

SOKIL, RUDNITSKY IN CHURCH CONCERT

A rare musical treat was offered last Sunday night in New York City at the 35th anniversary of St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church, given in Carpathia Hall, when Maria Sokil, distinguished Ukrainian soprano and her equally distinguished composer-pianist husband, Antin Rudnitsky, presented a repertoire of Ukrainian songs in arrangements rarely if ever heard in this country.

Sokil's interpretation of the songs was engaging, to a degree possible only to one who has studied them in their native habitat, Ukraine. Rudnitsky's piano accompaniment was truly accomplished, leaving in the listener a desire to hear him give a recital of his own some day.

Their rich repertoire included music by Vasile Barvinsky, Kost Bohuslavsky, Michael Tic, Lev Re-

vutsky, Oleś Chyshko, and five numbers by Rudnitsky himself.

Choral numbers, including Wedel's stirring "Pokayaniya" (Repentance) were unusually well sung by St. George's mixed chorus of about seventy-five voices under the inspired direction of Theodore Onufryk.

An address on the role of the Church in Ukrainian-American life was delivered by Auxiliary Bishop Kyr Ivan Buchko. A strong plea to support the Ukrainian Catholic College at Stamford, Conn. was made by the Very Rev. Philemon Tarnavsky, diocesan chancellor. Among the prominent guests present were Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky, Prof. Alexander Koshetz, Nicholas Muraszko, president of the Ukrainian National Association, and Rev. Volodimir Lotowycz, president of the Providence Association.

WITMARK ISSUES SECOND SERIES OF UKRAINIAN SONGS

A new series of "Songs of the Ukraine" in English, arranged for chorus by Alexander Koshetz, is being currently published by M. Witmark and Sons, leading music publishers.

The first series, twenty-eight in all, also arranged by Koshetz, were published during 1933-34. Their great popularity is evidenced by the fact that thus far the publishers have sold 142,000 copies of them, to the amount of \$17,000.00.

The new series will include the following: 1. Oh, Marvelous News (S.S.A.)—Divnaya Novina, Christmas carol for women's chorus; 2. Dziuba (S.A.T.B.)-(T.T.B.B.)—Kozak Ta Dziuba, for mixed and male chorus; 3. The Choomak (T.

T.B.B.), for male chorus; 4. The Quarrel (S.A.T.B.)—Ne Khodila Na Vulitsiu, Ne Pidu, for mixed chorus; 5. The Black-Browed Katherine (S.A.T.B.)-(T.T.B.B.), Kucheriava Katerina, for mixed and male chorus; 6. Ukrainian Cradle Song (S.S.A.A.)-(S.A.T.B.)—Koliskova, for women's and mixed chorus; 7. A Violin Singing (T.T.B.B.)—Na Vulitsi Skripka Hrayi, for male chorus; 8. A Merry Life (S.A.T.B.)-(T.T.B.B.)—Oy, Yak Meni ne Piti, Huliati, for mixed and male chorus; 9. A Lazy Maiden (S.S.A.A.)—Dala Meni Mati Korovu, for women's chorus; 10. The Beautiful Moon (S.S.A.A.)—Pomizh Timi Zironkami, for women's chorus.

First of November Reflections

Once again we Americans of Ukrainian origin will celebrate the anniversary of that historic November 1, 1918 when Western Ukraine became a free and independent republic.

This year, however, our celebration takes on added significance. For not since the last war have prospects of Ukraine regaining her freedom seemed so bright as now.

That statement may appear paradoxical when it is realized that practically all of Ukraine is now under the misrule of Russia, Ukraine's age-old and worst enemy, and that, furthermore, there is not the slightest outward sign of any rebellion over there, such as ushered in Ukraine's short-lived independence some twenty-two years ago.

Yet the fact remains that Ukraine is closer to her freedom than she ever has been during the past two decades. The reason for this is simple. Europe is now in the turmoil of war, and out of this turmoil, as is usually the case, anything may yet emerge, even Ukrainian national independence.

So long as there was the post-Versailles oppression-laden peace, so long as the foreign misrule imposed upon Ukraine appeared absolute and immovable, Ukraine's chances of regaining her independence were very dark. But the present war has changed it all. One great oppressor of the Ukrainians, Poland, who was mainly responsible for the downfall of the Western Ukrainian Republic and who mistreated the Ukrainians barbarically, is now among the oppressed herself. What poetic justice! While the other and worse oppressor of the Ukrainians, Soviet Russia, which deliberately exterminated millions of Ukrainian lives by famine and executions, is now in a very precarious position.

Stalin's Dilemma

For Stalin, as everyone can see, is on the fence, and holding on to it for dear life. But it is becoming increasingly evident that he cannot remain there long. The inexorable forces of war are dragging him down. Sooner or later he is bound to topple off into the conflict. Which way he will fall, we do not know. Probably, he doesn't either. In any event his plunge into the war will be disastrous for him, his regime, and Soviet Russia.

