

Fraternal
Benefit
Insurance
Society

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INSIDE

**Lithuania
Prepares to
Greet the Pope
... 3**

**Bishop
Baltakis Seeks
Support of
Lithuanian
Americans ...
3**

Recipes 4

**Bengals
Offensive
Lineman,
Kozerski,
Honored ... 6**

**Rev. C.F.
Edunk Dies in
Crash ... 7**

**Letters to the
Editor ... 5**

**Lithuanian
Pages by Rev.
Cornelius
Bucmys, OFM
... 8-11**

Lithuanian Pilots Transatlantic Flight to be Commemorated

The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago is the initiator and driving force of the events and ceremonies commemorating the 60th anniversary of the historic 1933 New York-Lithuania Transatlantic Flight by the Lithuanian American flyers Steponas Darius and Stasys Girenas.

Almost sixty years ago, on July 15, 1933 two Lithuanian American pilots, Captain Steponas Darius and Lieutenant Stasys Girenas took off from Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn N.Y. in their Bellanca type monoplane "Lituanica" and flew northeast toward Kaunas, the provisional capital of Lithuania.

Their flight originated near the Statue of Liberty, and their mission was to conquer and explore the skies for the betterment of mankind.

The two brave explorers did not have government authorization for the projected flight, since it had not been prepared for satisfactorily. The pilots found their bearings by compass and kept a steady course. On the evening of July 16 they flew over Scotland. On the night of July 17 Lituanica reached West Prussia, 15 km north of Berlin and crashed there in a forest near Soldin.

The pilots had flown 6,441 km in 35 hrs. 15 min.; there were 650 km. left to Kaunas the temporary capital of Lithuania, which they had wanted to reach without a stop.

News flashed around the world about the tragedy of the two valiant American citizens, ex-doughboys who had struggled and bled and suffered for Uncle Sam's victory in the battlefields of France, and who now blazed a new path of glory through the skies for Lithuania.

Lithuania bent her head in sorrow. This flight meant so much to the Lithuanians, especially when Lithuania was a small and powerless nation, and did her best to win the recognition of the world. The tragedy of Darius and Girenas finally won the world's sympathy to the staunch little Republic of Lithuania, and to those in America who sponsored their flight, and to their brave families.

The bodies were flown to Kaunas. The Lithuanian government, army, numerous organizations and over 60,000 people attended the funeral.

The reasons for Lituanica's crash are still not clear. The American aviator, Charles A. Lindbergh, who had made a solo-flight across the Atlantic in 1927, declared that the deaths of the Lithuanian pilots seemed very strange and distressing to him.

A commission set up by the Lithuanian government indicated in a statement that the aeroplane could have crashed because of bad atmospheric conditions that night. The West European and American press printed stories saying that the

aeroplane might have been shot down.

Stasys Girenas was born in Vytogala, county of Raseiniai, on October 4, 1893. He was the youngest of sixteen children in a peasant family. He emigrated to the United States in 1910 and settled in Chicago, where he became a mechanic. In 1917, he joined the United States Army and changed his original name Girskis to Girch. He served in the 136th airborne squadron until 1919. Following his discharge, he learned to fly and he and a friend bought a three-seater plane. He was seriously injured in an accident in 1925. He recovered and continued flying, became a flying instructor, bought a new plane and transported passengers.

In 1931 he won an event at the aviation festival sponsored by the American Legion Aviation Post in Chicago. At an altitude of 1,000 feet he cut the engine of his plane and glided into the designated landing area. In 1932 he joined up with Steponas Darius and they planned their non-stop Atlantic crossing to Lithuania. Girch now change his name to Girenas.

Steponas Darius was born in Rubiske, county of Taurage, on January 8, 1896. His name originally was Darasius. In 1917, while living in the United States, he changed his name to Darius, settling in Elizabeth N. J., he later moved to Chicago, Ill. where he graduated from

(Continued on page 4)

Look to the Future of the New Arrival

April Showers Bring May Flowers to brighten our days. An April Endowment Policy now will brighten the future for that new baby 20 years from now. It can be cashed in for college expenses or whatever the need may be at that time. It that child chooses, he/she may re-invest in a new option. Whatever the choice, the time to invest is NOW! For as little as \$6.68 per month, you're giving your child a gift of \$2,000 for his/her 20th birthday. Should you desire a larger investment, a monthly payment of \$16.02 for the newborn will provide him/her with coverage of \$5,000. Think it over. In 20 years it's cash in hand and it's also full coverage for the subscribed amount in life insurance during those 20 years. Interested??? Fill in the Application form. Choose the 20 year endowment or one of the other 3 policies that best suit your needs. We'll be in touch as soon as we hear from you.

Twenty Year Endowment (Annual Premium)*

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	74.22	178.05	351.10
10	74.50	178.75	352.50
20	75.08	180.20	355.40
40	78.86	189.65	374.30
50	85.68	206.70	408.40
60	102.50	248.73	492.50

Life Paid Up at 80 (Annual Premium)*

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	13.38	25.95	46.90
5	14.28	28.20	51.40
15	17.60	36.50	68.00
60	94.58	228.95	452.90
70	193.88	477.20	949.40

Twenty Payment Life (Annual Premium)*

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	17.16	35.40	65.80
5	18.48	38.70	72.40
15	23.30	50.75	96.50
50	65.46	156.15	307.30
60	94.58	228.95	452.90

Single Premium Life (One Payment Only)

Age	\$2000	\$5000	\$10,000
0	106	265	530
5	116	290	580
15	160	400	800
25	220	550	1,100
60	804	2,010	4,020
70	1,100	2,750	5,500

* All rates quoted

APPLICATION REQUEST FORM

Name of Applicant _____
 Address: _____

 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Amount of Coverage _____ Date of Birth _____

(Please check policy requested)

Life Paid Up At Age 80 Twenty Year Endowment
 Twenty Payment Life Single Premium

Return form to:
 Lithuanian Catholic Alliance
 71-73 S. Washington Street
 Wilkes-Barre, Pa 18701

CPS Actuary Report March 8, 1993

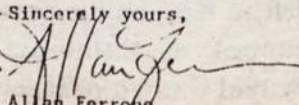
Gentlemen:

We have completed a valuation of the outstanding certificates of the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance as of December 31, 1992 according to the schedules of insurance in force submitted to us, and have found the reserves, on the bases specified below, to be as follow:

Reserve for Life Certificates and Contracts	
American Experience 3%	\$ 581,934
1941 Standard Industrial 3%	117,825
American Men Ultimate 3%	441,758
1980 CSO 4 1/2%	4,609
1980 CSO 5 1/2%	56,031
1926-33 Intercompany D.I. with	
1941 CSO 2 1/2%	141
150% Class 3 with 1941 CSO 2 1/2%	53
Reserve for non-deduction of deferred premiums	1,018
Extra mortality reserve	4,333
Unearned premium reserve	1,632
Reserve for immediate payment of claims	17,122
Total Life Reserve	\$1,226,456
Reserve for Accident & Health Certificates	9,670
Total Reserves	\$1,236,126

The Society's valuation indicated that based on the American Experience, 1941 Standard Industrial and American Men Ultimate Tables of Mortality, with interest at 3%, and the 1980 CSO Mortality Table with interest at 4 1/2% and 5 1/2%, the future assessments of the Alliance at the net rates then being collected, together with the admitted assets as they appeared in the Alliance's 1992 annual statement, were sufficient to meet all certificates as they mature by their terms with a margin of safety of \$850,774 (or 66.77%) above the statutory standards.

