

СВОБОДА

Український Щоденник

PIK LI. 4. 9.



SVOBODA

Ukrainian Daily

VOL. LI. No. 9.

SECTION II.

# The Ukrainian Weekly

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

No. 3

JERSEY CITY, N. J., SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1943

VOL. XI

## Geographical Influences on Ukraine

WAR or no war, there are certain factors in the history of nations which are beyond the pale of ordinary human control, and which play an important role in the shaping of their destinies. Among the more influential of these factors are the geographical conditions. Their sway is so important, although not absolute, that to lack knowledge of them is to leave unanswered many questions pertaining to the formation, development or decline of a nation. To quote the pertinent remark of John Smith in his "General Historie of Virginia" (1624), "For as Geography without History seemeth a carkasse without motion, so History without Geography wandreth as a Vagrant without a certaine habitation."

These geographical conditions make felt their influence upon the history of a nation or state in many ways, and numerous examples can be cited here. Especially has this been the case with Ukraine.

Ukraine, as we know, is a vast solid national territory lying in the southern part of Eastern Europe, on the threshold to Asia, between 43 degrees and 54 degrees north latitude, and between 21 dg. and 47 dg. east longitude from Greenwich. Altogether it embraces an area of over 625 thousands square miles.

### Ukraine A Geographic Unit

Geographically speaking, Ukraine is decidedly East European in character, although as the prominent Ukrainian geographer, Prof. Rudnitsky, has pointed out, it occupies there a unique position, which fully warrants our conceiving of this great land as a geographic unit standing on an equal basis with the other natural units, such as Russia proper, the Ural region, and the Baltic region. That this does not appear to be so at first glance, is due to the uniformity of Eastern Europe, which factor makes it impossible to apply to Eastern Europe as a criterion the divisions of Western or Central Europe.

### Effect of Deconcentration of Population

The vastness of this uniform East European region has had a manifold effect upon the peoples occupying it. The natural urge of the early inhabitants to be constantly on the move was greatly facilitated in Eastern Europe by the freedom from the constraint of natural barriers, such as in Western Europe. This deconcentration of the population was responsible for the creation of states of large areas and scattered populations, which offers a striking contrast to the Western European states. The vastness of this territory and the deconcentration of its peoples were further responsible for their comparatively slow growth along cultural, political and economical lines.

Naturally enough, this sluggish growth found its echo in the difficulty the Eastern European states encountered in climbing out of what might be called their political infancy stages. Furthermore, lacking consolidation and permanency of forms—which elements thrive best in rugged and multiform soil and within natural barriers such as characterize Western Europe—their history was marked by extreme vagaries of fortune. One has but to gaze upon the history of Poland, Lithuania, and Russia proper, to see how true this is.

Such has also been the sad fate of Ukraine, as exemplified by the ancient Kievan state, the Kozak state, and the brief post-World-War-I Ukrainian National Republic.

### Ukraine the Shield of Europe

Besides these considerations, however, the prime motivating cause of the sad lot of Ukraine has been its position at the southeastern edge of Europe, on the threshold of Asia, at a point where the easiest overland route connects the two continents.

Historically speaking, Ukraine's border position was very disadvantageous to her. Primarily because of two reasons:

First, the Ukrainian steppe had always been the natural military road for the pillaging hordes of Asiatic nomads who—beginning with the Huns in the 4th century A. D. and ending with the Tartars of the 13th and the several succeeding centuries—overran southeastern Europe in great tidal waves, burning, pillaging, killing and enslaving, and becoming a real menace to even Central Europe. Many of these hordes or nations were annihilated by the ancient Ukrainians, but the constant warfare exhausted Ukraine's strength and led to her downfall at the hands of her avaricious neighbors. If, therefore, anyone of the European nations has the right to claim the credit for being the shield of Europe against the Asiatic barbarians, it is the Ukrainian nation, which because of its geographical position had to fight them first of all, and which, as history shows, fought them most valiantly.

### Effect of Distance From Western Europe

Secondly, Ukraine's border position was disadvantageous to her in the past because of its distance from the great cultural centers of Western Europe. Only during the period of the Byzantine Empire, particularly during the 11th century, was this position beneficial to Ukraine. During that time a steady stream of culture flowed into Ukraine from Byzantium,

### GONAS ELECTED INDIANA ASSEMBLY WHIP

John S. Gonas, Indiana State Senator, Ukrainian by descent, was recently elected Democratic Caucus Chairman of the Upper House of the State General Assembly at the State Capitol, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Previous to his election to the Senate in 1940, Gonas was a member of the House of Representatives, during which time he served on the important State Budget Committee, having been appointed to it by the Governor.

It is generally presumed that Senator Gonas' activities in the last session of the General Assembly aided him in being elected to his present important position, which is sometimes equivalent to the so-called "Democratic Whip."

### PRIEST'S MARINE BROTHER KILLED IN ACTION AT GUADALCANAL

George Lazar, a United States Marine and son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lazar of Scranton, Pa., was killed in action late last November during the fighting on Guadalcanal of the Solomon Islands. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in January, 1942. His brother is the Rev. John Lazar of St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N. J.

### PICTURES WANTED

The Ukrainian Weekly desires to publish as much as possible pictures of young and older Americans of Ukrainian descent who are in the armed forces or otherwise distinguishing themselves in the service of their country.

Friends or relatives are urged to

### JERSEY CITY UKRAINIANS HAVE \$100,000 IN WAR BONDS

The Jersey Journal of January 12th reported that the Jersey City Ukrainian War Bond Committee, formed soon after the Japanese sneak-attack on Pearl Harbor, "has just gone over the \$100,000 mark in bond sales to parishioners and parish organizations of SS. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Greene Street at Sussex."

The bond committee is headed by Stephen J. Magura, who founded the War Bond plan in the parish with the Rev. Wladimir Lotowycz; he is assisted by William Wagner, Assemblyman Marcel Wagner, and William Gela, all of whom are active in Ukrainian affairs in the community.

The total sum invested in War Bonds by Jersey City Ukrainians to date is \$104,425. It is believed that a considerable number of persons have not yet reported their War Bond purchases; when these people are heard from the total figure will increase accordingly.

The Journal lists the names of many persons who had purchased bonds during the previous week. Heading this list was a \$4,250 purchase by Mr. and Mrs. John Sopko, followed by the names of other persons whose purchases ran into four figures.

send such pictures to it, together with the necessary data, and three dollars to cover cost of making a cut of the picture. After being used by the Weekly, the cut will be mailed to person ordering it.

which intermingling with the native culture reached such a high state of development as to make Ukraine one of the most cultured countries of Europe at that time.

### Man Mastering Nature

We must bear in mind, however, that geographical influences vary with the passage of time. Gradually man has learned to master nature, although he has not thereby dissociated himself from it and the geographic influences. He simply has learned to exploit nature more successfully and in more diverse ways. Witness the example offered by the ocean, which a thousand years ago was an insurmountable obstacle but which with the advent of the compass, sextant, cartography, and the steamboat, has become one of the foremost aids to progress in the modern world. Better still, witness man's comparatively recent conquest of the air, and its great significance in the present world-wide conflict. Thus, as we see, geographical influences are not of a determining character, as some scholars believed, but are, however, extremely important as conditioning factors, especially during the primary stages of a nation's development. With the progress of science and technology, man has been able to win a progressively greater mastery over nature. The dormant possibilities which occupy the geographical frames, are beginning to awaken one after the other at the hands of man.

