



UKRAINIAN WEEKLY



Supplement to the SVOBODA, Ukrainian Daily

No. 51

JERSEY CITY, N. J., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1939

VOL. VII

"OBYEDNANYE" CONGRESS PLANS HELP FOR UKRAINE

Intensive and united action by all Ukrainian-Americans and their kinsmen abroad leading to the establishment of a free and independent democratic Ukrainian state, embracing all of ethnographic Ukraine, now mostly under Soviet misrule, was planned by the Eighth Congress of the United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States, at Hotel Imperial, New York City, last Saturday, December 2.

One hundred and ten delegates representing over two hundred national and local organizations took part in its deliberations. Roman

Smook presided as chairman. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Luke Myshuha, who was re-elected as General Secretary and who received a special vote of thanks for his labors; Eugene Lachowitch, who was elected to the Board of Directors; Emil Reviuk, retiring president; and Eugene Skotsko, director of the Ukrainian Bureau in Washington.

Dr. Myshuha spoke about the present Ukrainian situation and how it can be improved. Mr. Lachowitch elaborated upon the tasks facing "Obyednanye" in relation to America and Ukraine. Mr.

Mr. Reviuk dwelt upon the proposed All-Ukrainian-American Congress, while Mr. Skotsko stressed the necessity of enlarging and improving the Ukrainian Bureau at Washington.

In his report as Financial Secretary, Dmytro Halychyn, revealed that since its last Congress three years ago, "Obyednanye" has collected \$82,397.36 for various Ukrainian causes. The last year, he said, brought in a record amount, \$34,464.89.

The following new set of officers of "Obyednanye" were elected: President, Nicholas Muraszko, of

Jersey City; Vice-Presidents, Prof. Alexander Granovsky of Minneapolis; Nicholas Piznak of New York City, Roman Smook of Chicago, John Kooz of Detroit, Omer Malitsky of Cleveland; General Secretary, Dr. Luke Myshuha of Jersey City; Assistant General Secretary, Stephen Shumeyko of Newark; Financial Secretary, Dmytro Halychyn of New York; Treasurer, Dr. Walter Gallan of Philadelphia; Comptrollers, Theodore Swystun, Andrew Malanchuk, Mrs. Anastasia Wagner, Alexandra Lyktxy, and John Roberts.

A SHORTSIGHTED ATTITUDE

No one can deny that unity is now vitally needed among us, Ukrainian-Americans. The fate of Ukraine is in balance, and we can tip the scales in her favor, by persuading America, England and France to help our kinsmen over there set up, at the close of the present war, their own free and independent republic. Our chance of accomplishing this, of course, is rather slim. Nevertheless, it may prove successful, and we can't afford to ignore it. But first of all, we must have unity amongst ourselves. We must speak and act on behalf of Ukraine as one, and not as several. Otherwise no one will heed us.

Yet there is no such unity among us. In fact, there is greater disunity among us than ever before, and that, to put it elegantly, is going some.

We do not have in mind here the disunity that exists in many of our local communities, as in an emergency it can usually be repaired.

What we do have in mind, however, are the party divisions, if we may dignify them by that term, which exist among our national organizations. These divisions are a very serious matter. For only through the medium of our national organizations can we create among us a nationwide united front.

Let us take, for example, our fraternal associations. There are four of them and each of them is a veritable pashalic, completely isolated from the other. If they were to combine, however, they would represent a tremendous force in Ukrainian-American life, as the following figures show: the Ukrainian National Association (headquarters in Jersey City), has over 35,000 members, assets over 5½ millions of dollars, and the daily "Svoboda"; the Ukrainian Workingmen's Association (Scranton), has about 12,000 members, 2½ million dollars in assets, and the tri-weekly "Narodna Wola"; the Providence Association (Philadelphia), has about 8,000 members, one-million dollar assets, and the tri-weekly "America"; and the Ukrainian National Aid Association (Pittsburgh), has about 5,000 members, one-half million dollar assets, and the weekly "Narodne Slovo."

Merged into one, these four fraternal associations would constitute a nation-wide organization having over 60,000 members, assets about 10 million dollars, and a press far superior to the one now.

Proposals for such a merger are nothing new. They have been in circulation for a number of years. The U.N.A. itself has been the strongest advocate of such a merger. The young people, too, have recommended it, as at the second congress of the Ukrainian Youth's League of North America, held in New York in 1934. Concerning it, several meetings have been held among the associations themselves, but to no avail. Today the proposed merger is about as far off as it was when first broached.

If our fraternal associations cannot merge, however, they can at least cooperate with one another in propagating the Ukrainian cause and in aiding Ukraine win her national freedom. Surely, that is one task to which they can and should now devote themselves as one.

This was precisely the opinion expressed by representatives of the Ukrainian National Association at a meeting called by it for that purpose, September 14, in Philadelphia,

and attended by representatives from the other three fraternal associations. All of them agreed upon that. Yet the meeting broke up without having brought into life any such cooperation among the four associations.

