"Draugas" Offers Elegant Array Of Talent at Annual Concert and Dance

Concert will feature K of L Choruses, Brighton Park Sodaity Glee Club, Vesota Players, Algird Brazis, baritone, Mary Puksmis, soprano, John Urban, tenor — Dance his famous band.

In the lighter vein, the Vesota Player group will be making their initial piece called "Blakės Liga" (Bed Bug Fever) at the "Draugas" during its Feb. 9th annual concert and dance will offer select talent which takes second place to none.

On the classical side of the program, the newly organized K of L Chicago District Chorus will provide a series of touching folksongs; the up-coming Brighton Park Sodaity Glee Club by musical trickery, will portray a special album of music of nations.

Three outstanding soloists will be making their initial appearances at the "Draugas" concert: Algird Brazis, gifted lyric baritone of the Chicago Opera; Mary Puksmis, soprano and John Urban, star of concert and radio, the latter Likewise of wide operatic experience.

Critics Praise Polyna Stoska

For Hit In "Street Scene" NEW YORK. — Polyna has done it again! This time music critics are lavishing high praise for her latest splendid performance in "Street Scene," a musical which has taken Broadway by storm.

Bosco Atkinson, of the NEW YORK TIMES writes: "Not long ago local managers could no longer find actors who could sing. The producers of "Street Scene" had no such trouble. They have found superb singers who have helped to make this one of the memorable nights in theatre going. Polyna Stokes, who plays Mrs. Maurer, has a burlant soprano voice that contains both the sadness and sweetness of the part."

William Hawkins of the NEW YORK TELEGRAM had this to say: "Polyna Stokes literally stopped this show last night a couple of times, and, well deserved to. Hers is a remarkable voice anywhere, and she has a talent for tonal characterization which is essential to the role of the cheating wife. Her nostalgic aria about her life is delivered with infinite feeling and a free soaring vocal treatment that gives it a thrilling emotional quality. Again in the tender song to her son Miss Stoska animates the whole picture of the humbled woman."

Ex-Communist Budenz Exposes Underground

CHICAGO. — This is My Story, the long-awaited life story of Louis F. Budenz, former editor of the Communist newspaper, The Daily Worker, is finally in print and will be published early next month.

The Thomas More Book Club, 220 W. Madison St., Chicago, has been chosen to distribute the book through club channels.

Mr. Budenz was reared a Catholic, but left the Church and labored for years under the delusion that Communism and Catholicism could work together in harmony. Since returning to the Faith he has been lecturing to overflow audiences in many cities. His book exposes the almost incredible ramifications of the Communist underground in the United States.

The "Family Theatre", New Radio Program, Begins Thurs., Feb. 13 LOS ANGELES. — To promote the practice of daily family prayer in America, "Family Theatre," a weekly coast-to-coast radio program, featuring the best talent of screen and radio, including outstanding stars from Hollywood, will have its premiere Thursday, Feb. 13th, at 9:00 Central Standard time.

The initial program Feb. 13th will star Loreta Young and Joseph Cotten, with James Stewart as master of ceremonies, and Meredith Willson directing the orchestra in special music composed by him for the broadcast.

The script for the program will be "Flight From Home", written by True Boardman.

On the classical side of the program, the newly organized K of L Chicago District Chorus will provide a series of touching folksongs; the up-coming Brighton Park Sodaity Glee Club by musical trickery, will portray a special album of music of nations.

Three outstanding soloists will be making their initial appearances at the "Draugas" concert: Algird Brazis, gifted lyric baritone of the Chicago Opera; Mary Puksmis, soprano and John Urban, star of concert and radio, the latter Likewise of wide operatic experience.

"Will You Be my Valentine" at the SWING OF HEARTS sponsored by THE ST. CASIMIR ACADEMY ALUMNAE at Michael J. Flynn Hall 3236 West 63rd Street SATURDAY, FEB. 8 8:00 p. m.

Donation Theo
CATHOLICISM IN ACTION

By The Observer

If there is any bright spot in the gloomy picture of uprooted and ravaged countries of the post-war world, it is the ever-widening sphere of Christian love in action. In large hatred-ridden and terror-rulled areas of Europe and Asia this is the only force which draws unhappy humanity together to find new hope. The record of the Catholic Church in this field is unique and can perhaps be compared only to the era of the first Christians. Because never yet in the two thousand years of Church history has there been so much human misery and so great a need for spiritual as well as physical help.

