Lithuanians Make Superb Showing at Science and Industry Exhibit

Lithuanian Christmas Tree Prize of Show — Choice Talent Features Lithuanian Songs and Dances — Special Lithuanian Men: — Typical Lithuanian Girl Wins Praise on Breakfast Club Program

CHICAGO. — People are talking. One famous author said: "There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is — not being talked about". And our own Vincas Rudikis, Lithuanian National Anthem author and composer of the remarkable once, in connection with the Lithuanian patriotic movement: "When people stop talking about you, you are as good as dead". So, may God please talk about Lithuania and Lithuanians.

This season, in particular, the talking arises as a result of a Lithuanian Christmas tree now in display at the Museum of Science and Industry as part of its "Christmas Around the World" pageant. Participation in the pageant involved decorating a tree in typical Lithuanian style, and forming a Lithuanian Christmas program. This challenging task fell to Mrs. Peter Dauzvardis, wife of the Consul.

After many queer and much research, with the assistance and advice of Dr. A. Rackus, former official of the Museum at Kaunas, Lithuania, the tree began to take form. Mrs. R. Maziunas of Bridgeport, remembering the decorations she had made in Lithuania in her youth, volunteered to make the decorations. In nearly three weeks, she made many dozen egg shell birds, and fantastically shaped straw ornaments. She also made to place under the tree: a manger for the Christ Child, and an entire Lithuanian farmyard, complete with house, barn, figures, etc. Mrs. E. Simutis, Jr., who attended school in Lithuania, contributed with several dolls dressed in Lithuanian style. Other Chicago Lithuanians helped by loaning dolls, Lithuanian toys and handwoven sashes, belts, ties, and other articles from Lithuania.

Most Attractive Tree

The actual decorating of the tree was accomplished under direction of A. Rudis, student at the Art Institute. He was assisted by Gene Kazun, Raymond Simutis and Fabian Dauzvardis. Their efforts and resultant effect are praiseworthy. The Lithuanian tree is, without any doubt, the most unique, beautiful and outstanding tree of the entire display at the Museum. You may view the tree with its unusual ornaments throughout the entire Christmas season. The Museum is at 357th St. and the Lake; open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays to 5:30 p.m. and Sundays to 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Outstanding Program

Last Sunday, at 2 p.m., Lithuanians presented a program of songs and dances at the Museum as part of the pageant. The program proper was held in the Auditorium of the Museum, where, on the stage, the Lithuanian flag shared honors with the Star Spangled Banner. The well-arranged program was conducted by Mrs. Dauzvardis who was dressed in colorful Lithuanian costume. She introduced and described each number, and told of traditions and customs at Christmas in Lithuania.

The St. Casimir Academy Chorus, presenting a pleasing picture with its 60 members in attractive school uniform, gave a series of Lithuanian folk and Christmas songs. Sr. M. Bernardas taught the chorus. Guest Conductor for the program was Mr. Leonard Simutis, Jr., who acquitted himself very well. The Chorus sang exceptionally well. Soloist in one number was Loretta Brasaitis, the chorale accompaniment was Genevieve Aleksnienas.

In the second portion of the program, the Atelies Lithuanian Folk Dancers gave a series of authentic Lithuanian folk dances. The group, numbering 30, was dressed in national costume. Their teacher, Vytautas F. Beliausas, danced in the...
Should American Food Support Communist Regimes?

By THE OBSERVER

"Food is a weapon," says a communist slogans. That this is not only the Soviet Union and her satellites re-member, but also all other delegates in the UN who are trying now to carry across the plan of an international Food Emergency Fund under UN control. The new organization is to succeed UNRRA after the latter ceased to function on December 31st 1946. On the surface a purely humanitarian problem, in reality it is highly political. Whoever controls the disposition of food in Europe and Asia, will have the greatest possible influence over the political and economic developments on these continents. The Soviet bloc would certainly like to have this control vested in an international body in which they would have at least as much influence as they had in UNRRA. If such an organization is created and not safeguarded in time against abuse by communist regimes, food and relief will continue to serve as a weapon to help those regimes entrench themselves.

