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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1946

Lithuanians Make Plea For Immediate Soviet Withdrawal

DENVER — Among many interesting and important articles found in the REGISTER, published here weekly, the following plea, made by the Lithuanian Christian Democratic party in exile, appeared in the December 1st issue.

"Washington. — An urgent appeal for" help, justice, and liberty for the martyred people" of Lithuania has been addressed to the Christian world in a statement issued by the heads of the Lithuanian Christian Democratic party in exile.

Recalling the monstrous crime perpetrated in June, 1940, against the Lithuanian people", when the Soviet government, "violating its most solemn pledges in regard to Lithuania, occupied this country and imposed on her the Bolshevik regime", the party heads declare: "We are ready, in the name of our martyrs, to pardon the crimes of our executioners, if only

they let us free and allow us to be masters of our own home...We don't ask for reparation or for other peoples territory. We claim only liberty."

This brief but specific plea again proves the sincerity and trust of free Lithuanians who have not, and will not give up hope, because Lithuania had been occupied before and regained her freedom. Once again, they feel she will be free to live as a small democratic country, sharing to rid the world of injustice, tyranny and hatred.

Frances M. Siedlik

Ex-Tank, Jeep GIs Make Good in Cabs

WASHINGTON. — Former jeep and tank drivers are rolling to business success in a fleet of snow-white taxis in Washington D. C.

The Veterans Cab Assn. now has 120 vehicles — a Detroit manufacturer supplied 46 new ones and has more coming. More than 60 per cent of the GI cabbies are war injured; several are amputees.

Practically every member owns his own cab, most through GI loans. Cabs bear the "ruptured duck" discharge emblem.

Count Your Eggs!

WASHINGTON. — OPA rolled back prices for egg cases, last December. As a result, the production of egg cases dropped off sharply.

Now, an egg shortage in city markets is threatened by the shortage of cases in which to ship the eggs.



ABERDEEN STATION HOSPITAL, ABERDEEN, MD.—It's not hard to find the guy who's having the birthday, even if he is in the hospital. His special party, sponsored by the American Red Cross staff, is in full swing with cake, candles, and presents. (American Red Cross photo by Johnson)

Academy Orchestra, Chorus To Offer Musical Pageant

CHICAGO. — The strains of Pergolesi's Christmas hymn will ring forth exultantly as the beautifully blended voices of the S. C. A. Choral club echo the song of the angels, when the Christmas concert is presented Dec. 22.

The orchestra members, under the direction of Mr. Guy Callow, will present modern selections by Gould, Gershwin, and Kreisler, as well as a Bach march.

On this occasion the girls in the orchestra will honor Mr. Callow, their director for fifteen years with a testimonial.

Another feature of the varied and interesting program will be the songs sung by the Lithuanian choristers.

Both choral groups will unite in the singing of the traditional Christmas carols and Pietro Yon's beautiful Gesu Bambino.

The entire program will be climaxed by a tableau, *The Reed of God*, given by the sodality officers and a select Choral Speaking group.

John L. Perry, Chairman; Mrs. Ruth S. Beckmann, Mr. Vik Ronningen, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad O. Ronning, Mr. Roy G. Peterson, Miss Margaret Bendixen, Mr. Anthony C. Rutkas, and Dr. J. de S. Countinho. The Committee met at the home of Mrs. Perry on Sunday and discussed some of the future activities of the Society.

H. V. S.

Christmas Snowflakes

A host of lace-gowned ladies fair
Dance lightly in the winter air.
They swirl, their crystal skirts outspread,
While Maestro Wind calls steps to tread
With leafless reed accompaniment.
A pirouette, so blithe, so gay,
A waltz, gavotte, a short bouree,
Until, at last, they near the ground.
One last not, one twirl around
Then all at once the music stops.
As feather-soft they tiptoe down
To earth and grace a sleeping town,
A quilt of moon-illuminated white
Is formed, to lull the sounds of night.
A Babe must have His sleep.

L. M. V.

Baltic Scandinavian Society Commemorates Latvian Day

The Society had its meeting on November 18, 1946 in the International Student House, 1708 N. H. Ave., N. W. in the form of a social to celebrate Latvian Day.

Among its guests were the Secretary of the Latvian Legation, Mr. Anatol Dinberge and Mr. Sigurds Ekis, son of a former Latvian official. The latter served in the United States Army and was recently discharged. He translated the surrender terms of Aachen when that city fell to the Americans during the war.

