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Event in Solidarity with Cuba



It was standing room only at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto when a fundraising event on September 22 in solidarity with Cuba drew 130 supporters and generated over \$20,000.00 to help the people of the country which was hit hard by Hurricane Irma. For a detailed report with about a dozen photos, go to Page 6.

NEC AUUC Meets in Winnipeg

“Arms are for hugging!” This reminder, uttered several times in the course of the debate, gives some idea of the atmosphere as the National Executive Committee of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians, at its meeting in Winnipeg on the weekend of September 16-17, discussed a question of policy on world peace.

The discussion was energetic, and may have created the impression that arms might be used for something other than hugging. However, a diplomatic resolution was found,

as the NEC ultimately passed a motion reaffirming support for the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

As is often the case with compromises, nobody was totally satisfied with the outcome; nor was anyone so unhappy as to reject the motion and resume the argument.

That, perhaps, was the emotional apex of the meeting, which had a lengthy agenda of pressing questions. At a minimum, the participants in the meeting established conditions for the effective resolution of the questions by the time of the National Committee meeting set for December 9-10.

As usual, the first substantial item on the agenda, following the administrative matters of adopting an agenda and considering the minutes of the previous meeting, and so on, was the President’s Report. Often the report consists mainly of introductory information to matters which are listed separately on the agenda.

Though this report was consistent with that pattern, there were a few items which required attention.

One of those items promised to be good news: the long-standing efforts to establish proper trust funds for the management of funds which are intended to be administered in Alberta seem finally to be nearing a successful

conclusion.

Another of those items was less promising: a matter of disagreements about procedures in AUUC Edmonton Branch concerning financial reporting.

A third matter was pleasantly ceremonial: participation by the National President in a citizenship ceremony.

A fourth item, a matter of structure for the AUUC community, was noted for future discussion

As usual, the Treasurer’s report followed the President’s report. As usual these days, the NEC was reasonably happy when discussing the Treasurer’s report. This report was the source of more than usual satisfaction, because it noted that final settlement of the Mokry estate, which seemed to go on forever.

The last of the trio of reports routinely included on each agenda was the Office Coordinators’s report, also known as the National Office report. This is the report that includes information about applicants for AUUC membership.

An item of particular interest to “UCH” readers arising from this report was a decision by the NEC, in its capacity as the Board of Kobzar Publishing, to allow the Editor-in-Chief of the paper, at his discretion to include an additional flat of colour in the production of the paper. Readers can look forward to the occasional issue with eight pages of colour, instead of the

(Continued on Page 5.)

The Next Issue

The next issue of the “UCH” will be dated October, 2017. Announcements of events in October or early November, 2017, as well as articles for the October, 2017, issue should be in our office by September 10. Thank you for your consideration.

Support Our Press!

The holiday season is fast approaching. In two shakes of a leg we’ll be celebrating Christmas, then new year and Malanka. It’s the season of giving, when presents move between family members, friends, colleagues, and even casual acquaintances.

The gifts which are exchange may be expensive, but generally they are more symbolic, expressing a feeling of appreciation, friendship, or goodwill of the giver to the recipient.

Traditionally, our readers and the institutions of the AUUC community take the opportunity at this time of year to extend seasonal greetings to their friends and fellow community members with a message on the pages of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*.

Such a message shows that we have thought of others at this special time of the year. It is a way we can reach people whom we have not seen all year.

At the same time, it is an expression of our shared values. It reflects support for the dancers, musicians and singers in the AUUC performing arts groups. It’s a pat on the back to all the perogy makers who help support AUUC halls across the country. It’s a warm outreach to the household, the elderly, the infirm — those whom we are unlikely to meet often at the hall.

It is a relatively inexpensive way to touch our friends.

More than that, it supports the periodical that maintains that communication year-round, the paper that, in every issue, reflects the life and interests of AUUC members and participants.

In this issue of the “UCH”, and in the next two, you will find convenient forms to help you send a holiday message. Different sizes are available to suit your style. Send us the wording you want, and we’ll be happy to design the ad, with no extra charge —and no extra charge for colour and graphics either.

When you see your ad in

print, you will know that others do too.

It’s a feeling that does the heart good, the feeling of connection with kindred spirits. But the seasonal greeting in the “UCH” has an added benefit: the feeling that comes from promoting the common good, of adding your little, much appreciated, bit to a shared project.

There are many ways to feel good, especially during the holiday season. The best ones are shared with others, and the very best ones are shared with others over and over again.

You too can enjoy that feeling, the feeling of virtue and of sharing just or the price of a greeting in the “UCH”

In This Issue

Andrew Dabeka Named National Coach	7
Arms for Ukraine	9
Commentary	4
Current Eclectic	3
Editorial	4
Election in Germany	3
Fraternalism in the 70s	8
From Our History	8
Growing World Peril	4
Happy Birthday, Friends!	11
Healthcare Reform	9
Indefinite Detention Upheld	3
Is English-Wabigoon Remediation Near?	2
Join Us!	11
Joke Time	10
IMMIWG Seeks Time	2
The NAFTA Negotiations	3
On Current US-North Korea Relations	5
Ring of Fire and First Nations	2
The Rising Threat of Nuclear War	4
Saakashvili vs Poroshenko	9
Season’s Greeting Ad	11
Sen. Beyak Still At It	2
Solidarity with Cuba	6
Stretching the Lie	7
Sustaining Fund	11
Ukrainian Bond Issue	9
Ukrainian Miscellany	9
Updated US Travel Ban ...	3
Who, What, When, Where	11

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Is English–Wabigoon Remediation Near?

On June 28, Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change in the Ontario government, issued a statement on Ontario's investment of an additional \$85 million for the remediation of the English-Wabigoon River system.

The statement began with a restatement of what is well-known: "Mercury contamination has had a profound impact on the people of Grassy Narrows First Nation and Wabaseemoong (Whitedog) Independent Nations, and has to be properly addressed."

Mr. Murray reminded his public of a previous commitment, made in February, 2017, "to take action on remediation of mercury contamination in the English-Wabigoon River system".

He also reminded us of the

action that was anticipated: "This commitment involves working with First Nations and partners to first identify all potentially contaminated sites, and then create and implement a comprehensive remediation action plan for the river system."

There was no indication that, in the half year or so since the commitment was made, any significant progress was made toward fulfilling the commitment.

The statement does say that, "The remediation options that are chosen will be based on the scientific fieldwork that is currently underway and in partnership with First Nations", but "scientific fieldwork" has been going on for years.

In an interesting use of language, the statement says

that, so far, "the province has provided \$2.5 million for this accelerated science, sampling and analysis work", and later adds, "We will be providing an additional \$2.7 million this year to accelerate the work now underway."

The accelerated work will be further accelerated?

The statement informs us that, "This brings the total budget to \$5.2 million for scientific pre-remediation work in the English Wabigoon River system."

This is a problem which was created by corporate activity which started in 1962. By 1980, 18 years later, the existence of a problem was well-established. In May of this year, 55 years later, the province was still not doing anything more than trying to pressure Domtar, the current property owner, to determine whether additional pollution was still happening.

So, it would seem that any provincial work, accelerated

or not, did not start before May, 2017.

It seems that, after all these decades, during which residents of the area as well as scientists from Canada and around the world urged the government of Ontario to do something, "this accelerated science, sampling and analysis work, which will inform the extent of the mercury contamination and determine which remediation options may be the most appropriate for each site".

Notice the "will inform". It sounds very much as though the government is starting, pretty much, from ground zero.

The statement says that the \$85 million in dedicated funding "will be spent in partnership with First Nations through the negotiation of a collaborative governance model."

The statement tells us, further, that "Chief Fobister, Chief Paishk, Minister Zimmer and I make up the membership of the political leadership table, whose mandate it is to ensure the remediation of the river system is done in a timely manner and meets the commitments made by the Ontario

government to the First Nations. We are committed to setting up a structure to cooperatively manage the funds and I look forward to our ongoing discussions."

It is not clear from this information whether the people mentioned will continue as the "political leadership table", become part of some more extensive structure, or be replaced by whatever structure they negotiate.

It is also not clear how the \$85 million will be managed. In May, the information was that it would cost about \$85 million over ten years. Is that still the projection, and if so, will a lump sum of the entire \$85 million be made immediately available to the cooperative management, or will it be doled out \$8.5 million a year?

Many, perhaps most, of the questions raised by the statement may have answers somewhere. Some of those answers may even be accessible.

However, with public announcements being so vague, while making the government sound so good, the opposition parties can hardly be blamed for scepticism about the government's intent.

Ring of Fire Roads and First Nations

Neskantaga First Nation has been under a boil water advisory for the past 20 years. Like most reserves in north-west Ontario, it gets its electricity from diesel generators. The community's only connection to the outside world is by a winter road, useful only while frozen in winter. Outside of that window of transportation opportunity, supplies have to be flown in at enormous expense.

Neskantaga and other First Nation reserves in northwest Ontario, in other words, live in unacceptable conditions.

The nearby Ring of Fire mineral deposit, potentially worth \$50 billion, is supposed to help change that. Whether it has any effect depends on the infrastructure which is built.

One need is reliable electricity. Limited electrical power limits all economic options on First Nations reserves, and exacerbates the housing shortage. The limited capacity of the diesel generators prevents some reserves from allowing new homes to be built.