This is a problem of the importance of which can hardly be overemphasized. The record of UNRRA is well known to-day and it is a matter of common knowledge that behind its relief work the Red flag was often waving. All UNRRA agreements with the Soviet satellites were such, that food and aid of the UNRRA organization and its workers were used against free peoples and not to help them. As a result, UNRRA food in these countries did not go to the most needy, but to faithful servants of the government or of the communist party. Quite recently Mr. C. S. Sulzberger in his report from Yugoslavia in the N. Y. Times admitted plainly, that UNRRA help permitted Tito to succeed. The same is true in many other small countries, or else they have deliberately ignored the UNRRA help in order to entrench themselves.

It is very difficult indeed to stand up and be against them. The United Nations, pounding away at the Crimean agreement and then sweltering in the heat of the Paris Peace Conference, is for "direct and informative consultation between governments concerning their efforts to meet the residual relief needs in 1947" and for grants of food based on bilateral agreements between the giving and receiving countries, so that the donors would have more to say about the way their gifts are used.

A rage of accusations against the United Nations followed. As one UN official in a conversation with this writer said: "It is reductive politics to use relief matters and is a camouflaged refusal to contribute any food relief at all." A few days ago Mr. La Guardia held a confidential conference at Lake Success with representatives of voluntary relief agencies and appealed to them for flood relief funds to the U. S. Congress and to the American delegation at the UN in support of his project and that he was considering opposing the American proposal. He protested revolution in Europe, should the international organization be not established. When questioned about the management of UNRRA gifts in Soviet controlled countries, he evaded the issue; It seems apparent, that Mr. La Guardia does not consider the use of UNRRA gifts in support of communist regimes as political, although he thinks it political if the United States demand control over food offered by the American people to starving countries.

The situation is very serious indeed. It would certainly be tragic, should food, handed over to an international body be controlled by Soviet puppet regimes, thus giving them the most powerful weapon to coerce their populations. The real issue is, who will control the distribution of food, the countries which receive food from the Democracies or the communist regimes. If Mr. La Guardia can appeal to Americans to use pressure against the United States proposal, it seems legitimate that honest citizens and especially Catholics be at least equally articulate and write letters, supporting their governments viewpoint. The matter is very urgent.

Disappearing Nations

While the United Nations assembly is arguing about Trieste, the Dardanelles and other important international European subjects, three little nations that existed before the war seem to have disappeared.

Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia, located on the eastern fringe of Soviet Russia, have quietly but ominously passed behind the "iron curtain."

The United Nations, pouting away at the Crimean agreements among the Big Three which permitted free elections in the smaller nations of Europe, have forgotten these small countries, or else they have deliberately ignored them, hoping thereby to prevent another impasse with Stalin.

Romania, well subjected to Russian discipline, is having an election tomorrow. Despite several notes which the American State Department has sent to the Romanian government, it is practically certain that the Communist party will win a smashing victory, partially through engineering from Moscow. But the State Department has recently made so inquiries into the present status of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia.

It's silence implies that it is afraid to ask questions, that it is willing to forget these hapless little nations rather than bring up new topics that might send the Russian bear into a fury.

It is well understood that by this time these three little lands have fallen prey to Russian greed. In particular, such a condition must be hard for Lithuania, which was historically opposed to many of the ideologies that dominate the Red.
Don Varnas Post Leads in Drive
To Aid Homeless Vets
By A. J. L.
The Don Varnas American Legion Post 986 has, in the cause of good Americanism and service to the veteran, joined the civic and veterans investigation committee in a drive to expose conditions now existing in the controversial issue of the airport housing project.

Past Commander Jack L. Jalil has been elected chairman of this committee which is composed of many influential civic and veterans organizations, united in an effort to bring to light the causes of and steps necessary to bring about an early remedy to this deplorable state of affairs.

The so-called squatter affair is the aftermath of nothing other than the insufficiency of the present officials involved. The so-called squatters are no other than the veterans who were home less and who after submitting proper applications for a home to live in, spent months of fruitless waiting and showing around by the housing officials. There were units standing idle in the housing area for eight weeks and as a result these veterans and their families were finally forced by necessity to occupy them without the express permission of the housing officials.

It should be emphasized that these veterans and their families are law abiding citizens and that they have no intentions of creating trouble or breaching the peace, nor is it the intention of these people to prevent deserving parties from obtaining these apartments, nor to by-pass any waiting list that is equitably kept and rightfully administered.