Why? Mainly because the representatives of the Ukrainian Workingmen's Association and its "Narodna Wola," took the uncompromising stand, which they have maintained to this very day, that they will not cooperate in any way with the U.N.A. and its "Svoboda" until the latter "retracts that which it printed in defense of Ukrainian orientations upon Hitler," and until the "Svoboda" "clearly expresses itself in favor of a Ukrainian political thought independent of any foreign elements."

In reply to this demand, the U.N.A. and the "Svoboda" have declared that the latter has nothing to retract, for it has never expressed itself in favor of nazism or fascism as means of attaining Ukrainian freedom, only in favor of democracy, which it has steadily propagated for the past 47 years. Furthermore, the "Svoboda" says, any kind words about these two foreign ideologies that have appeared on its pages, were the words of a few contributors or correspondents, and never of its editors. In allowing such free expression of opinions on its pages, "Svoboda" further states, it has merely followed the precepts of the American press, which allows widely divergent views to appear on its pages. Finally, the "Svoboda" declares, it has always propagated the principle that Ukrainian political thought should at all times stand aloof of all foreign influences.

Such, then, is the main "reason" why today our fraternal associations here in America are not cooperating in the cause of a free and independent Ukraine. The U.N.A. and the "Svoboda," it should be noted, are ready and willing, but the U.W.A. and "Narodna Wola" first wants "retractions." In this connection, it is interesting to note that at the September 14th meeting, the Providence and National Aid representatives officially declared themselves as seeing no need for any such "retractions."

Regardless of the merits or demerits of this case, however, and no matter how strongly the Scranton representatives may feel on this subject, the fact remains, and every fair-minded person must recognize it as such, that the excuse they advance for their non-cooperative attitude, is in reality no excuse at all, but only proof that they have allowed their partisan feelings to override their better sense of values in respect to the general welfare of the Ukrainian national cause and the vital need for immediate and unified action in its behalf.

If they persist in this shortsighted attitude—and we sincerely hope they do not—they will not only diminish and obstruct whatever help Ukrainian-American organized life can offer to Ukraine, but, equally pernicious, they will also set a very poor and demoralizing example for those of our people who are divided over various other issues, including those of religion.

"If our very leaders can't get together in such an emergency as now," they have a right to say, "then by what right do they urge us and expect us to bury our differences and unite?"

This matter is vitally important to all of us, both young and old.

Poland's Mistreatment of Ukrainians

(Continued)

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Sheptitsky Recognized as Leader

DESPITE the rising unpopularity among the Galician Ukrainians of those who had advocated and negotiated the disillusioning "normalization" with Poland, oppression by the latter became so heavy that they all had to forget their many differences and make an attempt to create a united front against the oppressor.

First of all, however, they needed a leader. Since none of the political parties could produce one in whom the masses would have full confidence, the mantle of leadership fell upon the venerable figure of Metropolitan Andrew Sheptitsky, whose general prestige and authority was sufficient to evoke the highest respect among all, both Catholics and Orthodox.

The Polish Anti-Ukrainian Front

Meanwhile the Poles were uniting too, but for a different purpose, namely, to quench the national spirit and erase the national identity among the Ukrainians, especially in Galicia. For that purpose they created among themselves the Committee of United Polish Organizations, which embraced even the Poles who in their own political life were divided. At its head stood the commander of the L'viv Army Corps, General Tukaczewski. To make the work of the committee more effective, the general established branches of it in every village, and in time it became in some districts even more powerful than the regular authorities.

Its Activities

One of the principal tasks of this committee was to prevent even the smallest parcel of land from falling into the hands of the Ukrainians, a measure designed to make them even more land poor than they already were. Another was to get the necessary credits for the swarms of Polish merchants and traders who were being drawn from purely Polish districts and settled in Ukrainian Galicia, in order to drive the latter entirely

out of business. Still another task was to drive out of public office and out of private employment all Ukrainians, unless they renounced their Ukrainian Catholic or Orthodox faith and adopted the Polish Latin faith. Finally the committee attempted to destroy the Ukrainian Catholic Church itself, using such means as the injunction that all church sermons be given in Polish.

Ukrainian War Graves Desecrated

Behind this committee stood all the might of the governmental and semi-governmental agencies of Poland, especially of the military, and various Polish institutions as well, including the church. With such support behind it, the committee was able to do whatever it pleased with the Ukrainian population, browbeating and terrorizing it at the slightest occasion. Ukrainian stores and cooperatives were deliberately destroyed by bands of Polish soldiery. Worse yet, graves of Ukrainian war dead and the monuments over them were destroyed and desecrated, and Memorial Day gatherings over such graves forcibly dispersed.