### Significance of Ukraine's Geographic Position Today

Such again is the case with Ukraine. Embracing the entire northern coast of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, Ukraine holds considerable possibilities for overseas commerce. The proximity of Asia is no longer dangerous, but, on the contrary, very advantageous, for Ukraine is situated on the shortest land-route from Europe to the southern part of Asia and to India, and commands a good portion of the route. Also, Ukraine is the only one of the Eastern European nations which through its location stands closest to the Mediterranean countries. Furthermore, and most important of all, the Ukrainian steppe, formerly always a place of danger and sparse settlements, has become one of the world's richest regions in grain production and in natural resources.

In the light of all this, it is no wonder at all that today Ukraine is one of the principal theaters of the world-wide conflict, and also its most bloody battlefield.



## THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL TRADITION

An address presented to the Alpha-Omega Society, University of Saskatchewan, by PROF. G. W. SIMPSON, Hon. President of the Society

NATIONAL tradition may be defined as a sort of a past which the people think they have. We must have a national tradition; it is absolutely necessary for every group of people; so necessary is tradition to the spiritual life of a people that if they do not know what the true tradition is, they invent one. Tradition is therefore either a series of fictions invented for our own vanity or satisfaction or it is a more or less true record of events carefully assembled and lovingly handed down from generation to generation. It goes without saying that national tradition should depend on historical facts, otherwise it offers no sure guide to the future action.

National tradition is always complex and many-sided. Some people associate tradition with political happenings, some with literature, some with music and others with literature, some with music and others with religion. As a matter of fact, national tradition is an association of all these aspects and many more—emphasis shifts from time to time, from people to people, from generation to generation.

A group feeds on its traditions as an individual feeds on his memories. A man without a memory cannot act intelligently; one without a memory must be taken away or carefully watched. Our experiences are varied and the role of memory is to select and from the elements of past experiences create behaviour. It is a creative process acting on selective basis. Memory changes with experiences. Thus we attempt to build our present from the elements of our past. This is analogous with what happens in a group—an intelligent group feeds on the past.

Alpha-Omega exists as a society because of its unique situation, the members being Canadians of Ukrainian origin. Although Canadian-born, yet they are close enough to feed on the past of Ukraine and at the same time are associated with the British tradition. Having the Ukrainian and British traditions to feed on, produces the uniqueness. This imposes on you a double duty to acquaint yourself with both, but it gives in return a double advantage. To dissociate oneself with the past, involves two dan-

gers: firstly, you are deliberately throwing aside a great potential value in life and it is impossible to throw away a tradition without becoming contemptuous of all tradition. Secondly, you are deliberately cutting yourself off from a large wealth of group experiences which is food for the future.

The question of tradition is many-sided—but let us take concrete examples—for example language for one. Any language is difficult to acquire as a living thing. It is not simple to study languages and there is nothing as deadly as learning a language by a book. The grammatical crust must first be broken to get all the different shades. It is foolish to throw away the advantages of the Ukrainian language—you should perfect it. Extra work is necessary to perfect it to a stage which is impossible for others to do. As well as perfecting the Ukrainian language you must also perfect the English language. Language is a gate through which one must pass to get the full benefit of the culture.

Music is another example of tradition—it is a marvelous tradition. People unacquainted with your past marvel at the wealth of song. You, who understand both, have a tremendous advantage over those who only know the one tradition. You can understand and appreciate both.

When two traditions are combined we find that they may run parallel and reinforce one another. Let us look at the political aspect: both the Ukrainian and British lands were colonized and both people became colonizers. One of the determining factors was pushing forth with a spirit of adventure and a colonizing zeal. Both had a long tradition of democracy in the past. There was a dynamic power of the people's assembly. When overrun, they still upsurged; we find the Cossacks rising at the same time as the Cromwellians. Although both people were mixed with origin, yet, they retained their cultural unity.

But, just as they run parallel, they also diverge. There is a special quality in the Ukrainian music which distinguishes it from the English. It is marvellous to have some one acquainted with both and fed on both

## THE HOME FRONT

### NO MORE PLEASURE DRIVING

Every American on the Eastern Seaboard who realizes the gravity of the present fuel situation will applaud the decision of the Office of Price Administration to outlaw all pleasure driving whatsoever.

We know that normal methods of transporting oil to this region have been disrupted by the activities of the enemy submarines. We know further that alternative methods—chiefly rail transport—are not sufficiently developed to give us the supplies to which we are accustomed and at the same time fill the rapidly expanding needs of our armed forces, especially those in Africa. We know, too, that while this great strain has been developing, we have had a period of unusually cold weather, making great inroads into the fuel used for heating.

In the face of all this, it would be nothing short of idiocy to permit the continuance of even the limited amount of pleasure driving now possible under the ration system.

### INFLATION

The disastrous effects which inflation would have on the conduct of the war, and the steps by which the people themselves can forestall runaway prices, are described in a pam-

phlet, "Inflation," issued by the Office of War Information. A wartime dilemma, the pamphlet points out, arises from the fact that spending power in the hands of the people is greater than the supply of things to be bought. With an estimated national income of \$115 billion in 1941, there were only \$82 billion in goods available to civilians. Prices rise when demand outruns supply, whether the rule is applied to national markets or to seats in the hands of ticket scalpers at the World Series. Moreover, the pressures which make for price rises are likely to be still greater in 1943. The government is now spending at the rate of \$6 billion a month for for, and employment is still on the rise. But the supply of civilian goods upon which this money might be spent will be still lower during the new year than it was last. Steps must be taken to siphon off some of the national income, with the double aim that it shall not be used to raise prices on the dwindling supply of goods and that, affirmatively, it will be used to support the conduct of the war. Thus taxes both drain away excess spending power and also buy guns. Other means of accomplishing these purposes, the OWI states, are: "Keeping profits at a low, reasonable level; fixing ceilings on prices and rents; putting limits on wage increases; preventing farm prices from rising; limiting consumer credit; pursuing an energetic program of war savings and debt repayment; and rationing all essential goods that become scarce."

The pamphlet finds sound grounds for believing that we may avoid inflation, and rests its case on "the intelligence, self-control, and patriotism of all the people."

traditions. It has a variety of "vitamins." Ukraine was under political subjugation for a long period at the time when the British experienced a long period of comparative freedom and security. Ukraine's influence came from the East—Constantinople and elsewhere, while, the British got theirs from the West. There are also personal characteristics of the race—in the Ukrainian you will find dash, vigor, impulsiveness, while on the other hand the British show steadiness and moderation. In attitude towards government, the Ukrainians shows a generally hostile attitude due to the long period of political subjugation, on the other hand the British are generally tolerant and favorable due to the freedom and security they had experienced.

There is a great advantage in knowing two traditions. It does take time, patience and interests to cultivate both, but it is worth while. It is the duty of your club to aid members in adjusting themselves to the new traditions and at the same time not neglecting the old tradition which are a part of your heritage.

There is a great advantage in knowing two traditions. It does take time, patience and interests to cultivate both, but it is worth while. It is the duty of your club to aid members in adjusting themselves to the new traditions and at the same time not neglecting the old tradition which are a part of your heritage.

SECURITY OF INFORMATION

Military secrets will be in danger unless the public understands that every American has an important part in guarding wartime knowledge. Ship losses that have cost seamen's lives give evidence that some Americans have talked too much. The remedy is an understanding of each individual's role in this war and use of more caution by everybody.

Don't give the enemy the benefit of the doubt. The fact that you have learned something as part of a routine job or heard it in casual conversation or read it in a letter that bears no seal of official secrecy does not mean it isn't important. Nor does that mean the enemy necessarily can find it out—unless you pass the word along.