Wataynikaneyap Power (or Watay Power for short) is a coalition of 20 First Nations seeking to connect most of the currently diesel-powered reserves to Ontario's electrical grid. Phase One of the project upgrades an existing transmission line to Pickle Lake, a necessary first step for expanding the power grid. This upgrade is to be done by 2018, with the first remote connections completed by 2019.

The cost savings from phasing out the diesel generators are enough to justify connect-

ing most remote reserves. The additional demand arising from development of the Ring of Fire means the plan would pay off even sooner for the provincial and federal governments.

New surface transportation, useful all year round, would be required to service the mining development.

Other economic projects could flow from these developments. These include modest potential for hydroelectric dams (more than 200 megawatts of economically viable electricity) and, potentially, mining of so-called greenstone belts of rock with precious minerals such as those under Timmins and Kirkland Lake. One estimate places the potential value at \$150 billion to \$190 billion.

All of that potential raises the question of the involvement of First Nations.

As is to be anticipated, some institutions are in a great rush to minimize the role of First Nations. Among these is, to no one's surprise, the Fraser Institute, which published an article in June expressing concern that negotiations with First Nations introduces uncertainty which discourages investment in mining. First Nations must negotiate in good faith (suggesting that they do not), "just like the companies and governments". But the history is clear: the good faith of the colonisers has repeatedly meant pushing the Indigenous People off their land in pursuit of business profits. In fact, in their article, Joseph Quesnel and Kenneth P. Green state that "the aboriginal community

should not ... prevent the project from proceeding".

The Fraser Institute aside, it appears that progress is being made. On August 21, the government of Ontario announced that: "Ontario is taking an important next step toward developing the Ring of Fire, working with Webequie, Marten Falls and Nibinamik First Nations to plan and construct a year-round access road into the proposed mining development site being pursued by Noront Resources Ltd. As part of this project, the province is also working with First Nations to build all-season access roads to their communities."

The roads under discussion would connect the communities to the provincial highway network, and provide access to the Ring of Fire development.

The press release indicated that communities are working to begin environmental assessments of these projects by January, 2018, and plan to begin construction in 2019, pending all necessary approvals.

"Funding for these roads," the press release said, "is part of the government's commitment to invest \$1 billion in Ring of Fire infrastructure to create jobs, provide long-term benefits and improve quality of life for people in the region."

On August 22, the *Toronto Star* reported that Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown expected Premier Kathleen Wynne would break her promises on this project if she wins the coming election. NDP Leader Andrea Horvath was reportedly frustrated and disappointed that "Not one kilometre of road has been built."

Thank God for elections.

Sen. Beyak Still At It

Senator Lynn Beyak, infamous for defending the residential school system, continues to display her ignorance by calling (among other things) for Indigenous people to trade in their status card for a Canadian citizenship.

Winnipeg's Mayor Brian Bowman, who is Métis, called for her resignation. Mayor Bowman tweeted that "a Canadian Senator s/d know who Canadian citizens are."

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reported on September 15 that

Mayor Bowman told reporters that "Those comments are very, very damaging."

Following her earlier defence of residential schools, Sen. Beyak was removed from the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs; more recently, the Conservatives have relieved her of all parliamentary committee responsibilities. As this is written, she remains a member of the Conservative caucus, though various Conservative officials have disavowed her statements.

NIMMIWG Seeks Time

Marion Buller, head of the National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, announced on September 21 that she would be asking the government for an extension of time to complete the work of the inquiry. At the time, she did not say how much more time would be requested, nor did she say what effect the extension might have on the inquiry's \$54 million budget.

Almost from its inception, the NIMMIWG has faced criticism targeting its methods, its communications (or lack of them), its timing, its use of its resources, and other issues. Key staff members, as well as a commissioner, have left the project amid pressure from some communities to restart the entire inquiry.

Almost a year into its man-

date, the inquiry still had not hired its full complement of staff.

Ms. Buller placed at least some blame for the delays on the Privy Council Office, the department overseeing the inquiry. She indicated that the procedures required for hiring civil servants and purchasing equipment and supplies were very time consuming. While they might serve for normal governmental business, they were too slow for short-term projects like the inquiry.

The *Toronto Star* reported on September 22 that, "Sabrina Williams, spokesperson for Indigenous-Crown Relations Minister Carolyn Bennett, said in an emailed statement that the Privy Council Office is already in contact with the inquiry to resolve any issues."

Current Eclectic

Election in Germany

On September 24, the elections to Germany's parliament left incumbent Chancellor Angela Merkel and her Christian Democratic Union in a position to stay in power by forming a new coalition. However, the election resulted in the inclusion of a far-right party, the Alternative for Germany, as part of the opposition for the first time since the early 1950s.

In fact, of the six parties in the Bundestag, Germany's parliament, the AfD is the third largest, with 94 seats, compared to 246 for the CDU and 153 for the Social Democratic Party (Angela Merkel's former coalition partner)

Other party standings in the Bundestag are: FDP - 80 seats; The Left, 69 seats; and the Green Party, 67 seats.

With 709 seats in total in the Bundestag anyone wishing to form a government must control 355 of them. As the Social Democratic Party want to be in opposition, and as the AfD is not an acceptable partner, the CDU will have to entice at least two of the other three parties into a

coalition. As has been pointed out, the process of negotiating a coalition agreement acceptable to two potential partners could take weeks.

Of course, nothing is written in stone. It is not totally out of the question that the Social Democratic Party can be lured back into a coalition.

Some questions have been raised whether Angela Merkel can survive at the helm for another four years to the next election, considering that the party's results this time were the worst since 1949.

Interesting information about Chancellor Merkel is that, at age 63, she has governed alongside three American and four French Presidents, and four British, six Italian, and seven Japanese Prime Ministers

Another interesting bit of information is that she originated in the German Democratic Republic — East Germany. The Alternative for Germany has most of its support in the former GDR.

An interesting question for investigation is whether the tendency for former socialist countries to be ideal breeding grounds for the ultra-right is more than a mistaken impression. If so, what is the explanation for this phenomenon.

Updated US Travel Ban

On September 24, President Donald Trump imposed new travel restrictions on citizens from North Korea, Venezuela and Chad, expanding to eight the list of countries covered by his travel bans. Iran, Libya, Syria, Yemen and Somalia were left on the list of affected countries in the new proclamation issued by the president. Restrictions on citizens from Sudan were lifted.

Iraqi citizens will not be subject to travel prohibitions but will face enhanced scrutiny or investigation.

Unlike the president's earlier bans, which had time limits, this one is open-ended.

The measures help fulfil a campaign promise Trump made to tighten U.S. immigration procedures and align with his "America First" foreign policy.

"Making America safe is my number one priority. We will not admit those into our country we cannot safely vet," President Trump tweeted shortly after the proclamation was issued.

The ban enacted in March was set to expire on the evening of September 24. The new restrictions are due to take effect on October 18.

Trump's original travel bans sparked international outrage

and legal challenges.

The addition of North Korea and Venezuela broadens the restrictions from the original, mostly Muslim-majority list of countries.

Rights group Amnesty International USA condemned the measures.

"Just because the original ban was especially outrageous does not mean we should stand for yet another version of government-sanctioned discrimination," it said.

"It is senseless and cruel to ban whole nationalities of people who are often fleeing the very same violence that the U.S. government wishes to keep out. This must not be normalized."

The American Civil Liberties Union said that the addition of North Korea and Venezuela "doesn't obfuscate the real fact that the administration's order is still a Muslim ban."

The White House portrayed the restrictions as consequences for countries that did not meet new American requirements for investigating immigrants and issuing visas. Those requirements were shared in July with foreign governments, which had 50 days to make improvements if needed.

Indefinite Detention Upheld

Long term detention of refugee applicants has been the topic of much discussion. End Immigration Detention Network issued this media release in July, after such detention was upheld.

The federal government must put an immediate end to Canada's much-criticized practice of indefinite detention, say family members of detainees and legal experts. This comes after the Federal Court of Canada ruled Tuesday that the indefinite detention of migrants and refugees in Canada does not violate the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

In May of this year, Canada Border Services Agency, which is not subject to an oversight body, was called on to justify its practice of long-term imprisonment of immigrants, including children and lifelong Canadian residents in *Brown v. Minister of Citizenship and Immigration*.

"If the judge rules against the basic human rights of people who continue to be incarcerated unjustly, and indefinitely, then he has not only failed those people," says Kimora Adetunji, whose husband, and father to her three children, has spent almost a year in detention, most of it in a maximum security prison.

"He has also failed our entire justice system and anyone who relies on it for procedural fairness."

Canada is one of the few western countries without a time limit on detentions. Detainees, advocates, and the United Nations have criticized the lack of fair judicial oversight in the federal system. The End Immigration Detention Network (EIDN), a party in the case, presented arguments that indefinite immigration detention is in violation of international law and sections

7, 9, and 12 of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

"We are clearly disappointed in the decision, which avoids the issue of a release period (a maximum time limit that a person can be held for the purpose of deportation after which they must be released)," says Swathi Sekhar, lawyer for EIDN.

"Honestly, the government could have avoided the expense and shame of this litigation by making changes to the current law to introduce a release period. But it is clear that we need to continue the effort to make that happen."

At least 15 people have died in Canadian immigration custody since 2000. The United Nations has repeatedly criticized Canada for refusing to introduce legislation that would place a 90-day limit on immigration detention. In a recent Ontario Superior Court decision, Justice Ian Nordheimer called Kashif Au's 7 year-long-detention ordeal "unacceptable", and ordered his immediate release.

