

THE Ukrainian Weekly

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CHRIST IS BORN — ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ

U.S. and Ukraine finalize embassy purchase

by Eugene M. Iwanciw
UNA Washington Office

WASHINGTON — Just one year and four days after U.S. recognition of Ukraine, the government of Ukraine concluded the purchase of an historic building in Washington for use as its embassy in the United States. The building, known as Forrest-Marbury Court, is located at 3350 M Street NW in the historic Georgetown district of Washington. Months of negotiation with both the seller of the building and the Department of State, which had to approve the purchase agreement, culminated with the December 29, 1992, signing ceremony at the current Embassy of Ukraine.

Soon after the establishment of the embassy at its present temporary location in a downtown Washington office

building, the Ukrainian delegation began searching for a permanent chancery for the Ukrainian Embassy. Working with a Washington realtor, Ambassador Oleh Bilorus and his staff visited numerous buildings before identifying Forrest-Marbury Court as a suitable site for a permanent embassy. This was followed by extensive price negotiations with the sellers. The purchase price agreed upon was \$4 million.

The building, located steps from Key Bridge, is on the corner of M and 34th Streets next to Francis Scott Key Memorial Park. The original portion of the building was constructed circa 1788. Between 1986 and 1989, the building was renovated and expanded. The 48,000 square foot edifice was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 2, 1973 (see sidebar).

When Ukraine requested State

Department approval of the purchase, it was initially denied due to the failure of the Ukrainian government to identify a new residence for the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, according to a State Department official. After about two months of negotiation and inquiries by members of Congress, the State Department relented and approved the purchase.

Since the U.S. government does not own land in Ukraine, the State Department required that the land on which the future Ukrainian Embassy stands be turned over to the U.S. government and leased to Ukraine for 90 years at a price of one dollar.

The December 29 signing ceremony involved Andrew Eschleman of Forrest Marbury Corporation, owner of the property; Harry W. Porter, III of the Office of Foreign Missions of the

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Cabinet of Ukraine imposes wage controls

by Dmytro Filipchenko
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KIEV — Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers examined new governmental decrees designed to stabilize the financial and economic situation here, during a meeting on December 29.

The cabinet dealt with six directives in particular, including "On wages," "On wages for workers of state budget institutions and organizations," "On the raising of the minimum wage and pensions," as well as regulations dealing with the imposition of duties on goods being exported from Ukraine, the workings of industrial concerns formed jointly with government institutions, and the leasing of premises to trade, food and general service concerns, Viktor Pynzenyk, Ukraine's vice-premier and minister of the economy, told journalists on December 29.

He said that these decrees had been drafted by President Leonid Kravchuk. The minister stressed that they were part of the government's program of economic transformation, which would

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Vatican announces new appointments

by Christopher Guly
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WINNIPEG — The Vatican announced the appointment of the Very Rev. Michael Bzdel as the metropolitan for Ukrainian Catholics in Canada on Tuesday, December 29; the Rev. Roman Danylak was named apostolic administrator of the Eparchy of Toronto with the authority and powers of the Bishop of Toronto.

Thus, Canada's two most senior Ukrainian Catholic bishops — Archbishop Maxim Hermaniuk, who also serves as metropolitan for the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada and Toronto's Bishop Isidore Borecky, both 81 years old, will step down from official duties within three months. Bishop Borecky, will however, remain Bishop of Toronto.

The Very Rev. Bzdel, 62, provincial superior of the Ukrainian Redemptorists in Canada and the United States since 1984, has been named Canada's second Ukrainian Catholic archbishop-metropolitan. He succeeds Metropolitan Hermaniuk who was consecrated a bishop in 1951 and has served in his present capacity since 1956.

The Very Rev. Danylak, chancellor of the Toronto eparchy since

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From a Christmas card published in Ukraine, author unknown, 1992.

Arsenal workers meet Cabinet after reform policy protest

by Borys Klymenko
Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KIEV — About 3,000 Arsenal Factory workers marched from their plant to the Supreme Council of Ukraine on Saturday, December 26, demanding the immediate abolition of the Cabinet of Ministers' decree "On price regulation," which has quintupled their water bills, quadrupled the price of bread, and raised the price of public transport from 50 kopeks to 5 coupons. They decried the measure as "robbery."

At first, Vasyl Durdynets and Volodymyr Hryniiov, the two deputy chairman of Parliament, came out to hear their grievances. Mr. Durdynets' proposition to return to the factory where they would be met by a government negotiator was rejected.

Mr. Hryniiov did not fare much better. He was jeered when he suggested that the government's failure was "in not explaining what the price increases

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Parliament update: December 14-19

IntelNews

KIEV — During the week of December 14-19, claims and counter-claims of abuses and mismanagement were hurled on the floor of Ukraine's Parliament. Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma was put on the firing line on "Government Day" for the ineptness of his government, while National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Vadym Hetman decided to resign despite calls for him to remain in his post.

• December 14 — The final round of Parliamentary sittings for 1992 began according to schedule, despite a rumor about a possible extraordinary session that began when the government received special powers in the area of economic legislation.

During the last Parliamentary recess, by-elections added 12 more deputies to Parliament. Eight more vacancies have yet to be filled. Voter turn-out is low in large cities and is attributed to a growing apathy among the people toward the powers that be.

Discussion continued about legislation covering criminal activity. Vague laws on economic activity have led to a large number of economic crimes, said Olexsandr Yakymenko, the head of the Ukrainian Supreme Court. Discussions on the battle against crime lasted until the end of the day's session.

According to existing laws, bribetaking is a punishable offense. However, middle and petty officials continue to accept bribes to withhold settlement documents, issue false results or prepare one-sided agreements, etc. — all this without the slightest fear of retribution. The present Ukrainian Criminal Code, for example, contains no definition of the terms "mafia," "corruption" or "speculation," nor does it list the punishments for these violations.

Since Ukraine's departure from the ruble zone, the legal mechanism of punishment for violating hard currency operations is unclear, as the term "foreign currency" has not been redefined. Further, practically all local administrations have ignored presidential orders to provide premises for courts, leading to delays in case hearings.

The work of a judge is very dangerous, demonstrated by statistics of attacks and assassination attempts. Pressure from local power structures, on whom they depend financially and politically, make a judge's work increasingly difficult; they are leaving their posts in growing numbers.

• December 15 — At the start of the morning session, Parliament sent a resolution on the execution of crime-fighting statutes to committee for reworking since sections on law infringement were missing. It was decided to form commissions to check on the work of certain state structures.

After this, Parliament examined and adopted changes to the Criminal and Administrative-Procedural Codes, which mainly involved minor changes to former Soviet terminology. However, an amendment that would have given criminal investigators access to bank and commercial secrets, without the sanction of the state prosecutor's office, was rejected.

A law on social assistance for youth was passed together with a declaration on the general principles of youth policies in Ukraine.

The law "On the Status of Judges," which sets clear social and legal guarantees for judges, was passed in its second reading. However, the law cannot change anything in the judicial system

until complex reforms are undertaken to make the judicial system independent of state power.

Parliament examined legislation "On the Status and Social Guarantees of Veterans of War, Work and the Military Forces." The most passionate debates erupted over granting the status and privileges of World War II veterans to members of underground military units of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army. Many deputies argued for the removal of such privileges from those who participated in repressions by the Communist regime, especially during Stalinist times. A majority decided to return to this issue when the results of a Parliamentary commission to provide a historic-legal assessment of the activities of these organs are in.

• December 16 — The morning session continued with discussion of legislation on the status of veterans of war and work. It was passed in the first reading and sent to commission for reworking.

A law "On Ukrainian Parliamentary Standing Commissions" was passed in the first reading. The law regulates the legality of commission activities. Apart from drafting laws, commissions must also ensure that existing legislation is being applied, make preliminary conclusions on the ratifications of international agreements, draft social and economic state programs, prepare the state budget and consult on other issues within the competency of Parliament. In addition, commissions must hold preliminary discussions on the suitability of candidates elected by Parliament to official posts and assess their work. Commissions must initiate the subject matter of referendums and plebiscites.

Many deputies said a shortcoming of the legislation was the repetition of certain statutes, already contained in existing laws. The draft law was sent to commission for revision.

After this, resolutions were passed on setting up the Sevastopol City Court and the Arbitration Court, and on the election and dismissal of members of provincial courts and military tribunals.

The planned closed session was moved to the next day.

• December 17 — In the morning, passions raged over the resignation of National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) Chairman Vadym Hetman. The deputies were split into two equal groups: one agreed with Parliamentary Chairman Ivan Pliushch that Mr. Hetman's resignation — due to ill health — be examined on its own. The second group demanded to hear a report on Mr. Hetman's activities before accepting his resignation. Mr. Pliushch suggested the two sides retire to the lobbies to decide how to examine the question.

Having reached an agreement, Parliament began examining legislation "On Television and Radio in Ukraine." A speech was delivered by Mykola Okhmakevych, long-time president of the State Teleradio Company (STC), who had been appointed to the position under General Secretary Volodymyr Shcherbytsky. The deputies concluded that the legislation had been written to favor Mr. Okhmakevych's monopoly of the post, but since an alternative draft existed, the two would be welded into one. Thus the bill was sent to commission.

After this the law "On the Presidential Representative in the Crimean Republic" was passed in the second reading.

Amendments were made to the laws

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Newsbriefs on Ukraine

• **KHARKIV** — Viktor Chernomyrdin's appointment as the new Russian prime minister inspires hope for Ukrainian-Russian bilateral relations, President Leonid Kravchuk told workers at a Kharkiv machine-building plant, reported Interfax on December 16. The Ukrainian leader characterized Mr. Chernomyrdin as a practical and sober politician, well-versed in various aspects of economic cooperation. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **KHARKIV** — Organizers of the Civic Congress of Ukraine concluded their meeting in Kharkiv, where they drafted an appeal to the population, Ostankino TV said on December 15. The Civic Congress was formed in the fall and supports a federated structure for Ukraine, official status for the Russian language, and closer ties with Russia and within the CIS. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **KIEV** — Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has once again raised the problem of "the disease that is called imperial thinking." Referring to the recent decision of the Russian Congress of People's Deputies to raise the question of the status of the Crimean city of Sevastopol, Mr. Kravchuk explained that the step was taken by people who still believe in the idea that "all of the peoples (of the former Soviet Union) live under the leadership of the great Russian people." The result, he continued, is that such people feel free to interfere in the internal affairs of others in order to "impose order." Mr. Kravchuk's remarks were made in an interview on December 10 with the Ukrainian Information Agency and state television. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **KIEV** — A survey conducted in four Ukrainian oblasts in November shows widespread public apathy towards political parties. Asked for whom they would vote among 15 political parties if elections were held today, almost 76 percent responded that they could not say. But 31 percent of those said they would not vote at all, Rukh had the greatest number of sympathizers among those who had made their choice. The results were reported by Ukrainian TV on December 8. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **KIEV** — The CIS has proven to be an effective organization, President Leonid Kravchuk told Interfax on December 17. He also repeated his often stated view that the CIS was established in order to dismantle the USSR in a civilized fashion. He said the former Soviet republics should agree to help one another instead of adhering to the principle that might makes right. Mr. Kravchuk spoke with reporters after talks with Belarusian Prime Minister Vyacheslau Kebich. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **SEVASTOPIIL** — The Crimean Parliament rejected a proposal to place the question of the status of Sevastopol in its agenda at the opening of the 10th session on December 16. Russian TV's "Vesti" reported that the question of reviewing the Crimean city's status was raised in a resolution adopted by the recently concluded Congress of Russian People's Deputies. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **WASHINGTON** — U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger on December 17 warned Ukraine that continued delay in ratifying the START treaty and the Lisbon Protocol would harm U.S.-Ukrainian relations, reported Reuters. He also called for Ukraine to hasten the process of agreeing to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. In December, President Leonid Kravchuk stated that the treaty would be ratified by the end of December or early January. However, in the past week the Parliament has requested more time to study it. The Chairman of Ukraine's Parliament Ivan Pliushch, claimed he was not delaying the treaty, but that copies of the 700-page document were not delivered to the Parliament until last week, Interfax reported. Belarus and Kazakhstan have ratified the treaty, but Russia has stated it will not consider the treaty before Ukraine ratifies it. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **KIEV** — The deputy chief of the operations department of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, Ivan Gnidenko, confirmed that strategic nuclear missiles located in Ukraine are not on alert, reported Interfax on December 17. CIS Joint Armed Forces Command repre-

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The family is nothing less than the image of the Most Holy Trinity

Christmas message of Bishop Basil to the reverend fathers, venerable religious, deacons and beloved faithful of the Eparchy of Stamford.