Now that these veteran have moved in, the housing officials have started to issue certificates and leases for these same units for immediate possession without making any repairs or changes within them. Where is the excuse for the units remaining idle for that period of eight weeks? Can the housing officials explain to all parties concerned why no certificates or leases were issued by the Chicago housing authorities? Is there an attempt being made to pit veteran against veteran? Can these officials explain why so many applications submitted by the veteran disappeared and why so many remained unaccepted?

(Exhibit, from p. 1)

music, and business manager Bruno Shotas took care of details. Two new dancers, Lencugelis and Malumelis were given a U, S, A. premiere presentation. The dances were lovely and much appreciated by the audience.

Capacity Audience
Due to the tremendous overflaw of people who could not be accommodated in the Auditorium, it was necessary to repeat most of the program in the rotunda of the Museum, so the Chorus repeated its song numbers with introductions by Mrs. L. Shotas. The dancers had time for only two numbers.

For Sunday afternoon, the menu of the Museum restaurant featured two Lithuanian desserts—a special cake and a Lithuanian Apple Snow.

In conjunction with the Museum program, Don McVey, Breakfast Club (a very popular radio program broadcast over a nation-wide net-work) featured Loretta May in a brief interview. Loretta was described as a lovely representative of Lithuanians, dressed in colorful Lithuanian costume. She was asked to greet the radio audience in Lithuanian, and did so by saying "Linksmu Kailedu Viesias!"

BOOK REVIEWS

EXCELLENT PANEGYRIC ON THE FILIPINO
"UNDER THE RED SUN: A Letter From Manila" by Forbes J. Monaghan (Delean X. Colburn Co., $2.75).

"MOST WORTHY OF ALL PRAISE," by Vincent P. McCorry, S. J. (Delean X. Colburn Co., $2.00).

Written by a Professor of Philosophy at the Ateneo in Manila and Chairman of the National Educational Congress of the Philippines, termed by one of the leaders of the new Philippine government as one who understands us as few Americans do,” having lived in the Islands for ten years and occupying an eyewitness’s vantage seat to observe events long before Bataan until the present, this work is a gripping, stirring, exceptionally vivid portrayal of the Filipino people at its best.

In a background of events from Pearl Harbor, through Bataan and Corregidor campaigns, the Japanese occupation and final liberation of Manila, there passes in review a parade of picturesque men and women, boys and girls, — some in the flesh of their life, others in the blossom of their youth — who, inspired by great faith, courage and patriotism undaunted, face every sort of danger, pain, sacrifice — even death — for their national survival. And “because the Philippine” were loyal to America in the hour of supreme peril, America owes these sturdy, stout-hearted people a great debt.”

UNDER THE RED SUN is not just another war book, it is the testament of the Filipino people, a clarification of confusing statements, appearing in newspapers and scattered by people, who make inconsistent judgements with little or no knowledge of real conditions and experiences in the Philippines and their people. The reader cannot help feeling a liking for the farmers, industrialists, truckmen and conductors, priests and students, guerrillas in even a strange fascination for the traitors — who make up the amazing figures in this vibrating drama of tragedy, humour and heroism. You actually forget the leprosy of Billy Ferrer, a Filipino leper, who finds a way to sacrifice her waning years for her people.

The author not only accomplishes his two fold purpose—to set his country America straight, and to pay a tribute to the boys who chose the path of torture and death to show their loyalty to America — but he arouses and increases an admiration for this gallant people — the Filipinos — who, now an independent country, have proved themselves gallant and must one day reap abundant harvest from the seed, sown in blood, tears and sacrifice.

A. J. M.
The Lithuanian University Club

Our fall season really has gotten off to a grand start! The policy of presenting guest speakers at the meeting has been reestablished, to everyone's pleasure. Interest in meetings has increased considerably, we're glad to report.

We were honored and very happy indeed to have Dr. Frank Padalskas, professor of Economics at Kaunas and Vilnius Universities, present at our November meeting. Dr. Padalskas explained the Russian rule over education in Lithuania and told of his and other educators' and students' experiences in France and Germany after escaping from the Soviets in Lithuania. At a little later date we'll tell you more about his very interesting talk. It has made us more conscious of the plight of Lithuanian youth in its struggles to continue interrupted educations.

