

### Lithuanians Have Won Right To Independence

NEW YORK.—Their historic loyalty to the principles of democracy has won the people of Lithuania a right to independence and under the Atlantic Charter they should be able to find a way to restore their country's independence.

This hope was expressed by Newbold Morris, president of the New York City Council, in officially welcoming New York delegates of Americans of Lithuanian descent, meeting in their first national convention.

The several hundred delegates, representing 1,000,000 of their compatriots in 21 States, endorsed a petition to President Roosevelt for aid "in the restoration of the independence of the Republic of Lithuania," established 23 years ago on the principles newly enunciated in the Atlantic Charter.

The petition said that the people of Lithuania were very much shocked at the announced intention of Soviet Russia to deprive Lithuania of her freedom and independence.

### Slaves of Wealth

"Those who looked for the salvation from the machinery of the world economic market have remained thus disillusioned because they had become not the lords and masters but the slaves of material wealth, which they served without reference to the higher end of man making it an end in itself."—His Holiness Pope Pius XII.

### Must Bring Intelligence, Good Will To Peace Table, Avers Lecturer Sheed

By Helen Macchia

The first determination we must have concerning the peace is to face the facts like men, to realize that our leaders must bring good will and intelligence to the peace conference, declared F. J. Sheed in his lecture entitled, "What We Must Bring to the Peace," delivered before the Christian Culture audience gathered at the Chamber of Commerce Sunday evening.

In looking at the past, we find that "we produced two horrible wars." We must look within ourselves and see what there was in us that brought about these situations. We cannot deny that many of us have lived under the illusion of a diffused niceness, a feeling that we are comfortable and we like to think that everybody else is also. However, this niceness is not good will, he stated. We shall never get a good social order if we are too attached to ourselves. We should consider others. The test of good will being "loving your neighbor as you love yourself."

Responsibility Cited  
The speaker cited St. Augustine's words, "A society is a number of men joined together by agreement as to the things they love." If members of society love only material things, there will be greed, and a few will emerge wealthy. If men love spiritual things, each can possess as much as the other. A definite basis for

good will can be set by uniting ourselves in loving one another. Having a mere determination to produce a better social system is useless, unless you unite your force of intelligence in this determination to produce results.

Mr. Sheed continued. At the peace table, there will be all sorts of problems facing the peacemakers. We, the laymen back home, are not competent enough to solve these problems. "However," the London and New York publisher declared, "as members of a democracy, we are responsible for what is decided."

We shall be represented by our leaders, our politicians. It is our duty to see that these leaders carry with them to the conference fundamental ideals and ideas which are possessed by the people. National thoughts are absolutely the thoughts of leaders. We can better our leaders by improving our own wants and ideas. In the past, there has not been sufficient public confidence manifested by our representatives. Our public opinion should be more clearly and more fully developed.

Even though we cannot efficiently draw up the peace, there are some fundamental principles and conditions that we must be sure our leaders realize must be incorporated in any workable peace treaty. In drawing up the peace terms, the elements of what man is and what the will of God is must not be forgotten. "Any proposal which does not recognize that man is more than an animal, that he possesses an immortal soul, and that the moral law is an aid in the development of true personality, a set of instructions for our conduct, must automatically be rejected," said the lecturer.

In our country, we must bring these fundamental truths to the fore, realizing that they are a potent source for true citizenship. We dare not rest after the war is fought and won. We must see that the basic elements of Christian conduct and living are constantly practiced.

### March 'Thought' Discusses Russia-Poland Dispute

NEW YORK.—"Thought," the American Catholic quarterly published by Fordham University, will have in its March issue, which will go off the press shortly, several important articles by experts in their field that are of great interest and timeliness in view of recent international developments.

The Russian-Polish boundary dispute is discussed in two articles. Both are dispassionately written and carefully documented. The first is "Poland's Eastern Frontier," by Francis Stuart Campbell, which deals with the ethnic and historical aspects of the determination of the future dividing line between Russia and Poland. The second is "The Problem of Russia in Post-war Reconstruction" by N. S. Timasheff, Dr. Timasheff, who is himself of Russian birth, discusses with the inexorable logic of one who lived most of his life in Russia the question of whether Russia will be truly democratic or aggressively communist after the war.

I must strive with all my heart to overcome—but if I don't succeed, not petulance, not anger, not bitterness, but contrition, humility and courage.—Father Dignan, S.J.

### Burn Them Without Delay

The priest was on his second visit to a scarlet fever patient. She was a young girl about sixteen and the doctor had declared her out of danger. A week before she had been given the last sacraments. As the priest entered the room this morning, he noticed on a table beside the convalescing girl two sensational newspapers and several magazines of a questionable character. The mother turned to him.

by the Health Department? He looked at the reading matter on the table. "What will you do with those magazines and papers?" "We have to burn them," said Mary's mother. "As a Catholic mother," he replied, "it is rather your duty to burn them, before Mary reads them. If you were as careful to prevent the infection from such sensational magazines and newspapers as you are in preventing the spread of scarlet fever, you would be more faithful in your duty to your child."—Cypriote.

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