

translation of article on pages 1, 3 and 5 of *Vakaro žinios*, 21 December 2011.

PDF of page 1 at:

<http://defendinghistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/WHOLE-FRONT-PAGE-HEADLINED-THE-JEWS-IN-TODAYS-POPULAR-EVENING-PAPER-VAKARO-ZINIOS-21-DEC-2011.pdf>

Web version on the *Vakaro žinios* website at:

http://www.respublika.lt/lt/naujienos/lietuva/lietuvos_politika/zydai_nemato_reikalo_mo_keti_sodrai/

Front page of the print edition (PDF at: <http://defendinghistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/Vakaro-zinios-ZYDAI-story-of-21-December-2011-3-pages.pdf>):

THE JEWS

See No Need to Pay their Social Security Taxes

Sodra [acronym for the state Social Security System] is constantly borrowing huge sums of money at huge interest instead of demanding payment of a half-billion litas owed it.

This is a form of easy credit for business giants and special organizations. The “House of Menachem” directed by rabbi Solomon [sic]

Krinski, for example, already owes one million litas, and the director doesn’t want to talk about it. And an investor praised by the government, Western Union, is also a million behind in payments, and other giants of business too.

See pages 3, 5

Translation of the entire article (following the web version):

The Jews See No Need to Pay their Social Security Taxes

December 21, 2011

by Ignas Jacauskas, zinios@vakarozinios.lt

As the government desperately tries to tax everything that moves, the privileged are not inclined to pay debts of one-half billion litas to Sodra [SOcialinis DRAudimas = Lithuanian social security —trans.]. Not only are investors being generously supported by the government, but so are Jewish organizations.

Investors Deceive

Over the last several weeks government representatives have been looking frantically for a way to cover the budget deficit next year and collect further tens of millions of litas. But the government seems to be forgetting that there are enterprises and agencies operating in the country who owe Sodra 471.5 million litas (not taking into account those that have gone bankrupt), many of which were not inclined this year to pay up.

Even investors worshipped by the government can be found on the list of the largest debtors to Sodra. Western Union, for example, the money transfer operation which is in debt to the tune of almost a million litas, and which this year was blessed with support of 6.5 million litas by disgraced former economics minister Dainius Kreivys. Kort Norman, director of Western Union Processing Lithuania, asked by *Vakaro Žinios* why such a wealthy company managed to get in debt for a million litas to Sodra and when the

company was planning to pay up, said via an assistant that [he would] “not comment on the situation.”

Millions at School

What the Jewish high school House of Menachem and the kindergarten of the same name are really doing is also unknown, because these institutions are in debt to Sodra for almost 900,000 litas, and the debt keeps growing. Deputy director Jurga Greblikiene says she doesn't understand anything about finance and that Rabbi Shalom Krinski, whom no one is able to contact, takes care of that.

“Only he can decide whether to call you back or not. He is independent and has his own opinion,” she explained. But the rabbi, of course, never called back.

The Klaipedos Kranai [Klaipeda Cranes] company owes Sodra more than 1.7 million litas. But director Mindaugas Lisauskas, asked when they were planning to pay their taxes, took much offense at such questions.

“Do you not live in Lithuania? Is it news to you that there is a construction crisis? We, too, pay taxes, we do all we can to pay. This year we're not planning to pay. Maybe next year, when we go abroad, to Hungary. Because we aren't needed by Lithuania,” he said, but asked how much he himself makes he limited himself to: “Two and a half times less than before.”

Sparkling only on the Surface

One of the biggest debtors is Lelija, once named the Lithuanian company of the year. Even after the fact that workers work under conditions of slavery for less than the minimum wage, the company according to Sodra information on December 19 was in debt for 1 million litas. Commercial director Nijole Markeviciene, however, denied that.

“What, are you joking? That Sodra has become tiresome, they've taken on all sorts of unqualified workers and announce any old thing. We are not in debt and haven't been for a long time, [their] information system is lagging behind,” Markeviciene said in avoiding the question.

The Arvi Kalakutai [Arvi Turkeys] company, pressed to the wall by financial problems, also allegedly owes 156,000 litas, although they successfully spend money on advertising campaigns. Director of Arvi and Co.'s board of directors Vidmantas Kucinskas said Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius is allowing them not to pay their debt.

There was an agreement on this when there was a difficult situation, I visited the prime minister. So a two-month delay is not a problem. Business pays all taxes, you know. But if business didn't pay, everything would close down," he said, trying to scare [us].

Rescuing Business

Laimonas Rudys, director of Sodra's payment administration department, admitted that exceptions are still being made for some companies if they are able merely to convince the government they are having a hard time.

"Lelija is still in debt for sure, I know that for sure. In general, if there were a way to pay that debt this year, we would have done it long ago. If the company has assets, we can have them seized. But, of course, there are also deferred payments, there are agreements, if the company is facing hard times. This is rescuing business, that's the policy. For Arvi, for example, payment was deferred with the assent of the Sodra board of directors. And if they have money for communication [advertising], well, that's business, that's how it goes," he explained.

The Top Ten Sodra Debtors as of December 19, 2011, not including those declared bankrupt (in millions of litas):

1. Kauno duona [Kaunas Bread] – 1.82
2. Klaipėdos Kranai – 1.73
3. OKZ HOLDING Baltija – 1.5
4. Vilniaus viešasis transportas [Vilnius Public Transport] – 1.37
5. LITHUN – 1.08
6. Lelija - 1
7. Western union processing Lithuania – 0.95
8. Švenčionių rajono švietimo skyrius [Svencionys Region Education Department] – 0.89
9. Lavera – 0.88

10. Kauno statybos ir remonto valstybinė įmonė [Kaunas Construction and Renovation State Enterprise] – 0.83

Debts by companies to Sodra (in millions of litas)

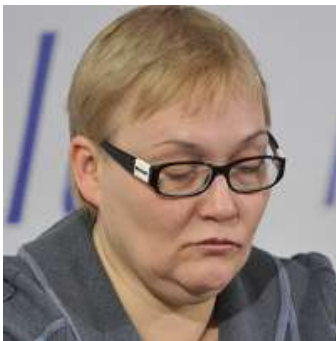
January 1, 2009 – 260.7

January 1, 2010 – 408.3

January 1, 2011 – 456.8

October 1, 2011 – 471.5

Economist Ausra Maldeikiene:



Business is in debt not just to Sodra, but to pensioners and everyone for whom social payments are paid. When this is a temporary problem, it's not clever to initiate bankruptcy. But there are bankrupt companies, Lelija for example, where they aren't creating job places, but slave places. And when a company is in debt for millions, but the director gets a salary of tens of thousands, that's absurd. The problem is that there is chaos in the state, it isn't determined whether these debts are temporary or permanent. And if taxes aren't paid for several years, that company or enterprise needs to be closed down immediately. We see daily how some flaunt [deride] the state, so why should Sodra be in order? But I don't understand why the accounts of these enterprises which deliberately don't pay taxes aren't seized. And if it is further claimed that the prime minister is allowing this, since when is Kubilius the law of the land? Is he Leonid Brezhnev? He cannot defer taxes, [only] Sodra staff can do that. If this is true, then it is obvious that telephone law exists in the country.

From Vakarų Žinios