As an answer to the various Internationals of political regimentation and hate comes the Catholic International of brotherly love and charity. Bread given in the name of God is the powerful tool that returns life hope to those who would otherwise perish. The share of American Catholics in this monumental work of the Church is tremendous and reaches all parts of the globe.

For instance, in a desolate orphanage in Poland, what evoked the first smile of joy on the grim faces of hungry children? Packages of food, clothing and candy marked with the label: War Relief Services, N. C. W. C. Again in France in a home for exiles, where chiefly Jewish children were sheltered, there was the same picture. In a displaced persons camp in Germany, where people of various nationalities had been detained for a very long time, and the boredom of an idle and hopeless life had brought the close to desperation, Catholic Relief from America was the soil in which new life was taking root. Instructors equipped with all kinds of tools were teaching these involuntary exiles new skills that not only kept their hands busy and their thoughts from crime, but gave them new bread-winning professions useful for the future.

Such examples could be cited again and again, shifting the scene from country to country, from continent to continent, for the charity work of the American Hierarchy, as one of the voluntary relief organizations, covers the area of 41 countries of Europe, Africa and Asia. Letters of gratitude coming from all parts of the world to the official Headquarters at the Empire State building in New York bear constantly growing testimony to the tremendous extent of the ground covered and the success of the efforts.

Since the establishment of the Bishops' Emergency and Relief Committee in 1940 and the War Relief Services National Catholic Welfare Conference in 1943, 90 million dollars have been spent on foreign relief and 119,884,000 pounds of supplies shipped overseas.

In 1948 alone, new relief projects in 14 countries of Europe and Asia were established by the War Relief Services N. C. W. C. A great weight of 55,187,224 pounds valued at 15,325,388 dollars were shipped. The work is carried on chiefly through the local Catholic Hierarchies which, in the European countries have set up their own relief organizations bearing the name "Caritas" or one very similar. These bishops committees distribute gifts from America through the channel of parishes which now form one of the few networks of fair and undiscriminatory relief. It must be remembered that none of the food, clothing, medicines or other items ever offered are used to induce or coerce the hungry people into some kind of creed or affiliation, but in sheer Christian love are distributed without regard for race, religion or nationality.

Catholic help for the Displaced Persons and Displaced Children in Germany and Austria was originated in 1945 by War Relief Services N. C. W. C. It now serves more than 700,000 people in 252 D. P. camps. Outside of basic food and clothing supplied by UNRRA or the occupation authorities, 1,784,416 pounds of various relief goods were distributed in the three democratic zones of Germany.

Among these gifts were also religious articles, such as hundreds of mass kits for destitute priests who had nothing with which to say mass, medals, prayer books and religious literature. Leathercraft, carpentry, card weaving, woodworking, metal craft and many other sets of tools necessary for teaching the D. P.'s various professions were distributed. For children alone 1,391,491 pounds of food.

(Continued on page 4)

NEW YORK. — James A. Farley, former Postmaster General and Honorary Chairman of the 1947 Campaign of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America, officially opened the fund-raising campaign of this organization for 1947, at a luncheon in the Waldorf-Astoria, Jan. 24, of which Gen. William N. Haskell was toastmaster. Mr. Farley urged continued American support and relief to the Lithuanian refugees and expressed a hope that immigration restrictions would be lifted to enable them and other refugees to enter this country.

The Consul General of Lithuania, Jonas Butrys, representing the Minister of Lithuania to the United States, expressed gratitude to the American people for the constant aid extended to suffering Lithuanians.

Over 1,000,000 pounds of clothing, food, medical supplies and other relief items were sent to Lithuanian D.P.'s and to the Lithuanian war victims in their own native country, reported Rev. Dr. Joseph B. Koncius, President of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America. This relief, covering a period from 1944 to the present, is valued at about $2,000,000.00.

Bishops Give $10,000

Bishop John Mark Cannon, of Erie, Pa., Treasurer of the Administrative Board of Bishops of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, presented a check of $10,000.00 from that organization to the Lithuanian relief body. Bishop Cannon reviewed the sufferings of the Lithuanian people during the past war and deplored the action of "benevolent dictators" in oppressing the smaller nations.

