

СВОБОДА SVOBODA

UKRAINIAN WEEKLY UKRAINIAN DAILY



PIK LX. Ч. 293. VOL. LX. No. 293.

The Ukrainian Weekly Supplement

Address
UKRAINIAN WEEKLY
81-83 Grand Street
Jersey City 3, N. J.
Tel. BERgen 4-0237
4-0807
Ukrainian National Ass'n
Tel. BERgen 4-1016

VOLUME XX JERSEY CITY and NEW YORK, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1952 WEEKLY: No. 44

Weekly Commentator

CALLING A CONVENTION OF PROFESSIONALS

Nineteen years ago last summer at the Chicago World's Fair the Ukrainian American Professional Association was founded. Two years ago it held its last annual meeting. At that meeting, as at previous such annual affairs, officers were elected and plans drawn for the future. Last Labor Day weekend during the convention of the Ukrainian Youth's League of North America held in Detroit, several individuals attending the affair thought up the idea of getting some professionals together for the purpose of having talk "turkey". Such a dinner since no professional meeting was called for this year, they said, let us get together anyway over some turkey, and perhaps we may be able to talk "turkey". Such a dinner was held and attended by some score and a half persons. There was some "turkey" talk, and a half-serious and half-humorous election of new officers.

Now, several months later, hardly anyone can even recall who the officers of the Ukrainian American Professional Association are. As for some of the plans drawn, well... they were fine plans indeed—period. All that remains of the association today is its ghost, that flits from conscience to conscience of our professionals and piteously begs them to give it peace, by either reviving the association or burying it.

Much as we sympathize with the ghost, we don't believe in burying something that may have some life in it yet. That would be in bad taste. So we propose here the resuscitation—or, if that's too late—the resurrection—of the Ukrainian American Professional Association. In this manner we will lay low its ghost.

How? By calling sometime early next year a convention of our professionals. When? Where?—That is not for us decide but for those who at least presume they are officers of the association, even if they were elected some years ago. The least they can do if they do not at all intend to remain in office anymore, is to take this opportunity of calling a convention and thereby show their consideration for the feelings of hundreds of our professionals, who are just about bursting with desire to be elected to such an exalted office as that of the president, secretary or treasurer of the professional association. It should be given a crack at it.

If the current national officers have not the time or desire to do it, then they should delegate their powers to do some local professional group, as in Detroit or in New York, to do it itself.

At this point someone might seriously ask whether there is any real need for a Ukrainian American professional association and therefore for a convention such as we propose.

Seriously, we think there is such a need, if only because the number of our professional people is rapidly increasing, and therefore some manner of mutually beneficial relations should be established among them.

A GENERAL WHO REFUSED TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT

Recently we had occasion to give a talk in Ukrainian on the "Background of American Politics" at the Ukrainian Literary and Scientific Society, composed mainly of new immigrants, in its club rooms on Second Avenue in New York City. In the course of some research on the subject as well as the removal of some cobwebs covering the memory of our American history studies, we became interested in American generals other than General Eisenhower who were put up as candidates for Presidency. Some refused the honor, others accepted—with varying results.

What particularly intrigued us was the reaction of one who was offered the candidacy, namely, General William T. Sherman, one of the greatest American generals, whose army during the Civil War was engaged in the famous Georgia campaign.

It seems that when the Democratic National Convention met in Chicago August 29, 1864, to nominate a candidate to oppose President Lincoln, the name of General Sherman was mentioned as a possibility. The General heard about this and wrote to General Henry W. Halleck, Chief of Staff in Washington: "Some fool seems to have used my name. If forced to choose between the penitentiary and the White House for four years, I would say the penitentiary, thank you."

But that's not all to the story of General Sherman in respect to the Presidency.

In 1884 Sherman, who had retired in 1883 as the General of the Army, was being boomed for the Republican nomination for the Presidency. Here there is an analogy. Eisenhower, too, was boomed by the Democrats for Presidency, refused it, and four years later accepted the Republican offer. But the analogy ceases here. Sherman refused. At that time, it should be remembered, the leading candidates were James G. Blaine, President Charles A. Arthur, and the General's brother, John Sherman. On May 25, 1884, General Sherman wrote to Blaine: "I will not in any event entertain or accept the nomination as candidate for President by the Chicago convention or any other convention... I would account myself a fool, a madman, an ass, to embark now, at sixty-five years of age, in a career that may at any moment become tempestuous by the perfidy, the defalcation, the dishonesty or neglect of a hundred thousand subordinates utterly unknown to the President of the United States, not to say the eternal worryment of a vast number of impecunious friends and old military subordinates."

Quite obviously he had in mind what happened to President Grant.

We wonder whether any of Sherman's thoughts are now passing through the mind of Eisenhower.

What's happening in your home town? The Ukrainian Weekly readers would like to know about it. Send us a news report of what's going on. Thanks.

CANDIDATE FOR COBONER

Theodore Lytwyn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Myron Lytwyn, 801 Springfield Avenue, Newark, N. J. is the Democratic candidate in tomorrow's election for the office of Coboner. Theodore is the youngest son in the Lytwyn & Sons undertaking establishment at the above address. He is first Ukrainian candidate in Essex County on a regular Party slate.

The candidate for office is a member of Branch 372 of the Ukrainian National Association.

GETS ANNAPOLIS ALTERNATE APPOINTMENT

Through the efforts of Senator H. Alexander Smith and under the sponsorship of the Ukrainian Republican Committee of the State of New Jersey, of which John Romanion, Newark counselor-at-law, is chairman, John Cooker of Newark received an appointment as Alternate to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.

NOW IT'S THE FIRST LAWN MOWER

A United Press dispatch from Moscow reported on October 28 that the Academy of Sciences said on that day a Russian peasant, Andrei Khitnikov, invented the lawn mower "six years before the American Allen patented a mowing machine in 1856."

ADLAI CHEER-LEADS FOR DISTINGUISHED WHOOZIS

At one recent whistle-stop in upstate New York, Governor Adlai upon finishing his speech and thinking the loud speaker system was turned off, whispered to his aide, "Quick, who's the Congressional candidate here? What's his name?"

According to newsmen in Adlai's party, the aide supplied the name—over the still-connected loud-speaker—and Adlai turned to the crowd and added—"and I think it would be of great comfort to me, if I won, if Harry Johnson went to Washington."

Ukrainian Concert to Finale International Exposition

A unique travelogue concert under the auspices of the Ukrainian Women's Exposition Committee will close the 29th Annual Women's International Exposition Saturday Nov. 8, 9 P.M., 71st Regiment Armory, 34th St. and Park Avenue, New York. The exposition began last Saturday, Nov. 1, and will be open to the public daily, from noon to 11 P.M., reports Anne Mitz.

