

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

English supplement of SVOBODA, Ukrainian daily, founded 1893.

Dedicated to the needs and interests of young Americans of Ukrainian descent.

No. 4

JERSEY CITY, N. J., SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1940

VOL. VII

MISERY IN WESTERN UKRAINE UNDER RED RULE

Tales of misery in Western Ukraine under Soviet rule told by eye-witnesses among thirty-one American citizens who escaped from there into Rumania, were reported in last Wednesday's New York Herald-Tribune by its Bucharest correspondent, Sonia Tomara.

The refugees included M. Waldo, managing editor of the New York Polish daily "Nowy Swiat," who escaped with his wife after four months in occupied Poland.

He and the others were unanimous, Tomara writes, in stating that the people of former Polish Ukraine, now the West Ukrainian Soviet Republic, had come to hate the Soviet regime, which had deprived them of the necessities of life.

"There is no famine yet, but it is on the way, especially in the towns," the Americans are reported to have said. All goods have been taken to Russia. Salt, bread, sugar and soap have disappeared. Shoes and clothing cannot be had at any price."

Misery is especially prevalent in L'viv, they said. All stores were nationalized early this month and only ten stores were now left open to fill the needs of the city population of 500,000. Long lines stood before them, when the temperature was 36 degrees below zero, Fahrenheit, they said. Fuel too was lacking in the city.

Refugees from Czartorysk, near Pinsk, said that when the Soviet troops first arrived the Ukrainian peasants welcomed them warmly, hoping to have an independent Ukraine. But now, one of the priests declared, "they feel they have been deceived and they now are enemies of the Soviet. Food and manufactured goods, which were plentiful in Poland, were taken by trainloads to Russia. All the commissars are Russian. The Ukrainians have nothing to say. They may pray for Hitler to come to save them. They all hope for a change in the spring."

Waldo felt that people were bound to rebel soon. He thought a revolt would come in May, when the Soviet authorities intend to begin conscription. Already they have registered all men from eighteen to fifty between December 7, and January 7, whom they intend to send to Russia to do their military service, he explained.

Some shooting took place near L'viv, Waldo said, when the Soviets suddenly decreed that the Polish zloty would be abolished the next day. People rushed to the central bank and during the turmoil Red guards fired into the throng, killing six persons.

People were expatriated into Russia by trainloads, Waldo reported. He computed that forty thousand were believed to have been sent to the Donbas coal mines, but many escaped and returned.

Ukrainian separatists and Jewish refugees were among the deportees from German Poland. Land has been taken away from landlords, peasants, monasteries and churches.

DUTTON TO PUBLISH TRANSLATION OF "MARUSIA"

E. P. Dutton and Company, publishers in New York, will publish next month "Marusia," translated by Florence Randal Livesay from the Ukrainian by Hrihory Kvitka, with an introduction by Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada.

SERVING DEMOCRACY

The blind adulation democracy is receiving among us nowadays, is doing no good to it or to us. Once anything is set up as an idol, its fall is not far off. For idolization of anything mortally-conceived blinds the eye to its imperfections, so that they grow undetected, until it becomes too late to repair them and the idol comes toppling down.

This is equally true of democracy, which is a living force and should be regarded and treated as such. Instead of placing it on a pedestal, therefore, and flaunting our devotion to it, let us do our best to practice its principles in our daily social, political and economic life.

At the same time, let us not concern ourselves too much with the abuse and flouting of democracy in other countries. That is their affair. And if it is ours as well, we should remember that democracy, like charity, begins at home. Else we may suffer the fate of the people in totalitarian states—victims of the failure of democracy to work within their borders, and, for that matter, of the failure of the democracies themselves to combine and establish world-wide freedom, law and order. These undemocratic states are today what our country may be tomorrow, if we don't watch out.

Now, to practice democracy is to jealously guard and cherish the rights of freedom of speech, press and association. From these rights will flow all others, social, political, juridical, economic, etc., all of them constituting our individual freedom and equality—the foundation of democracy.

Guard, therefore, most vigilantly these elementary rights given us by democracy, especially in these times, when hysterical patriotism is gripping many of us, and an ordinary expression of opinion must undergo overly-suspicious scrutiny of numerous self-appointed judges as to whether it is democratic and American or not.

Such "champions" of democracy, incidentally, are just as dangerous to it as are its enemies. For in their zeal to preserve it, they would deny its benefits to those suspected of not liking it, and thereby help bring about its downfall.

Democracy is bountiful. Its gifts are many, and they are meant for all. Keep it as such. But that can be done only by serving it and not merely idolizing it.

ANTHOLOGY OF UKRAINIAN STORIES

Beginning with the current issue, the Ukrainian Weekly will present every week in the "Svoboda" an anthology of Ukrainian stories, translated into English, entitled "Selected Ukrainian Stories." With the exception of several novelettes, such as Kotsiubinsky's "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors," they will all be short stories, typical of Ukrainian literature, and portraying life in various parts of Ukraine, as seen through the eyes of leading Ukrainian writers. They are worth reading.

After you have read an installment, cut it out and save it with your weeklies. In this manner, you will have a complete anthology of Ukrainian stories.

"Marusia" is the tragic, romantic story of the love of a rich Ukrainian girl, Marusia, for Vasyl, a bright young man from the neighboring town. The Ukrainian author, Kvitka, knew her, and with the understanding touch of an artist painted her portrait in story form over a hundred years ago.

Mrs. Florence Randal Livesay is the author also of "Songs of Ukraine," in which she opened the folk-song treasures of that land to the English-reading world. In her translation, Mrs. Livesay had the assistance of Paul Crath and others who know the Ukrainian background either as natives or as scholars.