Despite its huge bulk Russia has never been much of a military power. It is the Carnera among nations, slow moving and lacking coordination. In its war with Sweden it escaped disaster by a quirk of fortune, the Battle of Poltava. Napoleon trounced it soundly, although in the end the Russian winter beat him. The Japs administered a severe defeat to it early this century. The Germans caused its military collapse during the last war. Finally, in the present war little Finland made Russia look ridiculous. In other words, Russia, like Carnera, is good only against set-ups, certainly not against a first-class fighting power such as Germany or Great Britain.

Against either of these two countries, we think, Soviet Russia will have to go to war eventually, with equally disas-

trous results. If she joins Germany and helps to defeat Britain, she will thereby strengthen Germany, which is bound to attack her at the first opportunity, for that is part of Hitler's general plan for European domination, as indicated in his "Mein Kampf." If, on the other hand, Russia joins up with England, then her defeat at the hands of the much more powerful German war machine will be hastened; Germany will repeat what she did in case of Poland, hold off her enemies in the west and attack in the east, so as not to fight on two fronts at the same time; meanwhile Japan may attack Russia from the east. It is interesting to note in this connection that according to latest reports emanating from London, the Nazis already have seventy Army divisions, or about 1,250,000 men, in South-eastern Europe.

A military defeat for Russia will be followed by her internal disruption, as has always been the case. For Russia, it should not be forgotten, is not a nation in the ordinary sense of the word, like England or France, but a conglomeration of various heterogeneous nationalities, held in bondage by the most autocratic and brutal system the world has ever seen, centered in Moscow. Consequently her defeat on the field of battle is bound to have severe repercussions at home. The enslaved nationalities, especially the largest of them all, the 45 million Ukrainian nation, will take advantage of the opportunity to rise and cast off their shackles of bondage and strike out for their freedom, just as they did back in 1917.

Naturally, if this coincides with a German victory over Russia, Germany will either oppose Ukrainian national independence or attempt to exploit it for her own selfish ends, just as she did during the last war. It is here that the mettle of the Ukrainians will be tested.

In any event the outcome of the coming Ukrainian struggle for freedom will depend upon the Ukrainians themselves, upon how well they have profited by the bitter lessons of their past wars for freedom, how well prepared and strong they will be, how skilful and realistic their diplomacy will be, and how much moral and material aid they will receive from us, their blood kinsmen, here in America.

Ukraine Won't Fail This Time

We believe that this time the Ukrainians won't fail. For since the last struggle they have made, despite the severe oppression, great gains in all fields of their national development. Consequently, on this 22nd anniversary of the memorable November 1st, 1918, when a young student, Stephen Pankiwsky, hung the blue and yellow banner high on L'viv's City Hall, when Western Ukraine, from which came most of our parents, declared itself free and independent, on such an anniversary, then, we can look forward with more confidence to Ukraine's future than we were able to since the time when the last Ukrainian republic collapsed before the combined might of its numerous enemies.

THE ZAPOROZHIAN KOZAKS

(Continued)

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THE Koshovey's tenure of office usually depended upon his capability. If he made some gross mistake or was unfit to rule the Zaporozhe, he was quickly and unceremoniously cast out. This impeachment would take place at a special meeting of the Council. Sometimes he was even put to death, if he was guilty of gross negligence or failure to lead his Kozaks properly in war. Hrushevsky in his monumental History of Ukraine reports one contemporary foreign observer of Kozak times as claiming that during his seventeen year stay in the Zaporozhe every Koshovey came to such an unlucky end.

The Koshovey had varied rights and powers. He could summarily impose the death penalty upon a transgressor of Kozak law, for such an offense as stealing, for example. He confirmed the elections of the officers of the "kureni"—the administrative divisions of the Sich. He assigned lands and fishing sites to each "kuren," appointed Kozak officers to govern the married Kozak settlements, signed all official documents of the Sich, executed the decrees of the General Council, etc. In general, it can be said that he was the President of the Zaporozhian Sich, with, of course, far more powers than is usually enjoyed by presidents.

Other Kozak Officials

Next to be elected after the Koshovey was the Judge. Tchaikowsky, an authority on the subject, credits him as being third in power, the General Council and the Koshovey preceding him. In the absence of the latter, he acted as the titular head of the Sich.

Following him, the Scribe was elected. His office in the Zaporozhe was similar to that of a chancellor of a modern state. He handled all records and correspondence of the Sich, executed its documents and proclamations, etc.

Next came the Obozney, whose duties in many respects were similar to those of the Chief-of-Staff of a modern army. In time of war he sometimes even substituted for the Koshovey.

After him, according to Tchaikowsky, came the Khorunzhey, who was in charge of the Sich banners.

Then came the Chief Artilleryman, who took charge of the Sich cannon and had under him a number of assistants.

The Dowbush was in charge of the trumpeters and other instrument players of the Zaporozhe. The Sich had a regular band, which played at various official as well as non-official occasions. The Dowbush is also credited by Tchaikowsky as being in charge of the gathering of food supplies from the married Kozak settlements for the Sich garrison.

An interpreter was also elected, although very often he was appointed. He was quite an important figure in the Sich, for people of all races came to the Sich, and someone had to translate their talk. He had to know a number of languages, including the Ukrainian, Polish, Russian, Greek, Turkish, and Tartar.

