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LITHUANIAN STUDY

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The following narrative is a thumb-nail sketch of the life of George Bart, 723 Lowry Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The material was collected in a series of interviews during the month of May, 1939 by Ben Galleb of the Minnesota Federal Writers' Project.

George Bart was born in Lithuania, near East Prussia, a few miles from a town called Gruszeschka (Bart's spelling). The original spelling of the name was Bartkus. The semi-village in which he was born was made up of farms of some 75 farmers. Bart was born on a farm, one of a large family, all of whom died before attaining maturity except Bart and his brother Joe. The high rate of martality suggests extreme poverty or some endemic factor.

At nine years of age Bart was considered old enough to be sent off to work for farmers in the vicinity. For three years his work was that of a shepherd, watching over the meager flocks of surrounding farmers. At twelve years of age this life of comparative ease was over, for he was put behind a one-horse plow. This work continued until Bart was seventeen, when he went off to work for Jewish contractors in the lumber fields. In the winter, the trees were cut down; in the summer, they were shaped into lumber at the sawmill. Bart did both types of work.

Most of the money so earned went back to the parents; such was the social pattern. When Bart was twenty-one, his parents willed the family homestead to him, according to custom. The selection was made (according to Bart) on the basis of parental judgment as to worthwhileness, rather than by arbitrary age or birth-order criteria. This was customary, irrespective of class level, he stated. However, such a judgment must be considered debatable, since there is nothing in Bart's native life-history to indicate much acquaintance with the cultural patterns of his "betters."

Bart farmed the homestead for a few years. There does not seem to have

been any notable social life. Brother Joe worked as an itinerant tailor and the farm was largely under Bart's control.

A more or less devout Roman Catholic, as are most Lithuanians, Bart attended the local church and there met the future Mrs. Bart. If there were elements of American concepts of love and romance in this courtship, Mr. Bart managed to keep it out of his account.

Lithuanian courtship and marriage customs offer an interesting pattern. Boy meets girl, as is the universal custom; in Lithuania it takes (or TOOK) an unusual form. Assume that the girl wants to come and live with the man. Her dowry is then distributed among the brothers and sisters of the prospective husband, according to their share in the homestead. (The picture is clearly that of a family, rather than an individual system of control.) The relatives of the bridegroom thus paid off, the bride moves in with her husband and life begins the cycle anew. Assume that the husband wishes to live with the bride. (No evidence was uncovered indicating factors favoring either arrangement.) His brothers then pay him off and with this money he pays off the relatives of the bride-to-be, and thus takes possession of her family's farm.

In Bart's case, the first procedure was followed. His wife came to him with a dowry of 400 rubles, which represented about two hundred dollars.

Bart was married when he was just under 25. There is some slight evidence that some proof of fertility commonly preceded marriage at Bart's class level, or it may be simply that pre-marital contacts were part of the folkways, always provided marriage followed shortly thereafter.

The evidence may be treated as follows: Lucy, the eldest daughter, was born on December 24, 1905. When the question was put as to how long the Bart's had been married before the first child arrived, Bart said "five months." His daughter Marie, present during the interview, immediately disagreed with

him. The evidence is very delicate to be sure, but it points to an honest answer on Mr. Bart's point, an answer which to his American daughter carried scandalous implications. Bart continued to insist on this fact. Another bit of evidence was the confusion that attended the attempt of the interviewer to straighten out Bart's ordinal position. At first he claimed that he was the first born. He did state positively that he was the first child born within a year after his parents' marriage. Then he remembered that his brother Joe was older. The interviewer made no further attempt to clarify this point.

When Bart was about 26 he left for America alone on money loaned from his mother's brother who lived in Minneapolis at 2428 Bloomington. Mrs. Bart came later with the first baby, Lucy, then only a few months old. That was on July 6, 1906.

Bart's first job was with the Minnesota Crsytone (or Crystal) Company, a quarrying organization. That job lasted three months. At Big Fork, Minnesota, Bart worked in the lumber camps until April 1, 1907.

Then, after two weeks, came a job on the government dam on April 18, presumably as a common laborer, which lasted until October of the next year. When that job was ended, Bart went to Wisconsin on a lumbering job, worked two weeks and then quit. Why he did so is not clear. The fact of unpleasant working conditions may have been a factor; loneliness may have been another. Bart comes from a culture area in which family solidarity means family contact.

Odd jobs kept him somewhat employed until he got a job on the Soo line as a truck carpenter, and there he has been ever since, a matter of some 30 years.

Work has not always been steady. Bart recalls only two years in which he worked more than six months of the year. Nevertheless he has managed to acquire two homes, the one in which he lives at 723 Lowry and one a few houses away (at 707) which is rented.

Bart belongs to one of the railroad brotherhoods, but is not overly pro-union. The 1922 strike, which the union lost, cost Bart all his seniority rights

and a pension which he may still get, but would like now.

As to his politics, Bart made the remark that one""can't always tell everything," a remark produced by any one or more of a number of possible motives. For example: he prides himself on his excellent memory (evidence--the dates given above). He could not remember whether he voted in 1920, the crucial point being that he was unable to recall whether or not he had his second papers by that time. He did vote for Coolidge and he did vote for Al Smith. He is also for Roosevelt, but vaguely against the New Deal. (This last is a very hazy impression.)

The Barts first lived with the uncle who had loaned them boat fare. Then followed a long series of shifts from one rented home to another, until they bought a home at 910 22nd Avenue N.E. There they lived for four years until they sold the house.

One factor in these constant shifts of residence was the oft-expressed wish of Mrs. Bart to return to the old country. With the coming of the children, and the deeper sinking of roots in the new land, this dream gradually faded away.

In October 1917, they bought the house at 707 Lowry, which they rented after buying their present home at 723 Lowry.

Data on the children:

1. Lucy was born on December 24, 1905 in Lithuania. She is now Mrs. Sparrow, married in 1927. There are two boys and a girl. Joe is 11, Tommy is 3 and Patty is 6.
2. Marie was born October 6, 1908. She is unmarried (apparently ashamed of the fact) and has been a bundler and checker at the Anchor Laundry (Central Avenue) for the last 12 years. Her first steady job was as a waitress.
3. Al, the first son, was born December 21, 1909, and works with his

father on the Soo line. His apprenticeship lasted for 10 years until he managed to acquire training at Dunwoody. He has been working as a welder for about a year.

