

25,000 Pay Tribute To Taras Shevchenko

PM Unveils Statue

BY PAT CLAYTON
 Twenty five thousand Ukrainian Canadians — many of them in colorful national dress — massed on the legislative grounds Sunday to watch Prime Minister Diefenbaker unveil a bronze statue to Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko.

Speaking before a battery of microphones and cameramen Mr. Diefenbaker praised Shevchenko's "deep and passionate" attachment to freedom. "He spoke not only for Ukrainians but for all the legions of freedom everywhere in the world . . . It has been said that God chooses small nations to carry His richest blessings to humanity."

Recalling that his own maternal ancestors came to Canada 150 years ago from the highlands of Scotland, Mr. Diefenbaker compared Shevchenko's life and works with that of Robert Burns.

Of Peasant Origin

"Both were of peasant origin; both loved the common man; both hated tyranny and injustice; oppression and inhumanity. Both wrote of freedom and humanity, of courage and of sacrifice. Both touched the tenderest cords of not only their own people but of all who loved freedom."

If Shevchenko were alive today, he said, "he would see the fruits of his poetry . . . the magnificent record and manner in which those of Ukrainian descent in Canada have devoted themselves to freedom by service in two world wars and in the days of peace, in so many fields of national endeavor."

"He would think of the people in his homeland and in other parts of Europe who are still denied the right to determine by free elections their destiny in freedom. As he suffered tyranny in his day and generation, many of his people today have been denied freedom and have given their lives for freedom."

"We do well on this great occasion to honor him . . . and in doing so pay tribute to the race which gave him birth and love of freedom."

Flag Of The Ukraine

As Mr. Diefenbaker pulled the cord unspooling the Canadian Ensign and yellow and blue flag of the Ukraine from the \$120,000 statue built by voluntary donations from all across Canada, the band played O Canada and the Shevchenko Testament.

Also attending the ceremony were Premier Duff Roblin, Labor Minister Michael Starr, Veterans' Affairs Minister Gordon Churchill, Lieutenant - Governor Erick Willis, University of Manitoba president Dr. Hugh Saunders, Ald. Slav Rebuch, Msgr. Wasyk Kushnir, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, Metropolitan Harion Ohienko, primate of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church in Canada and Archbishop Maxime Hermanuk, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Canada.

The ceremony followed a parade from St. Paul's College led by the Ukrainian branch of the Canadian Legion, 141 and the Winnipeg city police pipe band. Delegations of Ukrainians were present from many provinces and from Chicago and Cleveland.

Justice For Man

Archbishop Hermanuk, speaking in Ukrainian and French, said the voice of Shevchenko, who died 100 years ago, was like the voice of Mount Zion — "the voice of justice for man." He said Ukrainians do not recognize the Communist interpretation of Shevchenko. "It is the creation of the Moscow rulers of Soviet imperialism."

Metropolitan Ohienko said Shevchenko is the symbol of freedom for Ukrainians. "This is not a monument of granite and metal but a monument of the hearts of our people. Shevchenko gave our people a true national ideology and it will free the Ukraine from the foreign yoke."

Msgr. Kushnir said a metal box containing the names of all who contributed toward building the monument will be placed at the base of the statue.

Blackout In Parts Of Winnipeg

Parts of Winnipeg suffered a short blackout about 6 p.m. Sunday as a "disconnect" at Wellington Avenue and Strathcona Street was thrown out.

Harry Benditt, chief engineer for City Hydro, said that a foreign object was either "thrown or blown" across the lines at that point. He said that maintenance men had the power restored within minutes.

The areas hit were the north end, the west end, River Heights and Crescentwood. Mr. Benditt said that most people probably didn't even realize that the power was off.

New York City's commuters come as far distant as 100 miles.



Photo By Bill Ross

Diefenbaker Lauds Ukrainians For Warning Of Red Menace

Songs, Dances And Music Thrill 10,000 At Festival

BY CHARLES THOMPSON

Prime Minister Diefenbaker seemed to take a leaf from the writings of Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko on Sunday night when he gave a fiery speech against the yoke of oppression.

"In these days there is no room for neutralism," he said during a major policy speech.

Mr. Diefenbaker was speaking at a banquet celebrating the 70th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada, and the death 100 years ago of freedom fighter Shevchenko.

"The need for western co-operation is apparent in view of the situation in Berlin," he said. "In the past three years Mr. Khrushchev has issued many dire warnings about Berlin."

"This time," he added, "it appears that he intends to precipitate a political crisis."

Because of Soviet actions the outlook for progress on disarmament is discouraging although talks between the United States and the USSR have begun in Washington, and full negotiations may resume at the end of the month.

Mockery Of Hopes

Canada will retain its efforts to keep the way open for disarmament talks. But, he added, the Communist leaders by their thirst for world supremacy are making a mockery of the hopes of mutual trust.

By their intransigence they have stifled the chances of agreement on measures of inspection

either with regard to nuclear weapons testing or in the more general field of disarmament.

"In these circumstances I believe in the necessity for unremitting concentration on western defence and western unity and co-operation in the political and economic fields," he said.

Mr. Diefenbaker warned that the Soviet leaders should not underestimate the determination of the west to maintain the freedom of the people of West Berlin. Marxist doctrines, which claim the forces of history are on their side, gives them a feeling of confidence which could lead them to unwise courses.

'Avoid Pitfalls'

"For the west it will be of paramount importance to avoid the pitfalls both of weakness and unreasonable rigidity."

He added: "We need to be strong and unhesitating in our defence of essential western rights and obligations. We need at the same time to maintain a calm judgment so that we will not overlook possibilities of compromise which, without amounting to appeasement, might nonetheless contribute to peace."

