

"To promote opportunities for children and youth to realize their full potential for a creative life in freedom and dignity."

D. D. Eisenhower

СВОБОДА УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ ЩОДЕННИК



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The Ukrainian Weekly Section

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UNA PRE-CONVENTION MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

UNA Rochester District Committee

By GEORGE PANKRATH ROCHESTER, N.Y., April 9.—Joseph Lesawyer, supreme president of the Ukrainian National Association, flew into Rochester yesterday to attend a district meeting of the UNA and wound up the day visiting all the Ukrainian churches, clubs, and national homes.

From the time he landed at the Rochester-Monroe County Airport at 9:30 A.M., his plane being an hour overdue, till he left at 8 P.M. he was constantly on the go. He was met at the airport by UNA supreme advisor William Hussar and his lovely wife Stella and George Pankrath, Rochester UNA publicity director.

His first stop was at St. Joseph's Ukrainian Catholic Church to attend Mass and then he addressed the Church's Holy Name Society's communion breakfast. He was introduced by president Michael Ewanow and spoke on Rochester's contribution to UNA's growth and development. He informed the group on the progress being made on the issuance of the Taras Shevchenko Commemorative Stamp and also on the fund-raising program for the erection of the Shevchenko Memorial in Washington, D.C.

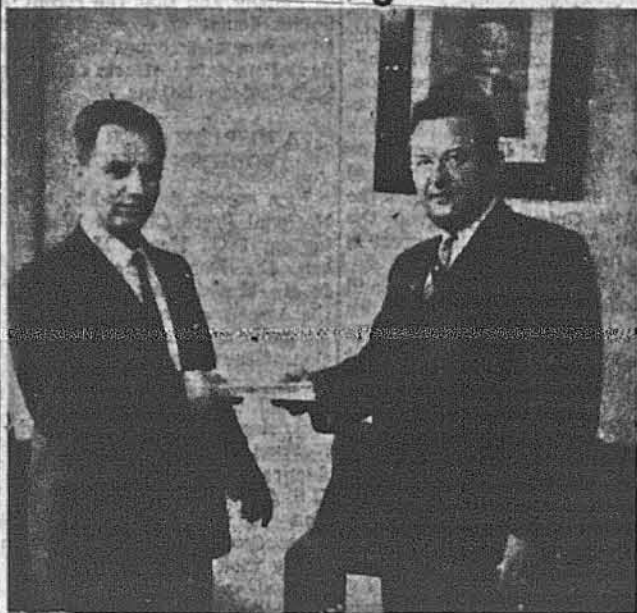
UNA Activities in Troy, N. Y.

TROY, N.Y. (Special).—On Sunday, April 1, 1962 the Ukrainian Community in Troy participated in two UNA affairs with remarkable success: the installation of new officers of the St. Nicholas Brotherhood, UNA Branch 191, and the pre-convention meeting of delegates and officers of UNA Branches from the area.

The installation of new officers in UNA Branch 191 took place during a special banquet and was administered by John Kokolsky, UNA Supreme Advisor from Providence, R.I., who delivered an appropriate address.

After the banquet a pre-convention meeting of all UNA delegates and officers took place, at which both Mr. Slobodian and Mr. Kokolsky spoke on a number of UNA matters relating to the forthcoming 25th Jubilee Convention of the UNA.

New UNA Branch Organized In Chicago

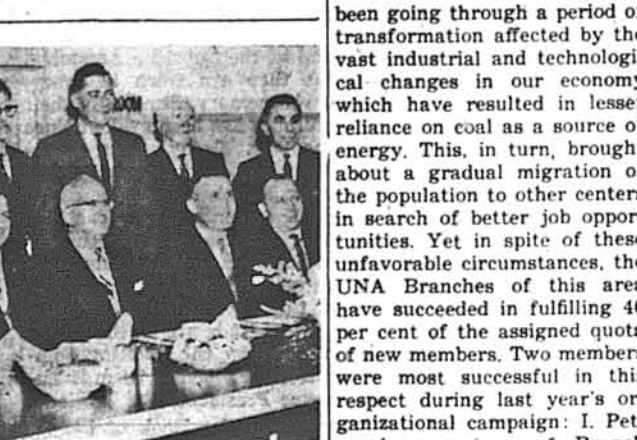


P. Pucilo, UNA Supreme Auditor presents 27 new membership applications of the newly-organized Chicago Branch to J. Padoch, UNA's Supreme Secretary

CHICAGO, Illinois. — The Ukrainian Concert Band, one of Chicago's best-known musical organizations, has been organized into a new Branch of the Ukrainian National Association. Under the direction of Capt. I. Barabash the band gained wide recognition in musical circles and has been the winner of numerous contests.

