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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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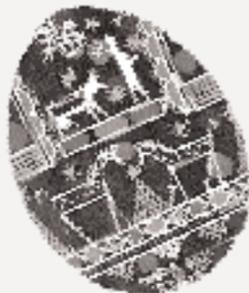
No. 15

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 1998

\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

**ХРИСТОС
ВОСКРЕС!**



**CHRIST
IS RISEN!**

63 miners killed in gas explosion

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – While Ukraine observed an official two-day mourning period on April 6-7, friends and relatives began burying some of the 63 coal miners who perished in an explosion in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine.

On April 4 during a 10 a.m. shift change at the Skachinsky coal mine, located in the city of Donetsk, a lethal build-up of methane gas caused an explosion that buried at least a hundred workers.

Of some 260 workers who were in the pit at the time, 63 did not survive, 43 were hospitalized, 13 critically.

A half hour before the blast, which occurred at a depth of 1,200 meters, an alarm signal went off, indicating a dangerously high concentration of methane gas in the mine shaft. The mine is notorious for the methane gas build-ups that regularly occur. The alarm automatically shut down electricity, but minutes before the explosion energy was turned back on.

Nineteen victims were buried on April 6, the next day 39 additional victims were interred, and the remaining five on April 8.

Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko, who attended a liturgy for 11 victims on April 6 at the Kirov Cemetery in Donetsk, offered condolences to the bereaved families and assured them that "nobody will be forgotten," according to Interfax-Ukraine. He said that all necessary material and financial resources will be provided to the families of the dead and injured.

President Leonid Kuchma has ordered the establishment of a special commission to investigate the cause of the tragedy and appointed Vice Prime Minister Mykola Biloblotskyi as chairman.

On April 6, as flags flew above government buildings draped with black bunting, President Kuchma said on national television that officials in Ukraine's coal industry must bear responsibility for the sorry state of Ukraine's coal industry. "The tragedy has once again demonstrated the high price we have to pay for coal in the Donetsk basin," said President Kuchma. "It is an excessively high price for old problems in the development of the coal industry, which have accumulated for decades, as well as our inability to resolve them."

Minister of Energy Dmytro Herasymchuk told Agence France Presse that maintenance of the coal mine had been neglected because of lack of funds. "It's scandalous," said Mr. Herasymchuk.

President Kuchma said he wanted an open, honest investigation and warned against "reducing the investigation to a mere formality, a search for a scapegoat."

Minister Biloblotskyi, the head of the special commission, said the cause of the accident was a violation of safety regulations. "Methane cannot explode by itself; we will look into human factors," said Mr. Biloblotskyi.

(Continued on page 8)

Election authorities announce official results of party list voting

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Central Election Commission on April 7 announced the official results of the party list voting to the Verkhovna Rada, but has put off publishing official results in the vote for single-mandate representatives.

Central Election Commission Chairman Mykhailo Riabets said at a press conference that the commission had received so many complaints of election law violations and fraud in the single-mandate balloting portion of Ukraine's new election system that it would withhold publishing results for the time being.

Originally, the chairman of the CEC had hoped that results of the party races and the vote for individuals, each accounting for half

the Verkhovna Rada's 450 seats, would be announced concurrently.

Both parties and individuals who took part in the March 29 elections have alleged widespread fraud, although most international and domestic observer organizations said election violations were minor and did not affect the outcomes of the races.

The official results did not change from the preliminary results announced last week. The Communist Party will get 84 seats, the Rukh Party will receive 32, the Socialist/Agrarian Party bloc – 29, the Green Party – 19, the National Democratic Party – 17, the Hromada Party – 16, the Progressive Socialist Party – 14 and the Social Democratic Party – 14.

(Continued on page 8)

PROGRAM

of the 34th REGULAR CONVENTION of the UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION INC.

to be held in

TORONTO, CANADA

at the TORONTO HILTON HOTEL beginning

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1998, 9:00 AM

1. Opening of Convention
2. Report of Credentials Committee
3. Election:
 - a) Convention chairperson, two vice-chairpersons, two secretaries
 - b) 11-member Election Committee
 - c) five-member Committee on Petitions
 - d) six-member Secretaries Committee
4. Appointment of Press Committee and sergeant-at-arms
5. Reports of UNA Officers:
 - President **Ulana M. Diachuk**
 - Vice-President **Nestor Olesnycky**
 - Director for Canada **Peter Savaryn**
 - Vice-Presidentess **Anya Dydyk-Petrenko**
 - Secretary **Martha Lysko**
 - Treasurer **Alexander Blahitka**
 - Acting Treasurer **Stefan Kaczaraj**
6. Reports of UNA Auditing Committee members:
 - Stefan Hawrysz
 - William Pastuszek
 - Stefania Hewryk
 - Anatole Doroshenko
 - Iwan Wynnyk
7. Reports of UNA Advisors:
 - Roma Hadzewycz
 - Tekla Moroz
 - Stefko Kuropas
 - Alex Chudolij
 - Walter Korchynsky
 - Eugene Iwanciw
 - Stephanie Hawryluk
 - Taras Szmagala
 - Alexander Serafyn
 - Andrew Keybida
 - Anne Remick
 - Nick Diakiwsky
 - Roman Kuropas
 - The Rev. Myron Stasiw

(Continued on page 4)

Vice Prime Minister Tyhypko in Washington for committee meeting of Binational Commission

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – The government of Ukraine intends to work more closely with the new Verkhovna Rada elected on March 29, according to Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhypko, who admitted that it had not always cooperated as well as it should have with the old Parliament.

In the past, he told Washington journalists at the Ukrainian Embassy on April 3, the government introduced reform measures but did not always follow up in the legislative process.

“Not all measures were accepted,” he said, “and we understand well that we also were partially to blame. We did not work adequately with the Verkhovna Rada. We did not do as much as we should have to win them over.”

He added that no matter the ultimate make-up of the new Verkhovna Rada, the government fully intends to continue its reform policies, “and we will try to cooperate with it.”

Mr. Tyhypko was in Washington leading a large Ukrainian government delegation to the fourth meeting of the sustainable cooperation committee of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission headed by President Leonid Kuchma and Vice-President Al Gore. The delegation, numbering some 20 Ukrainian officials, included Finance Minister Ihor Mityukov, Environmental Protection Minister Yuri Kostenko, Roman Shpek, who heads the National Agency for Development and European Integration, and Valerii Lytvynskyi, assistant to President Kuchma.

The Ukrainian delegation also met with members of the U.S. Congress and American business executives to discuss, among other things, Kyiv's economic reform program and its efforts to improve the investment climate in Ukraine.

There was also a two-hour meeting with the International Monetary Fund concerning a planned long-term, almost \$3 billion Extended Fund Facility credit program for Ukraine that would replace the current \$542 million stand-by credit arrangement. Mr. Tyhypko said that while there still are some problem areas in the negotiations, Ukraine expects a favorable IMF decision later this month. These IMF credits influence investor decisions and are necessary for Ukraine's economic well-being, he explained.

Mr. Tyhypko said that his delegation's talks with U.S. representatives also

focused on the issue of whether Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright will certify that Ukraine is making progress in resolving outstanding disputes with a number of American investors. According to a stipulation in the U.S. foreign aid bill, if she cannot certify this progress by the end of April, Ukraine stands to lose half the \$225 million of its appropriated U.S. assistance funds.

Mr. Tyhypko said that much progress has been made over the past year in improving the investment climate in Ukraine and in resolving investor disputes. He added, however, that a number of problem investments remain to be worked out.

The vice prime minister said he was pleased with the tone and atmosphere of talks with U.S. officials and businessmen, and with how Ukraine now is viewed on Capitol Hill.

“While it is very hard to gauge the mood of Congress based on a meeting with three congressmen, I thought the meeting went very well and I noticed an improvement in the way it looks at Ukraine,” he said.

Mr. Tyhypko pointed out some of the good economic indicators in Ukraine during the first two months of 1998:

- industrial output grew by 1.9 percent;
- inflation was 1.5 percent, compared to 4 percent last year;
- while the hryvnia dropped by 6.5 percent, it rebounded in the last two weeks; and
- for the first time in six years, Ukraine has a foreign trade surplus.

“But we understand and are not complacent about these indicators,” he added, “because they do not yet show the economic growth that all of us are working toward.”

He said the most troubling aspect of the economy today is budgetary – this year's estimated budget deficit of 650 million hryv ballooned to 1.35 billion. The remedy calls for tighter budgetary policy and structural reforms, he said. The latter – including deregulation of the economy, development of a stock market, privatization, agriculture and energy sector reforms – were the subject of the Ukrainian delegation's discussions with their government Kuchma-Gore Commission counterparts at the U.S. State Department, he said.

The only member of the delegation who is a declared member of a political party is Minister Kostenko; the rest have no party affiliation. Asked to give his, and his Rukh Party's, assessment of the Verkhovna Rada election results, Mr. Kostenko said the election was a major step in Ukraine's democratization process in that it will more clearly define responsibility for government policies and actions.

In the past, he said, the leftists could be, and in many cases were, in charge of carrying out government policies, while at the same time proclaiming themselves in opposition to the government and working against government reform programs.

Now, if a leftist majority in the Verkhovna Rada forms a government, he said, “the people will quickly realize who is in power and who is responsible for the economic situation in this country.”



Yaro Bihun

Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhypko

NEWSBRIEFS

Votes still being counted in Ukraine

KYIV – The Central Election Commission is planning to announce the final results of the March 29 elections early next week, Chairman Mykhailo Riabets told journalists in Kyiv on April 6. Mr. Riabets also said the commission has received many complaints of election violations throughout the country. An eight-member team is investigating complaints from the Dnipropetrovsk region, where the number of votes scored by the Hromada Party is half that received nationwide. Hromada is led by former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, who is an opponent of President Leonid Kuchma. Meanwhile, the Agrarian Party, which did not overcome the 4 percent vote barrier, has claimed that its votes in several constituencies were appropriated by other parties. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parties claim election fraud

KYIV – Several political parties have accused the government of falsifying the results of the March 29 elections, but those parties have brought no evidence to support their charges, Agence France Presse reported on April 1. “We are 100 percent certain that the results were falsified,” Dmytro Ponomarchuk of the Rukh Party said. “Mass falsifications were organized by the president and his administration. They stole half our votes,” Viktor Omelych of the Hromada Party commented. The Communists, who won the elections, also claim they were deprived of some 20 percent of their tally. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Cabinet to remain largely unchanged

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma told journalists in Kyiv that the government line-up will remain largely the same, Interfax reported on April 1. Yevhen Kushnariov, head of the Presidential Administration, did not rule out the possibility that the president and the government will hold consultations with the new parliamentary factions on the composition of the Cabinet of Ministers. He said the preliminary election results give no reason to suggest that the new Verkhovna Rada will be opposed to President Kuchma. Mr. Kushnariov also commented that, judging from statements by political leaders, “there are signs of the formation of temporary or permanent centrist or center-right coalitions in the Parliament.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian foreign minister to resign?

KYIV – Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko is to hand in his resignation of his own free will, ITAR-TASS reported on April 2, citing what it called a

well-informed source in Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry. But Mr. Udovenko will continue to serve as president of the United Nations General Assembly, the same source said. Mr. Udovenko has been elected as a national deputy to the Verkhovna Rada, and observers believe he is being considered for the post of Parliament chairman. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma decree abolishes secrecy

KYIV – Ukraine has implemented one of the main requirements laid down by the Council of Europe which deals with abolition of secrecy on information concerning the death penalty. The news was announced by the head of the Ukrainian parliamentary delegation to the Council of Europe, Borys Oliinyk, on March 20. He noted that President Leonid Kuchma had signed the relevant decree abolishing such secrecy. Mr. Oliinyk said information about people executed since 1995 will be made public soon. He said Ukraine had appealed to the Council of Europe with an appeal for assistance in the preparation of a draft law on replacing capital punishment with life imprisonment. The CE says Ukraine has executed 13 people since becoming a member, though Ukraine's Justice Ministry says just nine people have been executed. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine's per capita GDP is low

KYIV – Ukraine's per capita gross domestic product is just 4.4 percent of the average indicator in European Union countries. According to the European Choice project manager Natalia Lubkovych, “data collated confirms that the main criteria which differentiates Ukraine from EU countries is the low standard of living.” EU states spend 30 times more on social provision than Ukraine. Ukrainians own just one-fifth of the total number of cars owned by their European counterparts. (Eastern Economist)

Russia to open consular office in Kharkiv

KHARKIV – A Russian consular office is expected to open shortly in Kharkiv. The office will cover the Donetsk, Zaporizhzhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy and Luhansk oblasts. At least five diplomats will work at the new office. (Eastern Economist)

Odesa University Gets Know-How Money

ODESA – Odesa State University received a grant worth 20,000 pounds from the British Know-How Fund on March 17. These funds will be used for introduction of a new major, public relations management, which will be offered in the next academic year. (Eastern Economist)

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Congressional hearings focus on U.S. foreign aid for 1999

by Michael Sawkiw, Jr.

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – As the legislative process speeds ahead in anticipation of U.S. congressional elections this November, several hearings have already been held in Washington concerning U.S. foreign assistance for Fiscal Year (FY) 1999, in particular assistance to the new independent states (NIS).

The Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee convened a public witness hearing, the latest hearing on foreign assistance on Tuesday, March 31. Under the chairmanship of Rep. Sonny Callahan (R-Ala.), this subcommittee is responsible for appropriating U.S. government funds for programs around the world that uphold America's commitment to democracy-building and economic development.

The public witness hearing offers groups an opportunity to testify on a broad range of issues and topics. The only witness speaking on behalf of the Ukrainian American community was Michael Sawkiw Jr., director of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), who appeared before the Foreign Operations Subcommittee and offered his opinion regarding continued U.S. assistance to Ukraine. In his testimony, Mr. Sawkiw provided the members of the subcommittee an analysis of Ukraine's recent macro- and micro-economic reform efforts, as well as the democratic principles instilled within the country, as evidenced by the parliamentary elections held several days earlier on March 29.