The Swedish group opened the continuous 8-day stage presentation at the Exposition by blowing an instrument like the Ukrainian trembita. Other programs, sponsored by various organizations and exhibitors, followed.

Miss Olya Dmytriv, of Jersey City, Chairman of the Concert and Exposition Exhibit Committee, announced that the Ukrainian concert finale would take the form of a travelogue through various sectors of Ukraine. Costumes will be modeled, dances performed and songs of different areas sung, following explanatory narra-

Red Policy of U.S. Hit at Newark "Liberation Rally"

"The Administration's policy of containing communism" was described as an invitation to World War II by speakers at a "Liberation Rally" on Sunday, October 26 last at the Mosque Theater in Newark, N. J.

The rally was one of four held that day in New Jersey to mark the 65th anniversary of the dedication of the Statue of Liberty. Governor Driscoll proclaimed last week as Liberty Week.

Several nationality groups took part in the Newark rally. The Ukrainian group, by far the largest participating in the affair, was led by John Romanion, Newark counselor-at-law and a member of the U. N. A. Board of Advisers.

In his talk Mr. Romanion predicted that, "through our united efforts and with aid of God the torch of the Statue of Liberty will drive out the darkness of enslavement for the Ukrainians too, for those people who are in the vanguard of the enslaved struggling for their national freedom."

Principal Ukrainian speaker was Dr. Lev Dobriansky of Georgetown University and President of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. He declared that a realistic liberation policy would

mean intensifying the psychological warfare and seizing the moral initiative in the United States by forcing Russia answer charges of genocide.

Senator H. Alexander Smith (R., N.J.) said: "Containment only contemplates a division of the world into armed camps, whereas a liberation policy holds out hope to the enslaved peoples of the world."

Robert Vogel, American business executive, who was imprisoned 17 months in Hungary on espionage charge, told the audience that containment policy "will lead to another world war much more quickly than a policy of liberation. Russia will attack us when she thinks we're weakest. That is why we must show our strength by proclaiming the declaration of independence for all peoples." He told a reporter that the policy he advocates does not involve sending American troops abroad. He said he seeks "all support we can give resistance movements behind the Iron Curtain short of war."

The rally also featured in its entertainment section some fine Ukrainian choral music sung by the Trembita Chorus under the direction of Mr. Tre-

Adm. Stevens Appoints Four to His Committee

Vice Admiral Leslie C. Stevens, Chairman of the American Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, announced today that four distinguished Americans have recently joined the Committee. The new members are Major General John R. Deane, Rear Admiral George F. Mentz, Mr. Nicholas Roosevelt, and Mr. Philip Willkie.

During his long and honored career in the United States Army, General Deane served in Panama and in China before assuming his most important war-time post as Chief of the U. S. Military Mission to the

U.S.S.R. from 1943-1945. He is the author of well-known book "The Strange Alliance, a study of American-Soviet relations during the war as seen from his crucial vantage point in Moscow."

The career of Admiral Mentz, like that of General Deane, has been rich in experience in foreign affairs. Admiral Mentz has served with the American fleet both in war and peace in most of the waters of the world. His first diplomatic post was that of the aide to the U.S. High Commissioner to Turkey from 1924-1926, and his most recent the position of Chief of the International Refugee Organization Mission to Italy from 1947 to 1950. Upon his departure from Rome in the summer of 1950, Admiral Mentz was created Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great, military class, by Pope Pius XII, and the Order of Solidarity, first class, by the Italian Foreign Minister Count Sforza.

Admiral Mentz earned the gratitude of many Russian, Ukrainian and other nationalities emigres from the Soviet Union for the assistance he gave them during his service with the IRO in Italy. Many emigres owe the fact that they escaped repatriation to the Soviet Union to the measures taken by Admiral Mentz. On his own responsibility, Admiral Mentz saw to it that Ukrainians and other persons who were being sought by Soviet agents were placed on trains which would take them out of Italy to safety.

The third new member of the American Committee, Mr. Nicholas Roosevelt, describes himself as an author, but his career as a diplomat and specialist in foreign affairs is as distinguished as his literary attainments. His experience as an editorial writer and correspondent for the New York

UNDERGROUND SEEN AS WAR DETERRENT

SEN. IVES TELLS U.P.A. ANNIVERSARY RALLY IN NEW YORK THAT KREMLIN FEARS UKRAINIAN AND OTHER UNDERGROUND FORCES

Senator Irving M. Ives (R., N. Y.), speaking on Sunday, October 26 last at a mass meeting in Manhattan Center, New York, held to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the rise of the U.P.A. (Ukrainian Insurgent Army), declared that the Ukrainian and other underground movements against the Soviet Union had become the strongest single deterrent to all-out war. He spoke to close to 4,000 persons.

The Senator charged that the Truman Administration had failed to provide the leadership necessary to maintain the "spirit and courage" of the clandestine groups. He contended that the Kremlin was afraid of underground organizations that had been developing since the beginning of World War II.

"In the Ukraine alone," he said, "there are 45,000,000 people who are not Stalin's Russians. What is true of the Ukraine is true also in many other lands."

Another speaker at the manifestation, Senator Theodore Francis Green (D., R.I.) and a United States delegate to the United Nations, asserted that premature action by underground groups would mean

of countless numbers of their members." The Senator criticized the rash statements made by some speakers made "to appeal to the millions whose parentage stemmed from the countries behind the Iron Curtain for political purposes."

Senator Green warmly praised the Ukrainian people for their heroic struggle for national freedom with the famed U.P.A. insurgents heading the fight.

The rally was held under the auspices of a special United Ukrainian American Organizations Committee of New York in cooperation with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Encouraging reports of a definite swing toward General Eisenhower among voters of Ukrainian extraction have been received from field workers of this Division, it was announced last week by former Ambassador Arthur Bliss Lane, at Republican National headquarters in Washington.

Ambassador Lane, in a message of congratulation to Dmytro Halychyn, the National Director of Ukrainian-American affairs, praised the field workers warmly for their fine organizational work.

At the same time he stressed the necessity for intensified efforts by every field worker during the final weeks of the campaign.

Times and the New York Herald Tribune led in 1944 to his appointment as Assistant to the publisher of the New York Times.

Mr. Philip Willkie, son of the renowned statesman, author and industrial leader Wendell Willkie, is a lawyer who has followed his father into political life.

ian Congress Committee of America.

Introduction

The rally was opened by the Ukrainian chorus Dumka, directed by A. Mykytiuk, with the American and Ukrainian national anthems. The head of the rally sponsoring committee R. Dolynsky, brought out in his introductory talk the continuity of the Ukrainian fight for freedom, from 1917 to the present time. Then to the sound of bugles blowing taps those present rose in silent homage to those who died on the altar of Ukrainian freedom.

