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СВОБОДА UKRAINIAN DAILY The Ukrainian Weekly Section

"WE INTEND TO BURY NO ONE AND WE DO NOT INTEND TO BE BURIED." Lyndon B. Johnson

"UNITY IN BONDS OF AFFECTION"

(Christmas Pastoral Letter of His Excellency, the Most Reverend Jaroslav Gabro, DD, Bishop of the St. Nicholas Diocese in Chicago for the Ukrainians).

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, Monastic Orders, Venerable Sisters, and the Faithful of our Diocese:

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God" (Mat. 5:9) It is by our vision of faith that we can understand the sublimity of the Christmas scene, as once again we behold the Divine Infant, His Virgin Mother, and St. Joseph; once again the angelic salutation "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace to men of good will" elicits in us similar acts of devotion and charity.

This long-awaited coming of Christ confirmed humanity's hopes for the two-fold reconciliation that would bring mankind closer to God, and mankind to a greater peace with itself.

The passage of centuries has not changed this hope, and in however many different expressions it has been repeated, this joy of anticipation continues to unite our aspirations with the prayers of the Church established for our salvation. This all-pervading charity that must inform every Christian endeavor and institution illumines the life and writings of the Servant of God, our esteemed Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky who, at the beginning of this century, observed:

"In an earlier age, Christianity prevailed upon Roman emperors to renounce paganism and its enforced dictates upon conscience; to abolish, even if gradually, slavery and serfdom, thus preserving against barbaric onslaughts the cultural heritage of all people.

"Christianity fulfills the same role today, dispensing solace to the persecuted, comforting the African Negro, interceding for the American Indian — always in the forefront to aid the sick and the oppressed, unceasingly protesting the suffering and exploitation of these people even before the mightiest of rulers and principalities, ever striving to ennoble humanity."

The prophetic hopes of Metropolitan Sheptytsky are included in the profound decisions of II Vatican Council, for the Pastoral Constitution in the Modern World states: "In pursuit of her divine mission the Church preaches the Gospel to all men and dispenses the treasure of grace.

SUMA GROUP ON NBC PROGRAM

NEW YORK, N.Y. — The sixty-voice all-girl choir of the New York SUMA's T. Chuprynka branch will appear Tuesday, December 24, on the Bell Telephone Hour Christmas special, it was announced here last week.

The program will be televised by the National Broadcasting Company (Ch. 4 in New York), at 7:30 p.m. The choir, under the direction of R. Stepaniak, will be seen with many others during the one-hour special called "The World of Christmas." Victor Borge will host the program. The branch's "Verkhovynatsi" dancers, under the direction of Oleh Genza, will also perform a Ukrainian folk dance on the program. Local listings should be consulted for time and channel.

Thus, by imparting knowledge of the divine and natural law, she everywhere contributes to strengthening peace and to placing brotherly relations between individuals and peoples on solid ground."

Our Ukrainian Catholic Church shares a role in bringing peace and understanding to mankind, stressing the ideals proposed in II Vatican Council and encouraging its laity to participate in their fulfillment. Here, in the St.

Nicholas Diocese, our own Ecumenical Center has advanced these causes in notable measure, and I view its successes in this first year of dedication as an augury of greater achievements among all Christians.

May the Christ Child bless you with peace, appreciation for God's blessings to you, and Christian love to unite us in the bonds of affection and good will always.

JAROSLAV, Bishop

IMPRESSIVE OBSERVANCES TO MARK UNA DIAMOND JUBILEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REVIEWS PROGRESS, CHARTS PLANS AT YEAR-END MEETING

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The Ukrainian National Association, founded on February 22, 1894, in the small coal-mining town of Shamokin, Pa., will observe its Diamond Anniversary next year in the spirit of pioneering zeal and dedicated service that mark the history of this 75-year-old organization.

A huge festival will be held June 1st in Shamokin, the

birthplace of UNA. A banquet, coupled with the dedication of a commemorative stone in honor of the pioneer-founders, is slated for May 31st. In New York on May 29th and in Philadelphia on May 25th, there will be premiere performances of a new opera, "Anna Yaroslavna," written by Prof. A. Rudnytsky and L. Poltava, in conjunction with the Holy Family and angels who sang songs of glory to God and of peace to men of good will.

"YOUTH IS OUR HOPE"

(Christmas Pastoral Letter of the Most Reverend Ambrose Senyshyn, OSBM, by the Grace of God and the Blessing of the Holy See, Archbishop of Philadelphia and Metropolitan for Ukrainian Catholics in the United States of America).

To the Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy and Faithful GOD'S PEACE AND ARCHIEPISCOPAL BLESSING!

The all-merciful Lord has so designed it that we are celebrating the Feast of His Nativity once again. The Liturgy, carols and holiday displays center around the crib in Bethlehem, the Holy Family and angels who sang songs of glory to God and of peace to men of good will.

The Feast of the Nativity recalls for us the shepherds, who represent the masses, and the three Wise Men, who symbolize the world's leaders and the educated who came to the Christchild with gifts and adoration. When Christ the Saviour came to earth, it goes without saying that many illustrious people were on the scene; however, a cloud of oblivion has covered them and placed them among the forgotten.