Mr. Sawkiw stressed the importance of the U.S.-Ukraine strategic partnership and the improved bilateral relations between the two countries. "The crucial question at this juncture is: who will lend Ukraine a helping hand – the West or the East? The future or the past?" asked the UNIS director as he quoted an appeal from Ukraine's Jewish leaders to members of Congress as the congressmen begin their lengthy deliberations on foreign assistance programs.

When addressing the subcommittee chairman, Mr. Sawkiw made "an urgent plea to Congress, not merely on behalf of the Ukrainian American community, but on behalf of U.S. businesses seeking to operate in Ukraine: in FY 1999 give Ukraine the necessary tools with which to construct a private sector and business economy gov-

erned by the rule of law. Chairman Callahan responded by acknowledging that Ukraine has always been considered the "shining star" of the former Soviet republics, and "we have done everything to help you in this regard."

Corruption, however, was foremost on the chairman's mind as he provided examples of American investors who have experienced difficulties in their business operations in Ukraine. "Something has to change in Ukraine, or it will be disadopted ... we hope for improvement in Ukraine," stated Chairman Callahan. In response to the chairman's concerns, Mr. Sawkiw reiterated that Ukraine, independent for only seven years, is not fully capable of addressing these complicated issues, which Ukraine inherited from the Soviet system.

Indeed, improvement must be accomplished in Ukraine in order for Ukraine to move ahead in its economic reform. And, Mr. Sawkiw stressed that the benefit of assistance and support to Ukraine is limitless. "Let us think of U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine as an investment with a strategic partner in a safe, stable and secure democracy in central Europe," stated the UNIS director as he appealed for assistance programs for Ukraine that would boost its economic development, primarily in the fields of agricultural privatization, energy-sector restructuring and commercial law reform.

In prior testimony before the subcommittee, Joseph Lemire, president of Gala Radio in Ukraine, and Mark Kalenak, director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine, expressed their dissatisfaction with current business environment in Ukraine. Mr. Lemire stated that Ukrainian officials consistently have harassed him and his employees. With a Ukrainian economic delegation due to arrive in Washington just days following the House subcommittee hearing, Mr. Lemire noted that "the delegation will argue that things are getting better in Ukraine," but, according to Mr. Lemire, that is not the case.

Both Chairman Callahan and Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), ranking member of Foreign Operations Subcommittee, underscored the importance of increased pressure on the government officials to resolve these problems, but fell short of condemning Ukraine or threatening to cut off assistance. "No way can we cut off assistance to get some results," stated Rep. Pelosi in her remarks. Chairman Callahan also offered his opinion on the present conditions in Ukraine to say: "I am

sick of Ukrainians abusing businesses, and I am at a loss as to what this committee can do." However, Rep. Callahan did suggest that cutting assistance to Ukraine would not be advantageous, since Ukraine is considered to be a strategic American ally.

In conclusion Mr. Sawkiw thanked the chairman and his subcommittee for their support of Ukraine in the past several years, and stated that he looks forward to continued cooperation between the Ukrainian American community and the Foreign Operations Subcommittee.

In a similar hearing held on March 26, by the International Relations Committee of the House of Representatives, Ambassador Richard Morningstar, special adviser to the president and secretary of state on assistance to the NIS, and Donald Pressley, acting assistant administrator for Europe and the NIS at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), appeared before the committee to review the assistance programs of the U.S. government in Russia, Ukraine and other NIS countries.

Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), committee chairman, and a long-time staunch advocate of Ukraine, opened the proceedings by highlighting the importance of sustained U.S. assistance to Ukraine. "Now we [the International Relations Committee] understand that the administration is considering cutting aid to Russia's neighbor, Ukraine, over issues involving mistreatment of American investors," stated Chairman Gilman as he acknowledged the sensitivity of the business disputes in Ukraine.

Yet he strongly urged that cutting assistance to Ukraine would undermine Ukraine's Westward-leaning tendencies.

As the chairman continued his remarks, Rep. Gilman listed Ukraine's most recent and important international contributions toward safety and stability: dismantling its nuclear weapons, signing a charter with NATO, refraining from commerce with rogue states, including Ukraine's refusal to supply turbines for a nuclear power station in Iran. However, the chairman was very frank when questioning the witnesses' arguments that cutting assistance to Ukraine "will change the Ukrainian government's position" and he wanted an explanation of the administration's decision on the future course of U.S.-Ukrainian relations.

Following his prepared oral remarks, Ambassador Morningstar proceeded to address the concerns of Chairman Gilman. "The problem we have is with Congressional language," stated Mr. Morningstar, referring to the language adopted in last year's foreign appropriations bill, which stipulates that half of the foreign assistance appropriated to Ukraine (\$225 million) would not be delivered to Ukraine unless the resolution of business disputes has shown significant progress. The ambassador stipulated that he has no choice but to obey the law (as passed by Congress) and spends "nearly half my time dealing with the resolution of these problems [in Ukraine]."

Mr. Pressley accentuated the programs that USAID administers in the newly independent countries once part of the Soviet Union. For example, Mr. Pressley stated that USAID's Partnership for Freedom (PFF) program is "still unfolding and means reaching beyond governments and going into the localities." The focus of the PFF program is to "strive for the day when these nations are fully integrated into the West, but our greater goal is to keep the process alive," stated Mr. Pressley as he explained aspects of PFF programs in the NIS.

Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), ranking member of the International Relations Committee, focused his attention on the recent developments in Russia regarding the firing by President Boris Yeltsin of his entire Cabinet. Furthermore, Rep. Hamilton stated that "what I see is that Russia is the key country [in that area]." Quoting per capita assistance programs to the NIS, Rep. Hamilton argued that U.S. foreign assistance is "skewed away from Russia and that is not the right priority. Our entire aid program is skewed against Russia." In response to these comments, Ambassador Morningstar stated that "I couldn't agree with you more" and that the U.S. government "needs to do whatever it can to help in the transition to market reform in Russia."

One of the co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, Rep. Jon Fox (R-Pa.), who is also a member of the International Relations Committee, had an opportunity to question the witnesses regarding assistance programs in Ukraine. The positive reforms which Ukraine has undertaken in the past year were Rep. Fox's main focus as he attempted to portray assistance to Ukraine as "the intent of supporting reform efforts in a wide variety of issue areas ... Reform in each area is vitally important in continuing Ukraine's transition to a stable parliamentary democracy with a free-market economy."

INTERVIEW: Ambassador to NIS Stephen Sestanovich

by Michael Sawkiw Jr.

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – Stephen Sestanovich, ambassador-at-large to the new independent states (NIS), was interviewed on March 13 by the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) and *The Ukrainian Weekly*. The 20-minute interview, which focused on U.S.-Ukraine relations, was conducted by UNIS Director Michael Sawkiw Jr. in consultation with Roma Hadzewycz, editor-in-chief of *The Ukrainian Weekly*. Following are excerpts of that interview.

According to a press conference held at the National Press Club on March 12, 1998, Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak acknowledged that a tentative date for the next Gore-Kuchma meeting has been set for the end of June in Kyiv. What can you tell us about the progress of the commission to date? More specially, has there been progress (from the U.S. perspective) on reform in Ukraine and how is the United States helping to resolve those issues?

Let me answer that by referring to the experience of all persons within those societies [of the former Soviet Union]. There is hardly a one where corruption is not a problem. Across the NIS we have programs to try to help countries to deal with those difficulties, programs to strengthen the rule of law, judicial reform, law enforcement, and we have the same programs in Ukraine. Those technical assistance programs never by themselves solve that problem, and the most important component to solve the problem is political will.

This issue [corruption] has been under discussion between Vice-President [Al] Gore and President [Leonid] Kuchma with particular urgency because we feel that corruption is blocking the economic road that Ukraine needs to be able to make a break with its past in a lot of different ways. I would like to give you a progress report, but it's certainly true that at their last meeting in November, the two of them [Vice-President

Gore and President Kuchma] agreed that it was the initiative they wanted to come back to when they next meet, and that they wanted the reports from the committees that worked under the commission as to the kind of progress that has been made.

Has a specific agenda for the Gore-Kuchma Commission been proposed?

What the agenda of these commissions always includes is a review of the work done by the committees under the vice-president and president, plus issues that may not have been addressed by those committees, but require their attention. They'll look at foreign policy questions. They'll look at issues of economic reform, business development, trade and so forth.

Last month [February] we had a meeting on the Foreign Policy Committee, next month [April] there will be a meeting of the Committee on Sustainable Economic Development. One of the issues that will be on the agenda of that committee, as it was during Secretary Albright's visit to Kyiv, will be commercial disputes.

Have there been any resolutions to U.S. investor disputes?

Yes, since last April, which is the date that Congress set for measuring progress in investment disputes, some problem cases have been resolved; others have hardly moved at all. There is one case that was resolved and then got worse again. So we monitor the situation closely, and we'll report to the Congress on where things stand.

This is a very tough issue because it extends beyond the problems that individual companies have in Ukraine, and involves a broader question of whether Ukraine is creating a climate that will attract foreign investment. What's at stake here is not just our understandable inter-

(Continued on page 12)

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Auditors conduct pre-convention review



PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Auditing Committee of the Ukrainian National Association concluded its weeklong pre-convention review of the fraternal organization's finances and activity on March 27 at the UNA Corporate Headquarters. Seen in the photo above are Auditing Committee members (from left) Anatole Doroshenko, Stefania Hewryk, Stefan Hawrysz, William Pastuszek and Iwan Wynnyk. The auditors will report to the 34th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association, which is to be held in Toronto on May 15-19.

Branch 287 elects officers, delegates



Some of the members of UNA Branch 287 after their elections meeting at the UNA Corporate Headquarters.

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Ukrainian National Association Branch 287, "Sons of Ukraine," held its pre-convention meeting here at the UNA Corporate Headquarters on Wednesday, February 25.

The meeting elected new branch officers as follows: Stephen Parubchak, president; Roma Hadzewycz, vice-president; Dana Jasinski, secretary; Taras Sochan, treasurer; Vasyl Shevchuk and Neonila Sochan, auditing committee.

Ms. Jasinski was elected as the branch's delegate to the UNA's 34th Convention; Mrs. Sochan was elected alternate.

Branch 287 members also discussed

some of the issues that await delegates' action at the UNA Convention. They agreed that their delegate should vote at the convention to retain the Ukrainian National Association's current name, regardless of mergers with any other Ukrainian fraternal, and that the UNA should continue publishing Svoboda as a daily newspaper.

Also approved at the meeting were fraternal donations from the branch to the Ukrainian Catholic Church now being restored in Peremyshl, and to the Ukrainian National Home in Sianok, both on ethnographically Ukrainian territory in Poland.

PROGRAM...

(Continued from page 1)

8. Report of Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Zenon Snylyk
9. Report of The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz
10. Discussion on reports and their acceptance
11. Merger of the UNA and the UFA
12. Merger of the UNA and the UNAAA
13. Report of By-Laws Committee, discussion and approval of changes
14. Report of Financial Committee and determination on bonding and salaries of paid officers
15. Election of General Assembly
16. Report of Petitions Committee, discussion and resolutions
17. Report of Secretaries Committee, discussion and resolutions
18. Resolutions and recommendations for the well-being of the organization
19. Miscellaneous
20. Adjournment

The convention will open promptly at 9 a.m. on Friday, May 15, 1998.

Registration of delegates:

Thursday from noon to 10 p.m., and Friday from 7 a.m.

For the Supreme Executive Committee of the UNA:

ULANA M. DIACHUK, President

NESTOR OLESNYCKY, Vice-President

PETER SAVARYN, Director for Canada

ANYA DYDYK-PETRENKO, Vice-Presidentess

MARTHA LYSKO, Secretary

STEFAN KACZARAJ, Acting Treasurer

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

The UNA Executive Committee, during a special meeting on March 21, 1998, appointed, in accordance with Article 16 of the UNA By-Laws, the following delegates to convention committees:

Credentials Committee

1. Adolph Slovik, Branch 7, McAdoo, PA
2. George Yurkiw, Branch 130, New York, NY
3. Gregory Klymenko, Branch 182, Clifton, NJ
4. Myron Kuzio, Branch 277, Hartford, CT
5. Lev Chirovsky, Branch 445, Winnipeg, MN

Financial Committee

1. Nicholas Fil, Branch 13, Watervliet, NY
2. Gloria Paschen, Branch 125, Chicago, IL
3. Yaroslav Zavyisky, Branch 155, Perth Amboy, NJ
4. John Gawaluch, Branch 377, St. Petersburg, FL
5. Larissa Hwozdulych, Branch 432, Toronto, ON

By-Laws Committee

1. Marianne Cizdyn, Branch 55, Baltimore, MD
2. Longin Staruch, Branch 172, Whippany, NJ
3. Leon Hardink, Branch 206, Woonsocket, RI
4. Michael Karkoc, Branch 345, Minneapolis, MN
5. Stefan Czorney, Branch 401, Toronto, ON

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES

Saturday, May 16

Banquet at 7 p.m., Toronto Hilton

Sunday morning, May 17

Liturgies at local Ukrainian churches

Sunday, May 17

Concert at 7 p.m. of Vesnivka Choir, Kvitka Zorych Kondratska, conductor; Alexis Kochan will perform as soloist.



Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund
 272 Old Short Hills Road
 Short Hills, New Jersey 07078
 TEL: 973-376-8140 / FAX: 973-376-4968

Your donation makes a difference to these children. please check off:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
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Children at an orphanage brimful in Bucha, Ukraine

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Act of repentance

Under the direction of Cardinal Edward Idris Cassidy, the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews issued a 10-page document on March 16 titled "We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah." More than 11 years in the writing, the Vatican statement about the Holocaust was greeted both with high praise and disappointment.

According to The New York Times of March 17, Rabbi Jack Bemporad, director of the Center for Interfaith Understanding at Ramapo College in New Jersey, called the Vatican's statement "spectacular ... they are repudiating anti-Semitism," and Rosann Catalano, a Catholic theologian at the Institute for Christian-Jewish Studies in Baltimore commented, "I applaud it ... It makes me proud." However, the Rev. Richard P. McBrien, professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, claimed the language of the document "was very, very cautious, very restrained," while Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said "there were positive elements to the document ... there are also problems - the gratuitous defense of the silence of Pius XII, and the failure to discuss the role of the Church as an institution."

