

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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

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TIMELY ADVICE

Editor's Note: Below is the text of a talk given in Canada at a Ukrainian gathering by Prof. Watson-Kirkconnel, a friend of the Ukrainians. Obviously his remarks here are equally applicable to American-Ukrainians. For that reason they are printed here.

I AM happy to come, on the invitation of Mr. Wasyl Swystun, to say a few words to this gathering. Some of you may know me by hearsay as a critic of the Ukrainians. May I define myself as a friend, but as a friend, who refuses to me a partisan. I am probably the only Canadian whose writings in the learned journals of England have helped to make the Ukrainians of Canada well and favorably known there. I publish annually in Canada a survey of such evidences of Ukrainian literary culture as I can find in this country. I have lectured on Ukrainian poetry under the auspices of the University of Manitoba. I have friendly relations with many individual Ukrainians. If I refuse to be a 100 per cent champion of Ukrainian nationalism, it is not because I am not friendly towards the Ukrainians but because I have encountered excessive claims made for that cause and because I have witnessed much disunity and conflict among the very apostles of Ukrainian independence themselves.

It may be that you have disagreed with some of my published statements. Let me digress a little. We live in an age when intense party feeling colors most sources of news. I receive information from many sources, and I find some evidence of bias in them all, whether British, French, American, Russian, Magyar, Italian, Polish, or Ukrainian. My sincere endeavor is to try to form a balanced judgement, and that is no easy matter. If I were to read Ukrainian papers only my task would be simplified; but I would be almost defenseless against a one-sided statement of news or opinion. As a matter of fact, the prevalent partisan bitterness of many Ukrainian papers defeats its own end and tends to make the non-Ukrainian reader dubious even of statements that may be gospel truth. Let me assure you that my published opinions have never been dictated by malice, and that they are progressively subject to modification as my knowledge widens.

Out of these present tragic years in Europe, at least one lesson seems to emerge. By the side of large aggressive states like Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia, small nation groups can hope to survive only by co-operation. Had there recently existed between Germany and Russia, not a conglomeration of small, mutually antagonistic states but a close confederation of democratic peoples, including an autonomous Ukraine, the war that is now upon us would never have arisen. The breakdown of the world's peace has surely taught us not only the grim truth that men and nations must co-operate or perish. Only by learning to work together and live together can human societies hope to perpetuate the liberties they prize. I would therefore see the ultimate solution of the Ukrainian Problem in a European confederation of autonomous areas rather than in a bloody arena full of armed sovereign states. I devoutly hope that such a solution may come.

The same principle, however, has an immediate value here. Speaking quite frankly, and in no spirit of animosity, I would say that the cause of Ukrainian nationalism in this country has been seriously discredited by inveterate party-strife amongst the Ukrainians themselves. It would greatly advance that ideal, and raise the

UKRAINE — A POSSIBLE BATTLEFIELD

If the two wars now being waged in Europe become merged and Russia becomes a military ally of Germany, Ukraine is likely to become one of the main theatres of such an all-embracing war. She would become one of the primary objectives of an Allied offensive, since her severance from the Soviet Union would greatly weaken that "prison house of nations."

At present England and France have about 600,000 armed men in the Near East, and probably several hundred thousand more in the offing there. No doubt a good portion of them are held in readiness to strike out for the Baku oil fields, whose capture would deprive Russia of her principal oil source and likewise prevent that oil from reaching Germany. Another portion of the Allied Near Eastern forces, however, would most likely be sent through the Dardanelles—to which the "not neutral but momentarily non-belligerent" Turkey would probably consent—into the Black Sea and thence to Odessa and Crimea, especially the former, which with its fine port facilities could become a good base for military operations extending into Ukraine. Of course, the transportation of at least 100,000 troops with equipment by sea to Odessa would be a very great task, as it would require at least 700,000 tons of shipping, and once the troops were there, hundreds of thousands of tons a month would be required to supply them.

Although the size of the Red southern forces is a mystery, it probably runs into several hundred thousands, and the Allies would have their hands full with them. Furthermore, some of the Allied Near Eastern troops would have to be diverted to meet a possible German attack upon them by way of Soviet Western Ukraine or Rumania. In the latter contingency, the question whether Rumania, and possibly Bulgaria, will team up with the Nazi-Soviets or with the Allies, would be of utmost importance to any Allied plans to occupy Ukraine.

On the other hand, if the Allied expedition to the Caspian oil fields proves successful, it may be able, possibly with the aid of the Turks (whose present mobilized strength is about 350,000 troops, most of whom are arrayed somewhere along the Soviet border), to swing to the left and by following the oil pipelines at the edge of the Caucasus, arrive at the Russian oil fields on the southeastern shores of the Black Sea, where a large Russian force, reputed to be around 150,000, is stationed. If they manage to defeat it, then they'll be able to turn to the right and following the railroad line reach Rostov and thus come to the support of the Allied forces already there. In any event, Ukraine will probably be in a pivotal position for any Allied operations against Russia from the south.