"Marusia" will be reviewed on these pages upon its release by the publishers.

REPORT GERMANS OCCUPY GALICIA

In a wireless dispatch to New York Times, P. J. Phillip, its Paris correspondent, reported last Thursday that German infiltration into Galicia (part of Western Ukraine, formerly under Poland and now under Soviet rule) has now begun to assume the proportions of an occupation and a common frontier has been established in fact between Germany and Rumania.

This infiltration first began, he writes, with detachments of engineers and guards sent to protect the railroads and trains leaving which were constantly robbed as they passed through what, under

FOUR FRATERNAL ORDERS TO SPONSOR ALL-UKRAINIAN CONGRESS

At a meeting held last Monday in Scranton, Pa., representatives of the four Ukrainian fraternal orders in this country decided to take the initiative in sponsoring an All-Ukrainian-American Congress, to be held in the near future. The purpose of the congress will be to manifest the solidarity of all Ukrainian-Americans in support of the movement for the establishment of a free and independent state of Ukraine. The congress will also plan action directed to aid that movement.

The executive board of the "Ob'yednanye" (United Ukrainian Organizations of the United States), which has already summoned such a congress for March 16 and 17 in New York City, issued a statement this week saying it will soon declare itself on the subject of the congress to be initiated by the fraternal orders. It is anticipated that in line with its previous declarations that it will make all possible concessions to secure the unity of Ukrainian-Americans for the purpose of aiding Ukraine, the "Ob'yednanye" will remove itself as a sponsor of the All-Ukrainian-American Congress and give its support to the present action of the fraternal orders.

The meeting last Monday was attended by representatives of the Ukrainian National Association, the Ukrainian Workingmen's Association, the Providence Association, and the Ukrainian National Aid Association. They will meet again next week in Jersey City.

the German and Russian division of Poland, was Russian territory. By now these guards have been increased in number to the point where Galicia can be considered as being occupied by Germans.

Such occupation apparently secures an uninterrupted flow of wheat and oil from Rumania to Germany.

The Times reports that little is known in Paris as to the terms of the agreement, if there is any, that Russia has made permitting this occupation of Galicia which was assigned to her in the division made last October. It is apparent, however, Philip points out, that the weakness of the Russian diplomatic position, as a result of the check of the Soviet armies in Finland, gave the Germans an easy advantage in the negotiations, enabling them to obtain something concrete in return for a promise. That something concrete, Philip says, is reported to consist of the following:

1. Russian assent to the exploitation of the Galician oil fields by Germany for 99 years.
2. Exploitation of the railroads in the district so as to assure the transport of oil and commerce with Rumania.
3. Concession of manganese mines of Kriviy-rih.
4. A concession for the exploitation and organization of other resources in Russia with the right to transmit them across Russian territory.

In return Germany is reported to have promised that she will intervene at once if either France or England try in any way to give military aid to Finland, and that she will also send experts to organize Russian transport, arms, production, and even military technicians.

(Today's "Weekly" is concluded in "Svoboda")

HISTORIC JANUARY 22, 1919

UNION OF EASTERN AND WESTERN UKRAINIAN REPUBLICS

(2)

Red Advance

DESPITE their most valiant efforts to defend the capital of their the newly-risen republic, the Ukrainians were unable to stem the Bolshevik advance upon Kiev. January 10, 1918 found the Reds before its very walls. Here the Ukrainian resistance became redoubled, and for ten days the battle raged. Both sides suffered great losses, the Ukrainians especially among their youth, many of whom were students who had forsaken their school benches to fight and sacrifice their lives for their fatherland.

To halt the mounting list of casualties among the civilians and to prevent the further destruction of Kiev by Red bombardment, the Ukrainian Government and Army evacuated the capital during the night of February 8th. The following morning the enemy entered and immediately inaugurated a reign of terror. The Reds killed more civilians in Kiev during the first two days of their occupation of it, than had been slain during the general fighting of the preceding ten days.

Ukraine's Alliance With Germany

As a result of these serious reverses, Ukraine was forced to seek foreign aid. Germany was then at the height of her power, with the Allies seemingly on the losing side of the war. To her, therefore, the Ukrainians turned for help, especially since Germany had shown special interest in them, whereas the Allies had not. Germany agreed to help them.

With the aid of German and Austrian troops, the Ukrainians retook Kiev in short order and drove the Bolsheviks flying out of Ukraine. Once more, on March 2, 1918, Kiev became the seat of the Ukrainian government.

Germany Discloses Her Hand

Coming ostensibly as supporters of the Ukrainian republic, the Germans soon revealed their real intentions. And these were:—to make Ukraine their granary and source of much-needed supplies.

This policy, naturally enough, aroused antagonism among the Ukrainians, especially among the peasants, who found their crops being forcibly requisitioned by the German troops. The Ukrainian government, too, soon found itself at odds with the Germans, when the latter began to override its authority. And so, a fast-widening breach between the Ukrainians and the Germans appeared.

The Skoropadsky Regime

Seeing this, and realizing that their exploitation policy was not meeting with the anticipated success, the Germans, with the aid of some Ukrainian reactionary elements, overthrew the Ukrainian democratic government. In its stead they established a military dictatorship, headed by General Skoropadsky, a Ukrainian-born ex-Russian general, upon whom they conferred the historic title of "Hetman."

By this coup d'etat, which was made possible mainly by the extremely unsettled conditions prevalent then and by her superior military forces, Germany embarked upon her contemplated policy of reconstructing shattered Russia, with Ukraine as its center and nucleus, the whole to be controlled by Germany.

A storm of opposition arose in Ukraine against this German-controlled dictatorship. It became further intensified with the revelation that the new Ukrainian government was composed of many pro-Russian elements, including some prominent monarchists of Tsarist Russia who advocated the restoration of Russia to status quo ante.

