

Prof. Pritsak Addresses 600 at Human Rights Rally

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Prof. Omeljan Pritsak, director of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University and first professor of the Mykhaylo Hrushevs'kyi Chair of Ukrainian history there, was one of five principal speakers to address a 1975 Human Rights Day rally here at Sacred Heart University.

Some 600 area residents gathered in Sacred Heart University auditorium for the rally, sponsored by several local religious and community organizations, according to the December 13th edition of the Bridgeport Post.

Prof. Pritsak spoke about oppression in Ukraine and traced the history of hostility between Ukraine and Russia. He said that historically the orientation of the government in Moscow always has been to subordinate the individual to the state rather than have the state serve the individual.

Other speakers at the Wednesday, December 10th rally included scores of human rights violators in the Soviet Union. R.V. Casimir Pugevicius, chairman of the Lithuanian Affairs of the Knights of Lithuania, claimed that the Soviet government is methodically destroying the Lithuanian Catholic Church.

When Lithuania was taken over by the Soviets in 1940, said Rev. Pugevicius, about 85 per cent of the country was Catholic. He said that now, because of pressure, a fewer number of priests graduate from the seminary, children can only attend state schools, priests are limited to only minimal contact with the people, and workers attend losing their jobs.

Pressure Telling

"I hope public opinion in the U.S. will continue to provide help," said Wexler. "The only way is to join the pressure." Connecticut Secretary of State, Gloria Schaffer, was also among the speakers. She said "we must be steadfast in demanding freedom of choice and freedom of movement for all."

Also speaking were: Edward Kirchner, director of the Ministry of Social Concerns of the Diocese of Bridgeport, and Andrew Bowman, chairman of the rally's organizing committee.

UCCA FUND DRIVE EXCEEDS ANNUAL GOAL

(Continued from p. 1) bracing all donations by communities will be published by the end of this month.

Also, during the last week major donations came from the institutions and individual donors: Mr. Mykola Senchyshak, Chicago, Ill. — \$500, who helped us with his donations to the reach the goal; Mr. Michael and Mrs. Julia Petryshyn, Philadelphia, Pa. — \$150; sent — \$100 I.M.K. and "EKO" — Philadelphia, Pa.: Aleksander Palatash, Detroit, Mich.; Dr. M. Iwanicky (State of Michigan); I. Ladychka, Clifton, N.J.; St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Parish, Philadelphia, Pa. (Msgr. M. Charyna); Dr. A. Ocheretko (Woonsocket, R.I.); Walter Lesiuk (Los Angeles, Calif.) and Michael Ryan, Esq. (Tenafly, N.J.); \$50 — Bohdan Fedorak, (UCCA Executive Board), Detroit, Mich.; Ivan and Halyna Kostiuk; George Nesterchuk; Dr. George and Dr. Maria Dycio; Julian and Olga Jastrzemsky; Ivan Holyk; Onufrey and Eudochia Shchensniuk; Dr. Roman Sosenko; Stefania Worobec; Dr. J. Kulas; Dr. M.S. Snihirovych-McCutchen; Dr. Denys and Maria Kwitkowsky (\$60); Dudko; Y. Duzyj; P. Rohazicka; Yaroslav Polatayko; from Detroit, Mich.: O. Zacharkiw; S. Zlochowsky; I. Dudko; Ya. Duzyj; P. Rohazicka; Borys Karpenko; Volodymyr Tustanivsky; I. Slyvka; and Ivan and Sonia Hasyn and A. and M. Nasevych — from Philadelphia, Pa.

Dr. Kuropas . . .

(Continued from p. 1) comes to us from ACTION where as the Regional Director of the Great Lakes region he developed Project Senior Ethnic Find, an outreach program designed to assist ethnic senior citizens who were not receiving the federal and state support to which they were entitled. Dr. Kuropas' administrative experience in the federal government, his academic credentials and his intimate past involvement with ethnic communities make him ideally suited for the mission assigned to him by President Ford.

SET DATE FOR ALL-CANADIAN FESTIVAL

WINNIPEG, Man. — The all-Canadian Ukrainian Festival, featuring the winners of regional festivals, will be held March 14, 1976 at 2:30 p.m. here, informed the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, the sponsor of the festivals.