The guest speaker was Mrs. Ruth S. Beckmann, Assistant Director of the American Red Cross regional office in Alexandria, Va. She gave a brief historical

background of Latvia and her experiences in the country right after the first world war. After the talk there was an open forum discussion on displaced persons and what could be done in their behalf.

There was a program of Latvian recordings of folk and orchestral music during which refreshments were served.

The President, Mr. L. J. Esunas, appointed the following persons to serve on the Planning and Arrangements Committee: Mrs.

SOVIET BLOC STYMIES U. N. WORK

By: The Observer

This column should really bear the caption: "BATTLE OF THE UN — by your War Correspondent". Anyway such is the impression the last days of the UN Assembly debates evoked in this writer. Desperately seeking to find a joint formula with the Russians on essential issues, the Democracies found themselves maneuvered back and forth tricked and pushed into blind alleys. Consequently, problems had to go back to committees and sub-committees and some of them even shifted to the Big Four for disentanglement. In all fairness, however, it should be stressed that this tragic picture is not the fault of UN itself, only of the false premises underlying all international debates today, the illusion that a formula of words can reconcile fire with water.

As a person close to the UN told this writer: "The very effort to reach the impossible, to please the Russians and at the same time to save essential Democratic principles and objectives is at the core of all the weaknesses and hypocrisies of UN." It reminds one of the war-time policy of unity, which now appears as an endeavor to sacrifice everything — even peace itself for the sake of preserving this facade of unity.

Such issues as the atom bomb, disarmament and the control of armed forces are footballs used by the Soviet mainly for strategic purposes and propaganda. But while these are all vital issues they do not directly affect the immediate matters of daily life as do other elements. Let us take, for instance, the questions of relief and food on which the survival of millions of people today depends. It is deplorable that these matters are also used as political footballs, subject to the same methods of horse-trade and compromise. A case in point is the preparatory work of the UN on the International Refugee Organization, which is to succeed UNRRA in the job of caring for refugees and displaced persons after June 31, 1947, and which suffered from these methods intensely.

At the time this article is written, the IRO Constitution was yet to have been accepted by the Assembly and its coming into force depended on whether the required minimum of fifteen countries will have signed it. Everything hinges here on the attitude of the United States, a country scheduled to provide 43% of all the operational funds of the new organization. It is frankly admitted at UN that should America refuse to sign or the U. S. fail to appropriate the necessary funds, other countries would probably also default and the displaced persons would find themselves cut off from further support after June 31st.

During the lengthy debates on the IRO Constitution the Soviets stymied progress by introducing innumerable amendments that would have turned the entire organization in a network for catching refugees and handing them over to the NKVD, but most of them were voted down. Under these conditions the Soviets may prefer no organization at all, since in the meantime UNRRA acts like a huge fellow traveler group defying directives in the American zone in Germany. They have already permitted the deportation of several hundred children to the Soviet zone and closed all Polish schools and newspapers. In the fierce resistance to the Soviet amendments Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt played an important part as well as delegates of various democratic countries, particularly Mr. Emanuel Sassen of the Netherlands and Mr. Roland Lebeau of Belgium, both outstanding Catholics.

In a conversation with this writer, Mr. Sassen severely criticized the attempts of the Soviet bloc to place anti-communist political dissenters on an equal basis with common criminals and Quislings. Referring to the age-old tradition of political and religious tolerance of the Netherlands, Mr. Sassen said: "We shall uphold this tradition as a matter of principle, because it is a great humanitarian and Christian tradition, which originated long before some of the states represented here came into existence." What Mr. Sassen probably had in mind were the newly created Soviet satellite regimes. It is only due to Mr. Sassen and Lebeau that the paragraph concerning displaced children was largely improved from its original form.

The Constitution has two chief assets: it forbids forcible settlement of those who fear to go home, as the main objective. Political and religious persecution is recognized as valid reason for such a fear. Nevertheless, certain formu-

Talking It Over

Sacrifice And A Sneer

It was one of those war photographs. You'd call it a pious picture, I suppose. It had been enlarged and clearly developed, probably for scrap-book purposes. The lens of the camera looked down on the deck of a battleship and focused on a group of men and a chaplain. It was the high point in the morning's worship.

