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DRAUGAS

ENGLISH SECTION

LET'S FINISH THE JOB—
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BONDS!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1947

"Draugas" Concert and Dance Again Draws Capacity Audience

Full house braves cold weather to hear K of L Chorus, Brighton Park Sodality Glee Club, Algird Brazis, Mary Puksmis, comedy "Bed Bug Fever" and dance to gay music of Mickey Prindl's orchestra.

CHICAGO. — Yep, the "Draugas" did it again. The annual Concert and Dance held Sunday, Feb. 9th at St. Agnes Hall, will go down as another triumph for the only Lithuanian Catholic daily in the world. The affair must also be considered as one of the most colorful and most successful social gatherings in Chicago's Lithuanian circles.

The staff and members of the arrangements committee were not a little bothered by the cold wave which had gripped Chicago during the days preceding the date of the concert. In fact, for a while it seemed like the weather man wouldn't cooperate very well that day. But luckily the weather stayed dry, the sun broke through shortly during the afternoon, and that was enough to give the "Draugas" friends the go sign for a splendid afternoon and evening at St. Agnes hall.

From all appearances, those who came really felt it was worth it, and all had a grand time. The program, featuring the K of L District Chorus, Brighton Park Sodality Glee Club, Chicago Opera baritone Algird Brazis, Mary Puksmis, soprano and John Urban, tenor, provided first class talent rarely seen or heard at one time at Lithuanian goings-on.

The Sodality Glee Club, under the capable leadership of Anne Pieza, by means of musical magic, took the audience "on wings of song" to various nations of the world and provided music characteristic of these nations, for example: Lithuania, Switzerland, Austria, Mexico, America, etc. In between scenes, Helen Paulis and Gertrude Gaizauskas put the audience through a heap of laughs with a skit called "Breaking into Society".

The K of L District chorus led by their gifted young director Leonard Simutis, Jr., provided select folk songs and hymns. Incidentally, both the Sodality Glee club and K of L cho-

rus sang "a capella", and we think they did a swell job at it. As they are, they'll hold up against some of our best singing groups.

Algird Brazis, baritone, Mary Puksmis, soprano, and John Urban, tenor, captivated the audience with a high grade rendition of well selected scores, ranging from heart-rending folk songs, operatic pieces and the lighter classics. They were accompanied by Mr. John Byanskas. The Vešota players, consisting of Kazys Vešota, Christine Kuoga, Anthony Petrokas and Vytautas Vešota put the audience in a special gay mood through their presentation of a 3-act comedy "Bed Bug Fever."

Dancing followed the concert. Music was provided by the popular maestro Mickey Prindl and his famous band. With another grand success to its credit, here's hoping for still greater "Draugas" promotions and accomplishments!

Mundelein Council Gives Degrees Mar. 16

CHICAGO. — The new Cardinal Mundelein K of C Council 3024 announces the exemption of degrees of the Cardinal Mundelein "Charter Class" on March 16th, 1947, at Father Perez council chambers, 6710 So. May St., and cordially invites all friends likewise to attend.

Those wishing to join the Cardinal Mundelein council still have time to make this "Charter Class". Applicants are invited to be present at Nativity of B. V. M. parish hall, 68th and Washtenaw Ave. Tuesday evening Feb. 25th, at 8:00 p. m. The arrangements and organizing committee will be more than glad to offer any assistance connected with joining the council. The deadline for applications for the "Char-

RED CROSS AIDS VETERAN'S WIFE



WASHINGTON, D. C.—When his wife had to undergo a major operation while he himself was taking treatments in a Veterans Administration hospital for war injuries, the above veteran sought Red Cross help. In consultation with the family doctor, the Red Cross chapter worker made arrangements to care for his wife during his absence. (American Red Cross Photo)

AT MASS MEETING

Detroit Lithuanians Ask U. S. Aid

DETROIT. — Eighteen Detroit Lithuanian organizations drafted a plea to the United Nations and Secretary of State Marshall demanding the restoration of Lithuanian sovereignty.

This appeal was approved at a mass rally of the Lithuanian community, Sunday February 9th, after hearing first-hand accounts from three refugees of the conditions in Lithuania. The meeting was called to commemorate the 29th anniversary of Lithuania's independence.

