

Our Society's 4,435 Soldier-Members

The SNPJ is observing its 40th birthday this year. For nearly a quarter century it has been enjoying the distinction of being the largest and strongest Slovene fraternal organization on this continent. With its liberal principles and its membership of more than 63,000, it is the hub of our people in this country. The SNPJ is proud of its past record, as it is also proud of its large representation in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Official figures revealed last week that our Society now has 4,435 members in the armed forces of our country, and it is likely that by midsummer of this year the total will exceed the 5,000 mark. During the past six months an average of one hundred members a month entered the service from our ranks.

These members, more than 4,000 strong, entrust the SNPJ duties and responsibilities to us on the home front, the front which sustains the fighting fronts. These duties and responsibilities no member of the Society can shirk. For this is a war of survival on all fronts; it is the people's war and it must be fought with all we have. We owe it to our soldier-members and to ourselves as citizens and as members of the SNPJ to do our full share in the present war.

As citizens and as members of the Society we must work, fight and give on the home front so that the objectives of the war activities program are won. In this we have a double objective, namely, our war aims and our Society's aims, which go together and they must be won together. The war program of our organization is coupled with constant and increasing enrollment of members into our ranks.

For instance, when one member leaves his work and goes to the army, two new members should be enlisted to fill the breach, to back him up on the home front.

It is the duty at home to continue to make certain that our organization and its principles are advanced. It is our duty particularly to our soldier-members, against the day they return from the battle fronts.

We all know that there are many non-members in our communities. It is our responsibility, as SNPJ members, to see that they become members, that they participate in the organization that helps them and their families—that gives them safe and sound protection at the lowest rates possible.

Although there is no special membership campaign in progress at this time, let us begin to observe the 40th anniversary of our organization the right way—by bringing into our lodges the greatest number of new members this year. This will indeed be a most fitting celebration of our Society's milestone.

As emphasized here last week; another all-important duty on the home front is the buying of War Bonds and Stamps, especially now, during the Fourth War Loan drive.

In this there should be no letup. We must continue to invest our savings into war bonds and stamps in order that democracy will be preserved and expanded.

Another important duty in our war effort at this time is the collection of essential metals, rubber, paper and other materials. We urge our members throughout the country to continue doing their part also in this respect.

Still another important duty in our effort at this time is to support the annual Infantile Paralysis Fund-Raising campaign that is now in progress. The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis has just issued an appeal for contributions to fight the scourge of polio.

Let each and everyone do his part in bringing about a total victory on all our fighting fronts—against our deadly enemies here and abroad.

Sharon Keystoneers

SHARON, PA.—Seems rather hard to admit it, but this writer is a little late with some of the holiday news, mostly on account of sickness, such as influenza and pneumonia. It seems to be hitting the cities of Sharon and Farrell pretty hard. Hoping that it won't last too long.

A wonderful crowd attended the Keystoneers' jukebox dance and pork supper. As soon as you entered the Slovene hall, the smell of zeljé hit your nostrils and soon wanted to know when it will be ready to serve. A local barber here ordered fifteen servings of pork, and believe me, it was gone before you could say Jack Robinson. The supper was served by the writer, Mitze Anzur, Mary Robich and Mrs. Frank Steibly, who deserves plenty of thanks for a helping hand. A swell time was had by all who stayed to bring in the new year, and everywhere you turned you could see friends wishing each other a successful and prosperous New Year.

Juvenile New Year's Day dance can't be described in this article what a tremendous affair it was. Believe me, folks, I'm positive that never in the history of our Sharon Juveniles was ever a dance so well attended. Never were so many Slovenes and Croatians and, of course, others too, at one gathering and wishing each other success and health in the new year. Folks who haven't been in attendance for years came out and visited this night, and parents who are burdened with war worries and cares for their loved ones, were in attendance. Between the young and old you couldn't begin to tell which group was having most fun.

The home-town folks are still talking of the enormous crowd, and praising the well-known maestro Jack Persin and orchestra for the wonderful music with plenty of polkas, waltzes and also the jitterbugs (how can we leave them out?). Sure-

ly was a big surprise to have with us the Ambridge "Rotmarin" gang led by Eddie and Frances Rosenberger and also Stella and Rudy Peltz with the popular Marge Peltz and others, too, whose names I can't recall. Ask Fran Rosenberger and see what she says about Sharon. (Le kar pove), Francka.)

Another long absent visitor was Pvt. Melvin Rosman from Kane, Pa., and just hailed from Ft. Knox, Ky., with friends Frances and Lewis Wallace and Paul Turlick. Welcome. Steffie Kertel of Cleveland, who was a Stanley Paulenich guest and also Mr. and Mrs. Tony Stritoff of Cleveland and guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Cimperman, parents of Mrs. Stritoff. We are happy to have with us such a jolly couple.

The Johnny Zagers of Warren, Leo Piric and wife of Girard, with Tony Nagode and Mr. Dobrovolski were all present and having a nice time. Can't forget the Pavline sisters, Kay and Tootsie. Wish I could remember a certain young couple's name from Struthers that were present. Said the wife, "I love to come to your dances, but my husband always works." So this was their first chance in a long time, and thanks for spending it in Sharon, folks. America is in war, so work comes first.

The Juveniles in charge of this dance do want to extend their thanks to friends, parents, and all that helped to make this dance such a success. I'm sure it will help their treasury a great deal. Thanks, too, for all the help in the kitchen, to Mrs. John Novak, Mrs. Jerry O'Korn, Mrs. J. Novak Jr. II, Mrs. Mary Robich and Mrs. Vincent Greco. The Juveniles wish each and everyone a very, very happy New Year!

Dance Jan. 28

Attention, everyone! If Jack Persin isn't drafted by Jan. 29, the Keystoneers will hold their annual winter dance Jan. 29. So let's hope that

Golden Eagles

GIRARD, OHIO.—The year that just dipped into the horizon ended with a record of not a single suspended nor canceled member! Such an attainment is worthy of mention and it can be suspected that all of our members are receiving a great deal of satisfaction from the fact.

Most of our soldier-members deviated from their routine army life by writing home their thanks and appreciation for the Eagles' lodge presents and cards. There is no better fraternal investment today than that which tends to attract, secure and retain the good-will and thoughts of our soldier-members.

We won't go into broad details about our meeting, but we must report that tentative plans have been formulated on behalf of the 40th anniversary of the SNPJ. Hribar and Rezek will attend the next meeting of Lodge 49—our parent lodge—in order to outline and seek a cooperative means of seeing the plans to a conclusion. If the Eagles and Lodge 49 decide to work as a team, then the Juvenile Circle will also be asked to participate. While we do not expect any records to be broken nor new ones set, we do believe that a 40th anniversary celebration will cause a moment of haste and activity which might result in other endeavors.

From Sgt. Seitz

"Dear Members:—I wish to thank each and every one of you for the kind Christmas gift which I received from you. It was greatly appreciated. It is great to have you people remember us boys in the service for we all hope to return to your midst again. It also was a great pleasure to be with you on the dedication of the Service Flag and for the wonderful hospitality all of you showed. My greatest wish is that I be with all of you in the near future. Keep the lodge going strong for I know it is one of the best in the SNPJ. Your member, Bill."

On Your Toes!

President Roosevelt has been a traditional friend of Labor from the day he assumed the highest office in the land. Labor has received numerous benefits but it must be remembered that, for each, it had to fight. Management did not concede a point without a battle!

Industry, as a whole, and its counterpart has been tremendously disappointed because the war has not disrupted nor retarded the advancement of organized Labor. As a matter of fact, membership rolls are constantly on the upgrade.

The last ten years have brought organized Labor to a position of power and influence. Industry believes that the position is becoming too powerful and too influential. As a result, reactionary forces have gone to work to smear Labor. AND IF WE, YOUR NEIGHBOR AND MINE, DO NOT AWAKEN TO THE FACT THAT THERE IS A UNITED CAMPAIGN TO ATTACK AND SLASH TO RIBBONS WHAT WE FOUGHT FOR AND GAINED, WE SHALL FIND OURSELVES OUT IN THE RAIN—AND WITHOUT A RAINCOAT! On the one hand, we desire liberalism while, on the other, we vote for and recommend reactionary representatives. Conservative Republicans are slyly attracting our attention. Have we already forgotten the breadlines and soup kitchens? Have we already forgotten the lack of jobs and the lack of pay-envelopes?