Ratios of assets to liabilities: 1992-166.77%; 1991-173.35%; 1990-170.79%; 1989-167.94%; 1988-171.02%.

Sincerely yours,

 Allan Ferrone,
 Actuary

GARSAS

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Bishop Baltakis Seeks Support of Lithuanian Americans

The following is a message from Bishop Paul A. Baltakis, Chairman of the Board of the Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid. Bishop Baltakis is the Bishop for the Spiritual Assistance of Catholics living outside of Lithuania.

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

Although Lithuania has won its national sovereignty, the attainment of true freedom will depend on the nation's religious, moral and spiritual renewal and the blessings of God.

With your support and that of others concerned with the good of the people of Lithuania, Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid has been successfully providing assistance, in accordance with the needs of various changing times and changing opportunities, since 1960. During the years of Soviet occupation and persecution, this assistance took the form of translation and distribution of the CHRONICLE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN LITHUANIA, which served to inform the free world about the genocide of the Lithuanian nation, as well as the provision of financial and material support

for the Church and prisoners of conscience. During the period of national renewal and re-establishment of independence, LCRA turned to organizing large-scale shipments of religious, ideological, scientific and technical literature; communications and computer technology; medical supplies and equipment; and everyday necessities (a total of 28 containers have been shipped thus far).

At this point, the political turn of events as well as requests being received from priests and educators indicate that Lithuania's greatest need is support for its process of religious, spiritual and social renewal. As one teacher from Lithuania said recently, "We will get through the economic crisis, but what will we do about the nation's moral values?"

In the name of Lithuania's bishops and Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid, I call on you to support our work to the full extent you are able.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop Paul A. Baltakis, OFM
Chairman of the Board

Soup Kitchens in Vilnius

Soup kitchens opened in Vilnius and Marijampole. The Marijampole chapter of Caritas opened a soup kitchen in the parish center in November. The kitchen currently services 35-45 needy individuals.

Future plans include expansion to accommodate additional people. While food is brought to the table, excerpts from the Scriptures and other religious writing are read aloud and common prayer is offered before and after meals.

On December 1 the "Betanija" soup kitchen opened its doors in Vilnius. This kitchen, organized on Archbishop Audrys Backis'

initiative, is currently serving approximately 100 people. This number is expected to increase to 500 in the near future. Archbishop Backis addressed those working on the project on the eve of the opening saying, "I would like very much for those coming here to get not only a hot bowl of soup, but a sense of warmth and love as well, which is more scarce than food among us today. Let this place become a center of love and spirituality, where everyone will be awaited and welcomed in the spirit of love."

XXI Amzius
LCRA

Lithuania Prepares to Greet the Holy Father

On January 7, a press conference was held in Vilnius by the organizational committee for the visit of Pope John Paul II to Lithuania. The participants included Archbishop of Vilnius Audrys Juozas Backis; Archbishop Justo Mullor Garcia, papal nuncio to Lithuania; Minister without portfolio Algimantas Matulevicius (government representative for the Papal visit); and Gintaras Grusas, deacon, Secretary General of the committee.

It is anticipated that the Holy Father will be in Lithuania September 6-8. He will visit Vilnius, Siluva (site of a Marian apparition in 1608), and the Hill of Crosses (near the city of

Siauliai). Mass will be celebrated in Vilnius' Vingis Park.

Preparation for this visit is currently underway in Lithuania, first and foremost through school catechistic programs. Lithuanian artists have been asked to submit original artwork to be considered in the selection of an emblem to correspond with the occasion's chosen theme: "Let us give witness to Christ, who has set us free." Because the Holy Father has expressed a special interest in the concerns of youth in various nations throughout his travels, the committee has asked that the young people of Lithuania submit writings on questions or problems of importance to them.

LCRA

Lithuania Suffering De-Christianization and Loss of Moral Values

Independent Lithuania's political and social landscape, conditions, and the needs of the Catholic community are all rapidly changing. In accord with this, Lithuanian Catholic Religious Aid (LCRA) is also changing directions.

Chairman of the Board Bishop Paul Baltakis, in his statement to the Board of Directors at a meeting held on January 23, emphasized the need for LCRA to adapt to the Lithuanian nation's evolving needs.

He recommended a shift in focus to the new areas and means of support in order to provide greater assistance in the spheres of religious and moral education and assist in the Church's effort to counter the nation's growing de-christianization and tragic loss of moral values. Dr. Elona Vaisnys, LCRA vice-president, presented a five year plan of action for LCRA in keeping with this new direction, which is currently being reviewed by the board and will be taken up at the next meeting.

Due to the scarcity of gasoline in Lithuania and to her economic difficulties, Caritas has expressed concern over their ability to distribute large aid shipments at this time. Consequently, LCRA plans to reduce the number of shipments to be made during this year.

While maintaining our commitment to providing humanitarian aid (medical supplies, books, etc.) in accord with our abilities to do so, we also plan to focus greater attention on support for Lithuania's Catholic schools, religious education, the Catholic press, and religious communities. Catechization and evangelization are also expanding areas which need our help. Therefore, now more than ever, your support is needed for the benefit of Catholics in Lithuania.

Our primary concern is to insure that once churches throughout the country have been restored and new ones built, they not remain empty.

LCRA

Recipes

Send your recipes to:

Garsas Recipes
c/o Lithuanian Catholic
Alliance
71-73 S. Washington St.
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18701-3033
From the kitchen of
FRAN SHOPPEL
VIRITOS

Viritos contains alcohol and therefore needs to be prepared with extreme caution.

Read the directions carefully and make sure the pot is taken away from the stove to the sink when adding the alcohol. Pour very slowly - it will bubble and is capable of exploding. If directions are carefully followed you will have a special Lithuanian treat when company comes a-calling.

Peel of 1 lemon
peel of 1 orange
18 oz. water
2 tblsp. caraway seeds

Combine the above ingredients, bring to a boil, and simmer slowly until 1/2 of liquid remains.

Strain; and pour into a 2 quart pot. Add 8 oz. of light colored honey and slowly heat until hot. Remove pot from stove area and very slowly add one quart of grain alcohol.

Return to stove and bring to a soft boil stirring constantly.

Pour into Grain Alcohol bottle. There should be some extra after filling bottle.

It should clear and settle in a few days.

American Lithuanian Youth Conference

Would you like to find out how to help Lithuania? Would you like to meet young Lithuanians from other cities? Would you enjoy spending a few days in sunny California? The American Lithuanian Youth Association's 1993 Conference is a wonderful opportunity for all three! The theme of this conference is "How young people living in America

BEAN SOUP

1 lb. navy beans
2 lb. butt end of ham
8 cups cold water
2 cups diced celery
1/2 cup diced potatoes
1/2 cup chopped onions
1 lb. can tomatoes
2 tsp. minced parsley
Salt and pepper to taste
Soak beans overnight in cold water to cover.

Pour in colander and rinse. Cover with fresh water and cook beans until tender.

Cover ham with cold water and cook until tender. Skim fat from the broth and add the drained beans, celery, onion and potatoes. Cook until vegetables are tender and add tomatoes and salt and pepper to taste.