4. George died in 1911. Revelation of this fact cancelled attempts to get birth date.

5. Anne was born on December 30, 1912. She is now Mrs. Chutters; married last June and lives in St. Paul.

6. George, named obviously in memory of the dead boy, was born April 28, 1915. Has no steady work--hangs around the house. Not exactly a problem or skeleton, but some resistance to talking about him.

7. Joe, born September 3, 1917 has a job as a junior clerk in the U.S. Naval Station at Duluth. The family is quite proud of him, and the information was offered repeatedly that the title of his position by no means accurately indicated the importance of his job or its responsibilities.

The delicate problem of the influence of the Lithuanian background on this family is best approached with some facts. Mr. Bart reads the Saule (the Sun), a Lithuanian-language newspaper published in Chicago. He does not belong to the men's Lithuanian club, shrugged off questions as to why not. In the absence of concrete knowledge on the part of the interviewer concerning the organization, no interpretation can be made of Mr. Bart's indifference. Lithuanian is freely used by all of the children. Daughter Marie, who assisted at the interview, would often break into Lithuanian to clarify a point. Mrs. Bart does not belong to the Free Lithuanian Womens' Society, and mutely indicated lack of interest. She responded with a broad smile to the magic word "Mondyke", which may indicate respect and admiration for the dominant Lithuanian family in the Twin Cities more than anything else.

Such key words as "Skirmunt" produced no response. Mr. Bart is proud of

the fact that he is a Lithuanian, but no special effort seems to have been made to keep the children in Lithuanian patterns. Mrs. Bart's wish to go back to the old country, a wish which Mr. Bart seems to regard as having been silly, is of some interest at this point.

Family solidarity is clearly manifested in the constant circulating in and out of the house of the whole Bart tribe, grandchildren and all. On Saturday afternoons all of the children can be found at some time. Brother Joe comes home from Duluth on fortnite-ends. Mutual helpfulness is at least an ideology. (The interviewer did not happen to strike on specific instances of such helpfulness; however, this does not mean that such instances do not exist.

FURTHER NOTES ON GEORGE BART AND FAMILY

1. No one remembers the date of marriage of the Barts.
2. Other Lithuanians have thrown some doubt on the pervasiveness of the Lithuanian rural primogeniture system.
3. All of the family attend church every Sunday and for religious holidays. Only exceptional events are allowed to interfere with this attendance. The boys attend in a body. There is no Lithuanian church; most Lithuanians attend the nearest Catholic church.
4. There was no dowry for any of Bart's married daughters. I could get no information about the unmarried daughter because it was she (with the help of her mother) who gave me this additional information, and I didn't like to ask her.
5. All of the Bart children turned over most of their earnings to Mr. Bart. There was never any discussion or argument on the matter. The children simply took it for granted that it had to be done so. Each

kept a dollar or two until maturity; then they paid board and room and kept the difference.

6. It was emphasized that the Barts had little control over the choice of their daughter's boy friends. This was probably another case where family solidarity set up certain patterns of permissible and non-permissible contacts which no child violated. None of the married daughters, with one exception, are married to Lithuanians. Presumably, if the Bart elders could have exercised any control, they would have exercised it in this direction.

7. Bart intends to make simply an ordinary type of will, following the American pattern. The fact that his daughter spoke of a will suggests that there is something to be willed. No attempt to follow out Lithuanian patterns appears. Perhaps the boys will receive preferential treatment, although no great fuss was made over Son Al's 21st birthday. Mrs. Bart had something of the sort in mind for favorite younger son Joe, but nothing was done.

May 10, 1939

Social-Ethnic: The Lithuanian In America — By: Alfred M. Potekin
(St. Paul, Minn.)

Introduction: This narrative is the second in a series of highlighted life-stories obtained by personal interview with St. Paul Lithuanians active in organization life. Mr. Joseph J. Bieza, 51 years of age, resides with his wife and three children, Joseph A.Jr., 21, Helen, 18, and Loretta, 13, at 498 N. Milton Street, and upper duplex in the midway residential district. The elder Bieza is the present Secretary of the men's Lithuanian-American Society, an office which he has ~~efficiently~~ held since 1934, ~~ably~~ assisted by the younger Joseph A. Jr., since 1937. The eldest daughter Helen, recently a graduate of Central High School, is the present Secretary of the Lithuanian-American Womens' Society, an organization of Twin Cities' women. Mr. Joseph, Sr., is employed on a WPA labor project; Joseph, Jr. is an independent Commercial Artist. The elder Bieza's life story follows:

"I was born in 1888 near Panevežys, Lithuania, the second ~~eldest~~ of four children, two boys and two girls. At the age of 19 I decided to sail for America, for I had heard so much of this wonderful free Land. I didn't have any school education, but I was mechanically inclined. I came to New York in 1907 and took the train right to Chicago, where I stayed with a friend. Here I got work in a bridge factory where I was from about April to November.

Hard times came on and then I was out of work. I became acquainted in Chicago with a Lithuanian by the name of Polokas, who had then just come from Wisconsin to seek a better livelihood. This man was from Thorpe, Wis., where he had owned 80 acres of farm land which he had sold together with some livestock in Chicago. He had also worked in a lumber mill at Owen, Wis. Mr. Polokas suggested to me that we should go to the Wisconsin lumber mill and we would get work.

I went with him to Wisconsin and I even paid his railroad fare. Our friendship was a natural one, for Mr. Polokas had come to America in the early 1900's from my home province in Lithuania. We arrived in Wisconsin in the latter part of 1907, and there was some snow on the ground. We talked to the mill owner; my friend introduced me, and we got work; that's all there was to it. We went to work in the box factory.

I corresponded with my brother in Lithuania who wanted to come to America. I sent him money and he soon came. He worked with

me in the mill. There we were until 1909, when my brother was laid off. It was warm, about July. I quit my job and we decided to look around.

We took a chance and came to Minneapolis, Minn. in that year. We looked for work from employment offices. We found jobs with the Shady Oak Lake Ice Company, west of Hopkins. The work was very hard, and we looked for jobs again. We both were hired by the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Works and I worked in the boiler shop as a metal machinist. Somewhat later I was employed in the Milwaukee Railroad shops as a wood machine operator.

