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BEAMS * * * MYH BEAMS * * * MYH BEAMS * * * MYH BEAMS * * *



MYH

BEAMS

P. O. Box 1104, Stn. "D", Toronto 9, Ont.
CANADA

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WE DEDICATE this issue to Elias Repin, Ukrainian artist, who through his masterpiece "The Zaporozhians" (on our cover) has added a touch of Ukrainian atmosphere to countless thousands of homes and halls where it hangs.

OUR COVER: An early version Repin's famous painting (modified by us).
Important: The reproduction generally sold in Ukrainian stores is not Repin's work. It is an imitation, made because reproductions of the original were unavailable.

MB

CANADA'S PRIME MINISTER ADDRESSES UKRAINIAN C.C.

Prime Minister Diefenbaker addressed the "strongly anti-Communist Ukrainian Canadian Committee" in Winnipeg on Saturday, January 25th. Mr. Diefenbaker was attending a banquet commemorating the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Ukrainian National Republic on January 22, 1918. The Republic was subsequently overthrown by the Russians in 1920.

"Less than seventy years ago the first two Ukrainians arrived in Canada. They belong to the second largest race in Europe with a population of forty-five million, and occupy one of the richest countries for its size in the world. They were soon followed by the hardy group of courageous compatriots who were to carry so large a share of the burden of opening up the Canadian West. In these seventy years, Canadians of Ukrainian origin have come to number nearly four hundred thousand.

They are playing a distinguished role in our common effort to build and maintain a democratic and prosperous way of life. They have made a tremendous contribution for the defence of freedom in the Canadian Armed Forces. There is no Canadian who is not aware of the responsible and effective participation of Ukrainian Canadians in the government of this country. Canadians of Ukrainian origin can be found at all levels of government, from the municipal to the provincial and to the federal level. The Ukrainian Canadian community is ably represented in both Houses of Parliament and in the Cabinet itself, where I am able to call on the support and counsel of a colleague, Honourable Michael Starr, who sprang from among your number.

Canadians of every background acclaim the role of Ukrainian Canadians in the enrichment of the academic, artistic and professional life of our country. The vitality of the Ukrainian literary and artistic tradition is proverbial as well as in music and poetry. It has already placed Ukrainian Canadians in the cultural forefront of our national life, and still greater achievements are the future promise of your community.

We know something of the great antiquity and quality of your cultural tradition. I like the story of the Kiev princess* in the Middle Ages who, on marrying a king of France, was worried about having to leave such a civilized centre as Kiev to live in remote Paris. I like the story of the Medieval English King* who took refuge from his enemies in Kiev. It is indeed a glorious thing to be able to look back on a history of more than a thousand years of Christian civilization.

* The PM refers to Anna, daughter of Ukr. King Yaroslav (1019-1954), wife of French King Henry I. English King Harold's daughter Gyda married Volodymyr Monomakh.

Canadians of whatever origin can well understand why Ukrainian Canadians, while fully accepting the responsibilities of Canadian citizenship, endeavour to preserve their own great cultural heritage. It is our gain that they draw upon that heritage to enrich the cultural life of their new country.

We can all understand how your thoughts go back to the homeland, how you long for the day when your brothers there will be able to steer their own chosen course, respecting the rights of their neighbours, and how you pray that they may achieve their desires without suffering catastrophe and disaster."

Mr. Diefenbaker drew cheers with a reading of the section of the NATO communique approved at Paris which said that the suppression of countries such as Ukraine could not last forever.

"As a guarantee of good faith, if the USSR would show the sincerity of its protestations for peace, if it would grant free elections in those countries under its captive control and would free the untold numbers who are in slave camps (8,000,000 - Ed.), then the free world could move forward to early discussions..."

In conclusion, the Prime Minister stated: "May free men everywhere have the hope unabated that the golden domes of Kiev will once more reflect the sun of freedom and that its chimes will once more peal forth their messages of freedom." ★

* * * *

Labor Minister Michael Starr, Canada's first cabinet minister of Ukrainian origin, also made several notable statements at the same banquet.

Speaking on the restoration of freedom in the USSR he said, "By not doing so, the Soviet (Union) will continue to reveal this great ugly crack in the facade of power and progress, the crack which in the end will open and rend asunder the new Soviet empire as it did the old."

