



UKRAINIAN WEEKLY



Supplement to the SVOBODA, Ukrainian Daily

No. 3 JERSEY CITY, N. J., SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1939 VOL. VII

A VICTIM OF POLISH REIGN OF TERROR

Of all the wanton cruelty practiced upon the Ukrainians by their several national oppressors, that by the Poles has been the most shocking. An examination of Ukrainian history will reveal many instances of this fact. One need not, however, delve into the past for such instances. The present is replete with them. One, for example, is that of Poland's barbaric "pacification" of her Ukrainian population in 1931. And now, within the past few months, reports reaching us from reliable sources indicate that Poland has embarked upon another "pacification" of the Ukrainians. Once more she has adopted terrorism and sadistic cruelty to quell the national feelings of the Ukrainian people, thrust under her misrule by the decisions of Versailles in 1919 and of the Council of Ambassadors in 1923. And what makes the present reign of terror in Western Ukraine all the more shocking, is that it is being indiscriminately applied against helpless women and children as well as able-bodied men.

A case in point here is that of Mrs. Joanna Blazhkevich, of Denisiv, Galicia, who received a terrible beating at the hands of a Polish military punitive party that visited her village on November 15, 1938. Since her case is illustrative of many like hers, we have translated below an affidavit made out by her in the Ukrainian Hospital in L'viv where she was taken after the assault. This affidavit is supported by several others, copies of which we have on hand, including that of Dr. Yarema Malis, who attended her at the hospital and who tells in his affidavit of the brutally-beaten condition in which he found her. In addition, we have in our possession photographs taken of her body in the hospital, which are too horrible to bear publication on these pages. They are available for examination, however, at our editorial offices.

In reading the affidavit below, it should be borne in mind that its deponent, Mrs. Blazhkevich, 52 years old, is a woman of very high standing in the old country. She is the author of several books; a contributor to several women's magazines; member of the Soyuz Ukrainok executive committee before that organization was dissolved by Polish authorities; head of the Zhinocha Hromada—a woman's society; and one of the pioneers of the famous Ukrainian cooperative trading movement in Western Ukraine, in which she has occupied several high positions. In 1928 she was also a candidate for the Sejm.

Her affidavit reads as follows:

On November the 15th, six Polish cavalymen arrived in Denisiv (Tarnopol district), the village wherein I live. Though uniformed and wearing the regulation caps, they bore no regimental markings. Five of them had a single bar on their coat-sleeve, while the sixth one had two bars. They did not find me at home. I was then away at the Trading School, conducted by me in the local District Dairy building.

Two of the soldiers came over to the lecture hall and calling me outside, ordered me to accompany them to their commander in Kupchintsi (a neighboring village). They gave me the choice of making the trip either on foot or by cab. I chose to ride, and going over to a neighbor borrowed from him a wagon and a team of horses, and started on my way, with the soldiers accompanying me. On the road the corporal inquired whether my husband was a pensioned teacher and whether I was the Mrs. Blazhkevich who conducted the trading course. Receiving a reply in the affirmative, he allowed me, while we were still within the village, to pick up my mail at the post-office. But when we passed the village limits, his attitude changed. "So you are stirring rebellion in your district," he accused me. I

replied that that was not so. "We know everything," he said. "You have gathered young people for your school, but instead of teaching them to become trade directors, you are training them in a manner and purpose which is best left unsaid. You have been treated justly thus far, and been permitted to do whatever you wanted, but now everything will be changed." I made no reply to this. A witness who can bear me out in this is Vasile Bordak, son of Peter Bordak of Denisiv.

We arrived in Denisiv from the north and stopped in front of Sorochan's house. I was told to get off the wagon and go inside. There I found several people from my village, being guarded by two soldiers. A moment later an officer entered. Of medium height, clean shaven, and attired in the same uniform as the others, he bore in addition stars and the number 25 on his coat-sleeve. "What is your business?" he asked me immediately. I told him that I was Director of the Podilya Cooperative Association in Tarnopol, and then tried to show him my credentials (an identification card). "Never mind that," he said, waving the card aside. "I'll write your credentials myself. I'll teach you how to incite demonstrations at the cemetery." (I have

JANUARY 22, 1919

Tomorrow, January 22, marks the 20th anniversary of the union of all Ukrainian lands into the Ukrainian National Republic. This Act of Union was proclaimed amidst great rejoicing in the historic St. Sophia Square in Kiev, ancient capital of Ukraine. And though this union and independence of the Ukrainian people was soon after brought to an end by the various hostile forces, including the Bolsheviki (Red) Russians, the royalist (White) Russians, the Poles and the Rumanians, and by the adverse decisions of the war victors gathered at Versailles, yet the ideal of freedom and unity for the 45 million Ukrainian nation is today stronger than it was twenty years ago, and the Ukrainian people are better prepared to fight and sacrifice for it than they were then. That is why there is good reason to believe that the movement for the liberation of entire Ukraine will soon be crowned with success.

witnesses to prove that this year on November 1st I was not at the cemetery. Mayor Yasinsky saw me riding out of the village that day. Furthermore, aside from the usual church services for those who had died in the World War, there were no demonstrations this year in Denisiv.)

The officer then demanded to know why I did not speak in Polish. "Am I forbidden to speak in Ukrainian?" I countered. "Polish citizens must know Polish," he replied. He left the room then and we were led out, where we found several others in custody. We were ordered to line up, three to a row, while the soldiers ranged themselves around us. I overheard someone in the back suggest that I be allowed to ride in the wagon, but the officer said, "If she knows how to incite people, she should know how to walk." We were then told to march.