No matter what military steps the Allies take to invade and occupy Ukraine under Soviet misrule, in case of war there, they would do well not to overlook the national aspirations of the Ukrainian nation. These aspirations may prove to be the decisive factor in such a struggle. But the Allies will have to come as liberators, and not, as they did some twenty years ago, as restorers of the old order, when they supported Denikin and Wrangel, instead of Petlura, against the Reds. As liberators of oppressed peoples, they will likely find the Ukrainian population friendly to them. This means that their only enemy will be the regular troops, driven by Communist zealots,

Besides taking advantage of the aspirations of the Ukrainian nation, the Allies could also under such circumstances take advantage of the strong discontent with Russian rule among certain little known peoples. Among them are the White Russians, who during the Russian Revolution had their own national government; the Armenians (although here the Turks might object, for they occupy a portion of Armenia); the Kuban and Don Cossacks; the Caucasians, whose history is replete with revolts against Russian rule and who aspire towards federation amongst themselves; and the Tartars, the reputed descendants of the Golden Horde, who occupy Crimea, Kazan, Astrakhan and Siberia. Although these peoples are not nations in the sense that Ukraine is and their suffering not as great, still they too would welcome freedom.

ANTI-SOVIET FEELING IN WESTERN UKRAINE

Reports from Bucharest indicate that anti-Soviet feeling is steadily mounting in Western Ukraine, now under Red rule. Its native populace especially resents the appointment of so many Russians to various important administrative and educational posts. Refugees further say that food is very scarce throughout the country.

REDS GO LONGER FAR EAST WITH UKRAINIANS

The transfer of Ukrainians from German-occupied into the Soviet-occupied Ukraine, is being utilized by Red authorities to send many of them as colonists to the Soviet Far East, according to reports from Moscow. The first batch of such colonists, numbering about 4,500, will be settled in a region near the Pacific. Among such colonists are many whom the Soviets have arrested and who have "disappeared."

NAZI "SYMPATHY" FOR UKRAINE

The December issue of the "Revue de Promethee," published an appeal of the Ukrainian Committee in Paris to aid the movement for Ukrainian independence and to support the Allies, who "are championing the cause of the rights of nations and of justice... All our hopes are closely bound to the fortunes of their arms and it is our duty to contribute to their victory with all our strength."

Referring to Germany, the article says:

"Germany and her leader have betrayed themselves and they have betrayed the nations. Much has been said about this betrayal, but we may also recall a wrong which we suffered ourselves: for many years the authoritative spokesmen of the Third Reich insistently stressed their 'sympathy' for Ukraine and promised to liberate it from the terrible Muscovite yoke. Facts have proved to us that this was only a piece of political blackmail on the part of Germany. Pretending to support Carpatho-Ukraine, the Germans made it, as we now know, an object of barter. Shortly before the war Germany repeatedly spoke with sorrow about the sufferings of the Ukrainians of Galicia and Volhyn under Poland, but when the war came the Germans handed them over, as a price for the help of Moscow, to the worst enemy of our nation. Germany delivered to persecution and oppression six million Ukrainians, and destroyed the great center of our national culture, Lviv. The flower of our people... was delivered by Germany to the inhuman torturers of the Soviet hangman. In face of such perfidy our blood curdles with horror..."

PROFESSIONAL ASS'N HAS NEW PRESIDENT

Waldimir Semenyna of Newark, N. J. is the new president of Ukrainian Professional Association, according to an announcement of its executive board. Formerly 1st vice-president, he succeeds William Kuzma, attorney, also of Newark, who has resigned. Mr. Semenyna is an aeronautical engineer by profession. He is widely known among Ukrainians for his English translations of Ukrainian poetry.

prestige of the Ukrainian-Canadians, if the basis of cooperation could be found...

I hope you will not regard this advise as impertinent. It is given in good faith, and in the belief that the dreams you all dream regarding an independent Ukraine are in harmony with the war aims of this Canada to which you first loyalties are pledged.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Founded February 22, 1894)

(1)

THE story of Ukrainian immigration to America is a story of undeniable, and yet unrecognized, romance. We have sought romance too far away: in the story of Columbus, of the conquistadores, of the Puritans, but we have overlooked our own fathers and mothers. We know the bravery of the former, their courage, their dash and pluck. But we ought to know that our fathers, too, have shown no common spirit in venturing to America.

Though the times when they lived were quite different from those of Columbus, the facilities of information at their disposal were hardly better. Our fathers were no sea-farers, in constant contact with other lands. They were farmers who lived far away from the sea. Their farms made them self-sufficient and they maintained little commerce with the outside world. The systems of education imposed by the governments of Austria, Hungary and Russia quite frequently served only the oppressing race and aimed at dulling our people into mute acceptance of oppression.

Their life was hard. The population kept on increasing, and the allotments of land grew smaller and smaller. The competition of the western provinces and countries killed new industries of their country: there was no chance to eke out a subsistence by work in cities and factories. The taxes were exorbitant, and took most of the peasant's earnings, leaving him with hardly enough to keep body and soul together.

To these exploited and oppressed people the stories of America came. Strange stories these were, full of illusions about the charms of life in America, but they came like a blessing, like a rain upon the ground parched by long drought. Stories of wide stretches of land beyond the wide seas, lands with many big cities, full of opportunities for work and earning. A land of freedom, where nobody was oppressed. It sounded too good to be true.

Those stories came through whispering campaign of shipping agents. Most of the people did not know how to read, books were looked upon as luxuries fit only for lord, so there was no way to dispel their doubts, to answer their questions.

More aggressive spirits among them ventured to try by experience what others turned over in their thoughts. They went to America, and then wrote letters. The news was true after all! There was a marvelous country of golden opportunity for every one. Migration towards the New World started with a rush.

The nobility was losing its supply of cheap labor, and applied to the government for help. The government was losing soldiers and tax-payers, and tried to stop them. But nothing could stem the tide. When legal methods of emigration were closed, shipping agents and immigrants discovered routes upon which they could avoid control stations.

