

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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SOVIET-GERMAN BORDER STRONGLY GUARDED

The border between Soviet Western Ukraine and German-occupied Poland is strongly guarded to prevent the escape of refugees from Soviet-occupied lands, according to dispatches received by the "Svoboda" from Rome. Along the river San barbed wire fences have been erected, and strong detachments of guards posted for that purpose. Their orders are to shoot first and ask questions afterwards.

There is a steady influx of Russians into important offices in the Soviet Western Ukrainian government. A Russian gymnasium, devoted to Russian studies, has been established in L'viv. It will accommodate 150 students. A number of students have been sent to Moscow, to continue their studies there.

CANADIAN UKRAINIANS IN MOVE TOWARD UNITY

Canada's Ukrainian community took one step toward unity Saturday [Feb. 3], a step which Ukrainian spokesmen said might eventually lead to the formation of a provisional independent government for the Ukraine on this continent.

Leaders of two of the four principal Dominion-wide Ukrainian organizations, the Brotherhood of Ukrainian Catholics and the Ukrainian National Federation, met in the Winnipeg home of Rev. Dr. W. Kushner and decided to form a committee to co-ordinate work in the cause of Ukrainian independence being carried on in Canada. Delegates came from several points in Saskatchewan as well as from Winnipeg.

Dr. Kushner was chosen to head the committee. This body will first seek the co-operation of the United Hetman organizations, the Ukrainian Self Reliance league and all other Ukrainian organizations. It will also undertake to direct the work of the Ukrainian community along these four lines:

It will seek to aid in every way possible the Ukrainian contribution to Canada's war effort. It will attempt to persuade Allied leaders that the establishment of an independent Ukrainian state is essential. It will join with similar Ukrainian central bodies in other Allied countries in seeking to gain a hearing with the governments of those countries. It will seek to ensure that the Ukrainian point of view will be understood as fully as possible by the great powers.

Two prominent non-Ukrainians attended the meeting, and were named honorary advisors, and a third man agreed to act in the same capacity. The three are Prof. Watson Kirconnell, J. T. Thorson, K. C., and R. K. Finlayson, N. C.

Members of the committee, besides Dr. Kushner, are: Secretary, Prof. T. K. Pavlyshenko, Saskatoon; treasurer, Rev. M. Pelech, Saskatoon; W. Kossar, Saskatoon; W. Swystun, Winnipeg; O. Zerebko, Redberry, Sask., and T. Melnychuk, Winnipeg. Others present were: A. Martiniuk, E. Wasylyshyn, Rev. G. Zydan, M. Babey and M. Koplakivsky, of Winnipeg.

The formation of the committee was announced to a gathering of Canadians of Ukrainian origin Sunday afternoon in the Institute Prosvita. Dr. Kushner, Prof. Pavlyshenko, W. Kossar and W. Swystun were speakers. Each pointed out that the ideal of democracy as practised in Canada was worth fighting for.

(The Winnipeg Tribune, February 5, 1940)

UKRAINE — SHIELD OF EUROPE

From time to time one reads or hears Polish claims that Europe owes their country a great debt for her services in repulsing the invasions of Asiatic hordes which threatened at times to overrun the entire continent. Without attempting to take away any credit due to Poland in this respect, we desire to stress that if any nation has the right to claim the honor of being the shield of European civilization against the Asiatic nomads, it is the Ukrainian nation.

Geography itself made Ukraine the shield of Europe. Situated on the very threshold to Asia, through which the hordes poured into Europe, Ukraine had to fight against them before anyone else. The Poles, of course, clashed with them too, but it was not until the 14th century, against the Tartars, and at a time when the latter's might had begun to disintegrate.

Before then, however, many earlier hordes had attempted to establish themselves upon the invitingly rich lands of Europe. Among the earliest were the Huns, of Mongol origin, who invaded Ukraine about 370 A. D. and did not disappear until the death of their powerful leader, Attila, in 453. Then came the Bulgars, of Turkish origin, part of whom managed to reach present-day Bulgaria, which they helped to found. After them, during the early part of the 6th century, came the Avars, of Mongol origin, who maintained themselves in Ukraine to the end of the 8th century. Prior to that, about 700, another horde of the same stock appeared in Ukraine, the Khazars, who established a kingdom from the Caucasus to the Dnieper, which the Kievan Prince Sviatoslav (reigned 964-972) finally destroyed. About the middle of the 9th century came the Ugrians (Magyars) who finally settled in Hungary. They in turn were followed by other Turkish-Tartar tribes, the Pechenehs, Turks, and Polovtsis, of whom the first and last were most rapacious. Against all these hordes, the Ukrainians had to wage a deadly struggle.

Meanwhile, safe behind Ukraine's back, Poland had no encounter with the Asiatics, until with the aid of her union with Lithuania (1370) she managed to occupy most of Ukraine—whose weakened condition, due to the horde attacks, brought about her downfall as an independent state. In this manner the defense of Ukraine against the hordes devolved upon Poland. Yet she was too weak to give the Ukrainians adequate protection. They had to do it themselves. In this frontier fighting, incidentally, there arose among them the Cossacks, one of the finest military forces of all times, whose exploits in defense of their homeland against the Turks and Tartars on one side, and the Poles and Russians on the other, won fame for them throughout the Occident and the Orient.