The fast-rising opposition took form with the formation of the Ukrainian National Union (July, 1918), a coalition of the several Ukrainian nationalist parties. When

following armistice on the Western Front (November 11) Skoropadsky concluded an alliance with General Denikin, the leader of the Russian "Whites," who sought to restore Tsarist Russia, the Ukrainian National Union proclaimed this alliance treasonable and against the principles of Ukrainian freedom. It then created the Directory, headed by Vinnichenko and Petlura, whose aim was to overthrow Skoropadsky's regime and drive the Germans and Russians out of Ukraine.

Its Downfall

The Directory declared Skoropadsky a traitor and called upon the people to rebel against him. Its appeal was answered by a mass rebellion throughout Ukraine, and volunteers flocked to augment Petlura's army.

From the very outset, victory rode with the Directory, and on December 19 it made a triumphal entry into Kiev. Once more the Ukrainian National Republic had driven off its enemies.

The Western Ukrainian Republic

Leaving for a moment the Ukrainian republic in East Ukraine and its struggle for existence, and turning our attention to Western Ukraine, we find that—

When during the final stages of the World War, the military might of the Central Powers began to totter and the Austro-Hungarian Empire began to disintegrate, when the various subject nationalities of that former mighty empire began to cast off the shackles of foreign rule, the Ukrainian people of Western Ukraine, one of the chief provinces of that empire, realized that the long-awaited opportunity had at last arrived and that they must strike for their freedom.

Its Formation

The first practical step taken to the realization of this goal was the convening of the Ukrainian members of the Austrian Parliament, in Vienna, on October 10, 1918.

This conference elected a Ukrainian National Rada to act as the constituent assembly of Western Ukraine. The following day the Rada made at a very momentous decision—creating a Western Ukrainian Republic. In pursuance of this resolution, the Rada invited the Polish and Jewish national minorities inhabiting the new republic to send their representatives to it.

This auspicious start immediately encountered a snag, in form of the difference of opinion as to whether the Western Ukrainian republic should unite with the Ukrainian republic of East Ukraine and together form one mighty Ukrainian State, extending from the Carpathians to the blue Don.

Both sides presented good arguments. The stand of the opponents to this project, however, in the end prevailed, although at the cost of creating discord, which later was to become a great detriment to the Ukrainian representatives at the Paris peace conference.

Ukrainians Seize Lwiv

Meanwhile events followed one another in rapid succession. Learning that the Poles intended to seize Lwiv, ancient capital of Western Ukraine, the Ukrainian National Rada dispatched troops to take possession of it first. In the early morning hours of November 1, 1918 the Ukrainian troops took possession of the municipal buildings in it. Following this example, Ukrainians seized city after city, including Peremyshyl, and by November 5, the Ukrainian blue and yellow banner waved throughout entire East Galicia, "the Piedmont of Ukrainian liberties" as it was called then and before, and as it is now.

Poles Attack

An independent and permanent Ukrainian republic of Western Ukraine would have surely been established, were it not for the

CONSOLATIONS TO MODERN SOLOMONS

What have you got to kick about? You're lazy and live like Saint, I'm suffering from a malady that you lucky devil ain't.

I'm suffering from deflated hopes, I've cause to know defeat. I really ought to hang my head down and say "they've got me beat."

I suffer daily, when the mails bring slips in scores and more with all the editors' regrets and my life seems one big chore.

And yet, do you ever hear me say that struggling is my worries? that I would glad to be liberated and quit writing stories?

I am really down and out, but am smiling just the same. I have really cause to weep—but what's the use to say.

The every day I read in books, stuff worse than even mine I smile as I go through life, much harder life than thine.

But into the writing field some day I vow I'll break my way; for surely, just like any mule—a writer has his day.

I know some day, they'll grow so bored with sending back my stuff, that they will print my work and worse those editors so gruff.

So cheer up guys if you ar'nt happy—fake it or sisters will be sure to say "those guys sure can't take it."

J. B.

Polish insatiable desire for gain. Although Western Ukraine had been Ukrainian in character since the days of Volodimir the Great (980-1015), yet the Poles determined upon annexing it to their newly-created state of Poland.

A well equipped and armed Polish army was formed and under the guise of using it against the Bolsheviks, the Poles received for it much supplies and help from the Allies, who at that time were nearly panic-stricken by the thought that the Reds might overrun all of Europe.

Opposed to this Allied equipped and trained Polish army, the Ukrainian army, though of sufficient man-power, presented a shabby contrast, being underfed and sorely in need of essential supplies and arms. Yet it fought against the Poles valiantly.

There is no need here to go into detail concerning this Polish-Ukrainian war which resulted from Polish invasion of the Western Ukrainian Republic. Suffice it to say here that although the war was characterized by varying fortunes for both sides, yet the Poles, by force of their superior military equipment and aid received from the Allies, especially from France, gradually advanced deeper and deeper into Ukrainian territory, at times suffering reverses, yet by sheer force of their military superiority, continuing their advance.

The Ukrainian forces fought heroically, but heroism alone in the face of such great odds as the Poles had on their side, was not sufficient to win the war.

Union of Western and Eastern Ukraine

On January 22, 1919, in this great turmoil and amidst great rejoicing, the union of the respective republics of Western and Eastern Ukraine was proclaimed in the historic St. Sophia Square of Kiev.

This union provided that both republics were to retain their rights except that the supreme power was to be vested in the Directory, headed by Petlura.

United thus, the Ukrainians prepared to redouble their fight for freedom and independence.