Among the prisoners I recognized Ivan Blazhkevich from Kupchintsi; Tereschuk, the storekeeper in Kupchintsi; and Hrynko the contractor, in charge of building operations in the erection of the National Home in Kupchintsi. Altogether there were twelve men, while I was thirteenth. When we were going along the Kupchintsi road, women threw themselves on some of the prisoners, their husbands, crying, "Take us too!" But the soldiers drove them off. Behind us rode a detachment of about sixty cavalymen, and behind them a crowd of people followed. In this manner they drove us through the village until we reached the bridge over the Stripa river, in the direction of Pidhaytsi. At the bridge the people who were following us were barred from proceeding any further. We were led some hundred meters down the road past the bridge, then wheeled to the right into the Denisiv pasture. The soldiers, their bayonets fixed, encircled us on all sides. "Undress yourself, completely!" the officer barked at us. No one made any move to obey him. "Undress yourself, immediately!" he shouted. I asked him how could I, a woman, undress in the presence of all these men. "That makes no difference. Undress!" he ordered. Already the soldiers were tearing clothes off the others. I removed my garments until I stood only in my slip. The soldiers leaped upon the prisoners and tried to make them lie down, and when the latter would not, began to beat them with stout sticks over the head, face, arms, and body, shouting at the same time, "Beat it, you dogs! So you want a free Ukraine!" Ivan Blazhkevich spread his arms wide and

cried: "Go ahead and beat me, like they beat Christ." He too was beaten and told, "Take your rags and get out of here!" I was now left alone. "Lie down!" I made no move to obey. "Candidate to the Sejm, lie down, or else we'll put you down!" I lay down, face to the ground, hoping thereby to avoid being beaten over the face and head like the others. The soldiers began to rain blows on me. When I tried to shield myself with my hands, they beat them too. Then the officer told one of his men to sit on my head and another on my feet. When they had done this, two others began to strike me, giving me twenty strokes apiece. They beat me with thick sticks they had broken off a tree. Finally I heard the command, "Stop!" I thought they were done with me, and sat up. A moment later, another command: "Lay down again!" Forty more blows were given me. This time I was unable even to move. "She's feigning, trying to make us think she has fainted," I heard the officer say. "Give her forty more strokes to revive her." And again the blows rained on me. I lost consciousness.

When I came to, I felt the officer shaking me. "Don't you ever dare to do any more agitating. We'll always be around somewhere nearby, and we'll know everything you do. If you try to do any more agitating, we'll come back and leave not even one stone unturned of your house. Get up, take your rags, and march home. When you get there look into a mirror, and on your front you'll see a map of Carpatho-Ukraine, while on your back you'll see a map of Greater-Ukraine."

I rose, my body feeling numb, put on my coat, and began to walk away. I was still able to realize that I was in danger of catching a cold. I picked up a sheet that I had taken with me from home, and lay down on it on the ground. I dimly saw the cavalymen ride away toward Denisiv. Later I learned that the detachment stopped at the market place and the officer telephoned someone from there, and then they rode away.

Later women from Kupchintsi arrived, brought me some water, helped me to the nearest house, and there called Dr. Markovsky from Kupchintsi, who administered first aid to me. About a half hour later Captain Kisilewski of the Yashtembova police station arrived and ordered the women attending me to disperse, and departed when he learned that I had been assaulted. On November

(Concluded on page 4)

DIGEST OF AMERICAN PERIODICAL COMMENTS ON UKRAINE, 1915-1939

(2)

In June, 1916 there appeared an extensive article in the *Catholic World* (vol. 103, p. 349) entitled "The United Ruthenian Church of Galicia Under Russian Rule," written by F. A. Palmieri, O. S. A. It is a good account of the invasion and occupation of Galicia by the Russian armies during the early years of the World War and of the "russification" carried on by them during their occupation under the direction of Count Bobrinsky.

Dwelling on the political blunders the Russians committed which forever alienated the Ukrainians from them, the writer says:

"...one day unbiased history will point out the sad results of the violent measures adopted against the national awakening of the Ruthenians (Ukrainians)." The writer found it "impossible to understand why in a war which is said to be fought for the freedom and defense of oppressed nationalities, the leaders of the Ruthenian patriotism, professors, teachers, physicians, lawyers have been arrested and exiled to Siberia."

Here he refers especially to the arrest of Metropolitan Sheptytsky, head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, who refused to seek refuge in Vienna before the evacuation of Lviv by Austrian troops. The writer lauds the Metropolitan very highly for his untiring and prodigious labors devoted to the Church and to Ukraine, his large donations for various Ukrainian public causes, his founding of museums and his intellectual brilliancy. In conclusion, the writer enumerates other Ukrainian victims of Russia's imperialistic policies.

Following the previous one, no important article concerning Ukraine appeared in American periodicals until about a year later. Undoubtedly the events on the Western Front and America's entrance into the war completely overshadowed in American public interest what was happening to or in Ukraine. With the breaking out of the Russian Revolution, however, and the attendant setting up of a Ukrainian government at Kiev, America's attention was once more focused on Eastern Europe and Ukraine.

The August, 1917 issue of the *Century Magazine* (vol. 94, p. 569) contained a long article entitled "Little Russia," a name which had been given to Ukraine by Russia in pursuance of its denationalizing policy. It was written by T. Lothrop Stoddard. His postscript to it is worth quoting here because it was truly prophetic.

"The preceding pages," he wrote, "were written before the Russian Revolution, but I have determined to make no changes in the text, because I do not believe that the Revolution will of itself solve the Ukrainian question..."

His article begins as follows: "In man's historic evolution certain critical epochs stand forth as periods of 'revaluation of all values.' Such were the Reformation and the French Revolution. Such also is the present war. In these great crises the solid crust of tradition cracks and splits in every direction, while from the depths below white-hot lava floods of long-repressed idealism well into outer world. This is notably true of Russia..."