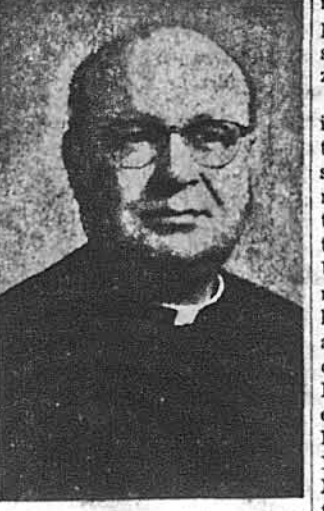
But the warm and gentle memory of the poor shepherds and the rich Wise Men continues on and is remembered in a special way every Christmas. Wherever we find Christ and Mary, there, too, are the shepherds and Wise Men. God rewarded them for their deep faith, generosity and dedication.



CHANCELLOR HONORED

Msgr. Stock Marks Ordination Anniversary

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Right Rev. Msgr. John Stock, Chancellor of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford and pastor of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in New Haven, Conn., was honored at a jubilee banquet here Saturday, December 14, on the occasion of his twenty-fifth anniversary of ordination.



Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Stock

The banquet, preceded by a jubilee Liturgy at St. Michael's, was sponsored by the church's parishioners and the United Ukrainian Organizations of New Haven. Twenty-one other organizations joined as co-sponsors, attesting to Msgr. Stock's great popularity among people of all walks of life.

Heading the long list of distinguished guests at the banquet was the Most Rev. Joseph Schmondiuk, Bishop of the Stamford Eparchy, who delivered the principal address. Other speakers among the more than 600 guests included: Joseph Lesawyer, UNA Supreme President, Very Rev. Myroslaw Charyna, Providence Association President, Dr. John Kuzyk, Myron Dmyterko, Mrs.

messages, Msgr. Stock was presented with gifts by Wasyly Dobchansky and John Muzyka.

Msgr. Stock, 50, was born in Blackwood, Pa., and obtained his elementary and secondary education in the nearby town of St. Clair. After studying philosophy and theology at the Pontifical University in Austria, the American College in Switzerland, St. Mary's Seminary and the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Msgr. Stock was ordained into priesthood by Bishop Bohachevsky on December 1, 1943. He served as pastor in Minneapolis and Chisholm before being appointed secretary to Bishop Bohachevsky.

In 1946, Msgr. Stock was assigned to Germany and Austria to work with Ukrainian refugees. During his six years in Europe Msgr. Stock helped thousands of Ukrainian refugees to find new life in the U.S.

Upon his return from Europe, Msgr. Stock served as secretary to Bishop Ambrose Senyshyn, then eparch of the Stamford Diocese. In 1956 he

UNA President Takes Part In Human Rights Conference

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Joseph Lesawyer, Supreme President of the Ukrainian National Association, took part in the National Conference on Continuing Action for Human Rights, held here Wednesday, December 4, under the aegis of the President's Commission for the Observance of the Human Rights Year.

The Conference, which consisted of five panel sessions, heard President Lyndon B. Johnson and Chief Justice Earl Warren deliver strong appeals for continuing the struggle for human rights in the months and years ahead. Serving as the conference's chairman was Ambassador Averell Harriman. Hosting the many civic and political leaders at a reception was

Secretary of State Dean Rusk.

The panels considered such topics as the local promotion of human rights; environment and human rights; employment and human rights; youth and human rights; and international protection of human rights.

A great deal of discussion centered on international action in defense of human rights, which would include codification of rights by various international conventions, voluntary legal assistance, guarantees for individual petitions, work of major voluntary organizations such as Amnesty International, the International Commission of Jurists, and the Red Cross.

TO ALL OUR READERS WHO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS ON DECEMBER 25TH, WE EXTEND OUR BEST WISHES FOR A JOYOUS AND MERRY CELEBRATION OF OUR SAVIOUR'S BIRTH

Seek Ukrainian In Schools

WINNIPEG, Man. — Manitoba could become the champion of minority groups by allowing languages other than English and French to be taught and used in public schools, says the Ukrainian Canadian Committee as reported in The Tribune of December 11.

In a brief presented to Premier Walter Weir Tuesday, December 10, UCC officials urged the government to amend the Public School Act to permit instruction and use of other languages in districts where such languages are commonly used.

Winnipeg lawyer W. M. Swystun, spokesman for the group, said "we do not come begging with our hat in our hand. It is our right, we feel."

"You could take a lead in Canada. In our opinion you should make these views known (at the federal-provincial constitutional conference in Ottawa)."

Mr. Swystun said he was "dismayed" by the second report of the bilingualism and biculturalism commission and fears that both French and

It is our fond desire to renew, spread and enrich our heritage in the fields of religion, national awareness and culture. Dear parents! God gave you the loving gifts of children. Pay special attention to their upbringing in the Catholic faith, in our Ukrainian Rite, in our churches and in our schools and allied organizations. You are well aware of the difficult circumstances that beset us in the rearing of our children. Today even more is demanded of us if we are to overcome this pressing problem.

My dear young boys and girls! How fortunate you are to be living in prosperous times! And for this gift from Divine Providence you should be grateful, for gratitude is a characteristic of people with character. Show your gratitude to your parents. Hold high the banner of your religious and ethnic Ukrainian heritage! Take advantage of all the world has to offer in the field of education but never neglect to appreciate that which is yours by birth. In the United States you have both the right and privileges of maintaining our Ukrainian culture, language, and our Rite with all its traditions. You, my beloved youth, are our hope. Do not forsake your church and own groups. Rather, enrich them with your talents and raise them to such heights that they will be the joy of all.