It is this difference between the Vatican and many Jewish leaders over the role, and responsibility, of Pope Pius XII and the Church that seemed to cause the greatest disappointment regarding this document. Many Jews believe that Pope Pius XII and the Catholic Church did nothing, or not enough, to prevent the Holocaust and a failure on the part of the Vatican to agree with this assessment and to either condemn or apologize for Pope Pius XII makes this document, in their view, inadequate. In addition, The New York Times in a March 18 editorial flatly writes: "the pope did not encourage Catholics to defy Nazi orders."

However, Kenneth Woodward in his column in Newsweek on March 30 writes "blaming the wartime pope for failing to stop the Holocaust from the Vatican is a neat bit of revisionist history. ... Something shameful is going on. ... During the second world war, Pope Pius XII was lauded for his singular efforts to halt the carnage. ... That Golda Meir ... and leaders of Jewish communities in Hungary, Turkey, Italy, Romania and the United States thanked the pope for saving hundreds of thousands of Jews is now considered irrelevant. ... No one person, Hitler excepted, was responsible for the Holocaust. And no one person, Pius XII included, could have prevented it."

In its editorial of December 25, 1941, The New York Times wrote, "The voice of Pius XII is a lonely voice in the silence and darkness enveloping Europe this Christmas ... He is about the only ruler left on the Continent who dares to raise his voice at all." Now The New York Times demands "a full exploration of Pope Pius' conduct" and that Pope John Paul II and his successors "take the next step to full acceptance of the Vatican's failure to stand squarely against the evil that swept across Europe." And whereas Israel's Chief Rabbi Meir Lau stated that the document "is too little, too late," the chief rabbi of Palestine wrote in 1945, "the people of Israel will never forget what his holiness and his illustrious delegates are doing for our unfortunate brothers and sisters in the most tragic hour of our history."

This acrimonious debate unfortunately has obscured what is in many ways a remarkable document. In his cover letter, Pope John Paul II asks Catholics to "place themselves before the Lord and examine themselves on the responsibility which they too have for the evils of our time."

As many Catholics and Protestants celebrate Holy Week and Easter Sunday, the resurrection of Christ the Savior, other passages from this document bear reflection:

"In addressing this reflection to our brothers and sisters of the Catholic Church, we ask all Christians to join us in meditating on the catastrophe which befell the Jewish people ... Most especially, we ask our Jewish friends, 'whose terrible fate has become a symbol of the aberrations of which man is capable when he turns against God,' to hear us with open hearts. ... The Catholic Church desires to express her deep sorrow for the failures of her sons and daughters in every age. This is an act of repentance ... The Church approaches with great compassion the experience of extermination, the Shoah ... We pray that our sorrow for the tragedy which the Jewish people has suffered in our century will lead to a new relationship ... We wish to turn awareness of past sins into a firm resolve to build a new future in which there will be no more anti-Judaism among Christians or anti-Christian sentiment among Jews, but rather a shared mutual respect, as befits those who adore the one Creator and Lord and have a common father in faith, Abraham."

April
16
1892

Turning the pages back...

Osyp Zalesky was born in the village of Trostianets Malyyi, Zolochiv county, about 50 miles east of Lviv, in Halychyna, on April 16, 1892. He studied musicology at the Lviv Conservatory in

1911-1914, then worked as a secondary school teacher.

In 1913, Zalesky established the Lira musical publishing house in Lviv, which he owned and operated until 1930. In 1916, he published the pioneering study "Pohliad na Istoriyu Ukrainskoyi Muzyky" (A Look at the History of Ukrainian Music), and nine years later, a dictionary of music in Ukrainian. Zalesky founded, directed and taught at the Stanyslaviv branch of the Lysenko Higher Institute of Music. He also conducted choirs in Lviv, Stanyslaviv, Yaroslav and, later, Vienna.

Emigrating to the U.S. in the 1950s, Zalesky settled in Buffalo, where he taught at the local branch of the Ukrainian Music Institute of America. He also continued to publish useful reference works on music, including "Zahalni Osnovy Muzychnoho Znannia" (General Principles of Musical Knowledge, 1958) and "Mala Ukrainska Muzychna Entsyklopedia" (Junior Ukrainian Encyclopedia of Music, 1971).

Throughout his career, Zalesky composed choral works, solo works for voice and piano miniatures. He died in Buffalo on March 13, 1984.

Source: "Zalesky, Osyp," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 5 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993).

EASTER PASTORAL LETTER

So that we may be enriched in the hope of eternal life

To the reverend clergy, religious and our God-loving faithful:

Peace in the Lord and our archiepiscopal Blessing!

The holy evangelist writes that after the Sabbath, very early on the first day of the week, the myrrh-bearing women came to the tomb of Jesus, to anoint His Body with aromatic spices. As they approached the tomb, "there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone and sat upon it." The women were terrified. The angel then reassured them, saying, "Do not be afraid, I know you are seeking Jesus, the crucified. He is not here, for He has been raised just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead...'" (Mt. 28:1-7).

Beloved in Christ! The empty tomb of Our Lord Jesus Christ, where rested His crucified Body, bears unmistakable witness to His glorious resurrection; for us, who believe in the Risen Christ, that tomb is an incontrovertible proof that He indeed is our "resurrection and life," and that everyone "who believes in Him, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Him will never die" (Jn. 11:25-26). The empty tomb of our Divine Savior, therefore, confirms for us the eternal truth of our faith, that our lives do not end with death. We, who have believed in Jesus Christ, "look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come" (The Creed). Through the resurrection of Christ our Lord, God, "in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope" of eternal life in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-4). This renewal of the living faith in us for eternal life in heaven is achieved "by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Rm. 15:13).

It is through the power, the action of the Holy Spirit that in baptism we are reborn to life as "children of God" (Rm. 8:16). Through the power, the action of this same Holy Spirit we also become "children of the resurrection" (Lk. 20:36), destined for eternal life in heaven. The Holy Spirit, who dwells in our souls through His grace (1 Cor. 3:16), thereby becomes a guarantee of our resurrection to eternal life, as St. Paul assures us, "If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you" (Rm. 8:11). Our holy father, in the program of spiritual renewal for the solemn observance of the jubilee of the Third Millennium of the coming of the Son of God to earth, has dedicated this year to a deeper understanding of and renewal of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, that simultaneously, "we might be justified by His grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:7).

Our hope for eternal life proceeds from faith in the goodness and graciousness of our Heavenly Father, who, in his infinite graciousness "so loved (us) that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life" (Jn. 3:16). The Son of God, who suffered and died for us on the cross, repeatedly assures us, "For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life and I shall raise him on the last day" (Jn. 6:40). The Son of God, through His death, freed us from eternal perdition, opened the way to the kingdom through His glorious resurrection, so that we might live "in newness of life" (Rm. 6:4). The holy Apostle Paul assures us that He "who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus ..." (2 Cor. 4:14). Through this resurrection, Jesus Christ becomes "the

hope of our glory" (Col. 1:27).

Eternal life in heaven is a divine gift, and we must merit that gift. We do so by fulfilling the will of God, by following the words of Christ, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter into the kingdom of heaven; but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (Mt. 7:21). It is the will of our heavenly Father that through the faithful observance of His commandments we may "have eternal life" (Jn. 6:40). Therefore, Christ directs us clearly, "If you wish to enter into (eternal) life, keep the commandments" (Mt. 19:17). Our hope, then, "brings us closer to God" (Heb. 7:19), and encourages us as God-fearing and just-living people, with the conviction that "the unjust will not inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Cor. 6:9), unless they repent before death and return to the Lord God, who takes "no pleasure in the death of the wicked man, but rather in the wicked man's conversion, that he may live" (Ezek 33:11).

Our firm faith in the hope of eternal life not only encourages us to a God-fearing living but also strengthens our will, gives us the determination to bear with patience and perseverance our sufferings and daily trials. It is helpful for us to remember that Christ "should suffer these things (before) entering into His glory" (Lk. 24:26). It is fitting, then, that through our sufferings we follow Christ, and so enter into our eternal glory, because "if only we suffer with Him, ... we may also be glorified with Him" (Rm. 8:17). Indeed, there is no salvation without suffering. St. Paul, consequently, considers it a special grace that we "not only, believe in Him (Christ), but also suffer for Him" (Phil. 1:29), declaring, we suffer, "that we become worthy of the kingdom of God" (2 Thes. 1:5).

The holy apostle suffered much for the name of Jesus (com. 2 Cor. 11:23-33), and even became a martyr for Christ. Throughout his work, he never despaired, for he was convinced that the Lord God, "is faithful and not let you be tried beyond your strength; but with the trial He will also provide a way out, so that you may be able to bear it" (1 Cor. 10:13). Thus, keeping his gaze on the eternal reward in heaven, St. Paul states, "I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us" (Rm. 8:18). In this way, "the hope of eternal life eases the suffering of our present trials" (St. John Chrysostom), for the Lord God assures us, that "our strength is in our hope" (Is. 30:15).

We are reborn "with water and the Holy Spirit" (Jn. 3:5) as children of God, and destined for eternal life with our heavenly Father. Christ affirms this truth, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places ... If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to Myself, so that where I am you also may be" (Jn. 14:2-3). In accordance with His promise, our Divine Savior will come to us at the hour of our death, to take us "from death to life, from earth to heaven," as we sing in the Easter hymn (Irmos 1).

The famous English author, Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman (+1865), viewed death in this light. When he was advised of his coming death by the attending physician, he called out joyfully, "I feel like a child that is returning to the home of his father." In this same spirit, the first Christians looked upon death as a "day of birth" to a better life in heaven. The anniversary of such deaths was solemnly observed each year by family members, instead of the

(Continued on page 14)



Letter from Kyiv

by Marta Kolomayets

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Going to the polls

I've been going to the polls with Ukrainians since 1991, watching them vote on a referendum regarding their status within the Soviet Union, eagerly awaiting their confirmation of independence and the election of their first president, listening to their musings on Kravchuk and Kuchma, going through the painful process of rounds and rounds of parliamentary elections to fill 450 seats in the Verkhovna Rada. (That Parliament never did get all 450 seats filled; after two years of run-offs, they managed to elect 417 deputies.)

I covered all those elections as a journalist, but this time, on March 29, I was an international observer during Ukraine's first mixed-system parliamentary elections. Starting out at 6 a.m., I, along with a colleague from USAID and I, made our way down to a polling station located in Kyiv's city center to make sure that the polling station commission had received its ballots and to witness the sealing of the ballot boxes. By 7 a.m., when the station opened, the first voters, two elderly men (who shared one pair of glasses) were waiting to fling aside the blue-and-yellow fabric of a makeshift booth in order to mark their ballots and drop them into cardboard boxes adorned with the Ukrainian tryzub (the national emblem).

Throughout the day, as I traveled around the capital city, I saw crowds lining up to vote; some spent more than an hour in line to cast their ballots. There were voters of all ages coming to the polls throughout the day, until they closed at 10 p.m. University students came to take advantage of their right to vote for the first time; many of them had worked on various candidates' campaigns or volunteered to be observers at the polling stations. Pensioners born in the 1910s and 1920s, who had always regarded voting day as a "praznyk" or holiday, paid a visit to the polling stations, but complained that the buffets (tables overflowing with vodka, "pyrizhky," candy and cakes) had been grander during Soviet times, when music would sound from loudspeakers, and local bands and choruses would entertain the voters.

Despite the fact that many of these Ukrainian citizens have not been paid in months, that unemployment is up and production is down, that the quality of life has declined for many of them, they came out in masses to cast a vote, to make a choice, to have a say in their future. Overall voter turnout was 70 percent, with voter participation in western Ukraine reaching 84 percent in the Ternopil Oblast. According to the Central Election Commission, more than 26.5 million people took part in the elections, and only 800,000 ballots were invalidated because they were not filled out correctly.

Some say that it was old party discipline and the legacy of the past that brought the voters out; others contend that it was force of habit, voting for something that is familiar, while still others insist that it was a social event, an alternative to an otherwise mundane life. Looking at the members of the polling station commissions, who arrived at their district polling places at 6 a.m. and did not make it back home earlier than 9 the next morning, observing voters who stood in line for up to an hour and carefully studied literature displayed on the walls of the polling stations, I want to believe that these are people who want to take responsibility for the

future of their own lives and the lives of their children, as well as the fate of their independent state.

Ukraine is a funny and often inexplicable place, and its people are patient, tolerant, obedient and forever hopeful. Election results show that Communists and leftists took a good chunk of the vote, but that national democratic parties and centrist parties and blocs could have won more of the votes if they had unified into a strong force instead of myriad small, insignificant parties, referred to as "kyshynkovi" (pocket-sized).

In analyzing voting patterns in the regions, the Communists crossed the 4 percent threshold in all but one of Ukraine's 25 administrative districts: Ternopil. Analysts interpret this as a vote not for the Communists, but against the current Kuchma government. (In reality, President Leonid Kuchma's "party of power" the National Democratic Party received only 5.5 percent of the vote). Many of the pensioners – the largest segment of Ukraine's population – long for the past and think leftist forces can bring it back. After seven years of independence, however, this is unlikely.

A confused and uneducated electorate had too many choices and not enough of an understanding of the new system to make an educated choice to make their vote count. After all, it is not difficult to be confused when you are handed ballots for Parliament (majoritarian and single-mandate), city council and raion and are expected to choose from 30 blocs and parties on one ballot, which measured 60 centimeters – that's 24 inches – in length. Once that is done, you are also supposed to choose a candidate in the single-mandate districts, where up to 30 candidates ran for one seat.

Many of those who voted for leftists voted in protest of what is going on in Ukraine, or more precisely, what is not going on in Ukraine. The leftist forces did not spend much money on their campaigns, but spent much effort in promising people what they want to hear: pensions will be paid, jobs will be had, food will be on the table. No explanations were given as to how this would be attained, but people just needed to hear that things will be good again.