Alvin Brown, on whom the Federal Court case is based, came to Canada at the age of 7, where he was a permanent resident. He spent almost 5 years detained for immigration purposes in maximum security prisons, before his deportation and resulting separation from his family was expedited when his case came before the Ontario courts in August, 2016.

"It was horrible, I would have rather been dead than detained, not knowing when I would be released," said Brown speaking from Jamaica. "It was traumatizing; I spent five years in there and still can't get over it. The experience is trapped in my mind."

"The one positive of this court struggle has been the chance to broadcast the

voices of the detainees and their families," added Sekhar. "The call for a release period has been a demand since 191 immigration detainees went on hunger strike in 2013. We will take this challenge all the way through the courts to honour their ongoing struggle."

As long as the government believes they can detain people as long as they like, we will continue to challenge them."

Background and Key Facts

- Since 2000, at least 15 immigrants have died in CBSA custody. At least 8 of the deaths took place in Ontario provincial prisons. Most common cause of death is denial of adequate health care followed by suicide. CBSA has never publicly revealed details of all the deaths in its custody.

- Canada is one of the few western countries in the world without a time limit on detentions, thus some immigrants have been jailed for over 12 years without charges or trial. The United Nations has twice asked Canada to end this practice. 146 doctors, nurses and social workers and 109 lawyers called on Ontario to end the province's deal with Ottawa that allows the jailing of immigration detainees in provincial prisons in June 2016.

- In August, 2016, Federal Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale responded to a 19-day hunger strike by immigration detainees in Lindsay's Central Correctional Centre, by allotting \$138 million to expand immigration prisons in Canada rather than creating laws to end indefinite detention.

- By removing permanent resident status, deporting foreign nations, and deporting

(Continued on Page 11.)

The NAFTA Negotiations

The third round of renegotiations of the North America Free Trade Agreement is under way as the "UCH" goes to press, with Canada as host. Although everyone seems to be very busy with the talks, there seems to be a lot of doubt whether the exercise will actually go anywhere.

We are told that 28 different issues are being discussed at 28 different tables, and that progress is being made.

We are also told that the USA is not putting forward its key demands, so it looks doubtful that the target of completing negotiations by the end of the year will be met.

What is known is that President Trump has said from time to time, that he wants out of NAFTA. He has

also said from time to time that he wants substantial changes to NAFTA.

We as the public are left to wonder who is playing games, and who is not playing games.

President Trump considers himself the supreme negotiator and the master of the deal. Is everything that has happened so far just tactics to soften up the Mexican and Canadian negotiators, or is it meant to set up an ultimatum: these are my terms, take it or leave it?

Each of the three countries, so far, is saying "This is my bottom line; if I do not get this, I'm walking." However, that is not negotiation, though it may be part of trying to get movement toward one's desires.

In most previous negotiations, if memory serves, negotiation included "I'll bend here, if you'll bent there." How does that work if everything is being considered in isolation at separate tables?

No doubt, the three countries have an agreement specifying how it will all be brought together. They may be playing each other, but they are certainly playing us.

They may be overplaying us. If they say, "We'll walk away if we don't get this condition", there will be a political price to pay if that doesn't work out. Can any one of them afford to walk away?

Even the United States, as President Trump tries to "make America great again" can not afford to isolate itself and watch its domestic costs rise as its biggest trading partners find new markets.

UKRAINIAN CANADIAN

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Advertising rates available on request.**PUBLICATIONS MAIL REGISTRATION No. 40009476***Signed articles represent the viewpoint of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Board.***Growing World Peril****AN EDITORIAL by WILFRED SZCZESNY**

The fact is that the world is becoming more dangerous, and the threat of an all-out war seems to be growing daily. There are several areas of the world where tensions could become a war, and the war grow into a nuclear war.

The place that comes to mind immediately is Korea, with the USA flying its aircraft ever more provocatively, and both the USA and the DPRK speaking in ever more belligerent tones.

However, this may be far from the most dangerous conflict. Neither side can attack the other in Korea without expecting serious repercussions.

One more dangerous location is the Middle East. Not only are the local countries at war, but there seem to be ever more incidents of shooting between the USA and the Russia. In this active arena, there is a heightened possibility of serious accidental injury inflicted by one party on the other. There is also the possibility of miscalculation, assuming that a deliberate hostile action will not meet with a strong reply.

There is a real danger that escalation will be almost imperceptible — until the two protagonists are in an all out war. That can either spread geographically or escalate to ever-more-destructive weapons, with the ultimate resort to nuclear weapons not ruled out.

There is also real danger in Eastern Europe, with NATO and Russia both acting provocatively. All the NATO activity along the Russian border, especially when Russian activity on its own territory is deliberately interpreted as provocation, could supply the spark. But the decisions by the American Senate and the preparations by Canada to supply Ukraine with lethal assistance can have no other consequence than adventurism by Ukraine, pulling NATO into a shooting war with Russia.

The debate in Canada about joining the US missile defence is a reflection, on the one hand, of the increased militarization in international relations, and on the other hand of the increased polarization, accompanied by more vilification and demonization of the opposite pole.

It is not too late yet to reverse the trend. Reason can yet prevail. However, the continuing rise of the war camp, as reflected by the recent election in Germany and most importantly by the accession of Donald Trump to the American presidency represents a slowly closing window. — or maybe not so slowly.

Escalation will not produce peace, but only lead to more escalation. De-escalation requires a level of trust and confidence which is nowhere to be found. Is there another way?

COMMENTARY**The Rising Threat of Nuclear War and The Politics of De-Nuclearization**

As the "Herald" goes to press, the dangerous confrontation between North Korea and the United States has reached new levels. At issue is the ability of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) to produce atomic weapons and attain its stated goal of being able to deliver those weapons with intercontinental missiles. North Korea, if successful, would join a handful of nuclear weapon states with that capability.

In speeches given by Donald Trump and the North Korean Foreign Minister to the annual meeting of world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly, both sides warned of impending war.

First, US President Trump threatened the complete destruction of North Korea should it take military action against the United States, its allies or its military bases in the region (such as Guam). This threat against North Korea came just after the United States had completed major war exercises in South Korea.

In response, the North Korean Foreign Minister delivered a strong rebuke to the actions of the USA over the last several months, and warned of the inevitability of a clash with the US. He indicated that US actions were the basis of North Korean aims to achieve the capability to target any part of the US with long range nuclear missiles.

As this was taking place at the UN, Iran (also a target in President Trump's UN speech) unveiled and tested a new long-range (2000 km.) multiple-war-head missile. At a major military parade to display the missile, Iran's President made it clear that Iran would develop any military capability it required to defend its sovereignty.

Iran's concern is that President Trump has repeatedly threatened to withdraw US endorsement of the treaty, signed in conjunction with Europe, the Russian Federation and China, for Iran to put on hold its nuclear weapons program in exchange for normalization of relations and lifting of economic sanctions. This threat has been coupled with the threat of US-style regime change in Iran.

This new test led to immediate discussion whether it violated the terms of the international agreement.

The possibility of the DPRK and Iran possessing nuclear weapons has once again raised the problem of the threat posed by nuclear weapons to the world. The question why states pursue the nuclear option, and the possibility of changing this, is one that has concerned the peace movement since the advent of atomic weapons at the end of World War II.

The Politics of Nuclear Weapons — 1945 and the Cold War

In 1945, with the bombing of Hiroshima (August 6) and Nagasaki (August 9), the United States demonstrated that it possessed a weapon so powerful that it rendered resistance by armies possessing only conventional weapons irrelevant. Thus, began the modern atomic arms race.

The Soviet Union, faced with the threat of a United States armed with atomic weapons and increasingly belligerent to coexistence with the Soviet Union, undertook its own development of atomic weapons.

The United States developed the science of the atom bomb through the Manhattan Project, in collaboration with material, technical and scientific support from Canada and

Britain. Yet, in the years following the war, the United States dropped a further veil of secrecy over its atomic work, shutting out even its Manhattan Project allies (Canada and Britain) in an effort to keep its monopoly on the weapons and its lead in atomic weapons technology. However, this prompted Britain to develop its own atomic program and bomb-making ability.

In the 1950s France instituted its own atomic weapons program. One reason was to retain its status as a great power in the post-colonial world. France's other motivation was to retain sovereignty in the atmosphere of the Cold War. France wanted the ability to deter an attack from the Soviet Union, or any foreign power, independent of protection by NATO (which it was about to leave).

Thus, in the immediate post war period, the spread of atomic weapons technology was motivated by the contending political systems and outlook that characterized the Cold War. The optimism at the end of WW II, with the defeat of fascism and militarism, was replaced with the division of the world between the socialist and capitalist states and retrenchment in an ideological divide.

Neither side was going to allow the other to gain an advantage in terms of the most powerful of weapons. As in the case of France and Britain, it was also a product of the reluctance among western powers to fall under complete domination of US power and atomic blackmail, and to preserve their seat at the global division of the world by the west.

The Politics of De-Nuclearization

By the mid-1960s and into the '70s, it was clear that the spread of atomic weapons technology would not be limited to a few advanced states. The advances and spread in the science and technology could not be kept secret or in the hands of the few. If they chose to do so, even middle powers could become atomic
(Continued on Page 5.)

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NEC AUUC Meeting

(Continued from Page 1.)
usual four.