Next to be elected was the Shafaar, the chief treasurer, or, in the modern sense of the word, minister of finance.

Besides the above officers elected by the Council, the Polkovniks were elected too. But the latter were more military officers than administrative officials, although both served in times of war.

"Polks"

In times of peace the administration of the Sich was based upon the "kureni." In time of war, however, the "kureni," headed by the Otaman, ceased to be administrative districts, and their place was taken by the so-called "polks," commanded by the Polkovnik.

Division of the Zaporozhian Army

The "polk" was the largest division of the Zaporozhian army. Its number varied, but usually was around 500. The "polk" in turn was divided into five "sotni," commanded by a "sotnyk." The "sotni" were divided into "desiatki," headed by Otamans. This division is based on Hrushevsky's account. Military order in the Zaporozhian army was kept by the Osauli,—members of the Koshovey's staff. Such was the official division, which varied in times of war. For example, in the battle of Khotyn, with the Turks (1621), in place of the usual four "polks" there were eleven and in each "polk" there were from 1600 to 4000 Kozaks.

Sources of Revenue of the Sich

The revenues of the Zaporozhian Sich were chiefly derived from the following sources: 1. spoils of war; 2. fishing and hunting; 3. toll for ferrying passengers and goods across rivers; 4. tax upon the settlers in Zaporozhian territories, consisting of one-tenth of the settler's produce; 5. tax upon flour mills and also from the flour sold in the Sich by merchants; 6. tax derived from the married Kozak settlements in the Zaporozhian territories, also consisting of one-tenth of the produce; 7. pay received for Kozak military aid, consisting of moneys, food stuffs and goods, first from Poland and later,

following the alliance of Ukraine with Russia, from Moscow; and 8. sales tax upon goods sold in and around the Sich by peddlers of all sorts.

Helping Moscow

Moscow took great pains to induce the Zaporozhian Kozaks to continue their warfare against the Tartars and Turks along the Black Sea coast. For this Moscow yearly sent moneys and all manner of food stuffs and goods to the Sich. The Zaporozhians were not sufficiently foresighted to perceive that they were being used as a cats-paw by Moscow, for what Moscow had in mind was to find an outlet to the sea, and the one to the Black Sea was the best. In thus aiding Russia, the Zaporozhians were placing the noose over their heads and that of their country Ukraine. They did not know that when they had performed their service of driving the Tartars and Turks, and thereby weakened themselves, Russia (then known as Muscovy) would in turn drive them out and seize the Ukrainian Zaporozhian lands itself, together with all of Ukraine.

Hanging was usually done as follows: the victim would be placed upon a horse, a noose cast over his head, the other end over the limb of a tree, and then the horse would be struck smartly, causing him to dash away suddenly, leaving the victim hanging in the air by his neck. Beating with rods was done in the following manner. The culprit would be tied to a stake. Alongside of him a keg of mead and a basket of rolls would be placed. Anyone who passed by had a right to partake of the mead and roll, and strike the culprit a blow over his back with a rod. The severity of this form of punishment usually depended upon the seriousness of the crime of which the culprit was guilty and also upon the manner he bore the punishment. Sometimes he would be beaten so severely that he died of it. Others times he escaped with a light beating. The Kozaks placed high value upon a Kozak taking the beating quietly, without making any outcries or groaning. Of course the beating was limited to a certain time. If within that time the Kozak survived it, he was let free. Usually the beating was administered to those guilty of immoral conduct. Robbery was punishable with death, which accounts for the sayings of Kozak chroniclers that a bag of money could left in the middle of the road in the Sich and no one would even touch it.



TRIUMPHAL ENTRANCE OF BOHDAN KHMELNITSKY INTO KIEV

The above picture is reproduced from a painting by Mikola Ivasiuk. It depicts the triumphal entrance into Kiev of Bohdan Khmelnytsky (died 1657), Kozak Hetman of Ukraine, also known as the "Oliver Cromwell of Eastern Europe," following his great victories over the Polish armies. As a result of these victories, Poland, in the words of the Polish novelist Sinkiewicz, "lay in blood and dust at the feet of the Kozaks."

Fishing and Hunting

A considerable portion of the Sich's revenue came from the fishing and hunting. A chronicler of that period wrote that "Ukraine is so rich in game, that bisons, wild horses and deer are hunted for the sake of their skins alone. Of their meat only the choicest cuts of chine and loin are used, all other parts are thrown away. Hinds and boars are not hunted at all. Roes and wild boars wander in great herds from the steppes into the woods in winter, returning to the steppes in summer. During this season they are killed by the thousands. On all rivers, streamlets, brooks, live innumerable beaver colonies. The bird world is so remarkably rich that enormous quantities of wild goose, wild duck, crane and swan eggs and young ones are gathered. In the rivers, such great shoals of fish swarm in the spring that the fishing spear thrown in stands upright."

The Sich Koshovey parcelled out among the Sich Kozaks and the married settlement Kozaks certain sections in which they could hunt and fish, and which they had to defend against the encroachment of the Tartars.