According to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which issued a joint statement on the elections on Monday, March 30, based on reports from 243 short-term observers, "on election day, the process was carried out in a generally peaceful and orderly manner."

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, which also had observers at the polls on Sunday said the elections were held without serious violations, although many polling places were not adequately prepared, resulting in long lines of voters, which made it very difficult for the polling station commission members to work and monitor the legitimacy of voting. There were numerous cases where the secrecy of voting was not observed because many voters had to fill in ballots outside the voting booths.

Family voting, long a tradition in this part of the world, is still a common practice here in Ukraine, and it was no different this Sunday. Grandparents came with

(Continued on page 13)

Is corruption inevitable?

Anticipating the Communist victory in Ukraine, the March 28 issue of *The Economist* quoted one Western diplomat as saying: "In some ways I warm to the Communists. At least they believe in something, while our so-called buddies are just opportunist scum."

The diplomat was right, of course. For many, the non-Communists in Ukraine are canaille. And the Communists do believe in something. It's called power.

How bad are things in Ukraine? The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development ranks Ukraine near the bottom of its list of transitional economies, behind even Albania and Bulgaria. According to a December 1997, Socis-Gallup poll, 79 percent of the Ukrainian people believe they were better off during Soviet times. Given that kind of disillusionment, it's a wonder that no more than a third of the people voted either for the Communist Party or for their collaborators, the Socialist and Peasant parties.

The main problem in Ukraine today, the mother of all abominations, is corruption. Being an honest businessman in Ukraine is impossible, while being a dishonest parliamentarian is not only possible, it is encouraged by the law. No sitting parliamentarian in Ukraine can be prosecuted for corruption. For many Ukrainian national deputies this is a license to steal. Their main business resource is power, and in the words of Dr. Angelo M. Codevilla, author of "The Character of Nations: How Politics Makes and Breaks Prosperity, Family and Civility," "these nomenklatura-turned-'businessmen' reap without sowing. Compared with such pure parasites, the thugs who run protection rackets work for a living and sometimes actually come close to providing a service."

Ukraine is not alone among nations for its high level of corruption. David Pryce-Jones believes that corruption rules the world (*The American Spectator*, December 1997). "In far the greatest part of the world, absolutism and tyranny remain the human norm. The strong will seize the spoils ... Superior force is decisive."

"Because the Soviet system was not replaced by another," writes Dr. Codevilla, the present economy is being run by the nomenklatura "to whom the Soviet economy was essentially gifted. These people usually occupy the same offices they did before 1991. Regardless of the titles on their business cards or the political labels they may now sport, they brought their habits with them." This is certainly true of Ukraine's Pavlo Lazarenko, the notoriously rich robber baron whose party, Hromada, gained 4.7 percent of the vote on March 29.

Mr. Lazarenko is doing what comes naturally. Under the Communists, the leadership was expected to enrich itself. Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria, for example, had 40 residences while his neighbor, Nicolae Ceaucescu, had twice that many.

Today, a corrupt oligarchy, which includes Boris Berezovsky and former prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, decide, Russia's economic fate. All made their fortunes after the collapse of the USSR. "In Russia itself," writes Mr. Pryce-Jones, "there are some 10,000 gangs. Government, the police and the army are privileged mafias rather than law-enforcers." Some 24 Russian gangs are currently operating in the United States.

Corruption can be found on all conti-

nents. Indonesia is essentially the property of President Suharto and his family. Pakistan is controlled by a small group of feudal landlords. Two former presidents of South Korea are in jail for corruption and violence. Japan's economy is on the verge of economic collapse due to racketeering in the stock market and real estate. Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos amassed a fortune of \$50 billion during their reign over the Philippines. Government corruption in India is rampant.

The personal wealth of presidents Mobutu of Zaire and Daniel arap Moi of Kenya was estimated at \$30 billion each. Some \$4.5 billion of public funds have apparently disappeared in South Africa since Nelson Mandela and his party took over.

Fernando Collor, president of Brazil, and Carlos-Andres Perez of Venezuela have both embezzled state funds. Mexican president Carlos Salinas had to flee the country to escape prosecution.

Europe is not much better. President George Papandreaou of Greece enriched himself and his cronies. Many Italian politicians and industrialists are under indictment or serving time in prison. The Spanish Socialist Party accepted illegal donations while the head of Spain's national police force stole state funds and fled the country. French lawmakers and businessmen have been tried and convicted of corruption.

The United States too has had its share of corruption. The scandals surrounding Tammany Hall in New York City and the Pendergast machine in Kansas City are well documented. Hardly a year goes by in Chicago without some city officials being prosecuted for being on the take. Political machines in Maryland, New Jersey, Arkansas and Oklahoma have often been mentioned as tainted by criminal acts. The administrations of Presidents Ulysses S. Grant and Warren G. Harding were plagued by scandal. President Richard M. Nixon was forced to resign because he attempted to obstruct justice.

Today, our federal government is moving towards more centralized control. Numerous agencies now control agriculture, medicine, universities, the arts and business, determining what can be planted, what research is to be funded, who is to be admitted, what is true art, and who is hired and fired. Millions of pages of government regulations now require lawyers, legislative lobbyists, accountants and other specialists to get one through the maze. As Dr. Codevilla points out: "In the Soviet Union, they called such people 'tolkachi.'"

In Ukraine, most people have lost faith in their destiny. With a loss of faith comes a loss of hope followed by a gradual erosion of the human spirit. Debased humans can hardly conceive of the possibility of standing up for their own rights much less for the rights of others. In time they become mean-spirited, an attitude, according to Dr. Codevilla, "by which they mean to mitigate abasement at the hands of some by inflicting it on others."

During Soviet times in Ukraine, being a government official meant being in a position to make life hard for others and easy for oneself. This mindset, apparently, still dominates. As long as it does, corruption is inevitable.

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Central Election Commission investigates reported violations

by Pavel Politiuk

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – A special team of investigators from Ukraine's Central Election Commission is looking into possible election violations during voting in the central Ukrainian region of Dnipropetrovsk, an election official said on April 6.

At least 10 political parties indicated last week that they have doubts as to the political objectivity of the regional electoral commission in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, 340 kilometers (225 miles) southeast of Kyiv, alleging that it had favored the Hromada Party, which is in official opposition to President Leonid Kuchma and his government. Most of the parties that filed protests back President Kuchma.

The March 29 elections marked the first time that Ukraine has employed a mixed election system whereby parties and blocs were voted to fill half of the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada. The other 225 seats were decided in single-mandate balloting.

"We must say that our party has information about serious violations in the Dnipropetrovsk region," Oleksander Karpov, a leader of the National Democratic Party, told journalists several days after the elections. "We cannot understand why ballots have been moving from the polling places to the regional commission for two days," he said.

Mr. Karpov represents the single political party that is directly linked to President Kuchma. One of the party's most prominent members, Valerii Pustovoitenko, is the prime minister of Ukraine.

Mr. Karpov is sure that the Dnipropetrovsk ballots were altered in the offices of the regional government of Dnipropetrovsk headed by Pavlo Lazarenko, who is also the leader of the Hromada Party.

The Hromada Party has been and continues to be a sharp thorn in President Kuchma's side. Mr. Lazarenko has been President Kuchma's political archenemy since he was fired from the post of prime minister last summer. His Hromada Party took 4.7 percent of the vote in the Verkhovna Rada elections, and Mr. Lazarenko said he sees the possibility of forming the third largest political faction in the new Parliament.

About 37 percent of the Dnipropetrovsk region's voters, more than 700,000 individuals, cast ballots for Hromada, which is more than half of the 1.2 million people

nationwide who supported Mr. Lazarenko's party, according to CEC figures.

"The results of the elections showed that Lazarenko's Hromada is not a political party but only a political clan of Dnipropetrovsk authorities," said Yevhen Kushnariov, presidential chief of staff and a member of the NDP.

He also indicated that the CEC has the authority to call new elections in electoral districts where numerous violations have been substantiated.

A representative of the Hromada Party, Viktor Omelych, warned that Ukrainian authorities may use protests and accusations by political parties about the fairness of the elections as a basis to call the results of the Verkhovna Rada elections "unlawful."

"We know about 100 cases of falsifications, at a minimum," Mr. Omelych said. "But we will not appeal to the courts because we do not want to help the authorities succeed in their effort."

At an April 7 news conference, the chairman of the CEC, Mykhailo Riabets, said that no official complaints had been filed by any political parties about election law violations or falsifications of ballots in the vote for political parties.

However, Mr. Riabets said the CEC has received indications of violations from more than half of the electoral districts of Ukraine. "We got a lot of complaints from Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhia, Sumy, Kyiv and other regions," said the CEC chairman.

"Members of the Central Election Commission will investigate the complaints on site, but the fire of political passion sometimes exceeds the limits of reason," said Mr. Riabets. He added that the Black Sea port city of Odesa, where foreign observers had criticized the way in which the power struggle between Odesa Mayor Edvard Hurvits and Oblast Chairman Ruslan Bodelan had affected the elections.

Observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe said the campaigns for Verkhovna Rada, as well as local elections, in the Odesa region were marred by incidents of violence, arrests and actions against candidates and abuse of public office.

Most of the political parties that passed the 4 percent barrier required to gain a share of the 225 Parliament seats available to political parties and blocs in Ukraine's mixed election system have declared that violations occurred during ballot counting or during pre-election day campaigning.

The Communist Party of Ukraine has declared that about 15 percent of their vote was stolen; the Hromada Party has said that, at a minimum, 3 percent has disappeared; and the Agrarian Party, which will lose seats as a result of the elections, said that 200,000 of its votes were missing.

Agrarian Party Chairman Kateryna Vaschyk said initial election results had showed the party had broken the 4 percent barrier, but that the final results gave them some 200,000 less votes, which left them at 3.69 percent. "I want to know what happened to the votes," said Ms. Vaschyk.

According to Ukraine's election law, during the seven days after the official announcement of election results, any candidate who has evidence of election fraud may appeal to a court to demand a special investigation.

CEC Chairman Riabets, who had predicted before the elections that there would be many complaints by parties and individual candidates, said the CEC does not have a sufficient number of members to check each complaint and recommended that protests be lodged with the general courts.

Election authorities...

(Continued from page 1)

When the party voting results are combined with preliminary single-mandate results, the Communists are guaranteed a strong bloc of 123 seats, but not the absolute majority of 226 needed to control the Parliament.

When presented geographically, the election picture divides the map of Ukraine into three distinctive ideological sections. As one moves from west to the east, the political picture turns redder and redder.

In western Ukraine the Rukh Party decisively took five of eight oblasts: Volyn, Rivne, Lviv, Ternopil and Ivano-Frankivsk. Chernivtsi, at the Moldovan border, went to the Communists, while the Transcarpathian region voted for the Social Democratic Party (United).

In central Ukraine the Socialists held a strong grip on the Khmelnytsky and Cherkasy oblasts and came close to the Communists in the other eight central oblasts. The Communists and the Socialists combined for 36 percent of the vote in these oblasts. Once east of the Dnipro River, with the exception of the Poltava Oblast, it was all Communists, including the southern Ukrainian autonomous republic of Crimea.

Of the nine eastern oblasts, only Sumy and Dnipropetrovsk did not go Communist. The Sumy region is a stronghold of the Progressive Socialist Party, and Dnipropetrovsk is in the Hromada Party camp, as shown by the 36 percent vote for the party headed by Pavlo Lazarenko.

Forty-four of the newly elected national deputies were elected twice; once as part of the official party lists and a second time as winners in single-mandate voting. Those victors will now give up their place in the party lists to make room for the party member below them on the lists.

Twelve of the twice-elected parliamentarians are Communists. The extent of the Communists' dominance in these elections is further evidenced by the fact that six of the candidates who moved up to take the place of the twice-elected Communists were themselves also elected in single-mandated voting and, therefore, cannot take the party seat. No other party has had to reach as far down its party list to fill the proportion of seats allotted them.

While the CEC sifts through the various allegations of fraud and electoral law violations to decide who is in and who is out, or whether to call new elections in certain electoral districts, leaders of political parties, with unofficial results in their hands, have turned their attention to candidates for the chairmanship of the Verkhovna Rada. That distinction is now held by Oleksander Moroz, leader of the Socialist Party.

At a press conference on April 3 the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada said he believes the results show that "the new composition should have a leftist leader."

However, he refused to comment on who that should be. Mr. Moroz called the elections a "victory for democracy, and therefore for democratic forces."

Viktor Musiaka, the second vice-chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, whose Vpered

Ukraino (Forward Ukraine) managed a poor 1.73 percent showing in the party voting, but who was re-elected from his district, said in an interview with the UNIAN news service that "we will be witnesses to shocking alliances of political powers."

He predicted that Mr. Moroz would be re-elected to the post of Verkhovna Rada chairman, while the first and second vice-chairmen's positions would go to a representative of the center and the right.

Mr. Musiaka said that during maneuvering for the highest post in the Verkhovna Rada a series of deals may be struck among political groups with opposing political agendas. "Political powers will come together that under normal circumstances would not be able to find common ground," said Mr. Musiaka.

He said that the 114 national deputies elected as independents would play a major role in electing the new chairman. He also indicated that the possibility exists that financial deals among parties and/or individual deputies could influence who will occupy the chairman's seat.

Meanwhile, Rukh Party leader Vyacheslav Chornovil said the election results show that "now Rukh is the only defender of the national idea in the Parliament." In an April 7 statement he noted, "we are ready for this responsibility."

He also criticized "political parties close to Rukh which despite numerous efforts have failed to take real steps towards reunification." Several right and center-right parties, including the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Christian Republican Party, members of the National Front coalition, have in turn criticized Rukh for being unbending in negotiations to unite.

The National Front bloc did poorly in the elections, and one of its leaders, the mercurial and controversial two-term National Deputy Stepan Khmara, failed to be re-elected in his electoral district.