Three times arrested for his activities by the Russians and Germans and the last time saved just before the firing squad executed him, the Rev. Fr. Raymond Klumbis told of the mass deportations into Russia.

He said 90,000 persons were sent into the interior of Russia as part of a scheme to retain control of

the Lithuanian nation. He said some 50,000 partisans remained in the Lithuanian forests to battle "the Lithuanian puppets and communists".

In the message to President Truman and Marshall, the Lithuanians asserted that over 20 months have passed since the end of hostilities in Europe, and Lithuania is still under occupation of the Soviet Russian Army.

"We appeal to our Government to demand through diplomatic channels and international conferences that Russia immediately withdraw her armed forces and secret police from Lithuania and permit the Lithuanian people to choose their own government in free and unmolested elections."

Ona C. Aksomaitis.

"Flying Cranes" Next

WASHINGTON. — A "flying crane" helicopter capable of lifting 20,000 pounds in tanks, trucks, guns or other equipment across a bridgeless river or setting them down in relatively impenetrable places is being developed by a manufacturer in cooperation with the Army Air Forces,

John Skelly

THE ENGLISH SECTION

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Catholic Press Month....

Christ's Salesmen

We have something to sell, we have a market for it, and we have the buyers...yet it is up to us to "sell the goods".

Who has not felt a stronger attraction to read a secular paper, with sensational news and luring pictures, than a Catholic Paper which is doing its best to appeal to readers? Obviously the Catholic Press must put up a strong fight to compete with the secular press for the interest and undivided attention of earnest readers. Catholics have to present matter of utmost importance in such a way that it will be practical and attractive. This is by no means easy! To express the supernatural duties of man in the language of an ordinary person, preoccupied with worldly matters is a real problem... a problem for the young Catholic writers of America.

On the other hand, enemies of the Church have found means to use the press to their advantage. If their doctrine was naturally repugnant, and in many cases this was true, they dressed it up and put it into more pleasing words. They won their point. We can learn from them. If they can use the press as a means of propaganda, so can we. If they can express their doctrine to suit the intelligence and inclinations of the people, so can we! We don't have to sacrifice principles or doctrine... We merely have to present them in a more palatable form.

Men shudder at the thought of what they would call feminine piety or "weak virtues". The doctrines of our Church are not made for the weak, but they were made to apply to all those who shared in the weaknesses of human nature. Men and women alike need the doctrines of the Church and hunger for them if only someone will inform them.... That someone should be us! We must present religion in a language that men will understand. Men understand a language that speaks in terms of strength, courage, sacrifice and love.

We must also speak to women in a language that they will understand. A woman knows what it means to suffer and to love. She seeks protection from men who are strong and brave. She will listen to the voice of the Church if she recognizes it as a strong and brave friend, willing to defend her.

We must talk to youth in their own language. We must present our young with an ideal (and what could be better than Christ), an opportunity for great, heroic deeds. Youth does not like to be preached to; youth wants to know the how and the why of moral obligations. We cannot answer them with a simple yes or no. Youth will not read long dry tracts on religious doctrine or on any other subject. We must write in a manner that will hold their interest.

One of the greatest problems budding authors have to face is the difficulty of getting their original writing into the printed page of a paper or magazine. For Catholic writers that is no problem. Catholic publications are simply begging for articles and stories that are written from a Catholic viewpoint or those that are based on Catholic Philosophy. It would be a shame to let the opportunities that are present to us today slip through our fingers.

If we need Catholic writers, we need Catholic readers too. Too many Catholic homes are devoid of all Catholic Literature. What literature does creep in, only collects dust and ends up in the waste basket. Catholic magazines have an appeal but we will never discover it unless we open them and examine the contents...thoroughly. If your excuse is that you do not know of any good Catholic magazines to read, please write to us, tell us what type of magazine you like to read and we shall be only too glad to advise you. The same holds true for you young Catholic Authors who are wondering what and where to write... for publication.

James A. Farley's Address Opening Lithuanian Fund Drive

(The following is the text of an address by former Postmaster General James A. Farley, given at luncheon at hotel Waldorf Astoria, Jan. 24, officially opening the United Lithuanian Relief Fund drive for 1947).

