Knights of Lithuania Gather For Hour of Prayer and Reconsecration

During Traditional K. of L. St. Casimir’s Day Rites

“We thank Thee O Lord for all Thy Blessings...” will be the fervent prayer from hundreds of loyal K. of L. hearts when they in unison with the Lithuanian youth of Chicago (as their guests) will congregate this year in observance of traditional K. of L. St. Casimir’s Day rites at St. Michael’s Lithuanian parish church (North Side) Sunday, March 3rd, at 9:30 a.m., and during Solemn High Mass receive Holy Communion “in corpore”.

Services

During the traditional services the recently reorganized K. of L. Chicago district choir, under the leadership of Leonard J. Simutis, Jr., Choir director, will sing the Liturgy of the Mass and several select and traditional K. of L. rites (a scene long to be remembered) K. of L. members who have reached the necessary qualifications will be inducted into the organization’s fourth degree — Order of St. Casimir. The Chicago district ritual committee will be in charge.

All K. of L. councils and the K. of L. Seniors organization in the Chicago district are requested to urge all their members to participate in this year’s St. Casimir’s Day rites. In accordance with our organization’s constitution this is an annual observance that every K. of L. member should observe.

All members are requested to be present at 9:30 a.m. in St. Michael’s parish hall (1648 Wabansia Ave.), where the line of procession will be formed and flowers distributed. All members are also requested to wear their K. of L. medals or insignia. Degree members are requested to wear their degree medals.

In loyalty to our organization and for the ideals for which the Knights stand, let us join in thankfulness and prayer, and honor to our Achievement Award

Milwaukee Lithuanians Observe Feb. 16

Priest Refugee Gives Address at St. Gabriel’s Meeting

A priest-journalist refugee from Lithuania addresses the people of St. Gabriel’s parish at the Lithuanian independence anniversary program Sunday, Feb. 24, at St. Gabriel’s parish hall, 1576 S. 30th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

The refugee priest and journalist is Father Joseph Prunksis, J. C. D., who has been editor-in-chief of the foremost daily newspaper, XX Century, until the Soviet armies occupied the country for the first time in 1940. He has the distinction of having voted in the first Soviet-sponsored election in Lithuania, at which only one set of candidates could be balloted for. The story of that farce election was told that Sunday afternoon.

Commemorate Anniversary

To commemorate the anniversary of Lithuanian independence, a varied program was the prepared for the meeting Feb. 24.

Joe Gembis Prepares For Football Season

Detroit, Mich. — Joe Gembis, Lithuanian football coach at Detroit’s Wayne University, is convinced that he’s going to be a busy man for the coming football season. Of the 48 players reporting to Gembis, only 15 have earned their letters in High School. Three of these fifteen played their first football game for Wayne last fall. Wayne has a brother combination in Bruce and Leslie Roberta, who have had no high school experience.

O. A.

LET’S FINISH THE JOB—BUY MORE VICTORY BONDS!
Liths Oppressed Despite Red Treaties

BY ANTHONY DAINUS

Last month a million Lithuanian Americans marked the anniversary of Lithuania's former independence. However, the observance was not in the spirit of joy but one of sorrow and disillusionment. Lithuania, an ancient land of their forefathers, called "Lietuva" in their native tongue, or "The Land of Rain", is no longer free and independent. Once again it is under the heel of a tyrant. She was a peace-loving nation. History reveals that she curbed the plundering Tartars and the Teutons. She was Godfearing; Rome bullied with Catholicism. She was Independence and Non-Aggression renewal of 1934, the Lithuanian and Soviet Mutual Assistance Pact of Oct. 10, 1939. In Molotov's declaration of Oct. 31, 1939, "Russia renounced all rights to Lithuania for all time". (The same who engineered her destruction with Ribbentrop, now on trial at Nuremberg.)

Ignoring treaties is one vice, but when inhumanities follow in their wake, then they cry to heaven for redress.