"Seen from without, Russia gives an impression of overpowering synthesis... But... distance lands enchantment... Russian unity under close scrutiny resolves itself into surprising diversity."

Mr. Stoddard then goes on to tell about Ukraine, and says:

"It is certain that Ukraine would have bulked large in world history had it not been for the terrible series of Asiatic invasions that overwhelmed Eastern Europe."

Then follows a comprehensive and elaborate dissertation on the Ukrainian Cause, extending from the formation of the Ukrainian Kingdom of Kiev to the date of

writing. He calls the reader's attention to the fact that the Ukrainian writers were forced to write in Russian because of the restrictions against the Ukrainian tongue, and thus Russia became greatly benefited in the field of literature. Throughout his entire exposition of Ukraine's fight for freedom, Mr. Stoddard's great sympathy for the Ukrainian people is readily discernible.

Ending, he writes: "Nearly seven hundred years ago the old Ukrainian state perished beneath the Tartar hoofs, and since those far-off days the Ukrainian people have suffered every conceivable political, religious and economic persecution which Polish or Muscovite ingenuity could invent in the effort to stamp out the Ukrainian race identity. Besides this age-long martyrdom what is Poland's century of subjection or Finland's struggle for twenty years? Yet the Ukrainian phoenix today rises from the ashes of the dreadful past virile with life and hope. How can such burning fate, such race tenacity, be overcome?"

Another excellent article appeared in the September, 1917 issue of *Contemporary* (vol. 112, p. 300) headed "The Ruthenian Question in Russia," submitted by Semen Rappaport.

The writer finds himself astonished on account of the surprise occasioned in America by the Ukrainian demands for freedom, for, says he, "the Ukrainian movement was one of the strongest national movements in the world, far stronger, than the Irish movement in the United Kingdom, the Bohemian in Austria, or the Armenian in Turkey."

Most of his article is devoted to the setting out of the differences between the Russian and Ukrainian people.

Referring to the Russian village, he says:

"He (the traveler) will find a village in the Kaluga province rather desolate and bleak, no gardens to the house, no flowers in the window-sills, and the windows themselves small and rarely opened, as if the inmates were afraid of the sun and air."

"In the Ukraine, on the contrary, there is hardly a village where the houses are not surrounded by trees and flowers, the windows looking gay and bright owing to the colours of their sills and shutters and their pots of flowers."

The writer then continues to set out other differences, as given by the Ukrainian historian Nicholas Kostomariw, some of which are:

"Love for personal freedom was the distinguishing feature in the character of the Ukrainian, and Communism the feature of the Great Russian tribe..."

"Great Russians are more materialistic, the Ukrainians more spiritual. The latter have greater poetic imagination." A description of the beauty of Ukrainian poetry here follows. And then:

"The Ukrainian, being a more spiritual and mystically disposed character, is stronger in his religious feeling, and not so liable to religious indifference as the Great Russian who, if educated, easily becomes atheistic."

The balance of the article contains a sketch of Ukrainian history and also an outline of Ukrainian national demands as set out by Prof. Michael Hrushevsky.

"Ukraine Throws Off the Shackles of Serfdom After 263 Years," is the title of an article that appeared in the January 12, 1918 number of the *Literary Digest* (vol. 56, p. 47).

It deals with some enlightening and interesting facts concerning Ukraine, as presented in the *New York Sun* by George Raffalovich, under the pseudonym of Bedwin Sands. It also surveys the Ukrainian question against the background of a brief sketch of Ukra-

inian history, and has sections on Ukraine's agricultural and manufacturing output, her economic significance to Russia, and her future possibilities.

Following the Declaration of Ukrainian Independence and the arising of the Ukrainian National Republic (January 22, 1918) and the subsequent treaty of Brest-Litovsk (February 9, 1918) between Ukraine and Germany, various press comments on these significant events began to appear through the world.

One such article was the "Birth of the Ukrainian Republic," which appeared in the February 23, 1918 issue of the *Literary Digest* (vol. 56, p. 7). It set out the various opinions on the German-Ukrainian treaty.

Some editorial writers regarded this treaty "as a shrewd stroke of German diplomacy and a distinct blow to the Allies." The exultation that the treaty aroused in Austria and Germany is described in this article. A historical sketch of Ukraine is then given and the distinction between the Ukrainians and the Bolsheviks made clear.

Both this article and the preceding one, appeared in Fanning's book, "Selected Articles on Russia," which was published that year.

Some very interesting and enlightening facts are contained in the article on "The Religion of Ancient Ukraine—In the Light of Archeology and Folk-Lore," which appeared in the February 23, 1918 issue of the *Scientific American Supplement*. It is based on a similar article that appeared in the *Queens Quarterly*, which was a revision by Florence Randall Livesay, translator of Ukrainian poetry, of notes prepared by her fellow-countryman, Paul Crath, who wrote the preface to her book containing "Songs of Ukraina."

"When an antiquity, an ancient human existence, has left documents and some clue, however faint, to its old form of life," the article begins, "one can re-create, as from the papyrus and the sarcophagi of Egypt, a people and in our imagination the dead past lives again."

"But when we leave Egypt with her pyramids and think upon the 'forgotten kingdom of Ukraine,' we may dream about her wild steppes, about the yellow waves of the Dnieper and ask ourselves—in vain—what was happening in this land in the same period when Egypt's culture reached its highest mark. The Ukraine is silent as its own grave hills, with which its expanse is covered. The ancient Ukrainians did not leave pyramids, nor records on papyrus, nor granite sarcophagi. Yet if we could know their past they too can be made to speak with lips of dust."