Those who succeeded in reaching the Land of Promise, were doomed to a great disappointment. They had no capital with them, and the first thing they had to do in the new country was to find work. They knew little other work than farming, and here they had to flock to the cities, where there was more opportunity for earnings than in the country. They knew no trade, and they had to become unskilled laborers. They had no knowledge of the language of the country, and they had to take the jobs which were offered them. These were usually the hardest and least remunerative.

But the Ukrainians were sturdy men and women, who were not afraid to work. Even the lowest pay was good, when compared with earnings in the old country. Coming from penury, they were all a

thrifty lot. So they worked and worked hard, earned little, but saved comparatively a great deal. Where others could not hold out, they prospered.

Terrors of the Machine

But their work was not only the least remunerative and the hardest, but also the most hazardous. As they undertook work in factories with strange whirring machines, they knew little that the cogs of machinery could inflict horrible wounds, that the belts of the machines could tear off limbs. In coal mines they found that death lurked behind every nook and corner.

Being tillers of the soil they were inured to view death as a phenomenon as natural as birth, but they knew death only as a result of sickness or old age, not in the course of work.

Still more were they shocked to view the revolting consequences of such a death. As they stood by the grave of a single man killed in a mining accident, they realized that he went down to his grave unmourned. Today the people pray on his grave, but tomorrow nobody will mention him. His very grave will be forgotten. As if not a man, but an animal has been buried.

If the man had a family in the old country, what future awaits its members, when they hear that he, whom they expected to come back with plenty of money, had passed away? And if the man had a family with him in America, here they stood over the yawning grave, perhaps envying the man who was dead. He at least has no worries, no tomorrow to think about. He was better off than his widowed wife, and his orphaned children, whose only provider he had been. How can they manage to meet the expenses of the funeral? And what will they do after the funeral?

Some old Ukrainian immigrants, who had witnessed similar scenes, had looked around for a remedy. They had heard of strange societies, which provide for emergencies such as these. People who are exposed to dangers in their work, bind themselves together into a society and undertake to pay in case of the death of any member a certain sum, say, a hundred dollars, or more, to his family. The surviving members of the society obligate themselves to defray monthly the expenses of such death benefits, by a simple process of adding the monthly obligations of the society arising from the deaths of their members and dividing the sum by the number of surviving members.

Growing Need For Fraternal Insurance Society

The Ukrainians who belonged to societies of this kind, Czech, Slovak, Polish, German, or Hungarian, enjoyed the financial benefits of their membership, but among strangers they felt like an albino crow among the black crows. As the number of Ukrainian immigrants to this country grew larger, a possibility arose of organizing such a society exclusively of Ukrainians. In such a society they could not only have monetary help, but feel being in their own family.

Before this organization, upon the idea of which they stumbled so unknowingly, could arise, the enthusiasts had to overcome yet many an obstacle. The scheme was simple, but do not the most simple schemes arouse the greatest opposition? The scheme was obvious, but was it possible? Who had ever heard of such an organization in the old country? They were told that in the old country the peasant was in no need for such an organization as, first, he was not exposed to such risks, and, secondly, if he died young, his family had protection in the land he had left behind. But they still doubted whether they should undertake such a novelty. What was good to their fathers, they argued, should be good to them. To organize a Ukrainian society would mean that

Ukrainians would have to manage it. And was this possible? Weren't they told by lords in the old country that the peasants were unable to rule themselves and after all, do we need one so badly? We are here only for a short time: soon we'll earn our portion and go back. What's the use of building a society, which our children won't use? Better buy land in the old country, with that money.

But life was stronger than all the doubts. Accidents kept on happening and the group of far-seeing leaders kept on hammering at the apathy and fear of the novel, self-admiring smugness and ever-doubting indolence, until a sufficiently large number were convinced that the Ukrainians should organize such a society of their own.

Founding of U.N.A.

Thus, when in 1894, on February 22, on the very day of George Washington's birthday, the first such Ukrainian society was organized in the town of Shamokin, in the state of Pennsylvania, the society had already behind it a long and hard struggle. No wonder that the innovators were so elated that they spoke of victory, that they wrote poetry commemorating the event. They were united, in spite of all the forces of disunion and disruption. Nothing seemed impossible to them now. What couldn't the people do when they tie themselves together to one common work!

This local organization was the modest beginning of a wider organization which undertook to wipe away the tears of widows and orphans, provide for them in case of the death of their provider, of their breadwinner, of their father. Thus arose what was later called the Ukrainian National Association, which became generally nicknamed "Bat'ko Soyuz," Father-Soyuz, while today it is also commonly known as the U.N.A.

But the society needed many members for its success, and the number of those converted to the membership in the Ukrainian society, was yet small. Hence the innovators saw their first object to be to arouse the masses of the people of their own race from apathy, to show them the new road to betterment, to fill them with confidence in their own powers to do such things, to destroy the remnants of distrust dating back to the days of serfdom, and finally to make them actually do the building up of a powerful organization commensurate with the needs and the numbers of the people of our race. The Father had to be a Teacher.

"Svoboda"

With this purpose in view the Association bought an interest in a newspaper, the "Svoboda," and through it spread the desire for reading, for attending lectures, participating in gatherings and organizations. Great, simply unmountable obstacle seemed to await them. The people had not learned to take books and newspapers regularly. Still greater was their aversion towards paying for the books and newspapers. A long, hard campaign had to be waged to eradicate those conservative tendencies.

Thus Father-Soyuz was called upon first to be a Pioneer! To blaze the paths through unknown tracts. To cut underbrush. To clear the growth, to break the rocks, to remove obstacles in the way of those who were to follow on an easy road.