Any credit to which Poland is entitled for protecting Europe against the hordes, is mainly for the repulse of a Turkish-Tartar host before the very gates of Vienna in 1683 by mixed forces led by King John Sobieski of Poland and Prince Starhemberg of Austria. The fame for this signal victory is usually associated with Sobieski. Yet even here the Ukrainians played an important part. First there was that intrepid Ukrainian from Sambir, George Kulchitsky, who penetrated the Turkish lines, and delivered to the allies of the besieged Viennese a vital message making possible a successful concerted attack from both sides on the Turks. (As a reward for this exploit, he received the abandoned stores of Turkish coffee, with which he opened the Kulchitsky Coffee House in Vienna, which stands there to this day). Credit is also due here to several regiments of Cossack Turk-fighters, led by such Ukrainians as Paliy, Iskra, Samush, Abazin, and Hohol (ancestor of the novelist, Nicholas Gogol), who played an important role in defeating the Turks before Vienna, and the decisive role in shattering them near the town of Parkane, near Budapest.

All in all, the struggle of the Ukrainians against the Asiatic hordes lasted for twenty-seven generations. It helped to protect and preserve European civilization. And yet it so weakened Ukraine that she fell prey to the aggression of her two neighbors, Russia and Poland. Modern times, however, are witnessing a strong national revival on her part.

GESTAPO HELPS REDS END UKRAINIAN REVOLT

An International News Service dispatch from London yesterday declared that German Gestapo (secret police) contingents helped Russian troops to crush a Ukrainian revolt, killing hundreds in the former Polish Ukraine now occupied by the Soviets, according to a Budapest dispatch published by the London News-Chronicle.

The dispatch said the uprising against Soviet rule was staged by Ukrainian peasants in the Tarnopol area not far from the Soviet-German boundary that runs through what was formerly Poland.

PERSECUTION OF ETHNIC GROUPS IN BRAZIL

Brazilian authorities have embarked upon a policy of rigorous persecution and denationalization of the various ethnic groups inhabiting that country, according to a letter from Brazil printed in the "Ukrainski Visty," published in Edmonton, Canada (reprinted in Feb. 7th "Svoboda"). Among the chief victims of this policy are the Ukrainians, who together with other immigrants helped to build up the country. They are forbidden to preserve or cultivate those elements of their daily life which are Ukrainian in character, such as Ukrainian speech.

Thus far the edge of this rigorous denationalizing policy has been felt most severely by the Ukrainian churches, which are mainly Catholic. The priests, for example, have been forbidden by the authorities to deliver their sermons in Ukrainian. This ban is being enforced by police, who break into the church in the midst of the service, disrupt it, and often arrest the offending priest on the spot.

The most flagrant of such acts took place several months ago in Curitiba, capital of the Parana state, which contains a large Ukrainian colony. It was visited then by Bishop Ivan Buchko, designated by Rome as Visitor of the Apostolic See for the purpose of visiting Ukrainian parishes throughout South America.

During the church services there, at which he officiated, police broke into the church and demanded that he stop preaching in Ukrainian. They created such an uproar that the services had to be brought to a close. This incident was reported by the Buenos Aires weekly, "Ukrainske Slovo," in issues 45 and 47, 1939.

Among the most persecuted for preaching in Ukrainian are the monks of the Order of St. Basil, who for the past forty and some odd years have played an important part in the religious, cultural and educational development of the Brazilian-Ukrainians.

Among those of that order who suffered arrest for delivering sermons in Ukrainian are Rev. Joseph Martinets, Provincial Superior; Rev. Josaphat Roga, Provincial Secretary; Rev. Klym Bzhukhtovskiy, Abbot at the Curitiba monastery; and Rev. Meletiy Kaminsky, Abbot at the Prudentopol monastery.

All protests by Bishop Buchko and other clergy to the Department of Justice have been met with the bland assertion that it has no information on the subject and therefore could take no action against the police.

Brazil at present is under a dictatorial regime. Its official language is Portuguese.

UNEMPLOYMENT—A CHALLENGE TO DEMOCRACY

By JAMES V. KUSIV

(1)

Editor's Note. The following is the gist of a lecture Mr. Kusiv has delivered at various occasions. It was last delivered before the Ukrainian University Club of New Jersey. In it Mr. Kusiv expounds a plan which he believes will help to alleviate the unemployment situation. Mr. Kusiv is a young Ukrainian-American business man who studied at Lafayette College.