Mr. Walter Bacad, national vice-commander of the Ukrainian American Veterans, speaking in their behalf saluted the fighters for Ukrainian freedom for their bravery and devotion to the Ukrainian cause.

Stephen Jarema

The forum section of the rally was then opened by Mr. Stephen Jarema, prominent Ukrainian figure in Democratic circles, with a brief talk, who recalling how George Washington prayed on the eve of battle or before making vital decisions, asked those present to do likewise. A moment of silent prayer followed.

Chairman of Ukrainian Section of the All-American Division for Election of Eisenhower, then introduced Senator Ives, who in the conclusion of his speech likened the principles of the fighting U.P.A. to the finest principles of American fighters for liberty and democracy.

Following several greetings, including one by Dr. Stephen Wytwytaky of the Ukrainian National Council, and another received from Europe from the Supreme Liberation Council and from the Organization in Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine, read by Dr. Wasyl Vyshyvany, rally committee secretary, an address was then delivered by Mr. Dmytro Halychyn, executive vice-president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of American and president of the Ukrainian National Association.

Greetings

The theme of Mr. Halychyn's task was that the fight of the U.P.A. insurgents at first against the Nazi and since then against the Soviet occupants of Ukraine has not only advanced the Ukrainian liberation struggle but that it has also won world wide attention. When in 1933 it was difficult for Ukrainian Americans to convince one of the reality of

Dmytro Halychyn

in some crucial moment do likewise to us."

Of the various foreign-origin groups participating in the large meeting, by far the largest was the Ukrainian. Its representatives had been invited to attend by Michael Piznak, head of the Ukrainian Section of the All-American Division. Mr. Piznak presented some of his group to the General. A photo of the entire Ukrainian group with the General in its midst appeared in the Svoboda last Friday.

WE CANNOT TURN OUR BACKS ON OPPRESSED, SAYS EISENHOWER

Speaking Wednesday evening, October 22 last, at a meeting of the All-American Division for the Election of Eisenhower, Nixon, and Ives, held in Commodore Hotel, New York City, General Dwight Eisenhower told his audience that throughout his entire life he has been devoted to preservation of freedom and equal opportunity for all enslaved peoples. "And as Americans we cannot turn our backs up on them. If we do they may

the Red-fostered famine in Ukraine, nowadays, since the war, the Ukrainian Congress Committee does not find it too difficult to convince America and the United Nations of the realities of the Ukrainian situation, thanks to the U.P.A. and other manifestations of the Ukrainian fight for freedom.

Colonel Kalyna-Lopatynsky

Some data concerning the U.P.A. was furnished by the succeeding speaker, former U.P.A. Col. Kalyna-Lopatynsky. According to reliable sources, thus far over 35,000 Reds and their followers have died in the war with U.P.A. Only recently Soviet sources reported that 23 leading Soviet military men received high military decorations for field service, evidently against the U.P.A.

Michael Piznak

Michael Piznak, Counsellor, stressed in his speech that actually it has been the U.P.A. which revealed the "big lie" of Stalin about his internal and external policies. The principal strength of the U.P.A., the speaker pointed out, is that it has the wholehearted backing of the entire Ukrainian people. This strength, he continued, is why other underground forces behind the Iron Curtain are looking to the U.P.A. for leadership.

Then followed the previously mentioned address by Senator Green, in which he compared the present-day Ukrainian revolutionaries with the American revolutionaries of 1776.

Yaroslava Turansky

A description of the role played by women in the Ukrainian underground was dramatically presented by one who took part in an U.P.A. raid, Miss Yaroslava Turansky, who was with the U.P.A. as late as 1948.

The final speaker was another veteran of the U.P.A. forces, E. Nestoruk.

Concert

The concluding portion of the manifestation was a concert program, including presentations by a Bandurist Ensemble led by Stephen Hanushevsky, and the united Metropolitan, Dumka, and Boyan choruses led by Stephen Marusevich.

Resolutions

Resolutions were then presented, in English by W. Bacad, and in Ukrainian by Mr. Rycar. Ushers were from the Plast and SUMA, who aided in the taking up of a collection. Wide reportage of the affair appeared in the N. Y. Times, the N. Y. Herald Tribune, and other papers.

U.P.A. THE STORY OF THE UKRAINIAN INSURGENT ARMY

Nazis Warn Populace Against O.U.N.

Here is the text of one of the Nazi leaflets:—

"To the Working and Peaceable Ukrainian Population!

"The gangs of the O.U.N. (Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists) have committed very grave crimes. They murder, not only German and Polish families, but also they have killed a great number of Ukrainian families—their own countrymen, whose only fault was their loyal and diligent accomplishing of their duties. The German police was forced by these terrible deeds to apply hard countermeasures. Many of you were persuaded into escaping. Consequently, you have made yourselves suspect of belonging to the gangs. Come back and continue cultivating your soil. Having committed no crime you have no reason to fear. If your farm is destroyed, apply with confidence to the German authorities: they will give you employment, home, and bread. Ukrainians! Be prudent! It is only fools that set about waging a guerilla-war against the powerful German State. In such a manner you will never build up your Independent Ukraine! You will only render unhappy yourselves and your families! Your villages will be reduced to ashes, your country will be devastated. It is starvation that will be the consequence of this foolish deed. Assist, therefore, the German police in their fight against the gangsters. The criminal O.U.N.—this Bandera movement—is disturbing peaceable life in our country and that is why it must be and will be crushed without pity. With this movement, everybody will be exterminated who is aiding it in whatever way. Everybody who knows the gangsters and does not denounce them to the German authorities, will be severely punished too. To save yourselves, your children, your country and your countrymen from disaster, denounce any gangster, any Bandera partisan, to the German authorities. The German police will protect you against their vengeance. Aid in establishing peace and order in Ukraine! (Signed) Commissioner General of Volhynia and Podolia and S.S. and Police Commander-in-Chief."

U.P.A. Rejects German Overtures

The German police could not protect their charges against the vengeance of the Ukrainian people and their armed forces—the U.P.A. On September 11, 1943, the chief agent of the German Gestapo and at the same time the agent of N.K.V.D. Michael Tarnavskyj was captured and tried by court-martial of the U.P.A. He was condemned to death.