The writer then proceeds to describe what the excavations of ancient grave-hills have revealed, in respect to the mode of living, customs, and religion. Examples of early Ukrainian literature are here cited.

The balance of the article consists of a detailed exposition of the religion of the ancient Ukrainians and of its various folk-legends, tales and songs, with names being given of the pagan gods they worshipped. An account is also given how their pagan beliefs became gradually superseded by those of the Christian faith.

"Confusion in Ukraine," was the title of an article that appeared in the January 4, 1919 number of the *Independent* (vol. 97, p. 9). Its purpose was to dispel the many unreliable reports emanating from Russia to the effect that the forces of General Denikin (leader of the royalist Russians, intent upon restoring monarchistic Russia) were everywhere victorious.

THE GAME IS ON!

The U.N.A. basketball season is in full swing. The center of activity will be found in the Pennsylvania Division of the U.N.A. Basketball League. This coal-mining region furnished five U.N.A. teams which are making things hum. Even at this early stage the interest in the U.N.A., that is being aroused by basketball, surpasses that created by baseball last summer.

Two observations are worth mentioning in connection with the games that have been played thus far. One is the fact that more and more boys are "finding" themselves. They are emerging from obscurity to climb aboard the U.N.A. bandwagon. Boys whose membership in U.N.A. consisted solely in paying of their dues are now associating themselves actively with the organization.

The second observation deals with sportsmanship. There have been no exhibitions of "hard losers" in the games so far, and we hope this attitude continues. The games have been fast and furious, not polished yet, to be sure. Every team is doing its best to win according to the rules. But the spirit of comradeship and fraternalism prevails at all times.

What more could "father So-yuz" ask of his athletic sons! To bring his boys into a close relationship with him and with one another, as brothers of one great family—that is his purpose in sponsoring sports. The attainment of that purpose will justify the efforts expended by the Ukrainian National Association and will make the basketball season a success.

G. HERMAN,
Athletic Director

CARPATHO-UKRAINE DELEGATION VISITS BERLIN

A Carpatho-Ukraine delegation consisting of Premier Augustin Voloshyn's political secretary, M. Korculak and Dr. Dolinaj, who headed the Carpatho-Ukrainian delegations on the frontier commission at Budapest, is at present in Berlin, for the purpose of obtaining precise details from Germany concerning her real policy towards the movement for the creation of a Greater Ukraine.

"THE TRIDENT" TO APPEAR

"The Trident," English-language monthly magazine dealing with Ukrainian affairs, appears again January 25, after a several months absence.

Formerly published in Chicago as the organ of the Young Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Youth's Federation of Canada, it will now be put out in New York by the Organization for the Re-birth of Ukraine.

New staff: Editor-in-chief—Volodymyr Dushnyck; associate editors—Walter Didyk, Emil Hryshko, Roman Lacyk, Michael Lapica, and Edward Seredytsky; business manager—Bohdan Buchak; associate business manager—Pauline Riznyk; circulation manager—Olga Zadoretzky.

Editorial offices are at 149 Second Ave., New York City.

Roman Lapica.

The author of this article could see no "reason why Americans should rejoice in an advance of the Cossack (Denikin's) armies, since their object seems to be to conquer the Ukrainians and restore the monarchy."

He goes on further to recount how Skoropadsky's pro-German and pro-Russian dictatorship was overthrown by the Ukrainian National Union headed by Vinnichenko and Petlura.

(To be continued)

PREMIER VOLOSHYN DISCUSSES UKRAINIAN QUESTION

Father Augustin Voloshyn, Premier of Carpatho-Ukraine, was interviewed last Monday by G. E. R. Gedye, correspondent of The New York Times.

According to the correspondent, as reported in the Times, Father Voloshyn received him cordially at the Prague headquarters of his government and said, "We are a small country with great ambitions." The Premier expressed his confidence that Carpatho-Ukraine could be made self-supporting within the framework of the Czecho-Slovak confederation when her communications—broken by the Vienna award—had been restored.

Answering a question regarding claims for boundary revision, Mr. Gedye further reports, Father Voloshyn said that his country, unlike Slovakia, cherished no Irredentist hopes of revision, to Hungary's disadvantage, of the terms of the Vienna award.

"The Vienna terms are hard," he said, "but apart from minor adjustments that might be made by the Frontier Commission they will have to stand both for Hungary and ourselves. I do not believe that Slovak revisionism will be successful."

Father Voloshyn said there were plenty of inquiries from foreign capitals seeking opportunities of investment, some also from Ukrainians in America. Belgium and Germany were two countries he mentioned as seeking to make such an investment.

No Anti-Semitism

Regarding the Jews in Carpatho-Ukraine, the Premier made the following definite statement to Mr. Gedye:

"There will be no racial legislation against our Jews, who amount to 12 per cent of our population. We regard them exactly as any other citizens.

"They are scattered throughout the country. Every village has its proportion of Jews. There may be legislation against certain evils with which some Jews are connected, such as charging too high rates of interest to peasantry, but that will certainly not show either racial or religious discrimination."

