

UKRAINIAN CHORAL MUSIC IN AMERICA

(Concluded from page 2)

tra in the presentation of Katerina. Suggestions With all this serving as a background, let us pause briefly and consider the present status not of our choruses as a whole, but of Ukrainian church choirs in particular.

The simple fact remains that they urgently require a bit of new life and fresh energy to be injected into them. Their members still attend church and the choir rehearsals—but in diminishing numbers. Their enthusiasm for singing appears not as high as it was in former times. So what is needed here is for someone, be it the director, a chorister, or even some outsider whose opinion they will respect, to give them an inspirational talk, awakening them up to a realization of the beauty of this branch of Ukrainian culture which they have inherited from their parents and forbears, tell them about the background of Ukrainian church music, dating back to the earliest of Christianity in Ukraine, describing to them its various stages of advancement, including those of the 18 and 19th centuries when the Ukrainian choir was composed not only of four or even eight parts, but even of sixteen parts, allude to the great composers, such as Bortniansky, Vedel and others, and recall to them some of the things we have mentioned earlier in this article. What would help here, also, would be the playing of some fine recordings of Ukrainian choral music. That latter would not only inspire them, but would also stir an ambition in them to sing as well.

From the organizational point of view, some attempt at least should be made by each individual choir to establish a contact with one another. The responsibility here, of course, rests upon the director, for he is the leader of the group. A good step in this direction would be to make arrangements for several choirs; at least, to form something akin to the "Simka," and to give concerts, after due preparation, in their particular local-

WHY BE ON THE OUTSIDE? JOIN THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASS'N TODAY AND READ THE "СВОБОДА" AND THE "UKRAINIAN WEEKLY"

ities, with the choirmaster of that locality directing the combined choruses. Another point: Every year the Ukrainian Americans observe various Ukrainian national holidays, such as the Listopadove Sviato, or the Union of Ukraine of January 22, 1919, and also hold exercises in memory of Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko, and others. The choirs should foresee these events and prepare well in advance to take part in them, so that there will be no necessity to reply to an invitation that "we are not prepared to accept your invitation." They should be prepared, for outside their church singing they are conscience-bound to appear in public, and demonstrate that their knowledge of Ukrainian music is not circumscribed within the circle of church music but extends also into the circle of secular music.

While on the subject of arranging future program, it would well to consider one or two out of the beaten path. Once in a while present an informal program. For example Ukrainian Christmas is just around the corner, two months from now. Why not have the church choir give a Christmas party, in a Ukrainian national home or center if possible. Invite relatives, friends and guests. Admission free. Serve tea, coffee, cakes, and other refreshments. At the proper time mount the stage or platform, and sing a number of choice Ukrainian Christmas carols. If there are present guests who do not understand Ukrainian, then have someone introduce each number in English, explaining the meaning and origin of the carol. After this informal concert have a community sing of the carols, with everyone participating. This type of informal entertainment has been used on several occasions in the past by the Ukrainian youth chorus group in New York City and it proved to be very successful and popular for all concerned.

These are but a few suggestions. From them can stem many more. In any event, serious thought should be given to them, especially by the "spark-plugs" in the choir and chorus. They in turn will fire other choir members into action. Following a period of comparative decline, Ukrainian church choirs and secular choruses should bring about a renaissance for Ukrainian music in America.

20 Years Honoring His Holy Name Society in Jersey City

(8)

1954 In 1954, John Chayka was elected for the second time as president of the Jersey City H.N.S. and was installed with his slate at the Communion Breakfast that was served in the Church Hall. Members of the Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality, P-T-A and Sisterhood of St. Mary did the honors in that respect to the satisfaction of everyone concerned. These gracious ladies of the three most cooperative organizations of the parish have aided the H.N.S. on many an occasion and still continue to do so to this day. Their continued assistance has permitted the Society to advance with the years for which aid the members are forever grateful. On Jan. 24, the N.Y.-N.J. Council of the U.C.Y.L. held their monthly meeting in Jersey City, which was preceded by a Moleben service before any business was transacted. The members of the Holy Name Society acted in the capacity of hosts and always consider it a privilege to welcome their many friends from the Metropolitan area to their home parish.

Bowling awards were made on Feb. 9, 1954 with George Zidiak receiving a trophy on behalf of the champions, in his capacity as captain of the team that won the play-offs. Michael Pawelko accepted an award

for the runner-up; while Roman Madej was presented with a Bowling Plaque for the Society by the League Secretary. The H.N.S. sponsored Star-Dust Ball was held on Feb. 27, 1954 at the New Victory Hall and was attended by a large gathering. All arrangements were handled by Nicholas Bilas, John Hawryluk and Joseph Kashisker; the youngest committee ever entrusted with such a great responsibility for the first time.