And yet since the photograph was not a painting, the plain realism and the commonplace were brought out just as clearly as the center of the scene. On both sides and in front of the kneeling men, other sailors sat around: blank-faces, bored, quizzical, and indifferent. I remember one face in particular which stood out almost as boldly as the entire picture of prayer. This sailor was sitting on top of a pile of bags staring at the services yet in such a way that he faced the camera almost directly. His whole countenance was twisted into a callous unmistakable sneer. It took your breath away to realize how prominent a part he played in the background. Still he had evidently seemed inconspicuous enough to the photographer when the shutter snapped. It was just another case where a modern invention had given us a little more than we planned on. This time the 'extra' was a little startling.

I said he stood out. But now as I examined it more closely the rest of the background captured my attention. The whole atmosphere in which the central action took place was uncongenial. The ship was piled up with all sorts of ugly, grey baggage and equipment. The men stood about shirtless and sweating. They looked as though the offscourings of war had been theirs. All

in all it was about the most unhallowed place one could think of for the ritual of worshipping God. Yet though there wasn't much of organ or incense in the picture, there was something about the men and the chaplain that replaced it.

No one likes to sacrifice his vanity and go down on his knees before a shipful of unsympathetic men. But these men were doing it. And what is more they looked as though the sacrifice of themselves was a little less important than the worship of God. I remember the hot, burnt backs, disheveled hair, dirty pants and churchless surroundings. Yes. The photograph brought it all out clearly. But it also showed a humble reverence before God, the like of which I have yet to observe.

Then I thought of how all church-going, all Christianity itself got its start. It was in such a scene as this. The gorgeous ritual of the temple was now here to be found. It looked even less like an act of worship than anything before or since. As on the battleship so here too there was stark realism: the commonplace and ugly with the sublime. Dirt, sweat, and thirst were three big realities on the hill of Calvary. At the greatest sacrifice in the world there was humiliation. Our Lord showed once and for all that indifference, misunderstanding — sneers can be the background, nay the instruments, for worshipping His Father.

Psychiatrists are a wealthy class,
Much frequented by ladies.
Since housewives started wanting furs
Instead of wanting babies.

It isn't amusing to find people using
Quotations from Pius the Twelfth
To justify living without giving
The poor man a share of their wealth.

Integrity

las are revolting. Only those are recognized as refugees who fled Nazi or Fascist persecution, including Spanish republicans, but not a word is said about the new wave of people who are fleeing communist terror in Europe.

Another paragraph leaves the doors wide open to abuse and persecution, when all who conspire against governments of their countries or discourage displaced persons from returning home, are excluded from help. This was a concession to Russia. Anyway, should IRO enter into force, it will be the use of American influence that will finally determine its policy and application.

Taking Christ Off Christmas

Francis J. Jančius, M. I. C.



Winter scene, stage coach, snow covered bungalow, snow man, sleigh ride, scotty dog, sailboat cutting a course over the water, or..... well, just what do you prefer? Your choice for a nickel, too. What under the blue skies are we talking about? Why Christmas cards, of course. It's a perennial headache, that delicate task of selecting the "proper" Christmas cards

to send to our friends. Feeling may be hurt, grievances, even enmities, caused. Let's make a difficult job easy, then. How, you ask? Simply by consigning the whole "Christ-less card" racket to the rubbish heap. CHRISTMAS BELONGS TO CHRIST AND NO ONE ELSE.

We don't deny that those cards aren't pretty. All of us — from the smallest child to the white-haired old man lazing in his comfortable chair by the fireside — like a companionable dog. Most of us, too, enjoy winter scenes. Yet, we'll all readily admit, none of these are so lovely or attractive as the picture of a mother and her child — especially when that Mother is Mary and the Child is our Divine Saviour.

No one will accuse you of bad taste if your Christmas card does have a picture of Christ on it. Any person who knows art must acknowledge that masterpieces of Christ and the Madonna far outnumber classical paintings of scotty dogs or sail boats.

Christmas is Christ's birthday. Christmas cards

are His birthday cards. They should be appropriate for the occasion, too. And yet, today, snowman, scotties and sailboats have driven the Babe of Bethlehem, His Mother, His Foster-Father off the cards supposed to commemorate His birthday.

Why is this so? Why have the birthday cards of ordinary people remained unchanged through the years? Simply because nobody cares much whether the anniversaries of average people are remembered or not... But, there are powerful forces in this country of ours who hate the Babe of Bethlehem, who want to drive the very thought of Him from the public mind and make people forget His teachings. They have succeeded admirably... Most of His birthday cards this year will not refer to that blessed event at all.



