su kolegomis nusprendžiau sutikti.

Savivaldybės — didžiulis darbo baras, kuris reikalauja pirmaeilio ekonominių reikalų sutvarkymo. Visų pirma, tai yra organizacinis darbas, aš nemanau, kad vadovavimas turi būti kietas, administracinis. Reikia įteisinti municipalinę nuosavybę, būtina parodyti žmonėms, kad savivaldybių laisvė nėra anarchija, kad jos nevalgytų iš bendro valstybės katilo.

Savivaldybės bus savarankiškos, jei jos rems verslą, pramonę. Reikia nustatyti, kas turi skirti sklypą degalinei ar parduotuvei statyti, kas turi skirti griūvantį namą senamiestyje, iš kurio galima padaryti gerą parduotuvę, viešbutį ar ofisą — Vyriausybė, Seimas ar savivaldybė. Tai turi daryti savivaldybės. Įgyta patirtis, man dirbant pramonėje ir pramonininkų asociacijoje, turėtų praversti”.

— Lietuvoje šiuo metu yra visų Skandinavijos valstybių, JAV, Didžiosios Britanijos, Prancūzijos, Čekijos karo atašė. Su jais bendrai ieškoma Lietuvos integravimosi į Europą sprendimų.



Naujasis Seimas sesijos darbus pradeda Lietuvos himnu. Viktoro Kapočiaus nuotr.

LIETUVA LAUKIA POPIEŽIAUS, BET NETURĖS KUR JĮ PRIIMTI

Artėja Popiežiaus atvykimo data, o Vilniaus arkivyskupijos kurija dar vis neatgauna savo namų, kurie jai oficialiai gražinti Lietuvos Respublikos vyriausybės potvarkiu 1991 m. gegužės 18 d. Tie istoriniai vyskupų rūmai yra netoli Katedros, Šventaragio g. nr. 4.

Anksčiau ten buvo įsikūrusios įvairios įstaigos, kurioms buvo pranešta išsikelti. Išsikėlė visi, išskyrus "Respublikos" redakciją, kuri užima antrąjį ir trečiąjį aukštą. Redakcijai buvo siūlyta kitos patalpos bent dviejose vietose, bet, jos nuomone, nei vienos, nei kitos jai netinkančios. Esą atsisakymas išsikraustyti nereiškia, kad "Respublika" nesu- prastų arkivyskupijos rūpesčių ruošiantis Popiežiaus vizitui.

Tai taip redakcija ir tebesėdi. Nors remontas jau vykdomas kituose aukštuose, kol redakcija tebešeimininkauja dviejuose aukštuose, neįmanoma tų patalpų restauruoti.

Vilniaus arkivyskupas metropolitas Audrys Bačkis patalpų reikalu jau yra daug kartų rašęs įstaigoms, kreipęsis į miesto savivaldybę ir vyriausybę. Arkivyskupas Bačkis dar ir dabar tebe-

laukia atsakymo į savo raštą premjerui Abišalai. Gal dabar naujoji vyriausybė, vadinama komunistine, padės reikalą pajudinti iš mirties taško, nes Abišalai, matyt, svarbiau buvo pamatyti Ameriką, o ne sutvarkyti reikalus Vilniuje.

Tuo tarpu dabar du Vilniaus vyskupai gyvena Šv. Mikalojaus parapijos klebonijoje, kur turi dirbti visa Vilniaus arkivyskupijos kurija. Čia turėtų įsikurti ir Popiežiaus kelionės į Lietuvą rengimo komitetas. Be to, iki Popiežiaus atvykimo liko vos aštuoni mėnesiai. Jei namai nebus sugražinti, Vilniaus arkivyskupas negalės Popiežiaus priimti.

Visos Lietuvos vyskupijos yra atgavusios savo kurijų patalpas, tik Lietuvos sostinėje neįmanoma prisiprašyti, kad pagaliau būtų įvykdytas Vyriausybės potvarkis ir sugražintas gyvybiškai reikalingas pastatas. Lietuvos tikintieji šito negali suprasti. Sunku tai suprasti ir išeivijos lietuviams, kurių spaudoje tas reikalas keltas jau ne sykį. Nejaugi "Respublika" laukia, kad ją su policija išmestų, o ji paskui užsidėtų sau "herojaus" vainiką? — taip mano ne vienas sostinės gyventojas.