The work of the newspaper and the main office, ably supported by forever growing line of local leaders, worked the miracle: it has "sold" the immigrant the idea to which the leaders so enthusiastically subscribed. After several years of propaganda the need for a national Ukrainian organization was keenly felt in every community which possessed a group of Ukrainian people. Newer and newer branches were formed. The people who had never done any organizing work, now caught the fire. Tillers of the soil who once knew only how to deal with nature, now dealt with people. The old pleasure which they knew so well when viewing the crops growing under their hands, they felt relive in their

hearts as they watched a society of their people grow. They gained belief in their own ability.

Rise In Benefits

The development of the self-confidence of the people was remarkable. At first they dared to risk their contributions for a promise of hundred dollars benefit. Actual experience proved them that the promise was an empty one. The appetite came with eating. If the society could pay a hundred dollars, why couldn't it pay two hundred? When a two hundred benefit proved feasible, they raised the benefit to four hundred, and to five. Now not only the services of the church and of the undertaker could be paid, but a sum could be left for the widow and orphans. Why not increase the death benefit to one thousand? It would be more expensive? What of it? As long as the family of the deceased could be sure of the benefit, what could the provider care for the cost? Wouldn't the additional expense all go to the benefit of the family? Don't they deserve more protection? Aren't his children and wife a man's dearest possessions?

After a dozen years of existence our organization came to realize that the old system of dues collected by assessment did not offer that security. The longer the society lasted, the greater was the comparative number of dying members. It seemed as if only those of the members who died young could be sure that their families would be provided for. The assessments of those who remained, would keep on growing until it would be impossible to keep the membership. A reform of the dues system became imperative. The plan could be patterned after old organizations of other races, but to attain this an arduous campaign of education was necessary. Many members refused to accept the reform and left the organization, but the stalwart remained loyal and lived to see the reform to become the bulwark of the financial stability of the organization.

To Live And Die Here

The World War kindled in the heart of the Ukrainian immigrant the hope that his home country would enter the community of nations as a free and independent nation. When the hope died, the Ukrainian immigrants gave up their long-cherished hopes to return to the old country. They settled in this country to live and to die here. If they could not be perfectly happy, their children at least would be. For their sake they wanted to make their existence still more secure. They wanted to give their children still greater guarantees. They looked about them and saw the various insurance features offered by various insurance companies. They wanted to have them introduced into the organization which they themselves had produced and in which they were complete masters. Before all they wanted certain protection for their families and for themselves for the provider's old age so as not to fall a burden upon their beloved ones.

To be sure, these new kinds of insurance were more costly than the simple death benefits offered by their order, but in their love towards their families they did not care at all for the cost. Education, too, was needed once the masses of Ukrainian immigrants made up their minds to stay in this country. Their interest in the political and social life of the country grew more and more, and as a tangible expression of this growth the Association changed its official organ into a daily.

In a short review, the story of the Ukrainian National Association reveals a great deal of moving in zig-zag fashion. But taking it as a whole, this has always been a movement forward. Mistakes were made, but the lesson of each mistake was at once recognized, and mistakes were corrected. The army might have straggled, but in the end it always came back to a united attack at the problem. In short, it was a glorious movement, of which the old generation are justly proud.

(To be concluded)

A CHRONICLE OF PEASANT LIVES

MARUSYA. By Hrihory Kvitka. Translated from the Ukrainian by Florence Randal Livesay. Introduction by Lord Tweedsmuir. 219 pp. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. \$2.

WHAT we know of Ukraine we owe chiefly to Gogol, himself a Ukrainian, who wrote in Russian. Of Ukrainian literature, except for old ballads and folk-tales, of which there is abundance, we know little. We are ignorant of the very existence of Shevchenko, a major poet and a contemporary of Pushkin; I doubt if many know even his name. The present translation of "Marusya" is, therefore, of historical, geographical and literary interest. The author, Gregory Kvitka—one wonders why the translator has retained the original Ukrainian form of the first name—was also a contemporary of Pushkin. Actually, he wrote under the name of Osnovyanenko. His best work perhaps is his novel "Pan Khalyavsky," written in Russian, described by Mirsky as "a heavily realistic and heavily humorous picture of the uninspired and purely materialistic life of the Ukrainian squires. . . a notable landmark in the evolution toward pure physiological naturalism."

"Marusya" is quite a different kind of work, which scarcely falls within the category of fiction, as we understand the word today. It is indeed a sort of ballad in prose, primitive in theme and romantic in mood, very much in the Ukrainian tradition in spirit and style. There is something almost medieval in the love story of Marusya and Vasyl; it is one of the endless variations of love unto death.

A sense of lofty unreality pervades the central idea; what there is of reality belongs chiefly to the realm of custom, to those colorful and quaint ways of life which have distinguished the Ukraine from time immemorial and been probably rendered obsolete only under the Bolshevik masters, who have no use for the romance, the gaiety and the affections which do not fall within the scope of Marxian dogma. Kvitka's characters are peasants, simple and God-fearing, bound to the soil and to essentials. They feel deeply and think not at all, they live with the seasons, and their feasts and fasts are an integral part of their existence.

"After this fashion lived Naum Drot. . . When some misfortune overtook him, how did he behave? He ignored it, he always praised God, and in this manner he lived all his days." This beginning strikes the keynote of the story. To Naum and his wife Nastya, neither any longer young, a daughter is born—Marusya. "What a child! Tiny, yes, but she knows the Lord's Prayer, 'Hail Mary,' 'Holy God,' and the better half of the Creed." Beautiful? Of course. Tall, straight, her eyes black as sloes, eyebrows "as delicate as black lace," her braids "as black as tar. . . falling to her knees." Indeed, the princess of the Russian fairy tale. Then Vasyl—a fair youth with a forelock "like a cloak over his brow, with thick clustering curls, his mustache. . . that of a handsome Cossack, his eyes gay." They meet at a wedding, and it is first love at first sight. He is "speechless and dazed with the sudden shock," Marusya shivers, and feels like weeping.

