

Dedicated to the ideals and interests of young Americans of Ukrainian descent.
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The Ukrainian Weekly Section

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SECTION II

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Weekly Commentator

WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE AMERICAN REPUBLIC?

Washington is sometimes described as a decadent seat of government where the representatives of the people are motivated by self-seeking alone, where all shades of corruption are more or less normal and where even crime plays a role in the pressures exerted on political personages. Any part of this picture that is true, points to a blight that has overtaken the early promises of the American Republic. In Europe society was divided into classes. Governments managed the affairs of their peoples by paying particular attention to the privileges of those on whom political power rested. It was in protest against all this that a new Republic came into being in America. Here, all men were to be equal. Special privileges were abolished. This was done by setting up a government dedicated solely to the maintenance of common and equal rights.

Because not enough attention was paid to the spirit of the American Constitution, the new Republic lapsed into old political habits early in its career. There were no classes,

but men divided into groups with special interests. These groups found that by combining forces to help one another, each could obtain the special legislation it wanted. Thus Washington became a place where, without apologies, government was used for the freon of privilege.

The failure of our United States to live up to its Constitution was mainly because its government legislated for special cases and for special groups.

There were to have been no special men, no special groups in America. Within the limits of its constitutional function of maintaining the common and equal rights of all, the American government could not have gone wrong.

Under such a functionally limited government, lobbying as it operates today would cease. Routine politicians would not find it worth while to remain in office. Washington (and with it, the rest of the country) would be transformed, and there would be a revival of the high hopes that men once entertained of a new kind of government founded on equal rights.

"I OUGHT TO KNOW"

"Of course there is an organized group of communist among the Korean war prisoners who have returned to this country. I ought to know—until a couple of months ago I was one of them." Thus William A. Ulman, writing in the Saturday Evening Post, quotes a returned American sergeant.

Mr. Ulman's article carries the descriptive title "The GI's Who Fell For the Reds," and is based primarily on interviews with over sixty former POW's. To get these interviews he traveled more than 6,000 miles by car, and ranged from New York City to tiny fastnesses in the Kentucky hills. As he points out, there is no simple answer "to why an American POW becomes a nonrepatriate or—just as bad—a communist sympathizer when he returns to his home." But, from his talks with returnees—some of whom had been at least temporarily converted to Red views and some who hadn't—he came to four definite and important conclusions.

First, none of those who swallowed Red propaganda knew what they were fighting for—they had no satisfactory definition of what communism was in theory or, more important, in practice."

Second, every man questioned, save for a handful of World War II veterans, felt that he had been inadequately trained for combat—"All, regardless of previous service, were bitter over the lack or inadequacy of anticommunist political indoctrination, which these veteran soldiers now consider as important as grenade practice." Early in the article, Mr. Ulman says he visited the Pentagon and was "tartly told" that each soldier is given a considerable number of hours of such indoctrination. However, going by his interviews, "It was evidently not sufficient or was poorly carried out in practice."

Third, most of the soldiers he talked with felt that the de-

mands made by wives and mothers for peace at any price and quick return of their men "were worth between two and four divisions to the communist armies."

Fourth—"As to the question of what makes an American soldier turn communist in the first place, I was given a doubtful answer: vanity and self-indulgence on one hand, fear and hunger on the other." In other words, the Reds followed the "conditioned reflex" theory of the famous scientist Pavlov, and mixed threats with promises of rewards to those who would cooperate.

Mr. Ulman deals in considerable detail with the backgrounds and records of POW's who were leaders in communist cells. They are a mixed lot. One came of a family of pronounced Marxist leanings. Another was of the type who loves power. Others were "helpless punks" in the face of trained communist indoctrinators." Others became believers when American officers capitulated to pressure and falsely confessed to have waged germ warfare—in this connection, Mr. Ulman writes: "It cannot be overemphasized that the persuasive power of one American officer on a group of GI's in such circumstances is beyond calculation, to say nothing of the effect on world opinion." One thing is common to them all—the Chinese Reds hoped that one their return to this country they would devote their energies and varied talents to spreading the communist line.

It is obvious that a small number of such men, even if they should fulfill their former captors' hopes, aren't of much longer to this country. But Mr. Ulman's article is an impressive and often frightening description of a new weapon of war which works on minds—one that did not exist before the present world-wide conflict between irreconcilable ideologies.

The Fight for Academic Freedom In the Soviet Union and Behind The Iron Curtain

By ROMAN SMAL-STOCKI
Marquette University

The fight for academic freedom in the Soviet Union conducted since 1920-22 by us, emigre scholars of the non-Russian nations, has entered a new phase. Our fight has a rather long history.

First, after 1922, we had to retreat from our mother countries, which were forced into the Soviet Union by Russian Communist aggression; we had to take refuge in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Bulgaria, Germany and France, continuing there as figures in the public eye and as professors in the universities our fight against the Russian Communist dictatorship over liberal arts and sciences, and mobilizing all moral forces of Central and Western Europe for the defense of academic freedom in the Soviet Union; academic freedom is synonymous for us with personal and national freedom because freedom is a general idea.

The second phase began after World War II. Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria, East Germany, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, suffered the same fate previously undergone in the years 1920-22 by Ukraine, Byeloruthenia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, North Caucasus, the Cossack, Tatarian and Turkestan peoples. All academic freedom was suppressed in these countries also. Together with the D-P professors of these new victim-countries also. Together with the D-P professors of these new victim-countries of Russian Communism who refused to capitulate before Stalin, we again had to retreat to the west and finally reached the last line of defense, the United States of America. In the still free remainder of Europe, these academic and national freedoms are at present in mortal danger, and their final fate completely depends on the real force commanded by the Atlantic Nations.

Some of us emigre-scholars had the good luck to be integrated into the American universities as professors and to join the American Association of University Professors. We all deeply feel that we are in the United States confronted with a task and mission indissolubly merged with the whole ideological war of the still free world. We must here continue our fight for academic freedom for all the nations behind the Iron Curtain and in the Soviet Union, including also the Russians.

Why? We are often asked by our American isolationist or neutral colleagues, and they represent 80% of the professors. Here is our answer.