We must use TODAY to prepare for and strengthen, TOMORROW! Yes, even with this flood of money and jobs, we must prepare for tomorrow. A UNITED and ALERT Labor, adhering strictly to a progressive Labor policy, will guarantee a constructive and satisfactory governmental policy during the post-war period. We must never let ourselves be led into conservative regulations and administrations. We will live to regret it!

OFF THE RECORD—We have Mary Ritter and Agnes Zurcher on the sick list. Fred Klueck is located in Camp Crowder, Missouri. Card from Louis Selan, mailed from Cincinnati. He had a few days furlough and was hurrying to Gowanda. Heartiest congratulations to the Adolph Klancniks (Angie Kubel), on the arrival of a baby girl on Dec. 17.

Frank Groser, Chicago's widely known SNPJer, is still at Camp Wolters, Texas. You can catch him by writing to 36th Bn., Co. C, 2nd Pfc. Camp Wolters, Tex. Milwaukee's Frank Ermenc is now "somewhere in England."

FRANK REZEK, 643.

he could still be spared for this date. It might be your last chance to dance to this wonderful orchestra. Make your plans now.

FRANCES NOVAK, 755.

Spirit-o-Grams

By Whoozit

ST. LOUIS, MO.—Being one of Whoozit "Quints" (all girls), I promise for "better or for worse" to keep our column perking, as it's not only now during wartime that the Spirit girls have shouldered the publicity end of our lodge, but for the past nine years they have carried on this important task.

Thanks go to Bro. Lipesky for the compliment, but we must return one to you, since you have been the "Lone Writer" of your lodge, writing lengthy and interesting articles each week. If you readers think it's easy, we advise you to try it for a year; it's a good tonic as it contains Vitamin A-ction.

Our meeting held Jan. 14 was well attended, and the 1944 officers were installed by Bro. F. Mahnich. We feel assured the new officers will do their utmost for a successful year, especially under the able leadership of Pres. Sophie Vertovsek, who has served as a Treasurer and Secretary for a good number of years, being familiar with every department of our lodge.

Members failing to receive their copy of the "Lodge Local Rules," may secure their set from the Sec'y, as they were distributed to those present at our meeting. The copy is important for safe keeping as it contains 19 lodge rules, names, addresses and phone numbers of all officers, adult and juvenile members, as well as names and present addresses of our Spirit members in the Armed Forces. So keep it for future references. Thanks to Sis. Ida Baumgarth for such a splendid job.

Revealing of our 1943 "Secret Pals" was surprising and exciting, as we were all anxious to know who the member was that has sent gifts and cards during the holidays, birthdays, and anniversaries, also those cheerful cards during illness. It's just our fraternal way of living, as it's these little things that make big things—success. I hope the 1944 "Secret Pals" will be so well remembered as the previous.

News from the Home Front: Sis. Anne Boranich from Collinsville is still on the sick list, and so is Bro. Pete Lenz who slipped on the ice and fell, putting his left shoulder out of position. Snifere wishes for speedy recovery. Glad to hear that Sis. A. Kokal's mother, Mrs. Domitrovich, has recovered from her illness, after being down for two months. Loggold Jr. from Naylor, Mo., have proposed their new daughter for the Juvenile Dept.

We were thrilled when we heard that Bro. Louis Adamski will be in St. Louis March 25 to speak at the Kiel Auditorium. Let's give him a loyal welcome, Slavs, as he will "Show us" in words what the Yugoslavs (as well as the world) are fighting for. We urge everyone of you to attend the important SANC meeting to be held Feb. 6 at 3331 S. 7th St. Cooperation on this movement will display the gratitude to our fighting Yugoslavs over there, who will fight to their last drop of blood for you and me. All we ask is your presence at this SANC meeting.

Congrats to Sis. Milka Posavec and Bro. Frank Pavletic for their untiring efforts in the recent juvenile campaign, giving the "toppers" a battle.

Our former Spirit, Minnie (Kokal) Vavrek now residing in Waukegan, Ill., and her hubby and charming daughter were visiting local friends and relatives recently. Bro. Stanley Schober who is working at the shipyards in Portland, Oregon, has sent the lodge a nice letter, stating he will be back with us when the war ends. Hope it will be soon.

Bro. and Sis. Cepak have purchased a home in California, near Richmond. Glad to hear from Bro. John Buckowitz Jr. who is in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Front Lines: Tony Petrovich Jr., who is somewhere in England, has written a nice V-letter especially thanking us for the Xmas present. Somewhere in England you will also find John Rhodus, Frances Sethe-laf, and the husbands of Sis. Alma Chaperlo and Mildred (Hervatin) Dolsak. Sis. Cecilia (Banica) Yartz has two brothers in service, one stationed in Hawaii two years, the other at Ft. Meade, Md. Sis. Lorraine Kountz has a brother only 20 yrs. of age who has been in nine battles, both Atlantic and Pacific, and when he was home for the holidays we noticed the bar with nine gold stars on it, pinned on his uniform. You should be proud, Lorraine.

Letter was received from Pfc. Tony Spacek, son of the well-known Richard Spacek of Kansas City. At present Tony is in Kingman, Ariz. He has a brother who has been in New Guinea for two years. Heard from Sgt. Mike Kaushep (Johnston, Pa.) who is training as gunner and radio operator at Alamo-gordo, N. Mex., hopes to get a pot shot at the enemy soon. Good luck. A/c Walter Youngman is still in San Antonio, Texas. Sybil, his attrac-

Badger Lodge

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The Badgers extend their condolences to the John Perko family in the death of their son Edward who was killed in action Jan. 4, 1944, somewhere in Europe while serving in the Army Air Corps. Their youngest son Robert was inducted this past week.

Anton Oblock is stationed at Great Lakes, Ill. I'm sure he would appreciate letters from some of the boys. Here is the address: Anton M. Oblock, Co. 48 U. S. Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, Ill.

On Sunday, Jan. 9, Seaman Albert (Ike) Klavara, who is "Peewee" Klavara's brother and is stationed at Great Lakes, dropped in for a few hours with four other sailors from Cleveland.

Just another reminder that our regular Lodge meeting will be held on the 4th Friday of each month instead of the 3rd Friday as heretofore. Keep that in mind and attend the next meeting on Jan. 28.

LEO SCHWEIGER, 684.

J. Z. Jr. Bright Spots

LIBRARY, PA.—The J. Z. Jr.'s have made a change in their dance date, so this is going to be just a short reminder. The dance will be on Sunday, Feb. 6, at the Slovene Hall in Library. "Marty Kuk and his Musical Group" will provide the music for your dancing pleasure. A cordial invitation is extended to friends and members from far and near. Your presence will be greatly appreciated by the committee who are trying to put the affair over regardless of the handicaps.

Don't forget it's Feb. 6 at Library. Publicity Committee, SNPJ LODGE 682.

SCSC Annual Meeting at Center Saturday

CHICAGO.—The annual meeting of the Slovene Labor Center Social Club will take place Saturday, Jan. 22, at the Center, beginning at 8 p. m. All members are urged to attend. You will hear the officers' reports, followed by a general discussion for the benefit of the club, after which officers for the coming year will be elected. Also, a party will follow, good refreshments will be served and dancing will be to the tunes of Debeve's accordion. A real good time is in store for all who will attend. FRANK S. TACHAR.

Cleveland Federation Meeting Sat., Jan. 22

CLEVELAND, OHIO.—The next regular meeting of the Cleveland Federation of SNPJ lodges will be held this Saturday, Jan. 22, at 7:30 p. m. in Slovene National Home on St. Clair Ave. Election of officers for 1944 will take place at this meeting. All English speaking lodge representatives are urged to attend. MATT PETROVICH, Pres.

Attention, Utopians!

CLEVELAND, OHIO.—The January meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 25. Officers for 1944 will be elected. Please pay your dues either at this time or on Monday, Jan. 24, at the S. W. H. on Waterloo Rd. The meeting will begin at 8 p. m. V. ARTEL, Sec'y 604.

tive wife, will be going down Texas way soon.