I appeal to you, dear teachers and instructors! Do your part in the renewal of our culture. Share your knowledge of Ukraine with the young generation. Do not be disappointed with the ingratitude that is so often a part of your profession. Look at Christ. Was He not the victim par excellence of thanklessness? This was the fate of the Apostles, national and church leaders of yesterday and today. Do not pay attention to those, who throw a storm of offense against you. Look beyond this ingratitude and see the good which your work is doing for the Church (Continued on Page 2)



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EDITORIAL

**CHRISTMAS: TIME OF PEACE**

... AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST, PRAISING GOD AND SAYING, GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN."

Christmas, the greatest of all Christian holidays is upon us, with but few days remaining before all men of good will prepare to greet the birth of our Saviour in the little manger of Bethlehem.

As we await the appearance of the first star and the angels' joyous message of peace on earth and good will to all, we hurry in the intimate seclusion of our hearts to the little hut of Christchild's coming to witness once again the rebirth of truth and love and hope.

It is an awe-inspiring miracle, perhaps as great as that of creation, which is a reassuring reminder of God's everpresence and boundless mercy. This truth, like God himself, is eternal. It never changes. It was meant to remain so for all ages when that moment of the Almighty's revelation lit upon the earth extending a merciful hand of forgiveness and understanding.

For is it not awe-inspiring and justly incomprehensible to man, the tragically ungrateful being He created in His own image, that God would grant mankind its most rejoicing moment knowing beforehand that His beloved Son would be born only to die for the sins of us all!

It is with the faith in the fulfillment of God's promise that we celebrate His Son's coming to earth. And regardless of the time we choose to celebrate this holiest of holy days, the aura of peace pervades the earth shunning all evil and instilling hope.

Yet how bitterly ironic that at a time when darkness and despair held mankind in a hopeless grip and man's only salvation enshrined in the Saviour's coming — there was no room for Him at the inn.

The irony still persists today, nearly 2,000 years after the Redeemer's descent on earth. There are many who refuse to find room for Him in their hearts. There are those who say that He is dead. And there are those that will not allow others to love and worship Him.

Amid joyful serenity of Christmas our hearts go out to those of our kin across the ocean who will not see the star of Bethlehem nor hear the heavenly host's song of glory. In Ukraine, the land where Herod rules, there is official silence imposed by the most sinister of men who bar the light of God because they fear the word of truth.

But in that land, as in others shackled to the hideous empire, there will be silent prayer to the newborn child with hope and faith that sustains our brothers in their hour of darkness and despair. They will not sing the carols, nor will they gather to partake of the holy supper and the tradition-rich festivities that are attendant to the holiday of Christmas. But they will seek renewal and endurance in the miracle that is Our Saviour's birth.

Grateful for the blessing that we enjoy, we must not forget the plight and deep anxiety of those less fortunate of our kin. For even here, beneath the tinsel and the glitter of the Christmas decor, there is creeping uncertainty that breeds fear and anger, leading man astray in his groping search for harmony and peace.

To find the proper path, man must recognize the real Star of Bethlehem amid the artificial blurs that appear on the horizon. It is there, ever present, to lead the Magi and the shepherds to the light of truth. Let us follow that light and leave the door of our inn ajar for the true spirit of Christmas — which is peace.

**KHRYSTOS ROZHDAIETSA — CHRIST IS BORN!**

**THE OLD MAN AND THE DOG**

By MARTA BACZYNSKY

A steady drizzle of cold rain slowly reduced the snow in the streets to slush. An unpredictable, spiteful wind tore at umbrellas and sent splashes of water into unsuspecting faces. Traffic inched its way lazily from one green signal to another, while angry automobile horns piercingly voiced their complaints. Stores on both sides of the street blazed with warm, welcoming light. Their show windows sparkled with multicolored bulbs, trinkets and silver chains, tastefully arranged to enhance the many goods on display.

A suspended sign with garlands of plastic greenery braved the rain and wind, wetly proclaiming "Seasons Greetings." A dog slinked down the street, keeping close to the buildings. His alert eyes registered each passerby, as did his keen sense of smell, yet he gave the impression of being completely oblivious to everything except his cold misery. The rain flattened the fur on his back, bringing out the bony, lean frame. His tail hung low, lifeless.

The celebration of this most joyous of Christian holidays was begun in diversity, which continues to this very day throughout the world.

The exact date of Christ's birth being unknown, a specific date for the celebration was not fixed firmly until the year 350, although it had been celebrated as early as 98 A.D. in some areas.

In Egypt it was believed that May 20 was the date of Christ's birth, but St. John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, convinced the doubters in Antioch to accept December 25, the date fixed by Rome. The acceptance of the December 25 date was slow outside of Rome as most of the Eastern Christian churches celebrated Christmas on January 6 (according to the Julian calendar) and in Armenia it is celebrated on January 18.

**Need For Spiritual Base**

A specific date to celebrate the birth of Jesus was fixed to replace widespread pagan revelry at the time of the winter solstice when the nights were long, and the Church saw the urgent need for a spiritual base to offset the heathen immorality rampant at the time.

Origen, a church leader in Rome, in the year 245, stated it was a sin to celebrate the birth of Christ with pagan carnivals and saturnalia. But the Church could not abolish all the pagan customs and it subsequently Christianized several of them, which eventually became part of the Christian observance of Christmas.