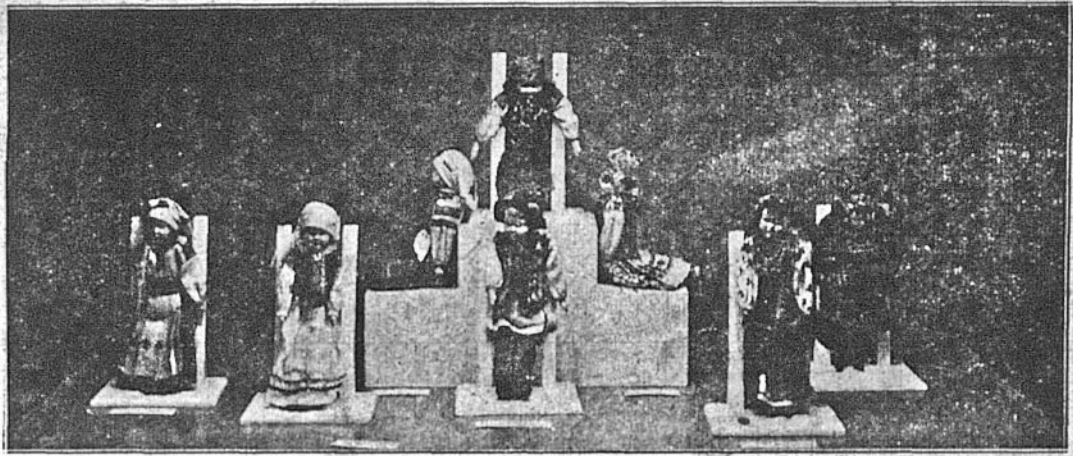
Mr. Gedye further writes that he then asked Father Voloshyn whether he agreed that he had been correctly interpreted in a previous interview as saying that he hoped the Ukrainians everywhere would drop their differences and concentrate on the national ideal that made Ukraine great, that he did not believe that to so great a nation as the Ukrainians could be denied a State of their own and that though probably it would be difficult, he believed this ideal would be realized in the future.

Question For the Future

"That is quite correct," the Premier is reported to have answered, "but Carpatho-Ukraine cannot work for the creation of a Great Ukraine. Our little country is far too small to mix itself up in matters of that kind.

"Of course we Ukrainians feel that a nation like ours of more than 40,000,000 must some day be able to form its own state, but I would not like to fix the date by saying that this would happen in the near future. Such a remark might be taken as a provocation abroad. In any case the foreign policy for Carpatho-Ukraine, as well for the rest of the republic, is the business of the Foreign Minister of Czecho-Slovakia.

"As the Soviet Constitution allows to any member State rights of decision so wide that it can even vote itself out of the Union [in theory—yes, but certainly not in practice. Editor.] and as in Poland a Ukrainian autonomy bill has been introduced into the Parliament—even if there it was not accepted—there would seem to be perfectly legal peaceful means for all Ukrainians to secure the proper liberty."



Dolls dressed in authentic Ukrainian Folk Costumes, constituted part of an exhibition of Ukrainian arts and crafts at the Brooklyn Museum, in Brooklyn, N. Y. The exhibit was on display from December 10, 1938, to January 8, 1939, and was arranged by Michael and Mary Ann Herman, who own the dolls. The costumes represented were from the sections of Poltava, Lemkivschyna, Volhunia, Boykivschyna, Polissia and Hutzulshyna. Photograph—Courtesy, Brooklyn Museum.

FAIR BALL

One social affair that promises to be a very enjoyable one for the many hundreds expected to attend it, is the Ukrainian Fair Ball to be held Sunday, January 29th, 1939, beginning at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, at the Manhattan Plaza, 66-68 East 4th Street, New York City, under the auspices of the Central Committee of Ukrainian Youth Clubs of the Metropolitan Area.

The entire proceeds of this Ball will go for Ukrainian participation in the New York World's Fair.

There will be continuous dancing to the music of Johnny King and His Cavaliers and Vic Romaine and His Orchestra.

MASS CHORUS PREPARES FOR WORLD'S FAIR

500 Singers Hold Second Rehearsal Under Prof. Koshetz

The Ukrainian Folk Chorus, composed of over five hundred singers, recently organized in the New York Metropolitan area to take part in the Ukrainian Day Program at the New York World's Fair this summer, and conducted by Prof. Alexander Koshetz, held its second rehearsal last Sunday afternoon at the Ukrainian Center, 181-183 Fleet Street, Jersey City.

Though still in the early stages of training and nearly twice as large as the two previous mass choruses under Koshetz that appeared at the Town Hall and Carnegie Hall concerts in New York City in 1935 and 1936 respectively, the present mass chorus showed definite signs last Sunday that under the direction of its world-famous conductor it will attain heights of true artistry at its World's Fair concert on June 18.

About eight more general rehearsals will be held before the concert, which will be but a portion of the program planned for that day.

In the intervals between these general rehearsals, the choristers practice under their local directors, namely: Theodosius Kaskiw of Newark, N. J., William Gela of Jersey City, N. J., Theodore Onufryk and Stephen Marusevich of New York City, Basil Sawitzki of Brooklyn, N. Y., Michael Yadlowsky of Elizabeth, N. J., Michael Fatiuk of Yonkers, N. Y., and Stephen Hrabar of Perth Amboy, N. J.

HAVE YOU DONE YOUR BIT?

Have You Made Your Contribution for Ukrainian Participation in New York World's Fair this year?

Mail it immediately to Nicholas Muraszko, Treasurer, P. O. Box 1014, Church Street Annex, New York City.

List of contributors from among younger generation and their organizations will soon begin to be published on these pages.

Make sure your name will be in this list.

Maria Sokil Comes, Sings and Conquers

By EDWARD W. WODSON

A capacity audience heard Maria Sokil "The Ukrainian Nightingale" in recital at Margaret Eaton Hall last evening. Her program included operatic arias from Rudnitsky's "Dobush"—Puccini's "Madame Butterfly"—Puccini's "Tosca"—and Moussorgsky's "The Fair at Sorochintchi," lyrics of Barvinski, Wasilenko and Lyssenko, Ukrainian Folk Songs of Rudnitsky—Revutsky and Barvinsky, and many encores. She was accompanied by her husband, Anton Rudnitsky, composer of several of her program numbers.