Bro. Ciril Medved, Sec'y of Lodge 107, has two sons in the Seabees. Joe's in West Virginia and Ray is in Alaska. Ray said he hasn't seen a female for over a year, all you can do in your spare time if any, is go bear hunting. Guess you'll live up to your name (which means bear).

Bro. Jack Brisky's (Granite City) son Charles was home for the first time in two years, and has gone thru plenty of action. Last Xmas, when the Southampton was torpedoed and sunk, he had to swim for hours in icy water before rescued. His most recent experience was, spending six days on a raft, but what hurt him the most was his trunkful of Jap souvenirs which went under.

Pvt. Joe Zakrajsek (Kokal's cousin) from Cleveland was stationed here at the Jefferson Bks. before he was sent to the Missouri University as an Air Cadet. Cpl. Leo Jurcovic (Anne Spiller's brother) was home for the holidays. It was a treat to be home a week and see for the first time his infant daughter, Leanne. Leo is attending Ohio State University in Columbus and is to receive his degree in June as Chemical Engineer. Lots of luck to Frank Sodnik (Pioneer) who has entered the Navy. His wife, the former Dorothy Plahutnik and Spirit member, is a sister of our local Tillie Ducote.

Section 4 of Juvenile By-Laws

Every four years the Society spends a considerable amount of money for new by-laws in order that members as mutual owners may acquaint themselves with their rights as well as responsibilities. However, since the by-laws do not contain such interesting reading material as for instance some fiction books, it is obvious that most of the members—although it is of utmost importance and for their advantage—fail to read them occasionally. But if a member's interest according to his view is in any way affected, there is immediate complaint and naturally responsibilities are shifted upon the Local or Supreme Secretary's Office.

Section 4 of the Juvenile By-Laws among other things provides the following:

"Members of the Juvenile Department on or before attaining the age of eighteen (18) years, must transfer to Adult Department."

Lack of sufficient knowledge of the above section of the by-laws frequently causes unnecessary inconveniences for the local lodge and Supreme Office as well as ill feeling among the members. Our office sends out regularly notices two months in advance for members who reach the age of 18 years, but somehow or other it often occurs that such notices are ignored and later perhaps, after one or two months have elapsed, parents of such juvenile member think of the matter and want their son or daughter transferred to the adult department. Since we must comply with the by-laws in such instances, we encounter problems which are hard to solve satisfactorily to all concerned. In order to eliminate all such obstacles in the future, we recommend that the local lodge secretary and parents of the child see to it that a juvenile member is transferred to the Adult Department before he or she reaches the age of 18 years as provided in Section 4 of the Juvenile By-Laws. If you will comply with this request there shall be no further inconveniences in this connection.

The Federal Government has issued war bonds for the 4th War Loan Drive. This year the armies of the United Nations are much nearer to victory than they were last year, nevertheless, our moral and material support is still essential. The best encouragement for our boys on the front would be an overwhelming subscription to the 4th War Loan. We ask our members to buy as many bonds as possible in this drive.

F. A. VIDER, Supreme Secretary.

Attention, Young American Lodge 564

DETROIT, MICH.—Your new Sec'y will keep the same schedule as Sis. Spindal kept, that is as follows: Dues may be paid at each regular meeting, the second Friday of each month, and a special collection will be made on each 4th Friday of the month, at the Slovene Home on John R. from 7 p. m. to 9 p. m. Members who wish to write me may do so by addressing their communications to 442 Puritan ave., Highland Park 3, Mich. Telephone UN. 1-7882.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated if you will pay your dues promptly, so that suspended members can be eliminated to a certain degree. Let's all cooperate and make 1944 a victory year, not only for our lodge, but for the Allies, and our boys who are fighting at our many battle fronts.

CHARLES KAITNER JR.,
Fin. Sec'y SNPJ Lodge 564.

Would you buy another War Bond to help HIM come home safer and quicker?

259 Week Days Until the 1944 Presidential Election

Don't Lose Your Vote!
Be Sure to Register!

Cpl. Vrecheck Killed in Action



The above picture shows the grave of Cpl. Louis Robert Vrecheck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vrecheck Sr. of Strabane, Pa., who was killed in action in the Pacific area Jan. 23, 1943. Kneeling beside the grave is his brother, Pvt. Walter J. Vrecheck, who found the grave while in action Oct. 14, 1943. Louis was 25 years old and enlisted in the Marines Oct. 23, 1940, leaving for overseas duty in June 1942.

Cpl. Raymond Koller, Louis' close friend now resting at home after a long period of battle, recently stated in his letter to Louis' parents that he spent much of the time with Louis, his best buddy. He brought back a watch belonging to Louis and sent it to the bereaved parents as a remembrance.

Besides his parents, Cpl. Vrecheck leaves two sisters, Mrs. John Flowers and Mrs. August Podboy, and two brothers, Sgt. Joseph Vrecheck Jr. and Pvt. Walter J. Vrecheck, both serving their country overseas. All members of the family belong to the SNPJ.

Our Front

By Louis Beniger

The outlook all along the battle fronts grows steadily brighter, with one exception. In Yugoslavia the Partisans are hard pressed in all sectors of their wide-spread fighting.

No one can question the sweeping character of the Russian victory over the Nazis' eastern armies. The Soviet columns are pouring into Poland and everywhere the Germans are falling back, struggling desperately to avoid a catastrophe: a complete rout or total annihilation. Until now they have succeeded in avoiding the mistake of another Stalingrad where they lost more than 300,000 killed and captured besides tremendous amount of ammunition. Stalingrad has taught them a bitter lesson and now the "invincible" Nazis rather "with-draw according to plans." As things appear now the Russian armies will continue to pursue the enemy for some weeks to come.

The eastern front continues to be the main front of the struggle; the Italian front is considered as a side show.

However, with the opening of the impending "second front" on the west and/or in the Balkans, the scene of the fiercest fighting is likely to shift to the new theater of war.

When and where will the invasion be launched is anybody's guess. A few days ago General Eisenhower bid farewell to his army in Italy and moved north to lead the invasion across the English channel. In the meantime, American and English airplanes continue their pitiless pounding of all parts of occupied Europe, including the Balkans as well as the strongly fortified coastline of France where the Allies are expected to deliver their first blows.

It has been officially announced that the blows will come within the next few weeks, probably in February or in March.

On the home front things are swiftly changing. Labor is geared for political action everywhere, preparing to "reward friends and punish enemies" at election time next fall.

President Roosevelt in his annual message on the state of the union the other day recommended a national service plan—conscription of manpower. All labor leaders strongly denounced the plan as fascist and unnecessary at this stage of the war. Is such a plan necessary now in view of record war production and even lay-offs in some instances? Certainly not! Labor has been cooperating with the government all along the line, notwithstanding a few short-lived strikes caused in most cases by the profit-hungry operators and labor-haters. Equality of sacrifice should apply to all alike, and the operators should be restricted to a fair return of profit for services rendered. At any rate, it is quite apparent that the plan will encounter a vigorous opposition everywhere and it is more than likely that it will be shelved.

SANC-JRC Rally in Pittsburgh Sunday

PITTSBURGH, PA.—The Slovenes in Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania are invited to attend the mass meeting which is being sponsored by the Slovene American National Council and the Yugoslav Relief Committees located in western Pennsylvania, on Sunday, January 23, at 2 p. m. in the Slovene Auditorium at Pittsburgh.

A number of notable speakers who are outstanding leaders among the Slav people will appear on the program. Mr. Ethin Kristan, president of SANC, will be the principal speaker. Mr. Zlatko Balokovic, president of the Croatian National Congress, will represent the Croats. Mr. J. N. Rogell, vice-president of SANC and publicity director of the JPO, and Judge Blair F. Gunther of Allegheny County Court and chairman of the board for the American Slav Congress, are the other speakers invited to attend and speak.

Mr. John Kvarth, president of the SNPJ federation of western Pennsylvania, Rev. M. F. Kebe, treasurer of the local SANC committee, and Mirko Markovic, a Serbian representative, are the local speakers invited to participate.

These speakers will no doubt present and make known many interesting facts concerning the Slavs in battle-torn Europe today.

The Preseren Singing Society will render a number of popular Slovene songs, as entertainment for the afternoon.