"This day in David's city a savior has been born to you, the Messiah and Lord." (Luke 2:11)

Christ is born! Let us glorify Him!

My Dearly beloved people of the Diocese of Stamford,

As we gather in our homes and in our churches to celebrate the Birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and as our prayers and our thoughts turn to our beloved relatives and friends both here and in Ukraine; and as we think also of family members who for one reason or another may not be at home for Christmas, we appreciate the importance of the Christian family on this feast day.

It is the Will of God to send His Son to save us through birth into a human family. He was born of His Blessed Mother as an infant and grew up in a family setting, so that He should truly be, as St. Paul teaches, a human person like us in everything but sin.

The family is nothing less than the image of the Most Holy Trinity, because the family is the place where husband and wife become one flesh in Christ, "who has made us both one" [in the words of the Epistle to the Ephesians, (5:31)], and where through the unselfish gift of husband and wife to each other, God brings new life into the world.

As we think of the family, we naturally think of the Mother of the family. In a mysterious way, the woman, the wife and mother, is the pivot of the family. For this reason, our Ukrainian Catholic tradition honors the Blessed Mother of God not only on Christmas Day itself, but we also have a special Feast of the Blessed Mother on the second day of Christmas. The Church invites us to this celebration of the Blessed Mother so that we should reflect on her crucial role, and on the importance of the mother in every family. In pastoral work, I see how often the mother is the person who holds the family together, and we should all appreciate and honor this vocation. Jesus Christ, of course, is the Son of God and the Son of the Virgin Mary. As we chant in the Kontakion:

"He Who before the Daystar was born of the father without a mother, today is born on earth of thee without a father. The Star proclaims the good news to the Magi, as the angels and shepherds sing of thy wonderful motherhood, thou Full of Grace." In this way, God has given our human race a new beginning, yet linked through the Blessed Mother with all the sons and daughters of Adam and Eve.

However, it was the Will of God that Jesus Christ should know the care and love of a human father, and thus God entrusted Mary and her Divine Son to Saint Joseph on the Sunday after Christmas, together with King David, the ancestors of the family to which both Joseph and Mary belonged, as we read in the Gospel, and also St. James, "the brother of the Lord." (Gal. 1:19)

St. Joseph is outstanding in our Christmas celebration because he reminds us of responsibility and sacrifice. We see from the Gospel that he did not fully understand the task he had as-

sumed, but that he accepted that task completely. Without this responsibility, this unshrinking fulfillment of our share, no family can survive. Fathers, mothers, and children alike need to accept St. Joseph as a model, an example. We must be willing to do our part with faith and trust in God, even when we do not understand everything perfectly at first.

The inclusion of King David and St. James in our celebration reminds us of the extended family, which today is so threatened in America. With constant moving and many other social factors, many families lack real involvement with grandparents, uncles and aunts, and cousins, but both the Holy Bible and the history of human experience tell us that the extended family is very important. So I congratulate those families who are blessed to maintain a warm love through several generations, and I invite our parishes to give particular support to small families who may be isolated by death, or great distances from grandparents and relatives. Let our parishes be places of genuine Christian fellowship, where we seek to supply each others' needs and wants.

I mentioned above the pivotal role of the mother in each family. This resounds in the hearts of the Ukrainian people; Ukrainian society throughout history has strongly emphasized the importance of each mother. This is probably why devotion to the Blessed Mother of God, the Immaculate Theotokos, is very highly developed among Ukrainian Christians. This devotion to the Blessed Mother is a significant gift from God, and in every generation we should do our best to maintain this devotion and even increase it.

This Christmas, I hope that in each of our families, we shall resolve to strengthen our family life in the New Year which lies before us. We all know what effort this requires; I only wish to remind you of these matters. We must plan particular times to pray together (as well as going to church together regularly), and we should read the Holy Bible together systematically. In their modern-day rush tempo, our families also need sorely to relearn how to sit down and communicate at meals, more often than at Christmas and Easter. Families need to converse together — which means placing strict limits on television and other electronic intruders. And families need to work together, in family projects for the common good, and in occasional projects for the support of individual family members. We all know these things very well, but they will not happen unless in each family we take time out to plan how and when we shall do them.

So, beloved, I send each of you my archpastoral blessing this Christmas. I ask your prayers and your ongoing concern for our Church in Ukraine, and I ask your prayers, your concern, and your deep commitment to the work we have begun here in America during this decade of evangelism. We are surrounded by people who do not know Jesus Christ, and we have no right to keep Christ a secret! May our love, and our joyful celebration, proclaim Christ to those around us! And may the joy and love of Christ be always in your hearts!

†Basil
Bishop of Stamford
(New York and New England)

Let us begin anew by exclaiming the traditional "Christ is born!"

Patriarchal Nativity epistle to the most reverend bishops, venerable clergy and devout brethren of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

Dearly beloved:

"Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and goodwill among men..." resounds the canticle intoned by angels. In our homeland this canticle has taken on new meaning this year. The Star of Bethlehem, too, which shines above the manger of the newly born Christ-child, is beheld differently by the people of Ukraine during this Nativity night. And everyone wonders, for even the sun and other heavenly bodies illuminate Ukraine in an altogether distinct fashion.

Some people are overcome with joy; others are oppressed with grief and fear. And let us not be astounded at the dissonance of these emotions. Many people have forgotten God's commandments and laws; they have put their faith in the power of slave-holders and pharisees and do not remember how to live in a manner pleasing to God. Hence, their fear and their lack of faith.

There is a number of those among us who do not believe that God is merciful and that He has manifested His compassion to the Ukrainian people by taking them under His care.

However, will God's favor indeed put an end to the wailing of Ukrainian mothers, those hard-working women who many a time have wept over their children and husbands? Will there indeed be no more hunger, persecution or crime?

Show interest in these questions; inquire about them. Turn to God with these very questions. He will help you gain understanding, provide answers to all your questions. And He will reward you all according to your deeds.

Do not be afraid of your future, for it will be filled with good fortune and jubilation, if we live according to the prescription of St. Paul the apostle: "Be awake to all the dangers; stay firm in the faith; be brave and be strong. Let everything you do be done in love" (I Cor. 16:13-14).

This, my dearly beloved, is the reality with which we must come to terms. Let us therefore begin anew by exclaiming the traditional "Christ is born — Let us glorify Him."

We give thanks to You, our God, for the kindness which You have shown in liberating us and making us equal to the other free nations of this world. Help us find the correct path and help us walk this path into the future. Let us not deviate from it.

Give us, God, the strength and endurance required for the trying task of

rebuilding our culture, the sciences, the economy, the political life and all other things requisite for man's existence in today's world.

Forgive us, God, our trespasses as well as the transgressions of our forefathers. Forgive us our sins and mistakes!

Allow us to begin our new lives with the prayer: "Bozhe Velykyi, Yedynyi... O Great and Only God..."

Be always and everywhere present among us and among those who will share our future with us on the land which You have destined for us...

My dearly beloved brothers and sisters, my children, if you only knew how delighted I am when I see your joyful faces, how fervently I pray for your continued happiness and health. I pray that you may not be misled by evil men, who will come to you disguised under white hoods, in black robes and wearing gold crosses adorned with precious stones. It is of them that you should most beware. Do not believe them!

In greeting you on the occasion of the great feast of the Nativity of our Lord, I also call you to assist our President and our Government in their tremendous efforts to lay a foundation under our fledgling Christian country.

Illuminated by the radiance of the Star of Bethlehem, which heralds to the world the birth of the Christ-child, let us promise to live in peace and harmony, to be courageous and steadfast in our faith, to be moderate and laborious, to be honest and responsible in all of our actions and in the fulfillment of our duties.

Let us be aware — and this is not to be taken as an intimidation but as a reminder — that not only our future, but also the future of coming generations depends on our relationship with the Almighty and on whether we will heed His Commandments in our everyday lives. This, of course, applies not only to the Ukrainian people, but to all of those who are sharing the fate of our nation.

This year's Nativity Epistle I shall conclude with the words of Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk, who has called on us "... to build a magnificent Shrine in testimony to our faith and gratitude to God for having showered us with His infinite mercy." Thus, let us assist Him in building this Shrine for the glory of God and His Son, Who was born for our salvation and Whom we shall glorify for ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Christ is born — Let us glorify Him!

†Mstyslav

Patriarch of Kiev and all Ukraine

Vatican announces...

(Continued from page 1)

1966, who turned 62 on the day of his appointment, will serve as the eparchy's second bishop. However, unlike Metropolitan Hermaniuk who submitted his resignation six years ago when he turned 75, Bishop Borecky has refused to step down.

While the metropolitan will serve as archbishop-emeritus of Winnipeg, Bishop Borecky will, in his words, remain as the bishop in Toronto "until his death" without any episcopal power. Bishop Borecky was consecrated the first Ukrainian Catholic bishop of the Toronto eparchy

in 1948.

Archbishop-elect Bzdel was born in Wishart, Sask., on July 21, 1930. He entered the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Ukrainian Redemptorist Fathers) in 1948 and completed his studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Waterford, Ont. Fellow Redemptorist Metropolitan Hermaniuk, who had once served as vice-provincial superior of his congregation, taught his successor Scripture and Hebrew at the seminary.

Rev. Bzdel was ordained in 1954 and served as a parish priest in Manitoba and Saskatchewan between 1956 and 1984. He taught at St. Vladimir's College and Minor

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New Ukrainian Embassy complex is U.S. historic landmark

by Eugene M. Iwanciw
UNA Washington Office

WASHINGTON — One of the earliest structures built in Washington, the meticulously restored, historically significant Forrest-Marbury House is an integral part of the newly constructed Forrest-Marbury Court. The exterior of the Forrest-Marbury House has been restored to reflect the Greek Revival Period based upon a Civil War-era photograph. The interior incorporates elements of the Federalist and Greek Revival Periods.

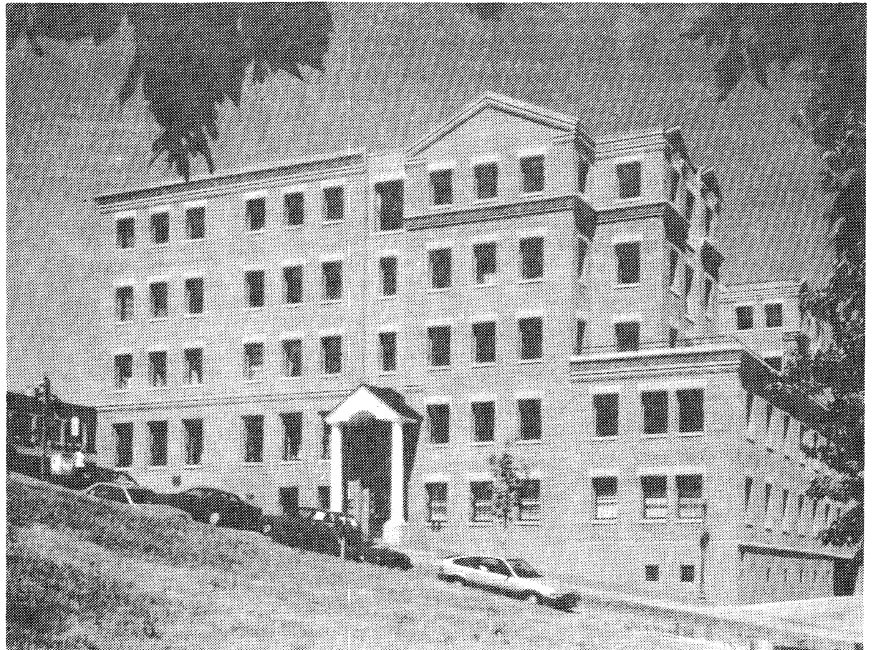
The remainder of the Forrest-Marbury Court complex is centered around and is architecturally compatible with the historical design and flow of the restored Forrest-Marbury House. All of the restoration work conforms to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation.

Forrest-Marbury Court's six levels feature a brick coachway leading to a landscaped courtyard and two spacious terraces with stunning views of the Potomac River and the Virginia Palisades.

