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Supplement

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UKRAINIAN YOUTH'S LEAGUE OF NORTH AMERICA HOLDS 11th CONVENTION

ABOUT 700 REGISTERED TO ATTEND SESSION; 35 AMERICAN AND CANADIAN COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED AT THE AKRON CONCLAVE; MUSIC AND DANCE FESTIVAL ATTRACTS SEVERAL THOUSANDS; RED FLAG TOSSED OUT OF CONVENTION HALL

General Observation

From the viewpoint of one who has been closely associated with the Ukrainian Youth's League of North America from its very beginning in 1933 and who has attended all of its national conventions and practically all of its regional rallies, it can be stated here without the slightest exaggeration that the 11th regular convention of this leading Ukrainian-American-Canadian younger generation organization, held in Akron, Ohio over the Labor Day weekend, was definitely of the very top-level variety, and, at the same time, of an epochal nature.

Whereas last year's convention, held in Philadelphia and the first since the war's duration, was despite its admirable qualities a rather uncertain affair in the matter of prognosticating a favorable future for our Ukrainian American movement, the Akron convention showed that the youth movement is in full stride again, that the fears and trepidations entertained by some concerning it are groundless.

What is equally important in this connection is that the Akron convention showed that both the younger and older elements of our American born generation have achieved a definite harmony in their relations with one another. The boundless enthusiasm of the one and the sober experience of the other, plus the idealism of both, constituted a fine working combination which augurs well for our younger generation Ukrainian American life.

International, national, local, and organizational issues and problems constituted the deliberative—that is the forum and business sessions—portion of the convention. The cultural end was taken care of by the Music and Dance Festival. The social phase of it was, naturally, a banquet and ball sandwiched in between welcome and farewell gatherings, and delectably spiced by the usual round of convivial private gatherings.

Mayflower Hotel was the locale for the convention. The Armory was the setting for the music and dance festival. Akron outdid itself in its welcome and treatment of the close to seven hundred registered participants in this national gathering, the far more than that number who attended the banquet and ball, and the several thousand who witnessed the music and dance festival.

Chronologically:—Friday there was the welcome dance; Saturday were the forum sessions and the banquet and ball in the evening; Sunday morning were church services for the delegates and their friends, followed, in the afternoon, by the cultural program; Monday was devoted entirely to League business sessions, including the election of officers, and concluded with a farewell party for those who were able to tarry behind.

Throw Out Red Flag

Symbolic of the global aspect of the convention, was the casting out from among the host of flags of the United Nations draped along the convention hall walls of the flag of the Soviet Russia. The flag was spotted early Saturday morning, and after being con-

demned as being the symbol of the enslavement of the Ukrainian and other peoples and as a symbol of the "cold war" the Soviets are waging against America and her allies, was by unanimous resolution taken down and removed from the premises. The Akron Beacon Journal carried a front page story about the event, together with pictures. Witness to all this was the blue and gold Ukrainian flag, which stood proudly on the rostrum alongside the American and Canadian flags, a symbol of the valiant struggle of the Ukrainian people to free themselves of foreign tyranny and establish a free, independent and democratic state of Ukraine.

The convention program covering the national interests of America encompassed such matters as the Marshall Plan, the Draft Act, and Federal aid to housing and education. All these measures were unanimously endorsed by the delegates. The convention specifically recommended that our (American) natural resources be scientifically conserved and our strategic materials stockpiled in order at all times to maintain our economic and military strength at point which will discourage international outlaws from waging war.

In regards local club activities, reports were given by a number of delegates, which indicated that Ukrainian American youth life in the various localities is picking up in tempo and spreading in scope. This revival, it was unanimously resolved, is an excellent antidote to any possible juvenile delinquency and an aid to the healthy adjustment of the youth.

The organizational phases of the convention covered a host of topics associated with league activity during the past year, including the fine progress by it in the field of sports. It was ter-

Graduates with PhD

Among our recent graduates of Ukrainian descent was Dr. Stephen George Sydorak, son of the late, Very Rev. Eustace Sydorak, Ukrainian Catholic priest, and Mrs. Katherine Sydorak, of Mattapan, Mass.