(a) We feel a moral obligation to the memory of all the thousands of colleagues of all nations of the Soviet Union who were murdered by the Russian Communist dictatorship in the previous decades because of their defense of academic and national freedom;

(b) We feel a moral obligation toward all colleagues of all nations in the Soviet Union and behind the Iron Curtain presently imprisoned and persecuted for their defense of free thought and research;

united public opinion of the free world and the UN could, by courageous acts of condemnation—if not bring real relief for the scholars, at least surely stimulate the will and spirit of all academic institutions, staff and youth, to continue their effective intellectual opposition against Russian Communist dictatorship and give them the assurance of not being isolated in their resistance, open or secret, but backed by the whole free world;

(d) We must convince our American colleagues that the American moral leadership of the free world depends in the first line from their decision whether they will take over or not the leadership in our struggle for academic freedom against the Russian Communist dictatorship. In previous years a rather large group of American university professors from leading eastern universities, established in this regard, a rather sad record.

In May, 1953, I presented, with my distinguished colleague, Bela Kovrig, former Rector of the Hungarian Francis Joseph University, a resolution at the meeting of the Marquette University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. After long discussions, the resolution was, on October 23, 1953, adopted and submitted to the Executive Council of our organization in Washington, D. C. We include in the resolution also Russia proper, despite the fact that the destruction of academic freedom, the integral part of national freedom, is the old method of Russian Imperialism to keep the non-Russian nations in Muscovite slavery, and I am sorry to say, that many chauvinist Russian exiles regard even today this measure as an absolute necessity to keep "indivisible" the prison of the non-Russian nations, the Soviet Empire.

Here is the text of the resolution which is only a part of our original resolution:

RESOLUTIONS

of the Marquette University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, October 29, 1953

Whereas, the civilized nations of the world are in full accord that academic freedom presents the indispensable condition of all creative efforts which tend to increase knowledge and rationality within culture, and

Whereas, academic freedom is the common inalienable right of all those who participate in the service of truth and in the spreading of the social value of enlightenment, and

Whereas, academic freedom like every freedom is indivisible, and

Whereas, in the Soviet Union and in the "captive countries" academic freedom is suppressed to the detriment of scholarship, students, the respective national cultures and the common humanity,

Be it resolved that
1. The Marquette University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors condemns the Russian Communist Government's denial of academic freedom to the academics, universities and

CONFERENCE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN THE USSR

The Organizing Committee for the forthcoming conference on academic freedom in the USSR has recently made public the draft program for the conference including the names of the principal speakers and participants. This conference which will be on the subject, "Academic Freedom in the USSR as a Threat to Bolshevism Theory and Practice," will be held on April 3 and 4 in the new building of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace at the United Nations Plaza and 46th Street, New York City.

This conference is being arranged to give all interested Americans an opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the Bolshevik suppression of academic freedom within the USSR from former Soviet scholars and scientists most of whom have actually lived and suffered under the "straight-jacket" of Soviet policy in scholarly and scientific matters. Therefore, the conference is open, without charge, to all who would find a revelation of the true state of academic and scientific affairs in the USSR a rewarding experience.

The conference Organizing Committee is composed of the following scholarly members of the Soviet emigration:
Mr. Anton A. Adamovich, Prof. Nicholas Czuby, Mr. Stefan Hovian, Prof. Constantine G. Krypton, Prof. Alexander P. Seduro, Mr. Alexander Tsomaya and Prof. Michael O. Vetukhiv.

These members of the Organizing Committee have drafted the program of the conference and have invited those former Soviet scholars who are to participate.

In addition, several prominent American professors have accepted invitations to serve as session chairmen and panel members. These Americans are Prof. Frederick C. Barhorn of Yale University, Dr. Raymond A. Bauer of Harvard University, Dr. George L. Kline and Prof. Philip E. Mosely of Columbia University, Dr. John S. Reshetar, Jr. Princeton University and Prof. N. S. Timoshoff of Fordham University.

The schedule of reports to be delivered over the two-day period has also been released. The list of speakers and the topics of their reports are as follows:

Saturday Morning Session

April 3, 1954—

Introductory Report—Prof. Alexander Alexander Philippov—"Bolshevik Philosophy and Academic Freedom"

(a) Reports: 1. Physics—Dr. Stephen Romanoff; 2. Engineering Sciences—Mr. E. Kasian;

(b) Discussion: (Panel),

(c) Reports: 3. Geology and Chemistry—Prof. Nicholas Kubansky; 4. Genetics—Prof. Michael O. Vetukhiv;

(d) Discussion: (Panel).

Saturday Afternoon Session

April 3, 1954—

(a) Reports: 1. Psychiatry—Dr. Michael Mshchenko; 2. Geography—Prof. George Taskin.

(b) Discussion: (Panel);

(c) Reports: 3. Economics—Prof. Ivan L. Zamsha; 4. Law—Prof. Vasyl Hryshko; 5. Linguistics—Prof. P. Kovaliv.

(d) Discussion: (Panel).

(Continued on page 3)

MORE THAN 100 THOUSAND HAVE ESCAPED FROM BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN SINCE 1948

A large group of escapees from behind the Iron Curtain, including a Ukrainian UPA-ite, landed last Wednesday, March 23rd, at the National Airport in Washington.

More than 100,000 persons have escaped from behind the Iron Curtain since 1948, not counting the East Germans who have crossed to West Germany.

Emil Wisowsky, aged 30, said he had been one of the group of anti-Communist Ukrainian partisans, members of the famed underground UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army), about 200 of whom were killed in fights with Soviets, Polish and Czechoslovak forces while trying to break out to the West in the summer of 1947.

(Concluded on page 2)

New Honors for Roman Rudnytsky

can Ukrainian prodigy Roman Rudnytsky, whose concerts appearances both as pianist and violinist are winning unanimous acclaim of public and critics, and have brought him many honors, including a congratulatory letter from Governor Driscoll, a nomination for an honorary Deputy Sheriff of Ocean County, the procla-



A Snapshot of Roman Rudnytsky Composing

amation of a "Roman Rudnytsky Day" by the Mayor of Township of Dover, etc.—is adding to these past honors some new ones.

