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

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CHICAGO TO BE SITE OF UYLA CONVENTION

Chicago will be the scene of the coming eighth annual convention of the Ukrainian Youth's League of North America, to be held this coming Labor Day weekend, it was announced today by Michael Piznak, president of the league.

The last convention of the League had scheduled the coming convention to be held in Toronto, with the provision that if war conditions there interfered, then the league executive board was to select a different site. Dr. Anthony Wachna of Windsor, Ontario, who at the last convention extended the league an invitation to bring the coming convention to Toronto, recently notified the League that on account of the war Toronto would be unable to act as host to the convention this year. Consequently, the league executive board had to pick another site for the convention. After deliberating on this question at several meetings, it finally decided upon Chicago.

In selecting Chicago, the league officers were motivated by the consideration that the league is a national organization, and therefore some of its conventions should be held in the Middle West as well, particularly in Chicago, the birthplace of the league, which is centrally located in that section of the country and is easy to reach by train, bus or plane, even from the East.

SHANGHAI WOMAN URGES YOUTH TO STUDY UKRAINIAN

"Tell your young Ukrainian-Americans that by all means they should study the Ukrainian language, for without it they will be deprived of some of the richest elements of their Ukrainian cultural and national heritage," was the earnest message the Ukrainian Weekly was asked to convey to young Americans of Ukrainian descent by Mrs. Melnyk, a Ukrainian from Shanghai, China, who together with her husband and 4-year-old son visited the Svoboda and the Ukrainian National Association offices last Tuesday.

The are now returning homeward from a brief tour of America. Mr. Melnyk is employed in Shanghai in the custom service. Both he and his wife are residents of China since the World War. Originally they lived in the "Zeleny Klyn" (Green Wedge) region in Manchukuo, which contains about 750,000 Ukrainians.

Mr. Melnyk revealed that there is quite a number of Ukrainians living in Shanghai and that they are organized in the "Ukrainska Hromada." Under auspices of this organization, they conduct various Ukrainian activities, including exercises commemorating Ukrainian historical dates.

The couple speak Ukrainian, English and Chinese.

RECOUNTS EXPERIENCES DURING NAZI INVASION

Frank Makar, aged 26, Ukrainian, of 344 Randolph St., Youngstown, Ohio, recently returned from Western Ukraine and was reported by a local paper of having been trapped in a house for three days during the German "blitzkrieg" on Poland last September.

Arriving in Youngstown after crossing the Atlantic on the American liner Manhattan, which left Genoa, Italy, February 12, Makar was greeted by friends, and relatives, the paper reports, whom he told he had only bread and water twice in nine days, and how he was put into prison as a suspected spy.

1939 BANNER YEAR FOR U. N. A.

A marked advance in both membership and assets of the Ukrainian National Association during the past year, was the keynote of the reports given at the annual meeting of the U.N.A. Supreme Executive Committee, held this week at the association's home office.

All the twenty members of the Supreme Executive Committee stressed that the marked increase in members is mainly due to the awakened interest among the younger Ukrainian-American generation in the organization. More and more of our young people are beginning to appreciate the great worth of the U.N.A. to Ukrainian-American life and to them personally as well. This is best illustrated by the number of U.N.A. youth branches that have arisen during the past year and by the unprecedented activity of the youth in U.N.A. ranks.

I

Such unceasing growth in membership and assets further strengthened during the past year the position of the U.N.A. as the leading Ukrainian organization on this side of the Atlantic. And as always, it has exercised this leadership not only to promote the welfare of Ukrainians in America but also of their oppressed kinsmen in enslaved and war-torn Ukraine. Its support of the movement to establish a free and independent state of Ukraine, it was pointed out by President Nicholas Muraszko in his opening report, is only a manifestation of its abhorrence of all forms of despotism and oppression, whether they be "tsarist, dictatorial, Russian, Polish, Hungarian, Rumanian or German." The U.N.A. has always stood for freedom and democracy, he said, and has demonstrated its support of these principles in innumerable ways.

Turning next in his report to the business affairs of the organization, Mr. Muraszko pointed out that although the past year was in many respects a trying one for business, the U.N.A. emerged from it stronger than ever. At the close of 1939, he revealed, the U.N.A. had \$160,000 invested in U.S. Government bonds, \$115,000 in U.S. Possessions (Phillipines) bonds, \$35,000 in Dominion of Canada bonds, \$40,000 in state bonds, \$16,000 in county bonds, \$597,326.57 in municipal bonds, \$601,000 in public utilities bonds, and \$20,000 in railroad bonds.

In 1939, he further revealed, the U.N.A. invested \$205,406.14 in 37 mortgages, of which 27, totalling \$132,131.14 were F. H. A. guaranteed, while the remaining 10 amounted to \$73,275.00. Altogether at the close of 1939 the U.N.A. had 119 F.H.A. mortgages totalling \$601,622.14, and 118 other mortgage loans amounting to \$938,617.46.

Real estate holdings ("Society's property") of the association amount to \$1,110,702.51. During the past year they brought a rental income of 14.5%.

Real estate held by the U.N.A. under assignment of rents brought in 1939 a rental amounting to 17.33%.

Altogether the U.N.A. collected in rents during the past year \$204,000.