Pernicious influences can also be seen in other phases of our life as it is connected with Christmas.

Children have been brought up on the myth of a bouncing, chubby-cheeked, bewhiskered Santa Claus who sneaks down chimnies and leaves gifts for good little tots. Children learn of this mysterious gift-bearer and his sleigh drawn by trained reindeer before they learn of the Christ Child. In a word, Santa Claus has supplanted Christ in the minds and hearts of our young ones.

Let's "accentuate the positive" by putting Christ back into Christmas. There is no better way of doing so than by putting Him back into our public and private lives. In short, let's "eliminate the negative", the denials of Christ so prevalent in our lives by putting Him back on our Christmas cards, bringing Him back to our gatherings, but above all, by enthroning Him in our hearts.



EDDIE WAITKUS

drawn by A. D. Zuknis

EDDIE WAITKUS came up to the Chicago Cubs with the reputation as the greatest fielding first baseman in the minor leagues. The war shoved Eddie in the front lines before he could display his talents to the Chicago Cubs. However, Eddie returned for his first full season with the Cubs and established himself as the regular first baseman. To top things off Waitkus led the Cubs in batting — hitting equally well against right and left-handed pitching. Certain Chicago sports scribes are boosting him for the rookie-of-the-year award.

IF IT BREAKS, WE'LL ALL GO UNDER! By COLLIER



GUIDED READING

Class A

(Unobjectionable)

- *Plantation Parade Harnett Kane
- *A Negro's Faith in America S. Logan
- *Road From Olivet Father Murphy
- Hunan Harvest Theo. Maguire
- Starling of the White House E. Startling
- Lovely Is the Lee Robert Gibbings

Class B

(Unobjectionable for adults)

- A Few Brass Tacks Louis Bromfield
- Reveille for Radicals S. Alinsky
- The Unsuspected C. Armstrong
- The King's General Daphne Du Maurier
- Brideshead Revisited Evelyn Waugh
- Black Metropolis C. St. Drake
- A Catholic Looks at the World Francis McMahon

Class C

(Wholly Objectionable)

- Peace of Mind Joshua Liebman
- David the King Gladys Schmitt
- I Hate Blondes Wolfe Kaufman
- Written on the Wind R. Wilder
- The Foxes of Harrow F. Yerby
- Arch of Triumph Eric Remarque

Cancelled Stamps

Readers are kindly asked to save their cancelled postage stamps for the Missions. All sorts of stamps needed.

Please send stamps to:
MARIAN MISSION CLUB
MARIAN HILLS
SEMINARY
HINSDALE, ILL.

Metal Toys Will Make Prewar Xmas

A "real old-fashioned pre-war Christmas" is forecast by manufacturers, despite shortages and strikes, with the biggest selection of metal toys the nation's youngsters have seen in a long time.

Velocipedes, automobiles, steel runner sleds, deluxe jeeps with welded steel bodies and plenty of electric trains that even puff smoke and run on a 2-rail instead of the usual 3-rail track are merely pushing the trigger. listed.

Incidentals

By P. JAVINS

In spite of the common dislike the Lithuanians have for being called Bolsheviks, there is a small, yet disproportionately loud group who take pride in the name. They love the name just as Christians call one another brother — so this loving group call one another Bolsheviks or Reds.

The Soviets like to be called Reds. There couldn't be a more appropriate name. Logically, a person should be called what he really is. Our "dear Soviet friends" are red with the blood of the small countries of Europe. And if the Lithuanian Reds of the United States have not as yet actually stained their hands with blood, they are doing so by the approbation of the crimes of their Soviet comrades. This makes them as guilty as the perpetrators themselves.

Is Al Blozis greater than Tony Bimba? The Lithuanian Red agents of the Kremlin at Halsted st., have formed a veterans organization, a branch of the AVC. The irony of it all is that they named the organization the Al Blozis chapter of AVC! Al Blozis was a great Lithuanian athlete, who was killed in World War II. He attended Georgetown University, a school run by the Jesuit Fathers!... Al provided the white front, but what's behind it?

A prominent Lithuanian business man of Chicago once told me this story. The advertising manager of V., the Communist newspaper, phoned him one day, and asked him to advertise his business in their Lithuanian Communist daily. The Lithuanian business man refused. A few days later, the same agent phoned again and again asked for the advertisement. The answer was still no. The Lithuanian Commie called a third time. This time the business man said, "I'll put an ad in your newspaper, but first, do me this favor: ask my Pastor.....if I should put an ad in your newspaper. If he says yes, I'll put one in." The agent hung up. From that day on, not a "peep" came from the Halsted st. Kremlin daily.... "Kaip velnias bijosi D'evio!"....