We urge that each and every Slovene American in Pittsburgh and surrounding territories make a date to be with us that day. It will be well worth your time to attend and support a movement that is being promoted on behalf of our Slovene people.

Remember the date, Jan. 23. Time, 2 p. m. Place, Slovene Auditorium. Help us to make a success of this meeting.

F. J. KRESS, President JPO 12.

TRIBUTE TO
THE UNCONQUERABLES

Juvenile Circles

Perfect Circle 26 Members Show Cooperative Spirit

CHICAGO.—On Saturday morning, Jan. 15, it was my pleasure to accompany a group of youngsters from Perfect Circle 26 down to the lake front. I say pleasure because these children really made it such. From the time we left the SNPJ hall, and to the moment we all reluctantly said "Goodbye until next meeting" it was a perfect day for all. I felt a surge of pride when first a guide, and then the cashier in the cafeteria at the Museum, remarked to me that I certainly had a well behaved group of children with me. I extend my thanks to the children for their splendid cooperation in making our trip a success, and promise we will do it again—and soon.

ANN SANNEMANN, Mgr.

Former Adviser of Circle 11 Is Married in Kansas

GIRARD, KANS.—Olga Knapich, former adviser of our Circle No. 11, was recently married to Cpl. Pete Shalens of Brooklyn, N. Y., now stationed at Camp Crowder, Mo. Mrs. Shalens is a loyal member of the SNPJ, having served first as secretary and then as adviser of the Jolly Kansans Circle. She is also well known in Detroit where she also served as adviser of the Circle there. She is now employed at a war plant in Kansas City.

All members of Circle 11 wish to congratulate Cpl. and Mrs. Pete Shalens and wish them many happy years together.

DOROTHY YOGER.

Warren Juvenile Circle Starts The New Year Right

WARREN, OHIO.—The first 1944 regular monthly meeting of Juvenile Circle No. 31, as reported here last week by Dorothy Tomazin, was held on Jan. 3 at the home of Miss Josephine Smuke, our manager, with Elizabeth Zeaken presiding.

At this meeting, among other things, names were exchanged for our contemplated Valentine party. Also, our Circle is going to have a drawing for a wool blanket on Sunday, Feb. 6, which is the date of our next meeting. Tickets were given out and for every five books sold, the member will receive three points toward his name in our contest.

Auditors were also elected at this meeting; they will examine the books twice a year. The auditors are Beatrice Lesnoski and Mary Ann Gabor. We also have two new members, Thomas Banish and Louise Mlakar.

Next meeting will be on Sunday, Feb. 6. All Circle members are urged to attend.

MARY ANN GABOR.

Junior All Stars Chorus Wants More New Members

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The first meeting of Circle No. 4 this year was held on Jan. 5. At this meeting, the officers for 1944 were installed. It was decided at the previous meeting to give points for those who attend each rehearsal, meeting, etc., and a committee was chosen to make up a chart, showing the number of points to be given for each achievement.

On Jan. 9, the Junior All Stars chorus sang in the Milwaukee Auditorium on a program at which Louis Adamic, our well-known writer, was the principal speaker. The chorus rendered several vocal selections which were very favorably received. Girls dressed in Slovene costumes brought back cherished memories to the older folks.

It was nice to see Billie Ambrosch in our midst again and we hope he had a good time while staying here. Also our good friend Al Bozich, here on a furlough, who helped us out at the auditorium, Thanks, Al.

I wish to thank the SNPJ for the prizes I received for my contributions in the Mladinski List and Prosveta. In the coming year I will try to continue along the same lines, and will strive to do even better.

Our chorus still needs more members. So, everyone who can, come to Sostarih's Hall, corner of S. 8th and W. Bruce streets. You will not only meet some good friends, but you will also have a good time while learning the Slovene language in song.

Miss Lillian Puncer, our former manager, has taken up teaching duties out of Milwaukee. We will all miss her and wish her the best of luck.

MICHAEL RUPPE JR., V. P.

Perfect Juvenile Circle No. 26 Has Perfect Day

CHICAGO.—We of Circle 26 sincerely believe that to have a perfect circle, the members of the Circle must have the work-together-play-together spirit—the spirit of brotherhood and fraternalism. That is what we believe is the main purpose of the SNPJ Juvenile Circles. That is why we have tried to cultivate the interest of all our members in the progress and welfare of the Circle.

We believe that when a member becomes deeply interested in an organization, he can not help but become infatuated with this same spirit which spells the success or

failure of the organization. But work alone is not the keystone of success for an organization; there must be recreation to fill out a well-balanced program. Therefore, we have proposed, that aside from all other activities each month, the Circle as a group shall plan and take a trip to any place (within our means) that is suggested by the members, with the sole intention of having fun.

The weather hindered us a little for our trip for the month of January, but nevertheless, we all agreed that the Chicago Museum of Natural History which is always a place of interest, and later, a walk along the lake front to the Aquarium, a block-away, would be an ideal trip. Therefore, last Saturday was the day, 10:30 a. m. was the time, and the SNPJ hall the place of meeting.

Arriving at the Hall, on this beautiful warm, sunny day, I found only one other boy, and the rest all girls waiting to start. But I should have expected this as most of our boys work on Saturday mornings. Finally we left; seven girls, our manager Mrs. Ann Sannemann, Charles Zordani and myself, outnumbered four to one. After a pleasant ride on the streetcar, we arrived at the Museum, only to find that the beautiful warm sun I referred to above, had melted a lot of the snow making it very slushy. But we were having such a swell time, nobody noticed it.

Entering the Museum, we made a special point of visiting the Chauncey Memorial Hall, and other exhibits. After two hours we ate a delicious lunch at the Museum, and then decided to leave. It was then that our manager suggested taking pictures with the camera and the precious role of films we had brought along. Several pictures were taken, and then we began our walk to the Aquarium, where we took several more pictures, which resulted in a run and a hole in the girls' stockings. It was then suggested that we walk around the exterior of the Aquarium (a beautifully designed building), and use up the remaining film in the camera. Once in the rear of the building, Mrs. Sannemann, who is never at a loss for conceiving plans and ideas for the enjoyment of all, suggested that some action pictures should be taken.

The girls all agreed. So, while our grinning manager, who seemed to be having a very enjoyable time, took the picture, all the members (who are always willing to cooperate) kindly obliged by pelting me with snowballs from all sides. Then it was decided that my face should be washed with snow, but I fought for dear life, and ran so fast, no one could catch me. Finally, with three pairs of silk stockings with runs in them, wet feet and gloves, and the sniffling on my part, we all laughingly called it a day and boarded the streetcar for home. Our final stop before home was at Jack and Jills (our favorite ice-cream parlor), where Mrs. Sannemann treated us all to delicious fudge sundaes. Pictures were taken of the day's event and we hope to reproduce them at some future date in the Mladinski List.

The members are all looking forward to next month's trip which will be a theatre party. Further information can be obtained by attending our next meeting, Saturday, Jan. 22, at the lower SNPJ hall at 10:30 a. m., or by getting in touch with Mrs. Sannemann.

EDWARD UDOVICH, Pres.

Roundup Juvenile Circle No. 28 Plans Skate Party

ROUNDUP, MONT.—The last regular monthly meeting of Circle No. 28 was held on Sunday, Jan. 9, at the usual place and time. New members were accepted and will be initiated at the next meeting on Feb. 13.

We received Christmas cards from Circles 21 and 26, and we wish to thank them for their thoughtfulness. In return we wish you lots of luck in 1944. Frank Bedey, Frank Lekse, and Albena Finco received certificates of award from the Society. Also, Marie Mastorovich received \$1 and a Victory pin, and Frank Lekse received \$5 in war stamps. A committee of four met Jan. 14 to finish our scrapbook.

The boys are planning a skating party Sunday, Jan. 23, at 2 p. m. The girls will plan a party at the next meeting, which will be held on Sunday, Feb. 13, at 4 p. m. in the New Moose Hall.

JOAN FINCO, Sec'y.

THE S.N.P.J.
Is Proud of Its More Than
4,400
Members Who Are Now in
the Service of Our Country

Veronian News

VERONA, PA.—Will this Sunday, Jan. 23, see just as many members attending the meeting at our Veronian Club as attended the December meeting? This meeting that will begin promptly at 2:30 p. m. will feature our new edition of the officers of 1944. Come on, gang, let's get around to attending these meetings that take place once a month. You'd be surprised how a meeting can really be interesting when every one pitches in his or her few words. So, with our club advancing to what it has been, your presence and suggestions would encourage your officers and help out our club.