Mr. Muraszko next recounted the part played by the U.N.A. in the negotiations among the four Ukrainian fraternal societies for the purpose of establishing among them some manner of cooperation whose aim would be to advance Ukrainian interests both here in America and abroad, especially to aid the movement for the establishment of a free Ukraine. He announced that last Saturday the "Big Four" had finally come to an agreement in respect to sponsoring the coming All-American-Ukrainian Congress.

II

Next to give his report was Gregory Herman, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Vice-President and Athletic Director of the U. N. A. He reported steady progress in the U.N.A. sport activities. Commenting on the problems connected with the U.N.A. sports program, Mr. Herman declared that the U.N.A. has assumed the duty of character-building toward its young members. He recommended the continuance of sports by the association along present lines and its encouragement among the young boys in the Juvenile Department. Finally he introduced the subject of creating summer camps for U.N.A. youth, preparatory to its formal introduction at the U.N.A. Convention in 1941.

(Continued on page 4)

FOUR FRATERNAL SOCIETIES AGREE ON CONGRESS

Will Jointly Convoke Ukrainian Congress at Washington

The four Ukrainian fraternal societies in the United States agreed last Saturday to jointly convoke an All-American-Ukrainian Congress, to be held in Washington, Friday, May 24, 1940.

This decision, coming after months of protracted negotiations, was announced last Wednesday by representatives of the "Big Four," namely, the Ukrainian National Association (Home Office—Jersey City), the Ukrainian Workingmen's Association (Scranton), the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics of America (Philadelphia) and the Ukrainian National Aid Association (Pittsburgh).

The purpose of the All-American-Ukrainian Congress will be to manifest the inalienable right of the Ukrainian nation to freedom and independence and to organize Ukrainian-American support for the creation of an independent and democratic Ukrainian State, the announcement of the four organizations declared.

In convokeing and sponsoring the congress, the four fraternal societies will invite the cooperation of all other Ukrainian-American national organizations which agree to indorse the political platform of the congress as drawn up by representatives of the "Big Four."

These representatives at present comprise the Congress Committee. In time they will become the core of the Congress Council, which will include two representatives apiece from the other national organizations that will join in the "Big Four" in sponsoring the congress. The proposed Council will meet in the near future for the purpose of drawing up plans for the congress.

The platform for the coming congress, as drawn up by the representatives of the "Big Four" and published last Thursday in "Svoboda" and other Ukrainian language press, is constructed on the basic premise that of all people of Ukrainian nationality, only those living here in America are able today to freely and openly advocate and champion the cause of Ukrainian national freedom for freedom is non-existent in Ukraine under Soviet, Nazi, Rumanian and Hungarian misrule, and throughout war-torn Europe in general.

One of the chief planks of this platform is that bolshevism, fascism, and nazism are alien to the Ukrainian people and their democratic traditions, and pernicious in respect to the further progress of the Ukrainian people.

As a result of the agreement among the "Big Four" to jointly sponsor the congress, all previous action, particularly that of the "Obyednanye," which convoked the congress originally, automatically comes to an end, and all further preparations for the congress will now rest upon the four fraternal societies and the other national organizations that join them in this undertaking. This is strictly in accordance with the explicit wish of the "Obyednanye" itself and of those national organizations that associated themselves with it in the original action leading toward the congress, as expressed in form of a resolution passed at their conference in Philadelphia on February 24th.

Makar said the German troops were welcomed heartily by both the Polish and Ukrainian peasants. He attributed the welcome to mistreatment and the high taxes to which the people had been subjected.

SHEVCHENKO IN TSARIST RUSSIAN PRESS

[Note:—Although czarist Russia never ceased persecuting Taras Shevchenko during his lifetime or his memory after his death, still there were many Russians, some of them even of the nobility, who recognized Shevchenko's greatness and who were proud to be known as his friends. In this connection it is interesting to recall the year 1914—the centenary of Shevchenko's birth. Although that year the Russian government banned all demonstrations honoring Shevchenko, yet this did not deter many liberal Russians as well as Russian journals from speaking and writing highly of him. The Review of Reviews of June, 1914 (Vol. 49, pages 739—40) contained two such Russian press comments upon Shevchenko. Below we reprint this article in its entirety.]

THE national poet of Ukraine, Taras Shevchenko, was born in 1814. His countrymen, the Ukrainians, had planned to celebrate this year the centenary of the birth of this man who did so much for their nationality. The Czar's government, however, has forbidden any celebration, knowing well how much such commemoration would revive the nationalistic liberty loving spirit of the Ukrainians. The place the dead poet holds in the hearts of his people is shown by the frank words of the leading liberal journal of Moscow, the *Russkiya Vvedomosti*:

"Shevchenko was a man whom fate,—in the words of one of his poems,—compelled to 'read all life's dark pages...' The life of the Ukrainian poet... now seems a sacrifice brought on the altar of freedom for his people. This alone was sufficient to make Shevchenko a national hero... But fate gave him the power and the possibility of not only becoming the hero of his nation, but also its creator... Shevchenko was a national poet not only by the form and substance of his numerous

works, not only because he served his people with his songs, fought for their rights... He was a national poet because he not only served his people, but also led them, and raised them to a higher level... He is a national poet because by the power of his creative genius he elevated the language of the people to the heights of national literature, he communicated to it all the features and all the force of literary expression. And he did all this without breaking with his people, without abandoning them."