Representing eastern Canada will be the SUM chorus of "Prometheus" and "Dibrova" from Toronto, Ont., under the direction of Wasyli Kardash; and the UNYF dance ensemble "Dunai" from St. Catharines, Ont., directed by Orest Samitz.

The central Canadian Ukrainian communities will be represented by the locally based ensembles, among them the UNF Alexander Koshetz Choir under the baton of W. Klymkiw; the UNYF dance ensemble "Rusalka"; and the St. Nicholas Church choir, directed by Rev. B. Sloboda.

The west coast groups taking part in the competition will be the SUMK chorus from Edmonton, Alta., under the direction of R. Solytykevich; the UNYF dance ensemble "Cheremosh" also from Edmonton, directed by J. Kuc; and the St. George Church choir from Saskatoon, Sask., under the direction of S. Chepyha.

HAVE YOU BROUGHT YOUR FRIEND OR RELATIVE TO THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION? IF NOT, DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

APPEAL

(Continued from p. 1) \$17,000 in scholarships to our young people of college age, Ukrainian Cultural Courses, children's camps, sports events, outstanding entertainment programs at Soyuzivka, employment of our young people at the UNA estate, in the Home Office and Svoboda Press, thousands of dollars in contributions to national causes, support of numerous fund-raising actions, and other initiatives constitute UNA's unsurpassed contribution to the growth of our community, which must be sustained and intensified.

But it all depends upon UNA's own growth, especially its membership, which is the lifeline of the organization. Thus, we hereby announce A MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

which will be conducted under the Bicentennial and Centennial motto — A PAST TO REMEMBER — A FUTURE TO MOLD!

The goals of this 1976 membership drive is to bring 5,000 NEW MEMBERS into the UNA fold, insured for a total of 10 MILLION DOLLARS. We can reach these goals if: * The largest possible number of Branch officers and members join in this drive, gaining at least ONE new member each month and thus make themselves eligible not only for regular awards but also many of the special prizes, including one for \$1,000. The competition for these special awards will be published periodically in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly;

* If supreme officers of the UNA give an example to the members and compete among themselves for the highest number of new members organized;

* If every member of the UNA will consider it his human and civic responsibility to convince his yet uninitiated friend or neighbor that it is in his or her best interest to acquire life protection for himself or herself and for his or her family in this Ukrainian fraternal organization which not only offers the most modern plans of life protection, but serves the Ukrainian communities in the U.S. and Canada buttressing their efforts to help our people in Ukraine struggle to regain freedom and independence.

At the outset of 1976, many political leaders around the world said that this year may be of decisive significance for many peoples and nations. It can be such for our people here and in Ukraine, as well.

Therefore: We call on all Ukrainians in the U.S. and Canada to join the 88,000-strong family of UNA'ers and not only acquire the much needed material security for themselves and their families, but also strive in a strong, united effort to raise the image of our communities in the U.S. and Canada and to gain an even greater respect of other ethnic communities. We call on those who are in our ranks to increase their life protection for themselves and their families.

For A Stronger Organization, For Continued Growth or Our Fortress Beyond The Sea! A Past to Remember — A Future to Mold! Jersey City, N.J., January 1976. SUPREME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Joseph Lesawyer, Supreme President; John O. Flis, Supreme Vice-President; Sen. Paul Yuzyk, Supreme Director for Canada; Mary Dushnyk, Supreme Vice-President; Walter Sochan, Supreme Secretary; Ulana Diachuk, Supreme Treasurer; Stefan Hawrysz, Supreme Organizer.

LEONID PLIUSHCH, FAMILY RELEASED

(Continued from p. 1)

to all who contributed to the overall effort. In the Austrian capital, Mrs. Pliusch learned of the greetings and financial assistance extended to her family by Ukrainian organizations, among them Metropolitan Mstyslav, of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, and the World Congress of Free Ukrainians.

The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America also pledged to underwrite his medical expenses. The UNA has been on the record for two years to do likewise. Among the Ukrainians who met the Pliusch family at the Austrian border were Michael Rudko, head of the European bureau of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee.