(To be concluded)

OUR FINE ARTS

A GOOD deal of Ukrainian fine arts is generally regarded as Russian. That is usually the result of the fact that the oppressive and denationalizing policies of Russia in Ukraine caused many Ukrainian artists to express their native talent through the medium of Russian forms.

Losenko (1737-73), for example a Ukrainian, "must retain a place of honor in the history of Russian painting," writes A. Benois in his work on "The Russian School For Painting."

"Russia may take pride in Levitsky and Borovikovsky," also Ukrainians, who depicted "with perfectly convincing vividness the courtiers of Tsarina Catherine II," writes Benois.

Another Ukrainian was Ilya A. Repin, whom Benois calls the "biggest artist of the 'eighties.'"

The father of Russian "perspective painting," according to the Great Russian Encyclopaedia, was S. C. Zaryanko, also Ukrainian.

Ukraine also produced the best of the sea-scape painters of Russia—R. Sudkovsky. Another such "Russian" artist, one of the leaders in modern Russian painting, is Vrubel.

Gay, though of French origin, claimed Ukraine as his motherland. Levitan and Kuindzhi were inspired by the beauty of the Ukrainian sky. Pimonenko and Vasilivsky led in genre painting; I. Trush of Western Ukraine in landscape painting; while Kholodny and O. Novakivsky headed the school of impressionism. Then there is a host of other Ukrainians who have won recognition for striking talent in the various fields of painting.

Of the Ukrainian etchers the leading figure is George Narbut (died 1920) who is also known for his great services to the development of the graphic arts in Russia.

An etcher of considerable promise whose career in this field was brought to a sudden stop by Russian imprisonment, was Taras Shevchenko, the national poet of Ukraine (1814-1861).

Among the other noteworthy figures in this field are Olena Kulchitska, V. Krichevsky, I. Mozelevsky, L. Lozovsky, M. Kinarsky, P. Omelchenko, and P. Kovzhun, the last being especially known for his covers and bookplates.

Although Martos and Litvinenko are well known Ukrainian sculptors, the greatest of them is Alexander Archipenko, who is considered the chief representative of the school of modernism.

In plastic art, wrote Prof. B. Ternovez of Moscow, Archipenko has had the same influence as Picasso in painting. A foremost sculptor, a painter and an etcher of considerable ability, Archipenko is also the creator of various innovations in art, such as the "Archipentura," which by means of a new pictorial method and mechanism presents concrete emotions which cannot be rendered by means of static painting. Recently he has returned East from the West Coast, where he conducted classes in sculpture, painting, drawing, and woodcarving in universities and art institutes. He is a naturalized American citizen.

Those interested in learning a few more elementary facts concerning Ukrainian fine arts, are referred to the Ukrainian Spirit of Ukraine, published in English by the "Obyednanye," to the Ukrainian General Encyclopaedia, and to some of the early issues of the Ukrainian Weekly.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

A CONCERT of Ukrainian Christmas and New Year Carols, together with Community Singing, will be presented SUNDAY, JANUARY 28th at the Ukrainian Hall, 819 N. Franklin St., beginning at 7 P. M. by the combined Ukrainian Youth Chorus of N. Y. & N. J. and the Ukrainian Youth Chorus of Philadelphia. The program will also feature a string ensemble, vocal solos, recitation and a talk in English about Ukrainian Christmas traditions. Tickets 40 c and 75 c. Dancing in lower hall after Concert.

16.22

POLAND DESIRES COOPERATION WITH UKRAINIANS

Polish Designs on Eastern Europe

I

Poles Regret Their Past

EVER since Poland's fall under the blows of the German and Soviet armies, there seems to be a daily growing realization on the part of the Polish leaders abroad, that Poland fell because her policies were based on unsound principles and because she mistreated her national minorities. They now declare that Poland wants to start a new and clean life. Their exiled government in France has recently condemned Poland's past policies and system of government as un-democratic, promising that they will never be repeated. The Poles now try to lay new bases for the structure of the future Polish State and to plot its future political course, which they would like to rest on neighborliness and happy cooperation with the adjoining nations, all of whom—they now admit—should enjoy independence and equality.

Efforts Regarding Ukraine

Their efforts seem to revolve especially around Ukraine. Stretching their hands to the Ukrainians, they invite them to mutual cooperation for the sake of common future. They don't ask the Ukrainians to forgive them all the wrongs they inflicted upon them in Western Ukraine during the past twenty years, or before, throughout the centuries, but they do ask them to forget the past and "join hands" with them.

Polish Conception of East-European Set-Up

Here we wish to quote a bulletin issued recently by the Polish Information Bureau in New York (of December 26, 1939, No. 67) entitled "Płna Sprawa" (urgent matter), which reads in part (as translated from Polish):

"We are living in times of great historic decisions... regarding the international order of future Poland and the foundations of her foreign policy.

"We shall recall that... our own history contains a marvelous recipe to arrange our relations with our neighbors so as to base on them (the neighbors) our own might.

"And this recipe is—a union with our neighbors, patterned on the union which once, thanks to the foresight of our statesmen, had elevated Poland, a comparatively small state of the Piast era, to the position of the greatest power in Europe, a union based on love and justice.

"It is the only way which can guarantee us a peaceful and glorious future.

"Fate has so arranged that we found ourselves between two immense powers whose existence we cannot either deny today, or disregard in the future.

"We also learned by history experience... that those two powers hostile to us will always reach an understanding in order to prevent the growth of a strong Poland.

"It is evident, therefore, that we cannot cope with those two powers alone.

"We must create a block of nations which are in a situation similar to ours, that is: a federation of countries, stretching from the Baltic Sea down to the Mediterranean, one that would not merely amount to a loose conglomeration which could be shattered to pieces by the slightest blow, but a federation of equals, bound together for better or for worse.