A prediction comes true. Josephine Sokoski is sporting a beautiful diamond, meaning of course that Johnnie (Searney) Krulic is the boy who put it on her finger. Yes, Johnnie, to you and your fiancée go our Veronian congratulations.

Plenty of Veronian soldiers and their friends have visited us here at the Veronian club since the Christmas holidays. George Earl Templeton with the girl friend and Mom and Pop socialized along on a Sunday night with the Veronians. Lt. (Fergie) Ferguson proudly displaying his silver wings celebrated along with Sgt. Charles Micklick and Pvt. Stasley Volkovitch who were accompanied by that ever-faithful Sunday night special attendant Benny Simensky. Lt. Frank Strama (a brother of Johnnie, who is a Veronian and at present in the Navy) along with George Lipsey and Peter Kratsas who couldn't stay at the club very long made the best of it while here. "The tougher they are the better we like it," so claimed that good looking paratrooper, Sgt. Henry Gorney, as we sat and listened to some of his experiences. Vincent Crider and his Mrs., both looking fine, dropped in to say hello. You can imagine Vinnie's surprise when he walked into the barroom and saw sitting at a table two of his former buddies, Lew Papp and Tony (Wibble) Kovac. Cpl. Carl Flasek and Cpl. Yulochan, a couple of Harnmarville Ramblers, who hadn't forgotten those good times here before they entered the services, also paid us a visit.

It pays to be tough and rugged and always in good shape as you will agree when you read this true incident about our Lodge Prexy Elmer Eiffler. Friday afternoon at about 3:45 the day before New Year's, our hero Elmer stepped into the shower rooms of the American Steel Foundries. Because of the plant's order that work was to be stopped at noon (that almost fatal day for Elmer) only a few guards and office personnel were still at the plant. Turning the thermostat a little higher so as to get more heat, the turn must have caused the pilot light to go out. Not knowing this Elmer continued with the shower, and after finishing up went over and shut the heater off altogether because no one would be needing it any more that day. Then it happened, as he was about to put his first stitch of clothes on, he reeled and fell over, out like a light. There he layed a good hour and a half before he recovered. When he came to, he looked around, and at once sized up the situation, then began crawling on hands and knees to the nearest exit. Yes sir, says Elmer, when he got outside still in the nude, "I began getting as much of that good air as I could into my lungs."

Persons that I know of who still are on our sick list are Joseph Melle, a patient at the Cresson Hospital at Cresson, Rudie Slawer who is bedfast at home, and John Youk, who recently had undergone an operation at the Wilkesburg hospital and who at this writing is convalescing at home.

The Saladri sisters "went big time" while on their visit in Detroit over the New Year holiday. Says Ann, "We danced in many ballrooms to wonderful orchestras, but still our thoughts were of back home and our Veronian Club, where we knew the Veronians (that weren't denied as they were last year when the flood waters spoiled their fun) must be having a good time." Yes, girls, a nice gang headed by that master of ceremonies, Steve Ruskiewicz, accompanied by his family, the Eddie Ruskiewicz and the out-of-town guests, the Joe Agazuals. Says Steve, who had Elmer Eiffler, John Krulic and Mike Pavelko assisting him in staging an amateur floor show. "What better place could we have found than our club? It's hardly coping us anything and look at the swell time we are having."

What a good time they did have, Larry Casoli and wife, Will Kaus and the Mrs. Mr. and Mrs. John Letar, Josephine Sokoski along with Joe Plese and the girl friend, the Gaspers from Oakmont, Frank Ruskiewicz, Eli Suchevec, Walter Gosky, and the bartender's wife Frances. Mind you, these folks celebrated until the wee hours of morn.

Did you ever sit at the same table or near Kay Miller at any time? If you haven't then you don't know what you are missing. Fun? Why, this girl Kay, who can eat every bit as good as Rosalind Russell, makes you forget your troubles with her imitations and jokes. The Galarly sisters from Oakmont who are now Veronians, keep attending the Sunday night socials. A good idea and a suggestion to our entertainment committee: start introducing

A Story Mostly About Sheep

By Michael Vrhovnik

Late in the summer of 1940, one of my rare vacation trips took me into a number of western states. While driving through Wyoming, we came upon several big flocks of sheep and their herders, who were mounted on horses. One place was at a small, unimportant railroad station where there was a loading platform for cattle and sheep. There must have been a thousand or more in this particular flock. Some of them got out on the highway, ran this way and that as if blind, and blocked traffic from both directions. Finally they were rounded up and by twos and threes pushed into the waiting cars.

I asked one of the herders, who happened to be standing nearby, where the sheep were being shipped, and he replied in typical western style, "Well, stranger, them poor devils don't know it, but they're bound for one of the big slaughterhouses in Illinois—Chicago. Guess that's the place you're from, ain't it?" I nodded assent as he continued, "You know, when you get right down to brass tacks, sheep are a whole lot like human beings—yes sir, a whole lot like human beings. They'll put up with almost anything and, if necessary, live on almost nothing at all—and what's more, they're always good for a trimming or two before they are ready enough to be led off to the slaughter. There is one big difference, however, and that is . . ."

That one big difference was too much for me and, I'm afraid, it would be too much for you. His comparison was every bit as bald as stated above and more. Evidently, his peculiar way of expressing his bitterness was based on what was then beginning to take on huge proportions in Europe and its probable and ultimate effect on the people of America.

My car was stopped directly in front of the railroad crossing and as I pressed on the starter and got ready to leave, he reminded me, "You don't need to be afraid of getting hit by a train, for only one comes through here a day—so long."

We drove on and on through the prairie lands of this state—nothing to see on either side and, for miles at a stretch, the highway so straight one could almost drive with his eyes shut or, at least, with his mind on something else—and mine was revolving over and over, "Poor devils—the sheep and the people."

Today, three and a half years later, trainload after trainload of soldiers, sailors and marines leave our stations bound for various ports to the east, west and south. None of them know exactly where they are to be shipped and, sad but true, many of them still doubtful of the real purpose and object of the war. . .

I wonder—yes, I wonder if the people will ever learn to solve their economic, social and political ills in any other way than to resort to war every generation or so. It is not pleasant to one's thoughts to believe

our newest members over the P. A. system at our Sun. night socials so that our older members can get acquainted.

This dept. because of some unusual happenings, has been slipping up on getting the addresses of our boys who are in the service. That's why only one name has appeared in the last and this week's issue. Today's name is that of Tristram B. Procopio, "the fighting Slovene"; although Tristy is an Italian, the Veronians have given him this nickname, because of his activeness in anything that he undertakes. Tristram B. Procopio, 8 3/4 c/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, Calif.

As a finish to this second edition of 1944 a reminder to all to buy an extra bond in the new Fourth Loan Drive, a little sacrifice on our part now will make it easier going later on. Also, if our country wouldn't win this war, you can imagine what would happen to the things we all cherish.

MICHAEL LIPESKY, 680.

To the American

Born Slovenes

DETROIT, MICH.—It seems that now is about the last opportunity we have to climb out of the cell of complacency we've hidden in so far to attempt to understand the problems which beset the defenders of our parents' native land. Not only must we understand what is occurring there and what they are attempting to do, but it is our prerogative now as never before to plan and pledge the support and assistance which will be needed soon. God willing.

Louis Adamic recently visited Detroit and gave us a very concise picture of what had occurred in Yugoslavia in the last several years; what is happening now and the possible picture that might emerge at the culmination of the strife if the gallant defenders had our support behind them.

Mr. Adamic brought out the point that we here in America have undeniable privileges such as are unknown elsewhere in the world; but those privileges are ours because someone else fought for them a long time ago. Now in the land which bore our parents and grandparents a similar group is fighting so that their coming generations will be able to afford themselves of ideals and privileges such as we cherish. Our parents left Europe because opportunities here beckoned to them—they were promised life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; freedom of speech, press and worship. We owe Yugoslavia something. She fathered our forebears—she gave us a rich heritage through our parents. The least we can do is to, in some measure, help them through financial assistance and moral support so that when opportunity presents itself at the first possible moment Yugoslavia can bring about into operation the right of the people to choose their own type of government; obtain the lands taken from them after the last war and given to Italy and Austria thereby releasing so many of our people from foreign rule and subjugation and permitting a restoration of their liberties and rights of their own language, customs, worship, etc.