In connection with their propaganda, the German government officials in Ukraine, in different ways, endeavored to brand the good reputation of the Ukrainian fighters for liberty, as well as degrade in the world's opinion the Ukrainian

liberating fight to "riots of the local population." The Ukrainians were being shot down for belonging to the U.P.A., co-operation with the U.P.A., but in German public notices they were generally charged with "brigandage," or "assistance to brigands." The Ukrainian Liberation Movement which at the same time combated the Red partisans in Ukraine, and waged its struggle for freedom against both the Nazis and the Bolsheviks, was charged with "Bolshevik inspiration" and "Bolshevik assistance." Only by Spring, 1944, after the collapse of the German front in Ukraine, German commanders in Galicia hastened to find connections with the troops of the U.P.A., and proposed them an anti-Bolshevik collaboration. But any negotiations with the Germans were interdicted by the U.P.A. command (one commander of the U.P.A. was even condemned to death by court-martial of the U.P.A., and shot for not having observed this order). By autumn, 1944, the German policy suddenly changed: the German press was full of praises of the U.P.A. for their anti-Bolshevik successes, the U.P.A. were now called "Ukrainian fighters for freedom," although, some months before, they were called by the same press, "Ukrainian national brigands." The leader of the German-sponsored Russian "Vlasov Army," in his interview given to the international pressmen and printed in Volkischer Beobachter of December 7, 1944, confirmed the importance and the strength of the U.P.A., and emphasized the efforts of this army in their fight against the Bolsheviks. But already the Germans had left the territory of Ukraine.

Composition of U.P.A.

The executions and German propaganda could not break the spirit of the fighting Ukrainian people. During the last months of 1943 and the first months of 1944, when the Soviet counter-offensive began to roll near to Western-Ukraine, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (U.P.A.) consisted of four large groups: (1) U.P.A.-North, operating in Polesia and northern Volhynia; (2) U.P.A.-West, in Eastern-Galicia and the district of Kholm; (3) U.P.A.-South, in Northern Bucovina and in the region of Kamyanets Podolskyi and Vinnytsa, and (4) U.P.A.-East, in the wood sectors north of Kiev and Zhitomir, in the area of Bazar—the battlefield of the famous Ukrainian anti-Bolshevik uprising in 1921. These two groups comprised more than 200,000 armed Ukrainian insurgents which were united under one command—the Supreme Command of the U.P.A. with Major Klachivsky (Klym Savur) as the chief commander, and General Stupnytsky

(Honcharenko) as his chief of staff. Both officers fell in a fight with the Red Army, by Spring 1944. General Stupnytsky, former colonel of the Ukrainian Army 1918-1921 and the hero of an anti-Bolshevik uprising in 1921, had the chief credit for the development of the military strength of the U.P.A. He and his collaborators indefatigably worked on the organization of the U.P.A., on its training and supplies and on leading its operations. After the death of Major Klachivsky and General Stupnytsky, the Supreme Ukrainian Liberation Council delegated to General Taras Chuprynka the responsibility for all operations of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (U.P.A.). He was appointed Supreme Commander of the U.P.A. and he held this post till his death in battle in March, 1950.

Takes On National Character

The growth of the U.P.A. kept step with the growth of the O.U.N. as the sole important political organization in Ukraine during the German occupation and now. But the second occupation of Ukraine by the Soviets raised apprehension that it would turn out to be of long duration. The general strategy of the Ukrainian Independence Movement had therefore to be broadened and designed accordingly. First of all, however, full national unity had to be secured. It became evident that the supreme command of the Ukrainian struggle for liberation could not rest in the hands of only one party. This conclusion was reached as a result of the development in Ukraine during the German occupation. In a very short time the U.P.A. lost its appearance of a guerrilla organization of one political party, and became all-national in its character. The lines of the U.P.A. were swollen with Ukrainian peasants, workers and intelligentsia who were not members of the O.U.N. Thus, the U.P.A. became an armed political organization common to all, in which the whole Ukrainian people participated and took pride. Even the most indifferent obeyed the orders of the U.P.A., regarding it as the Ukrainian rule. In this way the general consolidation of the Ukrainian nation into one military camp was brought about.

Birth of U.H.V.R.

In this situation the necessity arose to give an outward expression of this internal consolidation by the form of a supreme directing body. It was necessary that a supreme political and state organ should crown the national struggle, in which all forces and elements taking part in the struggle would be represented. In June, 1944, a Ukrainian National Congress was summoned

A Duty and A Privilege

The retailers of America, with few exceptions, always have been active in sponsoring and helping with community betterment campaigns, charity drives, and other such worthwhile endeavors. And this year many thousands of retailers are putting their backs behind one of the most important campaigns of all—to get out the vote.

A national Get-The-Vote Committee has been appointed by a large retail association and it reports excellent results. Almost half the states have been covered by field work and the rest have been organized by correspondence. Other retail groups are cooperating wholeheartedly. Activities vary from town and store to store. One store is running a city-wide letter writing contest on "why I intend to vote." Another plans to devote its full bank of windows to show-

ing the need for voting. A chain is featuring get-out-the-vote posters in all its outlets and is distributing "vote" leaflets to employees and customers.

Retailing can be tremendously effective in such a work—it is the one enterprise with which the great majority of the people come in daily contact. And retailing, whose existence as we know it depends on the maintenance of free enterprise and all the allied freedoms, knows how vitally important it is that every qualified voter cast his ballot for the men and measures of his choice on November 4. In the past, millions of people who have the right to vote have failed to exercise it. That means we have government by a minority.

The secret ballot is the cornerstone of freedom and representative government. Use it.

Poet's Corner

HER POWDER BOX

This powder-box might seem to be a sign of Nancy's vanity; Not so, say I, who understand How exquisitely she is planned. At once to be Yet not to see Herself the beauty of perfection. And still to show Yet not to know Such beauty cannot need correction: Nothing but innocence would dress In dust, here native loveliness. William F. Strad.

American Propaganda of Russian Imperialism

By M. H. HAYDAK

During the recent few months readers of the Ukrainian press found many indignant comments on the writings of some American journalists treating the Ukrainian question from the viewpoint of Russia imperialism. It seems that this is an erroneous attitude. The proper reaction should have been that of an immense pity for those good individuals who to such an extent succumbed to the official Russian interpretation of the East European history that they cannot look at the subject with an unbiased eye and see the events of the past and present from the impartial point of view.

This is not surprising. For many centuries the Muscovite propaganda tried to eliminate even the name of Ukraine from the minds of the rest of the nations of the world. "Scientific" statements of the official Russian historians were accepted at their face value by the uncritical professional routine in many departments of history in various colleges and universities of the world and perpetuated in routine lectures to successive generations of students, thus spreading the Muscovite "party line" knowledge to the innocents of every nation of the globe.