The following is the text of the address by Mr. Farley:

"We are gathered here today to open the 1947 campaign of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America. This organization, which, in the past, received most of its funds from the National War Fund, now embarks under its own power in search of aid from friends sympathetic to its cause.

"This cause is not new or unusual. The aftermath of war has left millions of innocent war stricken men, women and children, impoverished and unable to help themselves. Among them, and in great numbers, are the Lithuanians in Europe.

"For centuries, this nation waged many battles for its freedom and heroically resisted all foreign attempts of occupation and oppression. It fought and defeated the Teutonic Knights. It resisted all attempts of denationalization by the Russians during their 120 years of occupation of Lithuania. Finally, the end of the first World War saw the return of complete independence to Lithuania and for twenty-two years it firmly established itself in the

family of nations. It proved without doubt that Lithuanians as free men, under a democratic system of government, rightfully deserved their hard-earned freedom.

"The second World War inflicted furious and unsparing havoc on this small nation. In proportion, it was one of the most afflicted. It suffered carnage of its population, destruction of its land and property and, worst of all, foreign military occupation. A large percentage of its population was deported to slavery in strange and unfriendly lands. Others, seeking fundamental freedoms and human rights, left their homeland, and sought temporary refuge where they could.

"To aid all these distressed Lithuanians is the chief aim of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America. During the past three years, this humanitarian agency extended all the relief and aid it could summon and assemble. It drew upon the generosity of the American people with vigor and appeal and when distribution was made abroad it was always done in the name of the American people who so generously responded.

"Want knows no religious, racial or physical boundaries. Under similar conditions, it affects all in equal degree and manner. Lithuanians in Europe share this common fate, a common fate of general want, of despair and uncertainty.

"It is generally recognized and accepted that the people of Europe, and especially the refugees and the displaced persons, still need aid. To this end, international and voluntary relief agencies have worked unceasingly with force and sacrifice. However, international relief organizations alone cannot successfully meet this great and complex problem. Voluntary agencies, therefore, have been invited into this field to supply not only supplementary requirements and services, but also to provide the items of aid not coming within the scope of international bodies.

"We are fully aware that lack of all things material is prevalent throughout Europe. This lack is all the more acute among the displaced persons. And what is

(Cont'd on page 4)

CORN and STUFF

By J. A. SKELLY

Arab — "Buy an Oriental rug for your sweetie pie?"

G. I. — "Listen, burlap! Scram, I don't want any."

Arab — "Send home, make big hit with lady."

G. I. — "No! I tell you No! Take the stinking thing away!"

By this time the Arab was offended and drawing up, haughtily insisted: "Sahib, it is not carpet that stinks — it's me, now will you buy?"

* * *

A certain county ration board received a letter from a woman requesting an extra supply of gasoline. It was essential, she explained, because she was "teaching schools". The ration board decided that her pupils could get along without her. Guess why?

* * *

Top — "Didn't you you catch him? You had bloodhounds!"

Tip — "Well, could I help it if he was anemic?"

Three Crosses...

BY Capt. Alec Richards

All along the dusty highways in Lithuania, southernmost of the three tragic Baltic states, could be seen carved wooden crosses, and wonderful wayside shrines. No small piece of ground, bright with flowers behind its stout wattle fence, lacked a cross with a shrine on top showing the patron saint,



Fishing boats near Memel

carved out of wood and painted in gay colors.

Devout wayfarers, tired peasants returning from work, stopped before these roadside crosses and knelt reverently to say a prayer. They bore the happy friendly expression of people at peace with themselves, that one sees so often in Catholic countries, for Lithuania was 81% of that faith.

Their home was guarded against fire by St. Agatha and St. Florian while laborers put themselves under the protection of St. Isidore. Flaxen-haired children trooping gayly across bridges, wading and playing at the marshy edges of a brook, waved a greeting to the figures of St. Roche with his dog — who looked like their own shaggy Rover running at their heels. In their grimy little fists the children clutched freshly gathered field blossoms — corn flowers and poppies from amid the golden waving grain, as gifts to St. John the Baptist, or St. John Nepomuk stationed at the bridgehead.

Most villages had their "God Makers", as the carv-

In the "Red Paradise" of Bolshevik Tyranny Lithuanians are having a nightmare of horror, enslavement and persecution. Russian rule is supported by the full prestige of the United States — never put to a baser purpose.