SYSTEM OF JUSTICE IN THE ZAPOROZHE

As mentioned in a previous installments, there were no written laws among the Zaporozhians. They governed themselves by unwritten common law, handed down from generation to generation, supplemented by decisions of the governing General Council (Velika Rada) and of the Sich elders.

Criminal Procedure

Criminal laws in the Zaporozhe were strictly administered, and their infraction severely punished. Yet there was not that barbarism so often found during that time in other countries of Europe, the cutting off legs, arms, ears, noses.

Impaling upon the stake was very rare among the Zaporozhians and only in unusual cases. Murder, robbery, serious infraction of military laws, and treason, were punishable with death. Execution took several forms: beheading, hanging, drowning in the Dnieper, burying alive, or beating with rods until death took place. Beheading was done with a battle-ax.

Civil Procedure

In civil cases the procedure was very simple, conducted without the use of written records.

For the married settlement Kozak there were four different courts, each higher than the other, in which he could seek justice. For the Sich Kozak there were but three.

Let us take a simple case. A married settlement Kozak does some damage to his neighbor's farm. The latter demands damages. The first refuses. Both then go to governor of their district, the Polkovnik, appointed by the Sich Koshovey.

Appearing before the Polkovnik, both Kozaks lay down on the table before him bread. The case opens. The Polkovnik, sitting as judge, inquires of the nature of the complaint. The complainant states his case. The respondent is then asked to give his side of the story. The respondent, let us say, agrees that he has caused some damage to the complainant's farm, but claims the amount of damages the other seeks is too high. The judge then calls in several impartial people. Their duty is to pass upon the amount of damages the complainant is entitled to. Their verdict is given by the judge. If the respondent agrees, all is well. But suppose he disagrees with the "jury's" assessment. He then "appeals" to a higher court. This "appeal" consists of both complainant and respondent being sent over by the Polkovnik, to the Otaman, chief of the "kuren"—the administrative district in the Sich. The Otaman first determines if he has jurisdiction over both parties. If one of the two parties to the cause belongs to another "kuren," then the Otaman of the latter "kuren" is called in, and both preside over the cause. Then the same procedure is followed as in the lower court. If the respondent is still dissatisfied, his next recourse is to the Chief Justice of the Sich, who is elected yearly. The same procedure follows as before. If even there the respondent fails to find, what in his opinion, is justice, he is finally sent to the court of last resort, namely, the Koshovey himself. If the latter affirms the judgements of the lower courts, the respondent must abide by it. But if he still demurs, then woe be unto him. The Koshovey calls in a few husky lads and bids them to whip the respondent until the latter is satisfied that justice has been done to him. A most salutary method, indeed!

A Kozak Black Sea Raid

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Being an account taken from an old Ukrainian story of an exciting Zaporozhian Kozak sea raid upon Kaffa, a leading seaport and stronghold of the then powerful Turkish Empire, should be read in conjunction with the "The Zaporozhian Kozaks" articles running serially on these pages.

THE terror-stricken Tartars rolled their eyes in fright, expecting every moment to be their last.

In the caique the Kozaks found baskets full of cucumbers, berries and carrots. Evidently this was produce being taken to the market.

Sahaydak, Nebaba and Oleksa Popovich, all experts in the Tartar dialects, began to question their prisoners as to where they were going, who was governing Kaffa at that particular time, the strength of its garrison, number of Turkish galleys in the harbor, and other questions in a similar vein. But the Tartars knew little, and their replies consisted mostly of "Allahs."

Sahaydak finally gave up the questioning, and bidding his men to take the caique in tow, gave the signal to return to the flotilla. Soon they were back with their comrades. The sight of the fresh vegetables caused saliva to rise in many a Kozak mouth, but Sahaydak gave orders that they were to be untouched.

"I shall take these vegetables to the market myself," he explained, and turning to the nearest Kozaks bade them to undress the Tartar prisoners. The latter, thinking that their last moment had arrived, struggled desperately, but were soon subdued. Soon they stood as naked as they were born. Bidding the Kozaks to throw them some clothes, Sahaydak speedily donned the Tartar clothes, and ordered Nebaba and Oleksa Popovich to do likewise. In a few moments three new Tartars stood before the Kozaks. Turning to his followers Sahaydachny called out:

"My brave warriors! I shall go to Kaffa on a reconnoitering mission, together with Nebaba and our scrivener. If I do not return by morning, elect a new 'father' and attack Kaffa yourselves."

With these words he stepped into the caique, together with his two companions. Under the deft even strokes of the three the caique rapidly drew away, in the direction of Kaffa. In a short while the Kozaks were barely able to see its outlines, and in a few moments even that disappeared.

Kaffa

The captured Tartar caique, bearing Sahaydachny, Nebaba, and Popovich disguised as Tartar provincial merchants on their way to the market with farm produce, swiftly drew nearer to the teeming harbor of Kaffa. Entering the harbor the Kozaks were greeted by a sight of a seemingly inexhaustible variety of craft on all sides of them: of sailing vessels, small boats of various description, fishing boats, caiques, galleys, captured galleons, corsairs, barges; some entering the harbor, others leaving; many swaying idly at anchor, others discharging their cargoes or spoils of some raid.

