LATVIAN UNION IN FRANCE

REPORT
ON THE CONGRESS OF LATVIAN YOUTH, SATVIAN STUDENTS
and BALTIM STUDENTS
JULY 31st to AUGUST 7th, 1955, Germany

For personal reasons Mr. J. Othinikov was unable to participate in
the Congress. The Union delegated Mr. B. Zieds to replace him. Con-
sequently, the sum of 12,100 Francs allotted to cover expenses for travel-
ing was distributed in the following way:

Mlle. A. Rutka 19,381 fr.
Mr. B. Ziemelis 6,950 fr.
Mr. B. Zieds 15,769 fr.

22,100 fr.

Representatives of seven European countries took part in the Congress.
The Congress was held in a very friendly atmosphere and the desire to main-
tain and develop national activities was marked.

In the Latvian Youth Congress Miss Rutka was elected vice-President
of the Administrative Council and Mr. B. Zieds took part in the Commission
which elaborated the statutes. The Congress adopted its statutes which
shall be definite.

Mr. Ziemelis presided over the Congress of Latvian students. Without
being the Union's delegates Mm. Tomsone and Lerchs, students of the
Free Europe University in Exile, took part in the Students' Congress.

Representatives of the West German Government and of the Ministry
of Education, as well as personalities from the Baltic Associations in
exile, delivered speeches on historical and national themes. Various
addresses were devoted to guiding the young people in their studies,
telling them of the exigencies of the labor market and on the possibilities
of obtaining scholarships. Animated discussions followed all these
speeches wherein the young people showed their interest and their under-
standing of the problems of their nationality and their generation.

During the Congress Mlle. Rutka spoke to Latvian youth at home
through the facilities of the Voice of America and she sang a series
of Latvian folksongs over the German radio.

Paris, November 8th, 1955

J. Cops
Administrative Secretary

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