The Singer

She came—she sang—and she conquered the hearts of her fellow countrymen and women to whom every phrase of her song must have been like good news from a far off land. Such glorious singing—such a golden voice—and such artless song. And the look of her was as beautiful as her song. Nothing theatrical—nothing sentimental—nothing of make-believe in emotional tensity or light-hearted mirth. Her face was faithful mirror of moods, always sincere and unspoiled by tricks of expression. To watch her sing those delightful folksongs of the Ukraine was to read their stories in eyes that flashed and sparkled with fun and courage and glowed with sympathy of understanding and unshed tears. For she is actor and singer in one, and her voice is the servant of her moods. A soprano voice ranging from D to D two octaves above. Flexible, steady, clear, sweet, and with an edge of gold. Albani's voice at its best—and Albini's art in her early years. A voice that sings always whether in quick staccato declamation or in softest adagio of recited grief. She is called a nightingale, but she is more than that. She sings with her face to the sun—the song of the nightingale has little charm at noontide.

Singing

She sings so easily that the listener forgets the art and discipline and technique that are behind her simple song. She makes art songs of folksongs. Some of her numbers were more Schubertian than Schubert. In "Butterfly" she was artless as a child, and her topmost beautiful notes were Melba's for purity. In the Moussorgsky her opening phrases were echoed in the upper octave with a grace that only intuition achieves. Lilt and playfulness of the closing section surprised and delighted by turns. Her tenderness—her poetry—her deep sympathy were utterly innocent of that "esclamazio languida" stuff which infects so much of what is called expressive song. And this is why her singing was

always—and always will be—like the refreshment of open air, rolling hillsides, and sunlit clouds.

For the singing of the folksong group she was garbed in picturesque national costume. Small wonder she took her great audience by storm. A lover's lonesomeness—harvesters singing at work—a sorrowing wife—a thrifless couple—pictures of these were eloquent, finished gems of song-story. Beautiful because so true—and true because beautiful.

Composer-Pianist

Anton Rudnitsky was a second Schnabel at the piano. Together singer and pianist were a team whose peers have not been heard here in many moons. Rudnitsky's own compositions are remarkable for their beautiful originality, every unwonted lilt of rhythm or quirk or harmonic or melodic character has such spontaneity. They are music that is alive and eager to say so. They are full of emotion—the high mentality of them is forgotten until after emotion has registered and left its message. The "Dobush" operatic aria with its contrasting moods and uncannily expressive dissonances was inspiration scored white hot. The "Love Song" was light and lovely as a dream—the comic drinking song with its orchestral pianism might have been an impromptu done by genius like Moussorgsky's own.

(The Evening Telegram, Toronto, Friday, January 6, 1939)

YONKERS GAME

The Yonkers Social Athletic Club defeated the Eagle's team by 30—24 at the Yonker's City Gymnasium, January 12. Yonkers led the first half by a wide margin, due to Kobyzyn's 13 points. Sikro and Janzeen piled most of Yonker's points during the second half. Stanley, Panzen and Stowiak did most of the scoring for the Eagles. In the second game Yonkers defeated the Bronx Ukes by the score of 42—40.

STEVE LENKO,

233 W. 52 St., New York City.

ELIZABETH, N. J.

FIRST ANNUAL SNOWBALL DANCE sponsored by Ukrainian Boyan Choir SATURDAY Evening, JANUARY 21, 1939 at 8:30 o'clock, at the Ukrainian Auditorium, 214 Fulton Street, Elizabeth, N. J. Music by Al Hall and his Orchestra. Tickets 40¢. Committee reserves all rights.

COMING ATTRACTION

UYUNA—Eastern REGIONAL RALLY sponsored by the United Ukrainian Youth Clubs of Philadelphia on SAT., FEBRUARY 18, on the Roof Garden of the Adelpia Hotel, 13 & Chestnut Sts. Banquet and Dance in evening. Make your reservations now with P. J. Zaharchuk, 706 N. 24 Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

WILKES-BARRE, PA.

FIRST U. N. A. BANQUET and DANCE, FEB. 11, 1939, Hotel Sterling. Program will include: Presentation to U. N. A. Baseball Champions. Speeches by Nicholas Murashko, Michael Piznak and others. Dance music by Lenio Bros. Orchestra. Other Surprises.

YOUTH and THE U.N.A.

ON January 13th, 1939 writes John O. Mykytiuk, a special meeting was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., for the purpose of organizing a youth branch of the Ukrainian National Association. The meeting was called to order by Anthony Wasylik who introduced Basil Zahayevich, a man who has devoted much of his time to organizational work. Mr. Zahayevich, speaking emphatically and seriously, convinced those present that the U. N. A. is the best Ukrainian organization in the country, and has much more to offer its members than large American commercial companies.

As a result of this meeting, 45 persons expressed a willingness to become U.N.A. members. The new youth branch is to be known as the "Ukrainian Social Club," U. N. A. branch 419. Its officers are: Nicholas P. Koroll, president; Michael Wasylik, financial secretary; John O. Mykytiuk, recording secretary; Anthony Wasylik, organizer; John Kuhar, treasure.

Commenting on the organization of the new club, Anthony Wasylik writes as follows: "We are very much inspired and feel very happy, now that we joined the U.N.A. We believe that to accomplish something really worthwhile, every Ukrainian-American should become interested in the U.N.A. and help the organization achieve the ideals upon which it was founded."

John O. Mykytiuk believes "... it is our duty to spread the good benefits of the U.N.A. among all of our youth. I feel that our club will be a leading youth group in Pittsburgh, and, in time, will probably receive national recognition."

All persons in Pittsburgh and vicinity interested in this newly-organized U.N.A. youth branch are urged to contact Michael Wasylik, 109 South 7th St., S. S. Pittsburgh, Pa.