Last Sunday really was "Lithuanian Day" at the Museum of Science and Industry when a Lithuanian program of songs and folk dances was presented as part of a two week international exhibit of folklore, Christmas trees and dolls. Typical music was sung by the St. Casimir's Girls' Choir and the "Atetiinkal" offered a number of fascinating folk dances. The very interesting commentaries by Mrs. P. Buzardis made the program appealing to everyone.

It was happily noted that the unusually and typically decorated Lithuanian Christmas tree was the main attraction amongst the international trees. Those who couldn't attend the exhibit last Sunday still have until December 16th to see the trees. Admission is free of charge.

A pleasant evening was spent at Vytautas Bellaus' studio during the L. U. C. Installation Effort. The new Executive Committee was formally installed, and we're happy to say already has come up with some original ideas which are beginning to shape up wonderfully. This is the time of the year when we combine plans for fun and business.

The Christmas Eve Caroling Party and the New Year's Eve Party are in the throes of being organized now, and at the same time we're plunging into plans for a spring concert. The coming year's concert will be presented for the aid of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund. All profits of the affair will go to BALF, so we mean to have a grand and most successful do.

You can see, the Lithuanian University Club has no intentions of sleeping through this busy little life of ours.

You can get more news of our plans and affairs by attending the next L. U. C. meeting at International House this Sunday, December 15th, at 3:00 P. M. A refugee student from Lithuania will be present as our guest speaker, and, we hope, also as a prospective member.

Varnas Post Women's Auxiliary Launches Membership Drive

The Women's Auxiliary Unit of the Don Varnas Post, though recently organized, is very active and boasts of a very fine group of women. A membership drive is now being held and the wives, mothers, and sisters of American Legion Post members are invited to join this organization of high ideals and fine principles.

The members of the Don Varnas Post No. 986 are putting forth all their efforts to make a dream of having permanent headquarters all their own, come true.

A banquet is to be held on Sunday, December 15th at the Syrae Cafe, 64th and Archer Avenue at 5:30 P. M. Tickets are $3.50 per person.

Call J. A. Shulmanstris, Lafayatte 6300 for your reservation, now. Proceeds of this banquet will go to the Memorial Building Fund.

Peace With Brotherhood

By James Patrick McGovern

Christ, the atom bomb, the wandering Jew, like trumpets sounding at walled Jericho, warn play of mankind's final three. Save peace with brotherhood be born anew. Again the martyred Jew is doomed to roam — now at the nadir of his destiny. Since Christ, his kin, gave life to set man free. Upon high quest as prophet but at home. International by choice and fate.

For fifty hundred years in war and peace, The Jew as man, not Jew, sought pain's succor. The citizen where freedom ruled the state.

Like Christ by love, or atom bomb by fire, Gentile and Jew will live or light earth's pyre.

This tiger from the International Circus seems to have different ideas on the subject of men — even though he, a multitude of other animals, and the most outstanding circus performers in the nation will be featured in the International Circus which opens at the Chicago Coliseum on Christmas Day. Unless he makes a couple of New Year's resolutions, no change of attitude is expected in the unfriendly tiger by the time the circus closes on Jan. 5.

International Circus Opens At Coliseum December 25th

The International Circus, the world's greatest indoor circus, opens at the Coliseum on Christmas Day and will run matinees and evenings until January 5.

Chicago's 1946 Santa Claus will scrap his reindeer for giant elephants, roaring lions and tigers and tuba-playing seals, because the "Big Top" with all the thrills and trimmings will be in town for the Christmas season.

The greatest assemblage of top acts ever before offered in one show will be presented. This is possible only because there is not another circus showing anywhere else in the country at the same time. As a result top acts from all over will head for Chicago to take part in the holiday show, according to Ernlo Young, nationally known circus producer, who is director of the International Circus.

In addition to the Illinois Chapter of the Sister Elizabeth Kenny Foundation a number of Catholic schools and B'nai B'rith Lodges will act as sponsors.

Advance orders for reserved seats selling at $2.50 and $3.50, including tax, are now being taken. General admission tickets sell at $1.50.

Somebody has come up with a key guard door lock designed to prevent burglary by use of a skeleton key. The gimmick fits into the keyhole and only the proper door key will open it.