I got married in 1916 to a Minneapolis Lithuanian girl who was born in the hard coal region of Pennsylvania and whose parents had settled in Minnesota. In 1917 my boy Joseph was born at 3813 E. 41st St. Helen was born in 1921 at the same address. The unforgettable railroad strike of 1922 left our small family in desperate need when the shop doors closed. After Loretta was born our family moved to Chicago. I found work in the International Harvester Company. That was in 1926. In 1930, at the start of the depression I again became one of the unemployed.

In that year we came to St. Paul and we have lived here since, with our relatives. In 1934 I became a member of the Lithuanian men's society and was elected to the Secretaryship. Joseph Jr. joined in 1937."

Note: Mr. Bieza, Sr. related an unusual circumstance dealing with the birthplaces of his children. Joseph and Helen were born at 3813 E. 41st St., and Loretta was born at 4100 39th Ave.So. Yet all three children, in a duration of 9 years, were born in the same lot, some 150 feet in length and 73 feet wide, facing different streets, but in different houses.

Minnesota Federal Writers' Project. Ben Gallob.

The following narrative is a brief sketch of the life of Mrs. John Chase, 330 Quincy Street N.E., Minneapolis, Minnesota. The material was collected in an interview on May 25, 1939 by Ben Gallob of the Minnesota Federal Writers' Project.

Mary Jody was born on a Lithuanian farm in 1889 near Vilno. (Date approximate.) The farm was made up of about 18 American acres and had the usual quota of cows, chickens, pigs and other livestock. She was the third child.

She does not recall that her early life was one of particular hardship. There were the usual tasks for a young girl, which included some light work with the livestock. For diversion there were the gatherings in farm homes of the younger people, chaperoned by their elders. Church and such events as weddings helped break the routine of hard work.

When Mary was 15 she left the farm to come to the new country to live with her uncle, Vincent Jody, who accompanied her on the trip. She lived at 1512 First street. Among the visitors in this home was John Chase to whom she was married on September 30, 1914.

John Chase was also a Lithuanian, born in a different section of Lithuania. Mrs. Chase met him in America. He learned a trade as an apprentice to a tailor in Lithuania. When he was 20 he went to England and then came to America. In Minneapolis he sought Lithuanians, thus found Vincent Jody and met Mary.

They bought the house in which they now live at 330 Quincy and there three children were born. The first child was Chester, born July 15, 1915. He finished high school, got some training in an electrical training school, dropped out and has had a series of odd jobs since. He lives at home with his family. The second child, Julia, died at 7 years of age. Virginia, born November 30, 1925, is now in the eighth grade at Sheridan school.

When the interviewer commented on the small size of the Chase family, Mrs. Chase made a long statement on the inadvisibility of large families. She argued that even the selfish view that children on a farm are an economic asset is a hard way to regard the matter. "What happens to the children when they grow up? There's no place for them." The interviewer pointed out that there was usually something provided for every member of the family, but Mrs. Chase answered that often there was very little to divide. Ten acres might support a small family. Divided among three people, it furnished nothing for any of them.

Mr. Chase (the original spelling of the name is Chasses) has worked all of his life for various custom tailors. He now does such work in St. Paul. Mrs. Chase spoke with contempt of cheap dry-cleaning and tailoring establishments, and commented with pride on the speed with which her husband had learned American tailoring skills and fashions.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Chase read the Lithuanian-language daily, Vilnis. She much prefers the weekly Keleivis which has more feminine features--fashions, recipes, household hints, etc.

She has belonged to the Lithuanian Womens' Society for many years, and knew most of the women who organized it. When they asked her to join she did so, although she questions the value of the organization. Asked by the interviewer what she got from her membership, she said with a laugh, "Nothing!" She qualified this by stating a belief in the social values of the club as a means of keeping alive Lithuanian ideas, customs, and their native tongue.

She was disturbed over the rapid disappearance of Lithuanaian characteristics in the Lithuanians of the Twin Cities, but felt that nothing could be done about it. "We need leadership," she said, "and we

haven't got it. Oh yes, Mrs. Mondyke (president of the Womens' Society) does all right."

She has no outside interests except for the Society. Housekeeping and some sewing keep her busy. The Chase family has never had a garden, but Mrs. Chase has flowers which she works on whenever she has a chance. She was very enthusiastic about the therapeutic value of such gardening, and says that she feels like a new woman after an hour with her flowers. She would like to read more, especially Lithuanian-language material, but usually has too much to do.

In 1935 she made a trip to Lithuania with money saved during the years before her marriage. One of the strongest impressions she brought back was that the standard of living maintained by her relatives and contemporaries was very low indeed. She stated that she believed this was due to their lack of ambition; however, she later qualified this by saying that a great deal of the difficulty was caused by overcrowding on the land, and that people were hampered by the age-old notions as to what as desirable and what was not.

The interviewer told her of the remarks of another Lithuanian woman concerning life in America to the effect that one had to rush too much. Mrs. Chase didn't feel that way and argued in return that the incomparably higher standard of living was worth such a trifling cost, if not more. She wouldn't go back to Lithuania permanently under any circumstances.

Social Ethnic - The Lithuanians In America. (Minnesota) By Alfred M. Potekin.

Introduction: The following narrative comprises the highlights in the true life story of Joe Jwanouskos, founder of St. Paul's Lithuanian-American Society in 1913. Mr. Jwanouskos resides with his family at 862 Lakeview Avenue in St. Paul, on the residential northeast shore of picturesque Lake Como. He is 59 years of age, in robust health and extremely energetic and active. Tall and heavy-set, he has a clean-shaven, ruddy complexion, with white, closely-cropped locks and mustache, and steel-gray, twinkling eyes. He speaks loudly and forcefully, with a noticeable foreign accent and rises occasionally to his full height to convey to the interviewer an accentuated comparison of his boyhood days with the present, the pain of old-world oppression and persecution and the freedom and joy of American life and citizenship. Mr. Jwanouskos told this interviewer that he is "half-and-half retired, a sort of successful inventor," having developed "some sort of wind-mill invention." He is a "gentleman farmer," the proud owner of a profitable Northern Minnesota farm, and has earned an independent living for his offspring from royalties gleaned for the past 10 years from inventions. His story follows:

"I was born in 1880 near Moscow, in Kovno Province, Russia, of well-to-do parents descended from aristocrats on one side and humble people on the other. I inherited my grandfather's characteristics, mainly an independent nature, free of obligations and worry. I attended a German Institution of higher learning and studied construction engineering. I left school in my early 'twenties, and, together with a pal, a German boy, decided 'to see the world.' In 1902, we shipped out on a magnificent ship, the 'Koenigsburg,' with a group of wealthy persons on a world cruise. For two-and-one-half years we sailed the seven seas, touching for days and sometimes weeks at such ports as Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Madagascar, Africa, South America, the United States, the Suez Canal, Cape Horn, China, Japan, and dozens of out-of-the-way tropical places and Asiatic and European ports. After some three years of endless sailings and wanderings, we decided to become landlubbers and settle down.