## WHAT RECLUS WROTE ABOUT POLISH AND UKRAINIAN POETRY

THE name Elisee Reclus (1830-1905) is familiar to the student of geography, for it stands for the author of the 20 volume "Nouvelle Geographie Universale." Written in the years 1874-1894, this work stands to this day as a great masterpiece of that science, and has been translated into many languages. In English it has been published under the title "The Earth and its Inhabitants," with 3,500 maps, in addition to numerous engravings, and it is clear evidence of Reclus's extraordinary scientific knowledge and unusual talent for exposition.

Reclus was especially talented in probing the souls of a people. It was this quality which aided him so well in analyzing and comparing the character of the Polish and Ukrainian people, in relation to their folk-literature.

Here is what he wrote about the Poles:

"The greatest fault of the Poles is their contempt of work. Their fathers, master and serf alike, were ever taught to despise manual labor,

and this sentiment still survives as a lamentable inheritance bequeathed to the present generation. Hence, possibly, that contrast between their fundamental character, leading so readily to heroism, and habits which at times tend to degrade them. When we read their collections of national poetry, we are struck with the lack of originality in their ballads, with the coarseness and even cynicism of their amorous ditties. Most of their modern poets have been fain to seek their inspiration not in the Polish songs, but in the Ukrainian, Lithuanian and even White Russian dumas and traditions. This is due to the fact that ever since the eleventh century the Polish peasantry have been enthralled by the nobles, whereas the serfdom of the Lithuanians dates only from the fifteenth, and that of the Little Russians of Ukraine from the eighteenth century. A pure and really poetic spirit could scarcely have been fostered amongst the Polish peasantry under the regime of the 'szlachta,' fawners of the nobles, taskmasters of the poor. Amongst

other Slavic literatures the Polish is otherwise distinguished by its wealth of historic proverbs, all originating with the aristocracy, which, so to say, formed the political element in the nation."

And here is what Reclus wrote about the Ukrainians:

"The freedom-breathing Cossack songs and the refrains of caravan Chumaks still linger in the memory of the Ukrainian. The Kobzar, who accompanies his notes with the Kobza, or mandoline, and the Lirnyk, who plays not on the lyre, but with sort of a hand organ, still chant the lines which first echoed on the steppe. Some of the ballads recited at the fairs have a historic strain; but, apart from this popular minstrelsy, there are snatches of song which in their breadth of thoughts, strength of language, and wealth of details, are like fragments of epic poems. Unfortunately they are tending to disappear, and will soon survive only in written literature. As he listens to these Dumi, which seem to conjure back the past, with all the hopes and fears, the joys, sentiments, and passions of those stirring days, the Ukrainian fancies he lives again the life of his heroic forefathers. The national poetry of few languages excels that

of the Ukrainians in energy of expression and depth of feeling. And what a sweetness and vigor, combined with warmth and delicacy, are breathed in their love songs! Amongst thousands of these poems there are few that will cause the maiden to blush, but many which will bring tears to her eyes; for they are mostly cast in a melancholy strain, the poetic expression of people long overwhelmed with misfortune, and who love to brood over their sufferings. Nevertheless, the collections contain many ballads betraying an angry and revengeful spirit. These songs, whose authors are unknown, and which are handed down from generation to generation mostly by blind rhapsodists, already form a precious literature, though not the only treasure of Little Russian, which has never ceased to be a cultivated language. In it is entirely composed the Chronicle of Volhynia, the most poetic of all national annals, and since the sixteenth century it has acquired great literary importance. One of its most distinguished modern writers is the famous poet Shevchenko, long a serf and a soldier, who sings of the miseries of his people, and speaks to them of 'justice and freedom to come.'



## THE STORY OF UKRAINIAN PHILOSOPHY

THE several references on these pages recently to Skovoroda, the Ukrainian philosopher and writer, have evoked some inquiries among our readers concerning Ukrainian philosophy as a whole. What other philosophers besides Skovoroda has Ukraine produced?—asks one person. How do they compare with the philosophers of other lands?—asks another. What was the gist of their philosophies? etc.

One of the best authorities on Ukrainian philosophy is Dmytro Chyzhevsky (1895—), a philosopher in his own right, and before the war a professor at the Ukrainian University and at the Ukrainian Pedagogical Institute in Prague.

According to him, the Ukrainians, like the Slavs in general, have not given to the world any great philosopher, i. e. a thinker of such worldwide eminence as to initiate a new era in the development of world philosophy. This does not mean however, wrote Prof. Chyzhevsky several years ago, that Ukraine has not produced any prominent philosopher. Though they are little known outside the confines of Ukraine, nevertheless they deserve consideration.

### I

#### Its Beginnings

In an outline of the story of Ukrainian philosophy, written several years ago, Prof. Chyzhevsky wrote that—

Acquaintance with philosophy in Ukraine is of a far older date than is usually supposed. Immediately after the Christian religion had been introduced into Ukraine, i. e. 988, religious and educational literature of various kinds began to flow in from Byzantium. This was followed a little later by historical literature in which we find numerous, though short, references to ancient philosophers, and even quotations from their works, which were mostly moral treatises, but sometimes also purely theoretic. Sentences which have been ascribed to Pythagoras, Democritus, Socrates, Aristippus, Diogenes, Plato, Aristotle, Zeno the Stoic, and Epictetus have been found in them. For example, from the fragmentary references to Plato and from quotations from his works, which thus became known in Ukraine, a complete portrait might be drawn of him as a religious thinker and the forerunner of Christianity. This is the reason why Plato as well as Aristotle are sometimes painted among the saints on the icons, although in actual fact they also developed lines of thought which had nothing in common with Christianity.

In old Ukraine the philosophy of the Fathers of the Church also began slowly to spread, and it should be remembered that a great number of these Church Fathers had a philosophic bent, that in Ukraine especially their works had been translated and that all are filled with elements of both Platonic and Aristotelian philosophy. One of the sects of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries sought philosophic satisfaction in the philosophies of the old Hebrew and the Arabians; translations of Algazali, Moses, Maimonides, etc., which came to us from this last source, contributed greatly to the establishment of our terminology of philosophy.

#### Its Spread In 16th and 17th Centuries

General interest in theology and, in connection with it, in philosophy became especially lively in Ukraine during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and gave rise to various religious movements. Spurred by the growing influence of Roman Catholicism and Protestantism, and later still by the establishment and growth of Greek Catholicism, i. e. the union of the Roman Catholic Church with a part of the Greek Orthodox Church

—the Greek Orthodox Church began preaching and writing in self-defense. In the course of this defense special schools, e. g. the famous College at Kiev, founded in 1644, and printing presses as well as school libraries and big private libraries were established. Side by side with the growing influence of western scholasticism—chiefly of Thomas Aquinas but also of other schools of philosophic thought, e. g. Duns Scotus, etc., the philosophy of the western Church Fathers, especially of St. Augustin, and of the Renaissance gained ground. Judging from the lists of books in the libraries of the time, as well from references made in printed works, and from the texts of numerous lesson books written in Latin (alas, unedited and not yet worked out in detail) chiefly from the Academy of Kiev, we can make a fairly accurate list of the philosophic works known in Ukraine in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Along with the medieval scholastic literature we find works of the newer scholasticism, e. g. Suarez, and of representatives of Renaissance philosophy, from Nicolas of Cusa to Zabarella, Agrippa of Nettesheim, Machiaveli, Jerome Cardan, Baudin, Juan Luis Vives, Pico de la Mirandola, and even Giordano Bruno and Francis Bacon. In the seventeenth century modern philosophy began to spread in Ukraine; the Cartesian Manual was even used as the textbook on philosophy in the Academy of Kiev. The transition in the teaching of philosophy took place in the first half of the eighteenth century. At that time we also find in Ukraine mention and traces of the influence of Descartes, Spinoza, Leibnitz, and even of Locke and Hobbes.