The 50th Anniversary Dinner held under the auspices of the Hudson County Holy Name Federation on April 29, 1954, was attended by a large delegation from the only Ukrainian Catholic H.N.S. in the city. Also, in recognition of their cooperative spirit, the group was honored by being seated in front of the speakers' rostrum, in the spacious Main Ball Room of the Hotel Plaza. Rev. Graham, National Director of the Holy Name Society and principal speaker on that historic occasion, formally acknowledged the presence of the SS. Peter and Paul H.N.S. representatives by calling attention to their continued activity.

The bowling series with the Lehigh Valley Council of the U.C.Y.L. was resumed on April 14 in Jersey City and the return matches were bowled on May 2 in Allentown, Pa.

Bowling Opens Athletic Season For Derry Ukrainian Society

DERBY, Pa. — The Derry Ukrainian Society reports that the Derry Ukrainian bowling season opened recently with the Schmidt team taking three games from the Iron Cities while the Rolling Rocks defeated the Dykes in two out of three matches.

The teams will meet for scheduled Sunday games during November, December and January. Besides bowling, the society sponsors shuffleboard and pin-ochle games and plans to organize a basketball team this winter.

Auspices of Branch 66 Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Inc. Recital of ROMAN PRYDATKEVYCH, VIOLINIST assisted by HANNA PRYDATKEVYCH at the YWCA AUDITORIUM, 48 Howe Street, NEW HAVEN, Conn. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1st, 1957 at 7:30 P. M.

Annual DANCE sponsored by CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS, HOLY CROSS POST 1619 SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1957 at HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH 37-09 31st Avenue, ASTORIA, New York featuring LITTLE TONEY and HIS ORCHESTRA

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UKRAINIAN YOUTH NEWS

By ALEXANDER F. DANKO

Elections

Over the last Election Day, Tuesday, November 5, Ukrainians did fairly well, all things considered. Of course, probably the top result was the election of Miss Mary V. Beck as president of the Detroit City Council.

Miss Beck thus became the first woman council president in Detroit and her tremendous showing, both in the primary elections and in this election has her backers and followers booming her for the Mayoralty race four years hence.

Miss Mary V. Beck, without a doubt, has reached higher in politics than any other woman of Ukrainian ancestry. After several terms as a Detroit Council member, this presidency also means \$2,000 per year more in salary, plus being the Detroit mayor's top assistant and taking his place in his absence.

Miss Beck, who gave fine talks at the last two Detroit UYL-NA conventions in 1951 and 1957 and who was active in UYL-NA circles and was present when UYL-NA was organized at the Chicago World's Fair in 1933, is a sister of John Beck, who was defeated in the Detroit Mayoralty race (which by the way, should not discourage him from future political ventures) and Rev. Andrew Reck of Carnegie, Pa. who once served as our St. Sophia's Ukrainian Church pastor in Bayonne, N. J.

Other Ukrainian political results showed city controller Chester A. Kosak losing in the Buffalo, N. Y. mayoralty race in the closest race in the city's history, by 80 votes.

In Manville, N. J., former mayor George Papawick lost by 252 votes in his try to regain his old job back again, although Theodore Koschak was elected to the town council.

In Hudson County, N. J., William Martin (no), my predecessor as president of the Bayonne Ukrainian National Home, was elected to the state assembly.

Soccer

The Ukrainian name is being widely publicized in most Ukrainian-populated areas by means of the very many fine Ukrainian Sports Clubs soccer teams, who are usually at or near the top standings of their respective leagues.

In our New Jersey area, the Ukrainian S. C. of the Ukrainian Sitch Home of Newark, N. J. has its "A" team near the top of the New Jersey State League Major "B" Division, while their "B" team is in the New Jersey State League Premier "B" Division. The fine Elizabeth S. C. is entered in the N. J. State League Major "A" Division. We understand that Trenton and Camden also have Ukrainian Soccer teams.

We met Lev Blonarovych, president of the Newark Ukrainians at the Ukrainian Sitch Home recently. He told us that he knows Orest Popovych of Lakewood, N. J., John Theodorovich of Toronto and Steve Popel of Detroit, all of whom are outstanding chess players, along with Lev. I forgot to inquire of Lev, who is a graduate of Newark College of Engineering (one of the top engineering schools in the country), if he knew Ivan Romanenko of Washington, D. C., another top-notch. All are post-World War II arrivals to North America from Ukraine, and are great assets to the general Ukrainian community. Blonarovych conducts

Chess instruction and games each Friday evening at the New-Arch Sitch home.

Miss Joanna Draginda of Detroit wrote us this past week, enclosing a clipping on the recent Ukrainian soccer tourney, with 10 participating teams, which was won by the Detroit Ukes over the Chicago Lions in the finale. Joanna would like to see greater participation between these newly-arrived Ukrainians and the native-born American Ukrainians, which would be of mutual benefit to both participating parties. We wholeheartedly concur.