(Reprint and cuts courtesy THE APOSTLE)

ers of saints and shrines were called. Under the nimble fingers of these men, whose art was a craft and whose craft was an art, there came into being the Virgin and Child; St. Anne patron of books and students; St. George and the Dragon; and the Pieta — the Mater Dolorosa with her dead son.

In the Lithuanian character practical hardheadedness mingled with great imagination and idealism. On the other hand, they were hard workers but after work they found great relaxation in the "dainos" as they called their folk songs and folk dances. Song has always come naturally to the Lithuanian peasant. He sang if he was happy to add to his joy. He sang if he was sad to lessen his grief.

An amazingly rich folklore was the heritage of every Lithuanian child, intertwined with many quaint beliefs, where nearly every hill and lake, bird and beast

farming of one kind or another, with a flax output ranking third in the world.

Most of the country's exports and imports passed through Memel, or Klaipėda, as the Lithuanians named it, which Hitler seized in 1939, under the pretext that most of its 50,000 inhabitants were of German origin. To that port, formerly a sleepy fishing village, but later equipped by the Lithuanian Government with modern dock, storage and unloading facilities and rail connections with the interior, came all kinds of craft. There were new vessels, and old clumsy fishing boats at whose masthead fluttered a carved weather vane, showing from what port of the country the boat had come. Each locality had its own distinctive weather vane.

The rest of the Lithuanian coast was sleepy and picturesque delightful for artists and vacationists, especially Nida with its painters living in modernized fishermen's huts with brightly painted roofs and blinds. Amber was found in quantity all along the coast collecting it made up the principal industry next to fishing. Strange to relate, amber has also been found in the bottom of lakes in the interior. This lends support to the theory that amber is the gum of bossil trees that grew aeons ago when the world was very young.

"Wandering dunes", burying fishermen's huts engulfing whole villages — even partly submerging churches up to the steeples — used to be a problem along the Baltic coast. At last the dunes were controlled by a system of trellises something like those in vineyards, whereon coarse beach grass was planted. When this grass took root and anchored the blown sand, the first step to control the dunes had been taken. Next

(Continued on page 4)

Only a few copies left!

The Lithuanians "The People of Song"

By A. DENIS YUKNIS

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QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Just in case my fair-weather predictions go wrong."—S. D. Flora, Federal meteorologist in Kansas, who keeps umbrella handy in his Topeka office.

"Lock me up. I can't stand this weather."—Escaped Convict John Tuel, 47, reporting back to Salem, Ore., jail.

"It's an outrage!"—Kids of Lowville, N. Y., on buyers' boycott against six-cent candy bars.

"Power in the hands of fallible human beings—without responsibility—results in social chaos. The present labor crisis is no exception to that rule."—Pres. H. W. Prentiss, Jr., Armstrong Cork Co.

"It is obvious that something isn't clicking when one man can tie up industry and cause suffering to individuals."—Rep. Robinson, Utah, on the coal strike.

"I think it is un-American to strike against the government."—Coal Miner Tom Carter, Westland, Pa., who struck anyway.



Lithuanian mother teaching her child to read

and flower had its legend. This love of Nature and affinity with field and forest came naturally to a people of whom 80% engaged in

Quigley K of C Council to Honor Lt. Don Varnas March 4th

CHICAGO. — The Archbishop Quigley K of C. Council will honor Lt. Don Varnas with a First and Second Degree class when these degrees are conferred Tuesday evening, March 4th, 1947, at their club-house headquarters, 1035 West 31st Street.

Lt. Don Varnas was past president of the Knights of Lithuanian Chicago District and Brighton Park council 36. He was also president of the Lithuanian Citizens Workmen's Benevolent Club of Chicago. Lt. Varnas was killed in Luxembourg, in a German prison camp, Jan. 15th, 1945. March 4th is the feast day of St. Casimir, the patron of Lithuanian youth. Recently a new American Legion post has been organized in Chicago and named in Lt. Varnas' honor.

Friends and admirers of Lt. Don Varnas are cordially invited to be present that day and pay their respects to this fine lad. Others have

(Farley from p. 2)

most deplorable is the fact that these poor unfortunates have to depend on others for their food, clothing and medical supplies. None of these essentials are available to them in adequate amounts. They can only share in what we Americans can and do spare.