Christmas did not reach England until 521 when King Arthur celebrated a military victory. In the 9th century the twelve days of yuletide festivities began, with the celebrations becoming gayer and more extravagant each year. Cromwell attacked the practices and Parliament prohibited the observance of Christ's birth and other religious holidays, including Easter. In 1644 Christmas was declared a fast day!

Later in that century the old customs reappeared but not on such a boisterous scale and some are now part of the English and universal Christmas traditions.

From England are derived such customs as the burning of the yule log, caroling, hanging the stocking by children and the sending of Christmas card greetings which was begun in the middle of the 19th century and has grown to such an extent that three billion cards are sent in America alone. "Boxing" day is observed in England the day after Christmas, when domestics, public workers and the poor receive gifts of money in little boxes.

In 17th century America, the Puritans worked during

**DIVERSITY OF CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS**

By MARY DUSHNYCK

Christmas Day and passed a law prohibiting the celebration of Christmas. In 1699 those who were caught observing Christmas were fined 5 shillings. It was only 27 years later that a legal Christmas service was conducted in Massachusetts and it was not until 1856 that Christmas was made a legal holiday in that state.

**Quiet Holiday in Holland**

In Holland, Christmas is a quiet religious holiday. But the greatest family festival of the year takes place on St. Nicholas Day, with gifts exchanged, accompanied by original poems which the recipient must read before he can open his gift. Dressed as a bishop, St. Nicholas "arriving from Spain," sits astride a white horse and is greeted by the Spanish Ambassador to the Netherlands. Black Peter, St. Nick's helper, carries a huge bag into which he may pop naughty children. A parade, with brass band, stops in front of the palace where the Queen welcomes St. Nicholas.

On the Eve of St. Nicholas, Dutch streets are deserted, with restaurants and movie houses closed, as everyone is at home. Dutch children place their wooden shoes on the doorstep and fill them with hay to feed "Sinterklaas" white horse.

The early Dutch settlers in New York passed a law forbidding the sale of candy to children during the Christmas season and patrolled the streets to make sure the burghers were not celebrating. However, the Dutch in Manhattan gradually adopted the joyous Christmas spirit with religious services, feasting, gifts, trees, and the City Board recessing for 3 weeks.

Among the Pennsylvania Dutch, Germans and Moravians, the families attend the love feast on Christmas Eve during which lighted candles are passed to each person to remind him that Christ is the light of the world.

In the colonial South, the Christmas celebration was of month-long duration and in some regions as long as the yule log burned. Consequently, slaves sought the largest water-soaked log to burn so the period of rest might last as long as possible.

To those interested in participating in the observance of Christmas as it was celebrated in the American colonies in the 18th century, they are provided an opportunity by taking a trip to Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia. Visitors are transported back two hundred years with costumed carolers, the lighting of candles in homes and shops and decorating them with materials used in the 18th century such as fruit wreaths and various agreens, the firing of the Christmas Gun

by costumed craftsmen, church services, lawn bowling tournaments, etc.

**Wise Men With Gifts**

In Spain, the Wise Men bring gifts to the children during the night of January 6 and leave them in shoes on the balcony. On Christmas, the children dance and sing to the music of tambourines around a replica of Christ's nativity. Spanish manger scenes have a small stream where women kneel and do the laundry and often have a Spanish bull among the manger animals and the figures of bullfighters. After midnight Mass there is singing and dancing and the Christmas dinner for the older folks and children.

In Austria, from where the carol "Silent Night" originated, Christmas is the most important holiday of the year, with December 25 and 26 legal holidays. Santaklausen appears on December 6, accompanied by a "chortyk" to whom children must report their behavior. Midnight matins are celebrated in all churches to which peasants come down the mountains with lighted torches. Nativity plays are presented and "Tumblasen," brass instruments playing chorale music from the city tower or church steeple, add a unique note.

In Italy a mysterious old

woman named Befana distributes gifts on January 6. Churches vie to exhibit the most unusual manger "presepio," which is the center of Christmas attraction in Italian homes.

The Scandinavian countries celebrate Christmas for a month beginning with the feast of St. Lucia on December 13. Exactly a month later, the Christmas tree is lighted for the last time in honor of St. Knut, the pious King Knut IV of the 11th century, who because of his generosity to the poor and to the religious, was canonized and became the patron saint of the guilds bearing his name.

**Hope and Renewal**

These are but some of the Christmas customs observed throughout the world, among which our Ukrainian ones are quite unique, as we all know.

Although there is fear by some that Christmas is becoming too commercial or frivolous and is losing its spiritual essence, secularists fear it and attempt to ban its public celebration in the name of "absolute separation of church and state," or in Communist lands brand it as an "opium of the people." But Christmas lives on in the hearts of the faithful, and brings hope and renewal for a weary and apprehensive world.

**"Youth Is Our Hope"**

(Concluded from p. 1)

Dear priests! You were called by Christ to work in His vineyard. In your hands is the spiritual guidance of our communities. In this Jubilee Year, use every natural and supernatural gift given to you in deepening the spiritual lives of the faithful. God will reward you a hundredfold for your work.

I have a special request of you, our Religious Sisters. You dedicated yourselves to God. You employ your talents, learning and labor in teaching our youth. Your work is sometimes made difficult because of misunderstanding and lack of cooperation on the part of certain parents. Do not permit this to deter you from your noble work in teaching our youth about God, our beautiful Rite and the history of our Church. Teach our children Ukrainian prayers and songs.

