

In Memoriam

MRS. LOUISE C. DuBRAU was born December 15, 1864, at Neu Strelitz in Mecklenburg, the daughter of Leopold Müller and his wife Louise M., née Hampmann. Her father was the Director of Music at the Court of the Grand Duke and Conductor of the orchestra at the local opera house. From him, who was early in life afflicted with blindness, she inherited her musical talents and her gift of reciting. At the age of ten she delighted audiences with her readings from Fritz Reuter's works, such as Hanne Nüte, Kein Hüsung, the Läuschen and the Stromtied. Grand Duke George and Grand Duchess Alexandrina became interested in the young girl and provided for her education in private schools. After her father's death the mother was granted a pension by the Grand Duke which was paid to her until her death in Baltimore in 1915. Mother and daughter came to Philadelphia in 1880 to visit the oldest son and brother, but when here, decided not to return to the homeland. Young and most attractive, Louise Müller soon won many friends by her recitals and readings in church circles and at teachers' meetings. She was gifted with a most remarkable memory which she retained to her very last hour. She chose the teaching of German as her life calling. Coming to Baltimore, she taught first at old school No. 5, and later in our high schools, gave piano lessons where she had ten to twenty pupils at a time, and continued her reciting and lecturing on the German classics. On Sunday afternoons she would be the center of a group of "Wandervögel," hiking into the hills and woods of Maryland, and somewhere leaning against a tree she would begin to entertain her friends with poetry in German, Low German, French and English, holding her hearers

spellbound for hours. All her youthful ideals she nourished and kept all through her life. With her husband, Otto M. DuBrau, she lived in a true union of life. Their interests in art, in music, in literature, in religion harmonized perfectly. Her house became the center of a very representative circle of persons of artistic and scientific interests. There would be men of all creeds and of no creed, from all walks of life, all equally welcome and all benefited by their association with this home. Mrs. DuBrau was a frequent contributor to the columns of the *New Yorker Staatszeitung*, the *Baltimore Sun*, *Evening Sun* and *Post*. She held a lively interest in world affairs and was one of the foremost workers in the Red Cross circle at Zion Church as well as a leader in the relief work for the stricken poor of Germany after the first war.

Truly a woman of remarkable gifts and rare charm, a true friend, a devout Christian, a blessing for all who came under her influence, she has lived a life of grace and beauty. She fell asleep after long suffering in the evening hours of Friday, January 28, 1944, and was laid to rest in Lorrain Cemetery.

F. O. EVERS.



CARL W. PRIOR, a former member of the Executive Committee of this society, died on July 2, 1943, after a short illness. Born in Baltimore, September 7, 1879, he was the son of Edward A. Prior, partner of the firm of Prior and Hilgenberg, leading importers of toys and china. He received his early education at Deichmann's private school at Baltimore and later, when his family moved to Hannover, Germany,

he was sent to Clausthal in the Harz, to complete his education. After finishing school he was apprenticed to the firm of Fisher and Co. in Bremen and thus had the opportunity to familiarize himself thoroughly with the buying of all grades and kinds of tobacco. In 1900 he returned to America and his native city of Baltimore where he was first employed by Wm. Lohmeyer, haberdasher, and later by Gottschalk and Co., wholesale whisky dealers. In 1923 the tobacco firm of Henry Lauts and Co. was looking for a buyer; Mr. Prior was employed and thus again entered the line of business for which he had been trained and was so eminently fitted. After years of close application and hard work his efforts were crowned by his admission to the firm as junior partner. Upon the death of the senior partner, Mr. Robert Lehr, George Buchheister and Carl W. Prior, the two surviving partners, carried on in the best traditions of the firm; at the death of George Buchheister in 1934, Prior became the sole surviving member and owner.

For many years he was president of the Maryland Leaf Tobacco Association. He always took a keen interest in all German institutions of Baltimore and gave much of his valuable time to further their cause. At the time of his death he was a member of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland, the German Society of Maryland, the General German Orphan Association, the Germania Club and director and member of the Finance Committee of the General German Aged People's Home. He was a Lutheran and belonged to Zion Church of Baltimore.

In 1908 he married Marga Christensen, of Bergen, Norway, and is survived by her and their three children, Borg-hild and Carl Werner Prior and Mrs. Frank Cummings.

A man endowed with a fine sense of humor, great integrity, loyalty and devotion, he is sorely missed by his family, his former business associates and a host of friends.

C. L. NITZE.

JOHN GERHARD TJARKS was born on February 5, 1865, at Marz near Esens in the Harlinger Land. All his life he remained a typical "Ostfriese." His parents were Siebelt Willms Tjarks and Theda, née Janssen. After the father's death, when he was but six years old, the family moved to Hold in Oldenburg. He received a good education in the schools of Haage and Lahr and entered a commercial house at Wilhemshaven as apprentice. In January 1882 John Tjarks landed in Baltimore.

