



New Era

ENGLISH SECTION OF
Official Organ
of the
American Fraternal Union.

Nova Doba

AMPLIFYING THE VOICE OF THE ENGLISH SPEAKING MEMBERS



A SECURE TODAY AND A BETTER TOMORROW

Everyone today is war conscious. All around us are reminders that we are involved in a hard struggle for freedom and democracy. However, now is the time to also give some thought to the post-war life which will bring about numerous changes in our way of living.

Many of us probably feel that there will be a decrease in our wages after the war. Many people overlook the fact that we must plan and save now for the future. The head of a family might think that he shouldn't enroll in a fraternal organization today because he may not be able to pay his dues when his wages will possibly be less.

To such skeptic prospective members we would like to say: Perhaps your wages won't be as great as they are now, however, after the war the price of food, shelter and clothing will probably be much less. Therefore, although you might be earning less you will have just as great a purchasing power, if not more than you have now. And there won't be War Bonds to buy and taxes will probably be lower.

What if misfortune befalls you at the present time? Is your family's future secure? Are you a member of a sound fraternal organization such as the American Fraternal Union? Everyone should provide himself and his family with an assured future by belonging to the AFU which stands ready to give help in time when help is needed most — in case of illness or death.

The AFU has a policy ready to fill the various needs of every individual. Any AFU lodge secretary will gladly explain the benefits our Union has to offer to its members. Enroll now and be assured of a secure today and a better tomorrow.

Putting your money in life insurance dollars in a trustworthy organization such as the American Fraternal Union reassures you of a well-planned future for you and yours.

Thought For The Day

Is the Red Cross 1944 Service flag in your front window this year? Your American Red Cross contribution is the "beacon of hope" to the many servicemen and women who are fighting the battle for you and I. Give now and give generously!

News of AFU Yanks

Pvt. Joe Oblak Jr. writes us this week from Tampa, Florida where he serves with the U. S. Army Air Forces. He states that he receives the Nova Doba and that it is a good way for him to keep up with the activities of the AFU. He is now on "Operational Training" about thirty miles from Drew Field, Tampa, Fla.

Pfc. Joe Sotlich sends a V-Mail letter from Corsica. He writes: "I have just received your Christmas card. I also receive the Nova Doba and after reading it through I pass it on to the rest of the boys to read. They enjoy reading it very much. I am in Corsica at the present time. The days are pretty cool here. It rains almost every day out here. Before I came to Corsica I was in Africa, Sicily and at the Bermuda Islands."

His friends may write to him at the following address:
Pfc. Joe G. Sotlich, 37090877
1609 Ord. (M. M.) Co.
APO 650 c/o Postmaster
New York, N. Y.

Sgt. John Rozane of Lorain, Ohio was recently awarded the Army good conduct medal somewhere in the South Pacific for exemplary behaviour and attention to duty." Sgt. Rozane has been serving overseas for a year with a signal air warning station, and is wearer of the Pacific campaign ribbon.

A second promotion in a little more than a week came to the family of Mr. and Mrs.

Louis Balant of Lorain, Ohio upon receipt of the word that their son Louis Balant, Jr. had been promoted from second to first lieutenant in the Army Air Corps.

First Lieut. Balant 35, entered the service in 1942, and received his first commission just a year ago. He serves as a recruiter of aviation cadets in the Illinois area and is stationed in Chicago at present.

A brother, Victor, 25, last week was promoted from first lieutenant to captain in the air corps at Smyrna Field, Tenn., where he is stationed.

This week we received a V-Mail letter from our travelling Sergeant, Michael Rovanssek, who is again headed somewhere overseas. Friends are asked to note his change of address.

1st Sgt. Michael Rovanssek,
6796444
A.P.O. 12693 c/o Postmaster
New York, N. Y.

Meeting Notice of Lodge No. 6 AFU

Lorain, Ohio — I again urge and request all the members of Lodge No. 6 AFU of Lorain, Ohio to attend the monthly meetings especially in March and April. Our next meeting will be March 19th. At these meetings, as I have already written in the Nova Doba before, the By-Laws will be reviewed, and you are at free will to give your comments on various matters which will benefit you and the lodge. We cannot have any discussions if there are only a handful of members present. At our February meeting the officers and myself were very disappointed for the meeting was very poorly attended, therefore, I again invite all members to attend the next meeting.

Fraternally yours,

Ludwig Vidrick, Sec'y
Lodge No. 6, AFU
Lorain, Ohio

Preseren Singing Society to Hold Spring Dance Apr. 10

Pittsburgh, Pa. — Most people say that the only way to remember something is by repeating it. Since this is the case, start now by repeating April 10th over and over again in your mind. Believe me it will be worth while to remember this date for this is the day of the Preseren Singing Society's coming spring dance. The music will be furnished by Marty Kuh and his Musical Group who put you in the mood for music anytime.

