

GIVE GENEROUSLY TO
THE RED CROSS AND
COMMUNITY FUND

DRAUGAS

ENGLISH SECTION

LET'S FINISH THE JOB—
BUY MORE VICTORY
BONDS!

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1947

The \$? ? ? Dollar Question

Is Western Europe The Next Soviet Target?

By THE OBSERVER

The timing of the re-emergence of Gen. De Gaulle on the French political scene is not accidental. It seems that his sudden decision to break the prolonged self-imposed seclusion was prompted by international developments rather than by purely domestic considerations. The growing tension between east and west and particularly the recently reported regrouping of Soviet organizations in Western Europe may have provoked his anxiety lest France be caught weak and unprepared by a communist coup.

Should the coming weeks, when the French Assembly is scheduled to convene, prove that De Gaulle's new movement "Rally of the French people" is determined to break up radically the entire present political set-up in France doomed to weakness and bring to the open the underlying division between Communists and Non-Communists, it would indicate that the General has decided to wrest the initiative from the Communists when it is still time to forestall an imminent explosion.

Soviet tactics are very flexible indeed. Without losing sight of the ultimate objectives, the Moscow Politburo can always afford to shift its offensive from country to country and from continent to continent, depending on the necessities of the moment. Irrespective of intervention in Greece and pressure on Turkey, it is reported that Russia is concentrating special attention lately on Western Europe. The American decision to challenge the Soviet offensive in Greece must have only strengthened the Politburo's decision to shift the spearhead of communist attack to the west.

Reliable European sources reveal that unprecedented changes are taking place in the Soviet organization in Western Europe. The three branches of the Soviet network — propaganda, espionage and armed forces — until lately kept completely separate, appear now to be linked together and equipped

with efficient liaison. This new disposition of communist forces no longer seems to be based on an expectation of direct action by the Russian army. On the contrary, Moscow is preparing now in Western Europe for developments, when local bodies would be called upon to take the initiative and act fully on their own.

The Soviet headquarters for Western Europe, until recently scattered between Paris, Geneva and Montpellier, are reported to have been centralized in Switzerland, Geneva is the main center now.

In the last week of February communist leaders from France, Belgium, Holland, Italy and Republican Spain met in Geneva and received detailed instruction on the methods of liaison and cooperation between the three branches of the Soviet organization. A special instructor from Moscow, Colonel Zvedin, was present. Immediately after the meeting he proceeded for an inspection tour of communist forces. He has apparently completed already his tour in France and Belgium.

Regrouping has been noticed also among the communist International Brigades. The bulk of these forces had been concentrated in Southern France at the Spanish border and west of the Italian Alps. Now they are reported to have been moved en bloc to the north and dispersed to all sections of France. Recruits to these Brigades now are being told that they will not fight in Spain but will instead be called upon to ensure "the triumph of democracy" in Western Europe.

Units of Dutch guerillas have been apparently found moved to the vicinity of Sedan and Liege. In Belgium 2,000 Dutch army deser-

(Continued on p. 4).

LET'S ALL BEAR DOWN!



From Washington, D. C.

Lithuanian Scandinavian Society Hears Major Speak On Iceland

WASHINGTON. — Major Harold Prudell, Catholic chaplain and staff member of the Chaplains' Office, War Department, was guest speaker before the Baltic Scandinavian Society of Washington, D. C. at its last session. Major spoke about Iceland where he was stationed for two years during the last war. Fr. Prudell replaced Mr. Hakon Kinck, Norwegian architect, who was scheduled to discuss Norway's post-war reconstruction, but who could not attend because of illness.

Brighton Park Holy Name Bowlers Finish Season with Banquet

CHICAGO. — The Immaculate Conception parish (Brighton Park) Holy Name bowling league will close officially Sunday, May 4th with a banquet at Darius-Girēnas American Legion post hall, 4430 So. Western Avenue.

The banquet is being tendered to members of respective teams and their guests. Things will get under way at 5:00 p. m. Each team will have separate tables.

The past season was one of the most successful and colorful for the Holy Name league, Father Stanley Valuckas, league president, reports. Twelve teams were represented. Team and individual winners as well as sponsors will be especially honored during Sunday's banquet.

Chaplain Prudell was stationed with the American task force which replaced the British in Iceland to protect its shores from the Nazis and to protect the route over which American supplies were being sent through lend-lease agreements.

Fr. Prudell had some very interesting facts to tell on Iceland. Like other Americans, he found Iceland rather desolate, treeless, predominantly (about two-thirds) volcanic. The proximity of the Gulf Stream gives Iceland a mean temperature of about 50 degrees. However the warmth of the stream and cold air currents from the Arctic cause frequent high winds, often as high as 130 mi. per hour.