In the face of such rule of terror and intimidation, the Ukrainians naturally drew closer together and at the same time passed over into ranks of the militant Ukrainian Nationalist Movement.

Effects of Rise of Carpatho-Ukraine

The final year of Poland's existence was one of unceasing "pacification" of her Ukrainian national minority. It became especially virulent with the repressive measures the Poles took to quell the uplifting of spirits among Poland's Ukrainians as a result of the inspiring events in Carpatho-Ukraine.

The rise of autonomous Carpatho-Ukraine was an event that stirred all of Polish Ukraine. Even persons who before had rarely identified themselves with Ukrainian activities, were now found in the very forefront of them. Hundreds of young men and boys stole

across the border into Carpatho-Ukraine in order to fight for their motherland. Various demonstrations, officially directed against Hungary, (which eventually occupied Carpatho-Ukraine), but in reality being against Poland, took place in cities and hamlets throughout the country. These demonstrations were especially impressive in L'viv, Striy, and Berezhani.

Anti-Ukrainian Pogroms

In reply to them, anti-Ukrainian pogroms were instituted by the Poles, with attendant destruction of property and assaults upon persons. They were especially violent, in fact strongly reminiscent of the barbaric "pacification" of 1930, in the country districts, as in Berezhani, Pidhaytsi, Striy, and Drohobych, whose population was more militant and revolutionary in spirit.

In L'viv large bodies of Polish students coursed throughout the city, destroying Ukrainian stores, cooperatives and buildings, while the Polish police looked passively on.

Police Aid Attackers

All appeals for help to the Polish authorities were ignored, and the Polish mobs were allowed to proceed unmolested with their destruction and pillaging of Ukrainian property and institutions. Where the police did intervene, as in the case of such institutions as Prosvita or the Catholic Seminary, it was only to arrest the defenders and let scot free the attackers. And when appeals from the provinces were made to Warsaw, even in form of parliamentary interpellations, the usual official reply was that the authorities were unaware of any disorders, although such disorders often took the form of organized attacks and destruction by Polish troops.

Ukrainian Resistance Increases

Denied legal redress by the Polish government itself for the mounting wrongs being committed upon them, the Ukrainians stiffened in their opposition to everything that was Polish. This was especially evident in the villages. The peasants no longer endured

the destruction and beatings passively as they had done during the earlier "pacification" in 1930. An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth now become their motto. As a result, in some villages Polish officials or police officers did not dare to venture abroad without a strong guard to protect them. In other places, Ukrainian young men openly attacked the police sent to "pacify" them and their kinfolk. Signs in Polish were systematically torn down.

People began to ask their leaders whether it was not time to openly rebel against their oppressors, and it took considerable persuasion to show them how suicidal such an attempt by unarmed or poorly armed peasantry against regular troops would be. Nevertheless the Ukrainian opposition to Polish misrule steadily increased.

"OBYEDNANYE" CONGRESS
TELEGRAMSTO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES

By a resolution passed at their Eighth Congress, held in New York City, December 2, the United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States, collectively known as "Obyednanye", express their wholehearted support of your policy of sympathetic action on behalf of Finland, especially the Moral Embargo, directed against the Soviet Union, and also urge you to sever all relations with that prison house of nations. Likewise, the congress wishes to point out that what Finland is undergoing now, Eastern Ukraine underwent some twenty years ago and Western Ukraine a few months ago when both fell victims of Soviet brutal aggression and misrule.

TO THE FINNISH MINISTER

Representatives of the United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States, assembled at the Eighth Congress of that institution, in New York City, December 2, taking into account the fact that at present the Finnish people in their native land are victims of Soviet Union's aggression and imperialism, express their highest admiration for the heroic stand of the free people of Finland and urge their Ukrainian kinsmen living in Finland to help her defend her liberties against the Soviet invasion and ruthlessness.

SHEVCHENKO AND WOMEN

Women in the Life and Works of
Taras Shevchenko

By DR. LUKE MYSHUHA

Translated by
W. SEMENYNA

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Arrest, Sentence and Exile

That was the time in Russia when no murderer or wrongdoer was watched and searched for as much as was a new book. Shevchenko's poems, from which emerged terrible blows at the oppressors of the enslaved masses, appeared at a time when such words as "constitution," "deputy elections," "people's will," and "needs of the working classes" were forbidden by official decrees.

The fate of the writer who had the courage to ignore these decrees was well described by Alexander Herzen, in a book published in London, in 1853, about "Social Relations in Russia." He wrote:

"A sad and frightful fate awaits any of us who dares to raise his voice over the limits established by the Czar's decrees. A relentless fate drives him to his grave, no matter who he may be: poet, ordinary citizen, or a philosopher. And the history of our literature is a list of martyrs or an announcement of the punished..."