It is the old story of the course of true love that never runs smooth. Vasyl is apparently a paragon, yet Marusya's father forbids the marriage because the young man must under the law serve in the army. And, as filial duty comes first, Marusya submits.

It is clear from all this that style should matter here. The translation, however, is not uniformly successful. There are too many rough edges which might have been put right with a little intelligent editing.

JOHN CURNOS.

New York Times, Feb. 18, 1940.

LESYA UKRAINKA

Born February 24, 1872

LESYA Kosach, better known under her pen-name of Lesya Ukrainka, was the most prominent Ukrainian woman of the last century. Like Marie Bashkirtseff, she was condemned, in her early childhood, to die of disease. She, too, was born of a well-to-do family. Tutored privately, she sought, in her loneliness, the companionship of the village children. She must have acquired the typical peasant stolidity, which stood her in good stead, when at the age of 11, she was discovered to be afflicted with consumption. Confined to her bed, she bore her suffering patiently and silently. The sickness affected her left hand and cut her off from seeking consolation in piano. Forced to renounce the games and play of the children of her own age, she soon fell upon expressing her thoughts and feelings through poetry. Under the professional guidance of her mother she perfected, with precocious rapidity, the technique of her literary expression.

At first, her solitude and isolation drove her to seek consolation in introspective ruminations. The long hours of solitude, however, awakened in her not only moods and feelings, but deep thoughts as well. She soon came to take the critical attitude towards her own tendency of complaining chronically. To be sure, the poetry of groans may ease her mental sufferings, but what about her readers? The writer may find solace in such poetry, but the normal reader finds only oppressive melancholy.

Reading voraciously, while confined to her bed, she liked to transport herself into the ages of knight-hood, the ages of action, of heroic deeds. Thus she felt still more poignantly how weak was her old method of reminding the people of her sufferings, how out of tune it was with the immensity and grandeur of historic events. Tears and silence seemed proper only for those incapable of anything else.

For a time there was a hope of recovery. She rose from her bed and rushed to prepare herself for her knightly role. And here the knight comes upon the side of a glass mountain. As she approached her Russian companions, she felt their animosity toward Ukrainians. Her father's sister was exiled to Siberia by the tsarist government. She observed closer the life around her, and saw that soulless revenge is called administration of justice, that despotic self-will padades as law, that those who are arrogant enjoy honor and glory, while the humble receive but contempt. She grew conscious of the whole gamut of social and racial classifications and injustices.

It was a simple mental process for the sick girl to find her adversary in the tyrannic oppressor, the tsarist government. In her day-dreams about knight-hood she had somehow never sympathized with the arrogant conqueror, who having downed his adversary, yelled, "Surrender!" In the arrogant knight she saw only her own conqueror, her sickness, and all her sympathy had gone to the prone, conquered but not defeated hero, who, with the point of the conqueror's sword on his throat, still called out to the conqueror, "Kill, but I won't surrender!" She became inspired with a sense of her mission, and she entered upon feverish activities in various Ukrainian societies, and at the same time she kept on with her writing. But her stubborn sickness returned to put limitations upon her activities. Concerts, exhibitions, meetings, proved burdensome to her weak health. As her poem "To be or not to be," attests, the young woman finds herself confronted by a dilemma: should she beat her lyre into a plow and plow the fields, or should she cut the roads with an axe through untrodden forests? No, she feels she has neither time nor strength for either the functions of a worker, or those of a pioneer. She is a poet and as a poet she can be use-

ful to society. By her poetry she can make people realize better the vital life values and thus make their life better.

The tsarist government was quick to put its suppressive hand upon her literary activities. Her works had to be printed outside of that section of Ukraine which was under the tsars,—in the adjoining Austrian province of Galicia, where the Ukrainian language enjoyed comparative freedom. Her works had to be smuggled into Russia.

Her sickness developed further, making it necessary for her to seek warmer climates. Compelled to travel abroad, she was uprooted from her native soil, from which her literary activities drew all their nourishment. She had to go to Italy, Caucasus, Egypt. Instead of living with real people of her native land, she was forced to live the life of watering places and sanitariums. But even there, she kept her roots in the native soil. Learning foreign languages, reading foreign literature, observing the life of foreign peoples, she forever was on the alert to seek a subject which might help the Ukrainian people to relive, and make them realize, experiences important for their life.

Her small inheritance soon dwindled, and the sick woman was thrown upon her literary work as a means of subsistence. This quickly proved insufficient to keep body and soul together. The sick woman had to take to tutoring and teaching foreign languages in the motley crowds of watering places. She kept on writing.

From the various foreign races she drew the plans for her works, which, in a dramatic manner, thundered upon the Ukrainian people the need of activity, of struggle. Act, and work, and strive, and struggle—she called to them. And never give up hope!

The magazines which published her works, were not as popular as she might have desired. Even those who received them did not always show that they understood them. Still the little woman, now broken by her long sickness, refused to grow discouraged. In July 1913, she arrived at a watering place beyond the Caucasus. Lying on her deathbed, she wrote her last work, which was her answer to the question which tortured her soul: if those who lived in her times, have failed to understand her, will at least the generations to follow appreciate her work? Could it be that her life has been lived in vain?