Iceland's summers are known for their long days—
(Cont. on p. 4).

THE ENGLISH SECTION

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Get Newspaper Men In

A man who had been 15 years a Communist, returned from Moscow recently with a tale that was more shocking than anything we have yet heard. It is difficult to believe that 95% of the people in Red territories are in the semi-slavery that he described. But he did stress one point that seems to ring true:

"Get American newspapermen in large numbers into Russia and all countries dominated by Communists on the same basis of freedom that they are allowed in the U. S. A. What they will observe and tell the world about actual conditions prevailing among these more than 300,000,000 human beings will do more than anything else to prevent World War III."

Getting newspaper correspondents into these countries in such large numbers is easier said than done, we countered. He agreed. But he pointed out that it has never been tried on any large scale, and that every effort made towards that objective would be a very effective step in the right direction. The increasing refusal on the part of Red authorities to allow this basic freedom would arouse world opinion as nothing else could to the fact that "something must be wrong" if there is such a determination to hide the simple facts that can be known about all other nations of the world.

Ready Or Not

Pictures, news stories and eye-witness reports give us a graphic description of the Texas City explosions. They recall to mind the bomb-wrecked, gutted cities which fell as victims during the war. In damage done and in loss of life the war and this disaster are strikingly similar. For like bomb-battered Berlin and Moscow, Texas City has been devastated in the space of a few moments. Once a prosperous commercial metropolis, it is now a shambles; a pile of debris and of twisted hunks of steel under which, in still uncovered ruins, lie the charred bodies of the trapped dead.

But Texas City has one great difference from the war devastated cities of Europe. It is a difference which adds to the tragedy. In a land where there is no fear of death raining from the sky, a town has been struck with terror and death with the same stark horrifying swiftness as a war-time military objective.

There were no air-raid sirens at Texas City on the 16th of April. There were no underground shelters into which fearful citizens might tumble to escape impending doom. No, disaster and death came with unexpected swiftness, devastating a flourishing city, and leaving its wealth in ruin and its people in despair.

More important than the damage, estimated at millions of dollars, is the question of those who died in the catastrophe. Over 600 people are estimated to have been killed. To them death came suddenly. Many had not time even to fear, for death came in person on the wings of the wind. It sent no calling card nor offered any warning. Men and women died at their desk or at their desk or at their machine. They died "on the job." The significant fact is that each one of them simply died as he had lived. No time for making of wills or saying good-bye. Life was snuffed out like a thin wisp of candle flame in the burst of the great explosion.

However startling the Texas City tragedy may be, violent death is not uncommon to us. A mere list of automobile fatalities in America during any one month of the year will show us that many people have death overtake them when they least expect it. If any of the Texas City explosion victims had foreknowledge of the tragedy, there would have been far fewer deaths.

The future of Texas City is well known. It will be rebuilt. In time it will regain the industrial position it once had. It may start to build again from the beginning. But what of the dead? They are gone forever into eternity. Their building days are over. For them, there can be no rehabilitation; there can be no precautions taken now to avoid future calamities. If they find now that life



THE BOOK NOOK

THE DARKNESS IS PASSED

Declan X. McMullen,
Thomas H. Moore, S. J.

\$2.00

Looking for something thought-provoking and reflective — a book with a Christ-like message, a book that will help make you a better Christian, give you a fuller sharing of the Divine Life. Then "The Darkness is Passed" is JUST what you want.

Here are 26 meditations on the life of Christ which everyone can profitably read. Familiar Gospel scenes are seen in a new, personal light for one is magically captivated by Father Moore's striking meditations, his powerful down-to-earth language, a style replete with simplicity and reminiscent of the Gospel.

The charm of Father Moore's Gospel-like simplicity will catch you by sur-

prise. You won't be bored by Platonic platitudes, theological speculations for everything is masterfully and interestingly reduced down to level of a common man. His up-to-date meditations are illuminating, penetrating and what's more important, they are practical, for Christ's message has been fascinatingly applied to our everyday happenings and events.

This book is heartily recommended for spiritual rebels, radicals — those who want to share more fully and completely the supernatural life of the adopted sons of God. Would that there were more books of Father Moore's calibre — books that radiate with simplicity, that are filled with the language of the people, that have a message that will help make this a better world.