For the first time in years, the NEC AUUC is in a position to provide grants and other funding, and to undertake, once again, some of the activities which have been absent.

Since the last National Convention funding has been provided to support AUUC Winnipeg Branch. As a result, the

Branch has been able to consider upgrades to the building, to make it more attractive to potential renters. Among the major changes in the works are changes to make the building more accessible.

The concept of assistance with building costs is being extended to other Branches with halls. Subject to certain conditions being met, the AUUC Branches will be sub-

sidised so that property taxes and insurance costs will no longer be overwhelming burdens.

The meeting approved the first expenditures by a Branch on the celebrations slated for 2017-19. A centennial grant application from AUUC Welland Branch to support its concert/banquet on October 15, 2017, having been processed through, and approved by, the Centennial Celebration Committee, was approved.

The meeting also decided to ask the Chair of the National Cultural Committee to convene a meeting of the committee to prepare a plan for national seminars. Consideration should be given the areas of song, music and dance.

For some years the AUUC has neglected its web site, AUUC.ca. The site is a static, outdated embarrassment, with no one who has the required skills charged with administering it.

That is soon to change. Following the last AUUC National Convention, Eugene Semanowich was given the task of establishing a new AUUC web site which would be active, interactive, interest-

ing and informative. At the meeting, Mr. Semanowich reported that he was within weeks of having an operational system in place.

"UCH" readers can look forward to a web site which will provide some form of the paper on line, while the print version will be retained. We hope that this new phase in the life of our publication will be publicly accessible by the end of the year. We are assured that the learning curve will not be very steep.

A major NEC concern at this meeting was organizational arrangements in Toronto. AUUC Toronto Branch has expressed a lively interest in divesting itself of responsibility for the AUUC Cultural Centre. While the Branch is considering its options concerning meeting space, the NEC is considering its options concerning the property at 1604 Bloor Street West in Toronto. The Shevchenko Museum, which currently occupies another AUUC property, is also considering its options. Again, the end of the year is a target date for the resolution of the maze of interlocking options.

Another issue concerning the Shevchenko Museum arises from the management structure established by an AUUC National Convention. Shifting AUUC demographics are restricting Shevchenko Museum personnel options at a time when the Museum is feeling the need to expand participation in its work. This appears to be a problem which will require innovative thinking for its resolution.

Another institution in the AUUC periphery which is demanding attention is the Canadian Society for Ukrainian Labour Research. The NEC considered some matters concerning the operation of the CSULR, and in particular, funding models.

The AUUC has shared interests with the CSULR, among them preservation of archives. The two organizations are moving toward negotiations on the most effective ways to achieve AUUC purposes while accommodating the needs of the CSULR.

These are just a sampling of the items discussed by the NEC. As the National Committee meeting approaches, much work must be done.

The Rising Threat of Nuclear War

(Continued from Page 4.)
powers.

China, India and Pakistan developed nuclear weapons, as did Israel. South Africa also developed several atomic bombs though it later dismantled all these weapons.

In 1970, the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) came into effect. It was an effort to limit the spread of atomic weapons.

The atomic powers, which held the expertise in nuclear technology, agreed to assist countries to develop atomic programs for research and the generation of electrical power. To get this expertise a country would have to sign the NPT, which meant it was bound not to pursue the creation of atomic weapons, since any peaceful use of nuclear power also provides the know-how and material to make a bomb.

The essence of the NPT bargain (as expressed by Thomas Graham, Jr., in "Avoiding the Tipping Point" a book review for the Arms Control Association in November, 2004) is this: "The NPT non-nuclear-weapon states agree never to acquire nuclear weapons and the NPT nuclear-weapon states, in exchange, agree to share the benefits of peaceful nuclear technology and to pursue nuclear disarmament aimed at the ultimate elimination of their nuclear arsenals."

However, the NPT bargain remains elusive. The nuclear weapons states which are signatory to the treaty have not taken measures to eliminate nuclear weapons from their arsenals. In fact, the US and Britain have publicly announced they are undertaking a modernization of their nuclear weapon systems.

Then there are the nuclear weapons states that have not signed the treaty – India, Pakistan and China – because of the obligation to disarm from nuclear weapons. Interestingly, North Korea was a signatory to the NPT but withdrew in 2003 to pursue a nuclear weapons program as tensions rose on the Korean peninsula and progress to-

wards normalization of relations faltered.

A People's Movement

While the elimination of nuclear weapons would change the magnitude of the destructive power possessed by the world's greatest military powers, it would not remove the threat they pose. The conventional weapons they possess, both in number and destructive power, would still be an impetus for smaller countries to maintain atomic weapons. This was certainly the reason behind Iran's nuclear program, and is clearly the reason North Korea has staked so much on achieving nuclear capabilities.

The roots of the crisis over North Korea are to be found in the divisions that emanated from the World War II and the big power politics that continue to plague the world.

These politics are the cause of current wars in Iraq, Syria, Libya, Yemen, Afghanistan, and Ukraine.

Into this mix comes the motivations of people and their desire for peace. As the US ramped up threats against North Korea, the government of South Korea said that no military action could be taken unilaterally, thus rebuking US big power mentality.

The people of Guam, target of North Korea's threats against US military bases, stood up and demanded removal of American bases from their soil because their presence abrogates their sovereignty and puts them at risk.

The people of Okinawa have said the same about the American bases on their territory. The people of the Philippines also have demands for the removal of US military bases.

Therefore, a movement against nuclear weapons must be coupled with a movement that is also against the present situation where militarization and war are the norm in international relations, as the big powers contend for domination and control.

— Glenn Michalchuk

On Current US – North Korea Relations

Former US President Jimmy Carter issued a statement, dated August 10, on current US–North Korea relations. Since that date, the "harsh rhetoric" has become much harsher, and the threat of war between the two countries has become more acute. The contents of the statement, consequently, have become more important. We are printing the statement because we believe that it provides information that our readers should know as they consider the rising threat to peace. To avoid the danger of inadvertent misinterpretation, the statement has not been edited, and spelling, grammar and punctuation have been left as in the original.

The harsh rhetoric from Washington and Pyongyang during recent months has exacerbated an already confrontational relationship between our countries, and has probably eliminated any chance of good faith peace talks between the United States and North Korea. In addition to restraining the warlike rhetoric, our leaders need to encourage talks between North Korea and other countries, especially China and Russia. The recent UN Security Council unanimous vote for new sanctions suggests that these countries could help. In all cases, a nuclear exchange must be avoided. All parties must assure North Koreans they will forego any military action against them if North Korea remains peaceful.

I have visited North Korea three times, and have spent more than 20 hours in discussions with their political leaders regarding important issues that affect U.S.-DPRK relations.

In June 1994, I met with

Kim Il Sung in a time of crisis, when he agreed to put all their nuclear programs under strict supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency and to seek mutual agreement with the United States on a permanent peace treaty, to have summit talks with the president of South Korea, to expedite the recovery of the remains of American service personnel buried in his country, and to take other steps to ease tension on the peninsula. Kim Il Sung died shortly after my visit, and his successor, Kim Jong Il, notified me and leaders in Washington that he would honor the promises made by his father. These obligations were later confirmed officially in negotiations in Geneva by Robert Gallucci and other representatives of the Clinton administration.

I returned to Pyongyang in August 2010, at the invitation of North Korean leaders, to bring home Aijalon Gomes, an American who had been de-

tained there. My last visit to North Korea was in May 2011 when I led a delegation of Elders (former presidents of Ireland and Finland and former prime minister of Norway) to assure the delivery of donated food directly to needy people.

During all these visits, the North Koreans emphasized that they wanted peaceful relations with the United States and their neighbors, but were convinced that we planned a preemptive military strike against their country. They wanted a peace treaty (especially with America) to replace the ceasefire agreement that had existed since the end of the Korean War in 1953, and to end the economic sanctions that had been very damaging to them during that long interim period. They have made it clear to me and others that their first priority is to assure that their military capability is capable of destroying a large part of Seoul and of responding strongly in other ways to any American attack. The influence of China in Pyongyang seems to be greatly reduced since Kim Jong Un became the North Korean leader in December 2011.

A commitment to peace by the United States and North Korea is crucial. When this confrontational crisis is ended, the United States should be prepared to consummate a permanent treaty to replace the ceasefire of 1953. The United States should make this clear, to North Koreans and to our allies.

Solidarity with Cuba

Pulled together in little more than two weeks, an event to raise funds to help Cuba overcome the devastation caused by Hurricane Irma was a tremendous success by any applicable measure.

Held at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto, the event from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on the evening of Friday, September 22, attracted the

standing-room-only participation of some 130 people at \$20.00 each, and raised well over \$20,000.00 to assist Cuba.

When the doors opened at 6:30, food cooked and donated by Daisy Tapia was available to those who needed to buy supper, their appetites stimulated by the delectable odours of the hot dishes.

Elizabeth Hill, Co-chair of the Canadian Network on Cuba and President Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association Toronto (and a member of AUUC Toronto Branch), opened the proceedings by welcoming those in attendance quite promptly at about 7:05 p.m. She then turned the microphone over to Julio Fonseca who presented greetings on behalf of the Association of Cubans in Toronto Juan Gualberto Gómez. He also introduced Lucho Tapia as the MC for the evening.