As a special treat we are asking a group of servicemen from one of the local colleges to be our guests. So come one, come all, and help us show these boys a good time; you'll give yourself a lift too! We'll be seeing you then.

Rose Fabec
Lodge No. 12, AFU
Pittsburgh, Pa.

INSIDE THE AXIS Nazis Move in Belgrade

According to a reliable report from overseas, the German general staff in Belgrade, which formerly occupied the old Parliament Buildings, has now placed these buildings at the disposal of Gen. Milan Nedich, the puppet premier of Serbia.

This was not regarded as an act of magnanimity on the part of the Nazis. The report explained that the buildings make an excellent target for air attacks and that the Germans had moved into scattered and less vulnerable offices.

American Fraternal Union
Members Serving Our Country



2,028

BRIEFS

Notice to contributors of articles to the Nova Doba: Please mail your copy as early as possible. Due to the shortage of labor, the Cleveland Post Office cannot serve us as promptly as they did in pre-war times. Contributors are also asked to remember that all articles should be accompanied by the personal signature of the sender. Those who type their copy should write their names below. Thank you for your cooperation.

Many servicemen - members who have been receiving the Nova Doba regularly have moved and the paper is returned with the notation that the new address is unknown. Families of servicemen would do well to notify this office of any change of address. In this way the boys won't miss out on any issues of the Nova Doba.

Frank Tomsich Sr., father of the Assistant Supreme Secretary of the AFU, Frank Tomsich Jr., died at the hospital in Duluth, Minn. on March 5th. He was a resident of Ely, Minn. since 1901. Besides his widow, he is survived by his sons, Frank Jr., John, and Joseph who is serving in the U. S. Armed Forces somewhere on the Pacific; a daughter, Mrs. Frances Francel of Marshfield, Wis.; a brother John in Ely and a brother George in Milwaukee, Wis. and two sisters. The deceased was a member of Lodge No. 1, AFU. We offer our sincere sympathy to his family.

The Feb. 18th issue of the "Joliet Herald-News" carried an article about the American Fraternal Union investing \$300,000 in U. S. War Bonds. The story was given to them by Frank E. Vranichar, First Supreme Trustee of the AFU. The paper also tells of the Union's donations to the Red Cross and the U. S. O.

On March 18th and 19th Clevelanders will have the unique opportunity of viewing two Russian grand operas.

On Saturday evening, March 18th, at 8:15 the Russian Grand Opera Company of New York presents in the Music Hall of the Cleveland Public Auditorium "Boris Gorunoff" by Modeste Mussorgsky.

On Sunday afternoon, March 19th at 2:15 "Eugene Onegin"

Meeting Notice to Members of Lodge No. 150, AFU

Chisholm, Minn. — I hope the readers won't mind if in the beginning of my article I thank all my co-sisters and friends who visited me during my recent illness. The flu put me to bed for two weeks but now I am feeling better again. Thanks to all who visited me.

The next meeting of Lodge No. 150, AFU will be held Sunday afternoon April 2nd at the home of the secretary. Members are invited to attend the coming meeting in as large a number as possible. Representatives to the Minnesota Federation of AFU Lodges will be elected so they can attend the Federation meeting in May in Eveleth, Minn. At this meeting we shall also discuss our by-laws and what should be done for the benefit of our members and our organization. In August of this year the AFU convention will be held and now is the time for the members to discuss it.

At our last meeting Lady Fortune sought Sister Anna Briski but since she was not present Lady Fortune will look for another at the April 2nd meeting. I wish to add that following our next meeting refreshments will be served.

Our official organ, the Nova Doba, travels far throughout America wherever our AFU members live. Through the Nova Doba various readers come into contact with each other. Today I received a letter from Maynard, Ohio from an acquaintance of mine whom I knew in the old country. Her name is Theresa Brezic. Last year when her brother, Martin Papez died in Joliet, I wrote about it in the Nova Doba for he was my former schoolmate. That is how she found out where I was. Theresa Brezic is the sister of Gregory Papez, member of Lodge No. 66, AFU of Joliet, Ill. In connection with the above information I would like to ask my former neighbors from the old country, who are scattered throughout America, to write to the Nova Doba and in this way we shall hear from one another.

We are now having a colder winter than we had in January. Today, March 6, while I am writing this article a huge snow storm is raging and our thermometer reads 10 degrees below zero. However, this winter won't last very long for Spring is just around the corner. Regards to all members of the American Fraternal Union.