... In a world of specialization the engineer designs the turbine, the chemist prepares the formula. Great mechanical genius has manifested itself in our giant industrial plants, in our towering buildings, great dams, and magnificent liners which ply the ocean. We have the genius to travel six miles a minute, to invent television. And yet, we are unable to create employment, to put a man to work. Why? Because in government, in politics, and in our national economy there is an astounding lack of scientific application. There is no transcending plan, no singleness of purpose, no united action, only confusion, greed, and selfishness. While science, engineering and medicine have made great strides, the politician still remains the politician, demagogue by nature and tradition. He sways the masses for his own selfish ends. He seeks to bait the masses with laws and schemes which on the surface seem benevolent but which upon close examination serve only the politician at the expense of and to the detriment of the people. Simply because an idea is pleasing to the majority does not make it economically sound. Old age pensions, relief, subsidies and panaceas are pleasing to the ear, but economically unsound. They are the bait, "the something for nothing plans" that draw millions of our unthinking people to the Political Pied Pipers. The astounding number of advocates of the Townsend Plan is conclusive evidence that the average man is looking for something for nothing, has not the ability or will power to say no if he can benefit at someone else's expense. If we are to tackle the problem of unemployment we must first clear the field of something for nothing plans, idle promises and false panaceas. Economics is a science. There is only one way out. Common sense and reason, must lead the way, not the demagogue or the politician.

Measures To Prosperity

Before considering the plan let us briefly compare the opportunities of the individual today with those of yesterday. Our civilization is often described as this "Changing World." Not many years ago, rifle, an ax, some livestock, and a few of the commonest tools together with the willingness to work was all that was necessary for a rugged though sturdy existence. Now let us see what has happened to this independence and individuality. The old pioneer is gone and unfortunately, his spirit and courage with him. In place of the frontier farm is the large industrial center, in place of the simple life is the highly specialized civilization, in place of the blacksmith and craftsman is the great corporation with its huge machines. The age of self-sufficiency has yielded to the age of specialization. Today the individual is not an entity in himself. He is dependent upon others for his employment. If conditions are good, he works and prospers; if conditions are bad, he is soon destitute. Life has increased demands. The speed and pressure of living have increased. Man is a cog in a great machine. His destiny is the destiny of the machine.

During the past ten years or so our machine has faltered and millions have been denied the opportunity to provide a living for themselves and their families in accordance with the standards of our civilization. Not only has the individual suffered economically, but his moral fibre is being ravaged by worry, despondency, loss of self-respect and independence. We have

groped through years of false economic schemes, blunderings, and exploitations. We have listened to the Pied Piper. We have followed rainbows. We have been neither willing nor able to take the hard but true road.

The challenge of the day to every man and woman is to wipe out the scourge of unemployment—not tomorrow, not next year, but today and now. Thinking people do not want their children doomed to be government parasites, W. P. A. workers, relief recipients. As intelligent citizens we want our children to grow up in a spirit and atmosphere of economic independence, in a land where there is an opportunity for productive effort, where hard work and ingenuity are rewarded materially and morally.

It must be the profound conviction of reasoning people that there must be a transcending plan, economically sound, free from the taint of politics, decisive in action and fearlessly administered by strong and courageous men who will wipe out the termites of our economic structure and will restore to the American people equal opportunity, not by some sweet sounding panacea but by the elimination of unemployment through an industrial employment program, with longer hours instead of shorter hours; through thrift, economy, efficiency instead of wanton spending; and through the creation of a monetary system that does not make man subject to its whims and fluctuations, but serves man according to his willingness to be served.

It is a sad thing when a nation is imbued with false economic ideas. But when its leaders, through sincere ignorance, are genuinely sold and have in turn sold the people boot-strap ideas, tragedy awaits. The very fact that our country has floundered for the past ten years without signs of improvement is conclusive proof that we are worshipping false gods, that we are working under misapprehensions, that there is something basically and fundamentally wrong with the policies and programs of our government.

The Fallacy of Over-Production

The first great fallacy is that a great many of our government leaders and people believe that there is over-production, industrial and agricultural, and that the curtailment of production through shorter working hours, elimination of certain classes of labor, curtailment of machinery, reduction of crop acreage, and such measures, will bring about prosperity. This is not only a great fallacy but it is unquestionably "lift yourself by the bootstrap theory." There has never been, and probably never will be, over-production. Our problem is definitely one of poor distribution and retarded consumption. Over-production can be defined as that Utopian condition when we are all so well supplied with material things and services that all our wants and desires are satisfied: when our clothes closets are chock full of fine clothes; our homes are all modern, up-to-date dwellings, equipped with all the latest devices, radios, air-conditioning, television, refrigerators, washing machines etc.; when our pantries are full of good things to eat; our cultural and recreational wants are all satisfied. Then, and only then, will we have over-production. We could then afford to kill our pigs, cut our crop acreage, destroy some cotton and curtail our working hours. It has been estimated by the Brookings Institute that if our present industries and farms were worked to capacity, we would have an average family income of five thousand dollars per year. We cannot have prosperity unless every available able-bodied man and woman is gainfully and productively employed in industry, in agriculture, or in the rendition of a useful serv-

ice. To illustrate simply with a small community of one hundred people in which all are employed forty hours a week. The community is C.I.O.-ized and now everybody works twenty hours a week. As certain as two and two are four, the standard of living, the wealth, the productiveness, and the purchasing power of this community will be cut in half. Our wealth and our purchasing power depend on our productivity. To be prosperous we must first produce as much as possible and secondly, distribute as efficiently and economically as possible. Always remember that we cannot distribute that which we have not produced. If machinery helps production, then we need more machinery. Any plan and our present government has many, which advocates the curtailment of production, industrial or agricultural, or that advocates prosperity through scarcity, is basically and fundamentally wrong and such programs are a crime against our national well-being.