Rukh was the only party from what is considered the national democratic sector of Ukraine's political spectrum to reach the 4 percent barrier to gain Parliament seats.

As national deputies begin looking to form coalitions and factions, some among them must decide whether they want to take the seat to which they have been elected. Cabinet ministers and government officials cannot by law simultaneously hold a government post and a seat in the Ukrainian Parliament, although plenty did so in the last Verkhovna Rada.

Two Cabinet ministers, Volodymyr Semynozhenko, minister of science and technology, and Valerii Cherep, minister of transportation, resigned their positions in the government to take their parliamentary seats. The influential head of the State Committee on Business Expansion, Yuriy Yekhanurov, also has resigned his government position.

Several other ministers, including Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udovenko and Minister of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Power Yuriy Kostenko, both members of the Rukh Party, have indicated they would leave government to take the seats they won in the March 29 elections, but neither has tendered his resignation.

Croatia's Ukrainians rebuild their church

VUKOVAR, Croatia – Early on during the outbreak of war in the former Yugoslavia in 1991, the town of Vukovar was completely destroyed. Approximately 2,600 Ukrainians lived in this town, and shortly before the war, while still under the adversity of Communist rule, they had completed construction of a new Ukrainian Catholic Church, Christ the King.

With the advent of war, many Ukrainians perished or fled, and only a few walls of the new church building remained standing. Since January 16, under the auspices of the United Nations,

the last of the occupying forces have left Vukovar, and the church can again be used by those Ukrainians who remain, and by those soon expected to return to their homes.

To help Ukrainian Catholics in Croatia who have suffered enormous losses rebuild their church, please contact: Msgr. Dmitro Stefanjuk, 827 N. Franklin St., Philadelphia, PA 19123; or send contribution checks to: Christ the King Church-Vukovar, c/o Ukrainian Self-Reliance Federal Credit Union, 1729 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111.

63 miners killed...

(Continued from page 1)

But survivors of the blast and coal workers are pointing the finger elsewhere – at the government in Kyiv, which they say has failed to resolve their grievances and problems, including poor working conditions, low salaries and wage arrears. Oleksander Chirva, who was in the mine at the time of the blast, told the Kyiv Post: "The whole system is to blame."

Deaths, cave-ins and explosions have become common in Ukraine's coal belt, centered in the Donetsk region. Lack of funds to replace aging equipment has led to numerous casualties. Last year 290 coal miners died in accidents.

Many of those who died in the Skachinsky blast on April 4 were poisoned by the methane gas because their personal breathing apparatuses failed to work, said the Kyiv Post report. "We're not just sitting on a powder keg, we're inside the barrel of a gun and it's always about to go off," said Nikolai Galushko, a foreman at the Skachinsky mine.

Report on U.S. investments in Ukraine to determine aid allocation

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – What U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright will recommend in her certification report on whether the U.S. Congress should give Ukraine the second portion of the \$225 million in U.S. foreign aid promised for 1998 is still not certain and depends on the resolution of complaints by U.S. firms doing business in Ukraine.

Secretary Albright is due to report to the House of Representatives on April 30 on the status of complaints filed by 12 U.S. companies on various issues related to their investment in this country.

Her certification – which will decide whether the Congress will release the foreign aid funds – is contingent on Ukraine showing that “significant progress has been made with regard to these cases,” said Richard Morningstar, U.S. special ambassador to the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, at a press conference in Kyiv on April 8.

“I cannot tell you what the end result will be,” said Ambassador Morningstar. “Both the U.S. and Ukrainian sides are working hard on the issues.”

The foreign aid bill that the U.S. House of Representatives approved for fiscal year 1998, earmarked \$225 million in aid to Ukraine but conditioned the release of 50 percent of the funds on the resolution of the 12 complaints that were filed with the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv prior to April 30, 1997. The appropriations bill, which passed the Congress in the fall of 1997, requires the sec-

retary of state to report to the House before April 30 of this year on the status of the complaints.

The earmark excludes money appropriated for nuclear reactor safety and for election assistance, so Ukraine stands to lose about \$90 million if Secretary Albright decides to give Ukraine a failing grade in her certification.

Ms. Albright will make her recommendation after consultations with U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer and with Mr. Morningstar.

Both ambassadors said that intense discussion are now under way at the highest levels of both governments. “Vice-President [Al] Gore has worked with President [Leonid] Kuchma on this issue. Secretary Albright spoke with President Kuchma with regard to this issue on her most recent visit here,” said Ambassador Morningstar.

Neither he nor Ambassador Pifer would say what their recommendations would be. However, in an interview in the Kyiv Post published on March 20, Ambassador Pifer said he had not seen any movement to resolve the problems. “I guess that, at this point, I’m not comfortable that we have a lot of progress to point to,” said Ambassador Pifer.

At the April 8 press conference he said the climate for dialogue and resolution of the issues had changed. “I have seen a new seriousness on the part of Ukraine,” he said. Ambassador Pifer attributed the mood change to the March 6 visit of Secretary of State Albright to Kyiv.

The two U.S. diplomats refused to name the 12 firms that filed complaints (some of which have been resolved)

with the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, but they are believed to include such corporate giants as Boeing, Motorola, Monsanto and Case Tractor, as well as smaller firms. Included are issues surrounding the ownership of the Grand Hotel in Lviv, established and formerly run by Ukrainian American Marta Fedoriw, and Gala Radio, the Kyiv radio station owned by U.S. citizen Joseph Lemire, whose license was revoked two years ago.

While refusing to talk about specific issues, Mr. Morningstar said that all of them can be put into four groups: contract enforcement difficulties; regulations that are “too numerous, too burdensome, too complicated and too arbitrary”; a tax system that has yet to develop a consistent rationale and that allows certainty for investors; and enforcement of legal judgments.

The special ambassador explained that the problems are much the same that most foreign investors have in Ukraine, and that the point of the discussions is not simply to resolve the 12 cases but to make the business climate in Ukraine more friendly.

“We are not just worried about foreign investment, we are not only concerned about U.S. businesses,” explained Ambassador Morningstar. “We’re concerned about the ability of Ukraine to operate businesses, and we’re concerned about the importance of achieving economic growth so that Ukraine can become a prosperous market democracy.”

He did admit that there was also a concern about wasting U.S. taxpayer dollars in granting foreign aid to Ukraine.

OBITUARY: Kvitka Cisyk, 44, popular singer



Kvitka Cisyk at the time she released her second album, “Kvitka Two Colors.”

by Khristina Lew

KYIV – Singer Kvitka Cisyk, best known to the Ukrainian-speaking world for her two albums of Ukrainian folk songs, “Kvitka” and “Kvitka Two Colors,” died of cancer in New York City on March 29, five days before her 45th birthday.

To the English-speaking world she was known as Kacey (from her initials, K.C.), the voice behind commercial messages for hundreds of products and institutions. It was Kacey’s coloratura soprano voice that sang the slogan “Have you driven a Ford lately?” In the 1970s she also recorded two movie soundtracks, “You Light Up My Life” and “The One and Only.”

Kvitka was born in Queens, N.Y., on April 4, 1953. Her

father, Wolodymyr Cisyk, a concert violinist and teacher, taught her to play the violin when she was 5 years old. She told the trade magazine *Ford Times* in a February 1990 interview that when her father died when she was 17, she was devastated. “I had his bowing arm, his technique,” she said. “I wanted to sing, but I was filled with turmoil and guilt. Shouldn’t I keep playing the violin for my father?”

Kvitka was accepted to the State University of New York at Binghamton on a violin scholarship. A year later she was accepted into the Mannes School of Music on a voice scholarship. She engrossed herself in the school’s opera workshop, where she studied under Sebastian Engelberg, and graduated from Mannes in 1974.

Kvitka began working in recording studios in order to pay for voice lessons, sheet music and operatic auditions. Her long list of commercials includes spots for Coca-Cola, American Airlines, Mr. Pibbs, Sears, JC Penney, Safeway grocery stores and Starburst candies. In 1982 she began working for Ford and eventually became the only voice representing Ford products. In 1990 she was regularly seen in regional Ford dealer television commercials in the western United States. She received several honors for her work with Ford, one for having recorded 20 billion consumer impressions.

Kvitka also worked as a back-up singer for such artists as Barry Manilow, Michael Bolton, Linda Ronstadt, Carly Simon and Quincy Jones. But her greatest love was Ukrainian song, and in 1980 she recorded her first album, “Kvitka,” which won top honors in the 1988 Ukrainian Music Awards. Her second album, “Kvitka Two Colors,” was dedicated to “the spirit of the Ukrainian soul, whose wings can never be broken.” Today, songs from both albums can be heard on radio in Ukraine.

Both “Kvitka” and “Kvitka Two Colors,” released in 1989, were family projects. Kvitka’s husband, Ed Rakowicz, a recording engineer, produced them. Her sister, Maria Cisyk, a concert pianist and teacher, played piano for them. Her mother, Ivanna, made sure that Kvitka’s Ukrainian pronunciation was perfect.

In 1983 Kvitka visited Ukraine with her mother, and when Ukraine declared independence in 1991, she planned to tour her parents’ homeland in a series of concerts. Her dream of touring Ukraine was never fulfilled.

Kvitka is mourned not only by family and friends, but by the millions around the world who were touched by her song.

She is survived by her husband, Ed; her 7-year-old son, Ed; her sister, Maria, with her daughters Lesia and Samantha Merley; and her uncle, Wasyl Lew, with his wife, Oksana, and their daughters, Khristina, Olesia, Ruta and Maya Lew.

Memorial services were held on both sides of the Atlantic the week following Kvitka’s death. On March 30 a small private service was held on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. On April 2 a memorial service was held in the chapel at Askoldova Mohyla in Kyiv.

Kvitka’s songs ... and a bus in the Karpaty

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz
In good memory of Kvitka Cisyk

WINNIPEG – Our tour bus was rumbling through the Karpaty (Carpathian Mountains) this past August, and, as usual, those of us who liked to sing, and thought we could, were in full voice. If the song was something like “Lutshe bulo,” then it was a full chorus at least on the refrains. Other times, for more obscure songs, we had some wonderful quartets, trios, duets and solos. The interconnections between people and tradition were fascinating. A woman who immigrated to Canada as a 10-year-old before World War II, a native-born Canadian now in her 80s, our Ukrainian guides, and a few of us DPs – we all knew and harmonized on “Tam na hori kruta vezha.”

Our Ukrainian tour leaders, Ihor and Mykola, had wonderful voices and led us in a great variety of folk and contemporary songs. Other times, we listened as they sang. This was my opportunity to learn some other traditional music, the more salty kind. Hey, the raunchy songs are creations of the folk, too! Talk about narodna tvorchiist!

I started “Teche richka nevelychka z vyshnevoho sadu.” This is a lovely song I have known since childhood, from my mother. For some reason, I was singing alone, with Mykola and Ihor just listening. As I finished, Mykola turned to me and said, “Tse Kvitka” [that’s Kvitka]. I looked at him blankly, with no idea what he meant. “Kvitka? I was singing about richka.” Again, he says, “Kvitka. Kvitka Cisyk.” Then he explained that my “version” of the song was Kvitka’s version, from her recording. We had a lively debate, since my “version” was the one I had known all my life, and maybe it was Kvitka’s version as well, but that was the way I had learned it very long ago (and Kvitka is younger than I).

Both Ihor and Mykola spoke highly of her, and about how well-known and admired she is in Ukraine. One of the most welcome gifts for relatives and friends in Ukraine is a collection of her tapes. Then Ihor mentioned that we “North Americans” have a different identifiable style of singing Ukrainian folk songs, and that in Ukraine, people can tell right away where we are from by our singing. This I could not understand.

He also expressed admiration and amazement that so many from Canada and the U.S. know so many old songs that even people in Ukraine do not always remember. But the songs are always there, spontaneously. They unify families, generations, and strangers in beautiful harmony.

So, somewhere on the road between Yaremche and Ivano-Frankivsk in mid-August, continents and an ocean away, Kvitka was with us on that bus.

DATELINE NEW YORK: Cameos and quotes

by Helen Smindak

A touching "Butterfly"

In her fifth season as a leading soprano at the New York City Opera (NYCO), Oksana Krovtytska has been receiving bravos from audiences and critics alike, especially after her performances last month in Puccini's "Madama Butterfly." The work was presented in the time-honored 1906 version, which includes revisions the composer undertook after the original score foundered at its La Scala premiere in 1904.

Among reviewers, The New York Times music critic Alan Kozinn was especially warm in his praise of Ms. Krovtytska as Butterfly. Calling her "the principal attraction in the current run," Mr. Kozinn said the Ukrainian soprano's vocal agility, graceful movement and dramatic sensibility made the title character's ingenuousness "both believable and touching."

The March 10 review appeared under the headline "The Butterfly Puccini Wanted," with a subhead that read "A Ukrainian singer seems to know what the geisha must have felt."

Ms. Krovtytska's work last September with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and the CSO Chorus in Rossini's "Stabat Mater" – both as a soloist and in duet and ensemble performances with other soloists – garnered excellent reviews in the Denver press.

The Lviv-born singer also appeared in NYCO productions this season as Musetta in "La Boheme."

This summer, Ms. Krovtytska is scheduled for a return engagement at the Kamptfal Festival in Gars, Austria, where she will sing Mimi in Puccini's "La Boheme." She is already booked for performances at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (October 31), Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall (December 2) and a Christmas concert with North German Radio in Hannover.

Although the NYCO's 1998-1999 season is not completely set, Ms. Krovtytska is already on the schedule to sing the title role in "Madama Butterfly."

A celebrated tenor

Gregg Whiteside and George Jellinek, two of New York classical radio's mightiest proponents of fine music, lauded Ukrainian tenor Ivan Kozlovsky during recent programs on WQXR-FM Radio.

During an intermission in a Metropolitan Opera broadcast on March 7, Mr. Whiteside, WQXR's chief announcer, discussed the love of opera with Dr. James H. Billington of the Library of Congress in Washington. Among the musical selections

used during the interview was a recording of Mr. Kozlovsky singing the role of the Fool in a 1954 Bolshoi Theater production of "Boris Godunov." In his remarks Dr. Billington also noted "the famine that killed 7 million people in Ukraine."