She imagined herself, in her last poem, in the role of Argo, the Greek philosopher, in the first ages of victorious Christianity, when the newly triumphant creed captured the imagination of the crowds and set them to persecute as heretics all those who differed with them. As the crowd surges, anxious to burn all Greek manuscripts, the Greek philosopher and his children steal out of the city, at night, to bury the manuscripts in the deep sands of the deserts. There, on their knees, the family pray to Helios, the God of Sun, to preserve the vetiges of ancient wisdom till the day when the people would be ready to receive them.

A few days after the poem was completed, the poet, whose life seems to be a monument of Ukrainian fortitude, was dead.

— Spirit of Ukraine

ELIZABETH, N. J.

ANNUAL DANCE given by St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church to be held at Ukrainian Ball Room 214-216 Fulton Street, Elizabeth, N. J., SATURDAY Evening, FEBRUARY 24, 1940, at 7:30 P. M. Music by the Continental Orchestra. Admission 35¢.

NEWARK, N. J.

DINNER and DANCE sponsored by the Youth Committee of the American-Ukrainian B & L Assn., of Newark, N. J., on SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 1940 at the Ukrainian Center, 180 William St., Newark, N. J. Subscription to Dinner and Dance \$1.00. For dance only, 25¢. Dinner commences at 3:00 P. M., the Dance at 8:00 P. M. Music by Oley Bros. Orchestra.

YOUTH and THE U.N.A.

News from East Chicago, Ind.

The first meeting of the newly organized Ukrainian Youth Club, Branch 452 of the Ukrainian National Association, located in East Chicago, Ind., was held on January 14th, reports Anne Budnyk. The following officers were elected: Michael Dorozinsky, pres.; Walter Hatala, vice-pres.; Mary Milik, financial sec'y; Anne Budnyk, rec. sec'y.

There speakers were introduced to the group during the course of the meeting, all being from Chicago, Ill. The first speaker, Mr. S. Kuropas, a Supreme Controller of the U.N.A., brought out the purposes and activities of the fraternal order, urging his listeners to be Ukrainian in heart. Mr. D. Biletzky, the organizer of the branch, stressed the point that young Ukrainian-Americans should not forget their national heritage, urging his listeners to take pride in the fact that they are Ukrainians. The last speaker, Mr. D. Senieu, urged the new group to take an active interest in Ukrainian affairs, stressing that Ukrainian customs and traditions should be upheld by the younger generation.

Persons in or near East Chicago who are interested in this new U. N. A. youth branch should communicate with Anne Budnyk, 4214 Ivy St., East Chicago, Ind.

B. & L. CAMPAIGN FOR YOUNG MEMBERS

Many times in the past we have witnessed appeals for our younger generation to join the Ukrainian National Association. Stress has been placed upon the financial solidarity of our association. Certainly it represents the finest fruit of the labors of our parents in the organizational field.

Locally there are in every locality some Ukrainian organizations which one can join without trepidation. Any organization which contributes to the welfare of our local Ukrainian community deserves our whole hearted support.

Among such organizations are our Ukrainian building and loan associations. They have uniformly survived the depression while others toppled around them. They have contributed financially and morally to our people. Now the time has also come for us, the younger generation, to join these local groups as well as our U.N.A.

Our Ukrainian Building and Loan Association of Newark, N. J. is aware of this need and so has called for support of a number of the young shareholders, who have the time to campaign for its continued success. We of that committee have been meeting with a fine response to date and we invite all of our youth interested to get in touch with us. Our association is on a firm financial basis and we are offering a new plan initiated by the State of New Jersey in which the shareholder gets his money back in ten years and no longer. Interest is paid according to the fiscal year are larger than they have been during the depression.

We plan to top our drive with a Banquet and Dance on March 3, 1940. Here's hoping that all our local young people will attend that affair.

JOHN ROMANITION,
Chairman

IVAN FRANKO'S "MOSES"

Trans. by Waldimir Semenyna
With a biographical sketch of
Ivan Franko

by Stephen Shumeyko
Price 50 cents

SVOBODA BOOKSTORE

81-83 Grand Street

UNEMPLOYMENT—A CHALLENGE TO DEMOCRACY

(Concluded) (3)

Another serious economic waste is in too great a number of retail outlets. To illustrate, take for example gas stations. It has been estimated by a major oil company that eighty per cent of the retail outlets can be dispensed with without causing any great inconvenience to the public. Think of the savings in pumps, equipment, building, taxes and man-power that can be effected in curtailing the number of outlets. The public is supporting this wasteful distribution by paying a four cent profit per gallon to the retailer. Cutting the profit to one cent and reducing the outlets by 80% gives the remaining outlet at least one and a quarter times their present profits. This three cent reduction in price plus the elimination of state taxes which average around five cents a gallon and a reduction of one or two cents per gallon by the oil companies due to lower distribution costs, elimination of advertising and taxes will mean a reduction of nine to ten cents per gallon in the price of gas. Every time the motorist buys ten gallons of gas, he will save approximately one dollar. That dollar kept the closed gas stations and their attendants going, and believe it or not, to steal a phrase from Ripley, that dollar will still give a like amount of employment when it is spent. This is the difference: instead of paying a dollar to support wasteful distribution in the form of needless buildings, equipment, advertising, taxes, and the like, you will now get extra gas or oil or a tube or something useful for your dollar and now the attendant, the politician, and the advertiser can have the privilege of making them for you. Your dollar kept them going in a gas station, your dollar will keep them going in productive industry, making the goods you and your family can use and need.