OLD FASHIONED CORN BREAD

In medium sized bowl:
1 cup yellow cornmeal
1 cup flour
1/4 cup sugar
1 tsp. salt
4 tsp. baking powder
Mix above ingredients together then add:
1 egg
1 cup milk
1/4 cup soft butter or margarine

Beat until smooth, about 1 minute, do not overbeat.

Pour in greased square pan and bake in hot oven (425) 20 to 25 minutes.

Cut into squares - serve piping hot.

can help Lithuania."

The conference will be held at the Bay View Plaza Holiday Inn in Santa Monica, California (310) 399-9344. The rooms are only \$85 per night. The conference will be held from April 30 to May 2nd. Write this on your calendar and begin looking for

(Continued on page 6)

Lithuanian Ethnic Camps July 11 - 24 & 25 - 31

Camp Ausra located in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pa. in Elmhurst will be open July 11 - 24 to children 8 to 16 years of age.

Lithuanian traditions and language are taught along with songs and dances. Folk tales are dramatized and arts and crafts are a daily experience. Sports, swimming and hiking are great outdoor activities and evenings are spent being entertained by the various groups of campers.

Religion and personal growth are interwoven in all activities of daily camping with campers able to attend Mass three days out of the week.

If your child is sports minded there will be a Basketball Camp from July 25th to the 31st. Registrants must be between the ages of 8 - 16.

For further information on either of these two camps contact Sister M. Angela at (717) 874-0351 after 5 PM.

(Continued from page 1)

Harrison Technical High School and Lane Junior College.

In 1917 he joined the United States Army as a volunteer and served as a telephone operator in field artillery regiment 149, a member of the famous 42 Rainbow Division. He took part in the second Battle of the Marne (July 15 to Aug. 7, 1918) in this division, the first American combat division to arrive in France during World War I.

In 1920 he returned to Lithuania and enlisted in the Lithuanian army as a volunteer. In 1927 he was promoted to the rank of captain and in that same year he returned to the United States where they took part in civil aviation delivering passengers, post, newspapers and goods flying all kinds of aeroplanes. In Florida he practiced flying over the sea and finding his bearings according to the stars.

It was in 1932 that he came to an agreement with Stasys Girenas to fly to Lithuania across the Atlantic. With their own money (\$3,200) they bought a six-seater Bellanca aeroplane (Model Ch-300 Pacemaker) which they named Lituanica.

Darius and Girenas carried out a daring and hazardous flight. Having decided not to touch down until Kaunas, they had to

take off from New York carrying a great deal of weight without a controllable-pitch propeller. They flew on without modern navigational instruments but kept to their route accurately and according to the long-distance flying record of that time were second in the world (after R. Boardman and J. Poland). In this way, even though they did not reach Lithuania, they became national heroes and an example to young people. Indeed, they had emphasized this in a testamentary note, before setting out, in these words: "May the success of Lituanica strengthen the spirit of the young sons of Lithuania and inspire them to new ventures. May the failure teach young Lithuanians strong will and determination."

A committee has been formed for the 2-day event to be held Saturday, July 17 and Sunday, July 18.

The plans and the success of this historic event cannot be accomplished without the support of the Lithuanian-American community. Anyone wishing to make a donation is asked to make their check payable to the Darius-Girenas

Commemoration Fund, and send to Val Ramonis, Chairman c/o the Balzekas Museum, 6500 S. Pulaski Rd., Chicago, IL 60629.

We Get Letters

Dear Florence,

I read your article in the GARSAS, "Entertainer Priests." As you say, you are not alone because I feel the same way. At my church, I went to a 9:30 Mass one Sunday and I couldn't believe I was in my church. It was a Children's Mass with parents. The children formed a ring around the altar and started to sing Happy Birthday to some one and clapping hands. Well that's all I had to hear. I went to church to hear Mass and after Mass recite my Rosary which isn't done much anymore. That really distracted me and I felt as if I was at a party taking part and in it. Well that cured me and I started to go to 4:30 Mass on Saturday with no interruptions and I felt a little better. I was able to know I was in church. Too bad religion has changed so much. I sure did enjoy the article you wrote.

Mary Hicks
New Britain, CT.

Dear Florence,

You always write a good column. I am always happy to see the mailman. This last column I read I would like to put on every Catholic Church door in this country. I agree on every word you say. Keep up the good work and God love you.

Yours truly,
Helen Sullivan
St. Louis, MO.

We received several phone calls and even walk-ins to the office on this particular article

and thank all those who took the time to express their concerns.

Dear Mrs. Eckert,

Thank you for the copy of GARSAS that included an article about Fr. Werenfried van Straaten and his 80th birthday.

I have passed on the copy to our International office in Konigstein, Germany and to Father's attention. I know he will be very pleased to see the article.

Thank you again for the support of the LCA through its' publication GARSAS, in assisting the Church in Need.

Sincerely,
Robert W. Lulley
National Director
"Aid to the Church in Need"

Dear Florence,

Thank you for the wonderful article and coverage you gave us in GARSAS! I was so delighted and passed it on for everyone to see.

We also greatly appreciate you taking the time to correctly route the check from Father Mockevicius to Christian Children's fund. It was a lovely letter and we are grateful for the time you took in your already busy schedule to handle this matter.

With our sincerest thanks and best wishes,

Nancy J. Hein
Manager, Volunteers
Christian Children's Fund

Garsas Reaches Lithuania

In our December 1992 edition of Garsas we had a picture story about a local man, George Wanta who visited Lithuania and while there struck up a friendship with a 12 year old boy named Arunas who has high hopes of some day visiting America.

George sent a copy of GARSAS to the boy who was overjoyed to see his picture in a newspaper. So overjoyed in fact that he took

the newspaper to school to show to his teacher and classmates.

George also received a letter from a woman who had helped him find the grave of a relative while he was in Lithuania.

She wrote of the disappointment of the people that after 50 years of communist rule the people now elect a communist for president.

Down Memory Lane

Kozerski Home Ripped by Blast

An explosion ripped through a home at 89 Abbot St., Plains Township, in the afternoon of May 21st, injuring a 4-year-old girl and her grandparents.

Admitted to General Hospital were John W. and Mary Kozerski, 35 Hilldale Ave., Plains, and Kelly Kozerski.

Mr. and Mrs. Kozerski and Kelly were listed in fair condition that same night at the hospital. Hospital personnel reported Mr. and Mrs. Kozerski suffered multiple contusions and concussions while the girl sustained first-degree burns of both hands.

The couple was babysitting for their granddaughter when the explosion occurred. The occupants of the dwelling, John and Jackie Kozerski, were not at

home at the time and two other children were in school.

The home was damaged heavily by the explosion, and all four walls were blown out by the blast.

It is believed that an accumulation of gas in the home caused the explosion. According to reports, a construction crew had cut down a tree at the side of the structure and the tree apparently fell on top of a gas main. The line ruptured and gas began seeping into the dwelling either through a pipe or a sewer.

What triggered the explosion has not been determined.

Mr. and Mrs. Kozerski are Secretary and President, respectively, of LCA Lodge 212 in Plains.

Exchange Students Need Homes

Host families are being sought for 25 high school students from several foreign countries for the upcoming school year, in a program sponsored by the American International Youth Student Exchange Program.

The students, age 15 through 18, will arrive late August, attend local high schools and return to their home country in June, next year.

The students, all fluent in English, have been screened by

school representatives in their home countries and will have spending money and medical insurance. Host families may deduct \$50 per month for income tax purposes.