The Kremlin rewards its servant. In the Spanish Civil War, with the Lincoln Brigade, fought the "gallant" Communist English page editor of Vilnis. He fought "bravely" for Uncle Joe and his gang. He was wounded and now is a cripple. As a compensation, the Moscow boys taught him the "progressive" way of life. Later they appointed him English page editor of the Communist daily, Vilnis....

Some familiar Bolshevik misnomers: Pravda (the Truth in Russian) Moscow's most widely read newspaper. (Note: prints everything but the truth — ditto for Tiesa of Brooklyn).... When Joe Stalin is enslaving a country he says he is liberating — when he is murdering, he calls it liquidating.... In America we have a different dictionary....

This and That. Vilnis (the Surge) is an odd name. It really lives up to that name judging from the articles and the news it publishes. Its policy is to revolutionize, cause dissension and trouble. It's just like a fierce wave at sea threatening to overturn the innocent fisherman and his boat on a stormy day.... What the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared one day in the year of 1940 on February 10th, when Hitler was at his height: "The Soviet Union, as everybody who has the courage to face the fact knows, is run by a dictatorship absolute as any other dictatorship in the world". Brother, if that's the democracy of the Soviet Union, I'm a heel!....

Don Herold says -

I've noticed that people who talk most about loving "the common man" want to run him their own way. And they don't really trust him.

In our own country, these people have treated the common man like a kindergarten child. They've told him what to eat, what to pay, and where to work.

Anybody who "loves the common man" usually wants to be on the committee to tell him how many baths to take each week, how to hold his knife and fork, and where to report for his music lessons.

Even in Russia, a few "sweethearts of the common man" run a party of 5 million which runs a country of 200 million "common men."

Ladies In Waiting



WHILE property men prepare the set for their next scene, Ethel Smith and Esther Williams discuss the fine points of their work in the new M-G-M comedy "Easy To Wed." Miss Smith plays her own brand of swing on the organ — and Miss Williams plays leading lady to Van Johnson.

"The poor you have always with you, but me you have not always."

A Shopping Gift For Christ

By REV. CHAS. J. JUZAITIS

(National Chairman of the Lith. Catholic Charities Drive)

The ravages of twenty centuries of time have not effaced the truth of these words of our Divine Savior. Men of sterling genius in the realms of science, philosophy and military strategy have strutted across the broad face of the earth, leaving behind them, cold bleak monuments and grim devastation. Yet the pathetic words — "The poor you have always with you." are as deep and significant in the hearts of mankind as they were when the Champion of the sick and the unfortunate trod the streets and countryside of Jerusalem preaching the doctrine of the "Golden Rule" and the Brotherhood of Man.

It is midway in the twentieth century. After brilliant victories over the forces of tyranny, cruelty and

humiliating physical and mental bondage, the United States of America finds itself in the role of an all-conquering, prosperous master.

Yet in America today, we have thousands of wonderful souls who do have sufficient food, shelter and clothing to enjoy even a modicum of happiness and prosperity. These thousands have been deprived of material comforts and blessings through no fault of their own. These are the poor that Christ told us about when He appealed for help in their behalf two thousand years ago: "Whatever you do for these the least of my brethren, you do for me."

Our Champion of the needy is walking today in the richest and most flourishing country of all his history—the United States of America!!! Christ Himself is seeking for His poor and lesser ones, food and other necessities of life.

Place some help in their outstretched arms, soothe the wrinkled and troubled brows of these unfortunate and neglected men, women and children who have been denied so much in a land so rich — and you will have done this to Christ: "Because you did it to these the least of my brethren you did it for me."

Academy Choir Sings Hymns at Museum

CHICAGO. — The magic of Christmas music enhanced the corridors of the Museum of Science and Industry Dec. 8. Choirs from many Chicago schools participated in the annual affair, "Christmas Around the World". Each choir represented its native land through song.

S. C. A.'s Lithuanian choristers, directed by the guest conductor, Mr. Leonard Simutis, vividly portrayed Christmas in Lithuania by singing some of its best known folk songs and Yuletide hymns. Combining the hymns of many lands made this rhapsody of nations an enchanting musical panorama.