And of you, choir directors, cantors and professors of music, I ask you to do everything in your professional manner to make our liturgical hymns as pleasing as possible to both God and man. And you, dear choir members, cooperate with your directors because success depends upon cooperation.

We cannot overlook the editors of Ukrainian newspapers. Your work is very important and weighted with responsibility. Write and work in the

name of truth. Stand up to criticism and fear not the negative critic. My prayers are with you as you defend Christian faith and morals. The history of our people cannot help but remember your dedicated work.

My wish for you, dear members of parishes and national organizations, is apostolic zeal so that, by your work, you may become an integral part of the progress and growth of our parochial communities. Your service will be great in the eyes of God if you will pray for and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Dear beloved! I have great faith in you. I trust each and everyone of you that you, will celebrate this Jubilee Year by offering your prayers, work and sacrifices for the Ukrainian Metropolitan Province of Philadelphia. Our progress and success will shine as a radiant star of hope among our brothers and sisters enslaved behind the Iron Curtain in Ukraine.

May the blessings of the Christchild descend upon you and remain with you; and may the Mother of God protect you. Let us pray for one another. May God bless you.

**CHRIST IS BORN!**  
 + AMBROSE, Metropolitan

**I Saw...**  
 I saw the kings along the way  
 The night was cold; the snow was deep  
 The air was still — the land asleep  
 Their rich robes glistened in the gifts  
 They plodded slowly with their gifts  
 Their eyes were lifted to the Star  
 And I knew then, where they would go

I saw the shepherds farther on.  
 They humbly led along their flocks  
 The cold was biting through their frocks  
 But following the angel's call  
 They did not even think to stall  
 Their sight directed straight ahead  
 And I knew then, where they would go

I saw the angels — they were there  
 I saw the stable filled with light  
 The nook was glowing in the night  
 I peeked inside: Along the walls  
 I saw the creatures in their stalls  
 Their liquid eyes were filled with peace  
 And I knew then that they saw God.

I saw the Virgin and her Spouse.  
 Their glowing faces free of frow  
 Were turned onto the golden straw  
 I saw the Child — the God of Man  
 The great fulfillment of the Plan  
 And I was happy as I watched  
 The Christmas crib beneath my tree.

Uiana Blyznak

**UKRAINIAN CUSTOMS AT CHRISTMAS**

Many years ago, Christmas in Ukraine was met with a great deal of happiness and celebration. The day was incomplete without the performance of several traditional customs, many of which had originated in pre-Christian times. These customs were a harmonious combination of the Christian faith and ancient folklore. The objectives of the many traditions carried out were to glorify the birth of Jesus Christ and to entreat blessings for the entire family.

The morning of Christmas Eve was greeted much like any other. Rising to the sound of the rooster's early morning reveille, everyone busied himself with the usual morning chores. On completion of the chores each individual prepared for the arrival of the long-awaited Christ Child.

While the mother of the family readied for the evening's festivities the children dressed the evergreen tree with articles such as apples, oranges, nuts and candies. It was customary for each visitor to help himself to the delicacies from the tree. The father, meanwhile, cleaned the barn and provided the animals with the finest food and straw.

At dusk, the father and the eldest son proceeded to the barn and returned with straw and a sheaf of the finest wheat or rye, which was called "didukh." The father, upon entering the house, greeted his family and wished them health and happiness for the entire year and many years to follow. The "didukh" represented the deceased members of the family and was placed in a prominent position near the table. Previously the straw was spread beneath the table and across the entire floor as this was where the family would sleep during the coming night.

Hay was placed on top of the table which was covered with the best tablecloth. This was done to symbolize Christ's birth in a manger. Atop the tablecloth were placed two loaves of bread called "kolachi."

The appearance of the "Bright Star" or "Star of Bethlehem" was the signal for the commencement of the Holy Supper (Sviata Veche-ria). The candle, inserted into the top kolach, was lit and the oldest male member of the family began the prayer, asking God that happiness, prosperity, and peace be prevalent throughout the entire year.

Because the day before Christmas was one of strict abstinence the table was set with twelve meatless dishes. These twelve courses were symbolic of the twelve apostles and the twelve months in the year.

A setting was placed for each member of the family with one extra place for the deceased. The "kutia" was the first and most important dish consisting of a mixture of wheat, poppy seeds, honey, sugar and nuts. Rising, the father thanked the Lord for

a good year and threw a spoonful of kutia into the air. It was believed that if the kutia struck the ceiling the year would bring prosperity and happiness. This custom was often performed at the conclusion of the supper also.

Other traditional dishes served, depending slightly on the hostess were: a number of different types of fish, "borsch" (a meatless soup) served with "vushka" (dumplings made of chopped mushrooms) and pyrohy filled with potatoes and cheese, plums, or often sauerkraut. A mushroom sauce was served with this course. In some areas of Ukraine, holubtsi (cabbage rolls) or plain cabbage were served. Cooked dried peas or beans completed the main course. For dessert, dried fruit and a pastry such as "khrusty," "medivnyk" or "pampushky" were served completing the traditional Holy Supper.

The supper was concluded with a prayer, led again by the oldest male member. All was cleaned off the table with the exception of a plate filled with food for the deceased. This was done as it was believed that the ancestors returned on this Holy Night to their old homes.