Rising out of the sparkling blue-green waters of the harbour was the seaport itself: a confusion of dazzling white mosques, minarets, turrets, domes, and flat roofed abodes, etched in striking relief against the deep blue of the semi-tropical sky. In gloomy contrast to this Arabian-nights-like scene were the black forbidding walls of Kaffa, winding sinuously in and out the outskirts of the city like some prodigiously long serpent. Even from the distance the disguised Kozaks could perceive, imbedded in the walls, the cruel looking hooks upon which the Turks hung alive many of their important prisoners, leaving them there to die a slow horrible death. A few skeletons could be seen now upon them, swaying slightly in the light breeze, their bones picked clean by the vultures and vermin.

Galley-Slaves

Guiding their caique carefully through the maze of harbor shipping the Kozaks paused for a moment, while a huge black galley pulling several barges in tow slowly moved across their bow. Its single tier of oars rhythmically lifted and dipped into water. Each one of the oars was manned by a pair of galley slaves shackled to one another. Now and then a report like that of pistol would be heard as a heavy lash descended upon the bare shoulders of some unfortunate slave, urging his weary body to fresh efforts.

The three Kozaks, regarding this scene of human misery at its lowest level, suddenly started in horror when they perceived, among the great majority of these galley slaves, features which unmistakably identified their owners as being of the Ukrainian race. But what manner of Kozaks they were now. No longer the lighthearted courageous roamers of the steppes; but with their toil-mishapen bodies matted with blood and filth they seemed more like some half human and half animal creatures who mutely pulled away at their heavy oars, their all but naked bodies swaying agonizingly

back and forth, their leaden eyes now cast at their feet, now at the mockingly cheerful skies above.

"Mother of Jesus!"... softly groaned old Nebaba at this terrible sight. Tears streamed silently down the features of Oleksa Popovich. Sahaydachny alone seemed impervious to all this, gazing bleakly from beneath his bushy eyebrows at Kaffa. Only the slight movement of his jaw betrayed the fact that he too was moved.

The galley slowly passed out of sight. The three Kozaks resumed their rowing, and in a few moments, after nearly colliding with several erratically rowed boats, reached shore. Sahaydachny and Oleksa Popovich stepped out, leaving Nebaba to guard the caique. Turning their footsteps toward the nearby city they started on their way.

Slave-Market

A few minutes of walking brought them inside the city walls, into the noise, dust and clamor, the smells and the close pulsating heat of Kaffa. By chance they had stumbled right into the center of a slave market. The entire square was filled with people of all sorts: beggars, entertainers, acrobats, soldiers, merchants, high Turkish and Tartar officials, mountaineers from the inner fastness of Crimea, all either passing through the square, as many streets led into it, or milling around the slave blocks, where slaves were led or dragged out, examined, their charms or strength—depending upon the sex—shouted to the skies, bidden upon, and then sold like some cattle to the highest bidder. The entire crowded square, fringed on all four sides by poplar and cypress tree, flooded by the noon-day glare of the sun, left upon the Kozaks an unforgettable impression. Clamor, laughter, cries, wild strains of Tartar music... soft weeping of women slaves, and a voice... of lyricist singing a plaintive Ukrainian melody!

Where did it come from?

In the center of the square, near a large water fountain, sat a very old man, holding in his lap an earthenware plate with a fragment of dried bread and a bit of pickle on it. He was blind. Standing around him was a group of chained captives.

"And how long are you in slavery?" asked one of the group.

"Thirty years in slavery, and now thirty years 'in freedom'," answered the old man, smiling bitterly.

"And how old were you when the Tartars caught you?"

"Twenty years old?"

"Were you blind then?"

"No, I could see then."

"Well, when did you lose your sight?"

"Just before my 'freedom,'" again the old man smiled bitterly.

How did that happen?"

"That's easily told," replied the old man. "Once I managed to escape; they caught me and shackled me better than before. Again I escaped. Again they caught me, and after punishing me terribly, chained me harder yet. And when I escaped the third time and they caught me again, they burned my eyes out. From that time on I became a 'freeman,' acting as a water carrier; but when I grew old and sick they drove me like a dog into the street... and for the last ten years I've been a beggar."

Looking at this living ruin of what was once a splendid Kozak, the prisoners could not help but sigh and shake their heads in sorrow, for everyone expected that the same bitter fate awaited them.

"Sing us something 'father,'" said one of them.

"Good, I will," the old man replied, and taking his old lyre in hand, tuned it for a moment, then raising his sightless blackened eyes to the unseen blue sky, lifted his quavering voice in sad moving song.

The captives crossed themselves. An overpowering feeling of sadness felt upon them. They gazed upon their chains and leather harness, recalled their dear ones back home, so far away... and wept in sorrow.

Even the blind singer had to stop singing; his lyre dropped to the ground; a sob wracked his thin body, and covering his face with his hands he wept bitterly.

"Cease your crying my children," he said at length, drying his tears, "Soon Sahaydachny with his Kozaks will come and free us all."