Mr. Kozlovsky's voice was heard on a recent Jellinek program, in the Prince's airs in Rubinstein's "The Demon." Mr. Jellinek noted, "Mr. Kozlovsky is a celebrated Ukrainian tenor. I am a great admirer of his recordings, and I play many of them."

Lyric tenor Ivan Kozlovsky was born March 24, 1900, in Marianivka near Kyiv, and died December 23, 1993, in Moscow. A 1919 graduate of the Lysenko Music and Drama Institute in Kyiv, he performed as a soloist in the Poltava Touring Music and Drama Theater, the Kharkiv and Sverdlovsk opera theaters, and the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow. His major roles were Lensky in Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin," the Fool in Mussorgsky's "Boris Godunov," Levko in Rimsky-Korsakov's "A May Night" and Benedei in "Snow Maiden" by the same composer. He also appeared in the Ukrainian opera "Natalka Poltavka," "The Drowned Girl," "Kateryna" and "Zaporozhian Kozak beyond the Danube."

An Oscar winner

His voice is instantly recognizable on TV commercials touting the new Broadway musical "Ragtime," and he is seen on TV in reruns of movies like "Batman," "Dracula" and "Cops and Robbers." But Jack Palance hasn't starred in any new flicks since "City Slickers II."

So what was he doing at the 70th annual Motion Pictures Academy Awards presentation a few weeks ago? Smiling affably as he posed for a "family" portrait of 70 Oscar winners. As the TV camera moved from A to Z through the gallery of winners and finally came to P, Mr. Palance, who recently turned 78, was shown full face on TV screens grinning disarmingly and flanked by two interesting vignettes – one as the tough-guy ranch foreman in "City Slickers," the other doing a series of one-arm push-ups



Carol Rosegg

Oksana Krovtytska in the title role of Puccini's "Madama Butterfly."

at the 1992 awards ceremonies to celebrate his Best Supporting Actor Award.

During the evening, Mr. Palance was also shown in a flashback to the 1993 Academy Awards, a mighty rope over one shoulder as he pulled a gigantic wagon that brought "City Slickers" co-star Billy Crystal on stage to host the ceremonies.

A coast-to-coast Hopak

A suite of Ukrainian songs and dances that climaxes with the Hopak comprises the finale of this season's program by the highly acclaimed folk ensemble, the Duquesne University Tamburitians. Presented coast-to-coast at colleges and high school auditoriums, opera houses, performing arts centers, civic centers and music halls, the program has been cheered by tens upon tens of thousands of spectators since its Town Hall opening here last October.

The suite includes two women's dances: "Rushnychok," a "khorovod" (the most ancient form of Ukrainian folk dance, combing movement, singing, instrumental music, speech and mime), and "Metelytsia" (Snowstorm), characterized by quick changes in motion, reminiscent of a winter storm. The men strut their stuff in Pavlo Virsky's "Povzunets," the whole dance done entirely in the squatting position, before the entire ensemble whirls into the spellbinding Hopak.

The Tamburitians company currently includes seven Ukrainian students (eight, if you count Justin Greenswald, whose mother is Ukrainian). The seven – all alumni of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky's Syzokryli Dancers of New York – are Larysa Halaway, Andreja and Mark Kalyta, Lydia Kurylas, Victor Kutowy,

Peter Osyf and Taras Posewa.

Credit for the Ukrainian suite choreography is given to Richard Hladio, a former Tamburitian who, as the Rev. Hladio, is now using his formidable talents to shepherd the parish of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Hamilton, Ontario.

And more Hopak

The Red Star Red Army Chorus and Dance Ensemble brought Russian dances and the Ukrainian Hopak to the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts last month, displaying "an extraordinary lightness to the men's leaps, many executed with amazing spring and height." The observation was made by The New York Times dance critic Anna Kisselgoff following the group's appearance in Brooklyn on March 8.

Ms. Kisselgoff pointed out "Carol of the Bells" as one of the art songs "that complemented the folk material and the folk-tinged contemporary compositions." Program notes described the song as an "intricate, ever so charming traditional tune from the (sic) Ukraine ... sung in the West as a carol at Christmas."

The five-column-wide photo above the review showed the dance ensemble in an action shot of – what else? – the Ukrainian Hopak.

Directed by Col. Anatoly Bazhalkin, a native of Zhytomyr, Ukraine, the Red Star Red Army ensemble has been performing the Russian-Ukrainian program throughout its current U.S. tour.

Ukrainian spelled correctly, Russians acknowledging the Hopak and "Carol of the Bells" as Ukrainian – can we ask for anything more? Well, maybe ... deleting that superfluous article in "the Ukraine."



Actor Jack Palance, seen on home TV screens during the 1992 Oscar presentations.

Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company returns to North America

TORONTO – The Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company is embarking on a North American tour starting April 24 that will take it to 38 cities across Canada and the U.S. in celebration of its 60th anniversary.

On tour through July will be 90 professionally trained dancers and musicians, under the direction of Myroslav Vantukh, artistic director of the company founded by the great choreographer and dancer Pavlo Virsky.

Conceived as a celebration of the spirit of a people through dance, the company's current program is characterized by choreography that spotlights virtuosity, agility and balletic prowess, along with wit and humor, on the part of the male dancers, and the beauty and grace of the female dancers.

The program consists of sequences alternating between what dance critic Clive Barnes referred to as the "the remarkable bounce and pounce of Ukrainian dancing," and the graceful and serene.

Ukraine's premiere dance company made its debut in 1958 at New York's old Metropolitan Opera House. The enthusiastic 25-minute ovation the company received for that performance prompted its return to North American stages in 1972 and then again in 1988.

This is the first time the troupe is appearing in a program devoid of token ideologically informed works that were an obligatory part of the company's repertoire in the past, prior to Ukraine's independence.

The tour begins in Providence, R.I., on April 24 and goes on to Maryland, Washington and upstate New York. Throughout the months of May and June, the troupe will tour Canada from coast to coast as well as perform in such major cities as Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Cleveland and Pittsburgh. Starting June 20, the company will be in Hartford, Conn., followed by appearances in New Brunswick, N.J. and in New York City's City Center on June 23-27.

The tour ends with a performance at New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark on June 28 and in Philadelphia's Merriam Theater–University of the Arts on June 30 and July 1. (For a complete listing of performances, see the advertisement in this issue of *The Weekly*.)

Under the sponsorship of Encore Productions of Cleveland, with Leonid Oleksiuk, and Donald G. Baker, a Toronto-based entrepreneur, as executive producers of the Virsky North American Tour, the dance company has been the focus of a high impact campaign in print, radio and television.



Serhiy Marchenko

"Zaporozhtsi," a work choreographed by Pavlo Virsky in 1968.

The dance company's past and present

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company, originally known as the State Dance Ensemble of Ukraine, was founded by Pavlo Virsky in 1951.

By combining brilliant ballet technique with traditional Ukrainian folk dance, Virsky created a company that gained worldwide acclaim of audiences and critics alike for its technically superb and innovative choreography.

Virsky attributed the style of the company to "the close ties we (Ukrainians) have with our national folk art and with the achievements in classical dance which is part of our heritage. ... Both elements are combined in our approach so that we may always maintain the highest level of technique together with a harmonious beauty of presentation." (Kyiv, 1966).

He noted that the operative principle informing his work was not the simple copying of ethnographic patterns of Ukrainian folk dance but rather the enrichment of existing forms "by means of creative interpretation."

The company was named after Virsky in 1977, two years after his death.

Virsky has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards in recognition of the significance of his contribution to the development of dance. His choreography has been a lasting and formative influence and has set a standard of excellence for generations of succeeding choreographers and artistic directors.

Such popular works as "Zaporozhtsi" (the dance of the Zaporzhian Kozaks), "Vyshvalnytsi" (a dance of the embroiderers), as well as dances based on vignettes of everyday life and humor ("The Shoemaker," "New Boots"), apart from being signature works of the company, have long since entered the repertoires of Ukrainian dance companies in North America.

Born in Odesa on February 25, 1905, Virsky completed his studies at the Music and Drama School in his native city in 1927 and attended the Lunacharski Dance Technicum in Moscow (1927-1928).

His professional career began in 1928 when he joined the Odesa Opera and Ballet Theater as a solo dancer and choreographer. For the next decade he worked as balletmaster at the Kharkiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, and Kyiv theaters of opera and ballet.

During the war, he continued his artistic activities in groups set up among soldiers at the front. Later he was appointed artistic director of the dance troupe of Red Army Chorus (1942-1955).

Working in many theaters across the Soviet Union, he produced such ballets as *Swan Lake*, *Raymonda*, *Esmeralda*, *Le Corsair* and *Don Quixote*.

Virsky also devoted much time to research on folk dance and choreography.

Under Virsky's direction, the Dance Ensemble of Ukraine company's performances abroad were reviewed by leading dance critics, among them Clive Barnes and Anna Kisselgoff, and reviews were carried in such publications as: *The New York Times*, *New York Post*, *Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Tribune* (Oakland, Calif.) and *San Francisco Chronicle*, among others.

Myroslav Vantukh was appointed artistic director of the company in 1980. Prior to his appointment, he was director and choreographer of the Yunist dance ensemble in Lviv. Mr. Vantukh has concentrated on reviving and revitalizing many of the renowned dances choreographed by Virsky that are the company's signature works. He has added to the Virsky legacy, creating such new works as: "The Carpathians," "Ukrainian Dance with Tambourines" and "Green Years."

Critical acclaim for Virsky

The following is an excerpt from a review by *New York Post* dance critic Clive Barnes of the State Dance Ensemble of Ukraine is third New York engagement in a performance at the Metropolitan Opera House in 1972.

"The Ukrainian Dance Company is one of the most engaging and endearing in the world. It has an immediacy of impact that is simply bewitching, and its simplicity of manner is matched only by the brilliance of its technique."

"There are many folk dance ensembles in the world, some good, some bad and most indifferent. The Ukrainians differ from most by having genuine choreography to dance. ... Virsky is not content to weave together a pattern of virtuoso tricks, peasant humor and easy symmetries. Mr. Virsky is concerned with a form perhaps best described as a choreographic vignette."

"Every one of his dances, while based on Ukrainian folk dance, has been polished into an almost balletic form It is Virsky's care with the choreography, his skill with his raw material, that gives his dancers their chance. For this is one of the most purely enjoyable folk dance ensembles in the world. It has its own spirit, its own excitement."

"...This is dancing with no tomorrows. It has no intellectual appeal, and at times its brash peasant pleasantries may easily pall. Yet it has style, shape and that special quality without which no dance can exist, vitality."



Serhiy Marchenko

The dance "Vyshvalnytsi" (The Embroiderers), also choreographed in 1968.

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Ambassador to the NIS...

(Continued from page 3)

est in making sure that our companies get a fair deal. The larger, more fundamental question is whether Ukraine will get the foreign investment that it needs to grow.

The vote for Senate ratification of NATO enlargement is expected to pass with an overwhelming majority of senators in favor of NATO's eastward expansion. What do you foresee for NATO following the admission of the first tier of members?

NATO invited the first three new members to join. It said that they would not be the last ones. The alliance's declaration in Madrid last year set the spring of 1999 for another review of new applicants. It said what the criteria would be, and that the alliance would judge new applicants according to their ability to take on responsibilities in membership and would judge their applications in terms of the alliances interest in European security.

There is no mystery as to what will happen next. There will be countries that want to be considered in spring of 1999. As the alliance prepares to consider their applications, it will judge their applications in terms of these criteria. One of the things that's important about this process is that it will be relatively transparent. That creates a kind of confidence among applicants that they will be fairly dealt with, among members of the alliance that the process has certain predictability, and among other states that are not applying that they know the direction and meaning of NATO's policy.

At the NATO summit in Madrid, Ukraine and NATO signed a charter on a "distinctive partnership" that provides for increased dialogues between the alliance and Ukraine. In your opinion, what concrete results could be accomplished via such a partnership with NATO for Ukraine?

In creating this special relationship with Ukraine, the alliance was expressing its commitment to enhance some of the cooperative activities that already have been created between Ukraine and NATO, particularly, under the Partnership for Peace. That means Ukrainian participation in exercises, training, various forms of technical assistance, even things like English language study for Ukrainian officers.

A lot of the work that NATO does under the Partnership for Peace is very fine-grained, technical, practical stuff. But the charter indicated beyond that a desire for a political consultative body on both sides, which reflects Ukraine's special situation, its strategic importance. That extra political dimension is one that is hard to quantify but creates an institutional framework for the alliance and for Ukraine. However, whatever the dimensions of NATO's expansion or enlargement eastward are, Ukraine can count on these ties that have been created.

Having been in your new position as ambassador to the NIS for the past five months, what specifically is your agenda for the office, vis-à-vis Ukraine?

Our agenda is to advance the policy that the president and the secretary have enunciated, and that is the policy that reflects America's interest in Ukraine's success - its political, economic, social and strategic success. We want a strong, democratic, prosperous Ukraine - Ukraine as a part of Europe. We know that any of our other strategic objectives in the region will be that much harder, perhaps impossible to obtain, if Ukraine does not succeed. That's the overall goal.

Within that framework we obviously have to address particular problems as a means of finding ways to facilitate, accelerate any economic reform, and to help Ukraine deal with the economic crisis that is made more and more acute by the fact that it coincides with the Asian financial crisis. The second issue that's been high on our agenda has been to address a set of non-proliferation questions that are a test of whether, in addition to an agreement in general terms on the goal of our cooperation, we can implement that policy in practical ways.

How can the Ukrainian American community assist in your long-term planning and strategy?

From my point of view, the Ukrainian American community represents a strategic asset to the U.S. government because it represents people with a stake in Ukraine's success that coincides with the administration's own stake in foreign policy. [It is] a group that has a unique understanding of the situation in Ukraine that will help us to understand better both what is happening in Ukraine and how we can advance our goals. This is an asset, by the way, that we don't have in every other country of the NIS. It's where there is a large group of Americans with a special interest in the success of the country, our policy is that much more likely to succeed.