If you are interested in hosting, please contact AIYSEP International Headquarters: Office of the Director, 200 Round Hilol Road, Tiburon, CA. 94920.

Phone: 1-800-347-7575 FAX: 415-499-7669.

Legend of the Dogwood

Once upon a time, the dogwood was as mighty as an oak. Then, one day, the Roman authorities decided to use it for the cross of Jesus. Upon learning this, the tree was seized with sorrow.

But Jesus sensed the agony of the dogwood timbers over the cruel duty they were forced to perform. And in His great compassion Jesus said: "Because of

your sorrow over my suffering, you shall henceforth grow slender, bent and twisted, so that your wood can never again be used as a cross. And you shall bear blossoms in the shape of a cross. And on them shall appear a crown of thorns and nail prints stained with red so that all who see them will remember that I carried you to Calvary."

Home Town Business Men Honor Kozerski



A proven leader on the football field, Cincinnati Bengals' offensive lineman, Bruce Kozerski was recently honored by the Plains Business and Professional Men's Association.

Close to 400 fans, friends and family filled the banquet hall at the Woodlands in his hometown of Plains, Pa.

He was presented citations from the Governor of Pa., Robert Casey and Pa. Congressman, Paul Kanjorski; State House and Senate awards sponsored by Rep. Thomas Tigue and Sen. Ray Musto; the key to the city of Wilkes-Barre from Mayor Lee Namey; along with honors from

the Plains Twp. Commissioners, Wyoming Valley Chapter of Unico, the Coughlin football Booster Club and a beautiful portrait sponsored by the PBPMA and done by Andy Palacar.

A graduate of Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., he won the outstanding student/athlete award there in his senior year. He played four years at Holy Cross where he was a national honor student with a 3.7 grade-point average as a physics major. In 1990, he was inducted into the Holy Cross Athletic Hall of Fame.

Kozerski spends much of his free time speaking to youth groups about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

His contract with Cincinnati Bengals has two years to go and Kozerski is looking forward to at least one more contract before he even thinks about retiring.

His personal goal is to win a Super Bowl and to play in the Pro bowl.

Bruce Kozerski is a member of Lodge 212. The Kozerski family is well represented in the Lithuanian Catholic Alliance with Bruce's grandmother Mary Kozerski holding the office of chairman of the Judicial Committee and his grandfather John secretary of Lodge 212.

Kozerski and his wife Elizabeth have been married for 8 years and live in Edgewood, Kentucky. They have a 4 year old son Matthew.

Birthday Baby



Lauren M. Solano, daughter of Frank and Patti Solano, 3522 W.

Frankfurt Dr., Chandler, Arizona celebrated her first birthday February 22.

Maternal grandparents are Marions and Tony Perks, Pittston, Pa. Paternal grandparents are Claire and Frank Solano, Westminster Rd., Wilkes-Barre.

Lauren her grandmother and her great grandmother are all members of Lodge 7.

Lauren M. Solano

Mother Theresa, Dalai Lama to Join Religious Festival in Chicago

Mother Theresa plans to join the Dalai Lama and hundreds of other sectarian leaders this summer in Chicago at the Parliament of the World's Religions, according to leaders of the religious festival.

The parliament, first held in 1893 in conjunction with the Columbian Exposition, was informed of the nun's pledge to participate by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, said the Rev. David Ramage, chairman of the event.

Ramage and Daniel Gomex-

Ibanex, parliament executive director, said 5,000 people are likely to attend the Aug. 28 - Sept. 4 gathering centered at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago.

Mother Theresa is scheduled to lead a closed session of key participants on future cooperative efforts among the world's religions and the Dalai Lama will give the closing address.

The goal of the eight-day event is to affirm what faiths have in common to reduce intolerance and violence.

Chicagoans Meet the Holy Father



Rev. John Kuzinkas, pastor of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Chicago, Ill., and Sister Marilyn Kuzminskas was one of the concelebrants of Holy Mass with the Pope. Following the Eucharistic celebration he had the opportunity to converse with the Holy Father in both English and Lithuania.

Youth Conference

(Continued from page 4)

inexpensive flights to Los Angeles. The cost of registration for the conference is only \$50 and it includes Saturday night's banquet, the dance, and coffee

and danishes in the morning. All Lithuanians between the ages of 18 and 35 are invited to attend. To register for the conference, please contact Auris Jasrasunas at 947 18th St. Santa Monica, CA 90403.

Rev. C. F. Edunk Dies in Crash

The man who believed "it is never too late to pursue a higher education" lived to have his childhood dream come true and spent almost five years enjoying the beauty of that dream before meeting death in a one-car crash. The Rev. Charles F. Edunk, pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Joseph Churches, Duryea, Pa., died Monday, April 5, shortly following the accident.

Rev. Edunk was the son of the late Charles and Mary Badzjonas Edunk and was a graduate of Plymouth High School and King's College, Wilkes-Barre.

He was the first native son to be called to ordination from St. Casimir's (Lithuanian) Church, in the Lynwood Section of Hanover Township, and formerly in Larksville, in about twenty-five years.

A second career vocation, Rev. Mr. Edunk worked for many years for Atwater, Inc., of

Plymouth, Pa., prior to entering the seminary.

He began his college career by participating in the part-time continuing education program at King's College, Wilkes-Barre.

He graduated from King's magna cum laude with a BA in Theology and a minor in Philosophy.

While at King's, he was a member of several honor societies, and president of the Alpha Sigma Lambda. At Pope John XXIII Seminary, he was a member of the Academic Committee, vice-president of his class for two years, and served as Copy and Design Editor for the monthly Seminary Newsletter, which is mailed to Bishops, vocation directors and interested people throughout the country.

He completed his fourth year of Theology at Pope John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts.

On the occasion of his

ordination to the Diaconate for the Scranton Diocese at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton, on Saturday, March 5, 1988, he said.

"There are many men out there, who for one reason or another, did not answer the call to priesthood in their younger years, but still feel the desire to serve the Lord now. Pope John XXIII Seminary is the place to discern this vocation. This seminary is designed to assist the 'not so young' man in making the right decision. The curriculum, faculty, and staff at Pope John are well prepared to do this," he said.

In addition, he firmly believed that, "It is never too late to pursue a higher education."

Rev. Edunk was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop James C. Timlin, on Saturday, September 3, 1988, just 26 days short of his 59th birthday.

He celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday,



Rev. Charles F. Edunk

September 4, 1988, in St. Casimir's Church, Lynwood, one of the oldest Lithuanian parishes in the United States, being founded in 1889 by Reverend Alexander Burba.

Pontifical Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Bishop James Timlin Wednesday, April 7, in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Duryea. Interment was in St. Casimir's Cemetery, Muhlenburg.

Tauras Club Installs Officers and Directors

The installation of officers and directors of the Tauras Club of Scranton for the coming year was held recently after the regular monthly meeting. Following the installation a hot beef buffet was served in the clubrooms.

The Tauras Club was organized in 1928 as a business men's dinner club and continued as such until 1946 when it was disbanded. In 1950 it was reactivated by a group of young Lithuanian men, mostly from North Scranton, and the following were the active participants of the club at the time of reorganization: Adam Martin, John Stirna, Joseph C. Kveragas, Frank Katilus, Dr. Walter Spelling, Frank Cooper, Peter Putirskas, Andrew Sack,

Dr. Joseph Sack, Jonas Stepanauckas, Dr. William Christian, William Yanoshat, Anthony Yanoshat, Victor Rauchinskas, Dr. Gustaitis, Joseph Noreika and William Kersavage.