Mr. Tapia introduced the Hilario Duran Trio (this night actually a quartet), featuring: Hilario Duran on piano, Jorge Luis Torres "Papiosco" on percussion; and the lovely woman with a lovely voice, Marta Elena Perez Vallin, on vocals. This talented group, with their award-winning leader, donated their performance, which had people dancing in the aisle from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Shortly after 9:00 p.m., the MC introduced Cuba's Consul General, Tania López Larroque, who briefly addressed the assembly. The videos "La Flor Que Habita Dentro" and "Tempestad" were screened.

All of that was prelude to the serious fundraising, conducted by Juan Carranza.



Lucho Tapia was Master of Ceremonies for the evening.



Cuba's Consul General, Tania López Larroque, attended and addressed the assembly.



Poet Ama Luna raised her voice in solidarity by reading some of her work.



Keith Ellis appeared in his capacity as director of the Canadian Network on Cuba fundraising campaign.



Juan Carranza very fruitfully handled the fundraising, including auctions and an appeal for generous donations when the baskets came around.



About 130 people attended the fundraising event in solidarity with Cuba, held at the AUUC Cultural Centre in Toronto on September 23.

An auction started this part of the program. The items which were sold were a framed poster of the Buena Vista Social Club, donated by CCFA; a painting by Ramon Fuentes Fuentes, donated by Telma Mena; another painting, by Jane Bunnett; and Jane Bunnett CDs. The auction brought in over \$700.00.

In addition to some income from the food and the bar, there was good support when baskets were passed around. The fundraising was rounded out by two generous anonymous donations.

The fundraising was assisted by the fact that everything was donated, except the



Anna Yanovsky emphasized the importance of donating so the Cubans can rebuild after the hurricane, rather than buying more consumer things we don't need.

liquor licence and the alcoholic beverages.

While the donations were being counted, Ama Luna read her poetry.

The last formality of the evening was a presentation by Keith Ellis in his capacity as director of the Canadian Net-

work on Cuba fundraising campaign. Dr. Ellis included a recited his poem "Sandy" as part of his segment.

Before turning on the recorded music for the dancing to 11:00 p.m., the MC listed the sponsors of this success-
(Continued on Page 7.)



Music was provided by the Hilario Duran Quartet (Hilario Duran on piano; Roberto Occhipinti on bass; Jorge Luis Torres "Papiosco" on percussion; and singer Marta Elena Perez Vallin), marvellous performers who donated their talent.



The close quarters notwithstanding, many people in attendance could not resist dancing to the energetic Latin rhythms.

Solidarity with Cuba

(Continued from Page 6.)
 full event. He listed the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association Toronto; Association United Ukrainian Canadians (which donated the hall); Association of Cubans in Toronto Juan Gualberto Gómez;

Latin American and Caribbean Solidarity Network (LACSN); Casa Salvador Allende; Victor Jara Cultural Group; Worker to Worker, and Canada-Cuba Labour Solidarity Network .

— Elizabeth Hill



Julio Fonseca presented greetings on behalf of the Association of Cubans in Toronto Juan Gualberto Gómez.



The auction was a good source of funds. Above, Liz Hill holds the framed poster of the Buena Vista Social Club, donated by CCFa, which raised a total of \$360.00 in a two-step process. Below, Juan Carranza auctioned a painting by Ramon Fuentes Fuentes, donated by Telma Mena, for \$140.



Stretching the Lie

This translation by Mary Skrynyk of a story by Ukrainian humorist Hrihory Kvitka-Osnovyanenko appeared in the October, 1972, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*.

A very evil thing, it is, to lie! "You can travel around the world on a lie," goes the say-

ing, "but you can never come back." A liar is his own worst enemy and an enemy to other



people too. Everyone recognizes the truth, but everyone also lies. Not equally: one lies constantly, without a qualm, another lies less, and cautiously — but both are equally bad. Even though you may tell only half a lie, you can create enough misery to last a lifetime. Look around you and see who is in difficulties. That one, when courting, bragged that he owned two villages and closets full of money; lied to the girl and she married him to weep: for not only was there nothing for them and their children to live on, there was also barely anything to bite on! Another, borrowing money, swears:

"I'll repay you within a year," and a year passes, and you've kissed the money goodbye! And still another says, "Give me the money in advance, and I'll write some clever books for you." He spends the money, and there's no use even looking for the books. "The devil takes such fools," he says, "so I fooled you, that's what I did, what a comedy. . ." If one wanted to tell it all, how and when, and who lied, one would never get to the end of it. What we must remember is that it's an evil thing to lie — bad for you, and what it can do for another may never be repaired. Listen to this!

Parkhim begged Ostap to act as matchmaker for him to Khivra, a fine girl, thrifty and hard-working. She even had a cow in her dowry. Parkhim was also a fine lad — none

Continued on Page 10.)

Andrew Dabeka Named National Coach

The September, 2017, issue of *RA News* reported Andrew Dabeka, the RA Badminton Club's Assistant Pro, has been selected by Badminton Canada to work as National Coach. This part-time position began in March, 2017, and will continue until the 2020 Olympic Summer Games in Tokyo.

Andrew is a member of AUUC Ottawa Branch.

The *RA News* story says that Andrew Dabeka grew up at the RA Centre. After several years of participating in RA sports camps, he joined the Badminton Club at the age of 13.

During a playing career that lasted until 2009, he represented Canada at four Pan American Championships, four World Championships, and the 2008 Olympic Games, reaching a ranking as high as 20th in the world.

He won a record six Canadian men's singles titles.

Andrew began his full-time coaching career in Switzerland in 2009, sharing his time between two positions: one as assistant national coach, and



AUUC Ottawa Branch member Andrew Dabeka. The photo is from his playing days.

the other as the head coach of a competitive club in Zurich.

After four years in Switzerland, Andrew recently returned home to Ottawa and the RA, to be involved in several of the club's programs.

As a coach, Andrew is very thorough, enthusiastic and passionate about teaching the intricacies of the sport of badminton.

In his role as National

Coach, Andrew will be working under Mike Butler, another former Canadian men's singles champion, who comes from Saint John, New Brunswick. Together, they will lead the national program, supporting the national team in their day-to-day training (remotely), as well as at major events.

The report quotes Andrew as saying, "I am thrilled to be part of the national program. We have some incredible talent in Canada. Our best athlete is Michelle Li from Toronto, who has been ranked as high as 11th in the world. We hope to support her, as well as all of the other athletes on the team, to qualify and achieve greatness in Tokyo."

From August 19 to 29, Andrew coached 11 Canadian athletes at the World University Games in Taipei, Taiwan. Results from the event are available at : www.2017.taipei/home, "u sports international" on Facebook, and @USPORTSintl on Twitter.

(*RA News* is a publication of the Recreation Association of the Public Service of Canada. We thank AUUC National President Bob Seychuk for steering us to this article.)

From Our History

This article appeared 45 years ago, in the October, 1972, issue of *The Ukrainian Canadian*. As the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians approaches its centennial, we present this moment from the life and history of the AUUC, the organization that established the WBA for the benefit of Ukrainian Canadian workers at a time when there was little, if any public assistance for workers who were injured on the job or fell victim to illness.

Fraternalism in the 70s

A report on the WBA 50th Anniversary Convention

By Wm. Repka

Meeting from August 30th to September 2nd in the tradition-studded Winnipeg Hall where it began in 1922, the Workers Benevolent Association's 24th National Convention marked a sparkling, emotion-packed 50th Anniversary of the organization.

With 92 delegates present, speaker after speaker pointed to the important improvements in health and welfare legislation along the lines urged by the WBA through the years. Along with the delegates 89 guests, including the founding members and the Mathew Popovich choir from Toronto, listened to reports outlining the profound changes that have taken place in our country, and which the WBA will have to consider in its work in beginning the second half century of its existence.

With the lack of new immigration from Ukraine and other Central European countries, the organization bases itself increasingly on the Canadian-born members. More and more of its work will be done in the English language as the WBA opens its ranks to every ethnic group in Canada, even as it continues to work with its Ukrainian base.

"For the achievements of our association" Mike Seychuk, National WBA Secretary said in his report to the Convention, "we are indebted not to some almighty power, high-salaried agents and offic-

ers, but to the many members and builders who founded and built our organization by their sincere, tireless and voluntary efforts. Their efforts have built the WBA into a large mutual benefit organization embracing many ethnic groups. For this they deserve our whole-hearted thanks."

Pointing to the vast changes in the economy of the country and to the changes in the provincial and national health care plans, the National Secretary indicated the new kinds of problems and difficulties facing the activists and builders of the WBA, and urged that the discussion include the manner in which various localities and branches are meeting these new conditions.

Mr. Seychuk made a rather extensive report on the activities of the national organization in the three and one half years since the last convention. He also projected a number of specific activities for the WBA in the coming period.

"Let us build our Association," he concluded, "so that it can continue its humanitarian fraternal work, build friendship and a world of peace, brotherhood and justice for all."

Stella Seychuk, the National Financial Secretary of the WBA paid tribute to the pioneers present at the Convention, and said: "The first 88 members who gathered to hear the first financial report



Delegates and guests to the 24th National Convention, WBA.

of their new fraternal organization were justifiably proud when they were able to report that in the short span of a month... they had a balance of \$74 in their treasury. Today there is no doubt as to the financial soundness of this same organization, for the assets in that same treasury have now grown to more than four and a quarter million dollars. Yet the humanitarian aspect of our work — our objective of serving the community and ministering to members and their families in time of need and misfortune, still goes on — for this is the prime purpose for our existence."