I might add that one of the things that I was particularly impressed by my conversations with Ukrainian American leaders is not only the depth of their support for Ukraine but also the depth of their worries about Ukraine. They recognize the dangerous sides, have no interest in papering over difficulties, but have helped us to see what the real problems are.

In your previous writings, you had expressed concern regarding the expansion of NATO to former Warsaw Pact countries, and referred to a Russian sphere of influence on the territory of the former Soviet Union. What, in your view, should be Russia's role vis-à-vis the independent states of the former Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact?

When I wrote that Russia would have a sphere of influence in this region, I think you will find what I said was that it would have influence. It's a large country, a large economy and a large factor in political developments of the region. I also said that it was crucial that Russian influence be exercised in ways that are consistent with international norms, with the independent sovereignty of its neighbors and with their emergence as successful democracies. That's still the right test of whether Russia has found a legitimate new form of relations with other states of the former Soviet Union. It's not yet reached consensus in every case as to what kind of relationship it wants.

It's [Russia's] relations with Ukraine have lately developed in a pretty positive way. President's Kuchma state visit to Moscow was the first state visit by any leader of the NIS. The Russian-Ukrainian treaty represents the normalization of relations between Russia and Ukraine, of a kind that many of us worried would take years to achieve. When Secretary [of State Madeleine] Albright was in Kyiv she spoke of these trends as very positive. She was asked at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy what her view of Russian-Ukrainian relations is. She noted that in the post-Cold War world, relations among states don't have to be conducted in zero-sum terms. She said Ukraine could improve its relations at the same

(Continued on page 13)

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Going to the polls

(Continued from page 7)

two generations of family members, making voting day an outing for all. Many started out at the polling station and ended up at McDonalds.

Some election districts did not have information describing the parliamentary candidates, political parties and election blocs.

And although the UCCA reported that some of the stations did not allow observers to monitor the process of voting, for the most part, each station I visited had at least four observers from parties, candidates and the Committee of Voters (they trained 17,000 Ukrainians to observe throughout the country) keeping track of

the day's events and staying at the station until the early morning hours to witness the vote count.

I've been thinking about everything that happened since March 29, and I believe that these people all deserve a better life and a government that works. When will this finally happen?

A good friend of mine, Serhii Naboka, who is the president of the Ukrainian Media Club and the director of the independent press center Elections 98, summed up the events of March 29 by saying "democracy scored a victory on Sunday, but democratic forces lost."

Perhaps, this is a lesson to be learned by the democrats - one more time: there is strength in unity. Being a Ukrainian American I can only hope.

Ambassador to the NIS...

(Continued from page 12)

time with Russia and the United States. That's a sign that we can put the Cold War behind us.

Should Russia have a veto regarding NATO expansion?

The founding act is explicit about that. The answer is no.

The secretary of state traveled to Kyiv on March 6. Her visit came on the heels of President Kuchma's state visit to Russia a week earlier. What is your assessment of Secretary Albright's trip to Kyiv on March 6?

I thought Secretary Albright's trip was extremely successful. It represented a breakthrough in our ability to deal with some security questions that have been under discussion between Ukraine and the United States for some time. We were able to reach an economic understanding about nuclear cooperation with Iran and

on that basis the secretary and Foreign [Affairs Hennadii] Minister Udovenko initialed an agreement on peaceful nuclear cooperation. They remembered that last year when the United States and China were able to reach agreement on nuclear cooperation with Iran, they signed the same kind of peaceful nuclear cooperation agreement.

Similarly, the U.S. and Ukraine were able to reach agreement in terms of Ukraine's accession to Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), a further sign of Ukraine's entry into leading international institutions. These were goals we've been working on for some time, and it was very satisfying for both governments to be able to deal with that during Secretary Albright's visit.

If you judge simply by that progress you'd have to say that our strategic partnership is flourishing. We are able to resolve these difficulties because we have nearly identical views on big issues of international politics. If we hadn't had that similarity of views, we would never be able to reach agreement.

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WELCOME TO UKRAINE 1998

Toronto U. Students Club holds annual Ukrainian Week events

by Nestor Gula

TORONTO – The Ukrainian Students' Club (USC) at University of Toronto held its annual Ukrainian Week during the first week of February.

Over 75 students and others from Toronto's Ukrainian community attended the opening wine and cheese reception on Monday, February 2, at St. Vladimir's Institute downtown.

According to Ukrainian Week Coordinator Tetyana Lysiak, a second-year student, the idea behind Ukrainian Week is to "acquaint the university's students, staff and faculty with the traditions, culture and history of Ukrainians in Canada and in Ukraine."

On February 3, the USC hosted a panel titled "Memories, Justice and You" at St. Vladimir's Institute. The featured speaker was Olya Odynsky, against whose father, Wasyly, the Canadian government has opened denaturalization and deportation proceedings. Students heard Ms. Odynsky deliver an impassioned plea to give her family its day in criminal court as mandated by the country's War Crimes Act. Ms. Odynsky

also urge students to become civic activists.

The rest of the week included a display of works by Ukrainian artists set up in the foyer of Sidney Smith Hall, a Career Night at St. Vladimir's Institute, a pub crawl along trendy Queen Street and a gala show and party with the Veseli Vechornytsi band at the Ukrainian National Federation (UNF) hall on College Street on February 7.

On the opening day reception, USC President Mark Fedorowycz announced that the club would donate \$3,000, collected during its annual Pre-Malanka bash at the UNF hall, to several causes.

The club gave \$500 to the St. Vladimir Institute (where USC offices are located); \$250 to the Ukrainian Canadian School Board's "Matura Fund"; \$500 to the Radiation Treatment Ward at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children; \$500 to the Petro Jacyk Foundation for Eastern European Studies; \$500 to the Ukrainian Canadian Care Center; \$500 to Help Us Help the Children; and \$250 to an unspecified fund to help out Ukrainian students at University of Toronto.

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So that we may be enriched...

(Continued from page 6)

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hope is in the Lord" (Ps. 146:5).

Beloved in Christ, may the Lord God, "who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3), fill our hearts with joy and heavenly peace, so that in the "renewal by the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:5), we may be enriched in the hope of eternal life.

May the blessing of the Lord be with you always! Christ is Risen!

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

Bandurists pay tribute to Ukraine's bard



The New York School of Bandura performs in tribute to Taras Shevchenko.

NEW YORK – Thirty-five students of the New York School of Bandura directed by Julian Kytasty kicked off this year's concert in honor of Taras Shevchenko in New York City on the rainy afternoon of Sunday, March 8, at Public School 19 in New York's East Village.

Two hours before the 2 p.m. curtain, dozens of students and parents began congregating at the school. A stream of cars pulled up in front of the school, each with its load of young bandurists excited about what, for most of them, would be their first public performance. The students came from groups that meet weekly for lessons throughout the year in the Metropolitan area: New York School of Bandura (NYSB) groups in Yonkers, Astoria and St. George's School in the city, the bandura group of SUM-A (New York), as well as some private students.

It has been over a decade since the New York area has seen such a resurgence of interest in Ukraine's national instrument. The young people coming together to honor Shevchenko by demonstrating their first accomplishments on the instrument he immortalized included many who were not yet born when the NYSB last assembled large performing ensembles.

The groups had worked on their own since the fall to master bandura fundamentals under the tutelage of Mr. Kytasty (Yonkers, St. George's School) and instructor Alla Kucevych (Astoria, SUM-A). In the weeks immediately preceding the performance, each group learned the music on its own. Now there would be one short rehearsal on stage before the concert.

Order gradually came out of chaos as the students were brought up on the stage one group at a time and seated. Mr. Kytasty and Ms. Kucevych took their places in the front row. A quick count-in, and suddenly the hall was filled with the sound of 35 instruments. Mr. Kytasty took the students through each piece on the program to get them used to playing together, and then it was time to turn the stage over to the Dumka Choir for their rehearsal and warm-up.

An hour later, with the audience in their seats, the young bandurists filed back to their places on stage. Their program began with a "Kozachok," a traditional instrumental melody from the repertoire of Kost Misevych, a bandurist of the 1930s who taught many of the players who brought the instrument to New York after the war and in whose honor the New York School of Bandura is named.

The Astoria group and the SUM-A bandurists performed the song "Sopilka." Next came the lullaby "Oi Khodyt Son," performed by the group from St. George's School joined by four young students from Yonkers. Then the full ensemble picked up their instruments again for the concluding piece, "Metelytsia," another instrumental dance melody from the traditional bandura repertoire.

The concert continued with performances by tenor Bohdan Sikora, Mr. Kytasty, actor Volodymyr Kornylko and the Dumka Choir.

Addendum

In the April 5 issue of The Weekly, the photo caption accompanying Prof. Luba Zuk's article "Kyiv hosts Mykola Lysenko International Music Competition," failed to identify the three members of the jury. They were (from left): Ethella Chupryk, Luba Zuk and Ariadna Lysenko.

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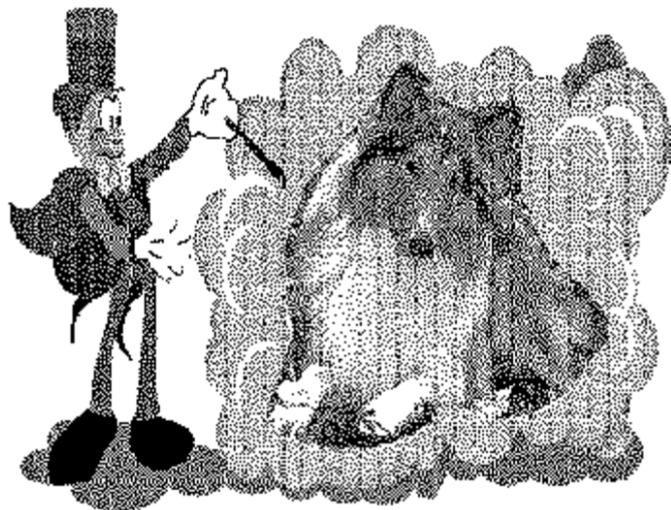
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Yale conference to focus on economic issues

NEW HAVEN, Conn. – The Yale Center for International and Area Studies will host a two-day conference on April 24 and 25 to examine the rapidly changing links between the economy and the state in today's Ukraine. Ukrainian policy-makers and Western economic experts agree that the future growth of Ukraine's economy depends upon reshaping a broad variety of political, legal and financial institutions that define the environment in which business can thrive.

Speakers will address the following topics: the changing political contest; reshaping the legal system; regulatory reform; renewing public administration; fiscal, financial and investment reform; and emerging market issues, with special attention to the agribusiness sector.

The conference will be held on two days, Friday, April 24, and Saturday, April 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies, Luce Hall Auditorium, 34 Hillhouse Ave., New Haven, Conn.

Conference organizers are Robert Evenson, professor of economics and director of the Economic Growth Center, and Susan Rose-Ackerman, the Henry R. Luce Professor of Jurisprudence, Law and Political Science and co-director of the Center for Studies in Law Economics and Public Policy. Gustav Ranis, Frank Altschul Professor of International Economics and director of the Yale Center for International and Area Studies, will open the conference.

Viktor Yuschenko, chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine, will deliver the keynote address. Academic and policy experts in institutional reform, as well as prominent representatives of Ukrainian and international institutions will speak at the conference.

On Friday morning, Serhii Teriokhin, member of Parliament and co-chair of the Ukrainian Institute of Civil Society Transformation, will discuss the political system and recent elections, and Viktor Lysytskiy, advisor to the chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine, Robert Kravchuk of Indiana University, and Jaroslav Kinach of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development will examine Ukraine's evolving fiscal and financial institutions.

Alexander Pivovarsky of the Harvard Institute of

International Development, and Scott A. Carlson, president and CEO of Western NIS Enterprise Fund, will consider aspects of investment in the first afternoon session, followed by a panel discussion on food system reform. Panelists will be drawn from among board members of the Ukrainian Agricultural Development Corporation (UADC), a consortium of 10 major Western firms that invest in projects in Ukraine. William G. Miller, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, will address a conference dinner at the New Haven Lawn Club on Friday evening.

On Saturday morning, Serhii Holovaty, president of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation and former minister of justice of Ukraine, Louise Shelley of The American University, and Petter Langseth of the World Bank will focus on reform of the legal system. Bohdan Krawchenko, vice-rector of the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration, Vira Nanivska, director of the International Center for Policy Studies, and Kempton Jenkins, chairman of the Ukraine-U.S. Business Council, will survey the interrelationship of public administration and the markets.

After lunch, regulatory reform will be the topic for Joel Turkewitz of the International Center for Policy Studies, Andrew Stone of the World Bank and Robert Westoby of Monsanto and the UADC. The conference will end with a roundtable discussion by Susan Rose-Ackerman and Stephen Holmes, professor at the New York University School of Law.

The conference is bracketed by two concerts. At 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 23, acclaimed recording artists Alexis Kochan and Julian Kytasty will perform a benefit concert of Ukrainian folk music for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund in Yale's Dwight Chapel, and at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, the renowned Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company takes the stage of New Haven's Palace Performing Arts Center.

Support for the conference is provided by the Chopivsky Family Foundation, Yale's Council on Russian and East European Studies, and the Yale Center for International and Area Studies.