Dr. Sydorak was awarded the degree of Ph.D. by Yale University on June 22, 1948. His graduate thesis was done in low temperature physics and on the topic "The Magnetic Susceptibility of Zinc at Liquid Helium Temperatures."

During the war, Dr. Sydorak was connected with the Radiation Laboratories at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and did research on Radar Development. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Buffalo in 1940, and his M.A. degree from Yale University in 1947.

He is married to the former Stephanie Chopek, of Mattapan, Mass., who received her B.S. degree in Physics from Northeastern University and who continued her graduate studies in Physics at Yale University. They have two children Stephen John, 2 years of age, and Katherine, 11 months. At the present time, Dr. Sy-

minated by the election of new officers for the coming year. The cultural phase was highlighted by the already mentioned music and dance festival—Par excellence!

The Convention "Cast"

New Officers: President, Michael Zadoretzky, Cleveland; Vice-Presidents, Theodore Shumeyko, Union, N. J., Zenevieve Zepko, Akron, Dr. Anthony Wachna, Windsor, Can.; Rec. Sec'y Sophia Kadera, Akron; Fin. Sec'y Boris Pishko, Pittsburgh; Treas. Emil Zablotsky, Detroit; Advisers, Daniel Slobodian, retiring league president, Elizabeth, N. J.; Chester Manasteraki, Alliquippa, Pa.; Joseph Lesawyer, retired treasurer, New York; John Ewaichuk and Peter Kasey of Detroit.

Forum speakers: Joseph Lesawyer, Prof. Stephen Manchur of Wayne U., Olga Zadoretzka of Washington, D. C.—Banquet Speaker: John Panchuk of Detroit.—Greetings: Mayor Slusser of Akron and Congressman Hubert.

Convention Presidium: Walter Bacad of New York, Dorothy Fiegel of Pittsburgh, and Helen Murial of Detroit.

Akron Convention Committee: Genevieve Zepko, chairman; also Victor, John and Jesse Pulk, Ann (Zepko) McGowan, Andrew Dudra, Eva Zepko, Sophie Kadera, Dorothy Sudomir, Olga Zepko, Julia Treasider, Andrew Dudra, Eunice Zepko, plus others whose names will appear here later.

Music and Dance Festival—in order of appearance: Ukrainian Male Chorus of Chicago, dir. Alexander Yurcheenko; Mary Polynack Lesawyer, soprano, of New York; Detroit Girls' A Capella Chorus, dir. Stephanie Andrusiewicz; Donna Gracoe, violinist of New York; New York-New Jersey Festival Chorus, dir. Stephen Marusevich. "Vechernitsi" leads: Mary Polynack-Lesawyer and Mary Bonar of New York and Eugene Kruk of Jersey City; Dance soloist, Milton Stodolny of Toronto; Ukrainian Dancing Society of New York, dir. John Flis; General Director and Accompanist, Olya Dmytriv of Jersey City.

(To be continued)

Ukrainian Partisans in Czechoslovakia

For a number of months the Czech Red Army has had to fight heavily with a number of units of UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army) which have made another raid on Czechoslovakia with the object of establishing contact with the liberation movements in the Balkan countries.

Two soldiers of UPA who fought their way to the American zone of Germany in July of this year, have stated to the correspondent of "Baltic Review" of Stockholm Sweden the following:

"The activities of UHWR (Ukrainian Liberation Council) and UPA are seriously worrying the Russian occupational forces: not only because they are detrimental to Moscow's prestige and an encouragement to the Ukrainian people to resist the usurpers but, above all, because UPA is beginning to develop into the co-ordinator of the liberation movements in all the Soviet-occupied countries. Thus, in the spring of this year, several UPA units extended their activities from the Pripet marshes to the new Russian and Polish regions of East Prussia. As will be remembered, a considerable number of Ukrainians and Russians were forcibly settled in this region. In June of this year a regular battle between UPA men and a unit of Polish Red Army took place near Allenstein. The Poles retreated in disorder leaving their dead on the field. This UPA raid was undertaken to keep in contact with the Baltic liberation movements while the raid through Czechoslovakia is a link in the realization of a plan of General Taras Chuprynska (Commander in chief of the UPA) to strengthen the liberation movements in the Danube countries."