The family gathered together after supper to sing "koliady" by which they rejoiced at the birth of the Saviour.

In contrast to the strict abstinence of Christmas Eve, Christmas day itself was one of great festivity. Christmas day was begun with the celebration of midnight Liturgy. The service itself emphasized the true importance of the great feast day. Caroling and shouts of "Christ is Born" followed by responses of "Let us praise Him" were heard throughout the hours following the Holy Liturgy.

On its return from church, the family prepared for a night of rest on the straw. Visiting relatives and renewing old friendships began early in the morning and continued throughout the day. A unique performance of the nativity scene ("vertep") was often carried out by the youth in several cities during Christmas day.

Today many of the ancient traditions of Ukraine have been forgotten. Those, however, which have been transported across the ocean by our forefathers are still preserved by those Ukrainians who realize the importance of their continuance. The performance of these customs will help to preserve a culture which is so uniquely Ukrainian.

(Courtesy of Redeemer's Voice)





# CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

## Plan UNA Jubilee

(Continued from Page 1)

tion with this great anniversary.

A gala banquet on February 22 at New York's Commodore Hotel will launch the series of nation-wide observances.

These and other plans, coupled with a review of UNA's progress in the past eleven months, were the main topics of discussion at the Supreme Executive Committee meeting, held at the UNA Main Offices here Tuesday, December 17.

Chaired by Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer, the meeting heard reports of individual officers and set plans in motion for the grand jubilee year ahead. Other officers attending were: Vice-Presidents Stephen Kuropas, Mrs. Mary Dushnyk, Bohdan Zorych, Walter Sochan, Secretary Dr. Jaroslav Padoch, Treasurer Peter Pucilo, as well as Dr. Walter Gallan, chairman of the auditing committee, and Anthony Dragan, Svoboda Editor-in-Chief.

It was reported that an

honorary jubilee committee will consist of all ranking prelates of the Ukrainian Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant Churches, governors and prime ministers of states and provinces in the U.S. and Canada where UNA has its branches, as well as heads of all Ukrainian central national organizations in the two countries.

Heading the list of major publications scheduled to appear in the UNA jubilee year will be the second volume of Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia, under the editorship of Prof. Volodymyr Kubijovych, scheduled for release by the University of Toronto Press in June of next year. Other books include the Svoboda Almanac, a special UNA jubilee book, and a work by the noted Ukrainian writer Ulas Samchuk on the history and development of the UNA.

As already announced earlier, the UNA will pay a special jubilee dividend to its members in 1969, showing an

increase of 75 percent. It was also stated that next year the UNA may well begin the construction of its new main office building, which would also house the Svoboda Press.

### Book Published

Dr. Gallan, for whom this day had special significance in that his book "The Battery of Death" was released from the presses, discussed the need for charitable activity in the Ukrainian community, citing cases of hardship as well as opportunities for government assistance, of which many Ukrainians were yet unaware. The auditing committee chairman, who is also president of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, proposed that UNA branches in Philadelphia attempt this kind of activity on a trial basis, which, if successful, could be expanded on a national scale.

The Executive Committee decided to examine the possibilities of implementing the proposal. Also, the members voted a \$1,000 Christmas contribution to the UARC for the continuation of its charitable activity.

Mr. Pucilo, in a wholly optimistic report, stated that the total assets of the UNA as of the end of October amounted to \$34,754,115.81. The Treasurer noted the rising interest on investments in bonds as well as mortgage loans, assuring the UNA of growing yields.

Dr. Padoch, reporting for the organizing department, said that the UNA organized a total of 3,400 new members as of the end of November, with Canada giving a total of 704. The total organized so far is less than that gained last year, the Secretary said, but an upsurge in December could bring the total up to par with last year. Dr. Padoch gave a detailed analysis of organizing efforts by districts, branches and individual organizers.

### Movement of Members

Mr. Sochan, reporting on the movement of members on the basis of statistics compiled by the Recording Department which he heads, said that as of November 30, 1968, the total UNA membership was 88,269. The number of active members was 76,425. In his analysis of membership losses for eleven months of 1968, Mr. Sochan quoted the numbers of 733 suspensions, 673 cash surrenders, 961 endowment matured certificates, 1,032 paid-up certificates, and 787 death claims. He underlined the decrease in suspension losses and the steady increase in the number of E matured and paid-up certificates. Projecting an es-

timated loss of over 6,300 in 1969 in expected maturities and paid-up certificates, the Vice-President stressed the need for greater organizing efforts and manpower to defray the losses. His analysis also showed that better service to members is a big factor in retaining the membership and in sales of new certificates. Mr. Sochan also reported on his activities as Svoboda sports editor and correspondent for the Voice of America.

The total UNA membership in Canada, according to Mr. Zorych, was 9,127 as of the end of November. The organization of 704 new members gave a net gain of 214, which was expected to rise to 250 by the end of the year. The Canadian director was pleased to report that Mr. Wasyl Diduk, of Toronto, was UNA's top organizer so far with 225 new members. He is followed by Supreme Advisors John Odezynsky with 120 and Stepan Hawrysz with 96, both organizers from Philadelphia.