"It happens that ours is the role of being the center and the cornerstone of that block.

"But, in order that we should again be able to fulfill that beautiful and noble mission as we did once before in our history, we first must prepare ourselves to the performance of that historic role, we must approach that great task with love as we once did, and we must remember that only love and justice can cement this great structure which we intend to erect.

"Not until then shall we be able to accomplish this great undertaking, not until then shall we thus—by helping our brothers from the east, the Ukrainians and White Russians, to gain their independence—be able to throw Russians back into Asia and get rid of that menace, and simultaneously by united efforts with them (the Ukrainians and White Russians)

as well as with the Czechs, Slovaks and Lithuanians create such a power that Germany will cease to be dangerous to us...

"This is now being well understood by the Czechs and Slovaks and a smooth cooperation with them has already been initiated.

"The Ukrainians have also begun to recognize the necessity of such an understanding. This is an important fact too."

Then follows a lengthy quotation from an article written by a well-known Ukrainian, Dr. Kisilevski, of London, which appears in the last issue of a London magazine, "Free Europe" (a Polish publication in English language). The author of the article voices his opinion that the Polish-Ukrainian understanding and cooperation should be fruitful to both sides, under condition, however, that no past mistakes on Poland's part would be repeated. Then the bulletin continues:

"It is about time that we should cure ourselves of the old errors, time to join hands and reach an understanding with the Ukrainians, based on the old principles which once bound us together, the principles of love and justice. The matter is urgent."

(Explanation.—Apropos Dr. Kisilevski, we should like to remark that, although he is a well-known Ukrainian and does a great deal for the benefit of the Ukrainian cause, he, unfortunately, does not enjoy the backing of any political Ukrainian group. His opinion, therefore, cannot convey the general thought of the Ukrainian political leaders.

(The "Free Europe" publication is being edited by a Polish journalist and foreign correspondent, Mr. Kazimierz Smogorzewski. It is supported by the Polish Government and represents the authoritative Polish opinion.)

Although this Polish bulletin may not be important as such, it is worthy of attention due to the fact that it depicts the current thought of the Polish authoritative sources and Polish Government itself.

II

Poles Offer Help in Liberating Ukrainians

We should like to point out an interesting fact in connection with the above quotation. Even though the Poles see their salvation in a union with their neighbors, thereby admitting that they alone are unable to face their enemies, they tend to betray an attitude of superiority over those neighbors, attempting to create an impression that the latter are dependent on the assistance of the Polish nation for their liberation. They say: "...not until then shall we... by helping our brothers from the east, the Ukrainians and White Russians, to gain their independence—be able to throw Russia back into Asia... etc."

Such an offer of help, which the Poles in their present condition can hardly be expected to fulfill, adds significance to their efforts.

Poland Desires Key Position in East-European Bloc

We should like to take the above quoted Polish contention under a closer examination.—The Polish nation has just been defeated, its state is in ruins and its government in exile. Its leaders, having derived a certain knowledge from the horrible experience, regret their past and want to start a fresh life. They admit that they are unable to withstand their powerful neighbors. For this reason they want love and sympathy, understanding and cooperation with other nations, on the basis of equality. But the recipe which they forward for the resuscitation of Poland is this (we quote again):

"...Our own history contains a marvelous recipe how to arrange our relations with our neighbors, so as to base on them (the neighbors) our own might."

"We must create a block of nations... a federation of equals, bound together for better or for worse.

"It happens that ours is the role of being the center and cornerstone of that block." (Our underlinings —Ed.)

Polish "Mesjanizm" Again — Its Past Record

In our opinion, that statement contains the very essence of the Polish tragedy: the idea of the never-dying Polish "mesjanizm" (duty to fulfill a mission). It is known that for centuries the Poles have been living on this, shall we say, rather unjustifiable belief that they are a chosen people destined to fulfill a great mission in the east of Europe. Their rulers and statesmen have always been enraptured by this idea, more than often even to the point of losing their sense of reality. Today this belief has already become an inseparable part of the psychological complex of the Polish people. Even in such critical moments of their history as today, when they search their souls for those qualities and wisdom of their own which would heal their wounds and lead them to recuperation, they seem to be unable to discover the truth. Instead of revising their fundamental philosophy, they find nothing better than that same urge for great destiny, on which to base their revival.

The Poles, no doubt, are entitled to be proud of their history. But we are inclined to disagree with the contention that Poland's historic accomplishments are adequate to justify her claims to a missionary role in the east of Europe. Her "mesjanizm," unfortunately, was marked in the past by usurpation of power in, or conquest and suppression of neighboring nations when the latter were weak. Well known to the world are the periods of the Polish history, to which the Poles today point as to the landmarks of their missionary greatness. "Polonia confusione regnatur" (Poland ruled by chaos)—are the words applied to that chapter of the Polish history by none other than Piotr Skarga, a great Polish writer of the 16th century. Indeed, the Poles cannot deny that throughout those periods Poland almost invariably suffered from great internal disorder, and frequently even from utter impotence, caused mainly by its unruly nobles, which finally, toward end of the 18th century, were terminated by Poland's dismemberments. Thus, instead of fulfilling her mission for her own and for Europe's sake, Poland caused her own suicide and only helped to augment the forces with which she now cannot cope alone.

Whenever Polish leaders worked from abroad for the restoration of their fatherland, they always championed their cause on the theory that Poland must be brought back to life and made strong in order to be able to perform her mission of defending European civilization. Fortunately for them, the Poles had always succeeded in convincing the Western Powers of the validity of their theory and to obtain their support. But they were never willing to denounce the privilege of remaining in the position of East-European "missionaries," disregarding the nature of their qualifications for that mission.