Not only can wasted human effort in distribution be used to advantage but also in other phases of our system. For example, take waste in our penal system. Prisoners cannot be productive because they displace private employment. This is absurd. The man in prison should not only be made to support himself at hard work in prison factories but also the institution and his dependents. The taxpayer and public should be relieved of the burden of supporting prisoners, their dependents, and the penal system. The saving to the taxpayer (money in pocket) should be spent for goods, yes, even goods produced in prison shops so that the prisoner would work for the taxpayer and not the taxpayer for the prisoner. Any increase in productive employment can have only one effect—an increase in purchasing power and an improved standard of living. Increased opportunity should automatically bring about a decrease in crime. Furthermore, when prisoners are released it should be the responsibility of the government to see that these men are gainfully employed at a living wage. Should a former prisoner elect to leave his job and opportunity to go straight and return to criminal pursuits, there can be only one answer and that is extermination. There can be no place for crime, for dishonesty, for graft in our civilization. Public employees found guilty of graft and corruption should not be arbitrarily dismissed, but should be doubly penalized for theirs is a position of public trust, to be honored and respected and abused. To further eliminate crime all people should be registered and finger-printed. Their employment, or source and amount of income should be a matter of public record especially where taxes are to be collected solely as direct income taxes.

Many of our other problems such as railroads will automatically be solved with a major increase in the production of goods and commodities. Agriculture or any other industry will not need to be and

PHILLY HIGH SCORERS

Going into the homestretch of the basketball season we find that Ukrainians hold first and third places in the individual high scoring race in the Philadelphia Collegiate Area.

Holding the top rank for the fourth consecutive week, George Duzminski has compiled a total of 189 points in 17 games. He leads Nugent by 8 points, and Mike Lazorchak, the other Ukrainian, by 16 points. Earlier in the season it was Lazorchak who led the scoring parade. All three hail from Villanova College.

INDIVIDUAL SCORING

Player	College	G.	F.	Pts.	Ave.
Duzminski	Villanova	17	76	37	189 11.1
Nugent	Villanova	17	79	23	181 10.7
Lazorchak	Villanova	17	72	29	173 10.2
Brown	West Chester	15	59	33	151 10.0

—ay

SYRACUSE DEFEATS HERKIMER

The Syracuse Ukrainian Men's Club basketball team defeated the Herkimer Ukrainians in the second game between the two clubs by a 32-16 score at Herkimer, on Saturday, Feb. 17, 1940. The first game also went to Syracuse. Score at half time was 12-8 in favor of Syracuse with both sides missing many shots. At one time in the 3rd quarter, Herkimer managed to pull within a point of the opponents but this was short, as Syracuse started to get going and with Maloney and Bruciak leading the way with 9 and 7 points respectively, they spurted ahead to win with points to spare. Semenow was high for Herkimer with 8 points.

This victory marked Syracuse's 21st victory of the season, with the last 14 out of 16 won. It also marked 3 out of 4 won from Ukrainian teams. Next to be faced are the Sayre, Pa. Ukrainians in a two game series.

ELIZABETH, N. J.

PRE-LENTEN DANCE given by the Ukrainian National Home **SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1940** at Ukrainian Nat'l Home, 214 Fulton St., Elizabeth, N.J. Beginning at 8 P. M. Ticket 35 c. Music by Popular Orchestra.

ATTENTION! CONNECTICUT!

George Washington Dance TONITE at Ukrainian Hall, on Kings Highway, Southport. Dance sponsored by youth of Southport for benefit of State Organization. Let's All meet here. Plenty of sweet music...fun...and dancing. Marko Bros. Orchestra. Admission 35 c. Remember: It's TONITE at 8 P. M. And watch the **BLOT!**

should not be subsidized. Increased production in industry, increased purchasing power and living conditions will increase the demand for farm products which should and can be consumed in our own markets without subsidation abroad. The theory that foreign trade is essential to prosperity is false. Foreign trade should be encouraged only in raw materials and commodities which we ourselves do not produce and these imports must be balanced off by a like amount of exports. It is neither fair nor right for the American nation to maintain a favorable trade balance by continually exporting in excess of imports. It is impossible for other nations to import our goods continually and pay for these goods in cash without exporting to us a like amount. Their currencies will soon be hoarded in our banks, they themselves will be stifled much as individuals are today. International trade must be an instrument of good will and not an instrument for cornering the world supply of gold and silver.

The preservation and perpetuation of democracy rests in the preservation of the "inalienable rights of the individual to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and in the restoration of a system of government which gives to its people the opportunity to maintain themselves and their families as free and independent citizens, proud of their heritage, happy in their well-being. Failing in this, democracy shall perish.

James V. Kusiv.

STUFF AND SUCH

OUR calendar tells us that this is the month of February, the Leap-Year month, the month of Romance, and the month that women talk the least...because it only has 29 days! So we herewith dedicate this alleged column to the inevitable husbands and wives of this generation. We wonder what Confucius would say, but that's Confucusing the issue; here's what we'd say...and it's a BRIDE one folks with a HITCH to it. It's ENGAGING and RINGS true, so everyone should have a MARRY time.