"Ryliev was hanged by the order of Nicholas I, and Pushkin was killed in a duel at the age of thirty-eight. Griboedoff was murdered in Terregan. Liermontov was killed in Caucasus on the duelling field at the age of thirty. Venetinov died as a twenty-two year old lad because of the prevailing social conditions. Koltsov was tortured to death by his immediate surroundings at the age of thirty-three. Bielinsky died from cold and hunger, having attained the age of thirty-three. Poliezhaev died in a military hospital after a forced eight-year service in the Caucasus Mountains. Bariatinsky died in exile where he suffered for twelve years.

Bertuzhev died in the Caucasus at a very early age..."

All this Shevchenko heard about and knew very well. But the frightful fate of the others did not intimidate his spirit nor halt his protest against oppression and exploitation. Instead, in his poems, he protested against the ravaging policies of the governing regime more strongly than any of those punished writers, and even stronger than all of them combined.

The consequences of this were evident. One day, when through the efforts of Princess Repnin and other friends he was granted a position in the Kiev University, he was arrested. This happened in Kiev on April 5th, 1847. He was immediately taken from Kiev to Petersburg and there his trial began.

Sitting in the fort-prison, far from Ukraine, and waiting for the verdict, Shevchenko was not concerned so much with what would happen to him as with what might happen to his beloved native land. The second stanza of the following poem, which is very popular among the Ukrainians, is considered by many as a sort of Shevchenko's prophecy that Ukraine, on account of her natural wealth, will gain her independence only through active, militant resistance.

'Tis all the same to me— whether
Or not Ukraine will be my home
Or, while I wade in distant snows,
I'll linger in some memory—
'Tis all the very same to me!...

But all the same 'twill never be...
When double-dealing evil neighbors
Will lull Ukraine and, having robbed her,
Will awaken her in flames...
To me 'twill never be the same!"

In this prison he wrote such beautiful verses as "Wechir" (Evening):

A little orchard by a dwelling
With Junc bugs humming overhead;
With merryment the girls do tread
As ploughmen homeward are returning
While mother waits to have them fed.

The kin are eating by the dwelling;
The evening star peeks o'er the bough;

A daughter serves with knitted brow
And listens to what mother's telling—
If but the nightingale would allow.

The mother placed beside the dwelling
Her little children in their nest—
And with a dream herself is blest.
All's still. Only the girls and warblers
Seem to forget it's time of rest."

In this prison he sang the griefs of a soldier whose beloved Hanusia is seduced by a young nobleman: the griefs of a serf who may not even marry without the consent of, and a price paid to, the girl's master.

He grieved for Ukraine and called to his brothers to

Love to the end your native land,
Love your Ukraine!.. When time is
mocking,

When suffering and death are knocking,
Pray for her to The Guiding Hand;"

At the trial the chief of police, Count Orloff, made the accusation that Shevchenko "composed Ukrainian verses of a seriously rebellious nature," that "in them he cries over the enslavement of the unfortunate Ukraine and acclaims the Cossack freedom of the hetmanship days," and that on account of that "he gained among his countrymen the fame of a great Ukrainian writer, and for that reason his verses are doubly harmful and dangerous." Count Orloff went on further to say that with those Shevchenko's poems, so beloved in Ukraine, there may be born in Ukraine "the conviction about the well-being of the hetmanship days: that the return of those times would be very fortunate, and that Ukraine could exist as an independent nation."

For that, Shevchenko was given the following sentence:

"The artist Shevchenko, for composing rebellious and to a great degree unbefitting verses, being a person of strong bodily constitution, shall be sent as a private to the separate Orenburg corps with the right of full service. The authorities are to be notified that he is to be guarded in every manner from writing rebellious and scandalous works." And under the decree, Czar Nicholas wrote in pencil, in his

"Obyednanye" Congress Resolutions

Passed at the Eighth Congress of the United Ukrainian Organizations of America ("Obyednanye"), Hotel Imperial, December 2, 1939

In Relation to America

For Americans of Ukrainian descent, as well as for those few Ukrainian immigrants who have not yet become American citizens, the United States of America is that country whose welfare and progress is their welfare and progress. Therefore, to be loyal to it and to defend its principles and interests, is for them not only a natural duty but a privilege as well.

In Relation to Ukraine and Ukrainians

Ukraine, the land from which emigrated the Ukrainian-Americans, is still under foreign rule and oppression, now mostly Soviet.

To aid Ukraine free herself of the foreign yoke, is to halt the further sacrifice of millions of lives of those who refuse to compromise with a rule based on injustice, terror, and oppression; it is to help liquidate the grave Soviet danger to world peace, security and democracy; and it is to perpetuate on this earth the humanitarian principles upon which these United States of America are founded.

In Relation to the European Conflict

The new European conflict was unavoidable, as the World War did not end in real peace and in the victory of those just principles which were enunciated by President Woodrow Wilson in the name of our country and government.