After the last World War there came another period when Poland was expected to perform an important task, but that performance was of such nature that today it meets with the condemnation of the exiled Polish Government itself.

Willing To Cooperate, But As Leaders

Notwithstanding the historic facts pointing to its failure, the Polish "mesjanizm" continued to live in the minds of the Polish statesmen and writers throughout centuries until the present day. Today, bitterly disillusioned and full of tragedy, the Poles seek new ways to independent life. Again they appeal to the sentiment of the sister nations, asking for cooperation in the name of a common cause, even recognizing their rights to sovereign independence, but... on the condition that they will be the leaders in the new East-European order, and will continue to fulfill their mission.

Era of Polish-Lithuanian Union

By the period of the Polish history, referred to by the above cited

STAR IN TWO SPORTS

Two young Ukrainian lads attending Hazleton High School, Hazleton, Pa., have won an enviable record in both football and basketball. They are George Cheverko and Joe Andreyko—the two inseparables as they are sometimes called, for they go about together and insist upon going to the same college together when they graduate from Hazleton this year.

At present they are starring in Hazleton's bid for its fourth straight Eastern Pennsylvania Basketball Championship.

Last December they both made the Pennsylvania All-State Football Team selected by the Associated Press. Wrote George Scott, AP sports writer: "Hazleton, only school to gain two representatives, did so because neither Cheverko nor Andreyko could be overlooked. As heavy as most high school linemen, they had the speed and shiftiness of sprinters; together they scored 28 touchdowns this year; made more long runs than any other schoolboy back in the State and generally sparked the Mountaineers to their undefeated season."

PETER ZAHARCHUK.

"RAY" TO MARRY

Miss Anne Elkewicz, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Elko Elkewicz of Bronx, N. Y., will marry Raymond H. Damer of New York, both Ukrainian. The wedding ceremony will take place January 27 at St. George's Greek Catholic Church, 28 East 7th St., N. Y. City. The reception for relatives and close friends will be held at the Hotel Brevoort, 5th Ave. and 8th Street, N. Y. City.

The bride, Miss Elkewicz, a U.N.A. member, received her B.A. from Hunter College, June, 1938, in bacteriology and clinical pathology. Since then she has been employed as a registered technician for a leading New York dermatologist. Miss Elkewicz is well known in Ukrainian circles, having been the former president of the Ukrainian University Society.

Several years ago, Ray Damer, the bridegroom, wrote the "Ray of Sunshine" column for the Weekly. Incidentally, upon giving all the precious advice against love and marriage, the "old" philosopher finally has taken his own medicine to walk the "aisle." Mr. Damer attended both City College and New York University in pursuit of journalism and advertising careers, which he uses to good advantage as proprietor of the well-known "Vitamin Bar," located in the heart of Greenwich Village.

Polish bulletin as that of Poland's greatness blessed by love, justice, understanding for, and sincere cooperation with other nations, is no doubt meant the era which had its beginning in the personal union of the Polish and Lithuanian rulers toward the end of the 14th century. But the Ukrainians see that period in a different light.

At that time Lithuania was a great State and possessed practically all of Ukraine. The relationship between the two nations under Lithuanian rule was most cordial. Ukrainians, having lost their independence as a result of endless attacks by Turks and Tartars, enjoyed great privileges under the Lithuanian occupation. With the Polish-Lithuanian union all the Ukrainian lands passed under the Polish domination. As far as the Ukrainians were concerned, that happened against their will.

The "love," "justice" and "cooperation" within Poland in those times was in reality effected by Polish rulers by means of force and coercion. The Polish policy was that of forceful denationalization and religious conversion of Ukrainians and expansion of the Polish element into the Ukrainian and Lithuanian territories, with the privileges of the latter two nations reduced to the minimum. Ever since the union with Lithuania, Poland had to fight continuous revolts and insurrections of the oppressed Ukrainian people, which culminated in the great insurrection of the Ukrainian Kozak forces under Hetman Khmelnytsky in the 17th century, who defeated the Polish armies and for a short period re-established a Ukrainian State.

(To be concluded)

YOUTH and THE UNA

Regarding Misunderstandings

WHILE conducting this column the writer has had opportunity to meet many different Ukrainian people in several States. He has also received letters from all sections of the country from Ukrainians he has never met. The majority of the people he has met and corresponded with are members of the Ukrainian National Association, and they contacted him on matters regarding the organization. As members they wrote either for information or to report some U. N. A. news for publication. They said and wrote nothing against the U. N. A. and seemed to take their membership seriously. But, on the other hand, the writer has met several persons who had things to say against the U. N. A. With only a few exceptions, none of these persons were U. N. A. members. Some had been members, but had forfeited their privileges.

In speaking to these persons the writer attempted to learn why they did not favor the U. N. A., and in almost every case found that the ill-feeling was based on misunderstandings. For instance, one fellow claimed that the U. N. A. interest rate on loans against the membership certificate was too high. Another person claimed that his father had to wait a month or two before he received his disability benefit check. A third was under the impression that compulsory subscription to the *Svoboda* was required of each male member. A fourth had a personal grudge against his branch secretary and cancelled his membership so that he would not have to come in contact with him. A fifth was told that the U. N. A. made a practice of forcing its members to buy books published by it, so he joined an American insurance concern instead of the U. N. A. For such really silly ideas as these, the five persons concerned refused to have anything to do with the U. N. A. There is no need to list any further examples.