Meetings in commemoration of the 40th anniversary throughout Canada not only marked the event but also "the hope of future freedom for ... Ukraine and for the other lands and peoples where freedom does not exist." ★

* * * *

Canadians of Ukrainian origin as well as Ukrainians in their homeland can be certain that with government leaders such as Mr. Diefenbaker and Mr. Starr that Canada will not be misled in the future as it was in the past by absurd statements such as the following:

"The Ukrainian language never has existed, does not exist and cannot exist." -- Russian Count Valuyev, Minister of the Interior of Imperial Russia on July 18, 1889.

"There is not, there never has been, there never could be a Ukrainian nationality." -- K. Waliszewski in "Poland the Unknown", 1919, p. 244.

ILYA REPIN

UKRAINIAN MASTER of OILS

by Andrew Gregorovich

Ilya (Elias) Repin was born in the Ukrainian town of Chuhuyev, Kharkov region on August 4, 1844. His father, Yukhim, was a military colonist who



ILYA REPIN

farmed, yet was liable at all times for military duty. At the time of Ilya's birth, the family's fortunes dropped and as a result, in his early years he suffered from poverty. As a young boy, he earned money by painting portraits and icons. His ability was such that even local Ukrainian churches welcomed his work. It was during his youth in Ukraine that his gift for art was nurtured through an elementary art education.

At the age of 20 Repin entered the Petersburg Academy of Art. In the same year, 1864, he enrolled at the School of Drawing. It was necessary for the young artist to work at odd jobs in these early years of his art training.

Repin's first important paintings, in accordance with the wishes of the Russian art academies, were based on classical themes. His progress in portrait painting was exceptional. By the time he was 25 his portrait reputation was established. He painted portraits of the most notable men of the Russian Empire of his day, totalling over 300 in all.

Among his portraits of Ukrainians, his Shevchenko is an interesting study. Repin, in his portrait of Taras Shevchenko, gave the poet an admonishing look which penetrates through the viewer.

Other works on Ukrainian themes are "Hetman", "Vechernitsi" and "Procession in the Government of Kiev", which, according to Encyclopedia Britannica is one of "his chief pictures." This same authority states: "Repin's paintings are powerfully drawn with not a little imagination and with strong dramatic force and characterization." Americana points out: "He also won fame as a portrait painter, sculptor and etcher." Both Encyclopedias incorrectly call him Russian, basing it on the fact that Ukraine was submerged as a part of the Russian Empire in his day. Ukrainian would be a more accurate national designation because of his Ukrainian ancestry, birth and sympathies.

"Unexpected", a painting which depicts the homecoming of an exile from Siberia, is interesting because the models used were the artist's own family. His own home served as the background - and very clearly on the living room wall is a portrait of Shevchenko. Apparently Repin, just as most Ukrainians, honoured the poet by having his picture in his home.

Continued on Next Page.

Ilya Repin - Continued.



Taras Shevchenko
oil by Repin

A trip abroad (1873-1876) was won by him as well as a Grand Gold Medal for his painting "The Resurrection of Jairus' Daughter" 1871, based on the Bible. He was pleased to be able to see old masterpieces in Paris and Rome, but he was very happy to return to his homeland, Ukraine. Several memorable canvases resulted from his Western trip. It was in the eighties, however, that he created his finest works.

There is a striking contrast between many of Repin's Russian and Ukrainian works. Compare the Russian "Volga Boatmen," and "Ivan Grozny" murdering his son with the Ukrainian "Hopak" or "Zaporozhian Cossacks" and you can't help but agree with Snowyd who said:

"Long before he professed his Ukrainian sympathies (at the resurrection of the Ukrainian national state) he showed them in his art by the contrasts which he painted between Ukraine and Russia. Ukraine, in his paintings, is all beauty, joy, happiness, a grand and even reckless struggle against powerful enemies. Russia is wallowing in ugliness and cruelty."*

It is interesting to note that Nikolai Gogol, another Ukrainian, did exactly the same thing in portraying the same contrast between Russia and Ukraine in Literature.

"The Reply of the Ukrainian Zaporozhian Cossacks to the Turkish Sultan Mohammed IV" is Repin's greatest masterpiece. Britannica, with justification, calls it his "best known" work. Into this superb canvas Repin poured 15 years of his life. To arrive at perfection in historical accuracy, he did meticulous research work. He toured the area of the Zaporozhian Sich (fortress) making countless sketches of relics, costumes and Cossacks. The final work, almost life size, is a monumental canvas 13 ft. long which took 11 years, 1880-1891, of actual painting to complete. This final version had been preceded by several preliminary sketches.