Should these principles, especially the one of national self-determination, be not fully respected at the end of the present war, then neither Europe nor the world will enjoy the peace and prosperity and security from further aggression toward which they aspire.

Primarily, the present European war is an imperialistic armed struggle for world power and domination. Therefore, it will be better for all concerned, if at its end the principles of democracy will prevail over those of com-

munism, fascism, and nazism. For essentially the democratic principles are the surest guaranty to humanity of the free and unhindered development of its culture and civilization, as well as of its social justice, and of its religious and political freedom.

The present policy of the American Government in taking measures to prevent the involvement of our country in the European war, deserves warm recognition and support.

This policy keeps our land safe from the dangers of warfare, allows us to live in peace, and likewise preserves for America the strength and authority she will need at the end of the conflict to help create upon this earth a new order, one that will bring for all humanity real and lasting peace and prosperity.

In Relation to a Free and Independent Ukraine

The highest ideal of the 45 million Ukrainian nation is the creation of a free and independent and democratic state of Ukraine, situated on the territories upon which they and their ancestors have dwelt for many centuries and upon which they constitute an indisputable majority of the population.

To attain that ideal, the Ukrainian masses rose in revolution at the close of the World War, established their own government, and lawfully created a free and independent Ukrainian republic.

The destruction of that republic was an act of wanton injustice and aggression. It placed the Ukrainians under foreign rule and oppression of regimes founded on ideologies inimical to the national spirit and aspirations of the Ukrainian people. As a result, Ukraine today is under the misrule of Hungary, Rumania, Germany, and, most of all, of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the latter occupying most of Ukraine and ruling over forty million of her Ukrainian population.

THE PARABLE OF LIFE

(Taken from the ancient Ukrainian literary work, "Varlaam i Joasaph.")

A MAN was journeying through a deep forest. Suddenly there sprang before him a terrible beast, the dreaded unicorn. A great fear fell upon the man. Gathering all his strength he began to flee. Plunging wildly through the forest he fell into a deep ravine. In falling, however, he managed to seize hold of a slender sapling growing at the edge of this ravine. And thus he dangled from it, until he felt something solid beneath his feet. It appeared to be a ledge. Upon it he eased his weight.

"Well," he thought, "thank God, now I am safe."

And, still breathing heavily from his flight, he began to examine his surroundings. He glanced upwards, and—Oh! By the exposed roots of the sapling from which he hung, he saw two mice, one black, and one white. Steadily they were gnawing away at those roots, first one, then the other; and it appeared as if there was not much left for them to do, before the slender tree would fall. Fearfully the man withdrew his gaze from this sight and glanced downward, and there he saw a terrible dragon, writhing and turning, breathing fire, its jaws wide open, and leaping up to seize him. Cold sweat broke over the man. Involuntarily he glanced down at his feet, and saw that the ledge upon which he thought he was resting were in reality the heads of four serpents, protruding from a

rocky fissure in the side of the ravine.

"Now I shall perish for sure!" exclaimed he in despair, for at that precise moment over him there appeared the raging unicorn, waiting for him to climb out. The man saw that there was no escape for him now. In that very instant, however, he perceived on the branch of the tree upon which he was hanging a few drops of honey. Immediately he forgot all about his danger, all about the unicorn waiting for him above, the fire-breathing dragon below, the mice gnawing at the roots of the tree, and the serpents upon whose heads he was resting; about all this he forgot, and stretching out his hand he began to gather up the honey with his finger and lick it, happy as could be.

What do you think, dear reader? About whom is this parable? No one else, brother, but about yourself. You are this man, and that unicorn that is chasing you, is death, while that ravine into which you have fallen are the circumstances of your life. The sapling; which you grip so tightly is your age, while the mice that are gnawing away at its roots are day and night, constantly shortening the span of your life. The dragon that threatens you from below, is eternal damnation that awaits all wicked souls. While the four serpents upon which you rest your feet are—beauty, health, strength, and the will to work, which, it would seem, are the soundest foundation of real happiness and fortune, yet which are liable to disappear at any moment and betray all human dreams and aspirations. And what are those drops of honey, which this man is licking? They are those fleeting pleasures of life in whose pursuit we often forget the real significance of this life.

Woe unto him then, who dedicates himself entirely to the pleasures of life! For they will soon pass, leaving his appetite for them unsatisfied, and leaving behind them, too, bitterness and grief for a wasted life.

own hand: "To be under the strictest observation, having been prohibited to write and to draw." This, what Count Orloff called, "merciful sentence" was read to Shevchenko on May 30, 1847.

In a letter to Princess Repnin, Shevchenko wrote: "On the thirtieth day of May they read to me my confirmation and I was no longer a professor of the Kiev University but a plain soldier of the Orenburg barracks... You would surely burst out laughing if you saw me now. Just imagine the most clumsy barrack soldier, unshaven, with unkempt hair and long whiskers—and it will be I. It is funny—yet sad. What else is there to do? It must be God's will. It seems that I have suffered little in my life. To tell the truth, all my past griefs have been child's tears in comparison with the present unbearably bitter ones. And the worst of it all is that I am prohibited to paint, to say nothing about writing (outside of letters), and there is so much to write."