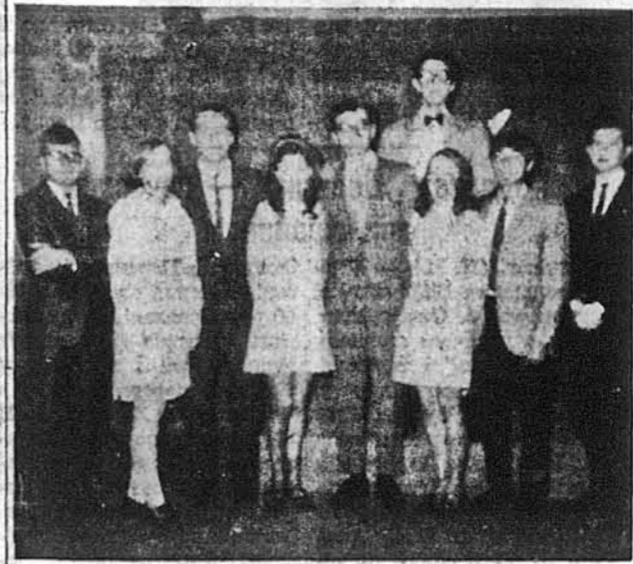
Mr. Kuropas and Mrs. Dushnyk reported on their activities as UNA representatives at various events and on their organizing efforts. Mrs. Dushnyk was particularly active in the presidential elections serving as chairman of the N.Y. Ukrainians for Nixon-Agnew Committee. In addition to contributing many articles to the Svoboda women's page, Tribune, and to The Weekly, Mrs. Dushnyk was largely responsible for the successful observance of the Svoboda and Weekly anniversaries at Soyuzivka by the UNA Women's Committee last October.

### Summary Review

In his summary review, Mr. Lesawyer noted improvements in the financial and recording departments, while stating that in terms of new membership gains 1968 was a disappointing year. The publishing department, while showing gains, has difficulties in coping with the rising costs of production, paper, mailing services and the like. The President anticipates that by the end of January 1969 the UNA assets will pass the 35 million mark. Soyuzivka had one of its best seasons in years, showing an income of \$322,000, thus some \$50,000 more than last year.

Mr. Dragan, outlining plans of the publishing department for 1969, concluded the series of reports. After a thorough discussion of plans for the UNA jubilee year, the meeting was adjourned.

## Detroit TUSM Chapter Elects Officers at Meeting



Detroit TUSM Executive: Left to right, J. Berezowsky, N. Lypciska, B. Sawka, M. Chepurny, J. Dutkewych, G. Dutkewych, R. Sawchuk, P. Hyszcak, M. Chrin.

DETROIT, Mich.—The Detroit chapter of the Ukrainian Student Organization of Michigan (TUSM) elected a slate of officers at a meeting held here Saturday, November, and outlined plans for the new year.

Jaroslav Berezowsky, who was reelected president of the organization, heads the committee consisting of the following: Jaroslav Dutkewych, vice-president, George Wonsul, external affairs, Peter Hyszcak, organizational affairs, Marika Chepurny, secretary, Gregory Dutkewych, treasurer, Romana Sawchuk and Nestor Sherbey, press; auditing committee — Nadia Lypciska, chairman, Myroslaw Chrin and Bohdan Sawka, members.

The highlight of the meeting was a speech given by Dr. Alex Maritchak, who ex-

plained on the participation of Ukrainian students in the Lviv November First uprising in 1918.

Also, Mr. Berezowsky delivered a brief talk on the life and work of the Ukrainian poet Volodymyr Sosiura.

The evening was concluded with tea and lively discussions among the student members.

The chapter, only two years in existence, has shown remarkable progress in membership and activity. Conducting its affairs independently, the young group is continuing to build itself up as a vital organization in the local community. It hopes to attract more members in the forthcoming months and to implement a diversified program of activity of special interest to young people.

## Seek Ukrainian...

(Continued from p. 1)

English will be forced upon people if it is adopted.

He said the request made by UCC is a "minimal" request, not only for Ukrainian-speaking Canadians, but for all other minority ethnic groups.

Premier Weir gave no indication to the delegation other than "it will be considered." He pointed out that progress has already been made in that direction and Ukrainian now is taught at the junior high school level.

The UCC asks that minority languages be taught from the Grade 1 level and be used in the instruction of social studies and history.

It was noted in the brief that Ukrainians make up the second largest ethnic group in Manitoba — next to those of U.K. origin — and the fourth largest in Canada.

"The perpetuity of the lan-

guage and culture of ethnic groups in Manitoba... is in fact now threatened by the lack of opportunity in the public schools," the brief said.

There are about 100,000 Manitobans of Ukrainian descent and a total of 500,000 in Canada.

The brief suggests that while there are fewer French Canadians in Manitoba than Ukrainians, up to 50 per cent instruction in French is allowed in Manitoba public schools.

"Manitoba has been given a unique position as far as minority groups are concerned. If these cultures dissipate, it will be a failure of the government. A tragic mistake," said Mr. Swystun.

Others in the delegation included: Rev. Dr. Basil Kushnir, UCC President, Executive Director Dr. Simon J. Kalba, and J. H. Synnec.

## Msgr. Stock Honored

(Continued from p. 1)

was appointed Vice Chancellor of the Stamford Diocese and a year later he was elevated to his present position of Chancellor and Papal Chamberlain. He has been pastor of St. Michael's since 1962. In April of this year he was promoted by Pope Paul VI to the rank of Domestic Prelate with the title Right Reverend Monsignor.