We embarked from Rotterdam, Holland, for America, the 'Golden Land,' and arrived in New York in September, 1906. We then took a train for Philadelphia, Pa., and arrived on a Tuesday morning. We sought employment

the same day, and went to work the next day at the Baldwin Locomotive Works. I earned $27 a week, a salary and bonus, which brought exclamations of admiration and envy from my newly found acquaintances, for $27 a week was a lot of money in those days. But 'easy come easy go,' I spent my money as fast as I made it!' The following January, I took a wife, a fine Lithuanian girl who had then recently come from the old country. Soon we had two children. Then came the terrible money panic, in 1907, 1908, and 1909. I was without work, without a future, and the father of a family. I became desperate and sick. My family was in want of food and warmth. They took me to the Pennsylvania Hospital, where I lay in fever and great mental suffering. My good wife managed to secure necessities for her and the children, food from my Lithuanian and German friends, and coal from the railroad tracks. After I was released from the hospital, I began to inquire about work in other parts of the United States. I asked for advice in a German paper and from my German friends, and I was told that work could be found in the Northwest or South.

I borrowed $10 from my friends. I rode the freight cars in the direction of the Northwest after I told my wife that I would write her soon. In May 1909, I arrived in St. Paul, and saw Minnesota's capital city for the first time. I asked for a job at the old Soo Line tunnel on Westminster Street. I got the job, doing construction work, but I was still too weak from my sickness and the place was too damp, so I quit. I went to the Great Nor thern Shops on Dale Street and got a job. I boarded at 605 Van Buren Street. She loaned me some money, which I sent to my wife to come to St.Paul. My family came here about two months later and we were very happy.

I drew about $10 in advance from my salary which I paid down on three nice lots on Colne Street. Then I went into the construction business. Now I was in fine circumstances. I longed for people of my nationality, good Lithuanian people for friends. In 1911, I brought some Lithuanian relations to St. Paul from Pennsylvania, my wife's brother, two sisters and several

others, altogether about half-a-dozen. We were very happy, as I also had found other Lithuanian people here. Then we began to talk about a Lithuanian organization, to help other needy Lithuanians here."

In 1913, he, together with a brother-in-law, James Zanouskos, and other interested Lithuanians of the community realized the need of a Lithuanian organization in their adopted city, an organization which would be self-sustaining and a sort of mutual benefit association to help their less-fortunate Lithuanian friends.

Thus, on a warm summer evening, on June 22, 1913, some dozen hopeful Lithuanians met at Joe's home at ~~1901~~ 1091 Colne Street, and gathered in the back yard. Mrs. Jwanoukos set out chairs for the visitors and served doughnuts and refreshments. Mr. Jwanouskos initiated the informal proceedings and thus was born St. Paul's original Lithuanian Organization, held together for some 26 consecutive years by its original founder, who is still actively engaged as a Judge or Advisor, or as he told this interviewer, a "trouble-shooter."

Many of the organization's present members are a part of the original group, and can clearly recall that warm summer evening back in June 1913, when they ~~gave birth to~~ founded St. Paul's Lithuanian-American Society.

May 10, 1939

Social-Ethnic: The Lithuanian In America (St. Paul, Minn.) By: Alfred M. Potekin

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Introduction: Mrs. Frank Mondyke, 49 years of age, resides with husband, and son unmarried, Charles, 26, in a one-family, 2-story bungalow at 207 E. Page Street, in St. Paul's residential Riwerview District overlooking the South bank of the Mississippi. Mrs. Mondyke is a typical American housewife, of Lithuanian birth and heritage. She is an extremely active member of the Twin Cities' Lithuanian-American Womens' Society and a sister-in-law of Mrs. Anthony Mondyke, of Minneapolis, President of the Womens' Society. Mrs. Frank Mondyke is the Chairman of the so-called "Sunshine Committee," the sick-benefit visitation group. Her knowledge ~~and attachment~~ of the Lithuanian groups of the Twin Cities has served as an invaluable source to this interviewer who acquired a list of Lithuanian persons active in the various organizations of which Mrs. Mondyke is well recognized. Her daughter, Ellen, 27, has one child, Marie, 4. Ellen's husband is of German extraction. The son Charles is employed at the Waldorf Paper Products Company. Mr. Frank Mondyke has been employed at the Swift & Company plant at South St. Paul since 1916. The family has resided in their present home since 1919. Her story follows:

"I was born in 1890 in Lithuania, some 21 miles from Kaunas, the Capital. When I was about 19 I sailed all alone to America from Rotterdam, Holland. After I stepped upon the shores of this strange Land, I took the train from New York to Tomakwa (? check spelling), Pennsylvania, where my Aunt, my mother's sister resided and ran a saloon. I worked as a bartender for my Aunt. About 16 months later, in 1912, I married Frank Mondyke there. My husband came to Pennsylvania in 1907 from Lithuania. He had served in the Russo-Japanese War and had been discharged in 1906. Then the next year he came to America also to an Aunt in Pennsylvania. In 1911 we met and marriage resulted the following year.

My husband worked as a miner in the hard coal mines, a terrible hard work which made him very sick. He had a brother, Anthony Mondyke, living in St. Paul (moved to Minneapolis 3 years ago) and desired to join him. My girl Ellen was born in Pennsylvania and when she was 10 months old we came to St. Paul. My husband was eager to find the work to which he had been trained, mechanic or blacksmithing.

We rented a house on Westminster Street for which we paid $12 a month rent. My boy Charles was born there November 3, 1913. We have

also lived on Olive and on John Streets. (now usurped by railroad freight network in St. Paul's industrial Eastside) Since coming to St. Paul, my husband has worked at blacksmithing and machine work for many years at the Mahle Wagon Company on Ninth Street and the old Westphal Wagon Works on Eighth and Ninth Streets. In 1916 he went to work for the Swift & Company plant in South St. Paul. He is now eligible for a pension but continues to work there.