We learn that the Philadelphia Musical Academy, of which Roman is a scholarship student, is presenting him on Friday, April 2, in his own piano recital, a seldom heard case, and an honor indeed, as in such recitals only graduate students are usually presented. What's more, in this concert Roman will play, beside works of Bach, Ravel, Bartok, and De Falla, for the first time, his own compositions, "Three Preludes" op. 1.

It seems that being "only" a pianist and violinist, and concertizing since the age of nine, does not satisfy Master Roman, and he is turning towards the greatest field in art and music, the one of creation.

Two days after his Philadelphia appearance, Roman will give a piano recital in Trenton's Contemporary Club, under the auspices of the Ukrainian Women's Alliance.

Deadline: March 30th

This is the last call! March 30th, Tuesday, is the last day upon which your registration will be accepted by the Ukrainian National Association for its Ukrainian Cultural Courses to be held with all vacation facilities at its "Soyuzivka" summer and winter resort, close to Kerhonkson, N.Y.

who at a recent UNA meeting have complained that their UNA has "no UNA youth program" should, in our opinion, "get on the ball." Either they themselves or their young person friends, should take advantage of these UNA Ukrainian Cultural Courses.

For further information, contact some of the young people suit adv. on page 3.

UNA Younger Generation Members Express Their Views Concerning UNA Progress

Last Sunday afternoon, National Association. In both March 21st, there was held in capacities Mr. Piznak has well Astoria, L. I., New York, a represented the cause of the meeting especially called by Ukrainian national liberation the local branches of the UNA movement.

It was interesting to note at the Astoria meeting, which was presided by Mr. Livitsky, secretary of local UNA branch—that some of the younger members of the UNA present at the affair claimed that the UNA has no "youth program."

There were not too many persons—on account of unavoidable circumstances, including quite a number who were engaged in dance practice for the coming UNA 60th Anniversary affair, to be held on Sunday, May 16th, in Carnegie Hall.

Principal speakers at the Astoria UNA meeting were Stephen Shumeyko, Editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, and Michael Piznak, Counselor-at-Law of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and an active member of the Ukrainian national independence.

Slavka Surmach to Resume Classes In Ukrainian Easter Egg Decoration

The sequence of decorating Ukrainian Easter Eggs will be resumed in weekly classes starting this coming Thursday, April 1st, at 6:30 p.m., in Room 206 at the McBurney YMCA, 27rd Street and 7th Avenue, New York City.

Every year about this time the well known Gloria (Slavka) Surmach, an authority on the subject, whose profession is that of an instructor in New York art institutes, has been holding these classes. It's her avocation.

Miss Surmach told us that each class student will be expected to do one Ukrainian Easter egg.

All material necessary will be provided, for a very nominal fee.

Those who would like to learn how to decorate a Ukrainian Easter egg, are urged

to attend this course. They need no artistic talent. One requirement—Be one time.

Miss Surmach—who besides teaching art is also consultant to the Chick-Chick Dyes Company—has arranged a series of newspaper articles and color photos, including the New York Daily News and the Chicago News. On Wednesday, April 5th, she will give a demonstration of Ukrainian Easter Egg decorating on Maggie McMullis TV program. Last Monday she addressed the Pan-Hellenic Society at its meeting in Beekman Towers in New York.

Miss Surmach has also arranged to have Ukrainian Easter eggs featured in a short film by the Acme Film Productions, which will appear early in April.

Performance of Ukrainian Dancing

On Sunday, April 11, 1954 at 2 P.M., the Ukrainian Dancing Society of New York City, and the Junior Ukraine Dancers will present a colorful program of Ukrainian Dancing.

The Dancing Society, which is very ably directed by John Flis and his assistants, Walter Rohowsky (a well-known dancer in the Ukraine who recently arrived in the United States) and George Wasylew, together with the Junior Ukrainian Dancers, under the direction of Nina Bacad, will perform over 30 dances. High-lighting and enhancing the program will be the presentation of many dances never performed before in the United States.

For the most part, the dances will be presented in short pantomime skits which will enable the audience to see a little of "Old Ukraine" in the beauty of her dances. The Dancing Society is well known for their novel introductions and lively interpretations of such famous traditional dances as the Sword Dance, Arkan, Hone Vitor, Pletenka, etc.

The "See Ukraine Dance" concert will be presented at the Fashion Institute of Technology, 225 W. 24th Street, New York, N. Y. For further information, consult ad.

The "Chumak" in Ukrainian Life

(4)

After slaying many of the fugitives, the Tatars took the rest captive and drove them off to various slave markets where the unfortunates who had already lost their property were ruthlessly sold into slavery:

Oy! the heathen took and drove them
Over land and over wave,
Some to Nikopolj or Azov,
Where they sold each as a slave.

The news of the disaster reached the Ukrainian Hetmanate and the authorities there turned to the Zaporozhians with the request for assistance in rescuing the captured chumaks:

Myrhorodsky's leading captains To the Zaporozhians said:
"Let us both go to Salhyra,
Rescue them ere they are dead!"

But this was already too late and the distance too great to be covered, as we see from the Zaporozhians' reply:

"He who's ne'er been to Crimea,
Perekop has never seen,
He knows not the weary miles that

To Salhyra lie between."
And scattered over those "weary miles" lay the bodies of the slain chumaks:

Oy! there lay the slaughtered chumaks,
Sometimes three and sometimes four,
Lying there with all their garments
Soaked and matted with their gore.

But these poor fellows while retreating had made a desperate fight to the very last:

From Salhyra to Perekop,
They had their entrenchments built
With their wagons ranged in circles
And the center poles abuilt.

The news of this particular disaster to a large body of chumaks beyond the Crimea spread over all Ukraine and the mournful events near the river Salhyra made a deep impression on all parts from whence chumaks were accustomed to come. This is movingly reflected in the closing stanzas of the song:

Oy! beside Salhyra's river,
Once the cannons bellowed loud,
And for many a poor dead chumak,
Parents grieve and wail aloud!

Oy! beside Salhyra's river,
Once the musket's crack was heard,
Many a sister wept a brother
When there came the dreadful word!