One of the first independent writers of philosophy in Ukraine was Cyril Tranquillon Stavrovetsky who, in 1618, produced his "Zertsalo Bohoslovnia" (the Mirror of Theology); in which the influence of Renaissance philosophy is apparent. But in the Ukrainian literature of those times with the exception of short theses of philosophic disputation, all that one finds are fragments of philosophy in theological works.

### II

The period of religious philosophy in Ukraine ends with three authors, Paisiy Velychkovsky, Gregory Skovoroda and Semen Hamalia, who may be considered as representing a "mystic trio" of Ukrainian philosophy.

#### Paisiy Velychkovsky

Paisiy Velychkovsky (1722-1794) lived and worked outside the boundaries of Ukraine. An exponent of Greek-Orthodox asceticism, a graduate of the Academy of Kiev, he became a monk in Rumania. He was the author of books on asceticism, but is especially famous as the collector of the great calendar of the writings of the Church Fathers, the "Philokalia," which was widely spread throughout Ukraine and Russia, and exercised a deeply religious influence on the people. His works are more religious and educational than philosophic and mystical.

#### Semen Hamalia

Semen Hamalia (1743-1822), a much younger man, translated his own mystical conception of the world among masonic circles in Russia. His letters, published in three volumes, represent his conception of the world as a mystical system of thought. He was especially influenced by the German mystics, A. Boehme and Arndt, but also by St. Martin.

#### Gregory Skovoroda

The third of the Ukrainian mystics, Gregory Skovoroda, a contemporary of Velychkovsky (1722-1794), was much more original than the other two. He was not only a theoretic writer, but put his theories into

practice in his own private life. After being a professor in the theological schools in Ukraine for several years, he spent the remaining twenty-five years of his life in wandering through Ukraine, staying now with one and now with another of his friends as a sort of peculiar "monk in the world." Most of his works appeared during that period—dialogues, written in a peculiar language full of complicated symbolism and poetic pathos; religious enthusiasm being combined in them with a fine humor in regard to the "vanity" of human life and with a deep sense of the beauty of nature.

Our special interest in Skovoroda is not as a writer, but as a philosopher. As a philosopher he combines elements of neo-platonism with the philosophy of the Church Fathers and of western mysticism. Skovoroda explains his own views by reference to the symbolic interpretation of the Bible as presented by Philon (Philo-Judaeus), or the Church Fathers: "There are three worlds. The first is the general or living world, in which lives everything that has been born. The other two are partial and small worlds. The first of these two partial worlds is the microcosm, a small world, or man. The second of them is symbolic world, or the Bible..." However, not only the Bible but also the world in general appears to Skovoroda as a subject for symbolic interpretation. "No colors portray a rose, a lily, or a narcissus, in such a living way as the shadow of heavenly and earthly pictures mirror the invisible truth of God."

#### His Conception of the World

The picture of the world, that reveals itself to Skovoroda under "the shadow of the heavenly and earthly pictures," is, in the first place, an antithesis; everything in the world consists of contrary elements—the whole world is full through and through with antitheses: "In this world there are two worlds which are parts of the one world: the invisible world and the visible world, the living and the dead worlds, the whole and the part. The one is the raiment, the other is the body. 'Visible nature' is substance; 'invisible nature' is God. The source of all existence, as of all changes and proceedings in the material world, which is in its essence entirely passive, is God who keeps... the whole world in motion... God, the 'spirit' of every creature. He alone inspires, feeds, orders, sends out, protects, and by His will, which is the general law or statute, again turns us to dust and ashes; and we call it death."

#### ... of Man

Humanity is dual in nature. Following Philon, a Church Father, and the German mystics, Skovoroda discerns in man the "inner" or "real," and the "outer" man: "Thou art the shadow of thy real man. Thou art the raiment, he—the body. Thou art the hallucination, he—the truth in thee. Thou art naught, he—the true being in thee. Thou art dirt, he—thy beauty, imagine, and plan." This "real man" is the "bottomless depth" that is broader than all waters and heaven. This "bottomless depth" is the "heart" of man. "O, heart! The bottomless depth... broader than all waters and heaven!... How deep thou art! Thou comprisest and holdest all, but nothing can comprise thee." "The head of everything in man is the human heart. It is the real man in man, and all the rest is but surroundings."

#### "Unequal Equality to All"

Skovoroda's theory of perception as well as his ethics are founded upon such thoughts. His theory of perception is based upon the thought that man is a microcosm, and that in his bottomless heart the whole world is potentially enclosed. Skovoroda's ethics speak of purifying the "heart" of the "inner man," from all outer

## Wins His Wings

John L. Podlesny, age 21, son of Mrs. Annie Podlesny of Higbie Lane, Babylon, N. Y., recently received his wings and commission in the U. S. Army Air Corps.

Lt. Podlesny, a member of U.N.A. Branch 433, has been in the Army since last January. A graduate of Babylon High School, he was employed before entering the service by the Dzus Fastener Company—the Ukrainian-owned manufacturer of the Dzus fastener, used by American and British planes. He first trained at Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala. and then he received his primary training at the Southern Aviation School at Camden, S.C., and his basic training at the Shaw Field, Sumter, S. C. He completed his advanced training at Turner Field, Albany, Ga.



LIEUT. JOHN L. PODLESNY

He was scheduled to graduate from Turner Field several weeks before the time he did, but was involved in an airplane crash three days before he was to receive his wings. A co-pilot in the plane when it crashed, he suffered slight injuries. His mother and sister, Mrs. Henry Haynisk, and his aunt, Mrs. Philip Ruzylko of New Haven, Conn. attended his graduation.

Lt. Podlesny has been assigned to the Homestead Air Base, Homestead, Fla., where he is at present.

things. This purifying leads man towards the ideal of the Church Fathers—"deification," or union with God. Following his leaning towards antitheses and paradoxes, Skovoroda maintains that the way towards deification is through "self-humiliation," "self-abasement," that it is necessary "to kill one's own will," "to rend one's heart,"—that by this "life-creating death" of the outer man the inner man is born again into a godlike existence. Yet Skovoroda is not an exponent of stern religious ethics requiring the same ascetic way of life of all men. On the contrary, he assumes that each man may follow his own individual way. As one of the best symbolic statements of Skovoroda expresses it: "God resembles a rich fountain that fills various vessels of various sizes. 'Equality to All' is the inscription on that fountain. A smaller vessel gets less, but it is equal to the larger vessel in that it is equally as full as the other." The notion of 'unequal equality' is Skovoroda's central ethical ideal, about which he sings in his songs; he declines most decidedly the "equality which the fools try to introduce into the world." The individual road of life can be found by self-recognition: "Know Thyself" is one of the favorite themes of Skovoroda's works.

But all individual roads lead to God. Skovoroda's philosophy finds its climax in themes of mystical ecstasy, in the annihilation of self in God, the "holy source."

(To be concluded)



## Ukrainians Take Deep Root In Canada

By HONORE EWACH

WITHIN the span of fifty-one years the Ukrainians have really taken root in Canada. They came here mainly in search of land—and they found it in western Canada: in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. At first some of them missed here the genial climate of Ukraine. They missed too the happy spirit of the Ukrainian villages. And they felt very lonesome and strange among the people they met here whose tongue they did not understand at all. Yet they found here what they wanted most—the fertile Canadian land. But in time they learned to like also the bracing Canadian climate and the brevity and practical exactness of the English tongue. During their first twenty-five years here they took deep root in the Canadian soil and during the next twenty-five years—in the cultural, professional, and political fields of the Canadian life. They made good wherever they stepped in, though they had compete with men and women who had more education, better means, and finer opportunities.