We bought this home May 1, 1919 and have lived here since. My boy has been with the Waldorf Paper Products Co. for the past 9 years. My husband became a citizen of this country in 1913."

note: The Mondyke family subscribes to 2 Lithuanian-American newspapers: the "VILNIS", (a daily from Chicago, Ill.) and the "SAULE" (Shenandoah, Pa.) a twice-weekly publication.

Social Ethnic--The Lithuanians in America (Minnesota) by Ben Gallob

Introduction: Mrs. Mary Pappas, who keeps a boarding house at 1119 6th St. S.E. (University student district), is a member of the Lithuanian Women's Club in the Twin Cities, though not extremely interested in it, and thinking of dropping out. She is also a member of the Householders' Association, an association of those who take student boarders and roomers. The following sketch of her life was written from a personal interview.

She was born in Lithuania, of Lithuanian-born parents but does not know in what section. When she was eighteen months old the family moved near London, England. The family name was puttas.

She states her father was well off once, but lost most of his money. She was reticent on this point. Father and mother Puttas kept a boarding house in England, and she, the first born child, had to work in it. When she was twelve, she went out to work for an English farmer, helping with a dozen cows and with the housework. There was a large family, and her duties were very heavy.

The parents finall decided there would be more opportunity in America, and the father came to Lancaster, Minnesota. Two years later Mary came to Minnesota, with her mother. In Lancaster she worked in a hotel, 16 hours a day for $8.00 per month. She made a trip to Winnipeg to visit a friend from England, and there secured work in a laundry. She was a regular attendant at church (Roman Catholic) and here she met a German-born citizen who showed her pictures of a large home which he said he owned, and told her of his steady earnings. Tired of drudgery, she married this man, Jim Pappas, when she was 18.

The house of which he had boasted turned out to be a ramshackle place, but with the help of her husband she got it ready for boarders. This involved papering 18 rooms, getting furniture by vague means, and attending to a thousand and one details which fell largely on her own shoulders. However, with her ambition and energy she seems to have made something of a success of this venture, for she says that just before the war they were offered $7000 for the house, which they refused.

M Mary's first child, a son, was born at about the first anniversary of her marriage. She had three other children, all girls.

Her husband seems to have been irresponsible, liked to go out with other men, was something of a gambler. Her health began to fail under heavy work, and due to his neglect the boarding house began to go downhill. Mary then took her four children and ran off to her mother and father, who had moved to International Falls, Minnesota. She recalls that she left him once before, and joined her parents in Virginia, Minnesota, but Jim persuaded her to return. She says he threatened physical violence, was very reticent about this, possibly he sometimes beat her. This time she came to International Falls to stay. She worked first in the sawmill, then in a boarding house. She kept her children clean, put them all through high school. She is proud because they were so well dressed at graduation that they told her everyone else thought the Pappas' were well-to-do. Her son, Alfred, took a high school prize in debating.

Mary was divorced from Pappas in 1924.

Some time after this, Jim Pappas came to Minneapolis, and was working as a spotter at Gross Brothers. He sent word to Mary that he wanted to see his children, and provided train fare for Alfred and Lillian, the oldest girl, to come to the city. Both of them went to live with Jim, and both entered the University. Lillian worked part time at Gross Brothers, also. She finished her course, got a job as a dental hygienist at Little Falls, South Dakota, where she is today. Alfred, in the University, won a little fame on one of Bierman's football teams. Mary meanwhile was up in International Falls, still running a boarding house. She did not know, she says, how Al was suffering from undernourishment and the beating he was taking at football, but when she did find out, she caught a ride on a fruit truck to the city, and fed and pampered her son back to health.

Then in 1932 she decided to move to Minneapolis herself. She had a little capital, and with this she bought a boarding house near the University. Full of pity

for students who might be suffering as her son had suffered, she spent too much money for food and charged too little. She was soon broke. But worse than that, Al meanwhile had fallen in love with a blonde girl who as Mary says was "on the make."

Mary blames herself for this marriage. "Maybe if I hadn't been so cranky from overwork, and so short with my boy when he tried to confide in me, he might not have married her. But I always used to drive him away. Finally one day he sat crying on the doorstep, went away, and next thing I knew he got married.

Several months ago Mary took over the boarding house at 1119 6th St. S.E.

She says Al got a job on the Minneapolis Star as staff artist, works also for the Shopping News. Has enough income, she says, except that his wife is a sponge for money. Mary feels the wife is ruining Al, -- she knows nothing about cooking, has no compassion for her husband, hates his mother and refuses to allow him to visit her. When he does come to see Mary, the wife is usually with him, standing and waiting for him in a hostile way. Only sometimes he manages to sneak in, give his mother a kiss and hug, and run away.

Mary's youngest daughter, Frances, married recently in Chicago, to a boy who promptly lost his job. Frances is pregnant, is staying with the sister in Little Falls, Lillian. Mary expects this young couple will be coming to live with her.

Mary just makes things go. A Pole, named Mike, lives in the house, his relationship to Mary not clear. He does odd jobs around the place, is Mary's only helper. Mary's social contacts are few. Her spare time is spent making artificial flowers. She could add a good bit to her income, from this skill, if she could make more of them. Arthritis, however, has crippled her back and her fingers, and makes this work difficult and slow. She has also been making rag rugs to sell. The Householders' Association seems to offer her some social life; she is a member of the Lithuanian Women's club but not very interested, said she might drop out of it.

She lives in one of the rooms at the boarding house. This room has a cot, a small stove behind a screen, a large bureau and a piano, also some odds and ends

of smaller furniture. She kept apologizing, during the interview (which she had apparently forgotten her appointment for) because the room did not look better.

She cannot imagine that her life would be of interest to anyone. Says it was just one long story of hard luck, hard work, and ambitions that came to nothing. When reminded that bringing up a family and educating them is in itself a considerable ambition she mourns because Al is unhappy, and because her daughter's husband is out of work, and they have a baby coming.

Mary receives no relief or other aid, so far as the interviewer could determine. She apparently did not apply, either, for general hospital care in her arthritis, went to a private doctor some time ago, has been "doctoring" herself since that time.

Some two years ago, when she was ill and thought she might be going to die, this Mary Pappas dictated a confessional story of her life to a younger friend. This manuscript she has in her possession, but is afraid to show it to an interviewer, lest someone "sell it to some newspaper."