President Anthony Bilecki, in his address, said: "From the time of our last Convention three and a half years ago, many things have happened in the world that left an imprint on our lives." He spoke of the moon landings, the probe to Mars and Venus, new increases in labour productivity, new impressive trade union achievements in hours, wages and working conditions and how "in the last three years the average life span of men in Canada has increased from 66 years to 70 years and for women from 70 to 76 years."

He also spoke of substantial achievements in health and welfare in our country, won over many decades of extensive struggle, so that "when we talk about the possibility of growth for our Association we would know in what conditions we are working."

He quoted from the book "Poverty in Canada" issued by the Special Senate Committee on Poverty, which concluded that "in Canada every fourth person is poor," that "nearly 250,000 single Canadians receive less than \$1,000 a year income," and stated that the struggle for just distribution of wealth, for a "guaranteed decent standard of living for all Canadians is continuing, and in this struggle there is a place for the Association and for its members.

"The state of health of the Canadian People is also unsatisfactory," said the Presi-

dent, and outlined a series of statistics on it. He urged that the WBA continue its efforts to improve this state of affairs in the branches and in the public arena.

He spoke extensively on the role of young people in the organization and the need to include them in leading bodies and in the work of the association.

He commended the achievement of the 50 year history of the WBA encompassed in the book "Friend in Need" (first printing, 4,000 copies) and thanked the very many people who contributed to it, especially UC editor Mitch Sago for his important contribution to the work, as well as expressing appreciation to co-editor Wm. Repka, without mentioning his own prodigious efforts and many hours of labour in its preparation. (Incidentally, every delegate got a copy of the book, while several delegates contributed financially to, and bought multiple copies of the book for distribution).

President Bilecki thanked "Life and Word", "Vestnik" — and The Ukrainian Canadian for their assistance in promoting and reflecting WBA activities and urged membership support for these papers.

He concluded his remarks with these words: "Shoulder to shoulder, with the progressive movement in Canada, with great faith in the future, proud of our past, with heads high, we are entering our second half-century convinced we are travelling the correct path to a new world without war, without injustice, into a world where no man will exploit another man and each will be a true friend, a brother's keeper, in happy and joyous surroundings."

After the reports of the officers a far-reaching discussion took place with comments on the contributions, reports on the work of each community represented, and suggestions to improve the work of the organization.

In the course of the discussion various greetings in the form of telegrams and state-



WBA National President Anthony Bilecki addresses the delegates.

ments were received and presented to the convention.

Among the greetings was a statement from John Koronji, leader of the Independent Mutual Benefit Federation, who in greeting the convention remarked that his organization was pleased to be part of the WBA and would continue to grow with it. Gregory Okulevich, from the Russian-Canadian branches, brought warm greetings from that group as did Morrey Zeilig from the United Jewish People's Order. Bill Morris, President of the Toronto Shevchenko Ensemble also greeted the convention on their behalf.

Professor Yuri Yakovich Turchenko, Arts Professor from Kiev University, who had been in charge of the USSR Expo exhibit in Montreal, brought greetings: from the Ukraine and was warmly received. He spoke of the advances made in the USSR on health welfare and pensions, and outlined the manner in which these problems are tackled under socialism.

The Honourable Rene E. Toupin, Minister of Health and Social Development, spoke on behalf of the Manitoba Government and its white paper on "Health and Social Services".

"We share," he said, "with
(Continued on Page 12.)



The popular Winnipeg Bandurist Vocal Quintet (left to right) Harry Stefaniuk, Mike Wynnychuk, John Stefaniuk, Walter Weremiuk, and William Philipovich, with accompanist Denise Dubinsky.

Ukrainian Miscellany

Ukrainian Bond Issue

On September 18, for the first time since 2015, Ukraine re-entered the international bond market with a \$3-billion issue of a dollar-denominated 15-year Eurobond with a yield of 7.375%. Of the \$3 billion, \$1.7 billion will be used to re-finance existing debt, while \$1.3 billion will be additional debt.

These numbers are somewhat higher than anticipated by Bloomberg on September 14.

Bloomberg saw the timing as excellent because yields on existing 10-year bonds had fallen from 9.3% at the end of March to 7% in mid-September.

The key, according to Bloomberg, is the presence of the International Monetary Fund. The IMF arrangement, Bloomberg said, calls for \$1 billion in new money to be raised from outside investors this year, rising to \$2 billion next year and \$3 billion in 2019. The successful transaction in September instilled confidence in investors that Ukraine is fulfilling its side of

the bargain.

As the IMF has Ukraine's back, with \$8.4 billion already committed, investors can take a more considered view. The fund has said it will release a further tranche of \$1.9 billion after pension reforms are put into law, and the government sees that happening in the coming weeks, according to Reuters.

On September 6, Bloomberg reported that Ukraine had mandated JPMorgan Chase & Co., Goldman Sachs Group Inc., and BNP Paribas SA for the sale of dollar-denominated sovereign bonds. Rothschild & Co. was advising on the deal.

Ukraine relied heavily on foreign funding to finance its debt until the coup in 2014 curbed its market access and drained reserves, forcing the country to ask creditors for debt relief. In 2015, bondholders accepted a 20 percent write-down and a four-year freeze on repayments in 2015.

Consequently, Ukraine has more than \$1 billion a year of debt to service between 2019

and 2027.

With the IMF involved, and considering the high yield, investors are quite keen to buy the longer-term Ukrainian debt.

This new issue is part of the \$17.5 billion aid-for-reforms program by the International Monetary Fund. The key reforms are privatization of state-owned and state-operated companies, and making the country attractive to foreign investors. As in other countries, that means low costs (in particular, low wage costs and taxes), few regulations, and incentives (generous grants, favourable prices for land and other resources).

One reform that has been of particular interest to the IMF and foreign investors is land reform which would allow foreign corporations to buy up vast tracts for low prices.

Energy reform is being encouraged by the right-wing-militia-enforced embargo on coal from Ukraine's east, creating a huge market for American anthracite. American companies will benefit (but not American miners); Ukraine will pay.

Healthcare Reform

On September 15, UCC reported that, writing for the Atlantic Council, NATO's civilian counterpart, Michael Getto advocated that healthcare reform be a top priority for Ukraine's government this fall.

Mr. Getto wrote that Ukraine's health system combines the worst of Soviet-era health care and post-Soviet corruption, leaving Ukrainians with few good options for both preventive health care and timely treatment for illness and injury.

The reform package assembled by Acting Health Minister Dr. Ulana Suprun and her team, he indicated, addresses age-old gaps and inefficiencies and eliminates corruption and outright theft in a system that has failed ordinary Ukrainians for decades, placing Ukraine near the bottom of European health rankings.

The reform is opposed, he said, by representatives of interests more intent on lining their pockets and maintaining corrupt relationships than fixing a broken system.

Suprun's reforms, if passed, will change Ukraine's health care system in at least four

ways:

First, Ukrainians will benefit from a system of government-provided insurance that will pay for a wide range of medical services.

Second, patient and family-doctor contracts will ensure consistent, annually reviewed prices for patients and mutual responsibility for both medical providers and their patients.

Third, doctors and medical professionals will be paid more. Family doctor salaries will be increased by 30%, and potentially more for top doctors.

Fourth, state subsidies will be directed to medical care for the 1.8 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) whose lives have been disrupted by "Russia's war on Ukraine in Crimea and the Donbas".

Other measures included in the reform promote prevention over treatment, and healthy lifestyles.

Dr. Suprun is a medical doctor with extensive medical experience in the United States. Her package of reforms, with its co-pay and other elements is much informed by her as a practitioner in the American system.

Saakashvili vs Poroshenko

Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko and Georgia's former president, Mikheil Saakashvili, have reportedly known each other nearly 30 years: they studied at the same university in Kyiv. For most of those three decades they thought of each other as friends, and even as allies against the big bad Russian bear.

They were so tight, in fact, that a few years ago, in 2015, President Poroshenko invited ex-President Saakashvili to come to Ukraine, to serve as Governor of Odessa Region. To take this Ukrainian position, Mr. Saakashvili had to be a citizen, which his friend President Poroshenko was happy to provide. Having studied in Ukraine and speaking Ukrainian fluently, Mr. Saakashvili fit right in.

It seems that Georgia does not allow dual citizenship, so Mr. Saakashvili lost his status as a Georgian.

As is not unknown when giant egos clash, the relationship soon soured. In November, 2016, Mr. Saakashvili left his governorship, accusing President Poroshenko of supporting corruption. President Poroshenko's office charged that Mr. Saakashvili had shown himself to be incompetent, unable to deliver reforms in Odessa.

President Poroshenko withdrew Mr. Saakashvili's Ukrainian citizenship, claiming that

the latter had provided false information on his registration form.

This move, which was clearly politically motivated, left Mr. Saakashvili with no citizenship.

Mr. Saakashvili, not one to be passive in the face of adversity, established a political party, the Movement of New Forces, and has vowed to unite the opposition to President Poroshenko. He accuses the Ukrainian president of betraying the Maidan (as the 2014 coup which deposed President Yanukovich is called) by allowing rampant corruption, with the oligarchs in full control.

However, Mr. Saakashvili stands on shaky ground. President Poroshenko could just ignore him, but is unlikely to do so. One alternative is to have him arrested and deport him to Georgia, where he is wanted on criminal charges of abuse of power and misappropriation of property. Georgia has asked for his extradition.