E. C.

IN MARY'S MONTH

When May unlocks her treasury of bloom
And heaps her offering on our Lady's shrine,
White blossoms open eager virgin hearts
And glowing clusters spill their scarlet wine.
But though earth's sweetest fragrance is distilled
For her whose chaste soul flowered with every grace,
She looks to us above the favors lent
With tender supplication in her face.
A dearer gift! Who holds all heaven in
Her gentle hands — what our requite...?
Our need of her. Our love — But only these
To bring our Lady solace and delight.

Mary Catherine Brennan

was a failure, then their eternity is typified by the dirty billowing clouds of smoke that accompanied the explosion! If they were truly "on the job", then death, even had they foreseen it, would have had no great fears; Like a thief in the night, death came to steal not just their money, but it took the whole purse. Had they foreseen Death, how many of the Texas City victims could have looked it squarely in the eye and smiled confidently?

We Want You to Meet The

"Ateitis" Folk Dancers

Lithuanians have a fine heritage of which they should be proud. Through the centuries its people have preserved the language until today Lithuanian is the oldest living language in the world; older than Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, Polish, Russian or English. From antiquity this little nation evolved a culture of its own. Its music, songs, poetry and dance is as Lithuanian as the language itself.

A group of young Lithuanian immigrants formed the "Ateitininku" Club in 1941. Seeking an outlet for their energy, and because there was no folk dance group in Chicago, they formed one. Rehearsals started, typical Lithuanian costumes were made, and before long programs were put on. Their success was immediate, because people like to see action, rhythm and color.

In the Spring of 1942 the "Ateitininkai" were invited to dance at the Chicago Folk Festival. The group accepted, and that summer it won first place over all nationalities. Mr. A. Skirius who now lives in Oakland, California, still has the gold cup emblematic of first place.

The group kept together during the war, and it is stronger than ever. It has appeared on many programs in Chicago, Cleveland, St. Louis and Philadelphia. The "Ateitininkai", or Ateitis Folk Dancers, not only perform for the enjoyment of Lithuanians, but other people learn something

about us. They, too, like the action and rhythm of our dances, and they admire the beauty and color of the costumes. It is surprising how few know anything about the Lithuanians.

The Ateitis Folk Dancers is a non-profit organization. Its members often pay their own train fare to various cities. What return is received for programs goes for traveling expenses, musicians, et. Lithuanians should support them in every way they can, and be proud that this group is presenting Lithuanian culture not only to them but to other nationalities as well.

J. T.

(\$ QUESTION, from p. 1)

ters, hidden and cared after by the Communists, are reported now to be freshly re-organized and armed. Directives issued to them would suggest that they are being prepared for action in Holland soon. Even the route of men and arms parachuted from Soviet territories into France has been changed. Instead of being sent southward, arms are at present being stored locally in all sections of the country.

Competent observers in Europe and England believe, that these symptoms indicate that the Soviet organization in Western Europe is preparing for civil war in the near future. In fact,

THE LITHUANIANS

By A. D. Yuknis



THADDEUS KOSCIUSKO was born in the Gardinas district of Lithuania of noble parents. Kosciusko was one of seven Lithuanian cadets sent to the Lunneville military academy in France and resided in the Salle des Lithuaniens. The youthful engineer came to North America to aid George Washington fight the Revolutionary War and after successful completion of his duties returned to Europe and fought brilliantly but unsuccessfully for the Liberation of Lithuania and Poland from Russian bondage. A plaque bearing the names of the Lithuanian cadets still adorns the wall of the Lunneville museum.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I'm going to marry her, I hope!"—Auto Driver C. W. Clapper, 22, Seattle, arrested for kissing his girl at traffic light.

"He'd clamp a headlock on me!"—Mrs. Gloria Deane, Detroit, divorcing her wrestler husband.

"I just love horses!"—Charles Payton, Memphis, juggled for stealing one.

"There is no need of a depression in America."—Robert R. Wason, board chairman, National Association of Manufacturers.

"The answer lies in greater tolerance, less selfishness, and in work, work, work by everybody."—Walter D. Fuller, pres., Curtis Publishing Co.

"There'll be no more weeds in our town!"—Mrs. Maude Norton, assuming office as Mayor of Bishop, Ga.

Shy Guy



KATHRYN GRAYSON tells Frank Sinatra he's a wonderful guy despite his shyness in this scene from M-G-M's gay new entertainment treat, "It Happened in Brooklyn." Cast of the film musical also boasts Jimmy Durante and Peter Lawford.

students of Soviet affairs have been predicting a communist encirclement move of Europe from the west already for long.

Gen. De Gaulle is certainly well aware of this reversal in Soviet strategy. The failure of the Big Three Conference in Moscow must have only strengthened his conviction, that perhaps time is fast approaching, when his task will again be to save France from disaster.