To clear up the above typical points, however, it would be wise to explain that every company and organization dealing in insurance charges interest on loans against certificates or policies. The U. N. A. interest rate compares favorably with those of other companies, and is fixed by the delegates, representing all U. N. A. branches, that attend the conventions held every four years. The present U. N. A. interest rate is 4%, while almost all insurance companies charge 6%. Insurance companies are not banks or lending institutions, and interest is charged on loans to discourage members from making the loans, as every loan only decreases the death benefit value of the certificate against which the loan is charged. On the other hand, if a loan is made it must bear interest, as the monthly dues which a member pays are calculated not only on the basis of a probable rate of mortality but also on the assumption that the money paid by members for their dues will bring a fixed rate of interest.

Checks are sometimes delayed because the necessary forms and documents, in many cases, are improperly filled out or held up by secretaries of local branches which causes delay. As a whole, however, the U. N. A. has an excellent record where prompt mailing of checks and answering of letters is concerned, and there are many letters in its files to add weight to this statement. Male members, born in U. S. A., are not forced to subscribe to the *Svoboda*. A resolution to that effect was adopted at the last U. N. A. convention by the delegates. Also illiterate members need not subscribe unless they desire to do so. Those that subscribe pay only 30 cents monthly for the *Svoboda*, and it is hard to understand why anyone finds this a reason to forfeit his membership.

The U. N. A. cannot assume re-

THE U. N. A. SPORTLIGHT

(Scores of games reported in this column, appear in today's "Svoboda")

NEWARK BEATS NEW YORK

An unconfirmed report has reached us that Newark defeated New York recently. This was the 2nd game played in District No. 1 of the Ukrainian National Association Basketball League, New York having beaten Philadelphia on Jan. 14th. Details concerning the Newark-New York game will be published when received.

OLYPHANT BEATS HANOVER

From District No. 2, John S. Roman writes that Olyphant defeated Hanover, 25-19, in a game played at Olyphant's Slovak Hall on Jan. 21st. Describing the game as "a nip and tuck battle," Mr. Roman credits J. Pesota of Olyphant with making the game's 1st goal. The 1st quarter resulted in a 4-4 tie, but at the half Olyphant emerged with a 10-9 edge. The 3rd quarter saw the teams in a 13-13 tie, but the final period opened with Hanover snatching a 17-13 lead. Olyphant came back strong. Capt. "Kucho" Terry and J. Pesota bringing the score to a 17-17 tie. A few more minutes of play resulted in still another tie, 19-19, both teams making desperate efforts to gain an edge. With but a few seconds of play remaining, the fast-stepping Terry brothers, Olyphant men, made 3 goals in rapid succession, settling the issue.

Skwarko was Hanover's starring player, while Olyphant's Terry brothers accounted for 19 of the team's 25 points. The passing of "Chaney" Kolchano of Olyphant was a feature of the game. The game by periods:

Hanover:	4	5	4	6	19
Olyphant:	4	6	3	12	25

John Zwarycz reports that Hanover will play McAdoo on Sunday, Jan. 28th, at the Ukrainian Hall in Breslau, Pa. The game will get under way at 3 P. M.

CLEVELAND AND AKRON BEAT AMBRIDGE

Nicholas Bobeczko, reporting from District No. 4, writes that a double-header played at Cleveland on Jan. 21st resulted in Cleveland and Akron winning games from Ambridge. Cleveland won its game by a 27-26 score, John Hodowancki and Stephen Bobeczko netting 10 points each for the winners. Walter Homziak did the high-scoring for Ambridge. The game by quarters:

Ambridge:	7	7	3	9	26
Cleveland:	5	10	6	6	27

The other game was also close, Akron defeating Ambridge 36-33. No other details are available as yet. Victor Pulk writes that Cleveland traveled to Akron recently, and defeated the Akron team 28-21. G. Horosko of Cleveland scored half of his team's points, while V. Pulk netted 9 for the losers. Cleveland had a 14-8 lead at the half.

responsibility for ill-feeling between individual members of branches, yet it is the chief sufferer when such bad feeling arises. More than a few members have cancelled their membership because of internal friction in branches. It all seems silly when one considers the fact that a member may transfer from one branch to another, evading the internal friction and continuing his membership at the same time. The U. N. A. has never forced anyone to buy its published books. Apparently, the person who circulated this rumor also had a "grudge" of some sort against the U. N. A.

Persons who misunderstand the details regarding the various angles of the U. N. A. do a great deal of harm by spreading the misunderstanding to others. One need but peruse the U. N. A. By-Laws for a clear explanation on any matter, or one may write to the U. N. A. itself for direct information. The writer trusts that all readers who have questions to ask will not hesitate to ask them.

NEWARK, N. J.

EVENING OF ROMANCE sponsored by Ukrainian University Club of New Jersey. Music by Freddie Richman and his Hi-Hatters, at the Hotel Riviera, Newark, N. J., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1940. Semi-formal Dance. Subscription \$1.00 per person. 5-

HAMTRAMCK BEATS DETROIT

On Sat., Jan. 13th, the Hamtramck U. N. A. team, 1939 Mid-Western Champions, opened its 1940 season with a decisive victory over the Detroit Ukadets, reports William Cholewka from District No. 5. After a dull start, the Hamtramck boys found the range and chalked up a large score in the 2nd half, winning the game 65 to 37. Dmuchowski and Sharon led the offensive, while Manager Goy and Dobush thrilled the spectators with their playing and passing.

NEWS FROM ROCHESTER

The strong St. Josaphat U. N. A. basketball team of Rochester is still bowling over some of the best teams in the locality, reports Manager Vincent Kowba. The team has been arranging games with local semi-pro teams, being unable to book Ukrainian teams. The U. N. A. boys evened their series with the Polish Falcons, defeating them on their own court 52 to 37.