Mr. Saakashvili was Georgia's president from 2004 to 2013. Starting out as an internationally praised reformer, he soon moved toward enhancing his own power interfering with the judiciary.

There is some question about the level of threat Mr. Saakashvili poses to President Poroshenko. Some claim that his Movement of New forces

has little support (*Al Jazeera*, September 11, 2017), while others see him as posing a strong challenge (*Associated Press*, September 11, 2017)

Whatever his current strength, Mr. Saakashvili is working hard to buttress his position. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress, in its *Ukraine: Daily Briefing* for September 11, 2017, carried an item that:

"Ukraine's State Border Guard Service reported on September 10 that at approximately 8 PM Kyiv time at the Shehyni (Ukraine-Poland border) crossing, a group of people 'forced their way through the checkpoint and fostered an illegal violation of the state border by a group of people, including Mikheil Saakashvili and Members of Ukraine's Parliament."

"During the incident 12 National Police Officers and 5 State Border Guard Officers were injured. An investigation team from the military prosecutor's office has been dispatched to the scene, which, together with the National Police, will establish all the circumstances of the illegal mass border breach," the Border Guard Service stated."

President Poroshenko wrapped himself in a national security flag and righteous indignation over the incident, but no specific action against Mr. Saakashvili has been reported — yet.

Arms for Ukraine

For a long time, Ukraine has been waging a campaign internationally to be given lethal assistance in its war against rebellious citizens in eastern Ukraine. On September 19, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, in its *Ukraine: Daily Briefing*, reported that "The US Senate, as part of the FY 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) authorized \$500 million in security assistance, including lethal and non-lethal equipment, training, and technical assistance."

"For the first time," the report says, "the amendment authorizes assistance to bolster Ukraine's naval capabilities...."

The assistance is conditional on Ukraine's "progress toward key reforms", among which are civilian control of the military, and improved security for inventory and "sensitive foreign technologies".

In a statement following the adoption of the amendment, US Senator Rob Portman said, among much else, that, "Now, the United States Senate is taking a critical step forward in its support for Ukraine." This indicates a clear recognition that the USA is escalating its participation in the war in Ukraine.

Another interesting feature

of the report is that "lethal defensive equipment" is not mentioned, only "lethal and non-lethal equipment" is specified. This terminology is, at least, more honest, as most (and perhaps all) defensive equipment which can also be used offensively.

In any event, the concepts "defensive" and "offensive" are quite flexible. An example is contained in the report on the official opening on September 15, 2017, of a Simulation Centre at Yavoriv in Ukraine as part of Rapid Trident.

The report said that "this year's exercise will focus on defensive operations". The report indicated that, "The first combat scenario opened with an intense convoy ambush by Ukraine's special forces assets that ended with an aerial evacuation." Then, everyone could watch "an assault on an enemy position". Neither of these really sounds like a clearly defensive operation.

These demonstrations featured "the combat capabilities that Ukrainian forces have trained on at Yavoriv Combat Training Center, with the support of Partnership for Peace nations and several NATO member nations."

Stretching the Lie

(Continue from Page 7.)
better. Ostap, unable to refuse, agreed, saying: "Very well, I'll go, but I must find someone to accompany me."

Meeting Samiylo, he begged: "Do me a favour, Petrovich Samiylo, be my second as match-maker to Khivra for Parkhim."

"But will I be able to do it?" questioned Samiylo, "Never in my life have I done anything like it."

"It's not hard at all," as-

ured Ostap. "I'll start the lying and you back me up by adding to it. It is understood that matchmakers stretch the truth a little about the lad they are sponsoring in courtship, and it is accepted. So I'll tell a little lie, and you just stretch it a bit, then we'll seal the bargain with a drink and leave the young people to live on as best they know how."

"Fine, Ostap, I'll give it a try. I'll go and get my cane and stop in for you," agreed

Samlylo, and continued on his way home.

The matchmakers, after preparing themselves as was the custom, with holy bread under the arm and canes in their hands, showed up at Khivra's.

Entering the house, they crossed themselves, bowed low to the master of the household and went into the established routine about snow, the prince, the hunt for the marten, and ended up with the beautiful maiden.

Everything went well. The parents listened, then finally began to ask questions about the young man and his assets.

"Oh, he is really quite well off," assured the first matchmaker.

"What do you mean, quite well off?" said the second.

"He is very well off indeed!"

"He has oxen."

"And what oxen! The biggest you can find!"

"There are also lambs," continued the first matchmaker.

"What do you mean, lambs? They're full-grown sheep!" stretched his companion.

"There is a house."

"And what a house! A real house, new, and roomy."

"And as a husbandman he is second to none."

"Absolutely none! He manages everything himself and answers to no one."

Khivra's parents, practically smacking their lips at their daughter's good fortune, asked who the young man was.

"Why, you know him, to be sure — it's Parkhim," said Ostap.

"Tereshkovich Ponura," added Samiylo.

"Oh, you mean the one with the limp?" asked Khivra's mother.

"Well, yes, he does limp a little on one leg," answered the first matchmaker.

"What do you mean, limp a little? Not only does he limp on one leg, he barely gets around on both feet!" corrected his second.

"And isn't he a little squint-eyed?" asked Khivra's father.

"Well, yes, just a little, in one eye," said the matchmaker.

"What do you mean, in one eye? They both squint, and he can barely see at all!" filled in his friend.

"And haven't I heard that he is fond of his drink?" asked the father.

"Yes, he drinks a bit now and then," conceded Ostap.

"Now and then! Why he drinks every day, and not just a bit, he keeps at it till he's knocked off his feet!"

"Uh, the talk is that he has gotten into some trouble lately.

Won't that create some difficulties for him?" pursued the father.

"No difficulties at all! Just enough to teach him a lesson," assured the matchmaker.

"A lesson he'll surely get! Just wait till he feels the knout on his back! And it will be Siberia for him, for sure!" wound up his friend.

After such a dialogue what could Khivra's father and mother do but conduct the dishonest matchmakers to the door, stopping short of threatening them with a lawsuit and disgrace for even agreeing to represent such a suitor for their daughter. As for the young lad, he gained a reputation that stayed with him his entire lifetime!

A very evil thing, it is, to lie!

JoKe TiMe

"After trick-or-treating, a teen took a short cut home through the cemetery. Half-way across, he was startled by a tapping noise coming from the misty shadows. Trembling with fear, he spotted an old man with a hammer and chisel, chipping away at a headstone.

"I thought you were a ghost," said the relieved teen. "What are you doing working so late?"

"Oh, those idiots," grumbled the old man. "They misspelled my name!"

* * *

"What's a hipster?" asked the four-year-old.

"Someone who will wear something just to look different," was the answer. "They'll often buy clothes in thrift shops and wear thick glasses."

"Is Grandma a hipster?" he asked.

* * *

In the hardware store, a clerk asked, "Can I help you find anything?"

"How about my misspent youth," the man joked.

The clerk shot back, "We keep that in the back, between world peace and winning lottery tickets."

* * *

Seeing her friend Sally wearing a new locket, Meg asks if there was a memento of some sort inside.

"Yes," said Sally, "a lock of my husband's hair."

"But Larry's still alive."

"Yes, but his hair is gone."

* * *

The elderly couple were making their funeral arrangements. The cemetery salesman pointed out a plot that he thought they would like.

"You'll have a beautiful view of the swan pond," he assured them.

The old guy said, "Unless you're including a periscope with my casket, I don't know how I'm going to enjoy it."

Ukrainian Canadian Herald

Season's Greetings

Remember your family and friends with a message! We invite you to express seasonal greetings through an ad in the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald*, either in the December, 2017, or the January, 2018, issue. One line (name and city) on two columns is only \$10.00. A five-line ad as shown is only \$35.00. **See the diagram on this page for sizes.** Larger ads are \$5.00/col./cm.

Deadlines: November 10, 2017, for December, 2017.
December 10, 2017, for January, 2018.

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595 Pritchard Avenue,
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone 1-800-856-8242, Fax: (210) 589-3404
e-mail: auuckobzar@mts.net

or: SEASON'S GREETINGS MESSAGE
1604 Bloor Street West
Toronto ON M6P 1A7
Phone: 416-588-1639 Fax: 416-588-9180
e-mail: kobzar2@aim.com

Please indicate the desired ad size:
\$10.00 (One line: name and city only)
\$20.00 (Two-line greeting — up to 10 words)
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Issue requested:
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Greeting in: English _____ Ukrainian _____

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(up to 25 words).....	\$35.00
Five-line greeting	
Name and city	

Indefinite Detention

(Continued from Page 3.)

people who have already completed their sentence under Canadian criminal law, the government punishes migrants three-times-in-one: 1) by taking their status; 2) by removing them (often to danger and/or extreme poverty and isolation) and separating them from their families and communities; and 3) by jailing them indefinitely. Many of the affected people have spent most of their lives living and working in Canada and are rooted in their communities.

- There is absolutely no system to determine under what circumstances some detainees are held in one of three federal immigration holding centres (Toronto, Laval and Vancouver) and the rest in provincial jails.

Why not renew now?

Happy Birthday, Friends!



The **Vancouver AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of October.

Audrey Moysiuk

May you have good health, happiness and a daily sense of accomplishment as you go through life.

The **Edmonton AUUC Senior Citizens Club** wishes a happy birthday to the celebrant of October.