In 1977, the Club purchased a building on W. Market St. in Scranton which continues to serve as "Home" to the present time.

In 1950 there were approximately 100 members in the club. Today the membership has grown to nearly 1700 members.

The purpose of the club is for the advancement of the welfare of all Lithuanians in the closest bonds of good fellowship, and for the protection and promotion of the American way of life and government.



Pictured are the newly installed officers and directors of the Tauras Club of Scranton. Seated from left: William J. Moran, Secretary-Treasurer; Frank Shutkufski, Chairman of the Board; Robert Bonevich, Director; J.C. Kveragas, Director. Standing from left: Anthony Povilitis, Sgt.-at-arms, John Kanton, Director; William Chessick, Jr. President and Edward Tamosaitis, Director. Missing from photo, Robert Keboski, Vice-President.

LIETUVOS VYSKUPŲ "AD LIMINA" VIZITAS VATIKANE

Po 50 metų pirmą kartą šiemet Lietuvos vyskupai visi kartu dalyvavo "Ad limina" apsilankyme Vatikane. Atvyko Kauno arkivyskupas-metropolitas kardinolas Vincentas Sladkevičius ir jo pagelbininkai vysk. Vladas Michelevičius ir vysk. Sigitas Tamkevičius, SJ; Vilniaus arkivyskupas-metropolitas Audrys Bačkis su pagelbininku vysk. Juozu Tunaičiu; Panevėžio vysk. Juozas Preikšas; Telšių vysk. Antanas Vaičius; Vilkaviškio vysk. Juozas Žemaitis, MIC; išeivijos lietuvių vysk. Paulius A. Baltakis, OFM, kuris, nors oficialiai priklauso Amerikos Vyskupų Konferencijai, kartu yra ir Lietuvos Vyskupų Konferencijos "dalyvaujantis narys".

Jie lankėsi Vatikane pagal esamą tvarką, kai kas penkeri metai visi vyskupai, ypač ordinarai, privalo asmeniškai atvykti į Vatikaną pasimelsti prie Šv. Petro karsto (ad limina) ir Šv. Tėvui, Šv. Petro įpėdiniui, duoti smulkia apyskaitą apie savo vyskupijų padėtį. Pranešimai atsiunčiami iš anksto, kad popiežius ir kongregacijos (Šv. Sosto ministerijos) galėtų su jais susipažinti ir vyskupų apsilankymo metu ap-

tarti esamas problemas.

Vyskupai į Romą atvyko vasario 19 d. ir apsistojo Šv. Kazimiero kolegijoje. Oficialus vizitas pradėtas vasario 22 d., 7:30 val. mišiomis Šv. Petro bazilikos Aušros Vartų koplyčioje, kur pradžioje sveikinimo žodį tarė Vincentas Sladkevičius.

Tą pačią dieną ir kitomis dienomis Lietuvos ganytojai Vatikane aplankė ir Lietuvos reikalais pasitarė devyniose kongregacijose: vyskupų, kunigų, pasauliečių, šeimų, katalikiško auklėjimo, tikėjimo ir sakramentų bei kulto, dialogo su netikinčiais bei kultūros ir imigrantų pastoracijos.

Vasario 24 d. visi Lietuvos vyskupai ir iš Vokietijos atvykęs vyskupas emeritas Antanas Deksnys dalyvavo bendroje generalinėje audiencijoje, kurios metu Šv. Tėvas pasidžiaugė, kad Lietuva atgavo valstybinę nepriklausomybę bei religinę laisvę, kad pirmą kartą visi Lietuvos vyskupai galėjo atvykti oficialaus vizito ir kad jis pats greitai lankysis Lietuvoje.

Oficialus vizitas baigtas vasario 27 d. lietuviškomis mišiomis privačioje Šv. Tėvo koplyčioje,

po to bendra ir individualia vyskupų audiencija bei atsisveikinimo pietumis Šv. Tėvo valgoma-jame.

Pirmiausia, ankstyvą rytą visi vyskupai ir Romoje gyvenantys lietuviai kunigai kartu su Šv. Tėvu privačioje koplyčioje koncertavo Mišias. Mišiose su Popiežium taip pat dalyvavo Romos Šv. Kazimiero Lietuvių Kolegijos auklėtiniai ir seserys vienuolės.

Mišioms pasibaigus, Šv. Tėvas lietuvius vyskopus priėmė audiencijoje. Jos metu pirmiausia prabilo kardinolas Sladke-

vičius itališkai.

Šventasis Tėvas, atsakydamas, savo kalbos pradžią ir pabaigą perskaitė lietuviškai

Šia audiencija ir baigėsi "Ad limina" vizito rėmuose numatyti Lietuvos vyskupų susitikimai su Šv. Tėvu ir Romos Kurijos pareigūnais.

Į Lietuvą ganytojai išskrido kovo 1 d. Prieš tai, vasario 28 d., jie koncertavo mišias Vatikano radijo koplyčioje. Mišioms už Lietuvą vadovavo kard. Sladkevičius, pamokslą pasakė jo pagelbininkas vyskupas Sigitas Tamkevičius. Mišios buvo transliuojamos į Lietuvą, kaip kiekvieną sekmadienį.

LIETUVOJE IR APIE LIETUVĄ

— 26 tūkstančiai žmonių 1992 m. iš Lietuvos išvyko kitur gyventi. Daugiausia į Rusiją, Gudiją, Ukrainą. Išvykti į Vakarus pateikė pareiškimus 992 Lietuvos piliečiai, tarp jų 293 į JAV, 122 į Vokietiją, kiti į Lenkiją, Kanadą, Australiją ir kt. Iki šių metų sausio 1 d. buvo neišnagrinėti 139 pareiškimai. Be minėto srauto į Rusiją, Gudiją ir Ukrainą, iš Lietuvos išvyko 466 žydai, 105 lietuviai, 47 vokiečiai, 41 lenkas, 3 graikai, tiek pat totorių, 2 suomiai ir po 1 karelą ir kiną.

— Vilniaus gyventojai už butų nuomą ir komunalines paslaugas seniūnijoms sausio 1 d. buvo įsi-

skolinę 95,3 milijono talonų. Tai maždaug pusė visų mokesčių. Savo ruožtu seniūnijos įsiskolinusios komunalinių paslaugų įmonėms už karšto ir šalto vandens, šilumos ir dujų tiekimą apie 175 milijonus talonų. Neaišku, kas ir kada šias skolas padengs.

— ELI LILLY, JAV vaistų gamintoji firma, lėktuvu Lietuvon atgabeno į Vilnių 5,000 flakonų ilgai veikiančio žmogaus insulino humulino "NPH" už daugiau kaip \$30,000. Insulinas išdalintas per Lietuvos Diabeto asociacijos suvažiavimą Lietuvoje veikiančių 28 Diabeto klubų nariams.

PREZIDENTO RINKIMAMS PASIBAIGUS

Oficialūs prezidento rinkimų duomenys paskelbti vasario 17 d. Patvirtinusi balsų skaičiavimo protokolą, kuriame įrašyta, kad rinkimuose dalyvavo 2,019,015 piliečių iš 2,568,016, įtrauktų į rinkėjų sąrašus, Rinkimų komisija paskelbė, kad prezidentu išrinktas Algirdas Mykolas Brazauskas. Už Brazauską paduota 1,212,075 balsai, kas sudaro 60.03 procento rinkimuose dalyvavusių rinkėjų.