Sahaydachny involuntarily started. He had been unobtrusively standing nearby. For a moment it seemed to him that the blind old man had turned in his direction.

"But why is it that nothing is heard of him?" someone asked.

"Don't worry, he will be here," cheered another.

"God grant it so!"

"They are here!" quietly but distinctly a strange voice was heard to say.

The Kozaks Are Here!

At the sound of the strange voice prophesying their early release from captivity, a hushed silence fell upon the group of Ukrainian captives standing in the market-place around the blind lyricist.

"Mother of God! Who said that?" someone whispered, looking cautiously around him. All that he saw, however, were a few of Tartar merchants standing nearby, apparently occupied with the antics of an acrobat entertaining a group of Turks.

The bewilderment of the captives was rudely interrupted by the sudden arrival of their guards, who had returned from their lunch in the nearby coffee house. Lashing the captives across their naked backs with their long whips the Turks drove them like so many cattle to the other side of the market; leaving behind them the sightless old "freeman" seated on the ground.

A few moments elapsed. Seeing that no one was near the seated beggar, Sahaydachny and Oleksa Popovich approached him.

"Good day Opanasovich!" quietly Popovich addressed the seated man.

The blind old man started violently.

"Who is he—who knows Opanasovich?" he asked in trembling tones.

"'Tis I, Oleksa Popovich."

The old man nearly cried out loud; but stifled his voice in time.

"O my beloved Oleksa!... Oleksa!... he breathed, overcome with emotion.

Oleksa Popovich, himself on the verge of tears at the sight of his old friend in such a pitiful condition, leaned over and dropped a silver coin in the platter; and then made believe that he was looking for something he had lost, so as to avoid suspicion in the eyes of the passers-by.

"Have you been made captive again?" the old man inquired anxiously. He was referring to the previous captivity of Oleksa in Kaffa, from which the latter had managed to escape. It was during this captivity that Oleksa formed a strong friendship with Opanasovich.

"No diadku, I am here with 'father' Sahaydachny. And there are several thousand of his Kozaks nearby, too. We shall soon free you all."

"Sahaydachny!?" exclaimed Opanasovich, not being able to believe his ears.

"Yes, I am here," added Sahaydachny himself.

"O Mother of God!" joyously exclaimed the old man, crossing himself, all his doubts now vanished.

"We shall attack the city tonight, at midnight, so be ready to go with us when we leave," Sahaydachny whispered to him. Motioning to Oleksa, he bade him to follow. Both had yet to inspect the other parts of Kaffa, before returning to the fleet.

The old man nodded eagerly. He was filled with joy. Just imagine! Sahaydachny is here! Freedom at last!

Just Before The Battle

The sun was just setting, its gorgeously-tinted rays falling on the gently heaving surface of the sea and dyeing it with glowing patterns of light,—when Sahaydachny with his two companions returned to the Kozak fleet, anchored far off-shore.

Night came, bringing on its muffled wings a soft haze. Above, in the blue dome of the heavens the stars twinkled merrily, as if in glee at what was about to transpire that night. A hushed stillness stole over the world, stilling, it seemed, even the soft lapping of the choppy waves against the sides of the "chayki." Everything slept... all but the Kozaks. They lay and sat around in their "chayki"; some guardedly puffing on their pipes, others dreaming of home, of the Kozak, free open steppe, of their dear ones, still others, the younger Kozaks, fidgeted around, impatiently awaiting the signal which would unleash them upon the unsuspecting sleeping city of Kaffa.

The hours crept wearily by, one by one. Just before midnight a fog arose. It must have been sent by Providence itself, for now there was little danger of their being discovered by the Turks before the attack.

Finally the long awaited signal came! The word to start was quickly passed from chayka to chayka. The Kozaks leaped joyously to their posts. With hardly any sound the chayki formed themselves in two long columns. Another low command!—to be echoed and re-echoed down the lines. The long sinuous columns moved forward. They were off at last!

The Kozaks sat tensely at their positions, their eyes glistening with suppressed excitement. Some primed their muskets. Others felt the sharp edge of their Kozak scimitars. The oarsmen, having previously deadened their oarlocks, rowed as cautiously as possible, in order not to make the slightest noise which would warn their enemies.

(To be continued)

THE POLITICAL FORUM

(Continued)

WHY VOTE FOR ROOSEVELT

Today, the entire world is undergoing a violent change. Twelve nations have either been conquered by or have had to submissively succumb to the absolute rule of totalitarian governments. This totalitarian peril is endangering democratic forms of government, including our own. In order to survive in this world crisis, American democracy must defend itself against external attack and justify the internal progress of its system of government and the American way of life.