Before the appearance of Shevchenko "a spirit of desolation" reigned in his beautiful mother country, continues the writer in the Moscow journal.

"The Ukrainian nation was left to its fate by its educated classes. These classes became Polonized in that part of Ukraine which lay to the right of the Dnieper, and those to the left were completely Russified, having severed all intellectual and moral bonds with their people. Only in small circles of 'intelligentsia' in the eastern part of Ukraine was the fire of national life kept burning... When Shevchenko came he brought the people and the educated classes together in the common cause of liberating Ukraine from the yoke of serfdom."

The cult of liberty and the welfare of his people,—these are the basic elements of the poetry of Shevchenko.

"His ideal is free humanity which knows not hostility, violence, and degradation, which is guided in its life by the moral law... The ideal of Shevchenko is the Kingdom of God on earth, which neither we nor our grandchildren will see, but without which life would be poor and colorless, and human thought would fade."

The memory of Shevchenko is alive in the hearts of the Ukrainian people, from the heights of its 'intelligentsia' to the lowest strata. His grave became a place of pilgrimage; his ideals became the foundation of the Ukrainian Nationalist movement.

Below we give some biographical data culled from an article in the *Ryetch*, of St. Petersburg.

"Taras Shevchenko was born 1814 in the village of Morintzi, province of Kiev, in the family of poor serfs belonging to a nobleman... His early knowledge of reading and writing,—even before he was ten years he could read the Psalter very expressively,—was one of the circumstances which prevented the young poet from being drowned in the mass of serfdom... In his sixteenth year Taras was dressed up as a page and began to wander with his nomadic proprietor in the capacity of an errand-boy. Within three years he was in Kiev, Warsaw, Vilna, and finally, in 1832, he was apprenticed to "Guild Master of Painting Shiryayev," that he might learn to paint the portraits of his master's family. This painter was not superior to the teachers he had before. But the years of travel and four years' stay at the capitol undoubtedly gave the inquisitive youth, besides the much-liked work of drawing, many observations and strong impressions. Hardly two years passed, and the young painter was bought out. In 1838 Taras became a free man, and entered the Academy of Arts, from which he graduated with honors in 1844."

Even before this Shevchenko had become known as a Ukrainian poet,—after the publication in 1840 of a collection of poems under the title of "Kobzar," and in 1842 of an historical poem "Haydamaki."

"He was a man of decidedly liberal tendencies. The life of millions of serfs, among whom were his own brothers and sister, inspired him with a feeling of hatred of the political regime in Russia, and this feeling was strongly reflected in his poems. But his

friends insisted, and he gave in. His writings attracted the attention of the vigilant authorities."

When he returned to his native place he joined a political society whose aim was to liberate all Slav nations, above all his own Ukraine, and to establish a republican form of government.

"For this, he, together with other members of the society, was arrested in 1847, taken to St. Petersburg and confined in the fortress of St. Peter and Paul... After three years' service he was arrested again and sent, this time as a 'political offender,' to a remote fortress on the bare eastern shore of the Caspian Sea, where he was kept in strict isolation. Many months passed, sometimes a whole year, without his getting any communication from the outside world. He remained there for over seven years. In 1858 he was allowed to return to St. Petersburg and live under police surveillance. He could hardly be recognized. "From a young man of thirty-three, healthy, vigorous, cheerful, with a mass of blond hair on his beautiful head, he turned into a decrepit old man with a gray beard, bald head and broken health." He continued to write even then. But he did not live long and died in 1861, three years after his return from exile."

UKRAINIAN WHEAT GROWN IN MIDDLE WEST

A historical movie short taken from the diary of Mark Carleton, government wheat expert of two generations ago, reveals that the American wheat was sensitive to drastic changes in weather and so millions of acres were often ruined by plagues, droughts, etc.

In his travels abroad, he came across a hard wheat which could withstand all these elements. This wheat he found in Kuban Region of Ukraine and introduced it to America under the name of Kubanka Wheat. Today millions of acres in the American middle west raise this hardy Ukrainian wheat.

UKRAINE: HER LOCATION AND SIZE

(1)

WE will find Ukraine on the map of Europe occupying the southern portion of Eastern Europe, situated on the Black Sea. Encircling that sea in the north, it constitutes its northern hinterland, and is the only country of Eastern Europe which can be reached from the Mediterranean Sea.

Ukraine extends from 43° to 54° north latitude and from 21° to 50° east longitude from Greenwich. "From the foot of the Tatra Mountains, from the sunny Hegyalia and cloud-wreathed Chornohora, from the silver-rippled San, from the dark virgin forest of Bilovezha and the immense swamps of Polisy, to the delta of the Danube, to the Black Sea, to the gigantic Caucasus and the Caspian sea extends Ukraine."

From the dawn of the historical life of Eastern Europe, for one thousand two hundred years, have the Ukrainian race resided in this region and preserved its boundaries against the merciless onslaughts of neighboring nations and peoples rolling over the country across its naturally unprotected frontiers.