LIETUVOJE IR APIE LIETUVĄ

— Londone, Europos rekonstrukcijos ir plėtojimo banke, kaip 1992 m. gruodžio 23 d. pranešė "Lietuvos aidas", pasirašyta sutartis skirti Lietuvai 44 mln. Vokietijos markių ir 19,2 mln. JAV dolerių paskolą neatidėliotoms investicijoms energetikos srityje.

— Iš Lietuvos per tris pirmuosius 1992 metų ketvirčius buvo išvežta prekių už 92,616 mlrd. rublių (91,33%), įvežta — už 8,789 mlrd. (8,67%). Taip skelbia muitinės departamento šių trijų ketvirčių suvestinė. Daugiausia iš Lietuvos buvo išvežama maisto produktų, gėrimų, tabako (15%), tekstilės ir jos dirbinių (14,4%), mašinų ir elektros įrangos (14%) bei gyvulininkystės produktų (13,4%).

Didžiausią importo dalį sudarė juodieji metalai (38,7%) ir chemijos pramonės produkcija (10,4%). Per šį laiką Lietuva deklaravo prekes į 72 šalis, importavo iš 58 valstybių. Daugiausia prekiauta su Rusija, Ukraina, Vokietija ir Lenkija.

— Lietuvos Respublikos Vidaus reikalų ministerijos sistemoje šiuo metu yra daugiau kaip 35,000 darbuotojų. Jų skaičius vis didėja.

— Lietuvos Seimo aštuoniems komitetams iš vienuolikos vadovaus rinkimus laimėjusios Lietuvos Demokratinės Darbo Partijos atstovai. Svarbiausio — ekonomikos komiteto pirmininku patvirtintas socialdemokratas prof. Kazimieras Antanavičius.



Antakalnio kapinėse metinių proga pagerbiami Sausio 13-osios žuvusieji. Nuotr. Viktoro Kapočiaus

— Latvijos Parlamento įstatymų leidybos komisijos pirmininkas Aivaras Endzinas, dirbęs Europos Tarybos parlamentinės asamblėjos teisinės komisijos žmogaus teisių pakomisėje, pranešė, kad 1983 m. vasario mėn. Lietuva bus priimta į Europos Tarybos parlamentinę asamblėją.

— Lietuva ir Norvegija pasirašė dokumentą dėl įvažiavimo vizų panaikinimo. Nuo 1993 m. sausio 15 d. abiejų šalių piliečiai, turį galiojančius savo valstybės pasus, galės viešėti kitoje šalyje ne ilgiau kaip tris mėnesius. Tokių susitarimus Lietuva anksčiau pasirašė su Anglija, Danija, Čekija, Slovakija ir Singapūru.

— "Vilties maldos" — taip pavadintas neseniai išleistas lietuvių katalikų kalinių maldaknygės faksimilinis leidimas. Popieriumi ir išvaizda maldaknygė primena originalą. Ji 1952 m. Alta-

juje, Olžonose, buvo parašyta ant cementinio maišelio popieriaus. Ją įrišo ten kalėjęs dainininkas Antanas Kučingis. Maldų autorius — buvęs kalinys prel. Stanislovas Kiškis. Maldas užrašė, daugumą jų perrašė ir knygelę globojo Antanas Seikalis. Naujajį maldaknygės leidimą savo auka parėmė Amerikos lietuvis Antanas Mikalajūnas.

— Stepono Dariaus ir Stasio Girėno žygdarbiui įamžinti Kauno ažuolyne bus pastatytas paminklas. Šį sumanymą, padedant visuomenei, įgyvendina Lietuvos kultūros fondo Kauno taryba.

— Tarptautinė konferencija energijos taupymo klausimais gruodžio 3-4 dienomis vyko Kaune. Dalyvavo šiluminės energetikos specialistai iš Estijos, Latvijos, Lietuvos ir Šiaurės šalių — Danijos, Norvegijos, Suomijos.

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Buried: 12/30/92

St. Casimir's Cemetery,

Pittston, PA

RADIN, Ignatz Jr. ... Lodge 270

2132 Dominion Hgts. Ct.

Falls Church, VA 22043-2562

Died: 1/20/93

Buried: 1/23/93

Calvery Cemetery

Johnson City, NY

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Lodge 163, on the death of her
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died January 12, 1993.

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