A War Against Unemployment

If we were engaged in war we would enlist the services of every able-bodied man and woman to produce our requirements. We would not cut down on our hours of work, we would not destroy our crops, close our plants, condemn labor-saving devices and machinery. We would produce as much and as efficiently as possible. Propaganda would flood the country to increase production. Plants and industrialists would be lionized for increasing their output. Thrift, economy, conservation and efficiency would be the cry of the day. We need to declare war, war with all the powerful forces of propaganda; war against unemployment. Let's enlist every plant, every farm, every worker, craftsman, and professional man in a crusade against unemployment, to make heroes and to honor those of our industrialists and employers who increase production and employment. It will not be enough for our government to merely honor employers and industrialists. Government and industry must work hand in hand. Industries' problems and needs should be the government's problems and needs. It is the government's responsibility, since the individual is no longer able to act himself, to carry the brunt of the fight against depression by an intensive re-employment campaign. Our first problem is to allocate a job for every available man and woman in a productive enterprise or the rendition of a useful service. Increased production, increased employment means increased purchasing power and increased wealth—personal wealth. We must never forget that human happiness and satisfaction is measured primarily in the personal wealth of the individual, that is, in the type of home he owns, the furniture he owns, the clothes he wears, the food he eats, the car he drives, the personal service he himself gets, and not in the fine post office building, battleship of other public or governmental project. If we are in need individually we cannot be happy thinking about how wealthy our government is. Every government relief project where the individual employed is not highly productive and the project cannot be directly and immediately translated into personal happiness should be stopped at once. One man in automobile factory has the productivity of a hundred relief workers. Our unemployed must be put to work in private industry and factories with a minimum working week of forty hours where they will be productive and self-sustaining and not be supported by taxes in an already overtaxed and overburdened system. Purchasing power is earned through hard work, not through legislation, taxation, and strikes. The purchasing power of an individual is reflected by and proportional to his productive ability. Any plan which pretends to increase purchasing power through curtailment of hours of work and production merely spreads the work out thinner among more people and does not add to our national wealth and well-being.

WINTER SPORTS

Now that cold weather is here and the birds have all wended Their way to the winter resorts The lads and lassies are padding their chassis And struggle with wintry sports. Some intrepid lunatics, with bats in their attics, Are jumping off mountains on skis, While other fanatics are catching rheumatics By hiking through snow to their knees; Still other bold creatures help doctors and preachers, By skating on ice that's too thin, And some do try coasting and go around boasting How they broke an arm and a shin. In this toe-freezing season these mugs lose their reason And rush through the snow-drifts in droves, While thus they're disporting, pneumonia courting, I fervently give thanks for stoves. Now this may be treason but during this season I go big for these winter events: Pinochle and rummy, and filling my tummy. All rest is without any sense.

M. M.

Lagging Purchasing Power

The one single factor which is largely responsible for our economic ills is a delayed or lagging purchasing power. Industry today is working from hand to mouth, producing goods only for immediate demand. The farmer has his crops mortgaged and the workingman his wages. Under these conditions a slight economic tremor reverberates like an earthquake. It is absolutely necessary that there be made available large lines of credit to manufacturers, and retailers in the issuance of commodity dollars. These commodity dollars are to be loaned to manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers for the building up of inventories in staple commodities in much the same fashion as automobiles are floor-planned or wholesaled for car dealers. The collateral for these loans, which should be handled through the local banks, and shall represent 80 to 90% of the wholesale value of goods, shall be a lien on the goods themselves. The interest rate shall be approximately two per cent per annum. As these goods are sold the loans are repaid and new goods purchased. The chief benefit from the commodity dollar loan plan is that it permits the building of inventories and increases the length of time between production and consumption before layoffs take place. It will also permit the purchase and distribution of goods in large quantities, deducting distribution costs. To illustrate simply: if people decided to take their payrolls and save for one week so that nobody spent any money, the merchant would not order any goods for the following week, the factories would have no orders and there would be lay-offs and subsequent panic. There is a vicious circle between production on the one hand and purchasing power and consumption on the other. The commodity dollar will permit greater flexibility in the production and distribution of goods. This type of financing has been responsible to a large degree for the relative stability of the automobile business. It is far wiser to loan to manufacturers, distributors, and dealers in highly efficient industries, commodity dollars, to employ people in the efficient production of useful goods and mortgage these goods with a very definite return and negligible loss factor as experienced by the automobile finance companies, than to wantonly distribute public funds in the form of relief and dubious and highly wasteful government projects. It must be remembered that for every dollar's worth of merchandise produced there was a dollar paid to someone and unless hoarded will definitely find its way back to purchase the very goods it produced.

(To be concluded)

GREAT DOCUMENTS IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

I

A Declaration By the Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled

The American Declaration of Independence is the instrument by which the 13 Colonies declared independence from Great Britain. It was written largely by Thomas Jefferson, adopted by Continental Congress July 4th, 1776, in Independence Hall, Philadelphia. Read here the first part of the Declaration which tells why we severed our ties with England:

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That, whenever any form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evidence a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.