UNA Anthracite District Committee In Pre-Convention Meeting

McADOO, Pa. — On Sunday, April 8, Branch officers and delegates representing 22 Branches of the anthracite and coal region held a meeting at the Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall in McAdoo, Pa., to discuss the forthcoming Convention and the pre-convention campaign for new members.



Seated left to right: Russell Kolody, Secretary of Branch 191 of Troy, N.Y. and President of the District Committee; Stephen Spaek, Secretary of Branch 57, Cohoes, N.Y.; Roman Slobodian, Supreme Treasurer of UNA; John Kokolsky, Supreme Auditor of UNA; John Karabin from Watervliet, N.Y., delegate to UNA Convention.

APPEAL OF UNA SUPREME AUDITING COMMITTEE

FELLOW-MEMBERS OF THE UNA: The pre-convention audit of all financial records, bookkeeping and organizational matters of the Ukrainian National Association, which was performed from March 19 to March 23, 1962, by the Supreme Auditing Committee, according to the provisions of the by-laws, indicates the following:

- 1. All records and the bookkeeping of your organization are in exemplary order;
2. Investments of UNA assets are sound and the yield is increasing steadily;
3. The development and organizational position of the UNA are likewise sound and practical;
4. The Ukrainian National Association in all the fields of its activities manifests a great deal of new initiative and clearly-marked trends toward further growth and development.

A special financial report of the audit will soon appear in "The UNA Tribune" of SVOBODA. A detailed report and appropriate remarks and recommendations of the Auditing Committee will be presented to the forthcoming Convention.

— Even the most economically-sound and internally-strong organization can be weakened, if for a short while it slows down, or decreases its efforts toward further development and growth. Therefore, we appeal to you as follows:

— Let us all exert the maximum effort in making the forthcoming 25th Convention a veritable jubilee of our work and our success. Let our slogan, "Twenty-five Members for the 25th Convention" become a reality and a matter of personal honor and duty.

— Through our active and constructive cooperation in all fields of our community life let us demonstrate that our organization, the Ukrainian National Association, even today has not ceased to be the Ukrainian freedom fortress as it has been for the past sixty-eight years.

— Through careful preparation for the Convention and by our exemplary conduct at the Convention itself let us prove that our organization is of the people, by the people and for the people, and that our conventions are really the greatest parliament of free Ukrainians in the world.

— Especially, we appeal to all of you to help us in distributing the encyclopedia about Ukraine, this veritable book of genesis of the Ukrainian people, which is being printed by the University of Toronto Press through the efforts and expense of the Ukrainian National Association.

— Let us remember that the greatness and the organizational and financial power of our organization are measured not only by the figures of its members and its assets, but also by the results of its efforts and work for the benefit of members of the Ukrainian National Association and of the Ukrainian people at large.

LONG LIVE THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION! SUPREME AUDITING COMMITTEE OF THE UNA: Walter Gallan — chairman, Volodymyr Kossar — vice-chairman, Peter Kuchma — secretary, Peter Pucilo and John Kokolsky — members.

United Ukrainian Organizations in Cleveland Hold Annual Meeting

CLEVELAND, Ohio. (Special).—The United Ukrainian Organizations of Cleveland, constituting a branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, held its annual meeting on Sunday, April 8, 1962 at the Ukrainian National Home, with delegates from 55 organizations attending.

The agenda of the meeting included reports by officers, including one by the chairman of the Shevchenko Memorial Committee, discussion of a variety of subjects, election of new officers and a question and answer period. From the reports it was evident that the Ukrainian community in Cleveland was active in many fields: it collected \$3,000 for the UCCA (and \$2,000 will be collected by the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 1962); over \$12,000 was collected for the Shevchenko Memorial Committee; \$1,500 was donated to the Institute for Soviet and East European Studies at John Carroll University.

The United Ukrainian Organizations participated in the various activities of the Cleveland Nationalities Council and in many activities in connection with the general program of the UCCA. Walter Dushnyck, editor of UCCA publications, was the principal speaker during the meeting.

Mr. D. Misko was re-elected president of the United Ukrainian Organizations. Dr. Michael S. Pap, of John Carroll University, was chairman of the meeting.

