BESTARTHICTL

Vol. 8

Summer 1988

No. 1

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VICTORY FOR HROMADA WOMAN

Supporting a placard that stated "Morse is Worse," diminutive Halyna Freeland, the smallest person in the Hromada cooperative, celebrated an historic victory in the runoff for NDP candidate in Edmonton Strathcona. "This night," squeaked the tiny candidate (14), "marks a victory for socialism, feminism, Ukrainianism, communism, anti-authoritarianism, syndicalism, lesbianism, CNDism--" Her speech was drowned in cheers The crestfallen Morse, a publishing magnate, joined Hurtig Press in disgust and has become a Liberal. If elected to Parliament in the Fall, the candidate, who is not very tall, promises to pull out of Nato and Norad, invade El Salvador, abolish South Africa, evict private homeowners, shoot Don Getty, and introduce marijuana in the House of Commons to begin with. Even now she has been holding sixties-style degenerate folk concerts on Saturday mornings in Strathcona. Her opponent in the constituency will be Scott Thumpyerheadin, who is believed to be exceedingly boring.

CHAIR FELLOWS GET FORTUNE

Three Ukrainian Canadians who mentioned in their application forms that they were acquainted with the Chair of Ukrainian Studies were immediately awarded massive Canada Fellowships announced the University of Toronto Office for Ghair Community Relations. Dr. L.Y. Looseyuk, Ph.D., acknowledged that at first he had failed to note this down on his form and was offered only \$10 for his three-year study. However, when he refilled in the form and added the words "Friend of the Chair," the sum was instantly increased to \$35,000. Dr. Looseyuk, who knows Bohdan Kordan, and was once known as a subscriber to Soldier of Fortune, advises future applicants for awards to go to Toronto and visit the Chair first.

FEMINISTS OUT DESPITE THEMSELVES

"I have two complaints," declared Martha Bohachevsky-Chomiak last year.
"First, David gets to edit my book, and it instantly becomes a victim of Chernobyl. Then Yurkevich is given it, and he's a nationalist and doesn't like women."

ETHNICITY AND THE TECHNOLOGICAL PAGE

Following the appearance of Ethnicity in a Technological Age, CIUS is offering a prize for the first reader who can understand a sentence in it. B. Kordan is excluded from this competition. A runner-up prize is being offered of one free trip to the Ukrainian Liberated University in Munich to anyone who can identify the elder Ukrainian lady in the cover picture. A third prize (we are generous at CIUS) goes to those who guess correctly the colour of Lesya Kohut's hair on the day the book was published.

NATURAL JAILBIRD

In all aspects of my relationship with Mr. Moroz, I have been impressed by his inmate intelligence.

Peter Rolland

HOW TO MAIL A LETTER



University of Alberta Edmonton, Canada T6G 2E8 Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies 170

AR

Canadian Association of Slavists, Prof. Bohdan Krawchenko Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies University of Alberta, 352 Athabasca Hall Edmonton, Alberta TGG 2E8

It may have been dark...



It may have been stormy...



One thing, however, was for sure.. It was night.



SOMEHOW, I FEEL THAT COULD BE SHORTENED ...

TORONTO SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY THES

FAR out in the morning...

An American member of the voluntary staff at Iona Abbey has done a Californian version of the Iona morning service. Spot the genuine article! (Reprinted with permission from the Iona Community Worship Book and newspaper "Coracle").

- L. The world belongs to the Lord.
 A. The earth and its people are his.
 L. How good any how lovely it is
 A. To live together in unity
 L. Love and faith come together
 A. Justice and peace join hands
 L. If the Lord's disciples keep silent
- A. These stones would shout aloud L. Lord, open our lips
- A. And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

worning Hymn

How good and how lovely it is To live together in unity; Precious it is like oil, Like oil poured over the head.

So praise the Lord in his house, Praise God with joy and gladness, Open your hearts to his love, And let him make all things new.