At the time of the Russian revolution, Repin was living in Kuokkale, Finland. Despite pleas from the Soviet Russian government, he refused to return to the Soviet Union. The Russians explain his refusal to return by saying he had come under the sway of "slanderous fabrications of white emigres, the enemies of Soviet Russia."** Actually, he was fully aware of his Ukrainian background and would not condone Russian mistreatment of the Ukrainian people by returning.

The work of Ilya Repin has established a Ukrainian name on an equal to the greatest West European masters of oils. He re-established too, the Ukrainian Cossack era in its true noble light, raising it from the degrading position to which the "Russian Cossacks" had lowered it.

Concluded on Page 10.

* D. Snowyd: Spirit of Ukraine, New York

** D. Sarabyanov: Ilya Repin, Moscow

UKRAINIAN



ROCK and Roll



Rock and Roll has swept the world, even the Soviet Union. Since Ukrainians love music, it is quite natural that many have taken a liking to rock and roll. In Kiev, capital of Ukraine, it is known that rock and roll groups have become popular.

The recent popularity of "Peggy Sue" by Buddy Holly (Coral Records) brings attention to another interesting point. The background guitar music of "Peggy Sue" is a Ukrainian kolomeyka! The Ukrainian melody is especially noticeable in the first few opening bars. The Ukrainian words sung to the tune are "Oi ta duna, duna, duna..."

Many Ukrainian folk songs have formed the basis of popular American and Canadian hit songs. The Slavonic Encyclopedia points out that Irving Berlin and Cole Porter have used Ukrainian melodies. (If any of our readers know which of their tunes are Ukrainian, MYH Beams would like to hear - Ed.) A sure-fire means of writing a hit song, it has been said, is to borrow from a classical composer like Tchaikovsky. Because Tchaikovsky used many Ukrainian melodies, some of these have, in a round about way, become familiar and loved throughout Canada.

Other popular songs known to be of Ukrainian origin are "Mother May I Go Out Dancing", (Oi ne khody Hrytsiu) and "Wild Goose" by Frankie Laine (unverified). It is doubtful if "Dark Eyes" is Russian, but we won't argue the point at this time. There is, finally, scarcely a person of Ukrainian origin who does not know that the beautiful "Carol of the Bells" was originally Leontovich's "Shchedryk".

It is quite clear from these examples that the treasury of Ukrainian music is making an impressive contribution to Canadian and American culture.



The Most Defiant Letter!



The famous letter immortalized in Repin's masterpiece was a reply by Ukrainian Cossack Hetman Ivan Sirko to a high-flown and threatening letter of Sultan Mohammed IV of Constantinople. In their reply, the Cossacks answered with mockeries, parodying the Sultan's titles in a manner which shows cunning knowledge of what would be most insulting to such a mighty ruler.

The Cossacks did not make empty boasts when they wrote of battles on land and sea. The courageous Ukrainian Cossacks fought, on several occasions, to the gates of mighty Constantinople itself! These events were reported throughout Europe, even distant England took an interest in them. The "Gazette of Antwerp" of Dec. 10th, 1621 reported: "New messages from Germany how 50,000 Kozaks... have crossed the Danube to plunder and burn up to Constantinople." (British Museum No. pp. 3444, af. (326) Translated from the Dutch by K. Hammega.)

Our letter reproduced on page 8 is not an exact translation of the original, but rather we might say it is more in the spirit of it. The original may be found in the *Annals of Kiev (Kyivska Starina)* Vol. II pp 371, 382 1891. It may also be found in books by Prof. I. Evamitzky, as well as a pamphlet by him printed in Petersburg, 1902. English language versions may be found in "The Cossacks" by W. P. Cresson and the "Portable Russian Reader" edited by G. B. Guerney, which is based on the Russian historian M. N. Pokrovsky. Ripley's "New Believe It or Not" pocket book #992, has distinguished the Ukrainian letter by calling it "The Most Defiant Letter." The illustration accompanying the article on page 165, which is incorrectly titled "The Russian School of Diplomacy," is based on Repin's masterpiece. Factual errors are made by Ripley (just as most others who rely on Russian sources for Ukrainian history) in the article. Hetman Sirko died in 1680 not 1689 as the article states. Ripley has confused Sirko with Hetman Samoilovich, another Ukrainian Hetman of the same period.



Zaporozhian Sich, Ukraine
July 18, 1667.

Thou Turkish Devil!:

Brother and companion to the accursed Devil, and Secretary to Lucifer himself, Greetings!

What the hell kind of noble knight art thou? Satan voids, and thy army devours. Never wilt thou be fit to have the sons of Christ under thee; thy army we fear not, and by land and on sea in our chaikas wilt we do battle against thee.