This information is corroborated by official reports of the Prague government. The Czechoslovakian ministries for war and for interior affairs have published a joint communiqué which says: "Czech army and police troops are fighting heavily against UPA units who hold positions and fortifications of World War II in Slovakia." It goes on to say that after several days' fighting police troops had taken a bunker whose defenders (three UPA soldiers and a Red

"The Soviet Citizen Abroad"

from Communism. He said that Mrs. Kasenkina's leap for freedom has become a symbol of the many desertions from communism.

Mrs. Terpak then cited the cases of the over 400 UPA-ites, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, men who last fall surrendered to the American authorities in the American zone of Germany. She also cited the case of the four Ukrainian soldiers who last week, after escaping from their homeland and attempting to cross the Czechoslovakian border into Austria, were halted by the Austrian police. One of them was shot. Another pulled a pin from a hand grenade, thereby committing suicide, while the two others were captured. Also explained by her was the case of Halena Korolenko, the 14 years old Ukrainian orphan in the American zone of Berlin who had been taken from the Soviet zone to a Catholic hospital in the American zone for infantile paralysis treatment after having been unable to walk for two years. The Soviets had attempted to return her to the Soviet zone on the grounds that she was a Soviet citizen. The American zone offi-

cial refused to release her. Mrs. Terpak described Mrs. Kasenkina's appearance during the press conference of August 25 and again during her social visit of September 4. According to Mrs. Terpak, Mrs. Kasenkina is much improved physically and is in much brighter spirits.

Editorial

STALIN'S SLAVES AT HOME

POWs

It has often been pointed out that the POWs returning from Russia are the most effective anti-Communist propaganda in present-day Germany. By their mere existence these living skeletons refute all the stories of the happy life in the Soviet Union. Ragged, starved, dull and indifferent to their surroundings, they have no strength to agitate against Bolshevism; none weigh much more than one hundred pounds, and most of them have come home only to die. However, when you get them alone, they sometimes talk—about undiluted Soviet reality.

In 1945 the German POWs were screened with the view of picking out specialists—engineers, mechanics, electricians, etc. These were sent to work at Soviet factories, where they enjoyed equal "privileges" with the free Russian workers as regards food and often enough occupied positions of foremen. Hence they had every opportunity to observe the lot of the Soviet worker.

Heavy Workers

The result of these observations is catastrophic. A heavy worker, if he fulfils all the required quotas, makes about 500 roubles per month. Taxes, rent and food make 420 roubles, which leaves 80 roubles for clothes and recreations. If the worker buys himself two glasses of beer on pay-day, he pays 24-30 roubles for them, 50 grammes (1.5 ounces) of the most inferior tobacco cost 40 roubles, a few buns with jam 20 roubles—and his monthly pocket-money is spent to the last penny. To buy the miserable clothes that an average Russian worker wears—a quilted coat and trousers of cotton and shoes of willow bark—he has to make inhuman efforts to exceed his quota, to work overtime and, very often, to have two jobs.

Technicians and Engineers

The authorities try to increase production by a system of dividing the workers into categories. The most privileged among them are the technicians and engineers. But their higher living standard is coupled with a vastly diminished personal security as compared to the ordinary worker. A released POW tells of the case of a Russian engineer whom he had met while working in a slave gang in the Karelian forests. The man had been entrusted with the building of a railway line. The great shortage of material, more particularly of sleepers, caused him to have these laid at a distance of 80 instead of 90 centimetres from one another on a straight and safe stretch of the road. Had he not done so, the railway would not have been ready in time and he would have been accused of sabotage, although he applied for the material innumerable times. However, this ruse did not help him. By chance a commission discovered the irregularity and he was sentenced to 15 years hard labour for sabotage.

The Soviet system is completely indifferent to its citizens and their sufferings. The released POWs are convinced that 80% of all the crimes and abuses which are so frequent in the U.S.S.R. are a direct consequence of the miserable conditions under which the people have to live. Malversation, theft, bribing, etc are everyday occurrences. The immorality, indifference and dullness of the Russian masses are largely a product of the regime.