Closing Responses:

- Closing Responses:
 L. This is the day the Lord has made
 A. We will rejoice and be glad in it
 L. We will not offer to the Lord
 A. Offerings that cost us nothing
 L. Go in peace and serve the Lord
 A. We will seek peace and pursue it
 L. Glory to the Father and to the
 Son and to the Holy Spirit
 A. As it was in the beginning, is

- A. As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

- L. The Cosmos is One with the Entity
- We can resonate with that L. How good and how groovy it is
- A. To cohabit in this commune
 L. We can all do our own thing
 A. And it's beautiful
- L. Even if we're experiencing
- blockage
- A. The earth joins the cosmic chant L. Being, we hear you A. Help us to mellow out.

Morning Hymn

How totally awesome it is To be aware of Oneness Precious it is like oil Like oil poured over a salad.

So get down with the Lord in his House And give birth to yourself in wholeness Manifest prosperity And own your own emotions.

Closing Responses:

- L. I can really get behind this day A. Stay with it, man, stay with it L. We will not offer to the Lord A. Things we would rather keep for ourselves
- See only Love
- A. Be only love
- L. Wow A. AMEN.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SLAVIC & EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

Seminar Series

"PIPS, SPIN or SPID? Towards a Slovene Acronym for AIDS"

T.M.S. PRIESTLY

Monday, January 25, 1988

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

436 ARTS

Believe it or not . . .

The following article taken from a local newspaper should get a few laughs. It is saidt to have originated in an internal publication of a car rental firm. Reportedly, these are actual answers given by people to police when asked to describe briefly how their particular accidents came about.

- Coming home, I drove intoth e wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.
- The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intentions.
- I thought my window was down, but found it was up when I put my hand through it.
- I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.
- A truck backed through my windshield into my wife's face.
- A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.
- The guy was all over the road, I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
- I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my mother-in-law and headed over the embankment.
- The gentleman behind me struck me on the backside. He then went to rest in the bush with just his rear end showing.
- In my attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a telephone pole.
- I had been driving my car for forty years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had the accident.
- The accident occurred when I was attempting to bring m year out of a skid by steering it into the other vehicle.
- I had been learning to drive with power steering. I turned the wheel to what I thought was enough and found myself in a different direction going the opposite way.
- I was backing my car out of the driveway in the usual manner, when it was struck by the other car in the same place it had been struck several times before.
- I was on my way to the doctors with rear end trouble when my universal joint gave way causing me to have an accident.
- I was taking my canary to the hospital. It got lost in the car and flew out the window. The next thing I saw was his rear end and there was a crash.
- As I approached the intersection a stop sign suddenly appeared in a place where no stop sign had ever appeared before, I was unable to stop in time to avoid the accident.
- To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.
- An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my vehicle and vanished.
- I told the police that I was not injured but on removing my hat, I found that I had a fractured skull.

- I was sure the old fellow would-never make it to the other side of the roadway when I struck him.
- When I saw I could not avoid a collision, I stepped on the gas and crashed into the other car.
- The pedestrian had no idea which direction to go, so I ran over him.
- The indirect cause of this accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth.
- I saw the slow-moving, sad-faced, old gentleman as he bounced off the hood of my car.
- I was thrown from my car as it left the road. I was later found in a ditch by some stray cows.
- The accident happened when the right front door of a car came around the corner without giving signal.
- The telephone pole was approaching fast. I was attempting to swerve out of its path when it struck my front end.
- I saw her look at me twice, she appeared to be making slow progress; then we met on impact.
- I was unable to stop in time and my car crashed into the other vehicle. The driver and passengers then left immediately for a vacation with injuries.

"Hells Babushkas"

Ukrainski Motorcyklewav Klubski - Costing price \$15 per year)
(\$1 dollar month)

Founded in Ukrainia in 1965, our 35th unniwersary dis year 1973.

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Dear Mr. Petryshyn,

In your capable hands I leave this profile of associates. A picture of the individual is attached, as well as a letter from him regarding the correct Ukrainian translation of various terms. Should you require any clarification, please do not contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Bohdan Kravchenko

PAN YURKEVICH GETS A NOTE FROM A GRADE 2 STUDENT

DON'T WORRY DR. YURKEWICH, I'LL GET YOU FOR WHAT YOU DONE
TO MY PAPER, YOU RAT YOU. HOW WILL I GET INTO LAW SCHOOL
NOW I ASK YOU? I'LL TELL THE WORLD ABOUT THAT HORRIBLE
AFFAIR WITH TOVA YEDLIN I WILL, YOU MARK MY WORDS. DON'T
THINK THAT I DON'T MEAN IT BECAUSE I DO, SEE? I'M A DESPERATE PERSON AND WILL DO ANYTHING. YOU HAD BETTER UP
EVERYBODIES GRADE BY AT LEAST ONE STANINE, OR MORE IF YOUR
GENEROUS, OR FACE THE CONSEQUENCES, LIKE A FEW KNUCKLE
SANDWICHES FROM THE BOYS DOWN FROM THE FRAT. YOU HAVE
BEEN WARNED.