Už Stasį Lozoraitį balsavo 772,922 rinkėjai, arba 38.28 procento. Tik Kauno mieste ir išeivijoje gyvenančiųjų balsuotojų tarpe Lozoraitis surinko daugiau balsų už Brazauską.

Lietuvos diplomatinė atstovybių užsienyje duomenimis, rinkimuose dalyvavo 6,595 Lietuvos piliečiai. Ir visose 23-ose rinkimų apylinkėse užsienio valstybėse nugalėjo Lozoraitis. Iš jų

5,485 balsavo už Lozoraitį, 1,005 už Brazauską.

Iš JAV 1,923 rinkėjų už Lozoraitį balsus atidavė 1,803. Rusijos lietuviai Lozoraičiui atidavė 713, Brazauskui — 563. Iš Kanados 1,023 balsuotojų Lozoraitis gavo 1,006 balsus. Australijos rinkėjai iš 476 balsų už Lozoraitį atidavė 451.

Naujasis prezidentas savo buvusį oponentą Stasį Lozoraitį pakvietė ir toliau eiti Lietuvos ambasadoriaus pareigas Washingtone. Tuo tarpu dar nebuvo Lozoraičio tuo reikalu oficialaus pranešimo, nors jis yra išreiškęs, kad "nematąs kliūčių tose pareigose pasilikti ir toliau". Ateinančių poros savaičių laikotarpyje bus sudaryta ir naujoji Lietuvos vyriausybė, o jos ligšiolinis premjeras Bronius Lubys grįžta vadovauti Jonavos "Azoto" įmonei.



Lietuvos ambasadorių Aniceta Simutį sveikina JAV ambasadorė Madeleine Albright. Salomėjos Narkėliūnaitės nuotr.

LIETUVA PAMINĖJO SAVO NEPRIKLAUSOMYBĖS 75-METĮ JUNGTYNĖSE TAUTOSE

Apie trys šimtai užsienio valstybių diplomatų ir Jungtinių Tautų agentūrų atstovų, New Yorko valstijos, Bažnyčios ir lietuvių svečių paminėjo Lietuvos nepriklausomybės 75-ąją vasario 16 d. Tai buvo Jungtinių Tautų restorano patalpose įvykusiame priėmime, kurį surengė Lietuvos ambasadorius Jungtinėse Tautose Anicetas Simutis, talkinamas New Yorko lietuvių komiteto.

Prie įėjimo, šalia Jungtinių Tautų ir Lietuvos vėliavų, svečius pasitiko ir sveikino ambasadorius Simutis su žmona ir visas misijos štabas. O tų margų svetelių buvo iš viso plataus pasaulio, netrūko ir lietuvių, kurių dvi newyorkietės, tautiniais drabužiais dėvėdamos, sėdėjo prie registracijos stalo ir oficialiame sąrašė atžymėdavo atvykstančiuosius.

Ir pasipylė gi jų iš visų pasaulio kontinentų. Taip, kaip ir pridera tarptautinei organizacijai. Jei kitose šių rūmų salėse tie ambasadoriai kiekvienas sėdi savo vietose alfabetine tvarka, tai čia jie sveikinasi, kalbėjosi, kėlė tosta ar "laužė duoną" kaip kiek-

vienam buvo patogiau. Jie maišėsi tarp minios ir mažais ar didesniais būreliais, šnekučiavosi, dažniausiai lietuvių apsupti.

Diplomatų buvo atvykę iš šių valstybių:

Suprantama, pirmoje eilėje Lietuvos kaimynės Latvija ir Estija, kurių atstovų buvo bent po kelis, toliau: Lenkija ir Gudija.

Europos valstybių svečių tarpe buvo ambasadoriai arba jų atstovai iš: Airijos, Bulgarijos, Čekijos, Danijos, Italijos, Kroatijos, Lichtenšteino, Liuksemburgo, Moldovos, Norvegijos, Olandijos, Portugalijos, San Marino, Slovakijos, Slovėnijos, Švedijos, Ukrainos, Vatikano, Vengrijos ir Vokietijos.

Iš Azijos kontinento buvo atstovaujamos šios valstybės: Azerbaidžianas, Bangladešas, Filipinai, Indonezija, Irakas, Iranas, Izraelis, Japonija, Kinija, Kipras, Kirgistanas, abidvi Korėjos, Laosas, Libanas, Malaizija, Pakistanas, Singapūras, Sirija, Sri Lanka, Vietnamas.

Iš Pacifiko regiono — Maršalų, Saliamonų salų ir Naujosios

Zelandijos svečiai.

Pietų Amerikos kontinento atstovai buvo: iš Argentinos, Čilės, El Salvadoro, Gvatemalos, Hondūro, Kostarikos, Paragvajaus ir Urugvajaus.

Be abejo, čia ne pilnas sąrašas, nes jis dar prasitęstų.

Pastebėta, kad nebuvo ir daugelio valstybių kviestų atstovų, kurie tą pačią dieną ir tuo pačiu metu, tik kitoje vietoje, dalyvavo Tuniso priėmime, ir Jungtinėse Tautose tame pačiame aukšte vykusiame Outer Space agentūros priėmime, ar turėjo kitus įsipareigojimus.

Kai jau priėmimas buvo įpusėjęs, ambasadorius Simutis "paprastė žodžio", kaip Jungtinėse Tautose sakoma, vartojant diplomatinį žargoną. Jis trumpai pasveikino susirinkusiuosius ir pristatė ypatingą viešnią. Tai buvo ambasadorė, atstovaujanti šaliai, į kurią laisvės ir ekonominės gerovės ieškant emigravo trečdalis lietuvių tautos. Jos vardas — Madeleine Albright, naujoji JAV

ambasadorė Jungtinėse Tautose.

Ambasadorė pasisakė, kad ji gimusi Čekoslovakijoje ir atvykusi į Ameriką po to, kai jos tėvynė buvo komunistų okupuota. Ji priėmė Amerikos pilietybę. Ji didžiuojasi, kad gali tarnauti šioje tarptautinėje organizacijoje savo šaliai — Amerikai. Pabrėžusi, kad ji jaučiasi artima Lietuvai ir supranta jos žmonių dvasią ir nuotaikas, džiaugėsi galėdama pasveikinti Lietuvą jos nepriklausomybės šventės sukakties proga. Prieš pusantų metų lankiusis Vilniuje. Jai didelį įspūdį padaręs Lietuvos sugrįžimas į narsumu paženklintą istoriją.

Nuaidėjo salėje bendras pritarimas ir garsus lietuvių plojimas. Tai pirmas sykis šioje JT patalpoje, kur Lietuva ir lietuviai būtų susilaukę tokių šiltų žodžių iš ambasadoriaus.

Ne mažiau jausmingai buvo sutiktas ir antrasis kalbėtojas — šįkart unikalus svečias tarptautiniuose priėmimuose — New Yorko kardinolas John O' Connor. Savo kalbą jisai pradėjo ke liomis lietuviškomis frazėmis, nelyginant papirkdamas jį apsupusius lietuvius, tarp kurių buvo ir pora lietuvių kunigų, tarp jų ir Išeivijos vyskupui Pauliui Baltakiui atstovavęs Tėvas Pranciškus Giedgaudas, OFM. Prie kardinolo prisijungė ir Šventojo Sosto atstovas JT nuncijus arkivyskupas Martino.

