Exposes Top Communist in N. America

Top Communist on the North American continent is not Gerhardt Eisler, as has been widely proclaimed, but one Charles Dirba, an extremely shadowy figure who is the confidential agent of the all-powerful Comintern in the western hemisphere, according to Igor Gouzenko, former cipher clerk in the Soviet embassy in Ottawa, whose position gave him access to the innermost secrets of the Kremlin.

Describing in the April issue of Cosmopolitan magazine the manner in which the activities of left-wing labor unions in the United States are controlled by Moscow, Gouzenko declares: "The inner workings of such fifth-column activities are known to few people outside the Comintern. In fact, not many proponents themselves know the identity of the party leader in North America who is closest to the Comintern and therefore the most powerful communist on this continent."

"He is a native of Finland named Charles Dirba, who for the past twelve years has headed the control commission in the Communist party of the United States. He has the authority to dismiss any American communist from the party without appeal or hearing. "Dirba acts as the contact man between the Comintern and party members in Communist-front political organizations and in such Communist-dominated CIO unions as Harry Bridges' International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America and the National Maritime Union."

Latvian Diplomat Becomes Convert to Catholic Faith

Dr. Alfred Bilmanis Baptized By Apostolic Delegate in Apostolic Delegation Chapel

WASHINGTON — Dr. Alfred Bilmanis, minister of Latvia to the United States, was received into the Catholic Church here last week. He was baptized by His Excellency Archbishop Anastas Giovanni Ciegnani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, the ceremony taking place in the Apostolic Delegation chapel.

Dr. Bilmanis received instruction in the Catholic faith from the Rev. Gerald J. Kaiser, a former army chaplain who is presently on the staff of the Apostolic Delegation. The Latvian minister and Mrs. Povilas Zadeikis were the sponsors. The Apostolic Delegate was assisted by Mgr. Joseph McShea of the Apostolic Delegation staff.

Dr. Bilmanis was formerly a Lutheran. His wife is a Catholic.

March Issue of "Cal. Lithuanian" Offers Outstanding Reading

OAKLAND, CAL. — The March issue of "California Lithuanian" (Kalifornijos Lietuvis) magazine has many valuable articles with many illustrations. In a concise form the American Lithuanian Achievements in 1946 is given. Biographies of Rev. Dr. K. Urbanavičius (writer) and Mrs. A. Luzas, articles "Health and Climate," "Who is punishing the Russian War Criminals"; "Danger Looming over the United States", "Apie tremtinius moksliniaus studentus"; also expert chronicles of Lithuanian Activities in Arizona, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Besides there is a short commentary of President Truman's speech and Highlights of other important facts are given.

The subscription $2.00 per year. Address all communications to: 2721 Logan St., Oakland 1, Calif. Anthony Skirius is the editor and publisher.
The Lithuanian Daily Draugas

Good Friday

There is an interesting custom followed in some Oriental countries whenever a murder has been committed by an unknown murderer. All the village's inhabitants are gathered around the corpse. Each one must advance singly, put his left hand on the bloody body, raise his right hand to heaven, and swear that he is innocent of the blood of the murdered man. Now, if blood flows afresh on any hand, that man is accused as the murderer and is condemned to die for his crime.

Today is Good Friday, the anniversary of the day that Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, died on the cross of crucifixion to redeem the whole world from its sins. Ever since that first Good Friday, Christian tradition has kept alive the grateful and loving memory of the sufferings and death of Our Savior by gathering all men in spirit about the cross of Christ on this day.

We know that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was sent by His Heavenly Father to atone for the sins of all men and to reopen the gates of heaven which had been closed since Adam committed the first sin. We know that Christ did not die to save only the Jews with whom He lived but all men from Adam until the last man who will ever live on this earth. We know, too, that the men who tortured and crucified Our Lord were not only the Jews and Roman soldiers but every single one of us by our sins, because it was for the sins of all men that Jesus had to pay the debt of justice. If therefore, in recalling the sufferings of Christ, we look at the men who killed Our Savior we will see represented in them all men who sin against God — even ourselves. This terrible sight will show us, as nothing else will, that Jesus Christ is still suffering and dying in the world He made, in the world that rejects Him by sin.