- A FRIEND.

LIFE AT CIUS: A FEATURE



Captions

- 1. I think I'll get my hair cut.
- 2. If George doesn't phone in the next five minutes, I'm leaving!
- 3. Go away before I twang your suspenders.

FOR PETER MATILAINEN'S BEZTAKTNIST' GIRL OF THE MONTH, SEE OVER.



Our COVER GIRL, Disco Biscoe, enjoys being elusive, ignoring phone calls and pool parties. She has also been known to bite people.

A DAY AT THE INSTITUTE (FOR EVERYONE WHO HAS FORGOTTEN WHAT IT IS LIKE)

Scene, No. 352, at 10am, the day is in fullswing. In walks the Red Rooster.

SL: Good morning Khrystia, how are you?

KK: Sick, don't ask me, I don't want to talk to anyone, especially you,

PM: Yes, but we have a problem. It's got to do with the modulated angulation of the between-line text of the undercover of the research reports.

KK: The what?

PM: The colour codes. They all have to do with the subject matter. I've compiled a list of 254 possible subjects that have to have separate colour coding. Oh hang on, that's my phone. It must be Ed.

SL: Oh, when did you come in!

DG: Didn't you realize, the Reverend Goa never comes in, he simply appears when he thinks the time is fit, or rather when the spirit takes him.

BK: KK, where the f..k is that f.....g letter to that wanker Potichnyj?

SL: Oh, what awful language. And in front of Reverend Goa, too.

DG: F.....g right, he should watch his tongue.

KK: BK, Scarfe is on the phone.

BK: What does he want. Tell him to piss off, I'm busy.

PM: BK, I want to talk to you.

BK: Not now, Peter.

PM: It's about colour coding.

BK: I'm not interested in colour coding, I'm only interested in money.

PM: This will save us money.

(Strides are heard down the corridor. In walks Orest)

OM: Hi, dobrii den'. (Collects mail.) Bye. Pa. (Exits.)

(More strides are heard. In walks Yurkevich.)

MY: Peter, I need the new copy of JUS today.

PM: It's not on my list today.

MY: It's top priority. It has to be done this morning.

PM: I'm doing Koropeckyj this morning.

MY: Well do Koropeckyj in the afternoon.

PM: I can't do that. I can do Koropeckyj today, JUS tomorrow.

MY: Look Peter, be reasonable. Don't you think that you could manage to do two things in one day.

PM: No, life would get too complicated. There's my phone again. It must be Ed this time.

BK: Shit, would you believe it. We've just been offered the world rights to the complete works of Lenin by the Moscow Copyright Agency. And someone in Toronto has offered us a \$50 million endowment for a study of Shevchenko's eating habits. It's just rolling in. Where will it stop? KK: It won't clear our overdraft. We're still \$2 million in the red. And I keep getting bills. And my doctor's too busy to see me. Where did the Reverend Goa go?

SL: Goa go? What does it all mean, goago? I not know this word.

KK: No, Goa, go. He left the room.

DG: No he didn't. I'm here.

MY: Who said that?

DG: I did.

KK: Where is he? I don't see anyone?

(Everyone searches the office. Kowaluk is found in the wastepaper bin.

Otherwise a blank is drawn. All are mystified. DM enters.)