Now beside Salhyra's river,
There the flowers still are rife,
But for many a chumak husband
Weeping sits a lonely wife!

Now beside Salhyra's river,
Still the grass waves in the air,
But for many a chumak lover,
Mourns a black-browed maiden fair!

However, in contrast to this tragic song of defeat, death, and misfortune, there are many other songs, mostly brief ones, which tell of more cheerful aspects of the chumak's life, songs which tell of the wild revellings and carousals attributed to a group of chumaks in a village, settlement, or fair through which they passed on their journeys. I have already referred to this aspect of chumak life in the beginning of this article. Such things were doubtless true, but were merely a detail in the picture as a whole, mere incidents in a life full of adventure, perseverance, endurance, and daring courage, all part of the great task in which the chumaks were unconsciously playing in the nation's struggle to create and extend Ukraine's economic independence. Their long trails through the wild steppes to the Crimea and other points still more remote are thickly dotted with "mohyly" or grave mounds marking the burial places of those who succumbed on the road to disease, hunger and thirst, accident, or violence. An example of one sort of the difficulties they encountered is referred to in this song of which I quote a stanza or two:

Oy! the chumaks in the heavens,
High above the chumaks' road,
And a chumak's oxen weary
Could not pull their heavy load.

Hey, my comrades, do not leave me...
It frequently happened that an entire chumak train would be compelled to come to an unforeseen stop to wait for one of their number whose oxen were failing to keep up and were falling behind. Such an event might occur not only of leg-weariness or lack of stamina due to scantiness of feed and water, but also by reason of the various ailments to which the cattle were subject especially under the broiling sun of the open steppes. It was out of the question to abandon a comrade whose oxen were lagging or ailing and to leave him to remain alone exposed to hostile attack, to sickness or death. There was very little hope that such a one left behind might be able to fall in with another party which he might join in with after his animals had recovered. Therefore the chumak would turn to his companions with a request similar to this in the song:

Oy! the chumaks, my dear brothers,
Leave me not in this lone place,
For in this strange land I'll perish,
Seeing here no friendly face!"

But such a request was never really necessary for custom prescribed that no chumak in trouble must ever be abandoned by the rest of his party. The abandonment of a comrade in distress was accounted by every chumak as the greatest of crimes and disgrace. A chumak guilty of such a deed as to leave a companion in misfortune to shift for himself would never again find a party of chumaks willing to receive him as an associate. Therefore a chumak train would stop and wait by the road until a comrade's ailing oxen got better or until it was seen that there was no chance of their recovery. In the latter event, everything possible was taken from the wagon of the chumak whose oxen had failed and distributed piece by piece on the rest of the wagons and the march was resumed.

Chumak activity reached its peak of prosperity during the period when the economic life of the Ukrainian Zaporozhian Republic reached its zenith. Every spring the Zaporozhian Kozaks awaited impatiently the arrival of the first chumak trains. On the borders of their territory the Zaporozhians met them with special military detachments. These detachments helped the chumaks to ferry across the Dnieper if they came from Ukraine, or across the Buh if they came, southwestern Polish lands. To understand the importance of the chumaks to the Zaporozhians, we need to realize the fact that the Republic carried on an extraordinary active commerce with its neighbors, the Crimea, Muscovy, Poland, Lithuania, and the Hetmanschyna. To the Crimea the Zaporozhians exported linen, skins, iron, weapons, beef, tobacco, and grain. From thence they imported morocco leather for boots, woven fabrics, chiefly silks, confections, almonds, red wines, and most of all, salt, and sometimes asses and camels. To Poland they sold horses, cattle, skins, fish, salt, and food stuffs. They carried on an active trade in similar articles with Lithuanian, Muscovy, and the Hetmanschyna, buying goods from them and selling in exchange the articles they got from the Crimea. But Moscow, with its immemorial policy of grab, which it continues up to the present moment, even though under vastly different auspices, soon put an end to this thriving commerce, and Muscovite merchants and traders gradually appropriated all trading activities in Ukraine, which led, of course, to the decay and eventual disappearance of the Ukrainian chumak.

(To be concluded)

Poet's Corner

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN

Hemmed in by walls of rigid steel and stone,
The city Garden wears its country guise
With grace that care and loving hands have grown
To make a pastoral for city eyes.
The white magnolias waft their stars to earth
While jonquils scramble up the conch hill;
As cherry blossoms slush there comes to birth
The poet's lad, Narcissus, wooing still.

Bright petals shine among the rocks, and beds
Of tulips march with spring to summer's door
Where roses take possession, till the reds
And golds of autumn capture more and more
Of summer's blooms and glory each nook.
There's beauty on your doorstep, if you'll look.

Alice Hartich.

Grass Roots Opinions

HAGARSTOWN, MD., MORNING HERALD: "With the advent of the New Deal... the Government took over the direction and in large part the operation of our economy. It began to spend money, to provide jobs, to distribute income. The trend toward socialism began—and this in face of the fact that no free people in history had ever prospered or could ever prosper under this form of government."

CANADIAN, TEXAS, RECORD: "The small country weekly has as vital a mission in the life of American citizens as the newspaper that has a circulation and reading public in the millions... History shows us that freedom is lost whenever a free press is lost. Would-be dictators cannot stand the

full harsh glare of publicity—they cannot tolerate truth. The press is the first attacked, and once that is captured or made subservient other freedoms quickly fall and perish."
AFTON, WYO., STAR VALLEY INDEPENDENT: "There is no such thing as an indispensable product that can coast along on its past laurels."

Vet News Roundup

QUESTION AND ANSWER
Q. I am a disabled Korean veteran. If I take vocational rehabilitation training under Public Law 16, will I have to give up my monthly compensation payments?
A. No. So long as you are eligible to receive the payments, you will receive them—even though you are taking

Stessia's Rock

By OLEKSA STOROZHENKO

(3)

"Stessia's parents made good use of the officer's money. They built a large new house and divided it into two parts: one for themselves, the other for Stessia after she got married. The father bought new nets, which occupied a third of the Dnieper. Stessia was dressed like a nobleman's daughter. But the birds ceased singing. Her soul was dark her heart heavy. She hid no more among the cherry trees. All day long she stood at the gate looking for someone."