Social Ethnic - The Lithuanian In America (St. Paul, Minn.) By: Alfred M. Potekin

Introduction: The following narrative tells the factual life story of THOMAS A. SIELENI, active president of St. Paul's men's Lithuanian-American Society. Well-liked, well-informed, and extremely popular with members of his nationality and organization, Mr. Sieleni typifies the average naturalized-American-Lithuanian of old-world birth, whose American-born offsprings proudly acclaim their Lithuanian heritage and blood, and cherish their American birth. Many times during this ~~delightful reminiscent~~ interview, Mr. Sieleni stopped to check sobs and emotional tears as his vivid memory disclosed moments of old-world suffering and oppression, of want and destitution, and heart-aching longing for the dear ones he left behind. ~~... forever, separated by that great watery-highway, the Atlantic Ocean, dividing the old-world from the new.~~

And so this young immigrant turned his back to his ~~blooded~~ kin and faced a strange, unknown world, ~~but a free, excitable golden land, where~~ opportunity called to all men. Surely Mr. Sieleni's ~~highlighted~~ life story speaks for all his fellow-country men, and ~~sets~~ a fitting pattern for all sons and daughters of foreign birth whose youthful eyes were fixed westward upon the American horizon at the turn of the twentieth century. Their rugged personalities, ambitions and progressiveness furnished the ingredients for this huge "melting pot", ~~...~~ America!

Mr. Sieleni, his wife Regina, and four sons and a daughter, Joseph, Anthony, Edward, Bernard, and Regina, live in the upper duplex of their own two-family house at 705 Oakdale Avenue in St. Paul's hilly Riverview district, ~~the south division of this Capital City which is severed by the historic Mississippi River.~~ Mr. Sieleni became a member of the men's society March 23, 1924, and is now serving his second term as president, having spent some 7 years in that official capacity. His varied employment in this country has been very colorful. He is employed as air-brakeman with the Chicago Great Western ~~Ry.~~, having served that great rail network for the past quarter-century. His wife is an active member of the Twin Cities' women's organization. The children, all St. Paul born, range in age from 25 to 14, as follows: Joseph, eldest, 25, a member of the men's society since 1934, is employed as a local bartender; Regina, 23, a registered nurse, was graduated in 1938 from St. Joseph's Hospital and is employed at the Fort Snelling Post Station Hospital; Anthony, 20, assistant treasurer of the society and a member since 1936, is employed at the Fuller Paste Co. as shipping clerk; Edward, 16, attends Roosevelt Junior High School; Bernard, 14, is a student at St. Michael's Parochial School.

~~Mr. Sieleni's life story follows:~~

"I was born December 29, 1880, in Shteiku, Lithuania, a little farming community, about five miles from the German border, the youngest of six children, half girls and half boys. ~~I was one of two twin boys.~~ My twin brother, Charlie, also came to America, but I will tell you about him later. After I left the 'old-country,' I never saw my family again, but I know that my parents died very old; my father was 94, my mother was 89. My father took any farm work offered him, and my mother worked by washing clothes for the mill-workers.

I had no education, whatsoever, but I had a very good head and I

learned my native language from church books and other religious publications. My father taught the youngsters of the village from religious books which were secured from roving vendors. And so I gleaned study by stealing my father's texts and reading to myself. My older brother worked in a brewery owned by a Jewish man named Glick. I used to bring his lunch to him. When I was about 7 years old, my father offered my services to a neighbor farmer to tend his small herd of cows and flock of sheep. My salary was $3 a year. One day when I brought ~~by~~ my brother's lunch, the brewer asked me if I wanted to work for him. I was very happy to do so. He paid me twenty cents (20¢) a day to make myself handy there. When I was 13 years old, the owner offered me $11 a month for my services. I worked there for 4 years.

" Mr. Flater, a very wealthy Lithuanian who owned many, many acres of land and the brewery which was rented to the man Glick, had fine carriage horses and coachmen and servants. My brother who had married then, went to work for this millionaire as a coachman. He began to be troubled by faulty eyesight and told his employer of this condition, whereupon he resigned his coachman's job. I was about 17 then. My brother went back to work in the brewery. In this same year, the wealthy owner went on a vacation to some warm southern European country; I think France. He was driven by two coachmen who worked in relays. Reaching their destination, the drivers agreed to meet at a planned point and continue their homeward journey together. Enroute home, they both got drunk and their teams became deeply mired in a wayside puddle, ~~which required assistance from villagers.~~ Upon their return, both carriages were damaged badly. The ~~brewery~~x heads of the estate wired to the vacationing boss requesting information in disposing of the coachmen's shameful misconduct. The return message contained orders to fire them, and to place me in the head coachman's job. I was notified and was very happy.

I handled this job from 17 years old to 25, and in all this time I was personal coachman to the millionaire.

"At that time, a married girl who was from our village and was then in America sent a traveling pass for her youngest brother near our home to come to America. This boy drank very heavily and he evidently tried to sell the ticket for drink. His father took the pass away from him and asked me if I wanted to go to America. I can't tell you how happy I was to come to this land of which we had heard so much about, but how sad I was to leave my family and home. I was then 25 years old. After I completed preparations for the long trip, I was driven across the German border and the customs officers and finally reached Bremen.

"I left Bremen on May 12, 1907 and reached Chicago on June 19, in the morning. My boat had docked at Baltimore and I took the train to Chicago. Charles Gragaites, the Lithuanian girl's husband, met me at the Baltimore & Ohio depot, and gave me a wonderful welcome. After about 3 weeks there, I found work doing tunnel laboring and did this work for a year. In the meantime, my twin brother came to America with another man and had stopped in Kensington, Ill. I knew nothing about his coming. One Sunday while eating dinner, my landlord said that a man was asking for Tom Sieleni. I went to the door, and lo! and behold! I saw my brother Charlie! We were happy like two kids. I accompanied my brother back to Kensington and we both worked in the Griffin Foundary for about 6 months.

"Then came bad times. We both lost our jobs. The landlord told us that if we didn't find work soon we would both be thrown out. I told my brother ... I said, 'Charlie, don't be excited tonight, I'll go back to Chicago to our friends. I'll find work for us or get money somehow.' Charlie said, 'O. K. Tom, send me money at the butcher shop.' I went back to Chicago to the Gragaites, and my former landlord. The missus was home,

and the mister was working. She was happy to see me, but worried about us. She said, 'How do you feel?' I said, 'Pretty bad, I have no job and no money.' She put on her coat and said, 'Tom, stay with my baby, while I go shopping in town.' I stayed with the child for several hours and finally she came back and began to prepare supper. Then her husband Charlie came home from work. He was happy to see me. 'Hello, Tom!' he exclaimed, 'how are you?' I was very despondent. I replied, 'too bad, Charlie, too bad.!' He said, 'What's the matter?' I told him I had no job and no money. His face softened, he grasped my shoulder and said, 'Cheer up, my friend, you had nothing when you came here, so what's the difference.' He pointed to am adjoining room and said, 'There's plenty of room here and plenty of food. I'm making $3 a day, and I've got $4,000 in the bank; make yourself at home.'