Previously designated a Category I "building of great importance to the National Cultural Heritage" by the Joint Committee on Landmarks of Washington, D.C., Forrest-Marbury House is one of only six Category I buildings in private ownership in the District. (The others are the Octagon House built in 1800, Tudor Place built in 1815, St. John's Church built in 1815, the Decatur House built in 1818, and Union Station built in 1903. Publicly-owned Category I buildings include the White House, the Smithsonian Castle, the Supreme Court, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Washington Monument). It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 2, 1973.

In 1695, the parcel of land on which the Forrest-Marbury Court now rests was known as "New Scotland Hundreds" of Prince Georges County, Maryland. In 1752, the Maryland Provincial Assembly honored King George II of England by creating a town bearing his name, George Town (now Georgetown).

The lot was purchased in 1785 by Benjamin Stoddert for the sum of 1,000 pounds in gold and silver. In 1788, he contracted for the construction of a substantial "Gentleman's House" on the property. Gen. Uriah Forrest, a Revolutionary War hero



A view of Ukraine's Embassy to the United States from 34th Street.

and Stoddert's partner, was first to take up residence in the new house. During the time he lived there, the Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, decided that the new nation's capital should be along the Potomac River. They entrusted Gen. George Washington with the responsibility of selecting a suitable site.

Both Stoddert and Forrest had served as Washington's officers in the Revolutionary War, and Forrest had at one time been Washington's aide-de-camp. Because of this friendship, Washington asked these men to assist in securing agreements from the 19 original landowners of the area so the government could acquire their land for a capital city. These efforts culminated with an agreement in principle which was reached at the famous March 29, 1791 dinner hosted by Forrest at his home. Washington's diary for that date reads "dined at Col. Forrest's today with the Commissioner and others."

Thus, the Forrest-Marbury House is the site of one of the United States most significant historical events, the establishment of the federal city of

Washington, D.C. With the selection of the nation's capital, development along the Potomac started to expand. Construction on The White House began in 1792, the Capitol Building in 1793, and Georgetown University in 1789.

On December 6, 1980, William Marbury, a Federalist and supporter of President John Adams, purchased Forrest-Marbury House for 2,250 pounds (about \$5,850 at that time). A short time after Marbury took up residence in his new home, he became involved in one of the most, if not most, significant court cases in U.S. history.

On his last day in office, President Adams signed commissions naming 42 loyalists to his party as "Justice of the Peace" for the District of Columbia. The commissions were sent to the Secretary of State to be sealed and delivered. However, a number, including William Marbury's disappeared.

In 1803, Marbury filed suit against then Secretary of State James Madison demanding that his commission

as Justice of the Peace be delivered. The case, Marbury vs. Madison was heard by Chief Justice of the United States, John Marshall. The Court ruled on behalf of the defendant, James Madison, on the grounds that Mr. Marbury's basis for filing was unconstitutional. This landmark case established the Supreme Court's power to rule on the constitutionality of laws passed by Congress and further confirmed this branch of the government's right of judicial review.

Francis Scott Key lived just one block west of Forrest-Marbury House when he wrote the national anthem. While the house in which Key lived is no longer standing, in 1987 Congress designated land immediately to the west of Forrest-Marbury Court as a park honoring Francis Scott Key. A private, non-profit foundation is currently raising funds to construct an appropriate monument to Key and the anthem. "The Star Spangled Banner." Plans include the re-landscaping of the site and the display of a bust of Francis Scott Key along with a 15-star-and-stripe-flag (circa 1814).

U.S. and Ukraine...

(Continued from page 1)

U.S. Department of State; and Ambassador Bilorus. In addition to the signing of the contract and deed, the U.S. and Ukrainian representatives signed the lease agreement.

After the signing of the documents, the ambassador, embassy staff, State Department officials, lawyers, and guests toasted the new purchase with champagne from Ukraine. Mr. Porter toasted Ukraine and welcomed them to the community. "You have a superb property which will allow you to grow as our relations will continue to grow," stated Mr. Porter. Ambassador Bilorus replied that "this is a special day in the history of this Embassy and my country. Ukraine disappeared for centuries but now is emerging on the European scene." He concluded his remarks with the now familiar toast: "God bless

America and God bless Ukraine."

The building was originally designed as a commercial/residential property. In addition to space for offices, it contains an interior landscaped courtyard, an outside terrace, garage parking for 21 cars, and eight apartments.

According to the Ukrainian Embassy, some staff will reside on the premises. The building will now, however, be the ambassador's residence. Ukraine is still waiting for the St. Sophia Society to turn over its building in Washington for use as the ambassador's residence as originally agreed to earlier this year.

While the embassy plans to begin moving its offices to the new chancery early in January, the consulate will remain at the 1828 L Street location for a number of months. The new facility requires interior design work before it can be fully utilized as a chancery, consulate and residence for Ukraine.



Eugene Iwanciw

Ukraine's Ambassador Oleh Bilorus signing the purchase agreement for the building that will house the Ukrainian Embassy. Sitting with Mr. Bilorus are the seller of the historic home, Andrew Eschleman (right), and Harry W. Porter III, acting director of the Office of Foreign Missions representing the U.S. Department of State.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA Supreme honored at banquet

WINNIPEG — The Ukrainian Canadian community honored UNA Supreme Director for Canada John Hewryk and Stephanie Hewryk with a banquet attended by 200 representatives of local and national organizations at the Lincoln Motor Hotel here on July 24. The reception was held to celebrate Mr. Hewryk's 75th birthday and 55 years of community service as well as Mr. and Mrs. Hewryk's 45th wedding anniversary.

The celebration was opened by master of ceremonies Judge Michael Barylak and was followed by a prayer and an address by Metropolitan Hermaniuk of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada. The metropolitan praised Mr. Hewryk's work in the community. Judge Barylak then read greetings congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Hewryk on their anniversary. These included messages from Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Liberal Party leader Jean Cretien, NDP leader John McLaughlin and many other Canadian dignitaries.

Dignitaries from the Ukrainian community that extended their greetings included Ukrainian government in exile president Mykola Plawuk, Ukraine's ambassador to Canada Levko Lukianenko and the president of the World

Congress of Free Ukrainians, Yuri Shymko, as well as many others.

Speaker George Hwozdylch drew a brief biographical sketch of Mr. Hewryk's youth in Ukraine to his most recent activities and achievements in Canada. UNA Supreme Secretary Walter Sochan extended greetings from the UNA's Supreme Executive Committee and presented Mr. Hewryk with an award plaque. Other speakers offering greetings included former Manitoba Minister of Culture and present MLA Judy Wasylcia-Leis, administrator of St. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral, the Rev. Jaroslaw Radkewych, Olga Kowal, vice-president of the Ukrainian Women's Organization of Canada, and Olga Mychalchuk, representing a local branch of the UWOC.

The Hewryk's son-in-law, Dr. Lev Chirovsky, expressed gratitude to his in-laws and thanked all the guests that attended the banquet. Mr. and Mrs. Hewryk also extended appreciation to their guests.

Archbishop Wasyl, metropolitan of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada, praised Mr. Hewryk's many accomplishments and dedication to the Ukrainian community and led the assembly in prayer for Mr. Hewryk and his family.



Archbishop Wasyl (left) and Metropolitan Hermaniuk (right) join Stephanie and John Hewryk in celebrating their anniversaries.

St. Nicholas visits young UNAers

Berwick

by Tymko Butrej

BERWICK, Pa. — UNA Branches 164 and 333 from Berwick, Pa., sponsored their annual St. Nicholas party, which was held at the church hall of St. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church on Sunday, December 6. Mr. Tymko Butrej, chairman of UNA Wilkes-Barre District as well as secretary of Branch 164, briefly addressed the guests, mentioning that the

UNA is the oldest existing Ukrainian organization in the diaspora and informing the audience of the membership benefits and insurance products available to UNA adult or children members.

Over 130 guests attended this affair, among them 28 children. As part of the program the children enjoyed a visit by St. Nicholas, who presented them with gifts.

All guests young and old alike enjoyed a delicious buffet and refreshments.



St. Nicholas visits UNA Branches 164 and 333.

Manville

by Mike Zacharko

MANVILLE, N.J. — St. Nicholas visited the children of St. Michael the Archangel parish in Manville, N.J., on Sunday afternoon December 6. A program on the St. Nicholas theme was prepared in anticipation of his visit.

The program began with the pastor, the Rev. Paul Labinsky, greeting the guests and explaining to them the beautiful Ukrainian St. Nicholas tradition and its meaning to us.

The children of the Ukrainian School,

which meets on Saturdays, welcomed St. Nicholas with the traditional song "O, Khto, Khto Mykolaya Liubyt" (Whoever Loves St. Nick, will be rewarded). Orest Kraynyk must be commended for an excellent job as pianist for the program. St. Nicholas was very generous to the children, showering them with gifts.

The children were treated to sweets, soft drinks, while coffee and pastry was served to parents and other guests, who freely socialized.

Everyone had a good time. The children are already anticipating St. Nicholas' coming next year.



St. Nicholas visits UNA Branch 349 in Manville, N.J.

The Ukrainian National Association useful phone numbers, addresses

UNA Home Office

30 Montgomery St. (third floor)
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 451-2200

UNA Washington Office

400 N. Capital St. NW - Suite 859
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 347-8631
FAX (202) 347-8631

Svoboda Ukrainian Daily

30 Montgomery St. (mezzanine)
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 434-0237, -0807, -3036

UNA Estate Soyuzivka

Foordemoore Road
Kerhonkson, NY 12446
(914) 626-5641

The Ukrainian Weekly

30 Montgomery St. (mezzanine)
Jersey City, NJ 07302
(201) 434-0237, -0807, -3036

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THE Ukrainian Weekly

In the spirit of the season

This is the time of year to reflect on the past, to learn from mistakes and to look forward to the future.

For Ukraine, the past two years have been euphoric, exciting, and often unpredictable. And although the future promises difficult times ahead, it is hoped that the people will find the strength and the stamina to continue laying the bricks for building a democratic, independent, sovereign state.

In a recent Wall Street Journal article dated December 28, Time Carrington sets an optimistic tone for the future of this nation of 52 million. Discussing Ukraine's sober approach to START and its readiness to embrace serious economic reforms, he writes: "If progress on both fronts continues, the U.S. and its allies should use the new year to build much closer ties with Ukraine. ...

"Ukraine, which borders Poland, Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary and Romania aspires to be part of the European fraternity. Those leanings should be encouraged. A stable, westward-looking Ukraine could be a crucial buffer if Russia fragments or slides back into authoritarianism," he writes.

"We're more hopeful now about Ukraine than we were two months ago," says Wafik Grais, a World Bank specialist for the region.

Ukraine's top government officials are lucid and rational in their approach to the future. Viktor Pynzenyk, Ukraine's deputy prime minister of economic reform, told workers recently: "In order for things to get better, sometimes you have to endure a period of pain, but our government is willing to work with all constructive elements who favor the course of reform."

Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma has defended the recent austerity measures as crucial to the country's survival. "Now the government is forced to take highly unpopular measures and bring prices for a number of goods into line with their costs. If we don't take this burden on ourselves, then tomorrow it will weigh 100 times more heavily on our children."

This week in Ukraine people readied for the approaching New Year and Christmas holidays. A light, tranquil snow lined the cold streets of Kiev; a friend called from the capital and said: "we'll manage."

"We live with the hope of a brighter future, and when a person has hope, everything is possible."

And, in the spirit of this season, the staff of The Weekly would like to take the opportunity to wish our readers and their loved ones much peace and love in the New Year. May the birth of Jesus Christ truly illuminate hope for the future — a better tomorrow for all. "Khrystos Rozhdaietsia — Slavim Yoho." Christ is born — Glory be to Him.

Dec.
31
1877

Turning the pages back...

One of the leading figures of Ukrainian modernism in literature, dramatist, novelist, short story writer, translator and an influential teacher and proselytizer of Ukrainian folk

music was Hnat Khotkevych, born in Kharkiv on December 31, 1877.

In 1899, he organized a groundbreaking performance of kobzars and lirnyks at an archeological conference. The following year, he graduated from the Kharkiv Technological Institute and began work as a railway engineer. Politically persecuted for being one of the leaders of a railwayman's strike in 1905, he was forced to emigrate to Galicia, where he lived in Lviv, and then in Kryvorivnia, Kostiv county.