"The young Polish officer was also very restless. Wherever he went a strange power drew him toward Stessia's house. Whenever Stessia noticed the officer, she hid behind the fence and watched him from there. Her heart throbbed and fluttered, like the heart of a quail, when a hawk is near. But the young man was observant. Having noticed Stessia's behavior, he soon came to the fence and spoke to her. Before long, the officer climbed over the fence and embraced the girl..."

"The birds came to life once more beautiful songs were heard again, not sad Ukrainian melodies as before, but jolly songs now. But Stessia's happiness did not last very long. The Turks declared war, and the young officer was ordered with his regiment to Turkey."

"Painful was the lovers' parting, but time of war with heathens—is no time for love. At parting the officer gave Stessia a beautiful ring and promised to marry her upon his return."

"Life went on gloomily for Stessia during her betrothed's absence. In her imagination she saw him return and loved her more intensely than ever. They did not hide among the cherry trees any more. Now they lived together in legal union in a magnificent palace. He embraced and caressed her, while she rocked the cradle with their son... It was sweet to be carried away by such delightful dreams. But the water king was wide awake. As soon as the officer and his soldiers started out, the merman rushed through subterranean passages to the river Danube to await them there. In those times there were no bridges on large rivers like the Danube or Dnieper. The infantry used to cross rivers on boats while the cavalry swam across on their horses. When the officer reached the Danube, he unhesitatingly started across together with his horse. The water king grabbed his leg and dragged him down to the bottom. War is war, and the death of one officer is of little importance to the world, which never realizes that one insignificant person may mean life and happiness to his mother or sweetheart..."

"When the terrible news reached Stessia, the unfortunate girl lost her senses. She wandered for days in the woods like a wild animal, came to the house for a few minutes, and disappeared again. All the worry and efforts of the parents were useless. She answered no questions and did not even complain. Her appearance changed to such an extent that people, who chanced to meet her in the woods, did not recognize her. The once, dark, bright beautiful eyes had now a look that sent chills all over one's body; her abundant hair was loose, her handsome face white as

corn dress. Thus was her unhappy life ruined by cruel fate. One day, on the eve of Ivan Kupala (a St. John holiday on the 21st of June) Stessia came to this rock. She stood a while, her head drooping mournfully, they suddenly shrank and threw herself into the Dnieper... The old king was there awaiting her, and as soon as she..."

"At this moment we heard a splash and a few feet away from us we noticed a head and shoulders of a woman, who swam towards us."

"How do you do, Uncle!" called the nymphs clapping her hands.

"Holy Virgin!" muttered the frightened Kozak jumping to his feet and fixing his eyes upon the mermaid. "Stessia, Stessia!" shouted the Kozak. "The devil take you! You scared me to death!"

"Stessia?" asked I, bewildered.

"Yes, Stessia," said the Kozak calmly: "Not the dead one though. This one is alive and full of the devil. Look how she dives and swims. She is like a mermaid in the water."

Stessia laughed heartily and swam ahead lightly and gracefully, diving, turning and floating.

"She doesn't seem to fear anything," said I.

"The fool thinks that we cannot see her well from the high rock," said the Kozak, gazing at Stessia, who scared him before.

"Is she a girl or a married woman?"

"Just married recently. She certainly is beautiful—the devil take her! Look, her features are chiseled, and her body is as white as milk."

It was impossible to remain indifferent to this wonderful sight. The enchanted place was a proper setting for a mermaid. The sudden appearance of Stessia seemed to bring to life the mysterious deed of years ago.

"The woman did not stay long. 'Farewell!' called she and disappeared under the water."

The sun was no more visible. In the twilight the Dnieper took on the shade of steel. The barges and boats came to the shore to rest. Lights were seen here and there; a blue smoke spread over the shore like a transparent veil. Somewhere people were singing, our Ukrainian songs mixed with Russian; birds were chirping; shepherds blowing their whistles, and above all these sounds rang the melodious sweet notes of the nightingales.

The Kozak dreamily smoked his pipe.

"Well, friend, how about your story," said I, pulling at his sleeve. "It is getting dark."

"Indeed!"—answered he, rubbing his forehead. "Where did I stop? Oh, yes—"

"As soon as poor Stessia threw herself into the water the merman turned her into mermaid and brought her to his palace. It was a thing of marvelous beauty. The walls, ceiling and roof were made of glass,—the tables, benches and shelves of diamonds. The floor was sprinkled with fine little pearls."

"The mermaids turned green with envy at the sight of Stessia (for women are women, the same on earth as in the sea), but they had no power to do anything. The king drove them all out and remained alone with Stessia..."

(To be continued)

Q. I notice that you keep advising veterans to check all contracts before purchasing a home under the GI loan program. Does that include a deposit agreement, too, or do you mean just the GI loan contract itself?
A. That means every contract or agreement you are requested to sign as a part of the deal. If you are in doubt about any agreement or contract, see your lawyer first before you sign.

Pay Your U.N.A. Dues on Time

Many secretaries of branches of the Ukrainian National Association are extremely conscientious in that they are reluctant to suspend members who fail to pay their dues on time. Usually the delinquent members finally pay the dues in arrears and no harm is done, but every so often the Main Office of the fraternal benefit society receives letters from branch secretaries about members who became so indebted to their branches that they desire to cancel their insurance certificates, leaving the branch officers wondering how the branch was going to get the money it had paid into the U.N.A. for the insurance in question. When such a situation occurs either the branch or the U.N.A. has to lose out. If the U.N.A. grants the branch a refund that means that the member involved has had insurance protection without cost, for if he had died while the branch was paying his dues the U.N.A. would have had to satisfy the beneficiaries. And if the U.N.A. refused to grant a refund (which it had the legal right to do) the branch would be forced to sustain the loss.