Thou scullion of Babylon, thou beer-brewer of Jerusalem, thou goat thief of Alexandria, thou swineherd of Egypt, both the Greater and the Lesser, thou Armenian sow and Tartar Goat! Thou hangman of Kamanetz, thou evildoer of Podolia, thou grandson of the Devil himself, thou great silly oaf of all the world and of the netherworld and, before our God, blockhead, a swine's snolet, a mare's ---, a clown of Hodes. May the Devil take thee! That is what the Cossacks have to say to thee, thou basest-born of runts! Unfit art thou to lord it over true Christians!

The date we know not, for no calendar have we got; the moon (month) is in the sky, the year in a book, and the day is the same with us here as with ye over there, and thou canst kiss us thou knowest where!

P.S. Thank us for condescending to answer you.

Koshevey Hetman Ivan Sirko
(and the Dnieper Cossack Host).



Ivan Sirko
[Signature]



THERE IS NO "RUSSIA"

There exists today no nation or geographical entity named "Russia". "Russia" is the obsolete name for a territory which today comprises 15 separate republics. These 15 separate republics are the result of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on December 30, 1922.

"USSR" and "Soviet Union" are often used short forms and both are equally

accurate. However, "Russia" became obsolete in 1917 when the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) was formed. The RSFSR was called "Soviet Russia" for short, until 1922 when this name, too, was subsequently superseded by the name USSR.



The use of "Russia" and "Russians" to designate the USSR and its citizens betrays a deep ignorance on the part of the user. An intelligent person will always use the terms "USSR" and "Soviet Union" because he realizes that the word "Russia" is an incorrect as well as obsolete designation.

The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (Uk.S.S.R.) is, incidentally, because of its population of 40,600,000, the second largest republic in the USSR after the RSFSR.

The inscription on the Arms of the USSR reads, "Workers of All Lands Unite", and appears in the language of the 15 Republics. Note that our illustration carries 16 banners. The Sixteenth Republic, the Karelo-Finnish was absorbed by the RSFSR in July, 1956. All "Peace" fanatics please note that the hammer and sickle covers the world. World domination remains today the avowed goal of Russian nationalism (thinly disguised by the name "Communism").



Ilya Repin - Concluded.

Repin's genius demonstrates vividly that the Ukrainian people, to whom he left a priceless legacy of masterpieces, do possess exceptional artistic abilities.

In his last years he once again turned to Ukrainian themes in his paintings as, for example, "Hopak" and "Black Sea Freemen."

"Repin was active to the last days of his life. He died on September 24, 1930 in Kuokkale at the age of eighty-six, having lived a life of assiduous work for the benefit of his art and his people."

Repin is a true Ukrainian, one of whom we can all be proud.



Zaporozhian by Repin



... JUST A THOUGHT FOR AN IDLE MOMENT ...

Sometime when you're feeling important,
 Sometime when your ego's in bloom,
 Sometime when you take it for granted
 You're the best qualified in the room,
 Sometime when you feel that your going
 Would leave an unfillable hole,
 Just follow these simple instructions
 And see how it humbles your soul:
 Take a bucket and fill it with water;
 Put your hand in it up to your wrist;
 Pull it out, and the hole that's remaining
 Is the measure of how you'll be missed.
 You may splash all you please when you enter,
 You can stir up the water galore,
 But stop, and you'll find in a minute
 That it looks quite the same as before.
 The moral of this quaint example,
 Is do just the best that you can,
 Be proud of yourself but remember,
 There is no indispensable man.

NEWS OF THE BRANCHES

FORT WILLIAM

- A branch full of happy-go-lucky optimists, these members were the first to be visited by the UNYF DE Organizer, Mr. Myro Budzan (Ed. note: Look for article in February's issue of MYH Beams for Mr. Budzan's achievements and goals.)
- A rip-roaring 1958 is predicted for Ft. William
- Promises of regular MYH Beams articles and organizing a Sewing Circle to cultivate the art of "vyshytia" (Ukrainian embroidery work)

EDMONTON

- What other branch can brag about a strong 35-member cast in Dorist MYH?
- Their articles to the Beams always end with "Sorry but we're rushed... We love youse!"
- Participated in the UNF 25th Jubilee Celebration during Thanksgiving weekend
- Have a Ukrainian mayor (Hawrylak) therefore a new City Hall