Already passionately interested in folk culture, he was profoundly affected by his new environment in the Carpathians, which inspired him to write profusely for the stage and the printed page. In 1910, he founded the Hutsul Theater. In 1911, he published his literary masterpiece, "Kaminna Dusha" (The Stone Soul), a stirring romantic work centered on his own version of the legend of the Hutsul Robin Hood, Dovbush.

Returning to Kharkiv in 1912, he gave public lectures, founded a workers' theater (which staged over 50 plays in the succeeding three years), and edited the literary journal "Visnyk kulturny i zhyttia." Once again the focus of official disapproval, he was banished from Ukraine in 1915.

Back in Kharkiv after the February Revolution in 1917, he was opposed to the Bolshevik occupation of Ukraine, but from 1920 was an active participant in the republic's cultural life, although he steered clear of literary discussions. He wrote historical dramas, including the "Bohdan Khmelnytsky" tetralogy (1929) — which included a condemnation of the Treaty of Pereyaslav that was used to bind Ukraine to Russia.

Khotkevych's literary and artistic interests were wide and varied. He wrote studies on Hryhoriy Skovoroda, the 18th century itinerant philosopher, on Ukrainian folk music and instruments, on Galician folk and medieval theater, and on the nation's bard, Shevchenko. He also translated the works of Shakespeare, Moliere, Friedrich Schiller and Victor Hugo.

He was arrested during the Yezhov terror in the 1930s, and perished in unknown circumstances.

Source: "Khotkevych, Hnat" in *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, vol. 2 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988).

From the Cabinet of Ministers

Implementing land reform

by Zhenovij Tkachuk
Exclusive to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

Economic reform in the countryside provides the basis for total economic reform in Ukraine. Its proper solution in the near future will determine the socio-economic climate in Ukrainian society and, in perspective, the future of the Ukrainian state.

Until this time what was absent was a modern deideologized program of land reform.

In this century, the only effective economic reform program that took place on Ukrainian soil, and which in a few decades changed the face of the country, was instituted by Pyotr Stolypin and based on land reform. These reforms addressed the categorical breakdown of an inefficient communal agricultural production system which resembled our contemporary kolhosps (collective farms) and radhosps (state farms) and transferred the individual interests of people to private farm production.

This question has also become a central point of a political struggle in our Supreme Council. After three years of discussion and debate, agricultural reform in Ukraine has finally begun. On December 23, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, under the direction of Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma, issued a government decree "On Privatization of Land Plots" removing restrictions in the laws concerning private property on land. For Ukraine, a country with a long and rich agrarian history, private ownership of land is the cornerstone of this reform.

The concept of private property was proclaimed earlier this year by the Supreme Council in the Land Code of Ukraine (ironically, the words "private property" appear only in the title and nowhere else in the article), but a simultaneously adopted six-year moratorium placed on the sale of land seriously restricted the right of private property on land. Latter was the first artificial obstacle that was removed by the decree. In fact, the decree opens up the land market, which was so demonstratively declared earlier, but nonexistent until now.

Ukrainians will not be placated by this single step. It is obvious to them that the decree itself will not solve the problems heaped on them by decades of an improper mode of production and colonial status. Subsequently, a number of things needs to be addressed in order for this and following decrees to be implemented quickly and effectively.

First, the psychology of collectivism is

Zhenovij Tkachuk is an advisor to Ukrainian Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma.

something that many people both within and outside the government need to overcome.

Second, trust in the government's belt-tightening measures is an issue of even greater urgency within a country as economically distressed as Ukraine.

Thirdly, the infrastructure must be improved and the distribution system made more efficient. Each party involved understands that agricultural reform is a difficult and long-term process, which needs continuous and diligent attention, as well as a coordinated effort between all the branches of power.

Of course, this decree is not a complete foundation for the development of a land market, but it gives the possibility for future resolute steps. The absence of private ownership of land was the principal handicap that hindered agricultural reforms. Certain questions, such as fair and equal distribution of land and the potential monopolization by third parties, still need to be addressed.

Unlike Article 6 of the Land Code of Ukraine, which only declares private ownership of land, Article 1 of the decree transfers to Ukrainian citizens private ownership of the plots of land near their homes, as well as the plots given to them earlier for planting, building houses, cottages and garages. This concerns plots of land which are not greater than the norm set by the Land Code. For rural dwellers the norm is equal to 0.6 hectares, and for city dwellers — 0.15 hectares.

Article 2 of the decree states that the right of private property is to be confirmed by each corresponding regional council of People's Deputies. Plots of land ownership is to be bestowed to citizens by State Act.

Article 3 removes the above-mentioned six-year restriction on selling a plot of land, and fully states private property on land.

Various interests were involved in cobbling this decree together, including the Cabinet of Ministers, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Economics, the State Committee on Land Resources, the State Property Fund and the Academy of Agrarian Sciences. At times, these interests were in disagreement on the myriad legal issues that would involve the state transferring land to individuals.

In December, an agreement was signed between the Agricultural Institute of Canada and the Ukrainian government. This agreement will place Canadian agricultural specialists in Ukraine as early as February of 1993. The decree hopes to finish implementing these privatization measures as early

(Continued on page 16)

UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine



The Home Office of the Ukrainian National Association reports that, as of December 10, the fraternal organization's newly established Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine has received 13,783 checks from its members with donations totalling **\$357,307.59**. The contributions include individual members' donations, as well as returns of members' dividend checks and interest payments on promissory notes.

Please make checks payable to UNA Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

U.S. needs more than two parties

Dear Editor:

Now that the national elections are over, our totally and hopelessly corrupt two-party political system can get back to business as usual with its "professional" politicians, surely making reporters and political analysts alike happy again now that there seem to be no more threats to the system from an independent or from the emergence of a third major political party onto the national scene. However, mark my words, they are too hasty in taking themselves off guard, for they do not seem to be hearing the growing rumblings across the land, that are growing in intensity with each passing day. They are burying their heads in the sand like ostriches.

Some people are saying that now that Gov. Bill Clinton has won the election, "we" are supposed to rally around him and fully support him. Hogwash! Others are free to do as they wish, but I am confident that President-elect Clinton will most assuredly do enough damage to the country and its economy without our help. I cannot in all good conscience give my moral support to another Nero who will cheerfully play his harp (read saxophone) while Rome burns.

Now Mr. Clinton is seemingly campaigning throughout the country for the support of former Perot supporters, who champion real change, not some fictitious hybrid. As a former supporter of Ross Perot, I steadfastly and unswervingly refuse to be co-opted by President-elect Clinton, thereby losing what voice I may have once had in the democratic process. I no longer believe in, or have any faith whatsoever in, the present ailing two-party system, which is now on its deathbed.

We would do better to harken back to the words of the founding fathers of this nation and take heed. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson both specifically warned against the dangers of political parties, which they feared would entrench themselves on the national scene, wholly ignoring the real needs and interests of all the people. This is what we endure now.

What is the solution? Perhaps a true political party of the people on the national scene, possibly a third major political party, for which there seems to be such a crying need at the present time. We need more democracy, not less, with fresh input from the people.

Alas, we as citizens of this once great land have a long way to go to reclaim our government. As of now, it is still "we," the people, and "they," the so-called "professional" politicians. The new faces elected to Congress this year will soon become just as corrupt as the system that they bought into. We need real changes, not just the eternal tinkering on the edges of a problem.

We need a second, albeit peaceful, revolution now to reclaim what was once ours: a government responsive to all the people's needs, not just to some politically powerful few. Perhaps the formation of a third major political party would be a good start. And why stop there? Do we no longer have the guts that this nation's founding fathers had when they dared to carry through a revolution? I am sorry to say that we as a nation no longer do. However, I would love to be proven wrong.

Be what it may, if things really remain basically unchanged, we risk an implosion at some time in the near future. It should make for an interesting future in

the near term, for history has taught us that genuine and needed change will not be long denied.

Paul Nedwell
Wappingers Falls, N.Y.

Lempert denigrates Ukraine's constitution

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the two-part article by David Lempert on Ukraine's draft Constitution, which appeared in November 15 and 22 issues of The Ukrainian Weekly. It denigrates the proposed Ukrainian Constitution to the point of indecency.

It starts with a reference to Orwell's "Animal Farm," implying presumably that Ukrainian leaders are no better than Orwellian pigs, and goes on to say that the proposed Constitution is worse than Lenin's and is no better than Stalin's and other Soviet Constitutions. In fact, it states that Stalin's 1936 Constitution was more democratic than the one now proposed by the Ukrainian leaders.

The article goes on to say that the proposed 500 elected representatives, or one per 140,000 people, cannot ensure democracy and protect Ukraine's citizens, and predicts dire consequences for Ukraine in the future, even reminding us "not only of purges but of discrimination and harassment of Jews, women and others." It also predicts that Ukrainian elites will exploit the people to the hilt, and that Ukraine will become an Orwellian "1984" society.

Such slander should not be published in The Ukrainian Weekly. Obviously Mr. Lempert is an anti-Ukrainian individual who considers Ukrainians to be a bunch of "animals" who could never live in a normal democratic society, but who would devour each other given the slightest opportunity to do so.

The U.S. Constitution to which Mr. Lempert refers with such awe did not prevent discrimination against Blacks and others (vide the recent riots in Los Angeles) or the concentration of about 80 percent of the total wealth in the hands of about 10 percent of the population (the elite). Also, his statement that the U.S. Constitution provides for a representation of 30,000:1 is certainly not confirmed in fact. The 435-member House of Representatives for over 240 million people makes it one per over half a million people. And in the Senate, each California senator represents over 10 million people.

Ukrainian numbers are closer, for example, to the British where 635 members of the House of Commons represent about 60 million people. In fact, Great Britain, which is one of the oldest and best democracies of them all, has no constitution at all, which merely goes to show that it is not the Constitution that counts, but rather the way people and the government live with each other on a day-to-day basis.

Why don't we give Ukraine a chance to organize itself the best it can, to write and adopt a constitution that it wishes to adopt, and see how all of this will work in a few years, before defaming and criticizing everything as "slogans and platitudes?" Whatever constitution is adopted, I am sure that with a free Ukraine there won't be millions of Ukrainians starved to death and other countless millions rotting in the gulags in Siberia.

George Primak
Pierrefonds, Quebec

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kurupas



Ethnics advise Bill Clinton

"Who am I? Why am I here?"

Remember those immortal lines of Admiral James Stockdale, Ross Perot's running mate, during the vice-presidential debates?

I was reminded of those words when I, a life-long Republican, was in Little Rock recently by invitation of President-elect Bill Clinton's transition team. I was part of what was billed the "East European Round Table."

Other Ukrainians participating included Adrian Slywotsky, Bohdan Watral, Askold Lozynskyj and Julian Kulas.

There were also Americans of Armenian, Croatian, Estonian, German, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Serbian and Slovenian descent.

Chairing the round table was Christopher Hyland, the man who engineered the Clinton ethnic outreach program during the campaign and who helped bring so many Reagan Democrats home.

Mr. Hyland opened the discussion by thanking everyone for being there and assuring us that President-elect Clinton was truly interested in our views on the situation in Eastern Europe. Referring to the Communist enslavement of the past, he said: "You kept the faith for decades. Now it is your turn to be heard. Your advice is important to Mr. Clinton."

Many complaints regarding American foreign policy under George Bush were voiced during the next three hours. In summary, they included such matters as:

- Favoritism towards Russia which resulted in America's failure to expeditiously recognize the independence of the Baltic nations, and which viewed Ukraine's freedom crusade as "suicidal nationalism."

- The United States allowing Russia to grab all of the foreign assets of the Soviet Union (embassies, etc.) but demanding that all 15 former Soviet republics share in paying off the Soviet debt.

- Forgiving the debts of certain "chosen nations" but demanding that Ukraine and other former Soviet republics pay debts which were incurred by another political entity, the Soviet Union, during a period in history when only one of the Soviet republics, Russia, was in charge.

- Demands by the Bush administration that all nuclear warheads in Ukraine be turned over to Russia despite the fact that Russia was selling war materials to other nations and still had missiles pointed at the United States.

- A Freedom Support Act that provided Russia with an inordinate amount of support and practically ignored the other newly independent nations.

- A state department that discouraged investment in Ukraine and other former Soviet republics.

There were also many excellent suggestions made by the participants. Mr. Watral suggested that the United States government assist and support the establishment of cooperative credit unions in Ukraine and throughout Eastern Europe, an effort which The World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives has already initiated.