Through hard work, diligence and patience the Ukrainians have become well-established here in Canada. At no time, it should be borne in mind, were they anybody's pets. At first nobody even took the trouble to find out who they really were. All that the older Canadians knew about them then was that they were to be found in all the railroad gangs, in the lumber camps, also as farm hands and farmers, and that their ways of life were simple and even somewhat primitive in comparison with the well-to-do farmers of British origin. There was hardly anyone then who could discern the beauty and social refinement latent in the primitive, agricultural ways of life of the Ukrainian settlers.

It is a matter of fact, of course, that it was the poorest class of Ukrainians who came here in search of land. Some of their families came to Canada without any material means whatever, having spent all what they had on their train and steamship fares. Those of Ukrainian villagers who owned at least a dozen or more acres of fertile land stayed behind, being reluctant to part with their genial, fertile, and naturally beautiful Ukraine.

Bearing this in mind, that it was the poorest class of Ukrainian villagers that came in search of land in

Canada, one is really amazed that within the space of half a century the Ukrainian Canadians have made such a wonderful progress. That progress, it is interesting to note, is marked by three main stages. The first stage could be very aptly termed as the "Galician." It covered the period when the Ukrainian immigrants in Canada were trying their best to adapt themselves to the strange conditions in the new country, especially in looking about for means of livelihood. Products of the poorest class of Ukrainian villagers, they possessed very little education, though they and their children were usually very eager to get hold of any book or newspaper. Most of them were even ignorant of their real racial origin. Thus when someone asked them where they came from they replied, "from Galicia,"—not knowing that Galicia was just one of the Ukrainian provinces.

Within the space of some twenty years the Ukrainian Canadians emerged from their "Galician" primitiveness to a higher stage of existence. Most of them became conscious that they were of Ruthenian origin, associating themselves with the old and outmoded name of their European motherland, but still remaining ignorant of the newest phase of advancement in Ukraine. This second stage in their development may be said to have begun a few years prior to the first World War and to have lasted to about 1920.

It was the re-emergence of Ukraine in 1917 as a free nation that threw new light even into the hearts of the Ukrainians in Canada. For the first time they became really proud of their racial origin, identifying themselves with the descendants of the famous Ukrainian Kozaks who for centuries had fought in defense of their democratic ways of life. They began to realize very clearly that they were of Ukrainian origin. This new idea was further developed in them by their own children who through their readings became conscious of their Ukrainian background, especially those who studied either at the Ukrainian Peter Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon or the Ukrainian Michael Hrushevsky Institute in Edmonton. Thus within the past twenty years, the Ukrainian Canadians have attained their highest state of development, as proud descendants of the

## United Nations Declaration Anniversary

President Roosevelt issued a statement to his press conference on the occasion of the first anniversary of the signing of the United Nations declaration by 26 nations at Washington. "Our task on this New Year's day is three-fold: first, to press on with the massed forces of free humanity till the present bandit assault upon civilization is completely crushed; second, to organize relations among nations so that the forces of barbarism can never again break loose; third, to cooperate to the end that mankind may enjoy in peace and in freedom the unprecedented blessings which divine providence, through the progress of civilization, has put within our reach."

The President stated that at the time of the signing the world situation "was grim indeed. Yet on that last New Year's day, these nations, bound together by the universal ideals of the Atlantic Charter, signed an act of faith that military aggression, treaty violation, and calculated savagery should be remorselessly overwhelmed by their combined might and the sacred principles of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness be restored as cherished ideals of mankind. They thus created the mightiest coalition in history, mighty not only for its overwhelming material force but still more for its eternal spiritual values. Three other nations have since joined the coalition.

"The unity thus achieved amidst dire danger has borne rich fruit. The United Nations are passing from the defensive to the offensive. The unity achieved on the battle lines is being earnestly sought in the not less complex problems on a different front. In this as in no previous war men are conscious of the supreme necessity of planning what is to come after—and of carrying forward into

freedom-loving and democratic Kozaks. And now, as Canadians with a fine heritage of the democratic Ukrainian principles, they are exemplary Canadian citizens—as farmers, business men, professionals, politicians, and as Canadian soldiers, air-force men, and sailors. The words of Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada, "You will be better Canadians by being good Ukrainians," which he uttered at a gathering of Ukrainian Canadians at Frazerwood, in Manitoba, in 1936, have at last come true.

Winnipeg, Man.

peace the common effort which will have brought them victory in the war. They have come to see that the maintenance and safeguarding of peace is the most vital single necessity in the lives of each and all of us."

Mr. Roosevelt, amplifying his prepared statement, authorized reporters to quote him directly that "almost all the other things we hope to get out of the war are more or less dependent on the maintenance of peace—all kinds of planning for the future, economic and social, and so forth and so on. It isn't much use if there is going to be another World War in 10 years, or 1 year or 20 years. All the planning for the future is dependent obviously on peace."

Vice President Wallace, in a radio interview, said that many in "high positions" in the Axis realize that their countries face certain military defeat and are preparing to turn their attention toward winning the peace and "laying the foundation for World War No. 3." The Vice President said, "Germany and Japan will win the peace and world war No. 3 if we follow the same methods as we did the last time. Even if Hitler and the top criminals are all blotted out, the competent brains down the line in the German army still remain ready to plan economic and fifth column war as a preliminary to the next military aggression under a new, less crazy and therefore more dangerous Hitler."

The foundation stones of the new world-wide democracy the United Nations would build, Mr. Wallace said, are liberty and unity, or in other words "home rule and centralized authority." The far-reaching goal, he said, would be to preserve "the liberty, equality, security and unity of the United Nations—liberty in a political sense, equality of opportunity in international trade, security against war and business depression due to international causes and unity of purpose in promoting the general welfare of the world."



## THE UNITED NATIONS

### XI. NICARAGUA

AREA—57,000 square miles. Central America's largest country, about the size of Georgia. Population—1,380,000. Third largest in Central America, and about one-third as large as Georgia's. Capital City—Managua (population 118,400). Other important cities,—Leon (population 38,600). Granada (population 22,300). Products—Gold: 60 percent of total exports. Coffee: 20 to 30 percent of total exports. Bananas, cotton, sugar, cocoa, lumber and dyewoods, hides and skins, maize, sisal and abaca (substitutes for hemp). Climate—Tropical on the coasts; wet, especially on the Caribbean coast; cooler in the mountains.

Nicaragua is the largest Central American republic. The Nicaraguans are descendants of Spanish conquerors and peaceful Indian farmers. The majority of them are Ladinos, of mixed Indian and white blood. They are lively, gay, and emancipated.

Their national life reflects many Americanisms: there are more than 200 baseball teams; their drugstores, like ours, are piled high with much besides drugs—they sell groceries, clothing, hardware, jewelry, and gardening equipment.

Nicaragua is famous for the perfection of its volcanic peaks; for its two great blue lakes; for its ancient Indian monoliths and Spanish and colonial cities; for being the birthplace and burial spot of one of the greatest lyric poets in Spanish literature, Ruben Dario; for the tenacity of its people, which has allowed them to survive earthquakes and civil wars.

Although in 1940 its chief export was gold, Nicaragua's economy is founded on the land—on coffee, bananas, cotton, coconuts, sugar, cocoa, tobacco, cattle—but the country has always been a nation of city dwellers. Since 1858, Managua has been the capital, picked as a compromise after years of rivalry between the colonial cities of Leon and Granada. From early Spanish colonial days Leon has represented the liberal segment of Nicaragua; Ruben Dario lies buried there.