Three-hundred,000 Lithuanians were executed or deported during the Russian occupation. 2 - The Soviets callously refuse to recognize the Red Cross or private charity.

4 - They confiscated all farm produce, property, the press, forbade religious instruction, stripped the country, executed children.

We, the Lithuanians, Lithuania is our obligation; we armed Russia, which made "The Land of Rain" a "Land of Tears".

A Sad 28th Birthday

Last Saturday was the twenty-eighth anniversary of the reconstructed republic of Lithuania. Close to ninety percent of these were Catholics.

Lithuania, together with Estonia and Latvia, has been gropped up by the Soviet Union. It had been observed by the three Baltic States must wonder, in their present predicament, what became of the Atlantic Charter. Their desire to live as citizens of independent nations has not much chance of realization in these days with Russia doing as she pleases.

That the Lithuanians are intent on striving for a recovery of national independence is manifest from activities in that country. No one has phrased the hopes of the little nation more sharply than the President of Lithuania, General Svinickas of Kaunas. In a letter addressed to the Catholic Bishop of the world, he wrote:

"We solemnly declare before God Almighty and our Saviour, His Son, that the Lithuanians are firmly decided to recover their national and political rights, to re-create a real free state. Lith. will never consent to become the Russian colony against which they struggled in the past centuries in order to maintain their existence, culture and Catholic faith. Lithuania is a slightly smaller than one-third the size of Wisconsin, its people numbered approximately three million before the war. Close to ninety per cent of these were Catholics.

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IN AND AROUND

K. OF L. CIRCLES

28 MEMBERS TO RECEIVE K. OF L. FOURTH DEGREE

In the presence of K. of L. members and their guests gathered together at St. Michael's parish in observance of traditional K. of L. St. Casimir Day rites this Sunday, March 3rd, a class of twenty eight K. of L. members will receive their K. of L. fourth degree, the highest degree award of the organization.

The Fourth Degree — Order of St. Casimir — will be conferred during the Communion breakfast in the parish hall. The degree most probably will be conferred by Knight Anthony Zilgus, Supreme Vice president of the organization.

Members to receive fourth degree are as follows:


NORTHEAST COUNCIL 5: — Konnie Savickkas, John Labazinski, Albin Manstavilius, Peter Sruibus and Vincent Rukas.

TOWN OF LAKE COUNCIL 13: — Sally Jeanausaitis.

BRIGHTON PARK COUNCIL 36: — Irene Pakelis,
Helen Cherry.

MARQUETTE PARK COUNCIL 112: — Agnes Saučiunas, John Shinkus.

K. OF L. CHOIR POINTS FOR ANNUAL CONCERT

Meeting at their new rehearsal quarters in the Legion room of the Gargo Park Field House, 5th and S. Western Ave. (in the vicinity of Garfield, Chicago) the choir recently held their last rehearsal of the K. of L. Chicago District Choir are hard at work preparing for their Annual Concert scheduled for Sunday, May 19th at the Darius-Girėnas Memorial Hall. At the last rehearsal more than forty members attended.

The annual concert will include a fine selection of rarely heard new Lithuanian choral numbers, solos and duets, rendered by the choir group and a Lithuanian theatrical presentation "Nelės Elyxras" to be presented by a cast of K. of L. players under the capable direction of Vincent Rukis, exponent of Lithuanian theatrical art. After the musical and play presentations, a fine dance orchestra will be on hand to provide music for the rest of the evening. Reserve MAY 19th on your calendar to be present at the D-G hall and join in an evening of fine entertainment and recreation.

MARQUETTE PARK DANCE A GREAT SUCCESS

Beyond expectations of even the most enthusiastic members of their council, the HOMECOMING DANCE presented last Saturday evening at Michael Flynn's hall under the auspices of K. of L. Council 112 was a grand success both financially and socially. Large delegations of K. of L. members from every council were present and a grand time had by all.