Mr. Slywotsky believed that greater political stability in Ukraine and other

republics would create wider international markets for the United States and more jobs for Americans. Supporting a free market in Ukraine was good business for America, he emphasized.

Mr. Kulas suggested that the United States should become more proactive in developing social and economic ties with Ukraine, mentioning the past reticence of the Bush administration to do so.

I recommended that in cooperation with universities and local ethnic group leaders, the Clinton administration establish "liberty institutes" which would prepare the best and the brightest of each East European nation for future leadership in a democratic, diverse, and free market society; review the curriculums of various government-funded centers of Soviet and Russian Studies to determine if their approach is still Russophilic in its orientation; re-establish the position of special assistant for ethnic affairs in the White House to assure a mutually beneficial flow of information between neglected European ethnics and the Clinton administration.

Mr. Lozynskyj had the most suggestions. He believed, among other things, that the United States should: provide Ukraine with certain security guarantees for unilaterally surrendering its nuclear arms; support Ukraine's entry into NATO; develop bilateral military exchanges with Ukraine that would assist in establishing civilian control over the post-Soviet military; assist in the establishment of a currency stabilization fund for Ukraine prior to the introduction of the hryvnia, Ukraine's national currency.

All of our suggestions were duly noted and recorded. Before leaving we were assured, once again, that Mr. Clinton was serious about reaching out to all groups and that our ideas were important to the president-elect.

My overall impression of the meeting was positive. To my knowledge, this is the first time anything like this has happened during a presidential transition period. The Clinton people now have a clear and substantive record of the hopes and aspirations of Eastern Europeans in America, and if they are serious about taking our views into account, then we're off to a good start.

Since returning from Little Rock, however, I have been dismayed by the appointment of Warren Christopher, a former Carter administration diplomat, as Secretary of State, and Clifton Wharton, an Afro-American educator with absolutely no foreign policy experience, as his deputy. What kind of message do these appointments send to the Russians? Will Bill Clinton be perceived as a cream puff by the Russians? Nikita Khrushchev placed missiles in Cuba because he thought Jack Kennedy was a lightweight. Leonid Brezhnev thought the same of Jimmy Carter when he invaded Afghanistan.

Although I bow to the political wisdom of the Clinton people for involving Eastern Europeans so early in the game, the proof will be in the pudding of foreign policy appointments that follow, and the manner in which the inevitable first "Russian crisis" is handled by Mr. Clinton.

Remembrances of Christmas past

by Marta Pisetska-Farley

My truest memories of Christmas started after the second world war. Times were very tense politically, goods were few and foodstuffs scarce for many people, including our family. Ours was a displaced family, one of many "DP's" that came to Southern Germany at the end of World War II.

In our home "Sviata Vechera" (Holy Supper) on Christmas Eve, was always the long-awaited peak of the Christmas season. The work and preparation seemed exhausting and eternal. Our preparations for Christmas started early, immediately following the feast of St. Andrew, December 13.

The main focus for the children was the construction of Christmas tree ornaments from shiny colored paper, straw and egg shells. The glue we made ourselves, cooking flour and water to make a paste. These evening sessions were frustrating to me. My older sister mastered all the necessary skills before I did. So, my ornamental "peacock feathers" or "clowns" were never as neat and attractive as hers. Yet I remember those evening with great warmth.

"Sviaty Mykolai" (St. Nicholas) appeared in Ukraine on December 19, and so he did in the displaced persons' camp. For children, this day was as important as a name day or a birthday. All anticipated the day and hoped for fine presents. In spite of my lack of skill, I too was eager to display a proper seriousness in making ornaments. Behavior was closely monitored at that critical time and, I was anxious not to have any front of my schoolmates.

St. Nicholas, attired as a bishop, would visit our home on December 10. He came to school on a designated evening or weekend, appearing during the obligatory Christmas play. The "saint" appeared dressed in full church vestments, bearing a staff. During this time of scarcity these necessities were borrowed from the chapel. He was always accompanied by two others; a devil and an angel. The devil's task was to hand out twigs (for beatings) to miscreants; the angel's to distribute presents to everybody else.

Parents took this opportunity to reprimand their children publicly for various faults, such as undue fighting, squabbling and general mischief. Young men and women would also use the occasion to play private and not-too-private jokes on

one another, or to send token gag gifts. Some communities had a St. Nicholas party for adults, an occasion that would often turn into raunts or joking political discussions.

Our presents were usually a book, an article of clothing or a toy. One year, I remember, my sister lured me to my parents' bed with a great conspiratorial tones, and, from underneath, fished out a big box. Before opening it, she pledged me to sacred secrecy, and then told me that the present was to be mine since she was too old for it. An elderly neighbor had given the present to mother to pass on to one of us. She overheard mother planning to barter it for a kilo of butter. As my sister lifted the lid, I glimpsed a porcelain doll. I was thrilled that such a wondrous gift was planned for me. I wondered: what did mother have to do with St. Nicholas? Nor did it occur to me to ask that the doll be kept.

After the Feast of St. Nicholas, preparation for Christmas went into high gear. Mother would check our larder for the essential ingredients for "Sviata Vechera," the Holy Supper on Christmas Eve. In post-war Europe, everything was scarce. The favorite word in food preparation was "ersatz," or substitute.

When we emigrated to the United States, the difficulty was not scarcity, but our lack of English and different American tastes. For kutia, "frumenty," or whole wheat kernels, were essential, but where to buy them? No 1950's market ever stocked them. We finally found them in a bird seed store; we had to order a ten pound sack! Our family ended up being the wheat kernel supplier to the Ukrainian community in Baltimore. Poppy seed was not too difficult to find; the bird seed store stocked it also. Honey was available, but orange blossom honey did not have the color or the pungency of buckwheat honey which was more familiar to us. All this for kutia. But how would one celebrate Christmas without it?

Vegetables and fish posed no problem. The beets were prepared and fermented at least three weeks in advance. The fermented liquid, the beet "kvas," would be tart, mellow and deep-ruby red. Mother insisted that "her" borsch had to be cooked "properly" so its color would resemble good port. Dried boletus mushrooms (cepes) for vushka ("little ears") dumplings and gravy were sold in Jewish markets on Light Street. The dried fruit in "uzvar," a compote, came packaged in boxes;

not the same as air-dried slices of Renata apples strung together, but as my sister (who actually did the

Scheduling the work was imperative if one cook was to manage. Mother, even with such fine helpers as my sister (who actually did the work) and me (who tried to), would plan the menu and set out priorities as for a major battle. By tradition the supper should begin at dusk, at the sighting of the first evening star. Ours seldom did. We were in the ball park until around eight and, by then, famished.

There was much to do and the excitement extreme. My younger sister and father were charged with buying the tree. Yes, we succumbed to this Western custom, sparing ourselves the impossible task of locating in winter the more traditional large sheaf of wheat. Buying a tree was no simple matter. We took advantage of the Ukrainian Julian calendar. We celebrated Christmas (Rizdvo) on January 7; by then all trees were the right price. Each tree's merits were debated and compared to those of previous years. Our precious, hand-made ornaments transformed it into a thing of beauty. The decoration of the tree took place the day before Christmas Eve, no sooner.

For the traditional "Sviata Vechera" itself, the table was set with the best we had. Always, there was a white linen table cloth. Mother's dowry table cloth with traditional heavy embroidery from the Podillia region of Ukraine, homespun from homegrown linen, covered our table. In the center a kolach (round or long braided wheat bread) was placed on two small pine boughs. These substituted for the more traditional straw or hay. The kolach was flanked by two tall bees' wax candles with their soft smell of honey. Another candle was set out on a window ledge to commemorate the departed spirits of family members, as well as the soldiers who died in Ukraine's war for independence. A small bowl filled with kutia, a symbol of welcome and abundance, was placed near this candle. Glasses were set out for wine; even children could have some.

At father's seat a plate held ten pieces of kolach and a small bowl of honey. All places were set. Everything was ready: borsch in a crystal tureen, and the fish aspic with gleaming golden carrot coins. With a nod from the kitchen and urging from father not to be late for the Christmas mass later at church, it was time.

Dressed in Sunday clothes, washed and combed, we would stand at our seats. Father would pick up the plate of bread and honey, with dignity cross the room and greet mother with "Khrystos Rodyvsia" (Christ is Born), the season's greeting, dipping a piece of kolach into the honey and offering her a bite. He would then finish eating it. In turn, from oldest to youngest, father would greet the children. However, when we girls were greeted, advice and gentle admonitions were often included, such as "... and I hope you will try harder in Latin," or "... self-control is a desirable quality in a person, try it." But his greeting also included recognition of one's achievements and growth in the past year. Then mother made her round, extending similar greetings. Finally, father would intone "Rozhdestvo Tvoje Khryste Bozhe" and we would join in, singing the sacred carol. Father toasted our good health and after a "clicking" of glasses, it was time for borsch with mushroom dumplings. We were off!

Our menu in order of presentation: kolach with honey; clear borsch with "vushka"; fish in aspic; "holubtsi," cabbage rolls; mushroom gravy; "varenyky" with potato and cheese stuffing; sauteed chopped onions in butter or oil; "varenyky" with sauerkraut filling; "uzvar," compote of dried fruit; "kutia," wheat pudding or frummetry (English), tea and lemon or cherry preserves; "pampushky," yeast raised doughnuts filled with rose jam.

This menu contained all the dishes demanded by tradition, twelve, symbolizing the holy apostles. Christmas Eve is the last day of Advent, so all the dietary prohibitions against meat and dairy products still applied. Many households, more strict in their observances, would not consume any butter or cheese. In our household, it was possible to include a tablespoon of butter here, and a cup of cheese there, since mother's interpretation of rubrics always relied on the reasonableness of God (and not of the Church).

As you see, this is a complex menu, impossible for one person to prepare without planning. Of course, mother had help: us. We didn't start out as quality help, but we ended up that way!

Marta Pisetska-Farley is the author of "Festive Ukrainian Cooking" (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991.)



Ukrainian Language Society - Chicago chapter visits Ukraine

by Dr. Bohdan J. Bodnaruk

LVIV — In the summer months of 1992, my wife Vira and I journeyed to Ukraine; it was the third time in three years that we visited the regional branches of the Ukrainian Language Society — Prosvita in Ukraine.

This year we visited branches in Lviv, Vorokhta, Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Kryvyi Rih, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Poltava and Kiev. Unfortunately, we could not travel by car due to the gasoline shortage; so we decided to travel by bus throughout Ukraine. Even though we were assured that the bus would be air-conditioned, the air-conditioning did not work (as usual) and the bus windows were "hermetically sealed." The outside temperature through most of Ukraine, especially in the South and East, passed the 100 F mark; thus we had our daily "steam bath"!

The purpose of our trip was multifold. We were to visit the regional offices of ULS and assure ourselves that the books sent by ULS-Chicago were received at the given locations and were available to the largest number of interested readers. We wanted to find out what the status of the Ukrainian language was in schools and discuss other problems that needed special attention. We were also interested in hearing about the results of the English courses given by the volunteers from the U.S. (sponsored by ULS and the Ukrainian National Association UNA) and find out whether the textbooks published with the financial help from diaspora were available to the school children at the beginning of the school year throughout Ukraine.

Our journey was to begin in Lviv. But since Lviv's airport was closed at this time, we landed in Ivano-Frankivsk. It took only 10 minutes to go through customs.

In Lviv, ULS work is carried out at full speed. Here they reprint literature (some of which they received from ULS-Chicago in the past) such as: History of Ukraine by Krypiakievych/Dolnytsky, UPA Journal, etc. As throughout Ukraine, Lviv's printing capabilities suffer from the tremendous shortage of paper. Most of the eastern and southern regional ULS branches bombard Lviv with requests for literature and textbooks, since not much is sent out from Kiev.

We went to Vorokhta through Ivano-Frankivsk and visited the children's sanatorium "Smerichka." Approximately 125 children from all regions of Ukraine, between 3 and 15 years of age, come here with bone problems. Dr. M. Kosylo, director of the sanatorium, and his assistant, Dr. L. Protzkiv, not only

offer medical help but also try to provide these children with Ukrainian culture. The Chicago ULS in the past has sent Ukrainian children's magazines, coloring books, crayons.