About a year ago the Slovene Americans formed an organization called the Slovene American National Council (SANC). They, of course, are attempting to help liberate a land on which they were born and raised. A land which few of us have seen and about which most of us have seldom concerned ourselves. This organization has worked hard with little encouragement and dependent on their own small resources. Recognition of their efforts slowly seeped its way into other factions and there is now what is termed a United Committee of South-Slavic Americans which governs all these organizations whether they are Slovene, Croatian or Serbian. All together they are working for the one country. Financial, educational, spiritual aid—all necessary to mankind will be needed when Europe begins to rehabilitate herself. Yugoslavia, because of the many nationalities within it, may not get as much recognition and aid as the others and it is up to us to concern ourselves with this factor—to see that the land which fostered our parents will not be left out in the cold again as in the last war; when an existing monarchy was forced on the entire country leaving them little say in the matter of living.

We are all undergoing some denials now—there's a price to pay for the liberty we had assumed as

(Continued on page 5)

as bad as this, but one cannot deny that it does not have that tendency.

There surely must be an easier way to settle our economic and social difficulties than the selective service plan. I'm sure there is, if the people will give more attention to their government and elect into office more men of the people's choice, men who will be for all the people, showing favoritism to none except for just reason and cause.

Recognizes Brother in Prosveta Picture



The above picture originally appeared in the Daily Prosveta of January 6. It is reprinted here because one of the soldiers in the picture is a Slovene, Pvt. William J. Penigar, member of SNPJ lodge Golden Eagles (643), Girard, Ohio, who was recognized by his sister, Mrs. Mary Yablovich, member of the same lodge. Pvt. Penigar, serving with the U. S. Army in Italy, is the fourth from the left in the picture. The picture was taken near Venetia, Italy, and was released through the Federated Press, of which Prosveta is a member.

Sgt. Koklich Meets Natives in New Zealand—and Dead Japs at Tarawa

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third letter written by Sgt. Frank ("Smiles") Koklich, member of SNPJ lodge 298 of Paonia, Colorado, mailed from New Zealand, in which he gives entertaining accounts of visits in Wellington and Nelson, N. Z. Our readers will remember his two other humorous letters printed in Prosveta Oct. 7, 1942, and May 19, 1943. Sgt. Koklich joined the SNPJ at lodge 98 in La Salle, Ill., when he was a year old. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Koklich, are also members of SNPJ lodge 298 in Paonia, Colo. Sgt. Koklich's fourth letter, in which he gives a brief account of his experience at Tarawa, Gilbert Islands, is also printed below.)

Meets Town's People

First of all, I want to tell you that I've received more Christmas packages this year than ever before. This has been the best one by far. All that is lacking is the snow and there isn't any chance of any falling here.

Remember that thrill I mentioned while we were at Wellington, New Zealand? Well, now I can tell you about it. You all thought it was Mrs. Roosevelt, but it wasn't. It all started from the furlough I took to South Island, New Zealand, in the town of Nelson. When we landed there, just as luck would have it, two of us happened to be the first U.S. Marines to stay there.

We stayed at the Hotel Nelson, the best place in town. No one knew just what we were and when word did get around that marines were there, they started to invite us to dinner. We were at our hotel just now and then. We met the mayor of the town and his wife who took us in as their family. We met more people through them.

The president of Boys' College sent a taxi down to bring us up to visit their schools. Gee, did I feel embarrassed when he took us in to visit the rooms and introduce us to the class. We went through the whole school and then they took us over to the Girls' College, and the same thing happened there. After that we went to the town council's building where we met more people, including the Hon. W. H. McIntyre, who is a member of Parliament of New Zealand. We were his guests that night and he also took us to a band concert. The band that played was New Zealand's best, but just now I can't recall the name.

Dines in Class

After that we went out to tea—that's what these people call a meal. We also went to the Odd Fellows hall and had a very good time. Our seven days were spent traveling around and teasing (dining) with people.

Just before we left South Island we went around to say goodbye to all we could see. Mr. McIntyre took us to the boat, took our address in New Zealand and we left for camp. I surely hated to leave that place because we were treated like kings. Shortly after we went back to camp the sergeant who was with me got transferred to another camp.

Two months went by when I received a telegram to meet Mr. McIntyre in front of the Parliament Building at seven o'clock that evening. I did and he asked me if I would like to go through the building. Well, you know what I said. The whole evening was spent going from one end to the other. I don't believe there was anything left out on the tour of the building.

Goes to Parliament

The next night Parliament went into session. Later I attended a session of Parliament in the lower house. That evening I met more members of Parliament, including the Prime Minister of New Zealand, the Hon. Peter J. Fraser. He is a "big boy" of New Zealand. It was through meeting him that I got to attend a session of the upper house, too. This is the place where all the "bigwigs" sit and make the laws for New Zealand.

Boy, was that one dry evening! (When I get home I'll tell you what it was like.) I could write for hours on that meeting. People told me later that they had lived in New Zealand all their lives and had hardly seen parts of the building, let alone been near the chamber while the M. P.'s sat in session. They wondered how I did it. At times I wonder myself.

Mr. McIntyre was a young man who started out as a coal miner in Wales, England, and came to New Zealand while only twenty. He is now 56 years old. He told me he had spent seven years in the mines. I think that is why he took a liking to me because I had also been in the mines.

All the members of Parliament who don't live in Wellington stay in the Parliament Building. They have hot meals, good beds, about a dozen pooltables, a bowling alley, a private bar and other things. People very seldom see the members. Just as soon as Parliament is over they go home; very few of them live at Wellington.

"Goes Native"

I had a chance to see more of South Island but things began to happen and we were ready to leave New Zealand. Mr. McIntyre then went out campaigning for himself and his friend.

I'll have to tell you about a time six of us marines went to town and took in a Maori dance. These Maoris (one of the aborigines of New Zealand) are people who came from the islands. They are almost all

black. As we were walking down the street we heard their music and finally found where it had come from. When they saw us a bunch of girls came over and asked us to join them. Well, we didn't let them down. It was altogether a different dance than we had expected. It was the Maori hula. The gal and I danced, or I should say "tried," and being a little under the weather helped with putting in all the steps and shaking of the hips, a combination of the jitterbug and rumba.

Since then I've seen the dance done by people who know how to do it the right way, and it is an interesting dance. But I can still see myself out there laughing and carrying on just like a Maori, or almost.

At Tarawa Atoll

I'm still alive and feeling fine. Yes, I was at Tarawa Atoll. Boy, was that place hell! I don't see how we took that place. Words can't describe how well that place was fortified. It cost us plenty to get it, but we were lucky to lose as little as we did.

The Jap officer who was taken alive said it would take a million men a full year to take it, but obviously he was off on his figures. The Japs were Imperial marines. They were all large men. None of them had sense enough to give up; everyone fought to the end, which soon came.

When we left there a week later there were still all kinds of Japs alive in pillboxes who would come out each night to entertain us with sniper fire. I had a deep foxhole and I spent parts of the night in it, especially when the bomber with the rising sun on it would give us a call. After our planes landed on the field the Jap bombers kept coming. Our planes must have "dropped the Nips in the drink."

Sees Dead Jap

We had a camp along the side of the airfield. It surely was a dusty place when the planes would land and take off. I went four days without a face wash. I looked like I had just come out of the coal mine. I finally got around to it but it wasn't too good because when I was about half through washing and leaned down into the well to get more water—I saw a leg. Then I looked closer and to my surprise I saw a dead Nip who had been in there for several days. Right then and there I decided I didn't need the other half of the bath.

A day later about the same thing happened in the ocean—so I put off trying to keep clean.

Yesterday's mail was the first in almost two months and I hear they have hundreds of Christmas packages for us. Boy, that surely sounds good to me.

SMILES.

Sgt. Frank D. Koklich,
U.S.M.C., Co. E 2nd Bn.
2 M.D., c/o Fleet P. O.
San Francisco, Calif.