Though in many respects a characteristically Eastern European country, Ukraine still occupies within Eastern Europe a unique position, differentiating it from the other natural units, such as Great Russia, Northern Russia, the Urals, White Russia, and the Baltic regions.

Its territory constitutes a transition from Eastern Europe, on the one hand, to Central and Southern Europe, and to Asia, on the other. It lies on the shortest land route leading from Western Europe to Central Asia and India.

Taken as an independent geographic unit, the Ukrainian territory above circumscribed embraces the surface of 330,000 square miles.

This is approximately equal to the sum total of the areas of New England states and all the states of the Atlantic seaboard as far south as Georgia.

According to European standards, it is one of the larger countries of Europe, being one and one half times as large as France, over three times as large as the United Kingdom. Of all the European races, only the Great Russians have a larger compact national territory.

UKRAINIAN MOUNTAINS

The characteristic features of Ukrainian landscape are its immensity coupled with little change in the scenery. There is a uniformity so peculiar for Eastern Europe, though not to the extent peculiar to Great Russia. There are in Ukraine landscapes of high and central chains of mountains, picturesque hill and richly cut plateaus, marshy plains and steppes with barrows—a great variety of surface configuration, but not on a scale typical of Western or Central Europe.

Three mountain systems of the European continent touch the ethnographic territory of Ukraine: across its southwestern corner pass the ridges of the Carpathian mountains, rising in some peaks to the height of over 6000 feet; on the Crimean peninsula rises the wall of the Yaila chain; and in southeastern region, between the Black and Caspian seas, rise the Caucasus. The Carpathians, the Yaila, and the Caucasus constitute immovable boundary-wall, marking the southern borders, of Ukraine.

Outside of these mountains Ukraine is all a conglomeration of plateaus and plains, taking up more than nine-tenths of the surface of the land. "Nine-tenths of the Ukrainians," says Prof. Stephen Rudnitsky in his "Geography of Ukraine," "have certainly never seen a mountain and do not even know what one looks like." What they call a mountain is often an insignificant hill.

Of the Caucasus only a small, western, part is within the Ukrainian territory. The chain attains an Alpine height.

The Yaila chain is altogether very short, and known for its scenery. But it is the Carpathians, though not as high as the Caucasus and not so beautiful as the Yaila, that are the dearest to the heart of the Ukrainian, probably because the Ukrainian race has been in possession of these mountains for more than a thousand years, while it reached the Caucasus and the Yaila only within the last century.

On the entire chain of the Carpathians only one third lies within the Ukrainian national territory, the westerly section being populated by Poles and Slovaks, the part to the east and southeast by the Rumanians.

The Ukrainian Carpathians extend from the defile of the Poprad river, in the west, to the Prislop pass, which connects the valleys of the Golden Bistritsya and the Visheva (Visso), on the east. Thus the highest and the most developed section of the Carpathians, the so-called Wooded Carpathians, lies within the Ukrainian territory.

The Carpathians of the Lemkoes

The western part of the Ukrainian Carpathians is called the Low Beskid. It is also called the Lemko Beskid, after the Ukrainian mountain tribe of the Lemkoes, which has inhabited that mountain group for centuries.

The Low Beskid extends westerly to the valleys of the Strviash River, the Oslava (Lupkiv) Pass, and the Laborets'. It is composed of broad-backed, not high mountains, grouped into long chains, gently undulating ridges, running from west to east and southeast. The slopes are so gentle that numerous cart-roads lead over the crests and along the edge of the crest.

High peaks occur only in the extreme west, reaching to the height of over 3000 feet; further to the east they are hardly 2000 or 2600 feet high. The important Dukla Pass is hardly 1,600 feet above the sea-level. The peaks are rounded. Between gently sloping ranges there extend valleys with watersheds and passes.

This mountain country is built up of strongly plicate and compressed Flysch, a series of sandstones, slates, conglomerates, clays, etc. of the Cretaceous and Tertiary ages. The basic mountain ridge is covered with a thick coat of weathering loam; rock piles are found seldom. The mountains have been evened out by the destructive action of water and air into a more or less perfect plain.

The Low Beskid was once covered with great mixed forest, now completely depleted, with tragic effects for the poor mountain country. The fertile soil was washed away on the mountain-sides and heaped up with rubble and mud in the valley bottoms. Hence the tribe of the Lemkoes is the poorest of all the Ukrainians and is compelled to seek existence in distant countries. They are the oldest Ukrainian immigrant to America.

(To be continued)

HOW I LEARNED ENGLISH

WHEN I was fifteen years old, the English language was so strange and so difficult, yet so fascinating as well as necessary to me, that learning it was an extraordinary experience. You will say, perhaps, that this was my private affair, like learning tap-dancing or sewing and so could not affect or reflect anybody else. On the contrary, it was a very social job; for I learned English in a public high school in Lawrence, Kansas, where many students, singly and in groups, volunteered to help teach me. The regular high-school teachers also taught me in their classes and in their homes. Thus the whole school and the community were responsible for my learning English. I was in no way expected to pay anybody for all the work and personal consideration given me. I realize now that the experience of learning English in a mid-western high school was a reflection of what constitutes the American way.