Mike Lodyn, 2213 Birch Street, Youngstown, Ohio, the president of the newly-organized U.N.A. youth branch 261 of Youngstown, writes as follows:

"I have read the 'Youth and the U.N.A.' column published on January 6th, and believe that it contained some very good suggestions for inactive branches to take into consideration. Our branch has been in existence only two months, and we have already formed a U.N.A. basketball team; we intend to enter the U.N.A. Basketball League and give other teams a little competition. Your suggestion that the officers and members of the various youth branches should correspond with each other is a good one, inasmuch as news and ideas can be exchanged to good advantage. I would appreciate it very much if you would make known the fact that I am interested in hearing from officers and members of the various branches, as our club is a new one and any idea or suggestion we may receive may prove valuable to us."

We urge all interested parties to communicate with Mr. Lodyn.

Regarding the U.N.A. Basketball League, which is now well under way, information has been received from Detroit that the clubs Ukadets and Crute have formed teams, and that scores will be forthcoming shortly. Gregory Herman, U.N.A. sports director, requests all teams to send scores of games played to this column for publication.

"Nursing a 5-point lead after 3 quarters, and waging a seesaw tussle in the final chapter," writes Dietric Slobogin, manager of the Philadelphia U.N.A. Youth Club basketball team, "our boys opened their first basketball season with a slim 27-26 triumph over Adlon A. C. in a game played at Philadelphia's Ukrainian Hall on January 10th. The teams were very evenly matched, with the lead changing hands frequently during the fray. The U.N.A. quintet led 7-6 at the conclusion of the 1st

ROCHESTER YOUTH UNITE

On January 12, a joint committee composed of delegates from various Ukrainian youth organizations in Rochester, met at the St. Joseph Ukrainian Parish Hall for the purpose of uniting their efforts to sponsor a Memorial Concert or "Svyato Heroyiv" in honor of those who have died for the Ukrainian Cause.

The groups represented at this meeting were: the St. Annes Sodality, by Mrs. Nicholas Sypian and Mrs. Stephen Pryhoda; the St. Josephs Youth Society, by Michael Koldansky and John Bostuk; the Ukrainian Athletic Club of Goodman, by William Hussar and Joseph Wasylyshyn; the Ukrainian Ballet Group, by Roman Fenchensky; the Ukrainian Band, by William Hreniw and William Popowich; and the Ukrainian Boyan Choir, by Stephen Jacula and John Sedor. These organizations represent approximately 80 percent of the Ukrainian youth in Rochester. Of the remaining 20 percent, one half has forgotten that they are Ukrainians, while the other half, although they are organized, has not as yet realized the value of co-operation.

Plans were also made to make this committee a permanent one by selecting a few necessary officers: Stephen Jacula, chairman; John Sedor, secretary; John Bostuk, treasurer and tickets; William Hreniw, Michael Koldansky, and William Hussar—publicity.

Among the major points that all agreed upon were that the concert shall be a formal concert with none but Ukrainian talent participating; that all profit realized from this concert is to be sent to Carpathian Ukraine; that the concert shall be held at the St. Joseph Parish Hall on February 25, 1939.

Although concerts have been presented by individual youth organizations in the past, this has been the first attempt in Rochester to unite a number of Ukrainian youth groups for such a purpose.

STEPHEN JACULA.

quarter, and 13-12 at halftime. A barrage of field goals by the Ukrainians after the intermission period, hiked their lead to 21-16 as the 3rd quarter terminated. The final chapter saw the Adlon 5 score 10 points, while the Ukrainians, emphasizing the defense, mustered 6. Myron Bliszcz's converted shot from the penalty mark in the 1st session proved to be the deciding nod, as each team racked up 13 field goals during the evening. Player-coach Al Ursin, ex-Muhlenberg College sharpshooter, was high scorer for the U.N.A. team with 8 points, closely followed by Joe Rudolph, elongated center, who flipped 3 double-deckers through the cords, accounting for 6 tallies."

The Philadelphia U.N.A. Youth Club will sponsor its "First Annual Ball" on Saturday, February 18th. Two orchestras will be featured, one American and the other Ukrainian, Nick Boley to be in charge. The affair will be held at the Ukrainian Hall, 849 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia, Pa., according to Dietric Slobogin.

According to Daniel B. Futryk, the Ranking U.N.A. Basketball Team would like to book games with teams everywhere. The team, which is entered in the U.N.A. League, is composed of former high school and college stars and is setting a fast pace. Interested parties can arrange games by writing to Mr. Futryk, 213 2nd Street, Braddock, Pa., or by telephoning Brandyvine 0207.

According to Frederick W. Seitz, president of U.N.A. youth branch 399 of Newark, N. J., the "Ukrainian Lions" basketball team has emerged victorious in four contests. They defeated the Rahway Brynes A. C., 44-29; Irvington Bobcats A. C., 29-13; Eclipse Aviation, 20-28; Newark Eagles A. C., 40-33. Andrew Karmazyn, who expects his team to continue its winning streak, is managing the Lions.

AFFIDAVIT OF MRS. BLAZHKEVICH

(Concluded from p. 1)

17th, when I was already home, Mayor Yasinsky of Denisiv came to see me, and was told that in the interest of public welfare he should report the assault upon me to the police. Though he said he would see the police captain, the police never came to see me, nor did they make any investigation.

The same day (November 17, 1938) a Red Cross ambulance, sent by the Regional Cooperative Association from Tarnopol, took me to the Ukrainian hospital in Lwiv, on Petro Skarha Street.

I hereby affirm that this affidavit is true in every particular.

(signed)

Joanna Blazhkevich.