During our visit 25 children who suffer from the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe arrived at the sanatorium and a quick decision was made to leave a suitcase of children's vitamins which we had planned to leave in Kiev. The majority of these children have some form of a bone disease and are bedridden; thus the sanatorium staff tries to provide them with some form of entertainment. We promised that in the near future (after collecting the necessary funds) we would send them a TV with VCR, and some videos.

From Vorokhta we went to Chernivtsi. The head of regional ULS is Victor Kosiachenko, professor at the University of Chernivtsi. Prof. Kosiachenko organized a meeting in the Children's Building with the city activists. The situation here is relatively good. The University is 100 percent Ukrainian; 80 percent of the schools are Ukrainian. During our stay, the museum of Ukrainian diaspora was in the final stages of remodeling and getting ready for the visit of Ramon Hnatyshyn, Governor General of Canada, whose ancestors are from this region.

Our next stop was Vinnytsia, a nice, small city. With a 73 percent Ukrainian population, the schools are 94 percent Ukrainian. By 1993 all schools in the oblasts have to change to using Ukrainian language. The local activists, Leonid Filonov and Tamara Ehelska, are very dynamic people and work positively towards Ukrainization in the region. Based on the literature they received from the diaspora, they started digging in the city's main park and uncovered massive graves of victims murdered by the NKVD.

Also, in the same park, thanks to ULS, a cross was erected in memory of Sichovy Striltsi. The Society has a well-organized, small library-reading room (the majority of material in it is from the diaspora), which is frequented daily by its members.

From Vinnytsia we proceeded to Kryvyi Rih. This was the first time anyone from the diaspora officially visited the city. We were met with flags in the center of the city, in front of the Shevchenko Russian theater. The farther east we traveled, the more noticeable it was that the Ukrainian language was spoken less, and more Russian could be heard. On that day local "hooligans" were still trying to take away Ukrainian flags. Kryvyi Rih is one



Prof. Vira Bodnaruk (at far right), in Zaporizhzhia with Tetiana Miroshchenko (second from right), regional ULS president, and two of its officers.

of the longest cities in Ukraine; it is narrow but it is about 125 kilometers long. It is heavily industrialized and quite polluted due to the iron ore which is mined here; red dust is everywhere.

In the aforementioned theater Ukrainian children prepared a beautiful variety show, specifically for us. Although 80 percent of the 800,000 population claim to be Ukrainian, the status of the Ukrainian language is very poor. Among 130 schools, only 6 are Ukrainian. The city looked strange and very foreign and we felt very uneasy. In discussion with the regional ULS, its president Ludmila Zubko pointed out to us the tremendous lack of Ukrainian text-

books and literature of all sorts. Kryvyi Rih is one of the most critical regions that requires help from diaspora.

Our following stopover was Zaporizhzhia. Compared to western Ukraine, the status of the Ukrainian language here is still in "diapers"; but compared to our last year's visit, we encountered progress. Zaporizhzhia is also a heavy industrial city, polluted by coke plants and steelmills. Approximately 132 industrial concerns are based here (the only aluminum plant in Ukraine is here). Due to the heavy pollution, mortality is quite high (due to respiratory problems).

Thanks to the very energetic head of ULS, Tetiana Miroshchenko, we had an opportunity to meet with the leaders and activists to ULS, Rukh and other civic organizations. Due to the dynamism of such persons as Mrs. Miroshchenko and her associates, who are working constructively, the status of national awareness is improving. But at the present, there is not a single Ukrainian school. Oleksander Hapon is

organizing a private academy called "Sichovy Collegium." ULS and other democratic organizations were active in saving the island of "Khortytisia" from further industrial development and preserving it as a historical monument. A beautiful museum based on "Khortytisia" was 100 percent Ukrainianized during the past year. Also, ULS has plans to build on this island a church in Kozak style. There is a tremendous need for Ukrainian literature, especially textbooks. Our efforts here should be intensified.

From Zaporizhzhia we traveled to Donetsk, a heavy industrialized (mostly coal) city, which contains a large anti-Ukrainian element opposed to anything that is Ukrainian. But our fearless leaders from ULS don't give up. Under the leadership of Dr. Volodymyr Biletzky, a man full of vitality and energy, ULS is promoting Ukrainization "slowly but surely." Local ULS and Rukh chapters publish the only Ukrainian newspaper "Skhidny Chasopys" (Eastern Journal). ULS organized a group of young people who in Kozak attire, traveled on horseback to Don and Kuban, promoting the Ukrainian cause. These young men are very interested in making contacts with our "Free Kozaks" in the diaspora. Generally speaking the youth in the southern and eastern regions get very excited about the Kozak traditions and ULS banks on this. The city has only one Ukrainian private school, which opened two years ago. We met with ULS leadership from the entire oblast. As before, the need is still great for Ukrainian literature, textbooks in particular.

We arrived in Kharkiv during the international Ukrainian medical con-

(Continued on page 12)



Donetsk — Prof. Vira Bodnaruk visits regional ULS president Dr. Volodymyr Biletzky and a group of young enthusiasts.



Prof. Viktor Kosiachenko (at head of table) chairs a meeting of the Chernivtsi ULS, of which he is president.

ICVA appeals for aid to Armenia

WASHINGTON — In response to a request by the Armenian Assembly of America, the Geneva-based International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) has urged its member agencies world-wide to respond "with urgency and haste" to provide emergency relief to address the winter crisis in Armenia.

The Assembly requested ICVA to contact its other member agencies to seek their cooperation in responding to the Republic of Armenia's (ROA) December 7 appeal for humanitarian aid. Also in response to the Assembly's request, ICVA formed the Task Force on Humanitarian Affairs in Armenia, which will provide a framework for solicitation of relief supplies to the Armenian people who are struggling to survive this winter. The Task Force chair is the World Alliance of YMCAs.

In the emergency appeal to its member agencies ICVA recommended that the international community "take steps to ensure that the victims of conflicts, at a minimum, have access to humanitarian protection and assistance." ICVA's members include 85 international private voluntary agencies and non-governmental organizations. The Armenian Assembly is the only Armenian-American organization that belongs to ICVA.

"We are very pleased that ICVA has responded to our appeal to get its members involved in assisting the people of Armenia," said Humanitarian Affairs Director Linda Bedeian. "Engaging the European PVO and NGO community should prove an enormous help to the Assembly in getting the word out internationally about the life-threatening conditions many Armenians are facing this winter. Hopefully they will be able to mobilize assistance for Armenia from their home governments and relief agencies."

The serious situation in Armenia is a consequence of the immense unresolved humanitarian problems arising from the earthquake of 1988, the arrival of 300,000 refugees, and the blockade of landlocked Armenia by its neighboring states.

Conditions in Armenia were

described in the appeal as having "deteriorated to such a degree that it is feared that as many as 30,000 people in the high risk groups of refugees, earthquake victims, the elderly and the young (under age five) may die during the coming winter months." Due to the blockade of energy supplies, electricity is being rationed, public transportation has come to a standstill, and most schools and many hospitals have been closed due to a lack of heat in the sub-zero climate.

The government has been forced to ration bread at 250 grams per day, but the availability of bread depends on the arrival of grain to the country, which is being adversely affected by the blockade. Armenia is also experiencing a severe shortage of medical supplies, medicines, and vaccines. The health of an estimated 10,000 children is at risk due to deteriorating health conditions and the danger of epidemics of tuberculosis, polio and whooping cough.

At present, fuel, food and other fundamental humanitarian supplies are not reaching Armenia in sufficient quantities. Shipments of humanitarian aid to Armenia, are delayed due to logistical difficulties. In some cases, the volume of aid sent to Armenia is being reduced as significant amounts, up to 50 percent, are being misappropriated in states through which the aid must be shipped.

"Armenia requires the international community's assistance to secure access to sufficient fuel, food, shelter, health and medical supplies so that it can provide up to 750,000 of its population with the basic minimum, which will allow it to survive the winter season," said Assembly Executive Director Ross Vartian. "The Armenian Assembly will continue its work with ICVA and also with InterAction, its North American counterpart, to see that the people of Armenia receive the assistance they so desperately need."

The Armenian Assembly to America is a national non-profit organization which promotes public understanding and awareness of Armenian issues.

Broome County assists CCRF

BINGHAMTON/JOHNSON CITY, N.Y. — The Auxiliary to the Broome County Medical Society has begun a major effort to provide medicine, hospital supplies and diagnostic equipment to hospitals that are treating the victims of the 1986 nuclear accident in Chernobyl. Members are also collecting medical textbooks and training manuals for Ukrainian doctors who are interested in upgrading their skills. The auxiliary is a charitable organization comprising the spouses of Broome County physicians.

On Saturday, November 14, at 2 p.m., members of the auxiliary met at the offices of the Orthopedic Associates in Johnson City to formally present the supplies they had accumulated to the project coordinator of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, Alex Kuzma. The shipment included an EKG machine, surgical supplies, hospital instruments and complete sets of journals on neonatology, pre-natal care, oncology, obstetrics and gynecology. The supplies were shipped to Ukraine on CCRF's 10th airlift, which left Las Vegas, Nevada, on December 6.

The Broome County drive was launched by Marilyn Wasyliw of Vestal, New York, whose husband, Dr. Orest Wasyliw, is an orthopedic surgeon with a successful practice in Johnson City. Dr. and Mrs. Wasyliw learned of the plight of Chernobyl's victims during a special forum at Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church in Johnson City last January. Since then, they have joined the Children of Chernobyl Relief

Fund and sponsored two young boys in Kiev who are suffering from leukemia.

Mrs. Wasyliw persuaded her colleagues in the medical auxiliary to begin searching for surplus materials that could be shipped to Ukraine to help upgrade the region's health care system. Her proposal received enthusiastic support from the president of the medical auxiliary, Maria Kirk, her husband, Dr. Frank Kirk, and Dr. and Mrs. Russ Tarker of Vestal, New York.

According to the Ukrainian Ministry of Health, the rate of cancer among children in the newly independent republic has tripled since the 1986 accident released massive amounts of radiation into the environment. The World Health Organization (WHO) released a new study in September of this year showing that the incidence of thyroid cancer among children living near the Chernobyl plant has risen to 80 times higher than normal.

The auxiliary in the Tri-City Area (Binghamton/Endicott/Johnson City) plans to expand its drive for the Children of Chernobyl by working with other auxiliaries in New York State and by publicizing the plight of Chernobyl's children in national medical publications.

For more information, please contact Marilyn Wasyliw at (607) 729-1228, or the president of the auxiliary, Maria Kirk, at (607) 773-0010. For information about the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, please contact Alex Kuzma at (201) 376-5140.



Members of the auxiliary pose with supplies for CCRF hospitals.

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...and to little Christine Elizabeth —
God bless you on your First Christmas.
Love always,
Charles and Natalie

Nostra culpa

In our December 20 story about the less-fortunate elderly, we mistakenly wrote that the Ukrainian Social Services Center of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center of Philadelphia just recently opened. Actually, the center on Lindley has been open and operating since 1985. We apologize for the inaccuracy.

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Parliament...

(Continued from page 2)

"On the Presidential Representative in Ukraine" and "On Local Councils of People's Deputies, and Local and Regional Self-Government." The amendments somewhat curtail the rights of presidential representatives and institute a mechanism for accountability to local councils. In a case where two-thirds of Parliament vote, to remove a presidential representative, the President must take heed.

The evening session returned to the question of Mr. Hetman's resignation. Some deputies supported Deputy Volodymyr Pylypchuk's proposition that personnel changes in the NBU only be examined after the bank chairman's report. A compromise was reached, proposed by Deputies Mykola Riabchenko and Vitaliy Karpenko, which allowed Mr. Hetman to take the floor.

In his 40-minute speech, Mr. Hetman explained the reasons behind his resignation decision. At the time he had indeed been very ill. However, the main reason for his decision was that he had failed to find a common language with the Kuchma government on monetary reforms.

Mr. Hetman named the Russian Central Bank as the principal culprit behind the NBU crisis. The Russian partners allowed the bank settlement system to be changed four times, without prior notice. Every day that the NBU stood idle, 40,000 operations were not conducted. He agreed that because of credit emissions Russia and other CIS neighbors had been flooded with worthless cash from Ukraine. Mr. Hetman reminded those in Parliament that in the summer of 1992 he had said monetary emissions make sense only if the money is used to reconstruct industry. But this has not occurred even now.