"I arose early the next morning to look for work. My friend said, 'Aw stay in bed, never mind, I wont throw you out.' Nevertheless, I searched for work and found it in a sugar factory near Canal Street. I shoveled coal for 6 months, 7 days a week, from freight cars, for 15¢/an hour or $1.80 per day. After I had worked for two weeks, I got my pay on a Saturday night and arrived at home. My landlord asked if I wanted to see my brother. I wanted to very much, but I was kind of short of money. He said, 'The h--- with the money; forget about the board.' He took out $25 which he handed me and told me to bring my brother here.

"That night I went down there to Kensington and found my brother. That was in 1908. My brother was $10 in debt and out of a job. He was glad to see me. I asked him how much he owed, and he replied 'about $8.' I paid off. Then we got together with a couple other boys there and celebrated. We got drunk; we had a good time. Then we both went back to Chicago. My brother found work with the Great Western Railway as a carpenter. I went to the International

Harvester Company where I was employed for some 6 months. In July I was asked to work at the Great Western Railway and started on Monday morning. There I remained for about 2 years, and worked as a coach cleaner. One day the cooks didn't show up. Pat Healy, the boss, asked me if I wanted a job as second ~~chief~~ cook. I accepted. My run was from Chicago to Byron, Ill., about 80 miles. I couldn't speak hardly any English and I was the butt of many jokes by my fellow workers, who chuckled loud and teasingly at my ignorance of American dishes. But I liked my work."

(Note: at this part of the interview, Mr. Sieleni remembered a phase of his American business experience which he had neglected to mention.) He continued:

"Between my experiences at Kensington and Chicago, I did odd jobs. Between this period I had saved about $150. Then a fellow asked me if I wanted to tend bar. His name was Tony Burgess. I tended bar at Fourteenth & Halstead Streets for about a year-and-~~one~~-a-half for $25 per ~~week~~ month and room and board. Then another Lithuanian asked me if I wanted to come into a saloon as a partner. I accepted the offer and we both put in $150 and bought a saloon on Sixteenth & Halstead Streets. After about 14 months we saw that we couldn't get along, and I asked my partner to buy his half or sell my share to him. He didn't want to, so I sold him my half for $1100. ~~Incidentally~~ Incidentally, he ran the place for about 9 days and then closed up. He was a bad business man.

"Then I returned to the employ of the Great Western Railway. Soon I married a fine Lithuanian girl in Chicago, and while on a honeymoon to St. Paul we decided to stay here. I found work in the Hotel St. Paul. I was a second roast cook. But the Italian cook put in another Italian and I quit. I had asked the chef to give me the chance as the first roast cook, but he favored one from his own nationality. Somehow I stopped at the Villaume Box & Lumber Company on the West Side, and I went to work in the wood shop. I worked 2 years as a helper, and when my boss was promoted, I took his place.

"We lived on Rondo Street for about one month. Then we moved to West Fairfield Street which was close to the factory and owned by the company. Our rent was $8 per month. I served in the shop of that box company for about 4 years. On June 3, 1917, I bought our present home on Oakdale. I notified Villaume's sons, my employers, of my purchase, and gave notice that I was moving from their Fairfield Street dwelling, for, you see, they took out the rent from my salary. They accepted, but on July 3, they deducted the rent from my wages. I got mad and quit.

"On July 11, I went back into the employ of the Chicago Great Western Railway as a car repairer; my salary commenced from July 12. I am still in their employ and work as an air brakeman. Pretty soon I will be eligible for a good pension. I became a citizen in Chicago in 1912. All my children were born in St. Paul. Joseph and Regina were born on West Fairfield Street, and Anthony, Edward and Bernard came into this world in my present home."

Data on children:

1. Joseph, 25, is a member of the Lithuanian Mens' Society; he joined in 1934. At the present time he is employed as a local bartender.

2. Regina, 23, a registered nurse, was graduated in 1938 from St. Joseph's hospital and is employed at the Fort Snelling Post Station hospital.

3. Anthony, 20, assistant treasurer of the Society and a member since 1936, is employed at the Fuller Paste Company as shipping clerk.

4. Edward, 16, attends Roosevelt Junior High School.

5. Bernard, 14, is a student at St. Michael's Parochial School.

LITHUANIAN STUDY

Minnesota Federal Writers' Project

The following narrative is a sketch of the life of Mrs. M. Skriebes, 2211 23rd Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The material was collected in an interview on May 23, 1939 by Ben Gallob of the Minnesota Federal Writers' Project.

Josephine Terebeyza was born in Lithuania in the section which was then part of Russia. She thinks that she is about 64 years of age, but this is an approximate estimate for no vital statistics were kept in families that lived on farms. She was the fourth child in a family of three sons and three daughters.

Her first husband whom she met and married in Lithuania was Dominic Dombroski. This name does not sound Lithuanian, but the subject insisted that this was the correct spelling. Her youngest daughter corroborated this.

Life on the Lithuanian farm was described by Mrs. Skriebes as work, interspersed with such festive occasions as weddings, church activities and funerals. Marriage meant simply the addition of responsibility for children. Her first child, Joseph, was born in Lithuania about 1894, roughly a year after marriage. Her second child, also born in Lithuania in 1903 was Anita (or Antonina).

In 1905 Mr. Dombroski came to America and shortly afterwards his family followed. For a short time they lived with relatives at Port Washington, Wisconsin, and then they went to Chicago where Mr. Dombroski died. Mrs. Dombroski then moved to Minneapolis where she operated a rooming house at 1620 6th Street South. This house was purchased in 1920 and was operated on a profitable basis until it was lost. Resistance of subject to discussion of this loss accounts for the lack of information on this point.

Among Mrs. Dombroski's roomers was John Skriebes, also a Lithuanian. She married him in 1908 and bore two children by him, Bernard and Susan. Bernard, born August 21, 1912, was for a time a truck driver with the Wilson Meat Packing Company, and is now a salesman with this concern. He is unmarried and lives at home. Daughter Susan is married, and both she and her husband live with the Skriebes. Susan is twenty.