From Leon come the nation's lawyers, physicians, writers, intellectuals; it is the city of artisans and small landowners, whose little fincas (farms) are scattered in a wide plain around the city. It is a city of passionate political opinion and discussion. In it you will find splendid old Spanish churches. Granada, on the other hand, is stanchly conservative. Seventy miles south of Leon, it is the home of aristocrats—wealthy merchants and large landowners, whose cattle ranches and cocoa and sugarcane plantations stretch for miles around the upper end of Lake Nicaragua.

Three major regions compose Nicaragua: the plain just inland from the Pacific Coast with its cities and two great lakes; the hot, flat, wet Mosquito Coast along the Caribbean with its swamps and jungles and banana plantations; and the highland country—lying between the other two and rising sharply from the lakes to 7,000 feet, then sloping gently to the Caribbean. Seen from the air, the highland country—with its rolling green hills high green mountains, rivers and lakes, its stretches of forest dotted with farm cottages—looks not unlike northern New England. But the highland country is isolated, roads are difficult to build. Nicaragua's impor-

tant cities lie in the plain on the Pacific side. Representing about one-quarter of Nicaragua's area, the Pacific plain houses nearly three-quarters of the population.

To a Nicaraguan, the two most important things about his country are the two lakes: Lake Managua, 40 miles long and 10 to 16 miles wide, dominated by the smoking volcano of Momotombo; and Lake Nicaragua, 100 miles long and over 40 miles wide, the largest inland body of water between Lake Michigan and Lake Titicaca in South America. Lake Nicaragua gives the country its peculiarly strategic position. Connected with the Atlantic Ocean by the San Juan River, it is separated from the Pacific by only 13 miles of land. Its surface is 106 feet above sea level. A cut through those 13 miles (the lowest point in the western continental mountain chain), plus a widening and deepening of the San Juan River, would result in a through water course from sea to sea. Nicaraguans very much want this canal built, not only for hemisphere defense, but because it would, at last, provide quick communication between their coasts. Such a canal would be 180 miles long, compared with the 50 of the Panama Canal, and would take from eight to ten years to build.



## "Chetverta Zapovid"

RECENTLY I read "Chetverta Zapovid" (Fourth Commandment), a story of Galician Ukrainian life by Andrey Tschaikovsky, which I have reviewed for readers of the Ukrainian Weekly as follows:—

Vasyl Pandjak had just completed his theological studies at the Seminary when he became engaged to marry Anna Pidliiska. Both these young people were well known and liked by the residents of their respective villages. Vasil, especially, was respected by them because he was soon to take his vows as a priest.

Pavlo Pandjak, Vasyl's father, was a respected individual in his own right, for he claimed to be a builder of churches. Curiously, however, none of the townspeople ever saw his claimed projects. There was something sinister in his appearance, especially in his eyes, so that the villagers feared him somewhat; although they were always courteous to the old man. His wife, Paulina, felt that he was rather secretive in his moves; else why would he leave home for days at a time and then upon his return give no explanation.

The time sequence in this story goes back to when in the old country horse thieves were abundant. The owners of the horses took great precautions to prevent anyone from stealing them. After the stables were securely locked, dogs were placed in front of the doors to ward off any intruders. Despite such precautionary action, however, thieves eventually managed to separate the horse from its rightful owner.

One such thievery plays an important part in the life of Vasyl Pandjak.

In a nearby village there lived a wealthy and elderly man, Ilko Kozak. He was the proud owner of a beautiful homestead, 50 acres of land and 20 pure-bred horses. Kozak hired a young boy, who was called Voytko, to care for the horses. This young boy claimed that he had previously been in the army. His proof was his honorable discharge papers and the uniform he constantly wore even while caring for the horses. His good natured attitude and pleasant singing made him exceptionally likeable. One day Kozak became curious to find out what Voytko was doing up on the ladder against the side of the stable. Upon being asked, the boy explained to Kozak's satisfaction that he was patching up the holes before the cold winter set in. This statement was partially correct in that he was filling in the holes; however, the fact that he, Voytko, had actually made them himself, was of course not revealed to the elderly man.

A few nights later Kozak was awakened by strange noises outside the stable. He arose and started toward the door and then turned back, doubtful that anyone could get past the dogs. He looked into the beds of his two sons to see if by chance either of them were gone. Seeing that both were still in their places, he suddenly realized that horse-thieves were in his stables. He quickly awakened his sons and together they went out to capture the thieves. Just as they were leaving the house, a loud crash broke the stillness of the night. Rushing in its direction, they found that a section of the stable wall had collapsed, burying in its ruins three men, evidently thieves, who were struggling to free themselves.

The crash brought many neighbors to the scene. Together with Kozak they finally managed to extricate the struggling would-be horse thieves. To the complete and utter amazement of all, two of the thieves were widely known citizens of their village—the first, an employee of Kozak, Voytko, and the second, Pavlo Pandjak.

Later, in the Pidliiska household, preparations were being made for the wedding of the daughter Anna. They

## Christmas Package Acknowledged By Soldier

With regular donations from its membership, the Ukrainian Civic Center in New York City, a girls' society of many years standing, has been able to send surprise packages to two or three servicemen a month; and it has remembered many of its acquaintances in the armed forces with Christmas cards. The following acknowledgment which touched its members deeply was received from Corp. Harry Chachula, stationed in Hawaii:—

"December 27, 1942

"Hello All,

"Christmas Day has come and gone with the New Year soon to follow. It was a pleasant day for most of us here in spite of being so far away from the friends we hold dear. Many of the good people back home tried to make it a happy holiday season for us by sending cards and packages. They were successful in their attempts.

"About a day or two before December 25 your package arrived. Today on returning from church I was handed your Christmas card. I was very much surprised at receiving the package for I couldn't imagine who the kind sender was. It didn't take long to find out. At this time I want to thank you for your kindness and your two wonderful morale builders. On scanning over your greeting card I was able to pick out some names that I remember well. Others sounded kind of familiar although I could not quite picture the faces.

"This holiday season is quite different than the last one I spent here at the same place. Things were more uncertain then. All of us, especially I, hope that this will be our last holiday that we'll be spending away from home.

"Soon the holidays will have gone but there is still one more that I want to remember and that is our own Christmas. I know it's too late for greetings for even the New Year but there still is time to say, 'Merry Christmas to you all on January 7.' With this it's So Long, and thanks a million for thinking of me."

were people of meager means, for Mrs. Pidliiska's husband, a priest, had died a number of years earlier. To the great annoyance of Mrs. Pidliiska, Pavlo Pandjak insisted that she sign a paper stating how much she was giving her daughter as a dowry. He knew she couldn't give much and that he could supply his son with all he wanted, but such was his nature.

The prospects of the impending marriage was further complicated for Vasyl by the discovery that his father was a horse-thief. How all these complications finally resolved themselves makes some interesting reading. Briefly, however, it can be revealed here that the key to the solution of the problem lay in the fact that, as old Pandjak told his son, the name he had used among the members of his "profession" was not Pandjak but "Czerupa." Acting then on his father's advice, Vasyl decided to marry and make his home in a different village, where the stigma attached to his father was not known, and where, therefore, the name Pandjak could be an honorable one. In this manner then, the relations between the father and son, strained for awhile by disclosure of the former's "night work," became strengthened again, especially when the father no longer indulged in such wrongdoing. And thus the son was once more able to pay his father the proper filial respect.

ANNE DYDYK,  
Syracuse, N. Y.