Regional Meeting of UCCA CLEVELAND, Ohio. (Special).—On Saturday, April 7, 1962 a first-regional meeting of representatives of all UCCA Branches in Ohio was held in Cleveland, with representatives from UCCA Branches in Cleveland, Youngstown, Akron, Lorain and Canton attending.

Walter Dushnyck, representing the Executive Board of the UCCA, spoke on the activities and operations of the UCCA at the present time.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON UKRAINE

Editor's note: Following is the text of an interview which the Honorable John G. Diefenbaker, Prime Minister of Canada, granted to the Rev. M. Sopolak, managing editor of The Ukrainian News Weekly, appearing in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The interview took place on March 22, 1962:

UKRAINE

Question:

Mr. Prime Minister, your statements concerning Soviet colonialism in Ukraine have aroused a great interest among our readers. Last November, you announced that the Canadian government intends to put the question of Soviet colonialism on the next U.N. agenda. May I ask you, Sir, for some further information about this plan?

Answer:

We are making preparations to have the question of Soviet colonialism brought up at the 17th Session of the General Assembly. It is important that the problem be advanced in the most effective way, and this means finding out the opinions and probable reactions of other members of the Organization before we decide on how the problem can best be brought up.

Question:

External Affairs Review edited by our State Department, usually very reticent about Russian colonial rule in Ukraine, published in 1954 in the August issue an article in which Ukraine was considered as an internal Russian problem. Do you think this was an official stand of our State Department and do you think this is its official stand today?

Answer:

In a speech in Toronto on November 22, 1961, I said: "Is there any sovereign state in the world... independent, democratic, economically vigorous and having a high standard of living... which would willingly invite military occupation and political subjugation by a large neighbor? ... No free country would invite such invasion and subjugation. The peoples of Ukraine, the Baltic countries, or other Eastern European countries, of Trans-Caucasia and Central Asia did not invite it. They had it thrust upon them. They were never given an opportunity to choose freedom. They are still being denied the right by the U.S.S.R. which the U.S.S.R. contends should be the right of all peoples."

Question:

Ukraine, a former colony of the Czarist Russian empire, proclaimed its independence in 1918, as did other former Czarist colonies: Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The Russian army under Lenin occupied Ukraine, as the same army under Stalin occupied the Baltic nations. What is the official stand of your Party on this question: is Ukraine to be considered merely an internal Russian problem or should we approach the Ukrainian problem in the same way as we do the Baltic nations? Do you have some additional practical suggestions in this matter?

Answer:

It is difficult to draw an exact historical parallel between the Baltic States and Ukraine because the former enjoyed independence between the wars whereas the latter did not. Nevertheless, the Government approaches the Ukrainian problem in the same way as it



The Hon. John Diefenbaker

does the problem of the Baltic nations.

Question:

Ukrainian Canadians would like to see a Canadian diplomatic representative in Kiev. In Warsaw we have our charge d'affaires. Why don't we have one in Kiev? Ukraine, a great Eastern European nation and a U.N. member, certainly, deserves more attention on our part. The Canadian diplomatic representative in Ukraine will give us first-hand information about that country and, besides that, he and his assistants may help many people in Canada (e.g., by making it easier for immigration cases to be processed and especially by making better arrangements for sending some five million dollars worth of parcels each year by Ukrainian Canadians who are now paying exorbitant custom duties). What is your opinion?

Answer:

The main objection to separate diplomatic representation in Ukraine is that it would imply recognition by Canada of the sovereign powers which the Ukrainian Communist regime claims for itself.

However, your points about immigration and parcels are well taken, and it is quite possible that eventually we will have some consular representation in Kiev. At the present time members of the Canadian Embassy in Moscow visit Kiev from time to time on consular business.

Question:

Some think it would be a good idea if the Labor Minister, Michael Starr, the only member of Ukrainian origin in the Federal Government, would go for a brief visit to Ukraine. This certainly would strengthen the confidence of the Ukrainian people and would dissipate misrepresentation of Soviet press about Canadian attitude toward Ukraine. Many of us are wondering why he wasn't able to go there for a few days. What is your opinion: would it be advisable to send him there?

Answer:

The possibility of a visit to Ukraine by the Minister of Labor would have to be carefully considered. If the Soviet Government agreed to accept a visit by Mr. Starr, they might do so because they were convinced they could turn his visit to advantage for themselves, perhaps by interpreting it publicly as an acknowledgment by Canada that the Soviet regime in Ukraine meets with Canadian approval. The Minister might not be given access to all public media to express his own views on the purpose of his visit. It is worth recalling that the Canadian communist groups have also advocated a visit by the Minister of Labor to Ukraine.

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