Two wars have taught that neither might have been started had the aggressors known the real strength and the will to resist of those they sought to conquer and enslave.

"We must not forget this important lesson of the past," he said. "In this age when mankind has a greater capacity than ever before to destroy himself, the only guarantee of peace in the absence of an acceptable worldwide disarmament agreement, is found in the manifest determination of free countries to unite their defence efforts in a common front as a warning of the disastrous consequences which will befall an aggressor."

Threat Is Great

The Communist threat is great. "It is not a time for separating ourselves from our partners," he maintained. "Canada's policy is to work in concert with its friends and allies for the preservation of peace and security in freedom . . . based on . . . Canadian interests, the greatest of which, apart from freedom, is peace."

Khrushchev's condemnation of "colonial bondage" in the United Nations, against the West, conveniently forgot that the USSR is "the greatest colonial power in the world today."

Mr. Diefenbaker asked: "How does he apply that to the Ukraine?"

And to Hungary, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania and in other countries under Soviet domination?

"Why does he deny them free choice to determine the kind of governments they have the right to ask for?"

Khrushchev should be constantly reminded of this.

Free Elections

"I say to Mr. Khrushchev, give the Ukraine and the other subjugated countries the right to free elections to determine the kind of government the people desire."

Many western nations have released colonies since the last war, yet "none of the post-war colonies of the USSR have been freed. Hungary tried."

And, he stated: "The latest example was Friday when the Soviet Union in the security council by means of its veto prevented the adoption of the British resolution that the United Nations security council should guarantee the independence of Kuwait."

New Agreement For Paper Men

A collective bargaining agreement between Hinde and Dauch Ltd., paper company, and its 49 employees has been concluded, John Raines, union business representative reports.

The workers are members of Local 537, Winnipeg Printing Specialties and Paper Products' Union. The one-year contract became effective July 3 and gives a four cents an hour increase in pay on wages previously ranging from \$1.29 to \$1.68. There will be better bereavement pay, three weeks' vacation after 10 years, and four weeks after 25 years.

Ukrainian To Be Optional Subject In High Schools

Enthusiastic applause greeted Premier Duff Roblin's announcement Sunday that in September, 1962 Ukrainian will be offered as an optional subject in selected high schools throughout Manitoba.

He told those attending the Taras Shevchenko unveiling ceremony that the decision had been made following joint consultations with the University of Manitoba, the department of education and a committee of teachers.

Mr. Roblin said he welcomed the unveiling as an opportunity

By MICHAEL HARRIS

Ukrainian Canadian youth, numbering about 1,400 performers from several Canadian centres, dressed in the colorful national costumes, paid tribute to the memory of Taras Shevchenko in songs, music, colorful dances and drills at the Winnipeg Arena Saturday night — before an audience of about 10,000.

It was the folk festival of the Ukrainian youth associations from several cities, dedicated to the centenary of the death of the Ukrainian poet, whose large portrait hung high over the stage.

It was sponsored by the Winnipeg branch of the Ukrainian Canadian committee, with its president Peter Krepiakovich extending the greetings.

The festival was considered as being an unqualified success from the attendance point of view and the numbers taking part in it.

A Large Stage

In the opinion of old timers here, the festival was the largest congregation of youthful Ukrainian performers ever to appear on a Winnipeg stage. And the stage was the entire spacious arena floor. It was necessary to provide about 1,000 extra seats on the ground floor for the participants in the rich program as well as for some guests. The stage director was Myron Mason, and George Borys, of the youth association, Plast, was the announcer.

Chicago's Ukrainian youth, a 50-member band, under the direction of U.S. Army Captain John Barabash, added its share to the enjoyment of the audience, playing several selections from Shevchenko's works as well as accompanying other events.

The most impressive single

group was the 500-member school choir, with children ranging from seven to thirteen years. They sang a number of Shevchenko songs, under the direction of George Hnatiuk, who also conducted the mixed 200-member massed choir.

Also very impressive were the boy scouts and girl guides doing formations and drills, including a torch drill spelling the Ukrainian emblem, Trident.

Great talent in solo folk dancing was displayed by two little girls, Marcja Lechow and Myra Mason, as well as two boy solo dancers. All received hearty applause.

Mr. Starr said:

"In Canada, freedom is ours; there is freedom for our institutions, freedom for our folkways and for culture . . . freedom for our language and freedom to participate in the democratic way of life . . . such freedoms Shevchenko did not live to see . . ."

If Shevchenko were here today, continued Mr. Starr, and saw this great western land, so reminiscent in many ways of the old Ukraine; and saw the churches and schools, and witnessed the flowering of the old culture in a new land, his heart would overflow with gratitude and he would be proud, as those now living here are, of what has been accomplished in a free land.

In charge of the various events were: Myron Mason, stage director; P. Karpiuk, supervision; W. Dudar, M. Kuch, dance instructors; George Hnatiuk, choir conductor; Peter Krainec, guests; and Myros Lechow, choreography.

Federal Labor Minister Michael Starr, who is of Ukrainian descent, was the guest speaker.

He spoke of the work and life of Shevchenko and about the message he had for the common people. The ideals of Shevchenko were the ideals of a whole people and in his poetry there was the cry of a people seeking relief from oppression.



Judy Kubara, one of the hundreds of Ukrainians in national dress Sunday at the unveiling of the monument, adds Prime Minister Diefenbaker's autograph to her collection.



Prime Minister John Diefenbaker renews acquaintances with retired Free Press labor reporter Michael Harris at the Shevchenko unveiling ceremony.