Frances Lukanich, Member
Lodge No. 150, AFU
Chisholm, Minn.

We just heard about a soldier on furlough who applied for "some extra gasoline coupons."

"What kind of a car have you?" the ration board asked.
"Oh I have no car," he replied, "but I find it easier to get 'hitches' if I wave a few coupons!"

by Peter Tschakowsky will be presented.

Both productions have been widely acclaimed in New York. They are performed by a noted cast of artists and are sung in the original Russian text.

Tickets, selling at prices ranging from \$3.85 to \$1.10, can be secured through Taylor's Ticket Office, 630 Euclid Avenue.

Office of the Supreme Secretary AFU

SUPREME OFFICERS AND DELEGATES PUT ON THE SPOT!

In the minutes of the annual meeting of the AFU Supreme Board, the membership read of the Pre-Convention Membership Campaign which will run from March 1st to July 25th. The competition in this campaign will be centered around the Supreme Officers, Supreme Judiciary Committee Members and delegates to the coming convention. Those contestants who will attain at least 10 points will be qualified as winners and those who enroll the most members will be qualified for the special awards. There are three special awards namely, \$25.00, \$15.00 and \$10.00. The winners will be honored at the convention with an honorary convention badge which will be presented by the convention chairman. One point will be credited for every new juvenile member and two points will be credited for every new adult member, and one point for every juvenile transferring to the adult department.

We have never before had a membership campaign on this order in our Union and because of this the members will undoubtedly follow it with great interest. As I mentioned in the above title, all Supreme Board and Supreme Judiciary members and aspiring delegates are put on the "spot." The plan of this campaign was suggested by our Supreme President and those members to whom the progress of our organization is truly near to their hearts and they will approve and support it 100 per cent. Now every Supreme Officer and every prospective delegate will have the opportunity to show what and how much they are willing to do for our organization at least during the convention year. The majority of the Supreme Officers were, since the last convention, active as well as a goodly number of lodge officers and members; now we shall see what those can do who were more or less passive during the past four years or more and who would like to attend the convention.

Our lodges are in the position to most effectively bolster this campaign. The title of delegate is the greatest honor and recognition which a lodge can bestow upon its deserving member. If the lodges at their coming meetings would come to the conclusion that they will support as delegates those members who will from now until the election of delegates acquire the greatest number of new members, it would greatly benefit this campaign and it would be successful in all ways. Such a decision would not be out of order because after all it is more than right that the member who did the most for his lodge should go to the convention. Usually the members who actively participate in the campaign for new members are also the best informed about lodge and Union affairs and needs and as such best qualified to speak and state their opinions at the convention. Well informed delegates are needed even more at the convention than well informed Supreme Officers, for they are the direct representatives of their lodges and those factors, who make decisions at the conventions. A delegate who knows his lodge and Union will not be so easily converted to someone else's ideas, and I, at least, wish that there will be 100% of such delegates at the coming convention. There will be less explanations necessary and the work will be completed sooner.

I hope that in the above paragraphs I have not offended anyone and that no one will misunderstand me. My wish is that this campaign would be successful in every way and that at the coming convention there won't be anyone who will not be able to step up to the convention president to receive his honor badge. If everyone and all do their duty, then our present campaign will bring us at least 1600 new members.

Fraternal regards,

ANTON ZBASNIK, Supreme Secretary.

Pre-Convention Membership Campaign

Explanation

DURATION OF CAMPAIGN

From March 1 to July 25. (All applications for acceptance must be in the Supreme Office at the latest by August 1st.)

AWARDS

(a) Regular awards which are published weekly in the Nova Doba.

(b) Convention recognition in the form of an honorary convention badge, which will be presented by the convention chairman.

(c) Three special awards, \$25.00, \$15.00 and \$10.00 which will be paid to the three contestants who will enroll the greatest number of members.

QUALIFICATIONS

As contestants in this campaign, all Supreme Officers, Supreme Judiciary Committee members and delegates can qualify. (If a campaign winner cannot attend the convention the honor badge will be presented by his lodge.)

CONDITIONS

Every candidate who acquires at least 10 points during the campaign will be eligible for a convention honor badge. Every new juvenile member enrolled will count as one point, every juvenile member transferring to the adult department will count as one point, and every new adult member will count as two points.

IMPORTANT: Juveniles will not have to have a physical examination and the application will not have to be presented at the lodge meeting. The application may be approved by the lodge president, secretary and treasurer.

On every application blank the lodge secretary should attach the name of the member to whom the new member is accredited. Wherever this name will be omitted the application will be credited to the lodge.

ANTON ZBASNIK, Supreme Secretary.

Give

WAR FUND