The Soviet people distrust everybody, as about every third Russian is a police spy. People believe nothing, having heard nothing but propaganda lies during their whole life, they refuse to believe that their lot will ever improve or that there are countries in the world where life is different. They take no interest in news; PRAVDA is bought only for the paper's sake.

The Young People

This dullness and hopelessness of the people is a serious problem for the authorities. Until the war the young people at least had believed that the future might bring improvements. These hopes were energetically fostered during the war: victory over Fascism was to bring a happy life and the people bore all the miseries of war without murmur. When the victory was won, there was much rejoicing and feasting. The latter had rather an ironical side: American lend-lease goods provided the wherewithal and as late as in January 1946 Soviet holidays were still celebrated with American tinned food, powdered eggs and butter! Now these goods are either exhausted or stored for future use and Soviet production is in such a disorganised state that the only thing people can count on in the way of food is bread. Reparations from Germany have not eased the lot of the Soviet people. They consist mainly in machinery and the POWs have often been employed in unloading cargoes with reparations. A case is on record when valuable radio apparatus was unloaded directly into the snow at the side of the railway. The Soviets are terribly short of rolling stock and whenever cars are needed, their contents are simply thrown out irrespective of the damage that might accrue. Near Gorki one of the witnesses had seen four kilometres of railway bordered by boxes, crates and unpacked machinery rusting and rotting in the open, exposed to snow and rain. This was not isolated case.

Kolkhoz Peasants

If the lot of the industrial workers is miserable, it is as nothing compared to that of the kolkhoz peasants. During the war, when the control of the authorities had needs relaxed, they had been able to attain a certain degree of prosperity by selling and bartering their produce to the urban population, but the financial reforms reduced their savings to naught. Now they are again the most downtrodden and beggary class in the Soviet Union. The State takes almost all their produce, leaving them so little that they have absolutely nothing left by February and March. Then great bands of these starved people invade the towns, begging for bread and stealing whenever they can. They had even besieged the POWs with requests for bread. Where the latter worked as specialists, they had received decent rations according to Soviet standards (though no salary) and the town of Miaz in the Urals several POWs had actually fed a former major of the Red Army for some time in the early spring of 1948. The man had been demobilized as he was no longer fit, and his home kolkhoz had nothing to feed him with.

Propaganda

In addition to all the above privations the Soviet people are tortured by the never-abating scourge of propaganda. "Have you done everything to fulfil your monthly quota?"—"Last year we produced 100,000 tons of steel, this year we must exceed this quantity!"—"We must increase our working pace!"—"Our factory must carry out the five year plan in four years!"—"We must catch up with America and outdistance her!"—These and similar slogans and appeals adorn the walls of every Soviet industrial enterprise, supplemented with all sorts of diagrams, posters, drawings and pictures. Every group of 3-5 workers has an "agitator" or supervisor attached to them to prevent them from slacking.

The Stakhanovite movement and "Socialist competition" are crafty tricks to stimulate the workers to greater efforts. A few selected workers are helped artificially (by giving them exceptionally favourable working conditions and, of necessary, several subservient aids) to a production achievement for exceeding the ordinary quota, the worker in question termed a Stakhanovite and the mass of the workers then enjoined to follow his example. "Socialist" competition is collective and individual, between factories and between workers. The winners are praised publicly and enjoy advantages comparable to those of the Stakhanovites, the losers are publicly disparaged and sometimes even punished.

Василь Чапленко.

30 ЙК

Памяті мого батька.

...Коли я ввійшов до хати, біля порога стояв чужий чоловік. Піднірав головою мисника, а довгі рукава лінтав...

— Хто він такий? — гукнув я обурено, та й порвався наздогонити за ним, у сні. Халливо засунув на заступ сніжні двері. Хоч і був білий день...

— Це, — сказав брат Максим, що сидів на лаві почіпки й висвистував коліном, — це дурний Оверко...

— А чого йому тут треба? — Хто його зна, Я малий, мене не боїться, а всі лежать, — кинув він очима на піл, на піч, — Бачиш? І мені самому страшно в хаті, — зашепотів.

— Мудро ти кажеш, озвася я до Максима, нахилившись, щоб поглядати зелену щетинку, що рябіла біля моїх ніг, як розспане пішно.