He worked on a farm in Baltimore County, was employed as shipping clerk with a foreign forwarding concern, even drove horse-drawn street cars until he found his way into the restaurant business. By 1886, then barely twenty-one years of age, he had opened his own restaurant on Frederick Road, had married Christine Kratz whose parental home was in Oberfranken in Bavaria, and five years after his arrival was granted his citizenship papers. He later leased and managed the well-known Darley Park on Harford Road near 25th Street, then at the outskirts of the city. He owned Orchestrion Hall on West Lexington Street opposite the market, and in 1907 he purchased the Raleigh Hotel at Fayette and Holliday Streets. In honor of the defender of Fort McHenry the house was renamed "Armistead Hotel."

Early recognized for his rare ability of leadership, John Tjarks met with a whole-hearted response to an appeal he issued in 1900 which led to the organization of the Independent Citizens Union of Maryland. This was the central organization of all German-American societies who were represented in this body by their regular delegates. The organization was imposingly strong from the outset and, under Mr. Tjarks' leadership, took a prominent part in civic and political movements.

When the National German American Alliance was formed at Philadelphia, October 6, 1901, John Tjarks was one of its founders. He held the offices of Vice-President and Financial Secretary. A close friendship bound him to the leader of the movement, Dr. Charles J. Hexamer. He attended every convention of

the Alliance and fearlessly defended its policies and course before a Congressional Committee in the hectic days of the first World War which finally led to the voluntary dissolution of the organization. In answer to an appeal of the Alliance nearly one million dollars passed through the hands of Mr. Tjarks for the Red Cross of Germany and Austria-Hungary during the period preceding our own entry into the War. His loyalty, sincerity and integrity could never be questioned. When after the war the Wagnerian Opera Group came to the United States and opened its national tour with a performance of the "Meistersinger" at the Lyric in Baltimore it was by the munificence of Mr. Tjarks that this cultural mission was enabled to begin and continue its artistic schedule. In these years the Steuben Society of America also won his support and active interest. He served on the National Council as vice-president and secretary.

In 1931 John Tjarks was instrumental in the creation of the Julius Hofmann Memorial Fund, a fund to encourage the study of the German language in the schools of Baltimore City. Annually, bronze medals and books of the students' own choosing were given as awards for outstanding scholarship in German in all Baltimore High Schools and Mount St. Joseph College. He was the president of the trustees until his death. His fraternal, social and charitable associations were numerous. He was a 33rd degree Mason, furthered the work of the German Society, Greisenheim and Orphans home. One of his achievements was the founding of the Hotelman's Association of Baltimore.

A faithful member of Zion Church and loyal friend of Pastor Hofmann, Mr. Tjarks purchased and donated the collection of theological works in the Hofmann Memorial Library of Zion Church and dedicated it to the memory of his mother. When in the fall of 1942 Zion Church opened the Parish House for week-end lodging of soldiers and sailors of the armed forces, he, by a large initial gift, enabled this patriotic enterprise to get under way.

For over forty years our Society had his keen interest as an esteemed mem-

ber. Advancing age forced him to retire in later years. John Tjarks fell asleep on the fourth day of September, 1943. The funeral services at Zion Church were attended by a large and representative congregation, a well-merited tribute to a man of outstanding gifts and accomplishments.

F. O. EVERS.



ANTHONY WALTER KRAUS was born in New York City on April 15, 1888. He was the seventh child of Anton Kraus and Katherine Walter, who had been born and raised in the same locality in Baden, Germany. Born in 1849 in Mosbach, his father had left his native city to engage in business in Hamburg, from which he had sailed to New York City only a short while thereafter. His mother, born in 1853 in Sulzbach, a village about one hour's walk from Mosbach, had come to this country in 1870, residing first in Baltimore and then in New York City.

After the death of his father in New York City in 1894, A. Walter Kraus and his mother moved to Baltimore, a city with the legal affairs of which he was concerned in one way or another for the greater part of his professional career.

He attended the public schools of Baltimore until 1899 when he was enrolled as a student at McDonogh School, for which during the rest of his life he always maintained a keen and lively interest.

Upon graduation from McDonogh he obtained a position as a stenographer in the office of Honorable Morris A. Soper, who was at that time practicing law in this city. It was largely upon Judge Soper's recommendation that Mr. Kraus undertook the study of law, entering the University of Maryland in 1908 and completing his course with distinction some three years later.

The early days of Mr. Kraus' professional life were spent in the public law offices of Baltimore City. In 1908 he obtained a law-clerkship in the office of the Honorable John C. Rose who was at that time United States Attorney for the District of Maryland. Upon grad-

uation from law school he served as an Assistant District Attorney under John Philip Hill, leaving this position in 1913 for one as an Assistant State's Attorney for Baltimore City. He served in this capacity until 1919 when he entered the office of the City Solicitor of Baltimore as an assistant to the late Roland R. Marchant, then City Solicitor.

In 1923 he entered the private practice of law, forming with his erstwhile superior the firm of Marchant & Kraus. However, only four years later he left private practice to accept an appointment as City Solicitor of Baltimore during the regime of the Honorable William F. Broening, then Mayor of Baltimore City. Completing his term of office four years later, he returned to the general practice of law, but again left this field in 1938 to assume a position on the legal staff of the New Amsterdam Casualty Company.