Mr. Acheson's Statement

To illustrate the confusion that the centuries-old Russian

ed on the territory occupied by the U.P.A. This Congress gave birth to the Supreme Ukrainian Liberation Council (Ukr. U.H.V.R.), as the supreme state of the Ukrainian nation for the duration of its struggle for freedom and sovereignty. This Council is built on democratic principles. Its executive is the General Secretariat. At the head of each department there is a General Secretary. The aims and purposes of the Council are expressed in its Constitution and its Proclamation to the Ukrainian People. Some extracts of this Proclamation are quoted below.

(To be concluded)

propaganda created in the minds of the people, one of several articles appearing in the press will be discussed here. In the August 27th issue of the "Freeman" Eugene Lyons, noted American writer commented on the remarks given by the State Secretary, Dean Acheson, while the latter was testifying before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Mr. Acheson stated that the Russian policy "whether Tsarist or Communist" have always been aggressive and imperialistic. "It is clear," said the Secretary, "that this process of encroachment and consolidation by which Russia has grown in the last 500 years from the Duchy of Muscovy to a vast empire must be stopped." Mr. Lyons is afraid that by this expression the Secretary "offered the Kremlin a propaganda gift of incalculable value. Had he made an outright appeal to the Russian people to rally around Stalin as the inheritor and guardian of their traditions and destiny, he could scarcely have been more helpful to the Politburo."

If Mr. Lyons meditated somewhat on the passage he would have never written it, since by this sentence he himself completely agreed that the statement of Mr. Acheson was correct. If it were wrong, then why should the "Russian people" be insulted and should start their opposition to the democratic West. To the contrary, they should show that the Secretary was wrong in describing such methods as the "traditional Russian policy." The "Russian people" could once and for all proclaim that they do not want to continue the oppression of Estonians, Latvians, Ukrainians, White Ruthenians, Georgians and other nationalities, because the latter have "inalienable rights" to shape their own destinies according to their own needs.

Russia, the Prisonhouse

By using the term "Russian" in a loose way, as it is used by many writers, Mr. Lyons

brought still more confusion to the subject. There is no "Russian people" as Mr. Lyons imagines it. "Russia" formerly and the U.S.S.R. at present has been and now is the "prison of nations", who do not have such a deep love for the "mother Russia" as Mr. Lyons acquired. Had he used the right term "Muscovite people" instead of "Russian people" then there could have been no mistake in the interpretation of his statement.

Trying to defend the imperialistic policies of "Russia" (Muscovy), Mr. Lyons quotes the statement of Prof. Karpovitch of Harvard that other nations were about just as bad. Mr. Lyons should thoroughly study the methods of Muscovite expansion, by reading the story of the conquest of Novgorod, Pskov, Torzhok, Baturin and others. Then he would see that "the conspiracy, subversion, fifth columns, the techniques of fomenting civil wars" are the methods and techniques "as old as Russia (Muscovy) itself." Moreover, the oppressed peoples of Russia or U.S.S.R., whatever is the name of this prison of nations, do not want now to be kept in the prison, no matter how attractive the new adepts of the new faith in the "mother Russia" are trying to make it.

Discussing further "the piece of titanic ineptitude," as he calls the statement of the Secretary, Mr. Lyons is asking: "Where, in all conscience, does that leave patriotic Russians who abhor communism but love their country? What is their alternative to supporting the regime they hate when confronted again, as happened so recently in the case of Hitlerite invasion, by a threat to dismember their country?" The answer is a very easy one: "patriotic Russians (Muscovites) should retreat into their ethnographic boundaries and give a chance to other nationalities to work in peace without a constant fear of annihilation by their 'big slavish brother'." This would be a logical solution and a just one too.

Lyons' Fallacies

Mr. Lyons thinks that he has "a good reason to surmise that Mr. Acheson's remarks were inspired, directly or indirectly, by the most extreme Ukrainian 'separatists'" (a word borrowed from the Russian propaganda vocabulary), and not by a thorough study of the East European realities. Mr. Lyons claims that the Ukrainian historians, statesmen, writers, scientists, artists and millions of ordinary citizens from all walks of life who in the army of the Ukrainian National Republic, during the thirty years of the Muscovite Communist occupation and later, in the U.P.A. fought for the independence of their nation are not speaking for the majority of the Ukrainians. Mr. Lyons has met hundreds of anti-communist Ukrainians, within and outside Russia (Muscovy? M. H. H.) through the years, who with negligible exceptions would settle for a federation of free and equal peoples in an undivided Russia! Mr. Lyons did not bother to speak to hundreds of thousands of the Ukrainian displaced persons who would gladly inform him why they escaped from their motherland and why they are not eager to support "the Holy Mother Russia" which Mr. Lyons proposes to maintain undivided at any cost, after the present dictatorship falls.

Mr. Lyons suggests that the selfdetermination of various nationalities comprising the Soviet Union should be only after the elimination of the Kremlin dictatorship. He entirely forgets that Ukraine,

UNA and American Politics

"Who is the Ukrainian National Association for, Eisenhower or Stevenson?"

"Why doesn't the U.N.A. take an active part in American politics?"

"How come some of the officers of the U.N.A. are active in either Republican or Democratic parties?"

These are some typical questions I heard during the past weeks. Some of them have been asked seriously, others offhandedly. Some of the questioners feel that the U.N.A. should commit itself to a certain candidate, like the C.I.O. does; others are against the idea of U.N.A. officers or Svoboda and the Ukrainian Weekly taking an active part in the campaign.

Well, let's take the first question. Is the U.N.A. for Ike or for Adlai?

In answering this question, one must bear in mind that the U.N.A. is a fraternal benefit order, which provides life insurance protection for its members, promotes unity, social intercourse and social relations among them, diffuses principles of benevolence and charity among Ukrainian Americans, helps to secure their moral and mental development, and educates them in the principles of free government, American institutions and law. At the same time, the U.N.A. strives to aid our kinsmen in Soviet enslaved Ukraine to win their national freedom.

The above is roughly what the U.N.A. Constitution says about the association's purposes. As can be seen the Constitution does not say anything about whether the U.N.A. can commit itself to one or another American political party. Moreover, within the U.N.A. there are both Democrats and Republicans. This fact makes it even plainer why as an organization the U.N.A. doesn't take sides in a political campaign. This answers the second question.

As for the first question, about Ike and Adlai, the best

answer seems to be that the U.N.A. is for both, and may be the best man win.

Now as to the matter of U.N.A. officers or editors taking part in political campaigning. Here the answer becomes obvious when one realizes that those who work for either one or the other candidate do so not as officers or editors of the U.N.A., but purely as private individuals, as Americans exercising their right to express their preference as to who should be the President of the United States. Were they not to express their preferences, were they content to sit on the side of the road and let the rest of the world go by, they naturally would not be good Americans.