Admirable as it may seem that the branch officers are so willing to pay the dues of delinquent members, the fact still remains that such a practice could and does lead to serious complications. Frankly, we personally cannot see any reason at all why any branch should risk its meager funds to pay the dues of a delinquent member; common sense tells us that it is risky and should be avoided. Yet we have held responsible positions in branches and have found ourselves paying out branch funds for members whom we felt were "good for it," and we got "stuck," too. One or two cases of getting stuck, however, convinced us that it would be safer and wiser to suspend delinquent members, even our best friends, and that is what we have been doing. Like many other branch officers we found that it just does not pay to gamble with branch funds. It is a very difficult thing to explain to the members at a regular meeting.

We have also learned that, when a delinquent member finds that his dues were paid for him by the branch, he becomes a chronicle delinquent. He pays his dues just about when he pleases, secure in the knowledge that he will not be suspended. This sort of thing naturally makes the job of the secretary complicated.

Naturally, we are going to advise the reader, who is probably a member of the Ukrainian National Association, to pay his dues on or before the due date. By doing that the member not only avoids possible suspension of his insurance, but prevents the secretary from adding another gray hair to his head. Believe us, one thing a branch secretary really appreciates is the prompt payment of dues. We should know, for we hold such a position. Theodore Lutwinak

"Another threat is that of internal domestic corruption. It is said that a democracy can recover quickly from physical or economic disaster, but when its moral convictions weaken, it becomes an easy prey. Democracy is more likely to be destroyed by the abandonment of its moral principles."

Therefore it appears most logical for society to uphold them very strongly. Also if we, truly, value our free "Democratic society," we should be unwilling to accept or condone unethical practices in government as inevitable. Moral deterioration in our American public and private life is exactly what the greedy Communist dictators are constantly seeking—to find us in the proper form. Ready for the "kill!"

UFA-ite ARRIVES HERE

(Conclude from page 1)

"We were broken into small parties," he told a New York Times correspondent, "and eight of us tried to make our way through Czechoslovakia in August. Four were killed and the rest of us got through to Passau in Austria."

Advertise in UNIA 60th Anniversary Program Book

On Sunday, May 16th, the Ukrainian National Association will observe its 60th anniversary.

The affair will be held in the world famous Carnegie Hall, New York City.

I'm sure everyone knows this historic American music hall.

The program for this great affair has already been prepared. Its participants are well under action in preparation for it. The Ukrainian Metropolitan Area Chorus, directed by "maestro" Stephen Marusevich, has been holding a series of Monday evening rehearsals for the past several months. Although I have had as yet no opportunity to observe any of them, I have learned that they are progressing at a fine pace. A growing number of our American born Ukrainians, as well as some of the newly arrived, are joining the Metropolitan Area chorus and adding to its strength and high reputation.

At the same time, various Ukrainian chorus groups in the Greater New York Area are rehearsing for the occasion.

The dance group, led by John Flis, are also assiduously preparing for the Carnegie Hall UNA 60th Anniversary Celebration.

All expectations are to the effect that it will be more than a sell-out. Like the 50th anniversary UNA Anniversary held also at Carnegie, there will be many disappointed would-be attendees who will be turned away at the box office. So you

had better get your tickets from the Svovoda Office as soon as possible.

In connection with all this, I'd like to mention the fact that there will be a UNA 60th Anniversary Program Book published for the occasion.

Its advertising value, to say the least, will be of great value for those who will advertise in it.

A number of firms and persons have already sent in their ads.

Unfortunately, our UNA branches and members as well, have been quite delinquent in this matter. They have not, to put it bluntly, sent in their ads about their branches. It's a mistake on their part.

For one thing, they are not paying the proper homage to their parent organization on the occasion of its 60th anniversary. And then, on the other hand, they are passing up an opportunity to advertise themselves, namely, what their particular UNA branch has accomplished down through the years, its origin, history, its pioneers, and its present work.

Come to think of it, the delegates to the "coming UNA convention, to be held in Hotel Statler in Washington, beginning May 31st, who aspire to some sort of office—one which is accorded to them by virtue

of our UNA democratic system — would do well for themselves to give "Baatko Soyuz" on the occasion of his 60th birthday, their personal greetings and well wishes.

Josephine Gibajlo Gibbons

Present Day Living By MYROSLAVA

An article entitled "Easy Living Perils U.S." appeared in a Sunday edition of our local newspaper. It instantly attracted our attention and became an interesting reading material.

Its contents, important in national scope, deal with "present day living and its dangers to American life." It is discussed by Brig. Gen. Louis H. Benfrow, deputy director of Selective Service who says, "that easy living habits are steadily reducing America's stamina to the danger point. Civilizations have disappeared when they lost the central core: strength, incentive, vitality, and the stamina necessary to withstand strain and extreme shock in emergencies."

"No one can estimate what the automobile has cost the American people in muscle, or the radio, television and motion pictures in active participation in recreation."

"A nation that does not walk, if it can avoid it, that is careless about correction of defects; that is faulty in its diet, that has become addicted to deteriorating habits of easy living, is steadily reducing its stamina to the danger point."

The Fight for Academic Freedom In the Soviet Union and Behind The Iron Curtain

(Concluded from page 1)

students in the Soviet Union;
2. The Chapter condemns the communist dictatorship's denial of academic freedom to the academies, universities and students of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Roumania and Yugoslavia;
3. The Chapter expresses deep distress over the tragic plight of such traditional centers of learning as Krakow, Prague, Leipzig and Budapest;
4. The Chapter extends a pledge of solidarity to fellow scholars and students of all Union and Autonomous Republics of the Soviet Union and of the captive countries; and,
5. The Chapter urges the

Executive Council of the American Association of University Professors to request the government of the United States to take steps to make representations to the proper national and international authorities concerning these violations of academic freedom.

Thus the fight of the former European university professors for academic freedom in their old countries entered into a new phase, now in a common front with American university professors. It is now up to our American colleagues to take over the leadership in this fight which defends also the basic principle of the American academic world, also en-

dangered by subversive Russian Communism.

In previous years, after World War II, the State Department and George Kennan, simply disregarded the importance of our ideological fight for academic freedom against the Russian Communist dictatorship which, in Europe, did create such glorious traditions as the Free Ukrainian University in Prague, the Ukrainian Scientific Institutes in the capitals of Europe, and the Promethean Learned Congress of the exiled scholars of the non-Russians in Warsaw in the year 1936, against Stalin's cultural and linguistic policy, then so glorified by Roman Jacobson, now in Harvard.