Most of the credit for the success of the evening is due their well experienced and hard working Dance committee. Congratulations and well done, Marquette Parkers! Keep up the good work! "Ponas Dauganoriai" SUCCESS AT BRIGHTON PARK

Who said that the K. of L.'s have no ability or inclination in Lithuanian play acting? That innuendo has been squelched once and for all by the extreme and skillful performers of K. of L. Council 36. The presentation in every respect was one of the best ever staged by any Lithuanian dramatic group. The expediency, unity of players and fitness for their roles left no doubt to those present that here was something unusual — a great play presented by a group of great players.

To add glory to the well presented program the K. of L. District Choir in a surprise appearance informally crowned the achievements of the evening with a rendition of several select choral numbers. Much credit is due their able choir director, Leonard J. Simutis, Jr.

A BOOK REVIEW

Detective Stories Can Be Classical Reading

Review by
Lucy Valatka

The pudgy padre who tries his best to hide his intelligence behind an unassuming face and underneath an odd round hat, is Father Brown, famous priest-detector in G. K. Chesterton's "Father Brown" stories. Stories like Sherlock Holmes, much of Father Brown's skill in solving crimes is due to his ability to place himself in the place of the criminal. He is, however, more likeable and more understanding of human nature—always trying to straighten the crooked, keep secret what would harm if revealed, and exposing only that which demands exposition.

In most of his Father Brown stories, Chesterton presents psychological problems to which the key is given only at the very end, the answer unfolding itself as smoothly and easily as the Chamberlain umbrella with which the priest always carries.

Once a serious student of art, the author uses his talents to paint word pictures which add notes of beauty and mystery to the atmosphere. "The Eyes of Father Brown", for example, begins with this setting: "That singularly wavy sparkle, at once a confusion and a transparency, which is the strange secret of the Thames, was changing more and more from its grey to its glittering extreme, as the sun climbed to the zenith over Westminster, and two men crossed Westminister Bridge."

The Father Brown mysteries, gathered into various collections (one of them a pocket-sized book costing a quarter), are not only good mysteries, but also, good literature. If you have not yet become acquainted with them, keep them in mind for the next snowy evening when you want to curl up in front of the radiator with a good book.

Kenosha Lithuanians Observe Feb. 16

Kenosha. — Lithuanian Independence Day was celebrated Feb. 24 by the people of St. Peter's parish. There was a dinner in the parish hall at 12:30 p.m., at which the principal speaker was Pius Grigaitis, a Chicago newspaperman.

The dinner followed the High Mass at 10 a.m.

Father Joseph Paulukonis, pastor of St. Peter's, in a summary of Lithuania's history, stated that Feb. 16 would have marked the 25th anniversary of Lithuanian independence, established in 1918 when the council for liberation met in Vilna and proclaimed the freedom of Lithuania. The country's liberty came to an end with the invasion of the Red Army in 1940.

Silence is golden, but sometimes it's yellow.

— Marilyn Meyers

Don't hitch your wagon to a bar.

— Echo
The January and February meetings of the L. U. C. were the most heartrending gatherings in the last several years. It's a joy seeing our servicemen coming home to the Lithuanian University Club, and prospective members at succeeding monthly meetings.

Among the most recently returned soldiers, Alpird Rulis, Al and his family (Aldona and young Usch, who were living in the United States), Chicago, Dr. Robert Petraitis-Peters has been back three weeks now trying to forget that he ever was a captain while he jumps right into civilian dentistry.

With our Sgt. of Arms, Ray Mathews, in the army now we had some electing to do and decided that ex-lt. Zigge Klikun was just right for the job.