Here someone may say, "Oh, that's fine all right, but still the aurora of their office surrounds them and politicians solicit their aid simply because they are in office and in a position to influence others."

To follow this line, of thinking would compel any person, upon becoming an officer or an editor of the U.N.A., to retire into a cloistered tower where American politics could not touch him, and remain there as long as he remains in office.

Moreover, we should not forget that no UNA officer or editor uses his title in any manner whatsoever in political campaigning. Whenever he is introduced during the campaign it is always as Chairman of the Ukrainian Section or Ukrainian Division, etc., and not as officer of U.N.A. or editor.

So to put the matter in the proverbial nutshell—the U.N.A. and its newspapers Svoboda and the Ukrainian Weekly cannot commit themselves to either one or the other candidate, and they never have. And the same is true of the U.N.A. officers and editors. But as individuals they have the obligation to work for and vote for any candidate they please.

Josephine Gibbays Gibbons

A Fine Example

Twenty-one New Jersey communities, one in each county, of New Jersey, will be honored for achieving the highest percentage of votes cast in the general election by the New Jersey Young Men in Government, which has its offices at 744 Broad Street, Newark 2, N. J.

The adoption of a resolution urging all eligible citizens to participate in the November election and establishing a system for publicly honoring those communities where the highest percentage of votes is cast was announced here today by Paul N. Belmont, Chairman of the Steering Committee for Young Men in Government.

The committee is a non-partisan organization which is endeavoring to enlist young men from all walks of life in the active participation of the governmental affairs of their State and community.

In announcing the proposed award to communities with the best voting records, Belmont stated:

"All over the nation civic-minded groups are engaged in an intensive, non-partisan get-out-the-vote campaign. The New Jersey Committee for Young Men in Government applauds this movement but intends to carry it one step farther. Following the general election on November 4th, the committee will ascertain which community in each county has cast the highest percentage of its eligible voters. These communities will be honored by the presentation of a scroll to the chief executive officer of the municipality. It is our hope that this tangible recognition of good citizenship will encourage greater participation in civic affairs in every community in the State."

Latvia, Estonia, White Ruthenia, Georgia and others already proclaimed their independence and existed as sovereign nations at the time of Russian Bolsheviks conquest. Thus the fall of the Soviet regime must automatically restore their status quo without any special plebiscites. The peoples of those countries have already spoken, not only through their votes but with their blood and suffering in defending their freedom.

His Misinterpretation

In conclusion of his article, Mr. Lyons states: "Mr. Acheson should be reminded that in the early stages of the Nazi invasion the Russian people, eager to believe that the foreigners were coming as liberators, welcomed Germans with open arms. All this

changed when it became manifest that the anti-communist slogans were merely a cover for old fashioned imperialist plans to smash and dismember Russia." Mr. Lyons should be reminded that his misinterpretation

(Concluded on Page 3)

"SVOBODA" (UKRAINIAN DAILY) FOUNDED 1926

Ukrainian newspaper published daily except Sundays and holidays by the Ukrainian National Association, Inc. 81-83 Grand St., Jersey City 3, N. J.

Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at Post Office of Jersey City, N. J. at March 10, 1911 under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Accepted for mailing at special rate of postage provided for Section 1103 of the Act of October 3, 1917 authorized July 21, 1948.

STALIN'S STOOGES

(2)

He felt, and failed to conceal, an utter contempt for the Old Bolsheviks' sentimental, oldgrad memories and their pious reverence for the prophets Marx and Engels. "It is impossible to believe," wrote a British observer, "that there is no contempt in [Malenkov's] eye as he watches older men putting themselves through absurd and elaborate contortions to reconcile what is with what was supposed to be. His is the world that is." Apparently he did not mind being considered a heretic by such passionately doctrinaire Marxists as Andrei Zhdanov (touted frequently in the mid-'40s as Stalin's heir apparent). In fact, Malenkov put his heresy to the test in a 1946 party address: "We have people, rightly called bookworms, who have quotations from Marx and Engels ready for every occasion. Instead of laboring to think up something new or to study experience, they have one answer: 'No, that was not said by Marx,' or 'Engels said something else.' If Marx or Engels could rise from the grave... they would disown them immediately."

This proclamation cost Malenkov his job as party secretary and resulted in a vigorous campaign by Zhdanov for the revival of strict Marxist orthodoxy in the party. But Malenkov had bet on the right horse. Zhdanov died unexpectedly in 1948. Soon afterwards, most of his partisans lost their jobs. The Five-Year-Plan Vosnesensky, Zhdanov's most ardent disciple, was liquidated so completely that his name was erased from the Soviet history books. Since then, Malenkov has apparently had a clear track.

Man and Wife

Little is known about his personal life beyond the facts that 1) he is a tireless worker who can go for days without sleep; 2) he lives in a Kremlin apartment with a wife and two children; 3) he smokes expensive cigarettes (Northern Palmyras); 4) like all politburocrats, he has a dacha outside Moscow to which he commutes by bulletproof limousine, and likes to go duck hunting.

Malenkov's first wife was Molotov's former secretary. He divorced her in 1940 and married again. The present Mrs. Malenkov seems to have been bored by her husband's late hours, and sought relief by becoming an actress. One day she appeared at a Moscow little theater group, and, giving a false name, got a job. Her colleagues wondered about her fine clothes and the fact that a car and chauffeur often picked her up after the performance. One day, when one of her fellow actors got into trouble with the secret police over some ideological impurity in a pamphlet he had written, Mrs. Malenkov announced who she was and arranged for the man to go to see her husband. He found Malenkov in a box in Moscow's Bolshoi Theater. "Malenkov was having tea and French pastry," said the actor. "He didn't offer me any but he said: 'My wife has told me everything; it is all pure nonsense. Come to me tomorrow at the Central Committee.'"

Mrs. Malenkov's fellow actors occasionally got a glimpse of her home life. "One morning," recalls one, "Mrs. Malenkov came in and told me she hadn't slept a wink all night because her husband had a toothache and the dentist came in with all his machines to fix his teeth."

Purge Ahead?

Malenkov still has a boss and aims to please him. While other Soviet bigwigs have gone in for gold-spangled uniforms or the blue serge suits detectives have made famous, Malenkov wears the high-buttoned grey military tunic that Stalin once affected. There seems to be little reason to doubt that, as long as Stalin lives, and probably even after, Malenkov will continue to speak with his master's voice, and continue to be his master's rubber stamp. Will Charley-McCarthy-Malenkov present the world with any major surprises this week? It is possible but not likely. The congress seems to have two main aims: 1) whip up and tighten party discipline and organization.

VISIT HARTFORD POST

The Ukrainian American Veterans Post of Hartford, Conn. were host to the national officers of the Ukrainian American Veterans of America at their meeting held on Sunday October 12, 1952 at the Ukrainian American Citizen's Club auditorium.