My childhood was spent in an almost primitive rural community among peasants in a Ukrainian village. The industrial town of Lawrence was by comparison so advanced mechanically, so civilized-appearing, that the difference seemed indescribable, magical! My adjustment to this new environment was a phase of Americanization, and it preceded rapidly. I could avail myself of all rarities, including ice-cream cones that had to be lapped and chewing gum that could never be swallowed. I could avail myself, also, of the marvelous machines all the way from automobiles to fountain pens.

Now, my Ukrainian background consisted of gay, elaborate embroidery and decorations with abundance and warmth of color; of crude, sturdy, simple forms of everyday household and farm objects; and above all, of the spontaneous and infinite flow of folk music with its powerful contagious beauty, its songs of haunting melancholy and of quick joy; its choral singing with harmony too enchanting to seem real, its folk dances of intoxicating movements and rhythm. All that was in my blood and in my senses even as I slowly grew to feel the attitudes of the people of America. Imperceptibly, I came to sense the American ambition to excel, to achieve something, to keep on perfecting all material things. I began to appreciate, too, the beauty of Americans' efficiency and their love of pleasantness; and to respond to their natural generosity and easy spending habits. But I felt that the heart of American culture was the international, inter-cultural background and composition of the American people. Everyone I met had relatives or ancestors in another country, sometimes even in several countries. As the barriers began to fall between me and these people of other racial backgrounds than my own, I was, I thought, gaining Americanization in culture, naturally and without any coercion or propaganda.

As to the most immediate phase of Americanization, that of learning the English language, I found that nobody in the town of Lawrence knew the language that I spoke. My much older American cousins had forgotten most of it and were certainly too busy with their own affairs to spend much time with me. I did not have a Ukrainian or Russian-English dictionary for quite a while. A few days after my arrival, my American-business-man-cousin escorted me to the Lawrence High School. On the way I wondered whether they would really accept me. When we entered the office a crowd soon gathered around us. There were several teachers, the principal, the superintendent, and a few students, all surveying me with amused glances. I listened to them talk, but understood nothing whatsoever. I could see, however, by the movement into the file, the opening of desk drawers and certain final writing down of things, with my name mentioned every now and then, that I was accepted and

was being registered. And I could tell, too, by the way they smiled and nodded their heads that they were even glad to have me. I thought that they were wonderfully kind and courageous people.

Help From Students

Some of the students always stopped for me on the way to school and brought me home as well. Sometimes they came in a car and took me for extra rides after school. They shared their lunches with me, and their sweets. They constantly showed and explained things to me, talking slowly and in correct tones, although as a matter of fact, it was really more interesting for me to listen to them just jabber to each other. I always had a notebook with me, and in it I wrote down every English word I came across, and opposite it the equivalent in my own language; making a sort of a dictionary. Afterwards, I found out what a strange dictionary it was, for I frequently put down wrong meanings for words!

My program was unconventional. I attended an English class every period, where I would sit and listen for a while. Then one or two pupils were excused from the regular class work, in order to do some work with me. They pointed to and named various visible objects; they read aloud nursery rhymes and the elementary school classics, urging me to repeat the reading. Sometimes we tried to talk a little. If the class work was too important for any student to be excused the teacher would come over and work with me in reading, writing and simple speech. All this patience and kindness made me feel very happy, even if I wasn't very bright with the lessons.

The demonstration method was used most frequently and at first, progress was fairly rapid. A book would be fingered, and another, until there would be no mistaking the word to be learned. Paper would be spread before me; a whole pile of paper would be thumbed before me and a sheet of it even given to me—and that was most convincingly PAPER. Then a fist would be clenched almost in front of my nose, and the motion and the word repeated an impressive number of times, till FIST was a real word to me. Simple adjectives describing physical attributes were easy: sugar was sweet, the desk was black, snow was cold, etc. Many verbs could be demonstrated, too—although not without a good deal of rather odd exercises to be performed in a classroom; but all this teaching was not confined to class, for recess hours and after-school time was well used, too. There was jumping, dancing, falling, chewing, laughing, tearing, even the breaking of a stick to demonstrate the word BREAK.

As the words became more complicated the demonstration method became more difficult. I remember how worn out we all became with one quite simple word. Judging by the demonstration, it seemed to me unmistakably YAWN; however, judging later by the droopiness of some ten people who were teaching me at that time, and the contagiously drowsy expression of their faces and bodies, I was convinced the word meant SLEEPY. I lay down and closed my eyes to show how well I had learned the lesson! The demonstration method was then promptly discarded and the word was pronounced distinctly, by itself, then in what must have been a very simple sentence, judging by the hopeful expression on my teachers' faces. I strained myself to look intelligent. Well, my intentions must have been recognized, but so was my ignorance, and the sound effect was further amplified a slow rhythm. Finally, an extra teacher was called in to the rescue, and I actually did get the word TIRED.

My most vivid memory of the pantomime drama of learning English is the episode of my learning the word FOOT. I was brought into a class I had never visited before; I was introduced to the teach-

er and students, and everybody seemed full of friendly smiles. Then my escorts talked about me, in response to which the whole class looked at me from head to foot with curiosity and a little bewilderment. Some were modest, and those smiled and pretended to look at something else at the same time; but others gazed at me with open mouths. Then one long-legged fourteen-year-old boy with bony shoulders and tousled hair stared at my escorts then at me and after a brief pause of deliberation, jerked his legs from under the desk. Up into the air went his right foot, as if aimed at a ball, and he shouted, pointing sharply, FOOT! Well, the emphasis and the action of that lesson stunned me into learning the word.