We feel that President Roosevelt and the Democratic Party have successfully labored for the past seven years toward the fulfillment of this ideal, namely:

Under the Roosevelt Administration, democracy has been strengthened by improving the welfare of the people and increasing our economic efficiency. Upon taking office, Franklin D. Roosevelt immediately set about fearlessly and courageously to restore confidence in our financial institutions. The broken and prostrate financial system was restored to health by the strengthening of the banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions. Over 62 million bank accounts were insured and millions of small investors were protected in the security and commodity markets. Credit became available to the small businessman and farmer. Various relief funds were created for the hungry and unemployed through the aid of Federal funds. Employment of over nine million people was provided by the establishment of the W.P.A. and P.W.A. The social and economic welfare of the working man and woman was bettered by the enactment of Federal laws which shortened working hours, established minimum wages, assured collective bargaining. Wage owners were further benefited by laws enacted under the Roosevelt Administration granting Unemployment Compensation, Old Age Insurance and assistance to the needy blind and dependent children.

The Federal Housing Administration has enabled 600,000 families to build or finance homes. Loans have been made to over 1,500,000 farmers. The National Youth Administration projects are giving employment to 280,000 young men and women monthly. Through the means of the CCC, over one-half million American youth have been able to get jobs in private industry.

In is interesting to note that the Republican candidate, Wendel L. Willkie, is in accord with the social economic reforms sponsored and enacted by the Roosevelt Administration, except with the reservation that if elected he would administer them better. He is very vague as to the manner in which he would accomplish it. It is a matter of record that the majority of the Republican Congressmen and Senators voted in opposition to all the aforementioned legislation.

In order to insure the future of American democracy, President Roosevelt, with the approval of Congress, inaugurated the present National Defense Program. During the Republican Administration, naval ships were destroyed and not replaced. Rebuilding under the Roosevelt Administration has made the U. S. Navy the most powerful in the world. The foresight of Roosevelt in "His Good Neighbor Policy" has proven a veritable bulwark against aggression by European powers in the Western hemisphere.

President Roosevelt has proven himself a capable, experienced leader, solely interested in the welfare of this country and its people, without regard to party partisanship. His personal knowledge of the present World War situation makes it imperative that he remain at the helm of this country, to steer its course through the present world crisis.

• Youth and U. N. A. •

Meeting in E. Chicago, Ind.

Anne Budnyk, recording secretary of the Ukrainian Youth Club of East Chicago, Ind., Branch 452 of the Ukrainian National Association, reports that a regional conference was held at Szabo Hall on October 9th. Mr. S. Kuropas of Chicago, chairman of the meeting, introduced Mr. D. Halychyn, U.N.A. Supreme Recording Secretary. Mr. Halychyn spoke of the founding of the U.N.A., and stressed its many benefits, its financial resources, and the aid it has given to the Ukrainian people. The speaker stated that U.N.A. membership increased 25% during the last four years, and that the organization now has more than 37,000 members. Mr. Halychyn deplored the fact there are more suspensions of younger members than of older ones. He said that the young people should interest themselves in Ukrainian-American affairs, as this would keep them organized in their U. N. A. branches.

Mr. Kuropas introduced Mr. R. Smook, a Chicago attorney, who made the following statements: "We know that an organization that has young people and attracts

young people must have a good chance to live, and with young people we always think of life. We are living in times where things change quickly, and so with our organization. Little by little the older members of this organization are passing away. Unless we can get young blood and young people interested in this organization and go forward, the work of the founders and organizers will have been in vain. The young must step into the shoes of their elders. Organization work is easy if you apply yourself and work hard. You must go out and get Ukrainians to join this organization, explaining to them its benefits. There is an army of 37,000 members behind the U.N.A. Without young people and additional members the U.N.A. cannot progress. It is to live with young blood, and it is up to you to supply this young blood. Every member must perform his duty. In other words, 'One for all and all for one.'"

Mr. Biletzky of Chicago, a U.N.A. organizer, also addressed the assemblage. The meeting closed with the speakers being personally introduced to the U.N.A. members present.

NOTICE TO U.N.A. MEMBERS IN METROPOLITAN AREA

The New York U.N.A. Basketball Team (1939 Metropolitan Champ) will open its season this Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Labor Temple Gym (14 St., and Second Ave., New York City) at 4:30 p.m. All U.N.A. Members, and non-members interested in joining the U.N.A. are invited.

MICHAEL HUSAR, Manager
New York U.N.A.

The first year it was a new idea, the second year it was fun, the third year it was jolly, the fourth year it was romantic, the fifth year it was delightful, the sixth year it was wonderful, the seventh year it was a grand affair, the eighth year it was colossal, and now comes the ninth year which will combine all the above ingredients into the one gala event of the year. So come to the

NINTH ANNUAL DANCE
of the Ukrainian Civic Center,
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1940,
at **HOTEL MARTINIQUE,**
32nd St., & Broadway, New York C.
Admission - - - - - \$1.00
Dress Optional.



NEW YORK CITY

Be sure to attend the **DEMOCRATIC RALLY** at Carpathia Hall, 217-219 East 6th Street, Monday evening, November 4, sponsored by the Ukrainian Democratic Club. Speakers: Assemblyman Stephen J. Jarema, Congressman M. Michael Edelstein, Michael Piznak, Esq., William Selnick, Esq., and other prominent national and state candidates. — Admission free. — Time: 8 P.M.