This address, like all the others, were carried over the municipal radio station WNYC.

The United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America, a member agency of the National Welfare Federation, is seeking continued support.

(Continued on page 4)

CORN and STUFF

By J. A. SKELLY

A big Swede walked into the ticket station of an eastern railway company and asked for a ticket to Chicago.

"Do you want to go by train, geeve me rein-deer." — "My gueness no," said the big Swede. "Bef ay can't go by train, geeve me rein-deer."

Dopey Ziggy was the school's official cannon polisher for eleven years. One day he approached the school's dean and said, "I'm retiring!"

The surprised dean asked, "But why?"

Dopey Ziggy answered — "Well you see I saved two dollars a week and I'm go-ing in business. — I bought my own cannon."

On Radio Hour

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen, America's number one radio orator, is the current speaker on the Catholic Hour radio program. Msgr. Sheen's series, which will extend through Easter Sunday, is entitled "Light Your Lamps," and deals with Communion, Listen to him every Sunday evening at five o'clock Central Standard Time over the National Broadcasting Company's network.

THE ENGLISH SECTION

Published every Friday by

The LITHUANIAN DAILY DRAUGAS
2334 South Oakley Avenue
Chicago 8, Ill. — Canal 8010
All copy must be submitted not later than Monday afternoon to appear in the following Friday's issue.
Friday, Feb 7, 1947

LITHUANIAN DAILY DRAUGAS

Page Three

An American’s Eye - Witness Report —

TITO - Man of Mystery

By Theodore Benkovic, O. F. M.

(The following revelation — the result of actual experience, observation and study — is by an American, who recently escaped from Yugoslavia after a seven-year’s stay there. Ed.)

and to extend Yugoslavia from Trieste to the port of Varna so Russia may have access to the Mediterranean by way of the Adriatic Sea.

Because religion is the opium of the people, there is religious persecution which is chiefly directed against the Catholic Church, the opposition of Communism.

The Croatian and Slavonic Catholic Episcopacy meeting at Zagreb, September 20, ’44, issued an encyclical letter openly charging Tito’s regime with violations of the promise of religious freedom, which are as follows:

1) According to the Bishop’s information, 243 priests killed, 169 imprisoned in concentration camps, 89 missing; total 501 priests; also, must add 19 seminarians, 3 lay brothers and 4 nuns killed.

2) People’s court’s facrictal trials.

3) Priests subjected to sacerdotal indignities, and denied, as also the faithful, the consolations of religion even in the last moments of life.

4) Catholic Church and clergy attacked and calumniated by press without benefit of rebuttal.

5) Catholic Press with its over 100 publications confiscated, no longer allowed to exist.

6) Church property and institutions of charity, learning and mercy seized by the government.

7) No religious training permitted in the schools, while atheistic teachings are fostered.

8) Freedom of conscience merely exists in word.

9) Planned encouragement of immorality for youth.

10) Catholic marriages declared by the government to be invalid, introduction of divorce and all marital evils.

11) Graves of Croatian and German dead desecrated.

12) Teaching of materialistic communism with its consequent evils.

This courageous and fearless pastoral letter of the Croatian and Slovenian Catholic bishops accusing Tito of persecuting the Catholic Church created such a sensation that Tito himself had to come out and lingely deny it, while all the stopgaps of communist filth and smear were let loose.

In spite of the firm terrorist grip of Tito on Yugoslavia, resistance has not slackened but is ever on the increase. The Serbs, now with Mihailovich executed, maintain no resistance movement. Only the Croats uphold and carry on a worthwhile guerrilla warfare through the remnant of the Croatian army and those who have fled into the wood and mountains to battle against the partisans.

In the last days of my stay in Yugoslavia, the Croat guerrillas achieved such marked success, which to this day has hidden from the outside world, that it has become the hope of the enased Croats and has caused much consternation to the partisans who, of course, will admit nothing.

Other Croats have managed to escape the inferno that is Tito’s Yugoslavia, and thus have become a livng protest to the world against the crucifixion of the Croatian nation, and the constant reminder of a bitter admission: “During the war I thought I could trust Tito...but now I am well aware that I committed one of the biggest mistakes in the war.” (Winston Churchill, London, January 5, 1946).