To the would-be husbands: They say a bachelor is a man who never makes the same mistake once... and he never Mrs. anything. However, if the itch to get hitched overcomes you, we advise the following: Before you marry on a shoestring you have to find a sweet young thing who's willing to string along with you. You've got to talk turkey if you want your heart-beat to gobble it up. Flattery is the best formula (so we've found). Flattery, if you don't already know, is 90% soap...and soap is 90% lye. ??? But be careful; many a groom has been taken for a ride on the bridal path. Money is important too! A girl can be very sweet when she wants. You need a mint if your One-And-Only orders juleps. Faint heart never won fair lady, but most of them are unfair anyway. A wife's an angel until she begins harping...and if this be the case...the husband is usually a man of few wads. Always rush home from work and throw your arms around your wife...before she can strike a blow! Don't tell her when your birthday is...she's liable to give you several socks and a bit a belt! Many a married man gets into difficulties through a miss understanding so women's rights are not to be sneezed at...neither are their left hooks to the jaw. Always help wife clean house...by staying down-town till she is through so as not to be in her way.

To the would-be wives: We know of a spinster school teacher who has lots of pupils, but not much class. She's an old maid who's made a miss of things. In embarking upon the sea of matrimony a girl needs a pretty map if she's to go places, so it is essential that you keep yourselves beautiful. It's all right to stoop to conquer every now and then...but only to reduce! If you find shadows under your eyes...it's from doing everything under the sun. Take it easy. Spend a quiet evening at the movies even though many romances have been ruined by double-features...that is, two chins. They say, the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. Some husbands will swallow anything from their wives but their dinners! And if you use an oil burner at home...be careful not to put the wrong oil in the salad! Don't burn the candle at both ends...especially on your birthday cake! If your husband has horses on his mind, don't nag him, for he may start to grow tired of you and then may not know what course to pursue...in which case we advise a course in love-making! Lastly, remember that a modern wife may not be so soothing as the sweet, old-fashioned kind, but she is a lot more stimulating, and whatever her husband may die of, he will never die of boredom.

In general, marriage is not what it cracks up to be. Many marriages are split by sharp words...and after dinner speeches (viz... "and now help me with the dishes, darling!"). Some folks say marriages are made in heaven, and that's why it's such a shock when the newlyweds get down to earth!

We can talk about women and marriage for just so long.—So long!

Bromo "Cupid" Seltzer

NEW YORK CITY:

LEAP YEAR DANCE tendered by the St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Club at their Club Rooms, 334 East 14th Street, New York City, on **SATURDAY, FEB. 24, 1940:** Featuring **Aristocrats Dance Orchestra.** Commencing 8:00 P. M. Admission 35 c.

THE U. N. A. SPOTLIGHT

NOTICE

News reports, scores of games, and all U.N.A. sport items should be addressed to The U.N.A. Spotlight, c/o Theodore Lutwiniak, P. O. Box 88, Jersey City, N. J. When material is not promptly published it means that same was received after our "deadline," which is Tuesday preceding the date of publication. When space is available, box-scores will appear in the "Svoboda" on any days of the week convenient to the editors. Sport fans interested in the box-scores should read the "Svoboda" daily. This notice will not be reprinted, and reporters are asked to remember our "deadline" date.

District No. 1

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

	Won	Lost	Pct.
New York	2	1	.667
Newark	1	1	.500
Philadelphia	0	1	.000

On Feb. 18th, Newark traveled to New York and suffered its 1st setback, 27-41. The details on this game will appear in next week's Spotlight.

Newark will play at Philadelphia on Feb. 25th, reports George Slobogin. The game will start at 2 P. M. and will be played at Our Lady of Mercy Church hall, Susquehanna Ave. at Watts St. (east of Broad St.)

District No. 2

The standings of the teams:

	Won	Lost	Pct.
Berwick	2	0	1.000
Olyphant	2	1	.667
McAdoo	2	2	.500
Hanover	0	3	.000

In last week's Spotlight it was reported that Hanover defeated Berwick on Feb. 11th, 40 to 18. The U.N.A. Athletic Director states that that game has been awarded to Berwick in compliance with Article III (a) of Rules for Season 1940.

On Feb. 11th, McAdoo defeated Olyphant, 38-23, before a crowd of 500 on McAdoo High School's court. Yankoski was high scorer for the winners with 15 points, while J. Terry starred for the losers with 14 points. The score by periods:

McAdoo:	5	8	11	14—38
Olyphant:	3	6	6	8—23

District No. 3

The standings of the teams:

	Won	Lost	Pct.
Mahanoy City	2	0	1.000
St. Clair	3	1	.750
Shamokin	0	1	.000
Centralia	0	3	.000

District No. 4

The standings of the teams:

	Won	Lost	Pct.
Akron	3	1	.750
Cleveland	3	1	.750
Ambridge	0	2	.000
Carnegie	0	2	.000

District No. 5

The standings of the teams:

	Won	Lost	Pct.
Rossvord	4	0	1.000
Hamtramck	2	1	.667
Detroit	1	2	.333
Lorain	0	4	.000

William Cholewka reports that Hamtramck defeated Lorain on Jan. 20th at the Hamtramck High School gym, 50-22. Bill Sharon and John Dmuchowski were high scorers for the winners, each having 14 points, while A. Semyczky led the losers with 9 points. Andrew Goy and Emil Zablocky helped Hamtramck with good defensive work. The game by half-periods:

Lorain:	11	11—22
Hamtramck:	20	30—50

U.N.A. ATHLETE WEDS

On Feb. 11th, Andrew Wochok, active U.N.A. member, was married to Mary Thomas at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Philadelphia, by the Very Rev. Ph. Tarnavsky, reports Dietric Slobogin. The reception, held at Adam's, was attended by 200 persons, many of whom were from St. Clair, Pa., the groom's former home town.

Andrew has been a member of the Philadelphia U.N.A. Youth Club since its organization. While playing baseball for the club he alternated at 1st base and the outfield. Mary also takes active interest in Ukrainian affairs, having participated in youth-conventions held in Philadelphia.