білось луною в уночішній тиші... На ребрастий клуні, обдертий, ребра й просвічувало біліде світло, — на клуні кувавкував сич. На ляху годину. Тоді білий сусідський звів кудлату голову проти місяця...

— Так була ні. Ніч-трупарня, коли дивляться скляними очима ті, що їм більше уже не дивитись. А за вікном якась тіння постать: щось ходить.

— Шось ходить, — ледве чутно промовив Максим, і голос йому затремтів. — Чуєш? — То від місяця тінь, — сказав я, — нічого не чує, ні...

— О-а-а! Це підкинувся в нестерпній мучці батько. Максим злякано стріпнувся й заплакав.

— Батько вирає, сину, — перехристі, бо мені ніяк... Я, миська вже людина, забув давно християні і зробив це незграбно, як робить гімнаст уперше ще не вивчену тіло...

— Дрлястуйте вам, — сказав він. — Знаєте, чого я до вас прїлїшю? Я мовчав.

— Я знав, що ваш батько умрє, — хто ж вам яму викопає? Я не знав, що сказати. — Батько умрє... батько умрє... Невже вони умрєли? Вмерла та жива істота, що без неї всієї родині не жити!

Докля Гуменна.

Похорон багатого Цабе

(Уривок із повісті „Великий Цабе“ — про нашу сиву давнину).

Вони їхали до багатого Цабе, а тим часом він сам їхав їм назустріч із великим почетом. Сам багатий Цабе в саних, шедро вистелених хутрами кунїць, бобрів та заморських звірів, відвідував свої незчисленні табуни, отари, свої племена, роди, толочки, степи та лани.

— Ой, тату наш, наш царю! А чого ж ти нас покидаєш? А куди ж ти від нас ідеши? Ціба тоби чого бракувало? Чи бракувало тобі заморських хутрів та золота? Чи не було в тебе меду та вина? Не дай нас тату, сиротами, візьми й нас із собою!

— Батьку Цабе не обзивався, був він мертий. А вони, всі ті, що їхали позад нього, проводжаючи на той світ, голючили й плакали так, аж хмарі в небі збіглися перелякано, аж баранці пішли по цебу, аж Хорс зайшов за червону тучу і пів неба по червонив.

— Все має віддати багатий Цабе, всі свої землі та урочища перше, ніж піде в інший світ. Він уже рік їздить так мертвої, а це не об'їздив, не попросився із племенем своїм.

— Кожен рід, кожна толочка давали свій дарунок багатому Цабе, щоб і на тому світі він був само мав багато усього, як і тут, щоб не збраквало йому ні їсти, ні пити, ні сходити.

— Що я казали, Віл-посестрї не пошкочували й своїх дарів, їхали й вони у почетї за мертвої Цабе, їхав і Лука гордо на білому Братчикові. А сам Цабе, весь червоно розмальований, сидів, напівлежачи, у прегарних хутрах, в руці чарівну спіжєву булаву тримав.

А тим часом у степу біля великих кам'яних веж уже чекала остання домівка багатого Цабе. Братові сонця, отамі та жє жє у вигляденїм їз бї-

ні вежі ускович... А тут із снєлого моря гуєтї тумани покотїлися. Туман покотївся такий, що руку свою простягнеш — не видно. Лука з-за білих веж свїснув, луна трїчі відбїла свїст — Братник почув свого братчика. Бїг уже вїрний побратим їз обїрваною припоною на носї.

БУТИ ЧЛЕНОМ УКРАЇНСЬКОГО НАРОДНОГО СОЮЗУ, ЗНАЧИТЬ, НАЛЕЖАТИ ДО ТАКОЇ ЗАПОМОГОВОЇ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ, ЩО ПОВУДОВАНА НА ПЕРВИХ ТРИВІХ І СОЛІДНИХ ОСНОВАХ.

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FALL DANCE sponsored by UKRAINIAN CENTER GIRLS UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS ST. JOHN'S POST NO. 227 OF NEWARK, N. J. to be held on Saturday evening, September 18, 1948

ATTENTION! Philadelphia & Vicinity! UKRAINIAN AMERICAN STRING BAND Concert and Dance SATURDAY, SEPT. 18, 1948 - 8 P. M. Ukrainian Hall, 610 S. American Street PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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