Perhaps the new administration will show more understanding of this decisive weapon in the ideological war against Russian Communism—of our present fight for academic freedom!

ROCHESTER CHRONICLE

The Rochester Ukrainian colony has finally come to the conclusion that it is much better to work in unison rather than separately.

At a recent meeting of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, all of the organizations banded together buried the hatchet and decided to work together. After a span of two years of work that has been delayed it is again on its way. It is also a pleasure to know delegates representing all of the organizations are represented in the executive board of the UCCA. One point, however, that must be brought one's attention is in the election of officers the delegation did not elect at least one American born Ukrainian. Perhaps, the main reason was that none of the American born Ukrainians were present.

A Tribute to Shevchenko

The results of this united effort proved that in unity is strength. On March 7, at 6 P.M., the Ukrainian American Auditorium was filled beyond capacity in paying tribute to the immortal bard of Ukraine Taras Shevchenko. In a very well prepared program by the program committee the assembled witnessed a very pleasing program, featured by the singing of the Boyan Choir under Kyrylo Cependa and the National Choir under Andrew Matkoski. A recitation by Bohdan Lalka and Irene Howskowski, the well prepared and short speech by Prof. O. Omehenski, and, of course, the ever faithful Ann Sorokti at the piano, made it a fine program indeed.

UNA Affair on April 3rd

April 3rd will indeed be a busy day in Rochester. That day is earmarked by the Ukrainians of Rochester to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the U.N.A. and also the annual Nicolas Muraszko Bowling tournament, the latter which will be held at the Mink's Bowling alleys. Bill Hussar and Michael Melnyk have been knocking themselves out in making preparations for the events. The biggest question is whether the two events will be able to be run off on time. We are aware that the bowling tournament itself is a very taxing ordeal. We feel that the committees will do all that is possible to make these affairs a success. For the UNA president, Mr. Dmytro Halychyn, is to be the guest speaker. We do extend a kind invitation to all who would be interested in the bowling tournament or the Anniversary concert.

William Popowych

comings, it was indeed a pleasure to witness such a well concert with an overfilled attendance.

New Restaurants

For the Ukrainians who will be travelling through Rochester on their vacation trips, we suggest that they pay their personal calls on newly opened restaurants and refreshment bars. Two of the more active Ukrainian boys have decided to venture into the field of business and have purchased individual sites. One is the Friendship Tavern located at 731 Lake Avenue operated by the former U.N.A. Branch 226 secretary Carl Gerula and his brother Walt. It is where you can get the best of food and drinks at reasonable rates and for recreation you can use the bowling alleys. The other new businessman is Nicholas Iwanow who is a very active member of Branch 217. He is the owner of the Conkey Grill located at Conkey Avenue and Clifford Avenue. There, too, you can get the best of food and refreshments. It is a known fact that many a time when travelling through various cities a person would like to visit the clubs, see the Churches and also a bit of the Ukrainian colony.

It would be a good idea to have notices about the various U.N.A. members who are in business of one kind or another. In that way the travelers would not have any trouble in getting acquainted with the town.

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William Popowych

Red Bank, N. J. English Language Courses

Last year Ukrainians of New York City, Newark and Philadelphia had the opportunity to hear-report by Mr. Shlemkevich, in which he referred to the "lost Ukrainian people." But these Ukrainian people are not lost, they live here and there and are accomplishing things. They gather other people around them, they continue to grow and they inform the American public regarding their circumstances and growth and secure the help of this public toward Ukrainian affairs.

In writing these lines, we have on mind the evening courses of instruction in the English language which were organized and have been guided without pay by Mrs. Luba Kozachok (daughter of Mr. Stephen Hladky, an employee of many years service of Svo-boda) in Red Bank, N. J.

Truthfully, there are not many Ukrainian residents in Red Bank and not many of these are the recent arrivals. But in any case, both for the long time and new residents, the primary needs is a knowledge of the English language, without which, as we all know, it is difficult to take many steps in the United States. The interest and assistance was obtained by her of George Lovett a retired teacher of schools in Red Bank—his wife, Miss Angelica Ostendorf, Mrs. Pauline Gyllenberg, Mrs. V. H. Warth and Miss Dorothea Fogel. With this assistance Mrs. Kozachok was able to provide a course of high quality in the English language during the school years (1952-53 and 1953-54). About 100 students were registered for each course and among these are some of

Iwan Mykytiuk, Participant of English Language Course

THE AMERICAN WAY Dopey Dicks

By GEORGE PECK

(EDITOR'S NOTE: George Peck is Chairman of the Board of the National Labor-Management Foundation and Executive Editor of its official publication, "Partners".)

Dopey Dick was not a bad sort of chap—he had a host of friends who had a sincere affection for him, but at the same time regretted he had been short-changed when the brains were being handed out. Poor Dopey! He found it difficult to eke out an existence. In fact, Dopey was having such a tough struggle that a group of his friends decided to come to his rescue. They felt they just could not stand idly by and let a friend suffer privation and hunger. Each member of the group obligated himself to chip in one dollar per week to elevate Dopey to a subsistence level, with a bit to spare.

Being wise, as well as charitably inclined, these friends felt that making an outright gift of money to Dopey would simply be putting him on a dole and would destroy his self-respect. So that Dopey would not consider himself an object of charity, they bought a big brass cannon, put it on display in a public place and hired Doped to keep the cannon polished. They impressed upon Dopey the importance of keeping that cannon bright and resplendent, so that he would feel he was performing a real service to his community and take pride in his work.

While Dopey may not have been too bright an individual, he was not lazy. He tackled his new job with vim and vigor; he kept that old brass cannon resplendently shined, the while he lived in comparative opulence. After a lapse of several months, Dopey came to one of his employers and said, "I'm sorry but I've got to leave you fellows." "Why, Dopey, that's too bad! Is there anything wrong? Aren't your wages and working conditions satisfactory?" the friend inquired. "No, there's nothing wrong," replied Dopey Dick. "It's just

A FAIR QUESTION

By M. RAKOWSKY

"What is it all about on the last page of Ukrainian Weekly?"—asked me one of our readers who doesn't know Ukrainian very well. So I tried to explain it.