We are very pleased to have Joe Banky with us as a new prospective. Joe is studying for his Master's Degree, and his good graces of his employer, Allis - Chalmers Co., where he has been for a year. After several years' persuasion Jane Misickaitis finally decided to become a pros-

(Kubaitis from page 2) To do me well, some reader may ask, that Russia did not claim Alaska, once she has instal-
led her naval bases in the Kurilies? We mean to imply nothing of the sort. We are merely following the inter-
esting line of thought sug-
gested by the sympathetic who maintain that the Soviet Union had every right to re-occupy and re-
absorb Lithuania, even though she had, in 1920, signed away her claim to that country.

The point we are trying to bring out is this: If Rus-
ia's "historical claim" to Lithuania gave her the right to re-occupy and re-absorb the country and take back her, why not Alaska, too?

The parallel is the same. Russia was an "historical claim" to Alaska that is even older than that which she claimed over Lithuania. Alaska belonged to Russia from 1741 till 1867, when it was sold to the United States for a payment of $7 million dollars. At that time Russia thought she was putting one over on the United States, Americans, by selling them a worthless waste of land for a face sum. As it happened, the United States, since then, taken uncounted bil-

ions of dollars worth of gold from that very same waste, fishing from the "worthless waste" of Alaska.

Herein may be precisely the "juridical" basis for So-

viet Russia's present day de-

manding to get Alaska back from us. Of course, Secreta-

The Lithuanian University Club I. C. M. (Continued from page 3)

TOWN OF LAKE "VALENTINE" DANCE A HUGE SUCCESS

Wednesday evening, Feb. 14th, when all the elements of nature in Chicago seemed to have combined in a con-
certed effort to dismay even the bravest, a night when even Hector the pug would have had to pull out the open, to the surprise of all, an overflowing crowd was present at Holy Cross parish auditorium. All attending seemed to have had the time of their lives. K. of L. members from every council were present: Marquette Park, Brighton Park, Clarendon and North Side. Even the K. of L. Seniors were well represented. As to local Town of Lake K. of L., practically every one was present, with their hands full doing the honors of the evening. A fine dance program was enjoyed by all. Music was furnished by Eddie Warner and his orchestra.

Congratulations, Town of Lakers! Keep up the good work! A verbal bouquet is due her enthusiastic President Miss. Sally Jessulaitis, for the successful evening.

Keistutis Chorus Notes

Keistutis Chorus is hard at work learning new songs. Thursday evening the members are rehearsing for several programs to be held in the near future.

Every Thursday rehearsals are well attended. We hope to have "Dee" Kuncinskas, a recently discharged soldier and a newlywed back with us soon. All the Chorus members are a fine group of men and women, doing their part to bring a measure of cheer through song to Lithuania. Come meet them some Thursday evening, at 8:00 at Hollywood Hall, 2417 W. 69th Street.

J. A. T., Correspondent

Atomic Bomb Kills 10,000 Catholics

Nagasaki Bomb Blow To Mission Country

Tokyo. — "The most grievous wartime loss to the Church in Japan was not the material destruction, practically all our Western and Southern states. Even the Indians who sold Man-
hattan Island to us for the purported price of $24 an acre of land of whiskey might call the whole deal off one of these days and pay us back in full. It is not possible to sell or lend yourself in the New York City Church as their rightful pro-

But, then — we hear a loud lament — don't signed treaties between nations have any more meaning to day? Don't be naive, brave new world! Treaties are pretty pieces of paper to be stored away, for we are the last nations, where their beautiful phrases can bring back fond memories to those who can only weep and hope.

Varnas Vets Post Meeting March 4

The next meeting of the Don Varnas American Legion Post will be held at the 4th Annual South Western Avenue, on Monday, March 4th, at 8:00 P. M.

Innovation ceremonies with the posting of colors will be held by members of the Darius Girinaitis Post of the Ameri-

Veterans are invited to attend this meeting as prospective members. Members and all friends are all welcome at this meeting without nominations by sponsors. Future members and all will be submitted by sponsorship.

Refreshments will be serv-

(See all you Vets Monday! Ray Ternmenas