For further information, contact the Yale-Ukraine Initiative at the Yale Center for International and Area Studies by telephone, (203) 432-3107; fax, (203) 432-5963; or e-mail, rees@yale.edu

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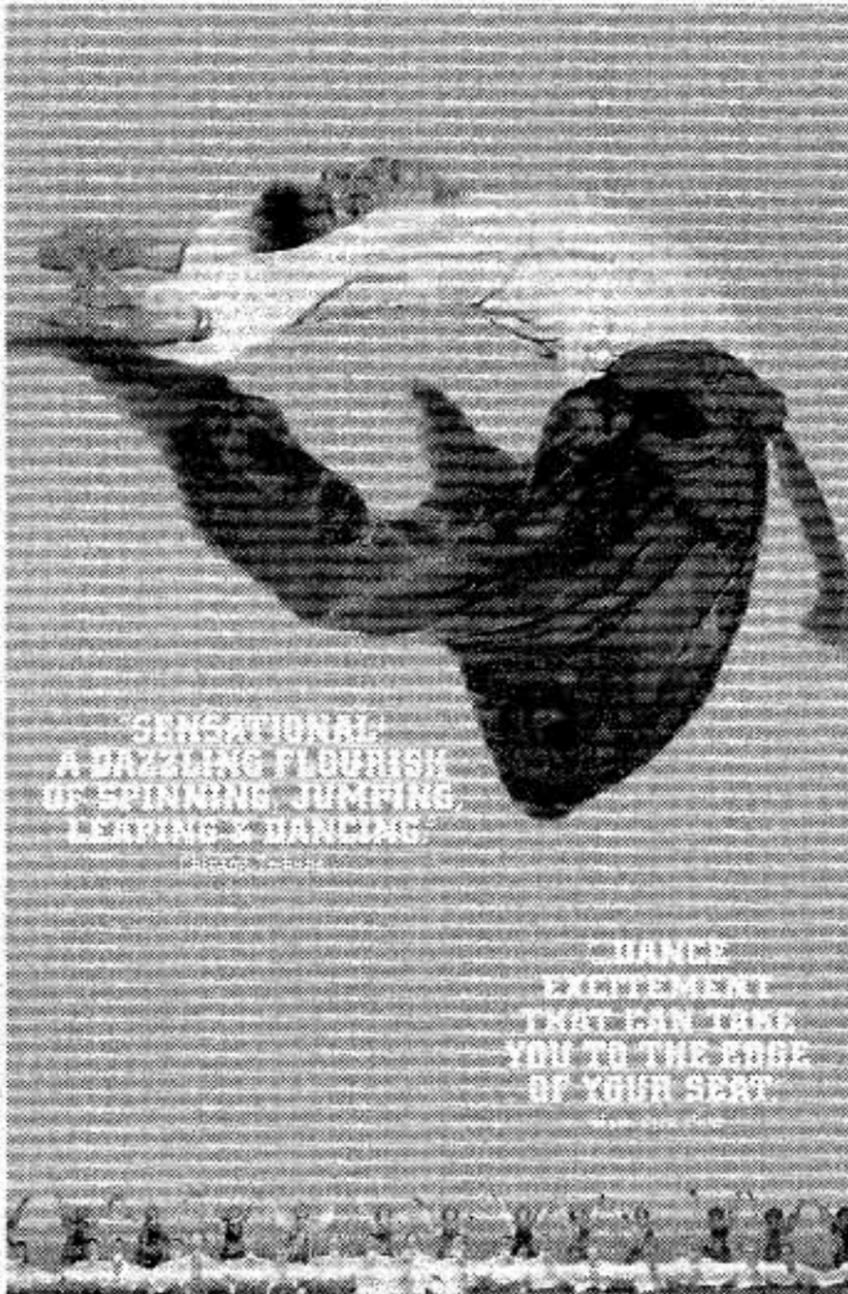


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Centre in the Square
May 9, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Box Office: 519.578.1570, Toll Free: 1.800.265.8977

Mississauga
Living Arts Centre
May 10, 1998 at 4 p.m.
Box Office: 905.306.0000, Toll Free: 1.888.805.8886

Toronto
Huntingbird Performing Arts Centre
May 11-13, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Ticketmaster: 416.972.2262

Detroit, MI
Detroit Opera House
May 14, 1998 at 8 p.m.
In Person: at Detroit Opera House
Ticketmaster: 248.645.6666

Chicago, IL
Chicago Theatre
May 16, 1998 at 8 p.m., May 17, 1998 at 4 p.m.
Information: 312.442.1130, Box Office: 175 N. State St.
(In Person Only)
Ticketmaster: 312.902.1500 or
Online at www.ticketmaster.com
(Tickets also available at Ocean Park Book, Dussanakis, Tower Records & 1st Tr. cash only)

Milwaukee, WI
Riverside Theatre
May 13, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Information: 414.224.3000, Ticketmaster: 414.276.4545

Minneapolis, MN
Northrop Auditorium
May 20, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Ticketmaster: 612.388.5151
(Tickets also available at Deytons, Murray's Librarians, and Rainbow Foods)

Winnipeg
Centennial Concert Hall
May 22, 1998 at 8 p.m., May 23, 1998 at 4 p.m.
Ticketmaster: 204.780.3333

Saskatoon
Centennial Auditorium
May 24, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.
Select-a-Seat: 306.538.7800, Toll Free: 1.800.970.7328

Regina
Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts
May 26, 1998 at 8 p.m.
C.B.O.: 306.525.9999, Toll Free: 1.800.667.8497

Edmonton
Winspear Centre
May 29-30, 1998 at 8 p.m., May 31, 1998 at 4 p.m.
Box Office: 403.428.1414, Toll Free: 1.800.563.5081

Calgary
Jubilee Auditorium
June 1, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Ticketmaster: 403.777.0000

Vancouver
Queen Elizabeth Theatre
June 3-4, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Ticketmaster: 604.280.4444

Victoria
Royal Theatre
June 5, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Box Office: 250.386.6121

Cleveland, OH
Palace Theatre Playhouse Square Center
June 8 & 10, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.
Toll Free: 1.800.768.8048, Advantix: 216.241.8000

Youngstown, OH
Edward W. Powers Auditorium
June 11, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Box Office: 330.744.0264, Ticketmaster: 330.747.1212

Toledo, OH
Stranahan Theater
June 12, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Ticketmaster: 419.474.1333

Columbus, OH
Merchler Auditorium
June 13, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Box Office: 614.292.3535, Ticketmaster: 614.431.3600

Pittsburgh, PA
Byham Theater
June 14, 1998 at 4 p.m., June 16, 17, 18, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Box Office: 412.456.6666, Ticketmaster: 412.523.1919

Scranton, PA
Scranton Cultural Center
June 19, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Toll Free: 1.888.669.8966, Box Office: 717.344.1111

Hartford, CT
The Bushnell
June 20, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Telecharge: 1.800.233.3123, Box Office: 860.587.5800
Toll Free Outside CT: 1.888.824.2874

New Brunswick, NJ
State Theatre
June 21, 1998 at 4 p.m.
Box Office: 732.246.7459

New York, NY
City Center
June 23-27, 1998 at 8 p.m.
CityTix: 212.501.1212
(Handicapped accessible, voice-activated system, ticket purchases accepted by TTTI 212.247.0111)

Newark, NJ
New Jersey Performing Arts Center
June 28, 1998 at 4 p.m.
Toll Free: 1.888.80-NJPAC, Group Sales: 973.642.2002
Fax Orders: 973.642.5229

Philadelphia, PA
Merriam Theater - University of the Arts
June 30, 1998 at 8 p.m., July 1, 1998 at 8 p.m.
Information: 215.732.5446, Ticketmaster: 215.398.2000
New Jersey: 609.336.9000

CBC Television

Monday, April 13

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is holding, as part of its seminar series, a lecture by Angela Stent, associate professor of government, Georgetown University, on the topic "Ukraine and Germany: Toward a new Partnership?" The lecture will be held in the HURI seminar room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m.

Thursday-Sunday, April 16-19

NEW YORK: The Association for The Study of Nationalities is holding its third annual convention at Columbia University's International Affairs Building, 410 W. 18th St. The first panel, titled "Language Policies and Nation-Building in Ukraine," is scheduled for April 16 at 4-6 p.m., to be held in Room 1219, International Affairs Building. Among the participants are: Larissa Onyshkevych (Princeton Research Forum), "Language Policies in Ukraine, 1933-1997"; Alexander Tsiovkh (University of Kansas), "National Identity and Language in Present-Day Ukraine"; Taras Kuzio (University of Birmingham, United Kingdom), "Is Ukraine a Nationalizing State? Language Policies and Nation-Building"; Olena Bekh (Taras Shevchenko University, Kyiv, Ukraine) and Svitlana Oksamytna (The University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine), "Social Tendencies and the Language Factor in the Transformation of Ukrainian Society"; with discussant Tamara Hundorova (Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and the Harriman Institute, Columbia University). The conference is chaired by Anna Procyk (Kingsborough College, City University of New York). For further information call (212) 854-6239.

Thursday-Friday, April 16-17

NEW YORK: World Information Transfer (WIT) invites the public to attend the seventh international WIT conference titled "Health and the Environment - The Trauma of Environmental Disasters," to be held at the United Nations Headquarters on the eve of the 12th anniversary of the Chernobyl accident. The event is co-sponsored by the government of Bangladesh and the United Nations DPI/NGO Section. There is no admission fee to the conference, but pre-registration is required by U.N. security; also there is separate registration for the luncheons. For more information call (212) 686-1996; fax (212) 686-2172; e-mail wit@igc.apc.org; Web page: http://www.worldinfo.org/.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday-Monday, April 19-20

OTTAWA: The Sheptytsky Institute at St. Paul University will present Peter and Doris Kule of Edmonton with honorary doctorates on April 19. The following evening, Easter Monday according to the Julian Calendar, the Ottawa community and out-of-town guests will join Bishop Lawrence Huculak of Edmonton in celebrating Paschal Vespers, followed by a reception to honor the doctorate recipients. Since 1968 only 11 individuals have received honorary doctorates from St. Paul University, among them the late Patriarch Josyf Slipyj. This is the first time that a married couple is receiving this honor. For information contact The Sheptytsky Institute, 233 Main St., Ottawa, ON K1S 1C4; telephone, (613) 236-1393, ext. 2332; fax, (613) 782-3026.

Monday, April 20

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is holding a lecture by Paul D'Anieri, assistant professor of political science, University of Kansas, on the topic "The Future of Ukrainian Foreign Policy." The lecture will be held in the HURI seminar room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21

TORONTO: St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Ave., is holding a traditional Ukrainian culinary class with recipe handouts. The instructor is Hanya Cirka. Cost: \$25. For more information call the institute, (416) 923-3318.

Thursday, April 23

NEW HAVEN, Conn.: Acclaimed Canadian recording artists Alexis Kochan and Julian Kytasty will be appearing in concert at Dwight Chapel on Yale University's Old Campus. The

concert will be held at 7 p.m., with proceeds to benefit the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. Musical selections will include compositions for the bandura by Hryhoriy T. Kytasty, and excerpts from the recent collaborative recording "Paris to Kyiv: Variances." Tickets: \$10; \$5, children and students with a valid ID. For more information, contact the CCRF Connecticut office, (203) 407-0261.

Saturday, April 25

NEW YORK: "Music at the Institute" presents "Beyond Chamber Music Standards" featuring a program of works by Hindemith, Sonata for Tuba and Piano, with Aleksandr Markovich (tuba) and Virko Baley (piano); Beethoven, Adagio in E-flat Major for Mandolin and Piano, WoO 43b, with Mayya Kalikhman (mandolin) and Mykola Suk (piano); Medtner, Sonata-Vocalise for Soprano and Piano, with Wendy Waller (soprano) and Esther Budiardjo (piano); Chausson, Chanson Perpetuelle for Soprano, String Quartet and Piano, Op. 37, with Ms. Waller, the Flux Quartet (Tom Chiu and Cornelius Dufallo, violins; Kenji Bunch, viola, and David Eggar, cello) and Mr. Suk; and Schröder, Eine kleine Lachmusik, with the Flux Quartet. Concurrently, there will be an exhibit titled "A few drawings by Gogo," featuring the work of Orest Slupchynsky of New York. The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m.

WARREN, Mich.: The Olena Teliha Branch 58 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America is sponsoring an "Aloha Luncheon" to be held at the Ukrainian Village, 26377 Ryan Road, at noon. Donation: \$15. Proceeds to benefit the Veselka charitable organization which comes to the aid of elderly Ukrainians as well as nursing home patients. RSVP by April 20, by calling Julia Stoiko, (313) 278-7682.

Sunday, April 26

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: Alexis Kochan and Julian Kytasty will perform in concert at the Church of the New Jerusalem (corner of Quincy and Kirkland streets) at 3 p.m. Proceeds to benefit the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. The concert is co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Citizens' Educational Foundation and the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union of Boston. Tickets: \$10; \$5, children and students with a valid ID. For more information, contact Christina Slywotzky, (617) 864-1838.

Advance Notice Monday-Friday, July 13-24

WINNIPEG: St. Andrew's College will hold two courses for credit in the Certificate of Theology program for laity in the UOCC during the summer of 1998. The courses include: Pastoral Theology: Lay Ministry of the Aged and Infirm, and Church Music: Liturgical Chant in the Ukrainian Tradition. The first course will be taught by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Jarmus, dean of theology and a specialist in pastoral theology. The second course will be instructed by Prof. Tatiana Navolska, instructor of church music in the faculty of theology. The courses will be held July 13-24 at St. Andrew's College, with three hours of instruction per day. Residence will be available for out of town students. For further information contact the College Register, the Rev. Roman Bozyk, (204) 474-8895, fax (204) 474-7624 or visit St. Andrew's College, 29 Dysart Road, Winnipeg, R3T 2M7.

Monday-Friday, July 6-August 14

WINNIPEG: The Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba is offering three courses as part of its 1998 Summer Institute in Ukrainian Language and Culture. The courses offered include: Conversational Ukrainian (six credits), July 6-August 11; Eastern Christianity in North America (three credits), July 6-24; and Ukrainian Canadian Folklore (three credits), July 27-August 14. The courses are university accredited, and course credit may be transferred to other universities. The courses may also be audited. For further information contact the center's director, Dr. Natalia Aponiuk, at (204) 474-8906, or fax (204) 474-7601 or write to: Center for Ukrainian Canadian Studies, c/o St. Andrew's College, 29 Dysart Road, Winnipeg, Canada, R3T 2M7.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES IN PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

- Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided free of charge by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.
- To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information written in Preview format (date, place, type of event, admission, sponsor, etc., in the English language, providing full names of persons and/or organizations mentioned, and listing a contact person for additional information). Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published. Please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours.

Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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