Addressing the gathering were: national commander Martin Horobliowski, W. T. Dormotrak, past national commander; F. Muschynka, Pennsylvania state commander; Michael Nasevich, national historian; and Rev. Stephen Bandiuk, local pastor.

The theme of the meeting was affiliation of all veteran posts with the national group. The speakers outlined the benefits derived by working as a national unit instead of as individual posts and explained the U.A.V. constitution and the procedure of joining this group.

There were about 45 persons present which also included some members of the Women's Auxiliary. After the meeting a "chicken-in-the-basket" dinner was served to all present.

Malenkov's party machine has developed a few ominous knocks in the last decade. Party membership has almost tripled and party discipline has loosened. The new party rules (e.g., the Politburo and the Orgburo are merged into a new presidium) are calculated to cut away the dead wood in the party, and open the way to an axing of lax officials by urging all party members to inform against delinquent comrades. All over Russia, a wave of denunciations and self-criticism is rapidly rising.

To the Western world, the only interesting possibility in the congress is the chance of getting a slightly better look at the man who seems likely, some day, to hold the issue of war and peace in his pudgy fingers. There is no reason to expect that change of glance will be in any sense reassuring. For no one in the Western world can honestly envision a dinner table at which it would be a pleasure to sit down with Gregory Malenkov. Even the nursery-rhyme liberals have given hope in such

UKRAINIANS ON THE COLLEGIATE GRIDIRON

The University of Maine routed the first threat to its State championship by crushing an undermanned Bates College team 62-6, Saturday. The Black Bears scored in the 1st minute, taking possession on the Bates 26 when Don Barrios fumbled the kickoff. LHB Ed Bogdanovich covered the remaining 74 yards in one try. In the second quarter Ed—whose hometown is Providence, R. I.—garnered his 2nd TD.

End Don Malinak scored Penn State's only TD in their one-sided loss to high-flying Michigan State, 34-7. BT John Washchysion of Frackville, Pa. led Colgate University's five forward line in trouncing Bucknell, 28-0.

Maryland routed Louisiana State's Tigers with pulverizing precision Saturday as the red-shirted Terrapins swept to a 34-8 triumph before 30,000 fans. Stymied on many occasions by a bristling Tiger line, Jim Tatum's Terps rode to their one-sided victory—their eighteenth straight—mainly on the smooth passing of quarterback Jack Scarbath and the terrific running of Chet Haunak. Chet personally scored a TD in the 2nd quarter.

Ukrainian Sport Notes

By WALTER W. DANKO

BRIEFS

Ed Listopad and Mike Sikora are guarding the middle of the Chicago Cardinals' line like a couple of old timer altho both lads are rookies in the high-flying NFL.

Bill Tomilenko, former Lebanon Valley College basketball, football and track star is now sporting the khaki garb of the U.S. Army. Bill was inducted this past month via his draft board in Bayonne, New Jersey.

The Detroit Red Wings have been a trifle slow in hitting their best stride this season. They're currently in a three-way deadlock for first place with Chicago and Montreal.

The physical condition of Goalle Terry Sawchuk may explain Detroit's inability to step out ahead. During the summer Sawchuk dropped a tremendous amount of weight, 20 pounds or more. He's only third best in the goals-against column, and Manager Jack Adams is somewhat alarmed. Sawchuk has been ordered to stow away a few gallons of beer and ale in an effort to regain some of his vanished poundage.

Steve Owen, head coach of the New York Giants, names his all-time pro team: Ends—Guy Chamberlain and Don Hutson; tackles—Cal Hubbard and Link Lyman; center—Mel

Hein; guards—Mike Michalske and Donny Fortman; quarter Sammy Baugh; halves—Red Grange and Steve Van Buren full—Bronco Nagurski, mack.

Jack (Palahniuk) Palance, last seen on the screen as the menace to Joan Crawford in "Sudden Fear," has been cast in "Arrowhead" as an Apache chieftain who leads an uprising against white settlers in post-Civil War Texas. He'll be co-starred in the historical adventure film with Charlton Heston, who has been announced for the romantic lead. Palance, a graduate of the Broadway stage, will soon appear as a vicious fighter in "Shane."

The St. Louis Cardinals have signed Joseph Ostapchuk, 18-year old righthanded pitcher from Haverhill, Mass. for their Albany farm club in the George-Florida (D) League. He will report in the Spring of 1953.

Eralie Oravetz of Johnstown, Pa. finished the season for Chattanooga of the Southern (AA) Association with a fine .304 BA.

Bill Shurya of Allentown, Pa. who pitched some great ball for Harlem of the Mountain States (D) League this past season signed with the Boston Braves for a \$4,000 bonus. Great things are expected of this 18-year-old Ukrainian.

American Propaganda of Russian Imperialism

(Continued from page 2)

tation undoubtedly will not influence Mr. Acheson, because he probably knows that the reversal of the attitude toward Germans was due not to the threat to dismember "Russia" but because of the inhuman treatment of the prisoners of war in the German camps and because the Nazis refused to let the "liberated" nationalities to form their own states. When it became evident that the new "liberators" have the same idea as the old "brothers", then the insurgent movement started in Ukraine and other conquered territories. The results are known. The "Love" of the population to "Mother Russia" was shown in surges for "nationalistic deviation" in Ukraine, White Ruthenia and other "liberated" areas, and in the complete annihilation of the population of Ingush, Chechen and Tartar republics in the years following World War II. The Ukrainians, Estonians,

Georgians and other nationalities are not hostile toward the Muscovite nation, as long as the latter minds its own business and does not interfere in the affairs of others. However, all these nationalities are against the restoration of the "Holy Mother Russia"—the prison of nations, the symbol of wanton exploitation, brutal force and national oppression. No articles by well meaning but misinformed writers would herd them into the corals of the "Holy Mother Russia." American writers should thoroughly study the unbiased history of Eastern Europe and defend the American principles of freedom and liberty for all nationalities, no matter how big or small they may be. American writers should remember the lessons of the past. If after the first World War the Allies helped Ukraine, White Ruthenia, Georgia and other nationalities in their fight for freedom then there probably would be no World War II and there would have been no problems confronting us now. However, the allies then were swayed by the Russian imperialist propaganda and tried to help in the restoration of the "Holy Mother Russia"—the old prison of nationalities. We see and feel now the results of this mistake. Let us not make the same blunder again. It may be fatal to the free world! ("The Ukadet")

UNA BOWLING LEAGUE NEWS

By STEPHEN KURLAK

The top-notch "A" team of the New York St. George C.W.V. Post increased its lead over its closest rival and neighbor, the U.N.A. Friendly Circle Branch 435, to four and a half games by defeating the latter in three games out of three on Friday, October 24 last. This set-back has left the Friendly Circle in a very vulnerable position since the next two teams in line are only one game away and two more teams have only three games separating them from the second-place spot.