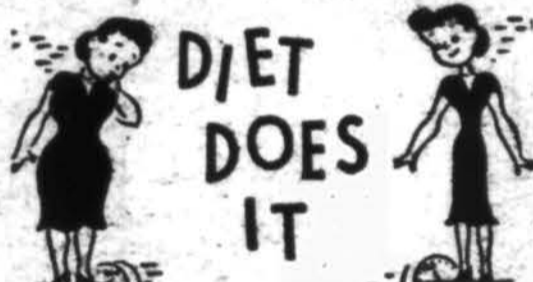
Characteristic is the violence with which French Communists reacted to his two speeches in Alsace. They are organizing meetings against De Gaulle throughout the country, mobilizing Trade Unions and denouncing the "fascist danger" which his public re-appearance represents. They go so far as to try to discredit his role during the war placing "gaullism" on the same level with "petainism" in attacks.

What leaders of the traditional French parties are most afraid of, is that should the General decide to turn his "Rally of the French people" into a regular political party, their parties may break up and large sections of the membership pass to De Gaulle. What they are also dreading, is the final break with the Communists and an official division of France into two camps. It is believed, that in case of an emergency De Gaulle could find a majority even in the present Chamber and possibly in the French electorate. Whether De Gaulle is preparing for such a drastic show-down remains to be seen. The final decision pro-

F. W. Coleman Dies; First Baltic Envoy

BRONXVILLE, N. Y. — Frederick W. B. Coleman, 72, retired lawyer and diplomat and first minister to the former Baltic republics of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, died here recently.

Reader Service



Eat and Be Slim

Who said you can't have your cake and eat it, too? You can actually change from the well-padded matron on the left to the slim miss on the right without skipping any meals, without missing desserts, without starving.

It's all a matter of counting calories. If you want to lose two pounds a week, and you're an average-size woman, allow yourself between 1200 and 1500 calories a day. You won't go hungry, we promise!

In figuring out your daily menus, first include these "must" foods (a total of 750 calories); two glasses skim milk or buttermilk, an egg, a glass of tomato or orange juice, 1/2 tablespoon butter, fruit, a raw salad, a cooked leafy vegetable, and a serving of lean meat or fish. Then round out the day with 450-750 calories of whatever other foods you wish — desserts, bread, soup or cheese.

For full details on how to lose weight safely and simply, send for our Reader Service booklet No. 46. Gives two weeks' delicious menus, calory charts, recipes and many helpful hints.

Send 25c (coin) for "Change Your Weight for Beauty's Sake" to Draugas Reader Service, 243 West 17th St., New York 11, N. Y. Print name, address, booklet title and No. 46.

bably will depend on his appraisal of the danger France is facing.

Riley in the Box

"Who cares about this Casey who used to slam the ball
So far the fielders gasped to watch it clear the wall,
While roars of all the bleachers swept from stand to stand
With echoes that resounded from Mudville through the
land?"

"Who cares about this Casey now he has lost his crown?
The winner, not the loser, is the talk of every town.
Great Casey's star has fallen, while Riley's awes each
tongue,

And this is how the saga by every fan is sung:

"In that tense ninth, with bases packed and two already
out,

When Casey was expected to make his home-run clout,
All cheered the slugger Casey at bat to win the fray—
What chance had pitcher Riley's inshoot and fadeaway?
"It then was unknown Riley who proved his skill and grit,
He fired the ball like lightning into his catcher's mitt.
'Strike one,' the umpire shouted, while Casey at the plate
Thought that he might have swung, but he thought just
too late.

"Again the obscure Riley wound up and shot the ball;
Again the bleachers waited, but saw no swing at all.
'Strike two,' the umpire bellowed, for Casey in blind pride
Judged the pitch an inshoot, but it cut the corner outside.
"Riley knew that Casey, now set to make a kill,
Would blast the cover — unless he missed — right off the
pill;

And so he twirled a floater, slow and straight and square;
'Strike three'. Too soon great Casey madly struck—the
air.

"Then Riley rode the shoulders of gleeful mates that day,
While Casey and all Mudville fled in shame away;
This Riley was so modest; that Casey had such gall.
Silent hero Riley — was not acclaimed at all.

"It's Riley in the box, not Casey at the bat,
A Mathewson of pitchers, not a Ruth of swat,
Whom fans now hold in wonder and reverence in name,
The greatest of the idols in baseball's hall of fame".

James Patrick McGovern.