"The plight of the Lithuanians, suffering the terrible consequence of the war, deserves the attention, the sympathetic understanding and support of every charity-minded American. Without this support, there is no other hope for their survival.

"If, however, they do receive the help which the United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America has obligated itself to provide them during 1947, their faith in true democracy will be further strengthened. The realization of this fact, too, shall bring them solace and consolation in their misery and want.

"But material aid alone is not sufficient. The Lithuanian refugees, like the homeless of other countries who cannot return to their native lands, are seeking refuge in free lands of opportunity. They are sick to death of dependence upon others. They languish only in the hope of again living in freedom and self-sustainment. Let us not "close or narrow our gates" to them. They, like their relatives and friends here before them, will prove themselves worthy of our rich American heritage and prosperity, and become useful and valuable Americans".

an opportunity to honor him in a special way — by joining the Archbishop Quigley council Lt. Don Varnas Class of new candidates. The initiation fee is only \$10.00 and the social dues are the lowest in the city — only \$8.00 a year, or \$2.00 quarterly, and the benefits are galore: use of all club room facilities at any time; participation in various sports and activities; socials with refreshments, gifts, entertainment, etc. after meetings on every first and third Tuesday of the month. Then there are parties, such as: Ladies' Night, Children's Christmas Party, Turkey Night, Annual Barbecue, Charity Ball, Bowling and Golf tournaments, etc.

The Quigley Council will observe its silver anniversary in Jan., 1948. Join up now with a really active council. Get your application from sec. John Jankowski, 1037 W. 31st Pl. or from recorder and scribe James Cherry, 4534 S. California Ave.

Dedication

On March 29th, the Supreme K of C officers will dedicate a plaque honoring World War II Knights of Columbus who made the supreme sacrifice. Lt. Don Varnas' name will appear on this plaque.

On April 13th, the Archbishop Quigley Council will also dedicate their own special plaque honoring members who served in World War II. On it will appear two gold stars with the names of Don J. Varnas and S. J. Pryezdzink. On that day, all servicemen and their escorts will be guests of the council at a special dedication dinner. It'll be the council's simple way of saying: "Thank you, we're glad to see you back!"

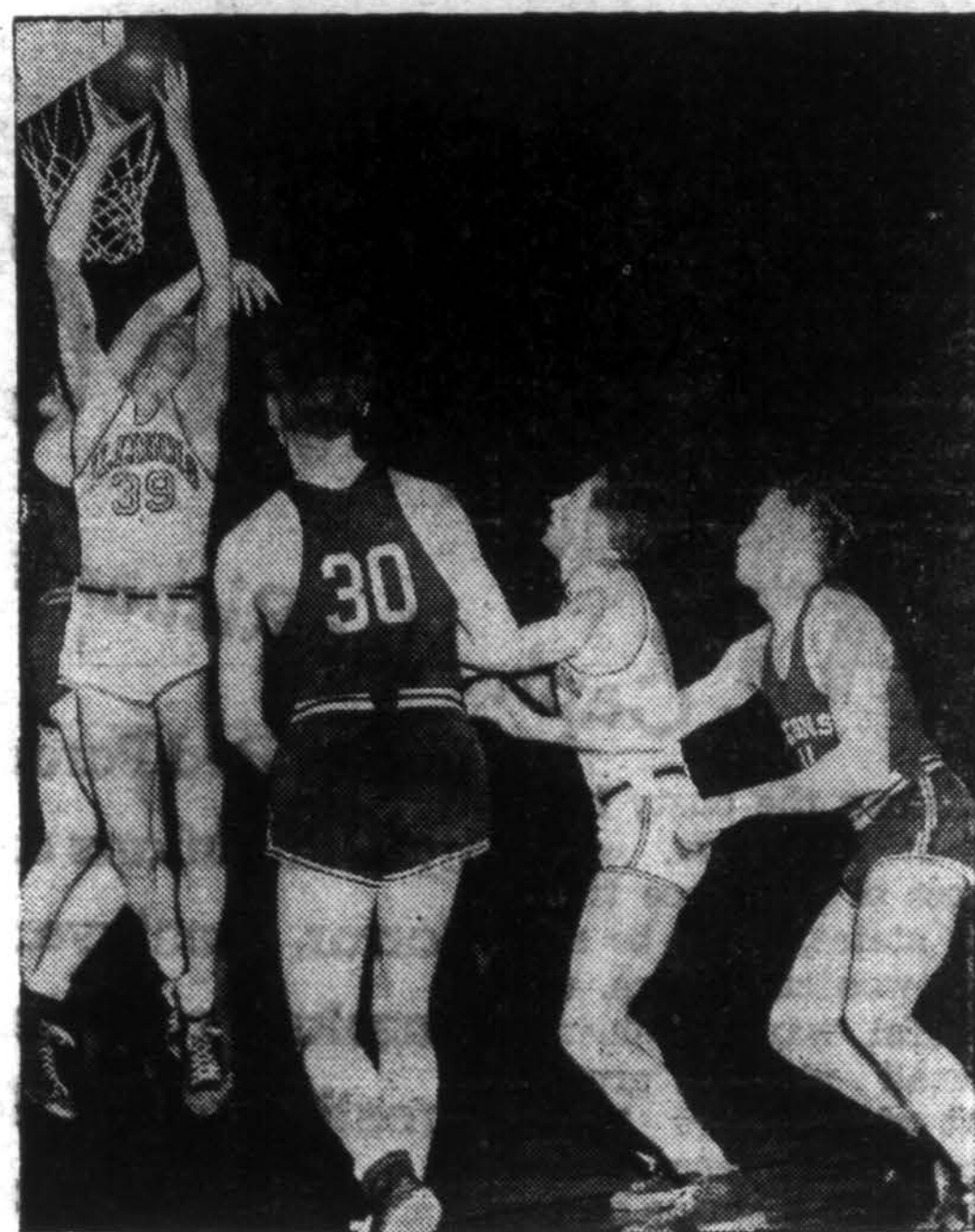
Red Cherry.