Really, though, I did not have difficult lessons like that all the time and I had a great deal of social life in high school. I was often escorted by several students in my travels from one room to another, and I was invariably and elaborately introduced, and I think described minutely, for my new acquaintances would stare at me, with kindly curiosity, for some time.

Help From Latin

Everybody was always encouraging and praising my progress. They were very patient with me, and as sympathetic with my inability to speak their language as if I could not walk or were afflicted with some sickness from which all were trying to help me get well. In a way, that was true, and they did help me. When I was beginning to learn a little in each of the English classes I was called to attend a Latin class, and soon discovered how wonderfully helpful Latin was for the acquisition of an English vocabulary. It was fascinating to learn the number of English derivatives from one Latin word. Somehow I learned the Latin more easily first, and the English from the Latin; but everybody thought it was very clever of me to learn Latin without knowing English. English grammar is really so simple as compared to Ukrainian that it was no trouble for me to learn correct sentence structure and designation of parts of speech. But everybody praised my intelligence and my name was inscribed on the honor roll! Before the year was over, I was elected member of an honorary literary society, for my high marks in English, even though I was just about making myself understood. How I burned then with desire to read fluently English literature, especially the works I had loved so in translation: "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and the stories of Mark Twain.

So you see what a social experience learning English in Lawrence High School was.

Two years later, when I was taking intelligence test in connection with registering at the University, English language was such an important part of the test that, as I learned later, I got an exceedingly low rating. But I was admitted just the same—I suppose because in spite of my language handicap they wanted to give me a fair chance. And getting a fair chance was another reflection of the friendly, helpful American spirit, which I experienced as a foreigner learning English in Kansas.

MARGUERITE RUDOLPH
(Junior Red Cross Journal)

EXACT DOOM OF POLAND PREDICTED IN UNA BOOK IN 1928

"In 1939 Poland will have a catastrophe. Poland will lose the war and will begin to fall apart. Poland will be divided between Russia and Germany who will form a military-economic alliance."

This was the remarkable prediction made by Hooter, a European astrologist, as to the future of Poland. When and how Poland would collapse was thus predicted 12 years ago.

This prophecy was published in the UNA annual almanac for 1928, page 123, which I happened to see by browsing through some old Ukrainian books.

A. Y.

A BUKOVINIAN SPEAKS

(Concluded)

(2)

OVER a midday meal in his farmhouse—with meat on the menu because it was not worth taking pigs to market any more—I put to that couple my last question.

"What are the problems which, first and foremost, interest the peasants of the Bukovina today?"

It was the wife who answered. "First, the question of free cultural development for those of us who are of Ukrainian race, particularly in the sphere of education, and a share in the government of the province. We shall not rest until our own schools which the Rumanians have closed are reopened and our children once more taught by their own teachers and in their own language. Secondly, the plight of the peasants. Times are bad, as you have seen, and we wait anxiously for days that will restore to us some of the money we do not see now. And lastly, taxation must be reduced, and some of the money taken from us spent in the Bukovina instead of at Bucharest. This land needs roads, sanitation, health services, more schools. But, above all, it needs the chance of decent life of its people who now find the burdens almost unendurable."

That woman had known the United States when the standard of life in that country was at its highest. Evidently she read my thoughts, for she added, "Don't take my word for. Go and ask our neighbors."

It was a Sunday, and the opportunity to do so came when I met the younger men of the village at the Institute. There were half a hundred of them in their club-room, and when I put my question they conferred together before replying. Then the spokesman answered, and his answer named the same three points put—significant fact—in the same order!

I bade them farewell, and set out to return to Czernowitz. On the way I stopped at another village, and thus it was that before leaving the province I met the Grand Old Lady of the Bukovina.

She was eighty years of age, and lived with her husband in a peasant home which typified a hundred thousand more. The couple had four married daughters and a horde of grandchildren living in the village. The old peasant worked the same five acres that he had farmed in the days of the Austrian Empire, or rather he worked it with the help of his wife.

That Grand Old Lady toiled beside her husband on the soil. She attended to the vegetable garden, the pigs and the poultry. She baked the bread—and good bread, too. She kept their two-roomed cottage spotless. She did the family washing. She gave advice on any and every subject impartially to all her daughters and their husbands. She made most of the clothes for her husband, herself, and her grandchildren. And, having attended to these small matters, she "looked after the children for her daughter on Sunday." Although slightly embarrassed, I was therefore scarcely surprised when she offered me a couple of the children to bring back to England if I wanted them!

Grand people, those unknown peasants, living and dying far from cities, and tilling the same soil from generation to generation. Asking in return only a house, food, and security. Important people, too. More important, in the last analysis, than most townsmen for without their labor the cities and towns could not exist at all.

LORAIN ELECTS OFFICERS

Helen Zadorozny reports that the Ukrainian Youths' Club of Lorain, Ohio, U.N.A. Branch 233, held its yearly election of officers, the following being elected: Wasył Nazarkiewicz, president; Leslie Engel, vice president; Stella Mendak, recording secretary; Helen Zadorozny, financial secretary; John Sawczyn, treasurer; Peter Butrey, assistant treasurer; Mrs. Anna Kuzan and Steve Pirnak, controllers.