Joseph Dombroski, the first child of Mrs. Skriebes, is married and has one youngster. The Skriebes have lost track of him. He had a barber shop in Chicago for some time, and then moved to Beloit, Wisconsin. No correspondence has been exchanged for many years. Considerable resistance and evasion of questions about Joseph suggests that there ~~is~~ is material here which is a source of shame to the Skriebes.

The second child, Anita, died July 25, 1935. She was unmarried. Cause of death unascertainable, but interviewer gained impression that it was from pnuemonia.

Mr. Skriebes works at the Ornamental Iron Works where he has been for the past quarter of a century. He and his son Bernard are usually home evenings and like to sit and talk. About five years ago a Lithuanian festival was held in St. Paul, and both men participated in it.

Mrs. Skriebes claims that she was one of the first Lithuanians in the Twin Cities, having come to Minneapolis in 1906 or 1907. She also claims that she was one of the founders of the Free Lithuania Society, a claim later challenged (though not in her presence, of course) by Mrs. Janosky, now vice-president of the Society. Mrs. Skriebes explained that she could have held an officer's position except for the fact that she could neither read nor write. She explained this by saying that in Lithuanian the young people had had no opportunity to learn to read and write.

She has two boarders at present in addition to her family. One of them was referred to casually as the landlord, permitting the deduction that the house is rented with a reduction for the landlord's room and board. The house is a large one, but no attempt has been made to keep it attractive. There is little grass and no flowers of any kind. If it is true, as Mrs. Skriebes suggested, that her husband and Bernard have plenty of leisure, the American yearning for lawns has not manifested itself here.

After taking the Sun and the News (Lithuanian language papers) for almost 15 years, the Skriebes have dropped both. Neither Bernard or Susan read Lithuanian. Occasionally Mr. Skriebes wanders down to a newsstand on Washington Avenue and gets a copy of Saule (the Sun). Mrs. Skriebes explained that there was no one left to read, which does not make much sense. Her children never could read, and by her own admission she cannot; this left her husband to do the reading in the family. Perhaps there is a growing lack of interest in such matters on the part of the whole family to which Mr. Skriebes responded in this fashion.

Mrs. Skriebes does indicate some interest in Lithuanian matters. She met the interviewer at the door with the remark that pretty soon Hitler would swallow up what was left of Lithuania. It should be noted that she misunderstood the interviewer's object and thought that he wanted some information from her about Lithuania. Her remark may then be considered merely a conversational bit, or it may really indicate a keen interest. She admitted that she would like to make a return visit to Lithuania, although she doubts whether she would recognize anything. She would not like to return permanently.

Asked to compare American life with the Lithuanian way of life she

declared, "In old country, in summer, work, in winter, rest a little. Here work all the time. Watch clock. Didn't watch clock in old country. Too much rush. Easier, some ways. Washing machine, iron. Things. But too much rush."

She has relatives in Chicago, Cicero and Rockford, Illinois. There is some correspondence. Most of the Skriebes' social life revolves around friendships nourished through the Mens' and Womens' Lithuanian Societies, although both children lead social lives of their own.

Main Fed. Writers P.

Social Ethnic - The Lithuanian In America
(St. Paul, Minn.)

By: Alfred M. Potekin

Introduction: The following narrative is a ~~highlighted "thumb-nail-sketch"~~ sketch of the life of ANTONE STIKLIS, 47 years of age, bachelor, and long-standing member of St. Paul's men's Lithuanian-American Society which he serves ably as treasurer, and popular member of the men's organization of Minneapolis. Mr. Stiklis has been a resident of St. Paul for more than 25 years, a member of the Lithuanian Society of St. Paul since 1916, member of the Minneapolis organization since 1924, and treasurer of the former for the past four (4) years.

~~His story follows:~~

"I was born on July 22, 1892, in the rural village of Janapolis, in Lithuania, the third eldest of a large family of children, 6 girls and 6 boys. My father was a blacksmith. My parents were a little 'better-fixed' than many of our villagers and provided well for our family. We had a 35-acre farm, with cattle, horses, pigs, and other stock. I learned to read and write the Lithuanian language. I spent my early youth doing farmwork, working on our farm and also for other farmers. My chores were similiar to those of any American farm boy; we harvested, cut hay, watered the stock and drove them through fertile pastures and along the woody countryside; we tended pigs, dug potatoes, milked the cows, and tended the wintered cattle. As best as I can remember of my home, the years from 7 to 21 were the happiest of my life.

"When I was 21, my boyish pleasures came to an end; I was taken into the military service. It was a bitter ending to all my dreams and hopes. Some of my cousins had sailed at that time for a land which made everybody excited. That was America. I longed very much to go there too. Then one day, my American cousins sent me a ticket from a place in Minnesota named St. Paul.

"I sailed in the Fall of 1913 from Bremen, Germany, and when I landed in New York I took the train to Minneapolis. I worked in the Pattlers Foundry for about two (2) years, and in the Foote Lumber Company for about the same time. At the latter place I received $2 a day and worked nine (9) hours. Then my brother-in-law moved to a place near Arcade and York Streets

on the East side of St. Paul. I also moved there too. We both worked at the Herzog Iron Works. We received 25¢ ~~and~~ per hour for a nine-hour day. After several years of employment there, my brother-in-law left and went to work for the American Hoist & Derrick Company. I followed and they made a job for me there. I had worked for just one month at the Northern Cooperage Company in South St. Paul for 15¢ an hour.

"Altogether, I worked at the American Hoist & Derrick Co. for about 4 years. During the World War I made very good money there, doing piece work. I was drafted into the army, but they wished that I remain there, as that work was important to the government. I was a molder-helper. Later, I joined the factory union, and then came trouble. All the union men walked out on strike.

"After about two months of idleness, I went to work at the Hotel St. Paul as a houseman. I worked about a month, quit, and went to work for the Ryan Hotel. I worked there from 1919 to about 1927. Then I was employed at the Lowry Hotel for about 2 years. I returned to Ryan Hotel and am still there today, doing a handy-man's work.

I became a citizen of the United States in 1933 in St. Paul. I have never been married."

(Note: Antone Stiklis rooms on the second floor of a business dwelling at 536 Cedar Street, north of and bounding St. Paul's downtown section.)