First: the page title. It reads in English: "Plast-Campfire". Now everybody knows what a campfire is. But what is Plast? Well, you wouldn't find that word in any dictionary, even in Webster's unabridged edition. The word "Plast" is Ukrainian (the vowel "a" pronounced like in "art") and is the name of a Ukrainian youth organization with 42 years of well established tradition. The strange sounding name is derived from "Plastoon" which was the name of brave explorers of the famous Kozaks.

Former DP's who came to this country from Ukraine brought the Plast-idea over the ocean and spread it here, trying to keep the kids off the streets and to give them a guidance towards good citizenship. "Plast, Ukrainian Youth Organization, Inc." is now a chartered non-profit corporation with 28 local groups from East to West coast of the United States. About 2,000 boys and girls of all ages from 7 to 24 years and about 300

Conference on Academic Freedom In the USSR

(Continued from page 1)

Sunday Afternoon Session April 4, 1954—

(a) Reports: 1. Prof. Alexander Ohloblyn—"Soviet Historiography"; 2. Academic Freedom and National Culture;

a. The Study of Russian Literature—Prof. Gleb Glinka, b. The Study of Ukrainian Literature in the USSR—Mr. Petra Odarchenko, c. The Study of Byelorussian Literature—Mr. Anton Adamovich, d. The Study of Armenian Literature—Mr. Stephan Hovian, e. The Study of Georgian Literature—Mr. Alexander Tsomaya.

other words, to apply the law-mower method of trimming everyone down to the same low stature. Yes, it's too bad that we have so many Dopey Dicks among us—brass cannon polishers who do not know just how lucky they are in having the opportunity to work under ideal conditions and earn good wages, polishing cannons, paid for and maintained by someone else. Little do they realize that this is only possible under a system such as "The American Way," that under some other kind of political or economic system, the chances are they would not be polishing cannons—that they might even be fodder for them.

NEED A HOME IN MIAMI? Get in touch with SONYA KAROL BROWN Ukrainian representative of HAMILTON REALTORS 8335 N. E. 2nd AVENUE MIAMI, FLORIDA

UKRAINIAN DANCING SOCIETY OF NEW YORK and JUNIOR UKRAINE DANCERS Present "See Ukraine DANCE" SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1954 - 2:00 P.M. FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY 225 West 24th Street, New York, N.Y. Reserve Seats: \$1.90, \$1.50, \$1.00 Tickets Sold at: Ukrainian National Home (Stuyvesant Casino), 142 2nd Ave., New York City - Mon. thru Thurs. - 6:00 to 10:00 P.M. Proceeds to: Holy Cross Church Building Fund, Astoria, L.I., N.Y.

Enroll in the U.N.A. Summer Courses LEARN UKRAINIAN HISTORY and CULTURE and HAVE AT THE SAME TIME a VACATION. WHERE?—At the UNA "SOYUZIVKA" SUMMER RESORT, Kerhonkson, N. Y. WHEN? August 2nd thru August 28th. REGISTRATION DEADLINE:—March 30th. Enrollees will be required to defray only a fraction of their lodgings and board for that period, with all vacation facilities. The enrollees will have to pay only—\$100 for four weeks—Minimum age—16. Enroll immediately. A \$50 remittance should accompany the registration letter, which should include name, date of birth, education, and degree of knowledge of Ukrainian. Mail same to UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, 81-83 Grand Street, Jersey City 3, N. J.

U.N.A. BOWLING LEAGUE NEWS

By STEPHEN KURLAK

Competition among the leading teams in both divisions of the U.N.A. Bowling League of the Metropolitan N.Y.-N.J. Area continues keen, especially so in the Newark division where the first place Ukrainian Orthodox Church quintet still only leads the tied second and third place teams by one game, and the fourth place keglers by only two. One losing night for the Churchmen and a clean-sweep by any of the three rivals could produce new leaders in this division.

In the matches of last Friday, March 19th, held by the Jersey City division, the New York U.N.A. Branch 435 aggregation muffed its chance to make a strong bid for the lead position when it lost two games out of three to the top-flight "A" keggers of the Holy Name Society. The latter rolled strongly that night, registering not only the highest single game score of 856 pins, but a

BOWLING RESULTS OF FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1954

JERSEY CITY DIVISION

Table with bowling scores for Jersey City Division, including teams like Sts. Peter & Paul HNS A (2) and U.N.A. Branch 435 (1).

JERSEY CITY DIVISION

Table with bowling scores for Jersey City S. & A. "A" (3) and Jersey City S. & A. "B" (0).

JERSEY CITY DIVISION

Table with bowling scores for Sts. Peter & Paul HNS C (2) and Sts. Peter & Paul HNS B (1).

NEWARK DIVISION

Table with bowling scores for Ukrainian Sitch (2) and Ukr. Orthodox Church (1).

NEWARK DIVISION

Table with bowling scores for St. Johns C.W.V. (2) and Ukr.-American Vets (1).

NEWARK DIVISION

Table with bowling scores for Penn-Jersey Social Club (2) and U.N.A. Branch 272 (1).

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION LEAGUE

TEAM STANDINGS

Table with team standings for Jersey City Division and Newark Division, including teams like Sts. Peter & Paul HNS "A" and Ukr. Orth. Church.

Play For Your Life



BUG IN A RUG... Each year thousands of people are burned by clothing fires, some of which prove fatal. Here's a game which is fun to play, and at the same time, teaches an important safety lesson: Roll up in a rug or blanket immediately if fire strikes your clothing. It is the first and most essential action you can take in such an emergency. This "rolling up" procedure helps combat flames and serious burns. Talk with your family about this fire-prevention plan and then play "Bug In A Rug" with them. Make sure that they know the correct way to use a rug or blanket. It must be tightly wrapped around them from head to toe.

For Land and Freedom

by KALENIK LISSUAK A story of the never-ending struggle of the oppressed. PRICE 50 CENTS. Get your copy from "SVOBODA" BOOKSTORE 83 Grand Street, Jersey City 3, N. J.