(The end)

(Extract from booklet, “The Tragedy of a nation,” by Theodore Benkovic, O.F.M.)

We’ll be looking for YOU at

THE MID-WINTER HOP

sponsored by

BRIGHTON PARK

SODALITY

Darien-Glenview A. L. Hall 4410 So. Western Ave.
Friday, Feb 7th - 8 p. m.

Music by

JOHNNY WALKER and His Orchestra

Entertainment in the Ratakellar. too

Sodality Retreat

Entries Near Close

CHICAGO. — After last week’s Lithuanian Sodality Union March 7 to 9 retreat announcement in the English Page, retreat chairman Louise Kairis reports she has been practically swamped with applications for reservations. Since only 45 persons can be accommodated at the Cenacle retreat quarters, the first 45 sending in their required $5.00 deposit will be counted in and with those 45 the list will be officially closed.

For the sake of those who may not be able to make the retreat, the Sodality with the LSU March 7 to 9, the Cenacle announces that there will be a general retreat during the weekend of March 14 to 16, which will be open to girls and young ladies in general.

To make sure of a place for the March 7-9 retreat, Sodalists are asked to place a $5 deposit immediately with their local prefects or E. O. L. chairman. Contact Louise Kairis, 2812 W. Marquette Rd., Grovehill 6389.

(FARLEY, from p. 2) to attain a goal of $1,525,000 in cash and goods to continue its relief activities among Lithuanian refugees in Europe. This goal, based on the criterion that there is a continued need for this aid, would meet only the basic supplementary requirements of Lithuanian refugees, reported Lithuanian relief executives.
The American Lithuanian Society
Plans Lithuanian Day Anniversary

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The American Lithuanian Society of Washington, D. C., announces that on February 16, 1947, at 10:45 a.m., a Special Anniversary Mass in commemoration of Lithuanian Day will be celebrated, and in the past, in the Church, the Immaculate Conception, 8th and N Streets, N. W. Seats in the front section of the church have been reserved for members and their friends.

Luncheon will then be served at the Lafayette Hotel, 16th and I Streets, N. W., at 12 noon, at $1.75 per person. Those planning to attend the luncheon, please notify Joseph J. Walker, President, or Bertha Stann, Secretary, not later than February 9, the regular monthly meeting date, in order that reservations may be made in time.

Among the distinguished guests invited are: the Minister of Lithuania and Madame Zadekis, the Minister of Latvia and Madame Bilmianis, Mr. Loy W. Henderson, Director, Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, Department of State, and other prominent persons.

An informal party will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Walker, 123 36th Street, N. E., Washington, D. C., in the evening, from 6 p. m. on.

The next regular meeting of the Society will take place Sunday, Feb. 9, 1947, 3:00 p. m. at the Immaculate Conception School hall, 8th and N Sts., N. W.

J. J. W.

(CATHOLIC ACTION, from p. 2.)

The Lithuanian University Club

Just a note to let you know that the Lithuanian University Club is really getting all hopped up about our B. A. L. F. Benefit Concert which will be presented at the Lithuanian Auditorium on Sunday, April 27th. The program promises to be of great interest to everyone, and as soon as plans become more definite we'll let you in on our list of guest stars — which, we assure you, will be quite impressive.

At the last meeting at International House we heard more about the party being planned for new prospects. If you have ever planned to come down to an L. U. C. meeting, how about keeping the date of Sunday, February 23rd in mind? There will be a social at L. U. C. meeting that day, at International House, as usual, and after that we'll just stay on for a good time — refreshments and all! This is your invitation to come down and join us in some fun — and, we hope you bring your friends along too. More about this later, though.

Our last meeting was highlighted by a very interesting talk given by George Savaitis, an L.U.C. prospective member who lived through a year of the Russian occupation of Lithuania. His first-hand information about the Communist system of occupation was enlightening and irrefutable. We appreciated his concise and intelligent presentation of a much discussed topic.

Algird Mickevičius was appointed Chairman of the Educational Committee at the last meeting, so evidently from now on we'll conscientiously see to it that a speaker will appear at every meeting.

I. C. M.