Bro. Victor Koklich's youngest son, John Koklich, a member of SNPJ lodge 298, is also in the Marines. His address is: Pfc. John Koklich, Tank Bn. TG., Jacques Farm, Camp Elliot, San Diego 44, Calif. He emphasizes in his letter to his parents the importance of receiving mail from home and friends, and urges all who have relatives and friends in the armed forces to write to them often. Letters from home are real morale builders to the boys in service. Write to them at once and write often.

To the American Born Slovenes

(Continued from page 1.)

a right. But our price is small in comparison with what the Yugoslavs are being asked to pay. Surely you can face the issue and honestly recognize the fact that funds must be gotten to accumulate now so that slowly but surely when the need in Yugoslavia arises we will be ready with whatever assistance she may need. Won't you pledge yourself to aid the SANS organization for it must not only continue but grow. Inform your friends about this organization and if you desire more information get in touch with this newspaper or your fraternal organization in the town in which you live. Your little bit may some day mean the beginning of a new lease on life to someone across the Atlantic. At least think the problem over and compare what you have here and what they have over there. It's a sure bet that no matter how little you may have here it's a fortune to what they have over there. Won't you join us and assist in whatever way you see fit?

MAE KNEZ,

Dearborn, Michigan.

Official Proceedings

SNPJ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting of Dec. 8

President Cainkar calls meeting to order at 1 p. m. Other officers present are Vider, Kuhel, Gradisek, Vrhovnik, Godina and Molek. Minutes of the previous meeting are approved as read.

President reads letter from Vice Pres. M. Kumer, which is of informative nature and is placed on file.

Letter from M. Petrovich announces organization of a singing club for juveniles in Cleveland and asks for \$30 contribution as per supreme board decision. Request is approved, payments to begin with Jan. 1 and will be made every three months.

Letter from M. Medvesek relative to the service flag dedication he attended at Girard, Ohio, sponsored by lodge 643 Nov. 14; the affair was a success. Report accepted.

The Slovene Nat'l Home of Waukegan asks for renewal of stage-curtain aid for 1944, which is approved. Contribution in the amount of two dollars for Christmas seals is also approved, likewise the fee of \$10 for annual dues for the New York State Fraternal Congress.

The following payments are approved upon recommendation of the supreme medical director: promissorial claims for Joe Zerovec (38), \$266.70, and for Peter Ransky (54), \$362; for Mary Bericevich (679), total blindness both eyes, \$800. Operations: Rade Opacic (210), \$80; and \$35 each for Andrej Martincic (259), Cila Maretich (344) and Anna Thalman (353). Special benefit: \$25 each for Mary Maher (21), Mary Church (102), Frank Kozelicki (120) and Frank Celigoj (312).

Juvenile director submits letter from lodge 631 asking for contribution for Circle 17; \$35 is approved, and \$35 for Circle 38.

Question is also brought up in regard to appropriation for Mladinski List contestants for 1944 and the amount of \$500 is approved for this purpose.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15.

Meeting of Dec. 15

Meeting is called to order at 1 p. m. in presence of all executive officers. Minutes of the previous meeting are approved as read.

President reports about his trip to Milwaukee to examine the premises owned by the Society and to try to get a real estate company willing to sell this property; appraisal was made and a real estate man contacted; the building requires considerable repairs. His suggestion that the property be sold for lower amount is approved.

Juvenile director's recommendation for compensations to circle managers for 1943 according to their merits is approved.

Discussion regarding special issue of the official organ on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Society follows head editor's inquiry concerning this matter. Decided that a special supplement of the official organ in the first week of April should be devoted exclusively to the anniversary, and the manager is instructed to find out if it would be possible to obtain necessary rotogravure paper for at least four pages.

Meeting adjourned at 3 p. m.

Meeting of Dec. 22

Meeting is called to order at 1 p. m. Present are officers Cainkar, Vider, Kuhel, Vrhovnik and Molek; Godina is on vacation and Gradisek is ill. Minutes of the previous meeting are approved as read.

Application for Mary Church of lodge 102 is submitted as approved by the lodge. She had considerable expenses with her operation. Special benefit of \$25 is approved.

Johanna Belan of lodge 118 died recently and the Society is designated as the beneficiary; she was insured for \$250 and the funeral expenses incurred were over that amount. Secretary is authorized to pay the amount of insurance for funeral expenses.

In view of the present high cost of living and shortage of employees, decided to increase the pay of employees receiving lower wages beginning Jan. 1.

Head editor's recommendation to suitably compensate the writer of "Izkušnje starega naseljenca," published in Prosveta, is approved.

Juvenile director reports that he attended the Christmas affair of Circle 4 in Milwaukee Dec. 19, which was a moral success.

Applications for assessment loan and special benefit are approved (details in Slovene minutes).

Meeting adjourned at 3 p. m.

Vincent Cainkar, Pres.
F. A. Vider, Secretary.

DON'T BE AN ACCIDENTER!

ON-THE-RE YOU ARE, SMITH. I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU!



The Upper Crust



"James is forgetting his place... keeps on threatening he'll quit us and go with Lockheed if we don't raise him to \$30 a week."

FLASHES

By DONALD J. LOTRICH

CHICAGO—Pioneer members are called to the next regular meeting Friday, Jan. 21, at the SNPJ hall. The new officers will be installed. Reports will be made on bowling, the juvenile yule party and the federation meeting. The 1944 social program will be outlined and a decision made about the 1944 Pioneer invitational bowling tournament. All members are urged to attend and start the new year out right.

Since our last report in Prosveta we have actually received several dozen letters from the Pioneers in service. Most of these are expressions of appreciation for the Christmas packages sent but by the Pioneers. Most of them liked the contents of the packages. Some of them shared their things with their buddies. These letters can give those who prepared the packages a real satisfaction. We weren't certain whether it was better to send money or a package but we now know that the right thing was done. Incidentally, the packages went to all sections of the globe, to the Aleutians, to the Hawaiians, the Central and South Pacific, to the Caribbean, Panama Canal Zone, England, Africa and Italy in addition to the many training camps in this country.

Henry Stirn is now in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Martin Bernardi who is in the Southwest Pacific expresses the happy thought that the war is on the way out and the wish that he will soon be home. Frank Zordan is sick for a couple of weeks, but now is back at training making up for lost time. William Leban of the Marines is still at San Diego. We haven't heard from John Winter yet, but his wife postcards from Los Angeles, California, that he was transferred from his last station. She went out to visit him. Herman Zordan is stationed at Nashville, Tennessee. He is now a sergeant and was one of those who expressed thanks for the yule package.—James Kubart is at Camp Wheeler, Georgia. Arley Rozienik is also at this camp. Jimmy writes that it has been cold and rainy most of the time.—George Plahutnik is situated on an unpleasant island in the Pacific—Other responses came from John Vogrich, Gus Kramer, Ed Prazak, Larry Gradisek, William Putz, Leo Kretnik, James Jachino, Eleanor Alex, and Frank Yencich, from the States. From overseas we heard from Jacob Drasler who is now a sergeant. Tony Strukelj who is also a sergeant, Sergeant Ernest Dreshar, Corporal Frank Furer, William Tracogna, Lt. Hedwiga Ferlin, Frank Pirman and Sergeant Enno Pechnik.

Art Young, Famed Labor Artist, Dead

Art Young, famed artist and cartoonist who devoted his talents to the cause of labor, is dead. Greeting cards received this year by his friends showed Art Young in his "Christmas whiskers" plodding toward 1944 and the "Four Freedoms," but he did not quite make it. He died unexpectedly in New York Dec. 29. He was 77.

Some of Art Young's best drawings were noted for a rare combination of humor and sharp social protest. He was outstanding in the ability to make a guy grin even while he got hot under the collar.

One of his best known cartoons is typical of this. It shows a hot, bedraggled woman beside a stove reminding her fagged out husband that he has nothing to kick about—he's been working in a nice cool sewer all day.

At the time of his death, Art Young was at work on a book. He was the author of a number of others, including "On My Way," "Art Young, His Life and Times," and "The Best of Art Young."

What He Learned

Mrs. Nextdoor: "What has your boy learned at school so far this term?"

Mrs. Nayber: "He has learned that he'll have to be vaccinated, that his eyes aren't really mates, that his teeth need repairing, and that his method of breathing is entirely obsolete."