BOWLING RESULTS OF FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1952

Table with bowling scores for St. Geo. C.W.V. Team A (3), Friendly Circle Br. 435 (0), Jersey City S. & A. Club (2), Newark Ukr.-Amer. Vets (1), St. Johns C.W.V (3), Ukrainian Blacksheep (0), Penn-Jersey S. C. (2), St. Geo. C.W.V. Team B (1), U.N.A. Branch 272 (2), Ukr. Orthodox Church (1).

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UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION LEAGUE TEAM STANDINGS

Table with team standings including columns for Won, Lost, Game High, Pins, and Avr. for various teams like St. George C.W.V., U.N.A. Branch 435, etc.

13 Million Enemies of Socialism

A short time ago the Brookings Institution, with the sponsorship of the New York Stock Exchange, made the first comprehensive and authoritative survey of share ownership in the United States. A mass of important information was produced—including the fact that 6,500,000 individuals own shares in public corporations.

The San Francisco Chronicle ran an editorial which interpreted this fact in a novel and interesting way. It found that these individuals represent 4,750,000 families, and that each family has an average of 2.74 members. Therefore, said the Chronicle, more than 13,000,000 people—one out of every twelve of our citizens—have a direct and personal interest in American industry.

The Brookings study disclosed, furthermore, that the share owner population has increased sharply in the past three years—by some 1,500,000 people. It is only logical to assume that the ranks are still growing. From time to time surveys have been made to find out what representative Americans prefer in the way of investments, and some highly significant findings have resulted. In 1949, for instance, seven per cent of the families queried in the \$2,000-and-over income level said they preferred common stocks. In 1952 the figure was 13%, or practically double. The main reason given was the higher rate of return that common stocks provide.

America is thus well along the road to a system of true "public ownership" that is as different from socialism, or political ownership of our resources, as night is from day. It is a system in which people voluntarily put part of their savings into the shares of corporations in whose future they have faith.

(To be continued)

HUNGER

(1)

DRAMATIS PERSONAE: Gendarme, Officers of the Gendarmeries—members of the Czarist Russian police force; Danylo, Semen, and the third man—Ukrainian peasant.

The action takes place in the Ukraine, under Czarist regime, prior to World War I.

By the station, along the bottom of the ditch, quietly, slowly, halting and listening at intervals, crawled three human beings. Stars tacitly followed their progress glimmering at one another; the wind shyly rustling in the grass ran into the ditch and at once timidly hid in the steppes. The yearning of the night whispered mysteriously and sighed beside them.

Now and again the man in front would stop, slowly emerge from the ditch and look towards the station. There, everything was as before. The station was dozing. As before, on the bench by the bell loomed some figure, barely visible in the light of the lantern. As before, in one of the windows one could see the person of the telegraph operator stooped over the desk. As before, in the orchard one could see lights among the trees and some persons around them. And from the statures, and from the light as before emanated laughter, tinkling of glasses, then delicate, quiet singing, or relocking loud laughter. And between the station and the ditch glittered the lines-of-rails, straight taut, tensely aimed at something in the distance. The rails, having, left the zone of

by V. Wynnychenko

Translated by Adam Huidy

you lost your sacks?... Hush-sh-sh! You! Can't it twist you, or something...

The man in the rear stooped with fear and ducked. Then slowly, barely moving, he crawled up to the other two and asked: "Are you sure?"

"Don't worry, I carried it on my own back... Now, be quiet! "Don't lag behind... Hush-sh-sh! And don't run away if someone starts shouting... Just drop the sacks... Do you hear?"

"Why, sure..." "Well, God help us..." Swaying in some strange way, the three persons, one by one, started off cautiously straight for the freight cars. The cars stood there wrapped up in some mysterious gloom. All the same, dark and identical, like coffins on wheels, they as though waited for the men, immobile, bearing in their hold something mysteriously terrible and invisible. Somehow, it was sad.

And the station on the side dozed quietly, to the gentle singing in the orchard, laughter and chatter. The wind abated in the steppes. The man in front suddenly stopped. "Who's there?" could be heard from the cars the very same instant. The three figures, one by one, turned to stone. The stars glimmered tensely awaiting the outcome, and even the wind ran over from the fields and

rustled with something beside their feet.

"Who's there, I'm asking? Do you hear?" they heard again the voice from the cars, angry and somewhat apprehensive.

"Drop the sacks...", the front man whispered hurriedly and, having thrown something aside, uttered loudly and calmly: "We are from here."

Something by the cars began to move. "Who are you? What kind of being walks around here?" Some dark figure separated itself from the cars and began to approach them. The front man at once began walking fast and the others followed him.

"Halt! Wait!" The even more apprehensive voice was heard behind them and the pace of the steps became faster. "Why should we wait? No time..." "I tell you, stop, or I'll shoot..."

The front man stopped and the others followed suit. The figure came quite close so that one could see a stick in his hand and his dark beard. "So, what's on? How are you?" The man in front spoke calmly.

The figure did not answer; it began inspecting closely their faces, clothes and hands. "Do you know us, maybe?" gravely, unwillingly mumbled the middle man. "Yes, I know you...", just as gravely answered the person without ceasing to inspect them. Then he produced something from under his coat and suddenly gave off a shrill whistle.

"What would this be?", perturbed asked the man in front.

The figure, without answering, turned its ear towards the station. The cars stood in a dark, morose row, indifferent to the four men who stood tensely in the darkness beside them. Only the wind hung around interested, and the stars glimmered at one another.

The person raised his arm to his mouth again and whistled again, shrilly, with intervals, menacingly. "Don't you have any fear of God, man?", quietly, with some sad reproach asked the front man. "Have we run you over with a horse cart that you are whistling, calling the gendarmes?"

Suddenly, from the station, also resounded the shrill, interrupted whistling. The person stirred with relief. "God is God and duty is duty", he said firmly and coolly. "Yesterday, some tramps were also supposedly going to the station. And in consequence it turned out that they had drilled a hole in the car and let all the grain out under the car! And you, watchman, be responsible..."

"So you think we were going for the grain, or what?" "Who knows? Let the gendarme look into it..." It was quiet. "Eh", sighed the front man. "Human beings!... Your own children are hungry, maybe... He calls the gendarme straight away... And perhaps those tramps hadn't eaten for three days? The same ones that let the grain out? Hey?"

The watchman raised his hand again and whistled. Someone not very far away answered