During the early part of his life Mr. Kraus was very active in fraternal circles, being particularly prominent in the Masonic order. For twenty years he was Clerk of the Session of the Second Presbyterian Church. He always displayed an active interest in the affairs of the General German Aged People's Home; he was a director of the General German Orphan Home and a member of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. He belonged to the American Bar, Maryland State and Baltimore City Bar Associations, the Association of Insurance Counsel and the Barrister's Club.

Mr. Kraus was married to Marie Strohmeier, of Baltimore, by whom he had two sons. He began to suffer from ill health in December, 1942, and passed away on April 8, 1944.

A. W. KRAUS, JR.



EMIL BUDNITZ, who for many years took an active and prominent part in the legal and political life of Baltimore, was the son of Henry Budnitz, who was born in the town of Hirschfeld, Bavaria, and who came to America in

or shortly after the year 1848. He settled in Baltimore, and established himself in business as a manufacturer of cigars.

His son, Emil Budnitz, was born in South Baltimore on July 28th, 1862. He attended the public schools of Baltimore, and graduated from the Baltimore City College. It was his ambition to become a lawyer, and, upon leaving the Baltimore City College, he attended the Law School of the University of Maryland, receiving his law degree in 1881, when he was but 19 years of age. Upon being admitted to practice at the Bar, his efforts were rewarded with much success, and he soon established a flourishing law practice. In his early years at the Bar, he was associated, in the practice of his profession, with the late Peter J. Campbell, a well known attorney of that day, who was active in politics and at one time President of the Maryland State Senate.

Entering into the political field on his own account as a member of the Republican party, Mr. Budnitz was successful as a candidate for office and was elected and served as a member of the City Council of Baltimore in the years 1887 to 1890.

Thereafter he abstained from holding office, as he preferred to devote his energies to the practice of law, but for many years he was one of the leaders of the Republican party in Maryland. Forming a law partnership with his younger brother, Edmund Budnitz, he enjoyed a large practice, and became counsel for a large number of building and loan associations. He was one of the most active and best known attorneys in that field of the law, and was recognized as an authority on the law of real estate in Maryland. He took an active part in many civic and social organizations. For many years he was a member of the German Society of Maryland, and of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland. He was fond of the out-of-doors and was an ardent devotee of the game of golf.

Emil Budnitz died in the eighty-second year of his life, on January 13, 1944.

C. F. STEIN, JR.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

- DIETER CUNZ, Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland.—Born in 1910. Ph.D. in History at the University of Frankfurt a.M. 1934. Published a *European Constitutional History*, a biography *Ulrich Zwingli*; contributed to *Maryland Historical Magazine*, *William and Mary College Quarterly*, *Tyler's Historical Quarterly*, *American German Review*, *South Atlantic Quarterly*, *Publications of the Modern Language Association*, *New York Times Book Review*, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, *American Historical Review*, and others. Preparing a History of the Germans in Maryland.
- AUGUSTUS JOHN PRAHL, Associate Professor at the University of Maryland.—Born in 1901, studied German and Comparative Literature. M. A. at Washington University, St. Louis, 1928; Ph. D. at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, 1933. Taught at Indiana State University (1928-1930), at Johns Hopkins University (1930-1936), at the University of Maryland since 1936. Published *Gerstäcker and the Problems of His Time*, contributed to *Modern Language Quarterly*, *Modern Language Notes*, *Comparative Literature News-Letters*, *Monatshefte für Deutschen Unterricht*, *German Quarterly*, *American German Review*, *Books Abroad*.
- EDWARD FERDINAND ENGELBERT, Pastor of Martini Lutheran Church, Baltimore.—Born at Cullman, Alabama, in 1889. Studied Theology at Concordia College, Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri, 1908-1911. Reverend at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Birnamwood, Wisconsin, 1911-1918; at Martini Lutheran Church in Baltimore since 1918. Vice-President of the Southeastern District of the Missouri Synod; member of the Board of Directors of the Aid Association for Lutherans; Regional Chairman Valparaiso University.
- PAUL G. GLEIS, Head of the Department of German and Indo-European Philology of Catholic University, Washington, D. C.—Born in 1887. Ph. D. in Germanic Philology at the University of Münster, Westphalia, 1911. Connected with Catholic University since 1911. Editor of "Catholic University Studies in German," and the "Washington Journal"; contributed to scholarly periodicals, reference works, and other publications, including *Germanic Review*, *Catholic Historical Review*, *Journal of American Folklore*, *American German Review*, *Primitive Man*, *Fortnightly Review*, *Commonweal*, a. o.
- CHARLES RAYMOND GELLNER, Lt. (j. g.) in the U. S. Navy.—Born in Baltimore 1918. Studied at Loyola College, Baltimore; B. A. in 1940. Received fellowship in history from the Graduate School of Georgetown University in Washington, D. C. M. A. in History at Georgetown University 1942. Interrupted his work for a Ph. D. in history when he joined the navy in 1942.