On Jan. 1st, the U. N. A. team defeated the Nehis team (formerly Mt. Carmel), 39 to 28. In a return game St. Josaphat won again, taking the 3-game series. [Other games were reported in a previous column.] On Jan. 14th, the Ukrainians met the Camera Work team, which is leading the Industrial League, and were defeated 37 to 31. The game was played at the St. Josaphat Auditorium and was Rochester's 2nd loss of the season. The team's first all-Ukrainian game will take place in the auditorium, a 3-game series having been arranged with the Lackawanna Ukrainians. Plans have been formed to arrange a meeting with the Ambridge Ukrainians for Feb. 4th.

PHILLY WINS ANOTHER

On Mon., Jan. 22nd, reports George Slobogin, the Philadelphia U. N. A. Youth Club defeated the Jester A. C., 41-25. The game was played at Our Lady of Mercy Church, Broad St. and Susquehanna Ave. High scorers for the Ukrainians were J. Juzwiak and M. Matsik with 12 and 9 points respectively.

The Philly club's supporters are asked to remember to attend its second annual ball, which will be held on Sat., Feb. 3rd, at Philly's Ukrainian Hall, 849 N. Franklin St. Two orchestras will be featured, and the affair will begin at 8 P. M.

NEWS FROM LORAIN, OHIO

Stephen Harmych, reporting on Lorain's U. N. A. basketball and bowling teams, writes that official U. N. A. basketball games have been arranged with Detroit and Hamtramck. Lorain will play at Rossford, O., on Jan. 28th, and Rossford will play at Lorain on Feb. 3rd.

So far Lorain has won 1 game and lost 3, all the games having been played against stronger teams. Lorain lost to the Crystal Clears, 41-43; Ambridge (not the U. N. A. team), 23-61; St. Vitus, 31-35. Lorain defeated Norfolk, 57-46.

The bowling team has played 3 match games with the Lakewood, O., Ukrainians, on the home to home basis. Lorain won the 1st pair of match games by 67 pins. Lakewood wanted a return series on the same basis, and Lorain accepted the challenge. - Lakewood is leading by 1 pin, so far. Lorain's final match game with Lakewood will take place in Lorain on Jan. 21. Excluding Lakewood, Lorain has played 9 other games, winning 5 and losing 4.

PHILADELPHIA

Your attention, please... announcing the hit of the year: **SECOND ANNUAL BALL** sponsored by the Philly U. N. A. Youth Club at the Ukrainian Hall, 847-49 N. Franklin St., Phila., on **FEBRUARY 3, 1940**. Featuring **Nick Boley & his Casa Del Rey Orchestra** and **Michael Cherkas' Ukrainian Orchestra**. Continuous dancing from 8 till for a mere 35¢ admission. 10-

NEW YORK CITY

L'amour, Toujours, L'amour! And so once more Cupid will wield his bow and arrow at the **ST. VALENTINE'S DANCE** given by the Ukrainian Civic Center, on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1940**, at the International Institute, 34 E. 17th St., New York City, at 8:00 P. M. Admission .50¢. Johnny King and his Orchestra will put you in the mood! 22-

PLYMOUTH ROCK AND ELLIS ISLAND

By LOUIS ADAMIC

(Concluded)

(3)

Whatever one's background, one should not be ashamed of it, regardless of any prejudice against it. Shame of that sort is damaging to one's character and inner makeup, and it tends to turn one into a negative person outwardly. One should seek all the good elements out of one's background and then (without being too sensitive about the elements which are not so good) hang onto them insofar as they are valid in his life here and now, and this not out of any personal or group egoism or pride. Hanging onto them will benefit one personally, help to make one a more effective person and citizen; and, thereby, in numerous indirect, often indiscernible ways probably add something to the sum-total of the evolving culture, to the tone and color of life in general in this New World... In the past there has been entirely too much giving up, too much melting away and shattering of the various cultural values of the new groups. There still is too much of that, to the detriment of individuals and of America.

One can be careful with words. Perhaps the worst that can be said for such words and expressions as *Hunky*, *Polack*, *Kike*, *Goy*, *Jap*, *Chink*, *Nigger*, *Greaser*, and *Wop* is that they are ill-mannered... The word *race* should be used sparingly. There really is no Slavic, Italian, Jewish or Scandinavian race. Such differences as exist among people are due, in the main, to different environment, history and experience; when we meet in the same environment and have a common life we tend to become alike... *Minority* is a bad word, a European word, a symbol of an important phase of the tragedy over there. *Melting Pot* is a poor phrase and concept. It means that everybody is to be turned into something else with heat.

Our period is a difficult one. I don't know how the current world crisis is going to develop or what this country is going to do in the long run in connection with it. Whatever happens, I hope that a good many of us will try to be careful and intelligent... As I've said, we have here between 15 and 20 million people of the German background. The thing to do is to remember that they are one thing and the German Bund is another thing; that Hitler is over there and Thomas Mann is here.

It may be that the worst is yet to come in the Old World, that we are witnessing the beginning of a cultural blackout over there, and that it is going to be our job here to save some of the good phases of Western culture and make them elements of the American culture. We have abundant materials for such a job.

When this country was formed, there were people, Jefferson included, who believed that the hope of the world was here. They probably were right. But we've got to be careful. There is need of exerting individual and collective intelligence. We have serious economic and social problems; as we proceed to try to solve them, we should watch out that prejudice and intolerance don't turn the American Dream into a Nightmare.

The future, ours as the world's, is in unity within diversity. Our various backgrounds are important and valuable, but, in the long run, not in themselves, not as something perfect and final. They are important and valuable only as material for our future American culture. As I say, we have a chance to create a universal, a panhuman culture, more satisfying than anything humanity has as yet devised or experienced.

The American Dream is a lovely thing, but to keep it going, to keep it from turning into a Nightmare, every once in a while we've got to wake up.