Miscalculation

Judge: "I have been informed that you are three months behind in your alimony, Mose. What have you to say?"

Mose: "Ah knows Ah is, Judge, but I jes' couldn't help it. You see mah second wife ain't nowhere near as good a worker as Ah expected her to be!"

Nikola Tesla, Great Yugoslav-American Scientist, Inventor, Electrical Wizard

Today, Jan. 7 (the time of this writing) is the anniversary of the death of the great Yugoslav-American scientist—Nikola Tesla who passed away a year ago today at the age of 86.

I feel that for a Yugoslav so great our Slovene papers have devoted comparatively little space to him and especially the English sections and I have picked this time to bring the name of great Tesla into these columns again.

There are few people who are unfamiliar with the name of Tesla. Particularly every Yugoslav does and must know something about the great Yugoslav-American "electrical wizard" Nikola Tesla whose name and work will shine eternally, Tesla who was and is admired and respected by the foremost men of America, Tesla whom we so proudly claim as Yugoslav.

For me to even begin to write of his greatness is naturally impossible and furthermore his work speaks so loudly and so clearly it is completely unnecessary. I have, however, selected a few quotations from his various letters and messages which in themselves well describe and bring closer the man Tesla, but to ascertain that all do know Tesla I am taking the liberty of quoting Volume 21 of the 1942 Encyclopaedia Britannica description of

"NIKOLA TESLA: American inventor, born July 10, 1856, at Smiljan, Croatia (Yugoslavia), studied at the 'realschule' (technical school), Karlostadt (Karlovac) in 1873, the polytechnic school, Graz, Styria, and the University of Prague, intending to specialize in physics and mathematics, but became interested in electricity. He was first employed in the Austrian government telegraph engineering department, later being engaged in electrical engineering in Budapest and Paris. He went to U.S. in 1884. For a time he was with the Edison Co. at Orange, N. J., but relinquished his position in order to devote himself to research, for which purpose he established the Tesla Laboratory in New York City. He was the first to conceive an effective method of utilizing the alternating current and in 1888 patented the induction motor. He invented the principle of the rotary magnetic field embodied in the apparatus used in the transmission of power from Niagara Falls, also new forms of dynamos, transformers, induction coils, condensers, arc and incandescent lamps, and other electrical apparatus. His 80th birthday in 1936 was celebrated with scientific forums and meetings in Smiljan, Belgrade, Sofia, Brno, Prague, Vienna, Paris, Zagreb and other cities."

Among concrete things in our modern world which Tesla foresaw forty years ago, are: Harnessing a waterfall and transmitting the electric current generated from it over a distance of several hundred miles. Radio. Television. Photographs and facsimiles transmitted by electricity over enormous distances. Time kept electrically. Wireless—controlled ships used by navies and armies of the world. It isn't any wonder that President Roosevelt, Vice President Henry A. Wallace, J. O. Mauborgne, Major General U. S. Army, retired, Robert A. Millikan, James Franck and hundreds of other outstanding men and women from all over the United States upon learning of Tesla's death wired condolences to the chief mourner, Hon. Dr. Sava N. Kosanovich, nephew of Dr. Tesla, who is the only living relative of Dr. Tesla in the U. S. outside of another nephew, Engineer Nikola Trbojevic who resides in Detroit.

What would happen if Tesla's work was eliminated from the industrial world is best explained in a book on induction motor by Tesla's fellow scientist Dr. B. A. Behrend: "Were we to eliminate from our industrial world the results of Tesla's work, the wheels of industry would cease to turn, our electric trains and cars would stop, our towns would be dark, our mills and factories dead and idle. So far-reaching is his work that it has become the warp and woof of industry. Should Tesla's work be suddenly withdrawn, darkness would prevail and we would slump into barbarism."

What more can one say of Tesla? Just by taking short excerpts written by some of our most famous people, by people who knew Tesla, by people who understood his work and his amazing ability one could go on for columns and columns, for issues and issues, but let me just quote from a message he wrote in April 1942 to his "brothers in America":

"President Roosevelt and war-production chief Donald Nelson have again directed an appeal to the American people—to workers and employers—to fulfill as much as possible the projected plan of production of war materials. On that depend the success of resistance and millions of lives in conquered nations. It is the duty of every honest man to respond to the call of the great American President, one of the greatest geniuses in hundreds of years. But in order to answer that call there must be complete unity among us. Any conflict among those who are called upon to contribute

their utmost, destroys our common war effort and gives assistance to the forces of evil.

"Therefore, brothers and sisters, as the oldest Serb, Yugoslav and American of our blood in the United States, I am sending this letter to you urging you to answer the call of President Roosevelt... The deeds of our brothers in the old country are worthy of the spirit which permeates our folklore. What spiritual strength, unbreakable determination, fearlessness, and heroism belong to our still undeveloped boys who joyously shouted, while facing German guns: 'We are Serbian children. Shoot!'... The glorious martyr will live for centuries in our memories inspiring us to immortal deeds."

"Let us not allow that greatness to be minimized through the spreading of hatred—not against the forces of evil—but against our own brothers. The destiny of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the old country is indivisible no matter what the enemy might attempt to do. United we appear more powerful and more noble. United we can fulfill our duty toward the martyrdom of our people, toward America, toward humanity. Whoever works differently is not on the right road."

One of my favorite Tesla quotations is:

"Behold the dark threat veiled in words of flame. One child in misery is a nation's shame!"

Yes, Tesla was a great Yugoslav-American scientist and it was most gratifying to learn that the Maritime Commission of United States had decided to name a liberty ship "Nikola Tesla" in his honor. When Admiral Land notified Tesla's nephew, Dr. Sava N. Kosanovich of the ship launching and requested him to invite a number of people he wished to be present at the launching I certainly considered myself most fortunate to be among those invited. Dr. Sava N. Kosanovich selected Mrs. Vlasta Subasic, wife of the governor general of Croatia as sponsor of the liberty ship.

Among other distinguished guests were: Dr. Ivan Subasic, governor of Croatia; author, Louis Adam; Zarko Buncick, chairman of the Serbian Congress; Zlatko Balokovich, famous violin artist and chairman of the Croatian Congress; Elbin Kristan, chairman of the Slovene National American Council; the prominent ship-owner, Mr. Petrovich; representative of the Yugoslav Merchant Marine Captain Autunovich, and Mr. Babin; the director of the Yugoslav Information Center—Dr. S. Gavrilovich; chief of the Press Bureau of the JIC, Bogdan Radica; Dr. Nicholas Mirkovich, Mrs. Boris Furlan, Misses Charlotte Muzar, Mary Kraljich. To describe the launching and my feelings would take columns. September 25, 1943, witnessing the launching of the liberty ship "Nikola Tesla" at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards in Baltimore, Md., will always remain in my memory as one of the most exciting and happiest days of my life.

Having seen the "Nikola Tesla" ship leave the slip and splash into the water, I naturally thought this was most certainly the first and last time I would see this great ship. However, I did later have the opportunity and good fortune to secure a series of pictures of this ship and the entire launching ceremony which are my cherished possession and which greatly fascinated my friends in Cleveland when I so proudly displayed my (yet incomplete) Tesla "scrapbook" which contains them during my recent stay at home...

It is difficult to relate the thrill and anxiety of the possibility of again seeing the "Tesla" liberty ship after it had served for three months. And a coincidence to say the least. On January 7, the first anniversary of the death of Nikola Tesla, I had the opportunity to see the "Nikola Tesla" liberty ship docked in the waters of the Hudson River. Although now only "Nikol" remains of the freshly white painted "Nikola Tesla" inscription which stood out so clearly Sept. 25, 1943, and service and travel are written all over it. I am sure that just as Tesla's work shall live and serve eternally, the "Nikola Tesla" liberty ship will sail and serve and its end will be as honorable and great as was that of the great Yugoslav-American Scientist, Nikola Tesla, whose name it bears.

ANNE TRAVEN,

(New York City.)

TRIBUTE TO THE UNCONQUERABLES

FRYER FUNERAL HOME

"SINCE 1875"

Your guarantee of Honest and Dependable Service

MEMBER OF SNPJ

Centrally located to serve Wash and Allegheny Counties, Penna.

Call Bridgeville-44