Bohdan Hryshchshyn of Philly, president of the Ukrainian Orthodox League, sent along a nice letter and clippings to us—regarding a soccer match between Drexel Tech and LaSalle College in Philly. Drexel had four Ukrainians on their squad—Bohdan Siryj, who scored three goals in Tech's 4-0 win, Thor Chuma, George Sawczak and George Kryzuzak. North Bergen, N. J., Bohdan also says that two Ukrainians play on Drexel's frosh team, too. That makes 10 college players, thus far—with one more needed. Could it be Maryland U.'s star, Orest Hama?

Good friend Al Yaremko of Philly, for whose frequent letters we're very thankful, last season sent us a Philly Inquirer clipping on a trio of Ukrainian All-Philly H. S. soccer aces, Leonard Lucenko, the city's most prolific scorer at Frankford H. I., Thor Lysyj of Central H., and Walt Kudenko of Northeast H., who plays for the crack Philly Ukrainian Nationals in the American Soccer League. Al also mentioned Pete Wytylak, who made "All City" as a football tackle at Alney H. S. We wonder what college Pete has entered?

Two weeks ago Walt Chyzolich, who plays for the Philly Ukrainians and Penn State soccer squads, was mentioned in the Philly Inquirer as being from Ukraine. Bill Husar, a prominent Ukrainian American and youth worker from Rochester, N. Y., wrote last year about five Ukrainians making the "All-City" soccer team in high school. They are Roman Daszyzyczak, Antole Marchenko, Edward Machoncin, Peter Iwasiw and Niek Harmsz. We guess that several, if not all of these lads perform for the great Rochester Ukrainian soccer team, as does Zepan Snytyk, the U.S. squad captain last year at the Olympic Games in Australia.

We mentioned several Ukrainian soccer teams above and since we acted as the UYL-NA liaison in setting up the Rochester-Philly match at the UYL-NA Convention in Buffalo in 1956, we'd like to see the UYL-NA Sports Rally include soccer in its program.

U.N.A. BOWLING LEAGUE NEWS

COMPETITION FOR TOP SPOT CONTINUES KEEN

By STEPHEN KURLAK

With almost one-third of the season schedule completed on Friday, November 8th, three of the top teams in the U.N.A. Bowling League of New Jersey find themselves in a three-way tie for the first-place position. The Ukrainian Center bowlers won two games out of three from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Newark five, and in the process registered the night's highest three-game series with a pinfall of 2,645. Their first winning game totalling 895 pins, was second highest of all games played. All five of the Centerites bowled 500 or better, and had they not lost the third game via the "handicap route," they would be leading the pack by one game.

The Ukrainian American Veterans pushed themselves into the first-place tie by making a "clean sweep" over the Ukrainian Y.W.C. keggers who, only the week before, made themselves look like a serious threat for the top spot. The Vets did some good bowling that night, and their 926-pin total in the third game was not only the highest for the evening, but second-best for the season so far.

Table with 10 rows and 4 columns: Rank, Team Name, Won, Lost, Total Pins. Includes teams like Ukrainian Center, Ukrainian American Vets, Orthodox Church, etc.

Bayonne Society to Hold Third Annual Dance



UKRAINIAN DANCERS OF NEW YORK.

The Holy Name Society of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church of Bayonne, N.J. will hold its third annual dance at the Mount Carmel Auditorium in Bayonne, Saturday, November 23rd.

Last year the Holy Name Society drew a record attendance of 890 persons at their second annual dance. President Anthony Iorio, in opening the meeting, emphasized this dance as being the finale of a record number of social, cultural and athletic endeavors sponsored by the Church for its members and their friends during the past year.

Included were four picnics, a traditional Easter dinner banquet, Testimonial Dinner for past HNS officers, Comedy, Song and Dance Festival, a play and Holloween party presented by the Sodality, Rosary Society Card Party, singing of the Mass by the Choir at St. Francis Seminary, S.I., participation in the annual Holy Name Parade, the sale of Ukrainian dishes by the Apostleship of Prayer, and others. All the proceeds from these affairs go to the Church and its Building Fund.

Colorful folk dances of Ukraine will be performed as an added attraction. The dances will be performed by the Ukraine Dancers of New York, a group of young Americans of Ukrainian origin interested in preserving and promoting the rich culture of their ancestors, led by Walter Bacad and William Polewachik. In the ten years of their existence, the Ukraine Dancers have appeared many times before clubs, colleges and community organizations along the Eastern seaboard and as far west as Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Detroit. They have also performed in Carnegie Hall and made numerous television appearances.

DON'T FORGET Next Saturday, November 23rd BAYONNE'S GREATEST DANCE FEATURING JOHNNY BUD'S ORCHESTRA for the first time THE "FABULOUS" Ukraine Dancers of New York MT. CARMEL HALL — 37 East 22nd Street BAYONNE, N. J. at 8:30 P. M. — Adm. incl. Ward. \$ 1.25

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