## New Executive Set-Up For U.Y.O.C.

Board of Directors of 11 to Run Organization for Duration

Abandoning the usual procedure of electing officers to definite positions on the Executive Board at yearly conventions, the Ukrainian Youth Organization of Connecticut will be controlled by a Board of Directors of 11 for the duration, it was voted at the annual U.Y.O.C. rally held Sunday, December 6, at the Ukrainian Church hall, Hartford, the U.Y.O.C. Bulletin reports.

Andrew Melnyk of New Britain, who has played an active part in shaping the policies of the U.Y.O.C. for the past five or six years, was elected to the post of permanent chairman of the Board of Directors by acclamation.

Miss Rose Worobel of Hartford, a comparative new-comer in Ukrainian circles in Connecticut, was elected to the editorship of The Ukrainian Affairs Bulletin of Connecticut.

The other members of the New Board of Directors are as follows: Miss Mary Gwisc, Hartford; Mrs. Anna Salabay, New Britain; Miss Katherine Sagan, Hartford; Walter Demetro, New Britain; Russell Huk, Hartford, John Seleman, New Britain; Miss Julia Dudik, Terryville; Miss Mary Grogosza, Hartford; and Miss Anastazia Kurdyna, Hartford.

The Board shall meet as often as seems necessary and at least seven members must be present to form a quorum.

Whenever, because of resignations or the induction of the male members into the armed forces, the Board of Directors becomes so small that a quorum of seven cannot be formed, a special convention of the U.Y.O.C. shall be called for the purpose of electing persons to fill the vacancies on the Board.

Because the new executive set-up seemed such a radical change from the usual procedure and necessitated the suspension of the U.Y.O.C. constitution, a long and searching debate was held as to the wisdom of such a step and the size and responsibilities of such a Board. However, most of those attending the convention had realized long ago that, because of transportation restrictions, staggered hours of work, and the steady loss of officers and members of the organization to the armed forces, it was impossible to continue under the old system and that an emergency arrangement was needed in order to insure the continuation of the U.Y.O.C. as an active and thriving organization. Therefore, the wisdom of entrusting the destinies of the U.Y.O.C. to a compact and powerful Board of Directors for the duration soon became apparent to all and the proposal was carried unanimously.

The convention began at 3 P.M. and was adjourned at 8 in the evening. Joseph Melnyk of New Britain was elected convention chairman and Miss Stephanie Salabay of Southington convention secretary.

Retiring officers who were able to be present reported on their activities for the past year and were given a vote of confidence.

About fifty or sixty persons from central Connecticut communities attended the convention and without exception all showed a keen interest in the discussions and proceedings, the U.Y.O.C. Bulletin reports.

## Funny Side Up

INDUCTEE'S NIGHTMARE

WE supposed many of you are anxious to know how we made out with that swarm of Army doctors down at the Army Medical Board recently. But first let us tell you about our physical examination.

There we were standing in our B. V. D.'s, the perfect specimen, full of pep, vim, vigor, and goosepimples. Finally when we were about to turn blue a doctor ambled over, told us to stick out our tongue and say, "Ah." "Ah," we said. "Oh," he said. "Eh?" we asked. "Uh," he replied. Boy, was that an educational conversation. Nevertheless, our legs kept shaking, while our nerves started to fall apart, but we had so much will power that we just pulled ourselves together!

"Say," said the Dr. "Your face looks white. Do you feel sick?" "No," said I. "That's powder on my face. I had a shave just before I came in." "Boy," he said. "You certainly look anemic. When is your blood coming? Brother, you've got so little blood that when you blush I bet you get tattletale grey! What you need," he continued, "is a transfusion. Nurse, bring in a mosquito!" At this point the Dr. went into the next room for a needle and we decided to take a little walk, but quick.

Just then another doctor grabbed us and asked, "Have you any organic trouble?" "No," we replied. "I'm not musical!" Then the doctor wrote something in a book. Looking over his shoulder, we could see him writing our name, and alongside it the word, "perishable!" Just then there was a big commotion outside the room. A couple of M.P.'s were arresting a spy. Seems he had the map of the United States tattooed on his chest and one of his dimples showed the location of a secret airfield!

Then we were led into a room where a psychologist made us sit down and answer a pile of unusual questions, among which was, "Bromo, have you ever kissed a girl?" "You bet," we replied. "I have an insane desire to kiss girls all the time. Is anything wrong with that?" "Oh no, Bromo," he answered. "But could you spare a couple of good addresses?"

Finally we found ourself standing in front of the classifying officer with an apple in our hand (Don't ask us where we got the apple. Do you want to spoil the story?). "And what's the idea bringing me a big red apple?" asked the examining officer. "Well," we replied. "It used to work with my teachers!" After a lapse of a few seconds the officer turned to us and said, "Bromo, the Army needs men. Have you any good telephone numbers?"

The outcome of it all? You guessed it...4F! Surprised? So were we. Since that date lots of fellows have been asking us how we got such a classification. To every one we told a different story (Ain't we the one?). To one fellow we told him we smeared spaghetti all over our face, so he tried the same stunt, but it flopped. He was accepted. Yesterday he stopped around to see us. "I thought," he groaned, "I'd get a 4F like you." "Oh, I forgot to tell you," we said, "that besides covering your face with a lot of spaghetti, you also have to have 16 toes and a wooden leg!"

Pardon me now folks, while I run down to the OPA office and register the serial numbers on my rubber bands!

BROMO SELTZER

P. S. Boy, times must be tough! My girl friend hung up her only pair of nylon stockings over the fireplace on Xmas Eve, and Santa Claus swiped them!





## YOUTH And The UNA

### WORKING WITH THE U.N.A.

Becoming interested in Ukrainian-American activities at an early age, I became a member of a Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra of a faction not to my liking. My father, noticing that I wasn't satisfied and that my interest in Ukrainian affairs had increased, advised me to stop groping in the dark and become a member of a good, reputable organization, the Ukrainian National Association.

Back in 1934 Mr. Peter Herman, a U.N.A. pioneer and present secretary of Branch 99 in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., contacted me and questioned me as to my ability to speak, read, and write Ukrainian. Satisfied with the answers he received, he contacted other young men and, in due time, formed the nucleus of a U.N.A. youth branch. This branch, which was organized on September 16, 1934, was to consist of male members only, but with the passing of the years members of the opposite sex were contacted and admitted into the branch.

Members of the newly-formed branch were Peter Bonk, president, a student of theology who went to Rome, Italy, and returned when war broke out to enlist in the United States Army; Gregory Herman, vice president of the U.N.A., a school teacher; Alex Zwarycz, treasurer; John Zwarycz, secretary, Steven Zumchak, Theodore Zinkowsky, and Vasile Fediow, auditors. All the charter members cooperated with each other from the day the branch was formed to the present time. The branch was known as the Ivan Franko Youth of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., U.N.A. Branch 157.

New members were admitted as time went on. The membership campaign was greatly stimulated because of the U.N.A.'s program offering the youth many membership advantages. Branch 157 increased its membership steadily with new and interesting personalities.

Highlighting the branch's activities was its participation in the U.N.A. sports program, in which the entire membership took active interest. Through the cooperation of the branches and members in Wilkes-Barre, the U.N.A. Baseball Team of Branch 157 won the U.N.A. Baseball Championship each year for three years. Then, the U.N.A. Male Chorus proved an outlet for the pent up fervor of other members of the branch. The branch chorus became widely known, which helped the branch and the U.N.A. where publicity and possible new members were concerned.

Some long-lasting acquaintances have been made through U.N.A. activity. Through the U.N.A., the Svboda, and The Ukrainian Weekly, the younger members of the fraternal order have become strongly unified. This is due in part to the personal contact among U. N. A. members as a result of traveling U.N.A. athletic teams, rallies, conventions, and the like, which also resulted in mutual understanding and cooperation among the youth of different cities and towns. More important, all the U. N. A. youth activity did much to promote fraternalism, the principle upon which the organization was founded.