He emphatically denied charges the NBU had tried to slow the pace of monetary reform. The first Ukrainian banknotes had already been printed, the issue of coins had been organized, a

modern settlement center, treasury and cash storage facility had been set up, provincial banks had been modified. However, it was risky and detrimental to introduce a national currency now, given the current unstable economic climate, Mr. Hetman said. Western experts who had been in Ukraine at the time agreed.

For the effective introduction of a new monetary unit currency and price regulation, demarcation of powers between bank and government, etc., are necessary. None of this exists in Ukraine today, and there are two emission centers — the Ministry of Finance and the NBU. Several days earlier, the Ministry of Finance conducted another emission, removing from the NBU 400 billion coupons, the shortfall in collected taxes. Mr. Hetman said when two people control the steering-wheel of a vehicle, it goes nowhere.

Most of the deputies were impressed by Mr. Hetman's speech and requested that he seriously think about withdrawing his resignation.

• December 18 — The morning session continued discussion of the NBU issue, however, Mr. Hetman reaffirmed his intention to resign. The deputies voted to satisfy the NBU chairman's request.

"Government Day" followed, officially opened by First Deputy Prime Minister Ihor Yukhnoivsky. Mr. Yukhnoivsky said the main task before the government today was to re-orient the economy, which is totally ineffective. Producers in all fields must become export-oriented. Mr. Yukhnoivsky said the nation faces an energy crisis.

Finance Minister Hryhoriy Pyatachenko spoke on the formation of the state budget. Considering that Ukraine is operating in a changed environment, he said the budget has to be recalculated. The Ministry of Finance was given until late January to do this. Meanwhile, a resolution was passed covering the most important budgetary expenses until March 1, 1993. The hard currency part of the budget had also been located — in 1992 it consisted of U.S. \$115 million, of which \$75 million has already been spent. Next year, the

treasury anticipates receiving \$5 billion.

The "achievements" of the previous government in padding its own pockets at state expense was brought to light by Deputy Prime Minister Yuliy Ioffe. He stated that 301 loopholes had been discovered that allow fund misappropriation without violation of the law. The greatest violation was committed by Interenergo, which has mortgaged the NBU building while owing the bank a sum three times that of the mortgage. However, the NBU board did not even try to recall the money.

Many companies are opening accounts abroad to conceal earnings. In the fuel sector alone, "commercial structures" have increased exports to 8 million tons (in the former Ukrainian SSR, with imports of \$1 million tons, 6 million tons were being exported). However, it is virtually impossible to bring these people to justice because of lax market laws passed by Parliament.

Deputy Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk presented information on government decrees. Minister Ivan Herts spoke about the activities of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade. Agriculture and Supply Minister Yuriy Karasyk spoke on problems within the agro-industrial complex.

Political groups with fascist and terrorist tendencies were the topic of Ukrainian Security Service chief Yevhen Marchuk. He said 20 such organizations exist in Ukraine, both radical-nationalist and Russian-oriented. The largest group is the Ukrainian National Self-Defense (UNSO), which belongs structurally to the Ukrainian National Assembly (UNA) and whose membership numbers almost 1,000. Several dozen members of this organization have already been arrested for criminal acts. The other groups are not large and have not displayed criminal behavior. All of these groups are under surveillance by the USS.

• December 19 — "Government Day" continued into the morning session. Energy Minister Vitaliy Skliarov said he disagreed with the revelations of Mr. Ioffe's commission in the

area of departments not fulfilling state orders. As for the shortcomings mentioned, he promised to correct them since he is well acquainted with the production process, having presided over it for 12 years. Afterwards, he intends to resign.

Mr. Kuchma had the final word. He said that all week certain forces in Parliament were trying to stir up a critical situation in the government, but fortunately everything had turned out well. He reminded those hoping for a crisis in government that it could provoke a social explosion which would destroy the country.

Parliament then adopted amendments to statutes 106, 114, 115 and 120 of the Ukrainian Constitution and supplemented them with statute 97-1. These amendments are tied to the legislative establishment of a mechanism of transferring some of Parliament's authority to the Cabinet of Ministers in extenuating circumstances.

Parliament ratified an agreement between CIS countries "On the Order of Solving Disagreements Related to Economic Activity." This agreement was signed during a meeting of the heads of CIS states in Kiev, in March 1992.

Parliament examined and adopted a law on strengthening border military forces associated with the development of national borders with Russia and Belarus. Also adopted was Statute 5 of the law on lawyers, which defines a lawyer's professional rights.

During the day session, deputies formed ad hoc committees to review and investigate bank matters, the State Property Fund, details of law falsification, activities of deputies who demanded quotas and licenses for the export of materials in short supply, and the fight against corruption and the mafia.

Toward the end of the session Parliament examined a draft resolution on the course of legislation to fight organized crime, however, no vote was taken because of the absence of a quorum. The sixth session finished after the Mandate Commission was asked to learn why deputies had abandoned the chambers, thus undermining the vote.

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Ukrainian Language...

(Continued from page 9)

gress. The president of ULS here is Dr. Anatoly Kindratenko, a physics professor at Kharkiv University. During the past year, the situation improved: there are some "friendly" people in the local government. This is the only oblast, where the teachers of Ukrainian receive a 25 percent bonus in salary. Among 170 schools, 22 are Ukrainian. Even though 63 percent of the population claims to be Ukrainian, only 33 percent consider the Ukrainian language as their native tongue. There are districts in the Kharkiv oblast where there are no Russian schools, only Ukrainian. In our discussions, a need surfaced for experienced people, in areas such as economics, medicine, law, policework. As throughout Ukraine, a tremendous shortage of paper exists here. Prof. Kindratenko is working on a project to produce paper from straw. During our stay in Kharkiv, we were interviewed by a local radio program and talked about the ULS tasks and the status of Ukrainian language in Ukraine.

While in Poltava we had an opportunity to participate in the conference "Realization of the Ukrainian language in the Oblast." This conference was organized by a representative of President Leonid Kravchuk and by the local government; all segments of society were invited. At times very "hot" discussions evolved. The democratic leaders are very impatient and would like to see a full Ukrainization in one year. The ULS members receive official documents from the government that permit them to monitor the change-over to the Ukrainian language in the

establishments. In Poltava itself, 87 percent of the 320,000 population consider themselves Ukrainian; here the status of Ukrainian schools is quite good. Among 38 schools, 34 are Ukrainian. The law says that the Ukrainian language has to be instituted in the oblast by 1994. But in some cities of the oblast, such as Komsomolske — there are no Ukrainian schools at all and the local government is anti-Ukrainian.

We completed our journey in Kiev. Through the efforts of ULS/Prosvita we had meetings at: Kiev-Mohyla University, Kiev University, City Hall, Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Defense. At Kiev-Mohyla University work was proceeding at full speed. It was pleasant to see, for a change, a project being realized in practice, instead of sitting at the "discussion table." During the first year the academy accepted 220 students. The ratio of instructors to students is 1:15.

We met in the City Hall with the committee responsible for introducing the Ukrainian language in all aspects of official life. This committee was quite disturbed by the following:

- the government is greatly preoccupied with minorities, and much less with the majority;
- implementation of the law concerning the Ukrainian language moves at a snail's pace;
- the draft of the Constitution does not mention Ukrainian as the official language; and
- the textbooks published with financial help from the diaspora were not distributed throughout Ukraine.

At republican radio and television interviews we talked about these issues. Through this Committee we met with Prof. Anatoliy Pohribny, the deputy

minister of Education. Prof. Pohribny assured us that the school textbooks were published, and, as far as distribution is concerned, we should talk to his assistant, Valery Donoy. When we raised the issue with Mr. Donoy, he also assured us that the textbooks will be distributed "tomorrow" to all the regions of Ukraine (quite a task to be done two weeks prior to the start of the school year!). The Ministry of Education is heavily Russified; you can't hear the Ukrainian language! On the main floor we still could see memorial tablets glorifying the "heroes of USSR."

The Ministry of Defense, on the other hand, under the apt leadership of Gen. Konstantin Morozov, was the only ministry where a decree exists to switch over to the Ukrainian language in six months (employees that don't like the idea may leave) was being enforced. This is another example of constructive work proceeding at full speed. We met with Gen. Volodymyr Muliava and his assistant Maria Vlad. These individuals burn the midnight oil and with help from ULS, try to Ukrainize the Ukrainian army. The Ministry of Defense has an acute need for Ukrainian books on military subjects and encyclopedias, and especially would welcome advisors from the diaspora with military expertise.

Summarizing our trip to Ukraine this year, we concluded that:

- all ULS regions received books/magazines sent by ULS-Chicago and

are available to interested readers;

- the status of the Ukrainian language in the eastern and southern schools is not satisfactory;
- all localities were enthusiastic about the English teachers/volunteers. This project raised the prestige of local ULSs. They hope to see this project repeated next year;

• the five textbooks published with financial help from the diaspora were not properly disseminated throughout the regions that we visited.

The shortage of Ukrainian literature, especially in the form of textbooks, is still great, specifically in the eastern and southern regions. The need for sending literature to these regions is still acute, since they do not receive much help from Kiev (and Lviv can't cope with the demands).

The Ukrainian Language Society in Chicago, during its two-and-one-half years of existence, sent over 100 bags or approximately three tons of Ukrainian books and magazines to Ukraine and plans to continue to do so in the future. Most of the material sent and the funds necessary for shipping (which are quite high) are donated by private individuals. If any readers would like to help in this project and are interested in become members of ULS-Chicago (dues: \$10 per year), please write to: Prof. Vira Bodnaruk, president; Ukrainian Language Society-Chicago; 425 Ridge Ave., Clarendon Hills, IL 60514.

Cabinet of Ukraine...

(Continued from page 1)

be elaborated at a later date.

As of January 1, the government intends to set the minimum wage at 4,600 coupons per month, as well as a maximum of 60,000 coupons per month. State budget institutions will be given a grid of 29 salary levels for their employees. Workers with the lowest level of qualifications will receive the minimum wage, while those with the highest will be given a salary at 13.8 times that amount. Mr. Pynzenyk said that this would entail a wage freeze for all government employees apart from those who are most impoverished and least financially secure.

Strict controls through tariffs will be imposed on the exportation of any kind of Ukrainian industrial products. They will be imposed in hard currency values, ranging from 10 cents U.S. (e.g. for wallpaper) to \$140 U.S. (e.g. for refrigerators). The government is seeking to establish some kind of order in the sphere of so-called "small businesses," which have acted as middle-men between state enterprises and commercial structures. They have become the source of extensive corruption and "legal" siphoning of funds from the

republic's economy.

The government has barred state enterprises from forming any other kind of companies, and has forbidden executives of state enterprises to engage in business. All existing "small businesses" are to be privatized in the coming year.

Mr. Pynzenyk also announced that the government intends to introduce amendments to the existing law on foreign investment. He said that "foreign investors are afraid to come to Ukraine because they are being offered easements so grandiose that they do not exist elsewhere in the world." According to the minister, from now on the incentives would be offered only after the actual transfer of funds into the country.

In addition, the vice premier stated that the new currency of Ukraine, the hryvnia, would not be introduced until the inflation problem is adequately resolved. He claimed that according to his government's calculations, the inflation rate will be reduced to 3 percent per month in December 1993. "In order for things to get better, sometimes you have to endure a period of pain," said Mr. Pynzenyk, but emphasized that "our government is willing to work with all constructive elements who favor the course of reform."

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Foundation supports cylinder project

WASHINGTON — The Maria Yasinsky Murowany Foundation announced a \$10,000 donation to the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress during a reception here in early December. The grant will support a project to preserve and duplicate fragile wax cylinder recordings of musical traditions that once thrived in Ukraine — most notably, the tradition of blind village minstrels (kobzari). The activities of the blind minstrels of Ukraine were documented on wax cylinders, manuscripts, photographs, and film between 1903 and the early 1930s.

In a joint project between the Library's American Folklife Center and the Rylsky Institute of Art, Folklore and Ethnology (Academy of Sciences) in Kiev, 400 wax cylinder recordings are being brought to Washington to be restored and copied, then returned to Kiev. Another several hundred cylinders may be available from other institutions in the future.

At the December 8 reception, the American Folklife Center sponsored a lecture about the project: "Music, Life, and Death Among the Village Minstrels of Ukraine," by Dr. Valentyna Borysenko of the Rylsky Institute of Kiev and Dr. William Noll of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. At the program, Librarian of Congress James H. Billington spoke about the importance of the preservation work and acknowledged the support from the Murowany Foundation:

"In addition to institutional resources, cultural projects such as the Ukrainian cylinder project are materially assisted by the commitment of dedicated individuals from private life.