WEST TORONTO

- The branch that is planning to steal the Banner in 1959 from Winnipeg UNYF (for the most active branch)
- Donated \$50.00 to MYH Beams
- Has a girl's volleyball team - with 10 male coaches
- Also a struggling dancing group
- Boasts a boy's basketball team
- January marked the rebirth of the "Blue & Gold"
- And (at last) the boy members outnumber the girl members

MOOSE JAW

- A small branch with Great Powers
- Donate annually to Ukrainian charities
- In 1957, organized two radio programs, one in memory of Taras Shevchenko, the other a Ukrainian Christmas program.
- This branch is financially "loaded" - holds raffles, bingo's and other steady money-making events

SASKATOON

- The branch where females outnumber males
- It is rumoured that an out-of-town MYH male is treated like a king in this city where MYH was founded nearly 25 years ago



the RAMBLER

.... Via the grapevine we hear that Oryest Orychiwsky and Marusia Braciuk, both of Montreal UNYF, are on Cloud Number 9. They have become engaged -- to each other (that figures).....

.....Our "new look" this month gives MYH Beams (Canada's only English language magazine for youth of Ukrainian origin) a more attractive shape. We would like to hear from you, our dear readers, whether you like this new size as well as any other comments on improving future issues..... Mike Souchak, American pro golfer of Ukrainian origin, finished 11th among the top money-winning golfers for 1957. His haul was over \$18,000.00... ..The National Hockey League has at least half a dozen players of Ukrainian origin. Do we have a hockey fan among our readers who can write us a bit about them? Terry Sawchuk, Danny Lewicki or Eric Nesterenko... .."Canada's pet," Juliette", Toronto TV singer, was the blonde bombshell who hit the January '58 cover of Canadian Home Journal. Anybody know if Juliette (whose Ukrainian name is Sysak) has sung a Ukrainian melody over TV?.....It is well known that the Hon. Paul Martin is a sincere friend of the Ukrainian people. We admire him for the courage it took to say in his party leadership campaign that the Prime Minister's position should be open to a person like Edmonton's Mayor Hawrylak, who is of Ukrainian origin.....West Toronto members are eagerly awaiting a heavy snowfall so that they can hold a bang-up (?) toboggan party at the camp at Acton..... Toronto's Odeon Carlton theatre was the scene where Dr. Alex Granowsky of the University of Minnesota addressed more than 2,500 persons at a rally marking Ukrainian Independence Day, January 22, 1918. Sponsored by Toronto's Ukrainian Canadian Committee, the program also featured the city's leading choirs and soloists, including soprano Anna Sherey of New York.....The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra played Quincey Porter's "Ukrainian Suite" on the CBC network on January 4th... ..Moscow recently ridiculously charged the U.S. with relying on imported foreign brains for its achievements. The two men quoted (both of Ukrainian descent) are Timoshenko, whose research on stress in relation to aircraft are of great significance, and Igor Sikorsky - developer of the helicopter.....We hear out Hamilton way that football star Steve Oneschuk is a fascinating speaker. Could we get him to come to some of our club events?.....Start making plans NOW to attend the UNYF's 25th Jubilee in Toronto in '59.....

Вісник Своє

Dear Editor:

At last I have received the packet for which I have waited so long and requested more than once - your complete MYH Beams for 1957. Up until now I had two issues of your monthly, which accidentally came into my hands but which were so interesting, that I immediately requested back copies, as well as all future issues.

When I received your package, I left everything and began to look through this original and unique magazine. And the more I looked, the more I began to become aware of the tremendous amount of credit due to all those that work on the staff of MYH Beams. Time and time again I interrupted my colleagues at work on our paper, in order to show them an original and interesting cover, an article, a verse, some Ukrainian excerpts, a photograph and so on. Finally, we all began to look through your issues and having done this, we arrived at the following:

MYH Beams is truly an extraordinary, interesting, original and creative magazine. It has thrown aside the standards which we continue in our "big press", which has its value in that it appeals to those who read it, but which - it must be said - due to its archaic and revered character, fails to attract those whom we love so much, whom we value dearly, whose every success gives us much happiness - your youth, our own children.

I have no other comments or suggestions, for, as my co-editor Vasyl Levitsky, remarked - maybe it is because these young people are proceeding along their own path and not along ours, that nevertheless, their thinking shows healthy signs as shown in MYH Beams.

We shall be happy to help you out whenever you need help, and rest assured that those who understand you, will always give you that help with a smile and from the heart, without instructions and without those "certain conditions" which are so common in our time.

Once again, thank you, and I beg that you do not forget my address when you issue the next copy of MYH Beams.

Yours,
Anatole Kurdydyk
Editor.



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