N. Y. "LODGE" INSTALLS OFFICERS

Upholding the tradition of the Cossacks, the parents and members of the American-Ukrainian "Lodge" of New York City celebrated the arrival of the year 1939 Saturday evening, January 14, in a spirit of revelry that marked the success of the Second Annual Installation of Officers Dinner in the luxurious setting of the Crystal Room of Webster Hall. One hundred and twenty-five persons attended it. The amiable Honorable Stephen J. Jarema, Assemblyman of the 8th A. D., Manhattan, presided as toastmaster.

Speeches of infinite hope for a United Ukrainian Front, presentation of gifts for meritorious service, harmonious songs by Sophie Seman, and spirited dancing until 2 A. M. stamped the affair as the most colorful and memorable occasion of the season. Rev. Veselovsky expressed the hope of seeing more Ukrainians in attendance with each succeeding installation of officers.

Dr. Kojac, record breaker in the 1928 Olympic swimming meets held in Holland, humorously related the part "borscht" and "kapusta" played in his youthful days, also of his association with Johnny Weissmuller and Buster Crabbe, Olympic tank and cinema stars, and of an embarrassing but comical incident before Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina of Holland. He also stated that the Ukrainian youth of today have "a greater opportunity to make their people better known because of Ukraine's rising political significance in the world of international politics today." John Romanion, president of the UYLNA, emphasized the need of "a united Ukrainian front to aid not only ourselves but also our brethren abroad." John W. P. Slobadin, re-elected to the presidency of the "Lodge" for the third successive term, urged "all Ukrainians, regardless of political, religious, or social affiliation to strive for one goal."

The gifts for meritorious service were presented to John W. P. Slobadin, who received a silver gavel; Michael Matwios, a walnut gavel; Peter Braginetz and Metrô Popu, basketball trophies; Sophie Seman, a silver compact; John Nazarevich a pencil set; Messrs. Joseph Wolownik and Joseph Wincewicz, military sets; Michael Pawlyshyn, a pen and pencil set; and Stephen J. Jarema, a pen desk set.

MICHAEL PAWLYSHYN.

ELECTIONS IN WILKES-BARRE CLUB

The Ukrainian Youth Club of Wilkes-Barre held its annual meeting December 29, 1938 at its club room. An election of officers took place and a discussion for an affair to be held January 13.

The following were elected to office through 1939:

President, Myron Shpur; Vice President, Mary Melnyk; Recording Secretary, Stephanie Lawney; Financial Secretary, Michael Leciston; Treasurer, Michael Lochman; Publicity Secretary, Julia Postupak; Auditors: Jerry Shpur, Stella Iwaniw, Charles Baruta.

Julia Postupak
63 Skidmore St.,
Hudson, Pa.

CARPATHO-UKRAINIANS IN RIOTS OVER PRAGUE ACTION

A wireless dispatch from Huszt, capital of Carpatho-Ukraine, to the New York Times last Wednesday reports that the appointment by Prague of General Lew Prchala as Minister Without Portfolio in the Carpatho-Ukrainian Government, has aroused intense disaffection among the Ukrainians, which they expressed by staging a violent anti-Czech demonstration last Tuesday in Huszt.

Many hundreds took part in the demonstration, the Times reports. Speakers sharply attacked the Prague Government. Fedor Revay, brother of a Carpatho-Ukrainian Minister, said General Prchala's appointment was a return to the old centralization system of the former Prague Government, that it endangered relations between Czechs and Ukrainians, and, furthermore, violated the independence of Carpatho-Ukraine.

Mr. Revay demanded that Premier Rudolf Beran of Czecho-Slovakia resign if he did not recognize the real sentiments of the Ukrainians and continued to manifest "Pro-Russian leanings," further reports the Times. The "Pro-Russians" are charged by some Ukrainians with being opposed to the plan for the creation of a Greater Ukraine.

The demonstrators marched through the streets booing and shouting "Out with the Czechs!" One group invaded the Carpatho-Ukrainian Government building and tore official posters from the walls, reads the Times dispatch.

Premier Augustin Voloshyn of Carpatho-Ukraine addressed the crowd and expressed his personal surprise at the appointment of General Prchala, saying he had known nothing about it beforehand. By nightfall order had been restored. There were several arrests.

A PROBLEM OF RACE

To the Editor of The Sun—Sir: In his letter headed "What are Ukrainians?" that appeared in The N. Y. Sun of Nov. 15, "Paracelsus" makes a courageous if vain effort to prove that the Ukrainian claim to an independent nationality "is rather shadowy."

I would remind "Paracelsus" that most of the books of history dealing with the Ukrainian past are works of Russian and Polish authors and usually official publications whose chief object is rather to confuse than to clear up the Ukrainian problem and thus to justify the foreign dominations over the Ukrainian provinces.

It is a paradox permeating the entire Polish and Russian literature that its various writers always deny the existence of the Ukrainian race and at the same time vehemently demand its quickest extermination. One of the greatest distorters of the historical truth is Sienkiewicz, whose historical trilogy is mentioned by Mr. Paracelsus. His passionate abomination of the truth brought Sienkiewicz in 1905 a sentence of three months in jail or three thousand gold crowns fine at the hands of a Viennese court of justice for slandering Ukrainian university students.

The juggling with the so-called historical facts can prove anything or everything according to the pious desires of those playing with them, and such an approach to the complicated racial situation in Central and Eastern Europe can never bring any useful results. This was already theoretically acknowledged by the Versailles peace makers, who evolved the principles of the self-determination of the people on the ethnographical legitimacy, but unfortunately discarded it totally in their practice of shaping the Succession States. The tragic results of this blatant insincerity is the present volcanic European situation, that no magic historical formula of barbaric brutality can ever amend***

L. de BIBBO.