II

The Constitution of the United States

The constitution is a written agreement under which the people of the states which joined to form the United States, at the time of the Revolution, agreed to live. It is the instrument that transformed the original states from a confederation into a nation. It divides the government into three parts, the LEGISLATIVE, or law-making; the EXECUTIVE, which carries out the laws; and the JUDICIAL, which decides whether or not the laws have been broken. It is "the supreme law of the land." No officer or judge may do what it forbids, and must do as it commands. Most important, the preamble, which follows, shows that its powers are derived from the PEOPLE, and not from a king, an emperor, a dictator.

WE, THE PEOPLE of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

III

The Bill of Rights

The first ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States are known as the Bill of Rights. Guaranteeing the rights of the individual against undue encroachment by the government, they were added when the constitution convention, meeting in New York in 1787, found that several states would not ratify the Constitution without some such provision. The Bill of Rights is the Magna Charta of the American citizen.

Article I. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for redress of grievances.

Article II. A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

Article III. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Article IV. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and persons or things to be seized.

Article V. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or other infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb, nor shall he be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

Article VI. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which districts shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusations; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of counsel for his defense.

Article VII. In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise re-examined in any court of the United States than according to the rules of the United States than according to the rules of common law.

Article VIII. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishment inflicted.

Article IX. The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Article X. The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

IV

The Monroe Doctrine

In 1820, Russia, France, Austria and Prussia formed the "holy alliance" to maintain the monarchial system of government. Fearing that they desired to extend their operations to the New World, especially to the South American colonies that had broken away from Spain, President James Monroe, in a message to Congress in

The Ukrainian Trident, Lion, and Flag

ALTHOUGH the meaning and historical background of the national emblems of Ukraine—trident, lion, and flag—were treated in an article on these pages several years ago, a rising number of inquiries on this subject within recent times necessitates another explanation of them.

* * *

The Ukrainian flag consists of two solid bars of blue and yellow, with the former on top. Some variations of it have a trident in the center of it, while others have a lion ascending a rock in the center of the trident.

Just when did the Ukrainian blue and yellow banner first come into being is not exactly known.

A prevalent impression among many is that the most ancient of Ukrainian flags was the one which contained the picture of St. Michael. This assumption, however, has been disproved, for that banner did not appear until the time of the Cossacks, and was used by them alternatively with the plain blue and yellow banner.

What is certain, however, is that the imperial coins of the Ukrainian Kingdom of Kiev during Volodimir the Great's reign (979-1015) bore on one face a portrait of Volodimir's head, while on the other a trident. This trident was the coat-of-arms of Volodimir, and therefore that of ancient Ukraine as well. When in January 1918 the young Ukrainian National Republic arose, its governing body at that period of its turbulent and short-lived existence, the Ukrainian Central Rada, adopted the trident as the official symbol of modern Ukraine, as a connecting link between Ukraine's ancient past and the present.

Western Ukraine, however, especially Galicia, having a somewhat different historical background from that of Eastern or Greater Ukraine, did not have the trident in its coat-of-arms. It is quite likely, of course, that for awhile it did have the trident, during the height of the Kingdom of Kiev's expansion, when Volodimir managed to unite all Ukrainian territories, including its westernmost parts, into one mighty state that became one of the most powerful in all Europe at the close of the 10th and opening of the 11th century.

The symbol we ordinarily associate with Western Ukraine is a golden lion mounting a boulder. This coat-of-arms dates back to the 13th century, to the so-called Galician-Volhynian period, when West-

ern Ukraine was in ascendancy, while Eastern Ukraine, weakened by the unceasing onslaughts of the Asiatic nomads and attacks of Muscovy, was sinking into temporary oblivion. Since that time the golden lion mounting a boulder has always been associated with Western Ukrainian national life. And therefore, when on November 1st, 1918 the Western Ukrainian Republic arose, its governing body, the Ukrainian National Rada decided to retain this centuries-old device and made it the official coat-of-arms of Western Ukraine.

1823, served notice that such action would be considered "unfriendly to the United States." It became one of the greatest documents of history. Under its protection, all the young republics of the New World were left free to work out their own destinies.

The occasion has been judged proper for asserting as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved that the American continents, by the free and independent conditions which they assume and maintain are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.

We owe it, therefore, to candor and the amicable relations existing between the United States and those Powers to declare that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European Power we have not interfered and shall not interfere.

But with the governments who have declared their independence and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling them in any other light than a manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States.

(*Philadelphia Inquirer*)

This resolution, dated November 13, 1918, declared that "the coat-of-arms of the Western Ukrainian Republic is henceforth a golden lion on a field of blue, facing towards the right." Subsequently, however, when both Western and Eastern Ukraine united into one Ukrainian National Republic on January 22, 1919, this coat-of-arms was adapted to the union by including within itself the trident, so that today the Western Ukrainian blue and yellow banner contains within its center a trident, in the middle of which is the old symbol of the golden lion.

Now, why is the Ukrainian flag blue and yellow? A pleasant color combination, indeed, but why?

Again we delve back into the misty past, this time even further back than we did in the matter of the coat-of-arms. We go as far as the beginning of the trade relationships of ancient Ukrainians with Byzantium and the East. These ancient Ukrainians for centuries exchanged with the Greeks and other Eastern peoples their raw products in return for which they received finished products in form of necessities and objects of luxury and art. Among the beautiful objects they received were all sorts of silks, satins, and velvets with beautiful golden embroideries on a field of light blue. This color combination greatly attracted the ancient Ukrainians and there was a steady demand for it, not only on fabrics but on potteries, books, and decorations as well.