Sherry Kapowski

May you have good health, happiness and a daily sense of accomplishment as you go through life.

The **Welland Shevchenko Seniors** extend a happy birthday wish to October celebrants:

Clara Babiy
Lorna Jonson
Janice Robins
Rudy Wasylenky

May the coming year bring you all the best in health and happiness!

JoKe TiMe

Teacher: "Children, what does the chicken give you?"
Student: "Eggs!"
Teacher: "Very good! Now

what does the pig give you?"
Student: "bacon!"
Teacher: "Very good! Now what does the goat give you?"
Student: "Meat!"
Teacher: "Great! And what does the cow give you?"
Student: "Homework!"

JOIN US!

Join the AUUC community! Each Branch has a unique schedule of events and activities. To discover what we have to offer, contact the AUUC in your area:

AUUC NATIONAL OFFICE

National Executive Committee AUUC
595 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4
Phone: 800-856-8242 Fax: (204) 589-3404
E-mail: mail@auucobzar.net Web site: auuc.ca

VANCOUVER BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
805 East Pender Street
Vancouver BC V6A 1V9
Phone: (604) 254-3436 Fax: (604) 254-3436
E-mail: auucvancouver@telus.net
Website: www.auucvancouver.ca

CALGARY BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
3316-28 Avenue SW
Calgary AB T3E0R8
Phone: (403) 246-1231
E-mail: Calgaryhopak@shaw.ca

EDMONTON BRANCH

Ukrainian Centre
11018-97 Street
Edmonton AB T5H 2M9
Phone: (780) 424-2037 Fax: (780) 424-2013
E-mail: auucedm@telus.net

REGINA BRANCH

Ukrainian Cultural Centre
1809 Toronto Street
Regina SK S4P 1M7
Phone: (306) 522-1188 Web site: www.poltava.ca

WINNIPEG BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
591 Pritchard Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2W 2K4 ult-wpg.ca
Phone: (204) 582-9269 Fax: 589-3404
E-mail: auucwinnipeg@gmail.com

OTTAWA BRANCH

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WELLAND BRANCH

Ukrainian Labour Temple
342 Ontario Road
Welland ON L3B 5C5
Phone: (905) 732-5656

Who, What, When, Where

Toronto — AUUC Toronto Branch will be hosting a luncheon "After the Harvest" on Sunday, November 19, at the AUUC Cultural Centre, 1604 Bloor Street West. Come for a light and hearty meal. Menu, time, and price of admission to be announced. For more information call Jerry at 416-763-1599.

* * *

Welland — AUUC Welland Branch will mark the centennial of its Ukrainian Labour Temple with a concert and banquet at the ULT, 342 Ontario Road, Welland, Ontario on Sunday, October 15. The concert, featuring the Welland Ukrainian Mandolin Orchestra, starts at 2:00 p.m., with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$25.00/person. Seating is limited, you are advised to reserve as possible by calling Clara Babiy at (905) 732-5656 in Welland, Lida Braun at (905) 834-423 in Pt. St. Charles, or Rudy Wasylenky at (905) 332-9336 in Burlington.

* * *

Readers of the *Ukrainian Canadian Herald* are invited to submit items of interest to the progressive Ukrainian Canadian community for free listing in this column. The deadline for material is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication.

Sustaining Fund Donations

Eugene Szach, Winnipeg MB	\$50.00
Rudy Wasylenky, Burlington ON	50.00
Nick Pelowich, Toronto ON	20.00
Lyudmyla Pogoryelova, Toronto ON	20.00
Anne Sadelain, Edmonton AB	20.00

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND THANK THE DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY. IF YOUR DONATION HAS NOT APPEARED ON THE PAGES OF THE "UCH", WATCH FOR IT IN FUTURE ISSUES.



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From Our History

(Continued from Page 8.) the World Health Organization, the conviction that "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease," and we further believe that "The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition". In short we hold that every Manitoban has a right to proper health care".

He gave a comprehensive survey of the plans under way to establish an integrated public health and social services delivery system in the field, and outlined the manner in which the Manitoba Government expected to carry this out.

On Friday afternoon a joint WBA and AUUC Jubilee Session took place emphasizing the unity and excellent working relationships between the two organizations. Represented were AUUC National Committee members as well as fraternal societies and guests.

Peter Prokop, President of the Association of United Ukrainian Canadians greeted the convention on behalf of his organization, pointing to the inseparable links between the AUUC and the WBA throughout its 50 years of growth. The WBA was incubated in halls of the ULFTA,

forerunner of the AUUC, and then itself helped to build and support its parent organization. He concluded with the assurance that the close cooperation would continue, and wished the WBA every success in its second half century.

Peter Krawchuk greeted the convention on behalf of "Life and Word", pointing out the important role of the Ukrainian press in the establishment and building of the WBA.

There was a warm response to greetings brought from The Ukrainian Canadian by co-editor Mary Skrypnik, when she pointed out that 1972 is not only the 50th WBA Anniversary but also the 25th Anniversary of the "UC" and said: "The Ukrainian Canadian was also launched to fill a need — to provide the native born with language access to their cultural heritage and history — and even more vital — to continue in the progressive traditions and ideals established by our pioneers — those far-sighted men and women who built the two great Ukrainian organizations, the AUUC and the Workers Benevolent Association, whose 50 years of service to the community we are honouring today." She pointed to the vital role the press had played in this, and concluded: "May the WBA grow and flourish and bring new benefits to its members and the Canadian Community it serves with such



Mary Skrypnik, co-editor of *The Ukrainian Canadian* delivered greetings.

devotion."

The Convention later passed a resolution greeting "The Ukrainian Canadian on its 25th Anniversary, and urging the Ukrainian branches of the WBA to actively support the 25th Anniversary campaign of the magazine in February-March 1973 and to more effectively use this fine magazine as part of the educational program for younger people in the WBA community.

Mike Mokry, Manitoba Provincial Committee Secretary of the AUUC, read a statement on the Winnipeg Centennial year in 1974. The statement noted that because Winnipeg has a special place and meaning in the early history of Ukrainian immigration to Canada as the "Ukrainian capital" of that immigration, preparations are being made for a national festival to portray the role of Ukrainians in Winnipeg history to be presented in Winnipeg's Centennial Concert Hall which has already been booked for the long week-end of May 26th, 1974. Another plan already approved, was the holding of the AUUC-WBA Western Bowling Tournament in Winnipeg that year. The proposal for all-out help and participation for this festival was enthusiastically endorsed.

The Declaration of the Special Jubilee Session of the 24th Convention was read by National Secretary Mike Seychuk, who summed up the 50-year history of the WBA and the perspectives before it (see pages 16-17).



Peter Krawchuk extended greetings from *Zhyttia i slovo*.

One of the highlights of the Convention was the banquet at Winnipeg's glamorous North Star Inn, with President Bilecki acting as M.C., Mike Seychuk proposing a toast to the pioneers and greetings extended by Honourable Ben Hanuschak, Minister of Education for the NDP Manitoba Government, and from the City of Winnipeg by Councilman Slav Rabchak, representing the Mayor. An exciting concert program included the Winnipeg AUUC Bandurist Quintet, Toronto's noted mandolinist William Kuinka, actor John Pearce in a dramatic reading of an excerpt from a speech made by Dr. Norman Bethune in Montreal in 1930, Edmonton singer Natalka Klybanowsky, and a reading by UC editor Mitch Sago of some golden words from the final chapter of "Friends in Need". Another highlight was the successful Thursday evening presentation by AUUC cultural forces, of the musical drama "Oi ne Khodi Hrytsiu".

On Saturday the election of officers and National Committee and Audit Committee took place with the following elected: Anthony Bilecki, president; Kosty Kostiniuk, first vice-president; Walter Weremiuk, second vice-presi-

dent; Michael Seychuk, secretary; Stella Seychuk, treasurer; Harry Stefaniuk, recording secretary; Andrew Dobinsky, vice-recording secretary; Mike Yakimchuk, Mike Cherinkevich and Steve Petrash, Auditing Committee. Directors elected were Sophia Podolchuk, Vancouver, Andrew Radomsky, Edmonton; S. Potnikov, Saskatoon; P. Karpish, Thunder Bay; J. Oleschuk, Montreal; Peter Prokop, Toronto and John Hryban, Toronto.

In the evening the Toronto Mathew Popovich Choir, conducted by Joe Holosko, presented a concert (with assistance from Winnipeggers).

On Sunday delegates and observers basked in the warmth of sunshine and Manitoba hospitality at the WBA's Camp Husavick on Lake Winnipeg. Traditional dances, concert numbers and food spiced the visiting, chatting and relaxed atmosphere in the summer sun.

Every event in the five days emphasized the concluding words of the WBA History: "Fraternalism has a future because it is concerned with humanity. It has a future because it is concerned with life — with the protection, extension and enrichment of human life.



Edmonton's talented contralto Natalia Klybanowsky, accompanied by William Chomy, delighted the audience.



Members of the honorary presidium, Stella Seychuk, WBA Secretary, Professor Torchenko of the Kiev University, Peter Krawchuk, Gregory Okulevich of the Federation of Russian Canadians, and John Koronji of the Hungarian Independent Mutual Benefit Association.



A scene from the musical drama "Oy ny knody hrytsiu", presented on Thursday, August 31



The Mathew Popovich Senior Citizens Choir of Toronto, directed by Joe Holosko, were honoured guests at the convention.

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