At a special interview arranged between Mrs. Pliusch and journalist Bohdan Osadchuk from Switzerland, the wife of the former Ukrainian dissident said that the letters and packages she received from Ukrainians abroad were "sources of happiness, strength and livelihood."

She urged that actions in defense of other Ukrainian Political prisoners, such as Valentyn Moroz, Vyacheslav Chornovil, Ivan Svitlychny, Svyatoslav Karavansky, and others be continued by Ukrainians in the free world.

Mrs. Pliusch especially cited the critical case of Ivan Plakhtoniuk, who is confined in the Dnipropetrovsk psychiatric asylum.

On Tuesday, December 31, 1975 Mrs. Pliusch, received emigration visas from the Soviet government for herself, her husband, and their two sons, Dima, 15, and Lesyk, 10. Their visas were valid until January 10th, and the Soviet authorities kept the family in a state of suspense until almost the last moment before allowing them to leave a day earlier.

Pliusch was not informed of his release until he arrived at the Soviet Ukrainian-Hungarian border crossing at Chop.

Since receiving emigration visas, Mrs. Pliusch and Tatiana Khodorovych, another human rights activist in the Soviet Union, made attempts to have her husband released from the asylum prior to their departure so that he could spend some days at home in



Leonid Pliusch, center, followed by his wife and two sons, in Marchegg, Austria, after emerging from the train which carried him and his family to freedom.

Kiev. The Soviet authorities refused, after initially granting permission.

Mrs. Pliusch and the two boys left for the border crossing separately from her husband. Soviet officials, she said at the press conference at Marchegg, did not inform him of the details of the release until he was reunited with his family at Chop. She also said that he was being con-

Community Set to Mark . . .

(Continued from p. 1) pianist Claudia Hoca will appear in the entertainment part of the program.

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Sen. Paul Yuzyk of Canada will be the principal speaker at a banquet Saturday, January 24, at the local Chamber of Commerce here, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Expected to attend are also Congressman Frank Horton and Mayor Thomas Ryan. Mezzo-soprano Renata Babak, Hamilton's "Chayka" dancers, pianist Maria Bach, and local "Cheremosh" dancers will be the performers in the entertainment part of the program. Proclamation signing and flag hoisting ceremonies will be held Thursday, January 22, at 10:30 a.m. at the City Hall.

BALTIMORE, Md. — Newly appointed Special Assistant to the President for Ethnic Affairs, Dr. Myron B. Kuropas will be the principal speaker at a banquet here Sunday, January 25, at 4:00 p.m. at La Fontaine Rouge. Also speaking at the fete will be Rev. Casimir Kurjevicius and Prof. Askold Skalsky.

Erie UNA'ers To Mark "60th"

ERIE, Pa. — UNA Branch 40 here will mark its 60th anniversary with a jubilee banquet and dance Saturday, January 24 at the St. Peter and Paul church hall at 34th and Wallace Streets.

Principal speaker at the function will be Dr. John O. Flis, UNA Supreme Vice-President. Dr. Flis will also distribute honorary certificates to longtime area UNA activists and to those who are members of Soyuz more than 50 years. A dance will be held following the banquet.

Advertisement for the Ukrainian National Association's 82nd Anniversary Bicentennial Festival. The ad features the dates 1894 and 1976, the association's logo, and the event details: Saturday, February 21, 1976, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 22, 1976, 2:00 p.m. at Shamokin, Pa. It lists the artists: Andrij Dobriansky (Echoes of Ukraine), Mary Lesawyer (Solo Soprano), and Thomas Hrynkiw (Bandura Ensemble & Chorus). Ticket prices for the orchestra and balcony are listed as \$2.00 and \$3.00 respectively. The ad includes a list of 32 participating branches across the United States and Canada.

Advertisement for the Ukrainian National Association's 1976-77 Scholarship Awards. It states that the scholarships are available to students at an accredited college or university who have been members of the Ukrainian National Association for at least two years. Applicants are judged on the basis of scholastic record, financial need and involvement in Ukrainian community and student life. Applications are to be submitted no later than March 31, 1976. The contact information is: Ukrainian National Association, Inc., 30 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, N.J. 07303.