Kardinolas prisiminė, kad savo vaikystėje jam teko susitikti lietuvių, su kuriais jis kartu augęs, ir kad jis yra patyręs lietuvių gilų tikėjimą ir kaip jie "aistringai gina savo tautinę tapatybę". Jis dėkojo už jo pakvietimą šioje šventėje dalyvauti, o lietuviams ir Lietuvai linkėjo sėkmės ir Dievo palaimos. Baigdamas jis pabrėžė, kad gal lietuviai patys ir nesuvokia, kiek daug jų kova reiškė amerikiečiams. Ji buvusi įkvėpimo versmė, šviesos liepsnelė tamsybėje ir pavyzdys visiems. Už tai jis, metęs visus užsiėmimus, ir atvykęs nors trumpai čia pabūti su lietuviais ir jų tautai pareikšti padėką.

Šalia pagrindinių New Yorko ir jo apylinkių veikėjų, buvo svečių atvykę ir iš toliau.

Daugeliui atvykti sutrukdė ir nepalankus oras.



Lietuvos nepriklausomybės 75-ėčio minėjimo vasario 16 d. šventišką nuotaiką pagilinęs New Yorko kardinolas O' Connor kalba Lietuvos priėmime Jungtinėse Tautose. Dešinėje Lietuvos ambasadorius JT Anicetas Simutis, kardinolo dešinėje — JAV LB Visuomenės reikalų tarybos pirm. Algimantas Gečys, kardinolų kairėje — J. Simutienė, Vatikano nuncijus arkivyskupas Renato Raffaele Martino, kleb. kun. Vyt. Palubinskas, greatneckietis Henrikas Miklas. Salomėjos Narkėliūnaitės nuotrauka

PREZIDENTAS PRISIEKĖ KONSTITUCIJAI

— Kas laukia Lietuvos, prezidentu tapus Algirdui Brazauskui —

Vasario 25 d. ketvirtasis Lietuvos Prezidentas — Algirdas Brazauskas — Seimo rūmuose prisiekė Lietuvos Konstitucijai. Jo priesaiką priėmė Konstitucinio Teismo pirmasis teisėjas Juozas Žilys.

Priesaikos iškilmes stebėjo Seimo ir vyriausybės nariai, užsienio diplomatai, Bažnyčios dignitoriai ir kviesti svečiai. Po priesaikos akto, nuaidėjo Lietuvos himnas.

Po inauguracijos pasakytoje kalboje Prezidentas apžvelgė Lietuvos dabartį ir ateitį. "Mūsų valstybė yra tokia, kokie mes esame", — kalbėjo Brazauskas. Jis sakė, kad Lietuvos įstatymai bus lygiai vienodai taikomi visiems jos piliečiams, nepaisant tautinių, religinių, socialinių ar politinių skirtumų. "Meilė Lietuvai nėra patriotiniai šūkių", — pabrėžė jis, "bet našus kasdieninis darbas". Jis kvietė visus Lie-

tuvos žmones užmiršti praeities žaizdas ir dirbti Lietuvos gerovei.

Prezidento vėliava

Inauguracijos ceremonijų metu virš Seimo rūmų pakilo Prezidento vėliava, kurią Seimas savo sesijoje prieš savaitę buvo patvirtinęs. Vėliavą sukūrė dail. A. Každalis, o jos spalva purpurinė, ryškiai raudona herbo fone. Vėliavos viduryje — Lietuvos herbas, kurį laiko dvi figūros.

Vėliava atkeliavo į Seimo rūmus iškilmingoje eisenoje, kuri originaliai prasidėjo Gedimino kalne uždegus aukurą. Jos dalyviams atvykus prie arkikatedros, kur ją pasitiko Brazauskas, Vyriausybės bei Seimo atstovai ir šventovės administratorius prel. Kazimieras Vasiliauskas, nužengta į požemius ir ten padėti vainikai ant Lietuvos kunigaikščių karstų. Iš požemių

prezidentinė svita persikėlė į Šv. Kazimiero koplyčią, kur ir buvo atidengta Prezidento vėliava. Ją pašventino prel. Vasiliauskas.

Vilniečių nuotaikos buvo įvairios. Vėliavos šventinimo iškilnių metu Katedros aikštėje, o vėliau ir prie buvusių KGB rūmų, vėliavai keliaujant į Seimo rūmus, vyko demonstracijos prieš komunistus ir prieš Brazauską, ir inauguracijos garbei skirtas kariuomenės paradas prie Seimo.

Ši Prezidento inauguracija Lietuvos valstybės gyvenime bus istorinė ta prasme, kad Algirdas Brazauskas prisiekė Vilniuje, kai tuo tarpu trys buvusieji pirmieji Lietuvos prezidentai: Smetona, Grinius ir Stulginskis prisiekė Kaune, kuris tada buvo vadinamas Lietuvos laikinąja sostine.

Prezidentas imasi darbo

Kaip Lietuvos spauda pra-

neša, naujasis Prezidentas jau "pasiraitojes rankoves" darbui, kurio svarbiausias kursas būsiantis bandymas išbalansuoti Lietuvos santykius tarp Rytų ir Vakarų ir palaiapsniui atpalaiduoti Lietuvą nuo jos priklausymo nuo Rytų.

Nors ministro pirmininko pareigas ir toliau pasiliko eiti Bronislovas Lubys, ligi bus sudarytas naujasis kabinetas, Brazauskas jau buvo numatęs naujuoju premjeru 45 metų amžiaus inžinierių, savo partijos (LDDP) narį ir buvusį žemės ūkio ministro pavaduotoją Adolfą Šleževičių. Šleževičius pareiškė, kad jis vykdys ekonomines reformas, kaip tai darė ir buvusis kabinetas. Tuo tarpu Česlovas Juršėnas, kuris lig šiol ėjo laikinai Seimo pirmininko pareigas, išrinktas jo pirmininku. Jo oponentas Aloyzas Sakalas pralaimėjo prieš jį 64:11 balsų santykiu.

Kaip bus Lietuvai?

Kai kurie Lietuvos politinių partijų vadai spaudoje ("Lietuvos aide") jau pasisakė, ką jie galvoja apie Lietuvos ateitį, jos prezidentu tapus Brazauskui. Pavyzdžiui, Antanas Terleckas, politikos veikėjas, tvirtino, kad Lietuvos laukianti nauja okupacija. Esą Lietuva greitai laiku tapsianti tuo, kuo buvo — Rusijos imperijos kolonija.

Tuo tarpu tame pat dienraštyje Seimo narys Kazimieras Uoka manęs, kad Lietuvai gresia tas pats, kas ir Rusijai, kur ekonominis gyvenimas griūva, duodamas progos kilti socialinei revoliucijai, kuri atneštų totalitarinę valdžią.

Optimistiškiausiai nusiteikę lenkai ne tik Lietuvoje, bet ir Lenkijoje. Jie maną, kad gal Brazauskui ir pavyks surasti aukso vidurį tarp visuomenės kentėjimo ribos ir reformų greitumo.