Judas was the traitor who betrayed Our Savior with a kiss. Judas represents all traitors to Christ: men who once knew and loved Christ, but men who deserted and betrayed Christ because He did not give them all the fleeting pleasures they expected. Cowardly Pilate, who sentenced Jesus to death, stands for all men who pass judgment on God's law forbidding murder, even under the name of euthanasia; for disobeying injustice in economic life. These men by disregarding the law of God find Christ guilty of death. Christ suffered the savage scourging to make up for all those repulsive sins of the flesh: birth-control, free love, abortion, adultery, fornication. These crimes against nature are the lashes that cut and tear the innocent flesh of the God-Man. Men who commit them have forgotten or never known the miracles of human generation or the beauty of human love. The soldiers mocked Our Lord by putting a crown of thorns on His head. The atheists today try to get rid of Christ by tearimg the love of Him out of the hearts of men.

After all these other sufferings Christ was nailed to the cross. He hung on that cross in agony for three hours, praying for all of us, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." At last He died. Men have murdered God. But God has redeemed men.

It is in remembrance of this redemption, that we gather each Good Friday in spirit around the cold body of Christ. If the traitors, the cowards, the atheists and the advocates of sexual sins were to put their hand on that body to purjsey themselves, the blood of Christ would flow afresh on each hand.

We go up to that body in love and sorrow. We won't swear that we are not guilty; we know that we did murder Our Savior every time we sinned. But we will swear that we will avenge His blood in our own lives, that never again will we renew His passion and death by sin.

About Special "Topix"

Comics...comics... and more comics. The world is flooded with comic books. Millions read them... and I suppose you and we are no exception. Ah but what kind of comic books do we read? If we are like the average comic book reader whose age runs from six to sixty (or over), we aren't very particular with what we read.

The comics are generally the meeting place of a world of fantasy, abnormalities, sharp-nosed, sharp-dressed, crime-busters, the melting pot of a thousand odd, different, distorted and depraved views on the true meaning of real life and living. Violence is glorified, modesty ridiculed — if not by words at least by an unending array of scantily attired female characters. Intuitively

Dusty Road

The long, dusty road
Just repeated its mode
Windingly
For mile after mile.
Its dust and its gray
In monotony way
Tiringly
Continued one style.

The dust and the dirt
And the soil and the earth
Blindingly
Had ris'n to be free.
But Joy dancing by
Couldn't help wound'rin' why
Puzzlingly
Some men wouldn't see.

Since there'mid the mud
Was a pink pebble stud
Cheerfully
Attempting to beam,
Here stones were of blue
And some yellow peeping through;
Shiningly
Repleudent...some green.

So 'tis on Life's way
'Mid the mud and the gray
Neglectingly
Remains some one's guile.
Then let us stoop down
And lavabo his frown
Helpingly
Restoring the smile.
E. d. M.

HOPES BLOOM IN THE SPRING

By COLLIER

CORN and STUFF

"Marry by all means" says Socrates (and I, too), "If you get a good wife, you will become very happy. If you get a bad one, you will become a philosopher — and that is good for every man."

Do you think the baker (k) needs the dough? *

A pessimist is not caviar, but one who feels bad when he feels good for fear that he'll feel worse when he feels better. *

Some tavern's feature the longest bars. There is a reason! Their roaches are so big, they need a long runway to take off. *

Zonja — "Have you noticed that my new boy friend always says 'fair lady' when speaking to me?"

Penja — "Yes, he used to be a street-car conductor."

Judge — "You stink as a driver. A menace to pedestrians. No driving for you one year, you hear!"

Morgan — "But, but my living depends on it!"

Judge — "So does theirs!"

THE ENGLISH SECTION

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(Continued on page 3)
**By William Fay**

(Reprint from Chicago Tribune)

Eddie Waitkus

**Rookie of the Year**

**By William Fay**

In June, Manager Charley Grimm dispatched a memo to Chicago scouts, reminding them that Eddie Waitkus was 26, and not to worry about finding a first base replacement until some time in 1957. Charley didn’t try to explain why the flop of 1941 was the rookie of the year in 1946.

Even Eddie couldn’t account for the miraculous improvement which three years of not playing baseball had made. “I felt right at home the first day of practice,” he recalls. “Who knew? Maybe the army really builds men, like it says on the recruiting posters.”

The army had excellent raw material to work on. The Waitkus are rugged. Edward Sr., 69, a brewer of the St. Louis Cardinals because “the Yankee chain was loaded with first basemen and I thought I’d move up faster with the Cards.”

Eddie did move up — but not with the Cards. The Cubs were so impressed by his work at Moline and Pulaski that they purchased him for 1941 spring delivery. Unfortunately, Eddie moved down even faster. He carried only 12 games in Wrigley field.

The army was more hospitable than the Cubs. It gave Eddie an opportunity to establish what may be a global record for coffee drinking and battle stars for the New Guinea, East Indies, Solomon Island, and Philippines campaigns, but asked him to take part in one ball game. Rizal stadium in Manila thoroughly wrecked. Advance elements of the 1st cavalry division and retreating Japanese had played a double-header between the first and third base dugouts. Foxholes pockmarked center field.