The colors were transferred by someone to a banner, which quickly rose in popular favor, until by use and tradition it became the official flag of the Ukrainian people.

Just exactly when the Ukrainian blue and yellow banner came into popular use is unknown, for although the ancient books and manuscripts contain rude illustrations of ancient banners, yet they are not colored, and therefore it is impossible to tell what colors they bore. We do know, however, that it was in existence during the Cossack period. For example, we have a historical record of Jan Kazimir, the Polish king, sending Bohdan Khmelnytsky, the great Ukrainian Cossack Hetman (1648-1657) a gift of a beautifully wrought yellow and blue banner. Then there are numerous "polk" (regimental) blue and yellow banners of famous Cossack "polks" which are preserved in many museums in Ukraine. Also numerous references to our colors are made in the old Cossack "dumy" (songs).

Some of the uses of these colors in those olden days seem rather strange to us today. For instance an old "duma" recounts how the galley of Samila Kishka (a Cossack chieftain (1600-1602), was decorated entirely in blue and yellow colors, which subsequently were taken off by the Cossacks, and the cloth used to make "zhupans" and trousers.

The use of this color combination for clothes was quite prevalent in those days among the Cossacks. It has been adapted also to every conceivable use by the Ukrainian people. Even Taras Shevchenko in one of his poems used it to describe the Ukrainian landscape, comparing the blue to the blue of the Ukrainian sky, and the yellow to the golden yellow of the steppe.

YOUTH and THE U.N.A.

News From Chicago

The Society of Eugene Konovaletz, Branch No. 398 of the Ukrainian National Association, located in South Side Chicago, held its yearly meeting on January 14. The following officers were elected: Walter A. Podolak, president; Joseph Gula, vice president; Peter Pucilo, secretary; Stephanie Huminiak, assistant secretary; Marion Troc, treasurer; Mrs. Mary Rand, Roman Shumowsky, Olga Mentus, auditors; Joseph Huminiak, sergeant-at-arms.

Northampton Sponsors Banquet

Branch 442 of the Ukrainian National Association, located in Northampton, Pa., sponsored a sport program, banquet and ball in Allentown on Jan. 21st. The affair "surpassed the most optimistic expectations," reports Alexander Yaremko.

Basketball fans were treated with two games, played in the afternoon in Northampton. The Palmerton Ukrainian Lassies trimmed the Northampton Ukrainian girls, 35-16, and the Allentown Ukrainians defeated the Northampton Ukrainians 61-45. About 200 persons, representing such distant places as Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Berwick, Philadelphia, New York, Newark, Perth Amboy, etc., attended the banquet and ball in Allentown's Hotel Traylor in the evening.

Rev. Joseph Fylyma of Allentown rendered the invocation at the banquet. Russell Demchuk, toastmaster, introduced three guest speakers—Gregory Herman, Michael Piznak, and Alexander Yaremko—all of whom pointed out why every Ukrainian should join the U.N.A.

The music was supplied by the Ukrainian Orchestra, which broadcasts regularly over Hazleton's station WAZL. Anna Fellock, 19, of Phillipsburg, N. J., was the winner of the Ukrainian "oomph" girl contest, while Miss Kuba of Palmerton was runner-up. The judge was Mr. O'Brien, hotel manager. Joseph Senick of Philadelphia was master of ceremonies. The Allentown Morning Call of January 22nd published an account of the affair together with a picture of the speakers and the committee. The committee consisted of Russell Demchuk, chairman; Katherine Bonick, secretary; Martin Sheska, treasurer; Olga Bilyk, circulation manager; Olga Dwarnick, assistant circulation manager; Michael Kuba, advertising manager; Michael Radlo, assistant advertising manager; Stephen Yaremchuk, sales manager.

Wilkes-Barre Forming Chorus

A U.N.A. men's chorus and mixed chorus is being organized in Wilkes-Barre and vicinity, reports John Zwarycz. The initial rehearsal will take place at 7 P. M., Feb. 14th, at the Ukrainian Cooperative Association Hall, 833 N. Washington Street, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Eugene Melnyczuk will direct the mixed group. Interested U.N.A. members from Nanticoke, Glen Lyon, Hanover, Plains, Plymouth, Breslau, Edwardsville, Ashley, Luzerne, and Georgetown are invited to attend.

Philadelphia Has Dance

The Philadelphia U.N.A. Youth Club sponsored its annual ball on February 3rd, drawing a crowd of 400. Nine States were represented, namely New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Kentucky, Michigan, Illinois, Maryland, New York, and Delaware. The proceeds will go toward the sport program of the club.

Chicago Elects Officers

U.N.A. Branch 393 of Chicago elected its officers for 1940 at a meeting held on December 21, 1939. The results were as follows: Dmytro Atamanczuk, president; James Mizen, sports director and vice president; Theresa Atamanczuk, recording secretary; Nestor Pawlick, treasurer; Dan Zabiak, financial secretary; Pauline Popadiuk, Michael Senchuk, William Rybak, controllers.