LISTEN to the **Ukrainian Youth Radio Program** sponsored by **Surma Book & Music Co., 325 E. 14th St., New York City** every **Saturday** from 3:45 to 4:00 P.M., from station **W.B.N.X., 1400 kc,** New York City. Special youth features, guest stars, music, etc. **Ukrainian Catholic Youth League,** guest feature this week. **Michael Herman,** Announcer.

We urge all Americans of Ukrainian descent, who truly appreciate the liberties and benefits guaranteed under the American democratic system of government, to vote for President Roosevelt and the entire Democratic Ticket.

The Ukrainian Division of the Democratic National Committee
MICHAEL PIZNAK,
National Chairman

Roosevelt and Willkie
BOTH AGREE NOVEMBER 9
Should be observed as
THE UKRAINIAN BOYS CLUB DANCE
Ukrainian Home
214 Fulton St., Elizabeth, N.J.

ATTENTION: NEW YORK CITY!!
Conscription and Farewell
DANCE
— tendered by —
4th Branch Youth of O. D. W. U.
— to be held at —
STUYVESANT CASINO
142 2nd Ave. (Bet. 8 & 9 Sts.)
New York City.
SATURDAY, NOV. 16th, 1940
Dancing: 8:30 till 3:00.
Admission: 45 cents Tax included.
Music by: **Johnny King & His Orch.**

NEW YORK CITY:
Thanksgiving Jamboree
sponsored by the
1. Ukrainian University Society
2. Ukrainian Folk Dance Circle
3. Ukrainian Youth Chorus
4. Ukrainian Civic Center
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 20, 1940
(Thanksgiving Eve)
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE
341 E. 17th St., New York City.
Admission .45¢
Watch further ads for more details. Benefit International Institute Y.M.C.A. Campaign.

FUNNY SIDE UP.

AND MAY THE BEST MAN WIN

Many moons ago when we went to school, our teacher asked us, "What's the President's trade?" And we replied: "He's a cabinet maker!" That was the first time we became involved in politics, and for cracking wise, we had to stay after school. Well, now that we have chosen this topic for today, we still haven't made up our mind whom to vote for at the coming election. Willkie or Roosevelt? That's a controversial issue, ain't it? (hey, look teacher, we said ain't!)

Just a few months ago the Democrat newspapers stated that "a lot of fuss was being made about the Republicans finding a candidate,— but would their candidate find any Republicans?" However, time has changed that quip and now these same papers fear the Democratic platform will be undermined by third termites. Their campaign slogan is: "Main Street versus Wall Street!" On the other hand, the G.O.P. newspapers are of the opinion that it's about high time F.D.R. became a postage stamp! They stress the point that every American in every city is entitled to his own opinion except those living in Jersey City. They're entitled to Mayor Hague's own opinion! Come to think of it, Willkie is a candidate who shouldn't mind people getting in his hair! If he should win the election and moves into Washington, we hope the first thing he does is change D. C. to A. C. so we can use our electric clock!

The other day we went to hear one of those campaign speeches. We rode up in one of those political cars...you know, one that generates its own gas and blows its own horn! The speaker was from Texas. He said that Texas was so big, you could put Maine and Vermont in the middle of the state and they'd be lost. We wonder if the Republicans know about that! After the speech was over, we bumped into an old friend of ours.

"Hi there pal! What are you doing these days," we asked.

"I'm a swimming instructor," he replied, "I teach the political stroke."

"The political stroke?"

"Yeah," he replied, "you know, it's the underhand method! Incidentally, do you think the speaker put enough fire into his speech?"

"Oh yes," we replied, "the only trouble was that he didn't put enough of his speech in the fire!"

Whether you're interested or not, we're going to tell you anyhow! There was one politician there who lost at the past election because of his youth. It seem the public found how he spent it! However, that hasn't bothered him. He's got a new job now...the guy is getting rich smuggling Republicans into Washington! Perhaps you heard of this gentlemen. When they were taking the census, he was the one that offered an easy solution. "Just take the unemployed census," he suggested, "and add the Democrats!"

* * *

"Is it too late for me to vote?"

"What party?"

"This is my first experience at voting. When I go into the booth and I pull down the curtain, do I have to take a shower?"

* * *

Bromide No. 3: The present administration is a **New Deal**. A nude eel is a slippery proposition. A slippery proposition is pretty hard to hang on to. Therefore, the present administration is bound to get out of hand!

Simile: Presidents are like olives. You've got to develop a taste for them.

BROMO SELTZER

The New York Ukrainians are starting their 1940-1941 **Basketball Season.** All sport enthusiasts wishing to play for the **New York Ukrainians Basketball Team** are invited to come to practice **Friday evenings** from 9-11 p.m. at the **Labor Temple Gymnasium, 242 East 14th St., New York City.**

ROCHESTER, N. Y.:

"The St. Anne's Sodality, Branch 343 of the U. N. A., will hold a **HALLOWEEN DANCE** for the benefit of the St. Joseph's Parish on **Saturday, November 2, 1940** at the **Parish Hall, 303 Hudson Avenue** at 8 o'clock. — You are all cordially invited. If you wish to be sure of a real good old-fashioned time, don't forget to don a costume and join us on Saturday.