At the banquet, Msgr. Stock was praised for his dedicated service to the Ukrainian Catholic Church and to the community. Many of his relatives from St. Clair and vicinity were present to share with the Chancellor in the observance of this mil-

lennium. The program was St. Michael's church choir under the direction of S. Saworskyj and the "Veselka" dancers under the direction of W. Gina. Particularly delightful was the performance of a Ukrainian folk dance by Chrystia and Roman Krochmalnycky, both in their teens.

Delivering the benediction was the Rev. Joseph Skulsky.

stone in his chosen field of service. Msgr. Stock's brother Michael, who is secretary of UNA Branch 31 in St. Clair, could not attend the fete because of other urgent commitments.

Appearing in the entertainment part of the evening's program was St. Michael's church choir under the direction of S. Saworskyj and the "Veselka" dancers under the direction of W. Gina. Particularly delightful was the performance of a Ukrainian folk dance by Chrystia and Roman Krochmalnycky, both in their teens.

Delivering the benediction was the Rev. Joseph Skulsky.

**HOLIDAY SEASON at SOYUZIVKA**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1968

**HOLY SUPPER**  
INCLUDING THE TRADITIONAL 12 COURSES OF THE UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS MEAL

1. Prapshara
2. Borshch with Mushroom Dumplings
3. Potato Pancakes in Mushroom Sauce
4. Baked carp in gelatin
5. Holubtsi in Mushroom Sauce
6. Pyrohy with Potatoes
7. Pyrohy with Cabbage
8. Dumplings with Plums
9. Fried Fish in Horseradish Sauce
10. Apple Strudel
11. Fruit Cocktail
12. Kutia with Honey & Poppy Seeds

CONCERT OF CAROLS BY THE BOHDAN HIRNIAK'S ORCHESTRA & IRENEUS ZUK, PIANO SOLIST

December 25th and 26th — SOLEMN LITURGIES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28  
"SKI DANCE" ORCHESTRA — B. HIRNIAK

On TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1968  
**NEW YEARS EVE**  
WITH SPECIAL PROGRAM  
DANCE TO THE TUNE OF THE "JOLLY FIVE" ORCHESTRA

On MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1969  
**CHRISTMAS SUPPER**  
INCLUDING THE TRADITIONAL 12 COURSES OF THE UKRAINIAN CHRISTMAS MEAL.  
CHRISTMAS SPIRIT and CAROLS

THIS IS THE IDEAL WAY TO GIVE THE HOUSEWIVES A CHRISTMAS TREAT!

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASS'N ESTATE  
Kerbonkson, N. Y.  
Tel.: 914 626-5641

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Enclosed is reservation deposit \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ dinner for \_\_\_\_\_ persons — for \_\_\_\_\_ day — from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**No Place Like Soyuzivka At Christmas Holidays**

**UKRAINIAN CORRESPONDENCE COURSE, Division of ARROW EDUCATIONAL AGENCY**  
Box 4526, New York City, N.Y. 10017

Would you like to increase your Ukrainian vocabulary? For free information without obligation send this ad with the following answered:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Present Ukrainian ability (indicate by approx. %):  
\_\_\_\_\_ % read, \_\_\_\_\_ % speak, \_\_\_\_\_ % understand.

**NOTICE To U.N.A. Members and Branches**

Members and Branches of the Ukrainian National Association are hereby notified that with the ending of its fiscal year the Home Office of U.N.A. must close its accounts and deposit in banks all money received from Branches

**No Later Than Noon, of DECEMBER 31, 1968**

Money received later cannot be credited to 1968. Therefore we appeal to all members of the U.N.A. to pay their dues this month as soon as possible and all Branches to remit their accounts and money in time to be received by the Home Office no later than noon of TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1968.

Notice is hereby given that Branches which send their dues late will be shown as delinquent and in arrears on the annual report.

U.N.A. HOME OFFICE

**A CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN!**  
BY MAKING AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR A COLLEGE EDUCATION you can make your child's future secure

Grandparents, parents, relatives, or friends can provide CASH SCHOLARSHIPS for a university education for any child up to 8 years of age by enrolling the child in the:

**Higher Education Scholarship Foundation**  
(A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)

A monthly payment of \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 9.00 for 17 years for a child under 1 year of age will yield a four-year cash scholarship totaling \$3,400.00. Slightly higher payments for older children. Lump payments discounted.

Student may attend any accredited university or college in the world. Scholarships are paid even though the student is the recipient of other scholarship awards. All money deposited less an administrative fee may be withdrawn at any time by the depositor. All funds are deposited with the Trustee, The Canada Permanent Trust Company, one of the largest coast-to-coast trust companies in Canada.

For complete Higher Education Scholarship Foundation information fill out and mail the following coupon to:

Ukrainian National Association, Inc.  
Mr. Bohdan Zorych, Canadian Director  
18 Leland Avenue, Toronto 18, Ontario  
Tel.: (416) 239-7564

Please forward detailed information about the Higher Education Scholarship Foundation and the cash scholarship plans.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of children up to 8 years of age: \_\_\_\_\_

**75th Anniversary of the Ukrainian National Association**

**BANQUET AND BALL**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1969  
HOTEL COMMODORE  
42nd Street and Lexington Avenue  
NEW YORK CITY

Music by  
Joseph Wrubel and  
The Starlighters  
Grand Ballroom - 7:00 P.M.