It is a special honor to have with us today Maria Yasinsky Murowany, whose generous donation has made it possible for us to undertake this ambitious cooperative project. Her brother, Bohdan Yasinsky, has served the library well as a Ukrainian specialist in our European Division. Maria has dedicated herself to supporting a variety of Ukrainian cultural projects with not only financial assistance but unflinching energy and devotion."

But the wax cylinders that preserve such a unique legacy are themselves in need of preservation. Every collection, and sometimes every cylinder, is different in its chemical composition, the speed at which it was recorded, the cut and shape of its grooves; each cylinder thus requires skilled individual attention from specialized audio engineers. Many were repeatedly replayed in their early life for transcription or demonstration, and the wear and tear is often considerable. Furthermore, matching information is sometimes lost, and cylinders have found their way into the wrong boxes. Finally, many are decomposing, exhibiting a telltale oily film or encrustations of mold on the program surface.

The Ukrainian cylinder duplication project exemplifies the tradition of cooperative endeavors between the Library of Congress and other major research institutions around the world. As Mr. Billington said at the December program, "In an era of political uncertainty and cultural dislocation, institutions for the conservation of knowledge feel ever more strongly the urgency of banding together, even across national boundaries, to carry out their fundamental mission."

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Vatican announces...

(Continued from page 3)

Seminary in Roblin, Ma., from 1955 to 1967 and served as the vicar provincial of his congregation from 1967 to 1969 and from 1981 to 1984.

On May 3, 1984, he was named provincial superior of the Ukrainian Redemptorist Fathers in Canada and the United States.

Bishop-elect Danylak was born on December 29, 1930 in Toronto. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto, a licentiate in theology from the Pontifical University Urbanium in Rome and a doctorate in civil and canon law from the Pontifical University Lateranum also in Rome.

Rev. Danylak was ordained a priest by Metropolitan Hermaniuk in Rome in 1957. He has served his current parish, St. Josaphat's Cathedral, since 1966, when on April 30, he was named Bishop Borecky's chancellor. In 1978, he was promoted to rector of the cathedral.

Although a date has yet to be set for the Rev. Bzdel's consecration and installation, March 25 has been targeted as a possible date for the Rev. Danylak's episcopal ordination. He says that he has invited Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky, archbishop-major of Lviv, as his principal consecrator, to be joined by Metropolitan Hermaniuk and Bishop Borecky.

His installation will take place at Toronto's Roman Catholic St. Michael's Cathedral which accommodates 1,200 people. The Rev. Danylak's cathedral only holds 400.

The Toronto eparchy, Canada's largest at 81,000 members and 80 priests, almost double the size of the Winnipeg archeparchy which has 41 priests and 46,000 people.

Both outgoing bishops say they are pleased with the appointments. "He was my candidate," says Metropolitan Hermaniuk. "It's not a surprise to me."

The metropolitan plans to assume editorial duties of the newly-revised Logos theological review, published out of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute for Ukrainian Studies at St. Paul University in Ottawa.

Meanwhile, when his successor assumes his duties, Bishop Borecky says, "I'll go fishing."

The two announcements bring the total of Ukrainian Catholic hierarchy to 30, with five for Canada. Further appointments are expected to be made for Australia, Chicago and New Westminster, B.C., which has been vacant since its eparch, Bishop Jerome Chimy died in 1992.

Two Basilians, the Rev. Cornelius Pasichny, pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Winnipeg; and the Rev. Severian Yaky-myshyn, who sits on the order's general counsel in Rome, are rumored to be in the running for the British Columbia vacancy.

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Local radio show to feature Christmas program on Ukraine

LIBERTY, N.Y. — A local radio station here will broadcast a special one-hour Ukrainian Christmas program on Wednesday evening, January 6, at 6:30 p.m.

The program, scheduled to air on WVOS, 95.9 FM, will be hosted by Zenon Holubec. It will include Ukrainian Christmas stories as well as news about the latest developments in Ukraine. The broadcast will be conducted

in the English language in order for the general public to learn about Ukraine, its history, culture and customs. The program will also offer a musical selection of Ukrainian Christmas carols.

Mr. Holubec, a sculptor, who resides in this upstate New York region, is a frequent contributor to this and other radio stations. He was invited to host the one-hour program and is often asked to report and comment on the current situation in Ukraine.

Arsenal workers...

(Continued from page 1)

were, and why they were necessary." Also impolitic was his question "So then, do you believe the government is your enemy?" which drew a "Yes!" Then he sought to shift blame for the policies of the government on the electorate who installed it, which provoked shouts of "Shame!"

Meanwhile, as the parliamentary leaders left to confer with the workers' representatives, the assembled workers were addressed by the leader of the Socialist Party of Ukraine (the renamed Communist faction), Oleksander Moroz. Mr. Moroz called on the workers to join the efforts of other factory workers, form a council of workers' collectives and exert pressure on the government.

"I insist that the Supreme Council be convened immediately in order to impose a moratorium on the government's measures, which have led to the conditions you now face," Mr. Moroz said. However, his appeal seemed to arouse little enthusiasm.

Spurred by the strike action, Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma addressed the country in a television broadcast, blaming the two-year tenure of Vitold Fokin for the current economic woes, as well as on the sharp rise in energy prices — 30,000 percent increase in oil, and 10,000 percent increase in gas. He reminded everyone that the general rate of inflation ran at 2,000 percent in 1992.

Mr. Kuchma then detailed the government's policy of subsidizing milk

and meat, imposition of controls monopoly enterprises, and tough measures against illegal income. He reiterated a claim made by Viktor Pynzenyk, minister of the economy, that the government's policies would reduce inflation from the current rate of 50 percent per month to 3 percent by the end of 1993.

The prime minister also expressed his belief that there are no alternatives at this point, because any other approach would lead to "a complete collapse of the country's economy and a halt in industrial production."

The workers' representatives were called to the parliamentary offices, where they met with government officials, including Mr. Pynzenyk, Vasyl Yevtukhov (deputy premier for fuel and energy), Yuliy Ioffe (deputy premier for industry and construction), and Volodymyr Demianov (minister of the agro-industrial complex). In the course of four-hour talks, the latter managed to convince the militants of the necessity of the economic measures. They also promised to meet the others at the factory grounds.

The officials then held a press conference, at which Mr. Pynzenyk declared that "we will continue along this path. We will pursue our program firmly and resolutely."

As promised, Messrs. Pynzenyk and Yevtukhov met with Arsenal workers on Monday, December 28. The workers of the "Arsenal" plant man one of the largest plants of the military industrial complex, not only in Ukraine, but in the entire former Soviet Union. Until 1990, 90 percent of the plant's production was geared to military orders, which currently account for only 3 percent of its work.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, January 9

CHICAGO: Petro Kozynets, chairman of the Credit Union Organizing Committee of Ukraine, will join representatives from the World Council of Credit Unions, the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives and the Canadian Cooperative Association in a panel discussion on the economic, legal, psychological and political aspects of the project to establish credit unions in Ukraine at a program sponsored by The Chicago Group (Ukrainian American Business and Professional Association). The program will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2255 W. Chicago Ave., at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. For further information call Anna Mostovych, (708) 359-3676.

Sunday, January 10

SAN MARCOS, Cal.: Internationally renowned Ukrainian violinist Oleh Krysa and pianist Tatianna Tchekina will present a recital at Palomar College at 3

p.m., sponsored by the Lake San Marcos Chamber Music Society. The program will consist of sonatas by Beethoven and Schumann and other works by Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky and Ravel. The program will be repeated on January 11 at 7 p.m. at California State University. Tickets will be available at the box office for \$12; \$6 for students.

PARMA, Ohio: St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 5913 State Road, will welcome the choral ensemble "Blahovist" from Kiev. The ensemble will sing the responses to the 10 a.m. Divine Liturgy and present a program of Christmas music in the parish center following the service.

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The third annual "Yalynka," given by the Whippany Branch of SUMA, will be held at 3 p.m. at St. John's Church Hall, Jefferson Road and Route 10 E. A traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve dinner will be served following a short program. Everyone is welcome. For more infor-

mation please contact C. Bytz, (201) 989-4035.

Saturday, January 16

BOSTON: The Ukrainian Professionals Association of Boston cordially invites you to attend a traditional New Year's dinner (Malanka), beginning at 6:30 p.m., at the International Institute, 287 Commonwealth Ave., (between Gloucester Street and Hartford Street). R.S.V.P. by Monday, January 11 to Natalie Plaskonos, (617) 868-2017. For more information contact Natalie Plaskonos or Michael Kowalyk at (617) 789-4974.

Sunday, January 17

TOMS RIVER, N.J.: Malanka, sponsored by the Ukrainian American Club of Toms River, will be held at 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Quality Inn, 815 Route 37 W. including a complete dinner and live music. Donations: \$25 per person. For tickets and information call (908) 349-5876. Proceeds will benefit the Scholarship Fund.

Newsbriefs...

(Continued from page 2)

sentatives had made similar comments, but this appears to be the first statement by Ukrainian sources. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

• **KIEV** — A group of people's deputies on December 25 demanded the resignation of Ukraine's defense minister, blaming him for the armed forces' alleged low combat readiness. The minister, Konstantin Morozov, on December 28 refuted the accusations and said the armed forces being constructed are instrumental to the nation's independent military policies and a safeguard of its sovereignty. He also rejected claims the armed forces have been re-politicized. (Ukrinform)

• **KIEV** — Members of the Cabinet of Ministers, Viktor Pynzenyk, Yuliy Ioffe, Vasyl Yevtuhov and Volodymyr Demianov held a press conference on December 26 to discuss recent food price hikes. Mr. Pynzenyk, deputy prime minister for economic reform, said the government's main concern was to stabilize the economy and pull it out of an extremely deep crisis, rather than to gain popularity. He said the increases occurred because too many enterprises were not cost-efficient. He singled out the high cost of fuel as the single largest reason for the current price hikes. All the ministers emphasized that inefficient enterprises must no longer be subsidized even at the expense of bankrupting them. They also agreed that society's underprivileged strata must continue to be protected by regulating price hikes with precision targeting. New minimal wages are expected to be introduced just after the new year. (Ukrinform)

• **KIEV** — The sixth session of the Ukrainian Parliament closed on December 20 with a speech by Prime Minister Leonid Kuchma. Mr. Kuchma told deputies that his program outlining the work of the Cabinet of Ministers will be ready in three weeks. Among other initiatives, the lawmakers formed a temporary parliamentary commission on questions concerning the fight against organized crime. (RFE/RL Daily Report)

Implementing...

(Continued from page 6)

as the spring of 1993, to coincide with the sowing and planting season.

Ukraine is actively seeking the help of Western experts in agriculture to improve and modernize farming technology and rural infrastructure, as well as advice on the best way to sell its commodities on the world market.

Consulting Western experts is only one example of a clean break with a past that compromised itself and restrained Ukraine from becoming a leading agriculture-exporting country. Ukraine, known for its world famous black earth (chornozem), has the unique opportunity to continue feeding not only itself, but to once again become the breadbasket of Europe and possibly the world.

With the world as our witness, Ukrainians are burning those bridges which connected them with a dark period of landlessness. There is no turning back. The rural worker will no longer be without rights, like a cog in a spiritless state machine. Finally, the farmer will receive the land promised to him 70 years ago by the Bolsheviks, and from it the freedom of choice and actions, as well as regaining his dignity after years of humiliation.

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NEW YORK — The New York Public Library is offering classes in English for those who would like to improve their speaking skills. Registration for the classes, which will be held at 11 New York Library branches in Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island, begins January 6.

Adults choosing to enroll should do so at the library where they wish to attend the courses. Because space is limited, a lottery at each branch will determine the actual number of students.

Designed to help non-English speaking adults develop basic conversational skills, the English-as-a-

Second-Language (ESL) program addresses the different needs and abilities of all students. In the classes the students will be encouraged to converse with each other in a mutually supportive atmosphere. Students who enroll in this program represent more than 50 countries, including those of the former Soviet Union.

An English test to determine class placement level will be given after registration. Applicants are requested not to bring children to registration.

For more information on the ESL program call the Library's Office of Special Services at (212) 340-0918.

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