To this the Princess answered: "No, I would not laugh but would weep if I saw you now, and would pray to God to grant me words with which to encourage you, to raise your soul above your bitter fate... if it depended on me, then, having opened my letter, you would be filled with benevolence which would refreshen you, strengthen you, and you would happily and humbly bear your cross... How well I understand your torture need not be painted! With God's permission, everything will change... Just remember that many are praying for you, that although they are distant from you they think and watch after you."

These encouraging words came to Shevchenko at a time when the need of them may be judged by the following words written to this same friend: "In the past I looked at the animated and the still world as at the most perfect portrait, and now it seems the eyes have changed: no line, no color—I cannot see anything. Could it be that the feeling of beauty is lost to me forever? And I cherished it, catered to it so much!"

In the Kirghiz Steppes and by the Aral Sea

Shevchenko's letters, quoted above, were written from the Orsk Fortress, situated in a silent desert which the Kirghiz tribesmen called "a terrible place." That is where Shevchenko was exiled. The commander of the post notified the poet that he would be whipped at the post if he disregarded the rules laid down to him: that is, if he attempted to write or to draw. He was thrown into a filthy hovel among soldiers who found pleasure in obscenity. And thus the days were spent, as Shevchenko says, in exposing "an old fool to daily training." Despite these circumstances Shevchenko managed somehow to write a few verses which he hid in the calf of his boot. In this manner was preserved a whole cycle of his exile songs which are superb creations of Ukrainian lyric poetry. They are full of longing for native land, full of minor chords such as:

The sun is hiding: hillsides are fading,
The fields are calm: birds in their nests;
People are happy thinking of rest.
But while I'm gazing my heart is flying
To some dark orchard in Ukraine."

And the thoughts of the poet wandered from the dreary Kirghiz plains to the Ukrainian village.

A village! And the heart feels rested...
In our beloved Ukraine a village
Is like an Easter egg; when seen
The village is a vale of green.
An orchard blooms around each home
While on the hill a mansion bows
As if in wonder. And around:
The poplars spread their tiny shields
While there lie woods and groves and fields,
And beyond the Dnieper, rest blue hills.
In every village there's God!"

Here, by this blessed village in Ukraine there lived a princess, "Kniazhna" (Princess), whom God had blessed with freedom, wisdom, beauty and a heart—but denied her love. And she wanted so much to taste the joy of love—even if only for a moment. You see, the prince was a drunkard so how could she love him—and

Life is so dreary and so cold
When one has not a heart to hold.
But the good God had blessed the princess
with joy, because:

To see him first and then embrace
And kiss the one and only face,
And hear the first cry after birth!
Oh, children, children, children!
The greatest blessing known on earth!

The princesses, as a rule, know only

.... To bring forth their children,
But about the babies' rearing
Princesses know nothing.

But Shevchenko's princess took care of her child herself.

Herself she made the shirts
Embroidering with silk each sleeve
With which she had her child dressed,
And bathed and lulled her babe to sleep,
And fed it with her breast."

The beautiful daughter grew up—the image of her mother. The mother died and her unfortunate daughter fell victim to the drunken prince—her own father.

How this wanton victimizing of the unprotected women angered Shevchenko may be seen in his poem "Warnak," 1848, where he described the vengeance of a serf on the nobility which was responsible for his girl's seduction.

I cut whatever smelled of "nobles,"
Unmercifully, without thought..."

And here, again, the picture of his own unfortunate Oxana stood before his eyes. He saw her portrait as part of the picture of the native village and asked God why he was not allowed to finish his days in that village with his dear Oxana; then, that village with all its poverty would have been paradise compared with what he was living through at the time.

43) "Чи ми ще з'явимося знову", May, 1847, Petersburg Prison.

44) "Сонце Заходить", 1847, Orsk Fortress.

45) 46) "Княжна", 1847, Orsk Fortress.

47) "Варнак", 1848, Orsk Fortress.

41) "Мені однаково", May, 1847, Petersburg Prison.

42) "Бесип", May, 1847, Petersburg Prison.

A PRICELESS LEGACY

"The character of the Ukrainian song," wrote Nicholas Gogol, famed Russian writer of Ukrainian origin, "cannot be expressed in one word... It is exceedingly complex. In many cases it is light, graceful, hardly touching the earth, and seeming to play and trifle with tones, while in others it assumes manly power, its tones grow strong and forceful... or else they become broad and free, and strive to embrace limitless stretches... As for the music of sorrow, nowhere is it heard so vividly as in them... their tones rend one's soul."