Plans were discussed for a bingo party to be given soon.

THE EASTER BUNNY

Two snow-white bunnies
Sat upon chocolate eggs...

LITTLE Marusia, her chin tilted upward proudly, paraded along, swinging her little blue purse, keeping only the corner of one eye fixed upon the house she was passing and then paraded back again. She did not quicken her deliberate pace in the least when she saw her little friend Anne come skipping down the stairs and out to meet her.

"Good morning," said Marusia, in a dignified tone.

"Hello!" said Anne, dimpling. "I saw you out o' my window... new outfit?"

"Everything I have is new," replied Marusia. "My father has lots of money." She drew herself up reassuringly.

"Very pretty," said Anne, meaning the color, touching Marusia's blue coat.

Marusia, pleased, said, "I like your new clothes too, Anna. They are very pretty." Being a child, she of course meant the color, although she also sensed that Anne looked better than she did in her new clothes, for in spite of her dignity she felt strangely awkward in the new outfit, having up to that time been used to some old thing or other that was most often too big for her and tied a piece of rope in the middle in order to hold it up.

"We are lucky, Anna," she went on thoughtfully, "to have such lovely new clothes. Lots of people have to wear awful-looking things," and she nodded to herself, seeing in her mind's eye the children of her native village, which she had left beyond the wide, wide "lake," as she called it.

Anne was laughing, "How funny you are Marusia! You always say such odd things! But I suppose it's because it's different where you came from."

"Did the Easter Bunny bring you anything?" asked Anne, changing to a more timely and for the moment intensely interesting subject.

"Easter Bunny?" questioned Marusia, wrinkling the childish forehead.

"Yes. You know, a rabbit. He brings presents for all good children."

"Oh!" was all Marusia said, turning over in her mind the various happenings in the last 24 hours which she had not quite understood.

"Yes!" she said, finally. "You know, it's the funniest thing!" and she laughed merrily, in recollection. "When I awoke this morning in my nice soft bed," she emphasized, "I saw a tiny rabbit on my bureau sitting in a basket on top of some ugly brown 'pesanky'..."

"They are not 'brown pesanky,' Marusia. They're chocolate eggs!"

"Yes! So I found out!" she laughed again, "just as I was ready to throw them out! I held one in my hand and it began to melt so then I know it was made of chocolate."

Anne laughed heartily, "How funny!"

"But," said Marusia, seriously. "Do rabbits really lay eggs in America?"

"I don't know," said Anne, "if real rabbits do, but the Easter Bunny always brings them in a basket with a toy or chocolate bunny sitting on them."

"Well, that's strange," said Marusia. "I never saw a rabbit lay eggs. In Ukraine only chickens lay eggs," she explained. "We don't have an Easter rabbit, either... we have pretty pesanky instead."

"Which do you like better?" asked Anne.

"Well," said Marusia, "Of course we don't have eggs every morning for breakfast the way you do here in America, so the pesanky do taste awfully good... and are lots of fun to exchange with your friends." After a pause, "Of course I like an Easter Bunny too, 'cause he brings pesanky also, only chocolate ones!"

AND CHRONICLE SMALL BEER

INTROSPECTION

Here,
Filled with fear,
I hide—
Unnerved, lest I be spied
By some
Adventuresome
Unmarried maid
Who'll corner me to serenade
Of a bridal kiss,
And married bliss.
So, pocketing my pride,
I hide
Now I
'M a guy
With lots of guts and stuff—
I'm tough
And unafraid;
But when some maid
Comes marching up to me
And says, "Aw, Gee,
You can't stay single all your
life—
Now, with a wife—"
I say, "Excuse me, ma'm."
And scam.
Now why
Must I
Forever turn and run
If e'en in fun
Some charming, lovely miss
Of cowardice
Accuses me
For being twenty-one and free?
This playing hard to get
May be alright—and yet
I fear that I have been—alas—
An ass.

MOSTLY WOMEN

... Women are like bad habits
—easy enough to pick up but hard
get rid of.

... Once upon a time—so they
tell us—a man who tried to take
advantage of a girl's innocence was
a cad. Nowadays he's an optimist.

... An old fashioned girl blushed
when she was embarrassed. Our
modern maidens are embarrassed
when they blush.

... An intelligent girl is one
who knows how to refuse a kiss
without being deprived of it.

... A wise man is one who hasn't
let a woman pin anything on him
since he was a baby.

NEW STARS!

Singing Sisters **STELLA** and **MARY BODNAR**, Pupils of famous vocal teacher **Madame Xenia Vassenko**, Moscow Opera House Primadonna. Appointment by telephone only. **ENdicott 2-9711**, 250 W. 75th St., New York City.

NEW YORK CITY

ATTENTION YOUTH!—The Youth of **ODWU Br. 4**, will sponsor a delightful 3 act stage play entitled "**HAPKA the BOLSHEVIK**" on **SUNDAY, MARCH 24th**, at the **St. Vladimir's Church Hall**, 334 E. 14th St., New York City. Commencement at 7 P. M. Admission only 35 c. Come one! Come all! See them make their debut and get stage fright. Hear them murder the Ukrainian language. Have a lot of fun with Hapka! Don't forget to call your friends.