CONNECTICUT YOUTH ENDORSE CONGRESS

At a recent meeting, the Ukrainian Youth Organization of Connecticut discussed and approved of the All-Ukrainian-American Congress, to be held March 16th and 17th, believing this Congress to be a very great step forward towards the unification of our people in America and the creation of world opinion and sympathy for the Ukrainians abroad.

The Ukrainian Youth Organization of Connecticut will wholeheartedly support this All-Ukrainian-American Congress, and is sending as its delegates, Mr. John Seleman and Miss Anne Solecki, president and secretary, respectively, of this organization.

May this Congress have far-reaching results, we remain,
Sincerely yours,

Executive Board of the Ukrainian Youth Organization of Connecticut:

John Seleman, President; Gabriel Styslo, Vice President; Anne Solecki, Cor. Secretary; Joseph Melnyk, Treasurer.

TO SPONSOR FATHER AND SONS PROGRAM IN ROCHESTER

The Young Men's Group of the Ukrainian Civic Centre, Rochester, N. Y. will hold a Father and Sons Banquet on March 10, 1940. Prompted by a desire to acquaint the Ukrainian Youth of Rochester with our new organization, the committee has taken this means of welcoming prospective members and at the same time doing honor to the fathers. We hope to enlarge our Young Men's Club so as to rival a young ladies group which has also recently been organized at the Civic Centre.

The following people are members of the Banquet Committee, and have worked hard to make the Fathers and Sons program successful; John Plekan, Michael Oliynek, William Stockow, Michael Paruta.

We at the Civic Centre have been given fine opportunities by our fathers, and want to utilize them to the fullest extent. Enlarging our Men's Group, and engaging in those types of activities that appeal to young men of Ukrainian decent, is a step in this direction.

PETER OLISZUK.

OPEN BALLET SCHOOL IN PHILLY

A "School of Ukrainian Ballet" has been opened in Philadelphia by Balletmaster Dimitri Chutro, with rehearsals to be held every Saturday (2 to 4 P. M.) and every Thursday (7 to 9 P. M.) in the ballroom of the "Ukrainian Cultural Centre," 645 N. 15th Street, Philadelphia.

Mr. Dimitri Chutro has conceived several new dances and is anxious to have many young Ukrainians take advantage of this opportunity to learn ballet dancing. One need not have any previous training to register for the classes which began Saturday, February 3 and will continue through February, March and April until the production of the Ukrainian opera, "Taras Bulba," in Philadelphia's Town Hall, for which the dances have been arranged.

—ey

CARTERET, N. J.

Attention! Why not attend the Benefit Basketball and DANCE sponsored by the Ukrainian Social Club on LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY, FEB. 12, 1940 at the Nathan Hale School Auditorium on Roosevelt Ave, commencing at 8 P. M. The Carteret U. S. C vs. the Kanai Association of Perth Amboy. Dancing to the popular Freddy Richman and His Hi-Hatters Orchestra. The entire proceeds will go to the Infantile Paralysis Fund, so why not bring your friends for an evening of enjoyment, the donation is only 25 ¢.

THE U.N.A. IS THE SUPREME ACHIEVEMENT OF YOUR PAR-ENTS. BECOME A MEMBER OF IT NOW!

FEBRUARY PROGRAM OF PHILLY CULTURAL CENTRE

The Ukrainian Cultural Centre of Philadelphia desires to announce its schedule of events for the month of February and extends a cordial invitation to all young Ukrainian-Americans to participate in them. Tomorrow evening, from 8 to 12, there will be a Valentine Social, a big annual event, with music, various contests, and eats, and—admission 25 cents. Next Thursday evening, February 15th, at 8:30, the members of the U.C.C. will have a debate on a vital topic, followed by a general discussion. On the 18th of this month, from 5 to 7, the of this month, from 5 to 7, the U.C.C. will have an Amateur Radio broadcast; Joe Senick will be master of ceremonies, and will call on those present to do something over the "mike," sing, impersonate, recite, etc. On Washington's Birthday, February 22, the Centre will sponsor, of course, a Washington's Birthday Ball, from 8 to 12. On February 25, it will have a Folk Story Night of Many Nations, from 8 to 11. Finally, on February 29, the U.C.C. will hold a Leap Year Dance, from 8 to 12, with admission 15 cents, at which the girls will be expected to ask the boys for a dance. Unless otherwise stated there is no admission charge for these events.

In the realm of sports, sometime in March the U.C.C. boys basketball team will defend its city title against the Philly U.N.A. club.

Hikes, outings, visits, and trips to various points of interest are being planned for March and April.

Anyone of Ukrainian descent may join the U.C.C. No dues are collected. Events dated for February 11, 22, 25 and 29 are open to all who care to come.

UKRAINIAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION OF CONN. presents **Taras Shevchenko Concert MARCH 10th (Sunday)**, 3:30 P. M. Hartford High School Auditorium, Broad St. Admission—Adults 40 ¢, Children 20 ¢. Over 150 participants. Four Choirs. Vocal Soloists. Instrumental Soloist. Living Portrait. Speakers. Other performers. **The Greatest Concert Ever Held in Connecticut.** Talents from all parts of the State.