MY: We are missing a Goa. DM: He's in the Resource Centre talking to Anne and Borysa. KK: No, he's here. We heard him. DM: These creeping Jesuses are everywhere, you know, daughter of P. By the way, Nancy is on his way over to see you. KK: I'm too sick to go to lunch today. (Borysa walks in with 55 coffees.) BK: Thank God you're here. Who's the other one for? BS: Jars Balan. KK: Good grief, is everyone in here today? (Enter the poet left, carrying a six-foot letter Ya on his back.) DM: Is it the Reverend Goa's influence? JB: No, it's my new poem, it's called "Back to Ya and Ya is back" so this adds to the effect. (Peter rushes out armed with the minutes of the Finnish Club's program for visiting speakers for 1989-90.) KK: Peter, I need your help. PM: I'll be back. KK, MY, BK: WHEN???? PM: Whenever. 2. 3.30. Soon. (A student emerges from the CIUS Library. Leaves smiling benignly.) BK: F...k off and don't come back. KK: BK, stop that, you could be talking to a potential son-in-law. BK: He's no right to smile like that. Who does he think he is? Where's Biscoe? She has 23 tapes and 50 packages of books from Kiev to go through. KK: She's leaving today. BK: Ostap shoudd be leaving today too. He's going to Ukraine. Everyone should go to Ukraine. Yurkevich, go to Ukraine, David, go to Ukraine, Borysa, go to Ukraine. MY: What would I do in Ukraine, Bohdane, it's almost as bad as Edmonton. BK: Not anymore, it's all changed. SL: Nothing change. It's always the same. BK: You're too cynical Sofia. MY: I think she's right. (Phone rings in background. The Red Rooster answers it.) KK: BK, Shcherbytsky on line 2. BK: What does he want? KK: A job, I think. MY: He can't come here, he doesn't know any Ukrainian. DG: Neither do I, my friend. DM: He's back. BK: He can't be. The door was closed. BS: I'm going for coffee. Anyone want one? BK: Get me another six. I'm having hallucinations. I could have sworn Dave Goa was here. DG: That's the Very Reverend Goa to you. BK: There he is again. DM: You've been working too hard BK, it's time you had a break. In fact, we've all been working too hard. But, but--it's another apparition. (In walks a suit, followed by a silk scarf and an earring. Protruding therein is a head. It belongs to.....) ALL: It's Kordan! (to be continued)



DM: Beer's all gone. Guess I should get back to the Sheptytsky manuscript.

BS: Happy Wednesday, eh.

DM: What's that.

BS: I'm eclectic and fine tuned.

CIUS RESEARCH REPORT: THE BANDURA IN SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA

The bandura has a long history in southwestern Alberta. Ask Fred Fingerchuk, compose, who has lived there all his life, as did his ancestors who came from Ukraine, bringing the bandura tradition with them. Said Fred 'You get some plywood, 62x194, chop it up into bits. If it's raining, you had better stop and go inside for a while." Fred is not the only one in his trade. He has rivals. Normally speaking in this phenomenom, these rivals do not speak to each other. When he goes to the market, Fred sometimes sees a rival in the distance. When this happens, Fred goes home and does not come back until the next day. When the rain has stopped, you have to dry out the chips of wood. It also helps if you have a cat handy. Fred catches a cat and rips off its whiskers, then kicks it in the guts. This technique is known as acquiring catgut. At first, says Fred, who was 65 in 1981 when I met him, use just one string (whisker) and let it sit in the sun for a while. This mellows the tone. The others can be added later. Fred made several crappy banduras before he finished his first good one. Today, his children can be seen chasing cats around the neighborhoods of southwestern Alberta. Thus the tradition lives on.

^{1.} F. Fingerchuk, Life Back Then. Canmore: Logwood Press, 1980.

LIFE COULD BE WORSE....

Russia without Ukraine--with its higher degree of civilisation, its formidable riches, without the Ukrainian cadres who came and placed themselves at the service of the Petersburg empire--was condemned to remain a sort of Canada, cut off by its snows, without any major international role.

Alain Besancon, L'Express, April 30, 1987

GORBACHEV LIKES BULLS' PIZZLES

When Mikhail Gorbachev toured Canada in 1983 as the Soviet agriculture minister, he was shown the latest in Canadian plant and animal genetics....

"He took a great interest in our bull semen," Douglas Blair, a member of an Alberta trade delegation, was able to say with a straight face in Moscow this week.

Lawrence Martin, The Globe and Mail, January 23, 1986

Thanks to BK, MY, AH, PM, BS and KF for contributions to this issue.
DRM