Youth delegates to U.N.A. conventions experienced much in the way of fraternalism. They served on committees ably and intelligently, and received first-hand information on all U.N.A. matters. They cooperated with the older delegates to the latter's gratification and proved themselves worthy of any responsibility thrust upon them in matters concerning the organization. This and more convinced me that the U.N.A. is the ideal institution for young people who desire to work for a really worthwhile cause and a great organization. The U.N.A. offers all the activity that

## THEY SAID...

Pearl Buck, author and authority on China:

"I conceive it is our duty as citizens of democracy and as human beings not to be content today merely to put on a uniform, either the uniform of army or navy upon our bodies, or the uniform of docility upon our minds, nor of expediency upon our hearts. Now as never before in the history of the world we who believe in liberty of the mind and freedom of the body must speak, again and again, regardless of the danger to ourselves. If we do not make this war into a war for freedom, we shall lose freedom, without which life is worthless. If freedom must be lost, then let us lose it boldly, still speaking what we know to be true and not in the timidity of silence. For us, words are weapons."

Chester S. Williams, director of adult education, U.S. Office of Education:

"Our educational system needs reorganizing. It has failed to present a study of the modern world so that it makes sense. It is partly out of date. The public must be given an understanding of the technological and scientific revolution of the present age; it must understand the new 'air-age geopolitics,' and it must also learn the difference between the philosophies and psychologies of democracy and dictatorship."

Harold C. Urey, renowned chemist and Nobel Prize winner:

"It seems to me that when the Axis is definitely defeated and prevented from starting another war, the next most likely source of conflict is possible misunderstanding with Russia. Unless thought is given to this problem, and unless the distrust that exists in many quarters today is dissolved, another generation may find itself in the midst of a third world war... It seems to me that (some peaceful collaboration with Russia in policing the world) is possible. Russia probably will not seek to meddle in our internal affairs. She also has no more desire to conquer the world than we have at present. If this collaboration is to be effected we must revise our approach to Russia. It must neither be from the standpoint of our own Communists nor our 'Red-baiters', but rather from the standpoint of respect for a hard-working and hard-fighting ally... Unless we have the courage to face such problems bluntly and the wisdom to solve them with tolerance and understanding, the dream of Alfred Nobel for world peace will not be realized."



young people want through its branches and newspapers, which is the main reason so many youth have been attracted to it.

Without doubt the U.N.A. is of great benefit to the youth. It is good to be working with an organization that has the interests of its members foremost in mind all times.

JOHN ZWARYCH

For his contribution Mr. Zwarycz will receive a free copy of the monumental U. N. A. Jubilee Book. All articles concerning the U. N. A. accepted for publication entitle the writers to gratis copies of this valuable book. Articles may concern any phase of the U. N. A. or its branches. Writers are asked to mention their U. N. A. branch numbers. All contributions should be addressed to Ukrainian National Association, 83 Grand St., Jersey City, N. J.

## ST. CLAIR MARINE IN SOLOMONS SENDS MOTHER \$400 AS XMAS GIFT

Corporal Michael Stravetsky with the Marines at Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, remembered his mother, Mrs. Annie Stravetsky, North Mill Street, St. Clair, Pa. with a Christmas gift of \$400 in U. S. Notes. The letter from Corp. Stravetsky, who is a member of U.N.A. Branch, left the marine base, December 1, arrived in St. Clair December 10, and arrived in St. Clair December 12. The postage was \$1.20.

As reported in the local press, the gift and especially the spirit that prompted it, have brought much joy to Mrs. Stravetsky. Portion of the money has been placed in the bank to the credit of the young soldier for the purchase of a much desired article upon his return to civil life.

Michael enlisted in the Marine, October, 1940, receiving his base training at Parris Island, S. C. His company left for the South Pacific May 2, 1942. He prizes medals as a sharpshooter and use of the hand grenade. On April 30, 1941 he graduated from the School for Field Radio Operators with an average of 92.4, ranking high in the class.

Other Stravetsky children are Olga, secretary Middleport Air Port; Isa-



CORP. MICHAEL STRAVETSKY

bel, secretary Exchange Bank, Philadelphia; Joseph, employed with Rowland and Schumacker, St. Clair area; Leo, junior, St. Clair High School; and Daniel, freshman, St. Clair High School. The father, Anthony, met death by accident in 1934.

### PROCH ENLISTS IN NAVY

The "Wilkes-Barre Record" of December 30th, 1942, reports that "William Proch, son of Mrs. Eva Proch of North River Street, has enlisted in the Navy and will report for active service on January 4th in Philadelphia. He has volunteered for service in the Navy's physical education training program, which is in charge of Gene Tunney, former world's heavy-weight boxing champion.

"Proch was graduated from Memorial High School in the Class of 1937 and starred on Arnold Kraft's football, baseball, and basketball teams. He later attended Manhattan University from where he was graduated with a bachelor's degree in physical education. He has a step-brother, Stanley Chabala, serving in the Army."

Bill Proch has been a member of Branch 223 of the Ukrainian National Association since childhood. When the U.N.A. launched its sports program in 1938 and the first U.N.A. team was organized in Wilkes-Barre as an experiment, Bill became a manager of that team. It was mainly through his efforts, as manager and captain, that the Wilkes-Barre baseball team won the beautiful championship trophy for three successive years.

His enlistment in the Navy will reunite Bill with his U.N.A. team mates in the service of Uncle Sam.

### CHATTER PILLAR

Since we've chosen to serve with Uncle Sam's forces, we have, as Private Hargrove stated in his book, "wandered in naked bewilderment" till we were fitted out with a uniform, which by some quirk of a tailor somehow wasn't uniform.

As we tried it on and gazed sadly into a mirror, we were reminded of Shevchenko's words: "Добрий кожух, але не на мене шитий."

Being as we are very busy, this column will emerge from time to time as our duties permit.

This is our first Ukrainian Christmas away from home, and we certainly miss it.

This one consolation though—the sign on the chow line says, and it's the best we've seen yet. "Keep 'Em Eating!"

"Soyaz Jr."

TO KEEP ABREAST OF WHAT IS HAPPENING AMONG UKRAINIAN AMERICANS READ THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

## A HISTORY OF UKRAINE

by  
MICHAEL HRUSHEVSKY  
Published for  
THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

by  
THE YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
(\$4.00)

SVOBODA BOOKSTORE  
81-83 Grand St., Jersey City, N. J.

Remember Pearl Harbor! Remember it every pay day! Buy U. S. War Bonds and Stamps.

## FUR CLEARANCE SALE

This is your opportunity to get a beautiful, luxurious Michael Turansky fur coat at a ridiculously low price.

Ready made coats included in the sale are:

- PERSIAN LAMB, (black, brown, grey)
- PERSIAN PAW
- NORTHERN SEAL
- HUDSON SEAL
- MUSKRAT (sable, or mink shades)
- GREY KIDSKIN
- LET OUT RACCOON
- BEAVER
- MINK
- JACKETS in a variety of furs.

Bundles of Persian Lamb skins to be made up in a coat.

A large selection—broken sizes. First come—first serve.

As always, Michael Turansky furs are bought and worn with CONFIDENCE.

Michael Turansky

350 SEVENTH AVENUE  
(Between 29th & 30th Streets)  
NEW YORK CITY

16th Floor  
Tel.: LACKAWANNA 4-0973  
Open daily to 6 P.M., Saturdays to 5 P.M.