As Professor Alexander Koshetz, foremost choral conductor and interpreter of Ukrainian songs of modern times, points out, the rhythms of Ukrainian song are immensely varied. Often the rhythmic structure is irregular, but perfect balance of phrase and section gives each song unity and clarity. It is in a capella singing that Ukraine has been the most noted since the 16th century. That compositions of that time were for from four to twenty-four voices testified to the development of this art. A special balance of the chorus was early worked out, in which the male voices outnumber the soprano and alto parts and in which the basso profundo—that characteristically Ukrainian voice, so much deeper than other basses—is used.

Ukraine's composed music begins historically in the 17th century with such composers and theorists as N. Diletsky, A. Mezenetz, J. Tarnopolsky, J. Zagvojsky, J. Nis, and others.

In spite of foreign domination, Ukraine continued to derive its musical inspiration from its own national sources, and the famous composers M. S. Berezowsky, (1745-1777), D. Bortniansky (1751-1825), A. L. Vedel (1768-1806) and P. Turchaninov (1779-1825), though working in Russian, actually carried on the national Ukrainian tradition in their compositions.

The renaissance of Ukrainian music began with Mikola Lysenko (1842-1912), at first with researches in the nation's folk music, and later in the conventional branches of music, such as opera, symphony, and chamber music. In this school are the composers P. Sokalsky (1832-1887), S. Artemovsky (1842-1864) (whose popular operetta "Zaporozhian Beyond the Danube" was best produced by M. Sadowsky, 1856-1935, famous Ukrainian theatrical producer, director, and actor), M. Arkas, A. Koshetz, P. Demutsky, K. Stetsenko (died 1902), J. Stepovy (died 1921), N. Leontovich (died 1921), P. Senitsia, M. O. Hayvoronsky, W. Barwinsky, S. Ludkevich, P. Pecheniha-Ouglitsky, A. Rudnitsky, R. Prydatkevich, B. Kudrick, and many others.

Other composers, not Ukrainian, have also found inspiration in Ukrainian folk melody, including Haydn, Hummel, Knorr, Mozart, Beethoven ("Pastoral" Symphony and the Quartet in F Major), Weber, Brahms, Liszt, Dvorak, Moussorgsky, Dargomyzhinsky, and Tchaikowsky (a Ukrainian by origin).

Yet Ukraine still awaits her Wagner. In the meanwhile, the world is enriched by her priceless legacy of song.

"TREND" TO APPEAR SOON

On account of technical reasons, the publication of the "Trend," UYLA organ, has been delayed since the last convention. It will appear, however, in a few weeks, and thereafter will appear regularly. — Michael Piznak, President of the Ukrainian Youth's League of North America.

bogdan of Elizabeth, N. J. Miss Slobodian was elected by vote of 52 to 32.

Stephen Shumeyko nominated Evelyn Kalakura as recording secretary. Helen Senlow nominated Miss Sorokollit. Miss Kalakura was elected by a vote of 51 to 23.

By a unanimous vote the following were elected advisors of the League: John Romanition, Stephen Jarema, John Billy, Dola Malevich and Stephen Shumeyko.

(To be continued).

THE U. N. A. SPORTLIGHT

PHILLY TAKES FIRST GAME

Playing before a capacity crowd on December 1st, Philadelphia's U.N.A. basketball team opened its 1939-40 campaign by nosing out last year's champions of the South Philadelphia Church League, Mizpah A. C., 31-24.

Definitely the underdogs, the U.N.A. boys lived up to this prophecy by trailing the church champions until the last few minutes of the game. Here, the Ukrainian quintet took time out and, after a breezy pep talk by Coach Onufry (William) Juzwiak, they came back with a barrage of field goals, sparked by Captain Myron Bliszcz who sank three from the floor, and lowered the colors of the downtowners. Bliszcz's running mate, Mike Matsik, a new addition to this year's squad, reminded the fans of his brilliant high school court career by splitting the cords twice from the floor and once from the penalty mark. Joe Juzwiak, a 10-year veteran of the game, showed that he will still be valuable to the team by scoring consistently, and shining on the defense.

Although confronted with the problem of obtaining a home court, Manager George Slobogin assured the Philly U.N.A. followers of a fighting team on any floor at all times.

Philly's next definitely scheduled game will be played Monday evening, December 11th, at 35th St. and Haverford Ave., where the team will meet the Justice A. C.

DIETRIC SLOBOGIN.

NORTHAMPTON WANTS GAMES

The Northampton Ukrainian Basketball Team, composed of members of U.N.A. Branch 442, is ready to book other teams for games. This appeal is meant for teams in Allentown, Philadelphia, McAdoo, Hazleton, St. Clair, Chester, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Shamokin, and other Pennsylvania cities, as well as Carteret and Elizabeth, N. J., Wilmington, Del., and New York City. Games are to be played on Sunday evenings in Northampton, Pa., but home to home games can be arranged by communication with Russell Demchuk, 170 W. 16th St., Northampton, Pa.