SINGERS

— **BEGINNERS and ADVANCED** —
Madame ALICE ZEPELLI, soprano, formerly with Chicago Opera and Opera Comique Paris, **TEACHES** at **Steinway Hall, Studio 519**, 113 W. 57th St., N. Y. C. Recommended by **Lucrezia Bori, Geraldine Farrar, Lily Pons**. If interested, call **Circle 7-4384**.

PHILLY TO PLAY AT NEWARK

The Philadelphia U.N.A. Youth Club will travel to Newark on Sat., March 23rd, to play an official game that will have much to do with the final standings of the teams in District No. 1. The game, which will be played at the Ukrainian Center, will start at 3 P. M.

"You see, America is nicer!" put in Anne triumphantly.

"But it isn't natural!" cried Marusia, meaning the egg-laying bunny. "Who ever heard of a rabbit laying eggs and made out of chocolate!" she pondered sceptically, deeply mystified at the strange, and wonderful ways of America.

THEODOSIA BORESKY.

1939 BANNER YEAR FOR U.N.A.

(Continued from page 1)

III

Mrs. Maria Malevich, of Pittsburgh, Vice-Presidentess of the U.N.A., presented in her report that followed Mr. Herman's a detailed account of her activities on behalf the association, especially in the Pittsburgh area, where membership in the U.N.A. has increased considerably and where the young people are flocking to it in ever increasing numbers.

IV

Opening his report as Supreme Recording Secretary, Mr. Dmytro Halychyn called attention to the fact that 1939 was the 45th anniversary year of the organization's existence, and that it had brought to the organization 2,655 new members, of which 75% were of the younger generation, and 44 new branches. The year 1939, he said, was the most successful one of the last 10 years. Mr. Halychyn further pointed out the inroads the U.N.A. has made in Canada, especially in Ontario, which brought the association during the past year 150 new members. Prospects of gaining many more members there are very bright, he said.

At the end of 1939, Mr. Halychyn revealed, the total membership of the U.N.A. was 35,358. Besides that number there are 874 members who have extended insurance certificates. The U.N.A. insurance held by all these members amounts to \$24,793,762.10, an increase of \$1,327,323.40 over the amount of the previous year.

In regards to the number of branches, there were 452 at the close of 1939, representing an increase of 34 over 1938.

Another manifestation of U.N.A. progress during 1939, Mr. Halychyn said, was the renewed activity among the U.N.A. branches in organizational, social, cultural and sport fields. Insofar as gaining new members is concerned, he said, branch 204 of New York City led all the rest with 107 new members. Branch 341 in Windsor, Ontario was second with 101 new members; branch 361 of New York City was third with 77 new members; branch 393 of Chicago was fourth with 76; branch 63 of Ford City, Pa. was fifth with 74.

Commenting upon the continued advance of the U.N.A. in general prestige, Mr. Halychyn declared that people were beginning to recognize now more than ever before that the U.N.A. was the foundation of Ukrainian-American life and progress, and that further Ukrainian-American development greatly rested upon it. He found it especially encouraging that this fact has won such wide recognition not only among the older generation, but what is even more important, among the younger generation as well. Otherwise, he said, the U.N.A. would not have made such marked gains in membership, especially among the young people, as it did during 1939.

V

A comprehensive picture of the financial structure of the Ukrainian National Association was next presented by Roman Slobodian, Financial Secretary and Treasurer of the organization. The present assets of the U.N.A., he declared, total \$5,574,688.19, an increase from the previous year of \$316,287.21. Of the total assets, real estate holding comprise 19.93%, or \$1,110,702.51; mortgage loans on real estate 27.63%, or \$1,540,239.60, of which 10.80% are guaranteed F.H.A.; loans on members' certificates amount to 10.41%, or \$580,429.13; bonds and stocks—28.92%, or \$1,612,249.69; cash in banks amounts to 12.75% or 711,054. All other physical assets form 0.36% of the total, or \$16,217.27. The Secretary-Treasurer further pointed out that the holdings in bonds were composed mostly of municipal issues, public utilities, U. S. government and others considered as legal investment for fraternal by state insurance departments. The real estate holdings were shown to be income-producing, the yield for the past year having been 4.41%, which in present economic times is considered very good. This was exceeded both by the interest income from bonds of 4.73% and from mortgage loans of 5.08%. The low yield of bank interest on funds on deposit coupled with funds in non-interest checking accounts resulted in an average rate of interest earned during 1939 of 4.5%.

Aside from investments, continued Mr. Slobodian, other figures pertaining to mortuary funds and mortality show a bright picture. The mortuary funds, out of which death benefits are paid, increased over the previous year by \$398,696.25, to the present total of \$4,454,327.84. This was due in large measure to increase in membership as well as the high earning rate on investments, and in small part to the low mortality rate. The ratio of actual death losses to the expected deaths according to the mortality tables for the year 1939 was 63.5% as compared to 74.7% for the previous year. In other words, there were fewer deaths per thousand members during 1939 than there were in 1938.

(To be concluded)