Cancelled Stamps

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

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ILLINOIS DOWNS WISCONSIN



Bob Lavoy, No. 39, Illinois center, takes the ball off the backboard in the second half of the Illinois-Wisconsin tussle, and is fouled by Edward Mills, Wisconsin center. Illinois dumped the first place Badgers in Urbana, Ill., by a 63-37 score, which ties Wisconsin and Indiana in the race for the Western Conference title. Other players in the picture are, left to right, Walt Lautenbach, Wisconsin No. 30, Andy Phillip, Illinois forward and Robert Krueger No. 11, Wisconsin forward. (Acme Telephoto).

Make The Most Of Parting Moments

by Donna Gustaitis-Kaminskas

So time goes on. We either step along or are left by the wayside.

At some time or other, usually when depressed or when alone, each one of us — turns back with a heavy heart from tomorrow to glance back into the dead past.

The devoted mothers whose children have grown up and married and formed their own lives, the sweethearts who loved and parted, and men who have lost their places in the wild hustle of fleeing things, hopelessly cling to the memories of yesteryear.

But one cannot live in the past with its regrets, its memories of glory, love and achievement of yesterday, for yesterday is gone, dead. It's emptiness!

Before us lies the dawn of a new day, future! A new chance for adventure, achievement.

THE LITHUANIANS
By A. D. Yuknis



KARL
POJELLO
AMERICAN WRESTLING
STAR OF YESTERYEAR.
EX-CHAMPION OF EUROPE
NOW MANAGING MAURICE
"THE ANGEL" TILLET

vement, love, plans, dreams, the rainbow with its pot of gold. Lift up your troubled heart, face the break of a new day with a new hope, a smile and song, to start again, fight again and win again.

Keep in step with the trend of time, make each parting moment worthwhile for we have today — but there may not be a tomorrow.

(Three Crosses, from p. 3) scrub pine that did not mind the high winds and needed very little water, was set out. Firmly held by the roots of these brave storm-tossed little trees, the dunes were controlled and ceased to be a menace forcing the abandonment of entire settlements.

Among these sand dunes and pine woods coming down to the water's edge, the last elks in Europe had their home. Clumsy inoffensive beasts, they roamed here unmolested until the latest war, which has no doubt slaughtered them along with the domestic animals and those who owned them.

(To be continued)