BASKETBALL NEWS

Several teams have already registered for the 1939-40 U.N.A. Basketball League season. In the Metropolitan Division registrations have been sent in by New York, Newark, Philadelphia, and Chester. The Pennsylvania Division consists of Berwick, Mahanoy City, Hanover, Olyphant, McAdoo, Shamokin, and St. Clair. In the Mid-West, teams have been formed in Cleveland, Lorain, Akron, Rossford, Ambridge, and Detroit. A U.N.A. basketball team was also formed in Rochester, N. Y.

There will be more official U.N.A. sports news next week.

IDEALS

Mere ideals are the cheapest things in life. Everybody has them in some shape or other; personal or general, sound or mistaken, low or high; even the worthless sentimentalists, dreamers, drunkards, shirks and politicians have them.

But the more ideals a man has, the more contemptible he is, if the matter ends there, and if there is no courage shown, no privation undergone, no scars contracted in the attempt to get them realized.

I once spent some time amidst sobriety, and industry, intelligence and goodness; prosperity and cheerfulness pervaded the air. It was a studious picnic on a gigantic scale. I had the best of company and the best of time without any effort. I participated in the best fruits of what mankind has bled and striven for.

And yet great was my astonishment, on emerging into the dark and wicked world again, to catch myself saying; "ouff, what a relief!—This order is too tame! This goodness too uninspiring! I cannot abide with them. Let me take my changes again in the outside world. There are the heights and depths, the precipices and the steep ideals; and there is more hope a thousand times—than in all this mediocrity."

What excites and interests us, what the romances and the statues celebrate, is the everlasting battle of the powers of light with those of darkness, with heroism ever and anon snatching victory from the

YOUTH and THE U.N.A.

New Branch in Wilmington

THE formation of a new youth branch of the Ukrainian National Association was recently completed in Wilmington, Del., where the members of the Ukrainian Citizen's Club earned U.N.A. charter number 451 by enrolling some of their number into the fraternal order. The new branch has been named the Eugene Konovaletz Society, after the Ukrainian leader and soldier. Mr. B. Zakhayevich participated in the formation of the group by lecturing on the U.N.A. at the organization meeting.

The officers of the new assembly, who unanimously declare that it will be a credit both to Wilmington and the U.N.A., are as follows: Paul Hrynshyn, president; John Tyranski and Estella Anderson, vice presidents; Stella Sass, financial secretary; Olga Kosowsky, recording secretary; Nicholas Maier, treasurer.

Meeting in Olyphant, Pa.

From John Falat, secretary of Branch 448, comes a report of a meeting held in Olyphant, Pa., on November 18th. Mr. Falat brought the meeting to order and introduced the club's president, John Mohanco. He was followed by Mr. Bruda, who deplored the lack of a meeting place for Olyphant's youth groups. Andrew Taras active U.N.A. worker, urged those present to participate in organizing new members into the U.N.A., and stated that the youth groups may meet in the Concord Building, Olyphant's Ukrainian center.

Gregory Herman, U.N.A. Sports Director, enlightened the U.N.A. members by explaining the sports program... its accomplishments and its purposes. Michael Burke commended the branch on its progress and stressed the importance of cooperation. Dmytro Halychyn, U.N.A. Recording Secretary, spoke on the fraternal aspects of the U.N.A. He stressed the important part that U.N.A. sports have played in promoting fraternalism, particularly where the youth are concerned. Mr. Mohanco brought the meeting to a close.

Notice

This column is open to all U.N.A. members, U.N.A. branches, and U.N.A. sports clubs. All material dealing with the activities of U.N.A. members, clubs, groups, etc., and their meetings, functions, and other activities, will be carefully considered for publication. The purpose of this column is to publicize anything pertaining to the youth of the U.N.A., and material is welcome at all times. Communications should be addressed to Theodore Lutwiniak, P. O. Box 88, Jersey City, N. J.

jaws of fearful death. Sweat and effort, human nature strained to its uttermost, yet getting through, and then pressing on to pursue more arduous ideals—yes, this is what constitutes ideals and inspires us.

It is true that society has got to pass toward some better equilibrium and the distribution of wealth change, but if any of you expect that such change will make any genuine vital differences on a large scale, you will have missed the solid and incontrovertible meaning of life, which is always the same eternal—"ideal, courage and endurance."

I know of no example in human life, quite so inspiring as a man standing on his own feet. No props, no crutches and no odds asked. No complaints, but happy to be himself. It is true that we cannot hope to have equal success in this life, because we are not born with equal talents and abilities. But we are born into a free world. Nature is an equal gift to all. And we are born to be independent. The creator meant that every man should be himself, and that he should handle life in his own way.

JOHN BAYER, Windsor, Canada.