O Rigmualdas Ozolas, Seimo Rytų komisijos pirmininkas, kuriam gerai pažįstamos buvusių Sovietų Sąjungos respublikų, ypač Rusijos, nuotaikos, mano, kad: "Stiprėjant tokiems politikams, kaip Ruckojus, Chasbulatovas, Lietuva negali labai daug ko tikėtis... Aš turiu vilties, kad mūsų vadovybė pakankamai aiš-

(nukelta į 11 psl.)



Pirmoji spaudos konferencija po prezidentinių rinkimų. Algirdas Brazauskas dėsto savo planus dėl Lietuvos ateities. Kairėje: vienas Brazausko patarėjų ir Seimo spaudos vedėjas Vilius Kavaliauskas, dešinėje — akademikas ekonomistas Raimundas Rajekas, buvęs Brazausko rinkiminės kampanijos vadovas. Viršuje kairėje: buvęs VLIKO valdybos vicepirm. Vytautas Jokūbaitis, šiuo metu Tautos Fondo Tarybos ir ALTO vicepirm. Viktoro Kapočiaus nuotrauka



Vaizdas iš demonstracijos, nukreiptos prieš Brazauską ir komunistus, vasario 25 d. tuo metu, kai arkikatedros viduje, Šv. Kazimiero koplyčioje, buvo šventinama Prezidento vėliava. Demonstrantai nešiojo trispalves ir prezidento Smetonos portretą. Viktoro Kapočiaus nuotrauka

PREZIDENTAS PRISIEKĖ KONSTITUCIJAI

(atkelta iš 10 psl.)

kiai mato pavojaus galimybę. Mums atidžiai sekant savo santykius su Rusija tarptautinės teisės akimis, man rodos, būtų galima atlaikyti dabar prasidėjusį ryškesnį Lietuvos krypimą į Rytus".

O štai Respublikonų partijos vadas K. Petraitis, užauginęs žirgą prezidentui Brazauskui, dabar pasakė, kad jam to gyvūno dar neduosias, pažiūrėsiąs ar naujasis prezidentas tikrai demokratiškai elgsis ir bus nepriklausomybės šalininkas.

Lozoraitis apie rinkimus ir savo ateitį

Stasys Lozoraitis, kuris jau sugrįžęs į Washingtoną ir tebedirba ambasadoje, savo pokalbiuose su Lietuvos spaudos atstovais, prieš išvykdamas pareiškė, kad jis nuo pat pradžios neabejojęs dėl rinkiminių rezultatų, tačiau "reikėjo kažkam kandidatuoti, ir aš tą padariau".

Jis skundėsi, kad tikros rinkiminės kampanijos nebuvo, o

buvę tik asmeniškai puolimai, tiesiog absurdiški, pavyzdžiui, kad jis narkomanas, o jo žmona — žydė, kad jis išėikvojęs Lietuvos auksą ir t.t. Kad "kažkas" tokią informaciją skleisdė, tai nesvarbu, bet keista, kad buvę žmonių, kurie ja tikėjo. Lozoraitis tvirtino, kad Lietuvoje visiškai nesą informacijos, o esanti tik baisi izoliacija. Tautos susipriešinimas dabar didesnis negu bet kada.

Jis spaudai sakė, kad dar nepadaręs savo galutinių išvadų, bet vis dėlto manęs, kad nemažai žmonių už jį balsavo, tai vadinausi, esąs kažkoks kapitalas, bazė. Klausiamas, ar dalyvautų kituose rinkimuose, atsakė: "Prireiks, ir labai greitai. Greičiau negu už penkerių metų. Ar man, ar kam, nežinau, bet prireiks".

Sakėsi skubęs grįžti į savo darbą Washingtone, nes ir taip jau girdėjęs priekaištų, kad, dalyvaudamas rinkiminėje kampanijoje, "apleidęs" savo postą. Tik-

roveje gi Lozoraitis buvo paėmęs atostogų, kurių per 20

metų nesąs turėjęs.

Pasisako ir paprasti žmonės. Štai vilnietis Rimgaudas Bendorius savo laiške "Lietuvos aidui" redakcijai dėsto, kaip Brazauskas galėtų pasukti teisingu Lietuvos keliu. Jis baigia tokiu sakiniu: "Vis dėl to norėtusi tikėti, kad prezidentas A. M. Brazauskas jeis į tautos istoriją kaip ketvirtasis Nepriklausomos Lietuvos prezidentas, o ne kaip trečiasis laikinai ejęs prezidento pareigas veikėjas (dar laikinai prezidento pareigas 1940 m. ėjo A. Merkys ir J. Paleckis, šiaip ar taip liudijantys liūdną atminimą)".

LIETUVOJE IR APIE LIETUVĄ

— 70 procentų Lietuvos dirvonų iš rudens liko nesuartų. Taip rašo Lietuvos spauda, pridėdama, kad dar apie pusę Lietuvos dirbamos žemės neturi tikrų šeiminių, tad neaišku, kas sės, o kas pjaus. Šią žiemą bendrovių nariai bijo vežti į laukus mėšlą, nes nežino į kieno plotus pateks. Trūksta technikos, atsarginių dalių, daugelis ūkininkų

Porinkiminė Lietuva pasaulio spaudoje:

- Paryžiaus "Le Monde" -

"Lietuvoje demokratija neįsigalės - kvepia diktatūra". "Į Lietuvą ateina stabilizacijos periodas".

- Tokijo "Jomuri" - "Bal-

suodama už Algirdą Brazauską lietuvių tauta pasirinko realistinį kursą - susitaikyti su Rusija ir pakelti gyvenimo lygį, o ne imtis radikalių ekonomikos pertvarkymų".

- "The Washington Post"

"Lietuva prezidentu išrinko pragmatiką, buvusį komunistų partijos vadovą, kuris žada siekti geresnių santykių su Maskva".

- "The San Francisco Examiner" - "Laisva Lietuva kovoja pati su savimi".

neįstengia nusipirkti degalų. Prisibijoma, kad pavasarį pradės slėgti žemdirbius ta našta, darbai vėluos, jei valdžia tuojau pat nesusirūpins.

— Vilius Baldišius, Lietuvos Banko valdybos pirmininkas, kovo 2 d. pagaliau atsistatydino iš pareigų. Savo pareiškime prezidentui Brazauskui jisai atmeta per metus reikštus jam visus kaltinimus dėl įstatymų pažeidimo, žmonių apiplėšimo, dėl piktnaudžiavimo tarnybine padėtimi, dėl padarytų milijonų nuostolių Lietuvos finansams ir jų politikai.

— Lietuvoje minimalus pragyvenimo lygis nuo kovo 1 d. pakilo nuo 1920 iki 2210 talonų per mėnesį. Gi minimalus atlyginimas pakilo nuo 2040 talonų iki 2350 talonų per mėnesį. Tačiau reali pragyvenimo kaina žymiai aukštesnė, šiuo metu yra 8124 talonai per mėnesį.

— Tarptautinė muitinės diena buvo švenčiama sausio 26 d. Lietuvos penkiolikoje muitinių šiuometu dirba 2,171 muitininkų.

— 20,692 bedarbiai Lietuvoje pasitiko 1993-uosius metus. Apskaičiuojama, kad šiuo metu nedirba apie 1 proc. visų darbingo amžiaus žmonių. Manoma, kad bedarbių skaičius ilgainiui didės. Pereitais metais bedarbių buvo 4,558.

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