METROPOLITAN CHORISTERS!

Come & renew acquaintances of yesteryear's rehearsal days. Cement those friendship in a glamorous aura of a **SEMI-FORMAL DANCE**. The Jersey City Lysenko Choir gives you Anson Scott's Cottage Club orchestra for the proper mood. Just bring along your biggest capacity for a good time when you find your way again to the old rehearsal hall on Fleet St., on **WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21st**. 65 ¢ includes wardrobe.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

VALENTINE SOCIAL. Fun for all this **SUNDAY evening, FEBRUARY 11th**, at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre's 5th Annual Valentine Social, to be held at the International Institute, 645 North 15th St., Phila. A Valentine and two-bits will let you in on all the fun and frolic. Remember girls, it's leap year! Your Valentine is sure to be there!

GEORGE WASHINGTON DANCE given by the Ukrainian Youth Organization of Conn., **SATURDAY, FEB. 24th, 7:30—12:00**, at Ukrainian Hall, King's Highway, Southport, Conn. Music by **MARKO BROTHERS**. Admission 35 ¢. A good time guaranteed for one and all.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

SEVENTH ANNUAL DANCE sponsored by the Young Ukraine of Brooklyn on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10**, at the Ukrainian National Home, 216 Grand St., corner Driggs Avenue. Music by Den Reynor and John King. Continuous dancing from 8:30. Admission 55 ¢.

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, 341 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-

THE U. N. A. SPOTLIGHT

District No. 1

The standings of the teams in District No. 1 of the Ukrainian National Association Basketball League are as follows:

	W.	L.	Pct.
Newark	1	0	1.000
New York City	1	1	.500
Philadelphia	0	1	.000

Emile Husar reports that the New York team defeated the New York Ukrainians in a non-league game played at Stuyvesant High School on Feb. 4th, the score being 31—16. Michael Czarnecky, a U.N.A. man, was high scorer with 13 points.

N.Y. U.N.A.	3	7	6	15—31
N.Y. Ukrainians	11	1	0	4—16

The New York U.N.A. team meets Newark at Stuyvesant High School on Feb. 18th. The league game will start at 5:30 P. M.

District No. 2

The standings of the teams:

	W.	L.	Pct.
Olyphant	2	0	1.000
Berwick	1	0	1.000
McAdoo	1	2	.333
Hanover	0	2	.000

J. S. Roman reports that Olyphant defeated McAdoo at Olyphant on Feb. 4th, 25—20. The game featured "air-tight defensive playing." The Terry brothers starred for the winners, accounting for 17 points, while Pristash and Kolchano played well. Sashko performed creditably for McAdoo. The game by periods:

Olyphant:	6	5	3	11—25
McAdoo:	2	6	8	4—20

District No. 3

The standings of the teams:

	W.	L.	Pct.
St. Clair	2	0	1.000
Mahanoy City	1	0	1.000
Centralia	0	2	.000
Shamokin	0	1	.000

District No. 4

The standings of the teams:

	W.	L.	Pct.
Akron	2	1	.667
Cleveland	2	1	.667
Carnegie	0	0	.000
Ambridge	0	2	.000

Nicholas Bobeczko reports that Akron defeated Cleveland at a basketball carnival sponsored by Cleveland on Jan. 28th, the score being 50—46. Both teams displayed good fighting spirit. M. Lesniak and L. Rittman of Akron scored 13 points each, while G. Horosko scored 14 for Cleveland.

District No. 5

The standings of the teams:

	W.	L.	Pct.
Rosford	4	0	1.000
Hamtramck	1	1	.500
Detroit	1	2	.333
Lorain	0	3	.000

Stephen Harmych writes that Rosford defeated Lorain, 68—29, at the Lorain Y. M. C. A. on Feb. 3rd. "Rosford's experience was too much for the inexperienced Lorain team." A. Kornowa scored 18 points for the winners, while S. Harmych scored 8 for the losers. The game by periods:

Rosford:	20	13	18	17—68
Lorain:	6	10	3	10—29

ROCHESTER DEFEATS LACKAWANNA

The Rochester St. Josaphat U.N.A. basketball team defeated the Lackawanna Ukrainians, 52—35, in the 1st game of a 3-game series at Rochester's St. Josaphat Auditorium. Although the lead changed hands several times, Rochester's Michael Salamacha scored 15 points in the final period to put his team in front. He was high scorer with a total of 22 points. Smerta starred for Lackawanna with 10 points.

The Brockport Towners recently defeated Rochester, 42—41. Both of these games are non-U.N.A. League games, as Rochester is too far from all districts to participate.

SYRACUSE DEFEATS AUBURN

On Sunday, January 28, 1940, the Syracuse Ukrainian Men's Club defeated the highly classed Auburn Monarchs, representatives of the Auburn Ukrainian Home, by a 37-26 score at the Syracuse Ukrainian National Home before an overwhelming crowd packed to capacity. Score at half time stood at 22-18 in favor of Syracuse with the local lads leading all the way to win by a favorable margin. Maloney and Linehan starred for the Syracuse team with 14 and 8 points respectively. Alversa and Sable were high for the losers with 11 and 8 points respectively.