K of L Concert

Sunday, May 4th

CHICAGO. — On Sunday
May 4, 1947, the Knights of
Lithuania A Cappella Choir
is sponsoring its Second
Annual May Festival at
Holy Cross Auditorium, 4551
South Wood Street, at 6:30
p. m.

The Choir, under the di-
rection of Leonard J. Simu-
tis, will render selections in
Lithuanian and English,
among which are "The
Creation" and "The Cheru-
bim Song". The Choir, which
is composed mainly of mem-
bers of the organized group
of the Knights of Lithuania,
has given several very suc-
cessful public and radio per-
formances.

Also participating in the
concert will be the St. Ca-
simir Academy Choir and
Dancers, who will give a per-
formance of "Man kvepia
berzynai" a play written by
the Sisters of St. Casimir
centering around the song
"Prazydo berzynai", an ori-
ginal composition by Leo-
nard J. Simutis, now study-
ing for his Master's Degree
in Music at De Paul Univer-
sity.

After the concert there
will be dancing to the music
of Buddy Barrows and his
orchestra, beginning at 8:30
p. m.

The Family Rosary in Ten Million Homes

Perhaps for the first time in history there will be the
simultaneous recitation of the Family Rosary in ten mil-
lion homes. At least this is the hope and prayer of Father
Patrick Peyton, C. S. C., founder and director of the
Family Rosary Crusade.

For a second year the Mutual Broadcasting System
has offered its facilities for a special nation-wide broad-
cast of the Family Rosary. Originating in Hollywood at
3:00 p. m. Eastern Day Light Saving Time, this program
should be at the very top of the list of all Mother's Day
programs. Interspersed with the actual recitation of the
Family Rosary by ten of Hollywood's leading Stars will
be the beautiful story of the World's Greatest Mother.

In order that the story be complete in the half-hour
program the five mysteries for dramatic presentation
are:

- 1) First Joyful Mystery — The Annunciation
- 2) Third Joyful Mystery — The Nativity
- 3) Fifth Joyful Mystery — The Finding in the Temple
- 4) Fifth Sorrowful Mystery — The Crucifixion
- 5) Fifth Glorious Mystery — The Coronation

Through these mysteries the story of Mary will be
told, but it will also be the story of the joys, sorrows and
triumphs of every mother.

The following will participate in the broadcast and
actually recite the five decades of the rosary over the air:

Ethel Barrymore
Loretta Young
Irene Dunne
Margaret O'Brien
Rosalind Russell

Ruth Hussey
Charles Boyer
Don Ameche
Pat O'Brien
George Murphy

It would be well for every friend of Our Heavenly
Mother to contact the local Mutual station immediately
to make certain it will carry the program. In rare instan-
ces where a station may find it difficult to clear radio
time at that hour due to some local program it would be
possible to carry this special feature at a later hour by
delayed broadcast or transcription.

This special Mother's Day broadcast while distinct
from Father Peyton's present weekly series of Family
Prayer programs called the Family Theater is neverthe-
less a further effort to win the families of America to
the idea of Family Prayer particularly the Family Rosary.

MIGHT GET SINGED!



(ICELAND, from p. 1)

23½ hrs. of daylight, with
the sun shining for 22 hrs.
It is then that Icelanders do
their farming and put their
sheep through the pastures.
But fishing is their main
industry. Because of scarce
materials, Icelanders have
to import most of their

commodities. They've lear-
ned to harness the hot water
from volcanic mountains for
heat in their homes and
greenhouses.

Iceland is proud of its old
democratic institutions and
parliament, which dates
back to 940. These people
are descendants of the Norse
and Irish who settled there.
The Icelanders are well
educated and are well up to
date on current events. The
average Icelander can
speak several languages.
Iceland has definitely pro-
fited by the stay of the
American, and, outside of a
noisy communistic minority,
wants to maintain friendly
relations with the U. S.

Iceland is predominantly
Lutheran. Ministers are sup-
ported by the state. Out of
a population of 160,000,
there are about 500 Catho-
lics. Bishop Johannes Gun-
garson is Vicar Apostolic of
Iceland and is the first
native bishop since 1550.
Icelanders were predomi-
nantly Catholic until the
conquest of the island by
Denmark in 1544 when the
church was outlawed. There
were five large monasteries
and two dioceses there at
the time.

An item of interest is the
fact that another native
son — Hakon Loftsson —
having finished his studies
at St. Mary's Seminary,
Baltimore, Md., will be or-
dained by his native bishop
in the capital of Iceland,
Reykjavik, on May 24th,
1947. Incidentally, while pas-
sing through Washington he
paid a hurried visit to the
president of the Baltic Scan-
dinavian Society, Mr. L. J.
Esunas.

L. E.