(Continued on page 4)

Cancelling 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.**
The Lithuanian University Club

There is less than one month's time left until the 15th Anniversary B.A. L.F. Benefit Concert of the Lithuanian University Club which will be presented on Sunday, April 27th, at the Lithuanian Auditorium. The club will donate all proceeds of the evening to the Lithuanian American Relief Fund (BALF) and is doing its utmost in the way of ticket selling to possible. Next week let you know where you can get tickets in your own neighborhoods— we want to be very sure you'll come!

At the March meeting Joe Kuczyński returned to our little fold after a several months' absence, during which time he very successfully went into the design engineering business with a friend. Congratulations on the very wonderful beginning you've had, Joey! We certainly are proud to hear these glowing reports of your successful break into "big-time" business...

Helen Slakis dropped in on us at the meeting looking very prosperous and happy with life down in Bloomington. She really is sold on the town—and her sales promotion work down there.

We have been very sorry to hear that Lihette Barasvsky's mother still is in the hospital where she has been convalescing for several months now. Our very best wishes for a quick recovery, Mrs. Barasvsky.

With Spring in the air we naturally start thinking of the summer fun ahead of us—including the L.U.C. Initiation Banquet which comes in June. Just a reminder to you who have been putting off joining the club. Keep the April meeting in mind—by June you can get in three meetings.

How They Compare—U. S. A. and U. S. R.

With only seven per cent of the world's population and six per cent of its land area, the United States under our free enterprise system has 30 per cent of the world's total railroad mileage, 40 per cent of the total telegraph wire mileage, a telephone in practically every home, an automobile for every 4.5 acres, a radio for every three. Russia, with 8.8 per cent of the world's population and 14 per cent of its land area, has only one-sixteenth of the total rail traffic, one telephone for every 188 inhabitants, one auto for every 252, and a radio for every 45. They also have Communism!

For Theatre Goers

"Greatest of These" Has Characterization, Drama, Humor

"The Greatest of These," the Max Wylie play directed by Eddie Dowling now playing at the Selwyn Theatre, handles the Anglo-British situation with fairness, freshness and challenge. Furthermore, the author's plea for international justice and universal brotherhood rings true.

The play presents the problems of an American University professor, Hackley Chard, whose love for a Mohammedan girl involves him in his brother's revolutionary activities. Gone Raymond as the professor handles the role with understanding and Brannwell Fletcher, who poses as a wastrel but in reality is a liberal journalist, is Raymond's confidant.

Mary Boal gives a characterization that is at once dramatic and humorous. She plays the English dowager who has spent most of her long life in India and loves and understands the people. Barbara Young is cast as the Indian girl and Peter Cole is her revolutionary brother. Sam Jaffe is the Indian patriot—and plays the part with his usual sincerity and understanding. A. J. Herbert crisply portrays the British inspector, and Edwin Jerome the governor in best British manner.

The two beautiful sets by Donald Oemlinger are Chard's living room and the hall of the Siraj-Uddin palace and both contribute to the overall effectiveness of the play.

(WAITKUS, from page 3)

But the C. G. of the 37th division thought the weary troops would like to see a ball game, so the engineers went to work. They probed with mine detectors. They eliminated foxholes with bulldozers and a salvaged jeep steamroller. They repaired the broken seats and finally they took a 10 minute break to steal two dozen white T-shirts from the navy.

As Waitkus noted in his letter to Gallagher: "We wore T-shirts, fatigue pants, and combat boots. The stadium looked better than we did, which might be what the general had in mind all along. It was a deluxe repair job."

Eddie rejoined the Cubs on Catalina Island last spring. That made him happy, and when Eddie is happy, he sings. He was leaning against the batting cage half way thru the second chorus of "Dear Old Girl," when somebody said:

"So we've got a left-handed tencer for first base. Tell me, young man, do you also play the banjo?"

The interrogator was Charley Grimm, former lefthanded first baseman, baritone, and banjo player extraordinary.

Eddie admitted he had no talent whatsoever for the banjo, but added hopefully: "I fool around a little on the month's.

Grimm thought for a moment. "Young man, I don't know whether to give you a tryout or an audition, but you will have to sing and I will see how you handle low grounders—the high notes can wait."

Grimm tried to smash the ball past Eddie for 15 futile minutes, then predicted: "Young man, if you can sing like you field, you're going to be a helluva first baseman."

Charley wasn't far wrong.