

# NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 15 - No. 3  
Sept. 1990

Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations  
P. O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406



## CALENDAR

1990

## KALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- 3 Wed. CONVERSATIONAL CZECH CLASS  
7-9 p.m. (page 12)
- 7 Sun. HOMESTAY PROGRAM (page 5)  
AMBASSADORS REPORT

### NOVEMBER

- 20 Tues. "CZECH TALES" (page 13)  
Wilson Elementary School  
(\*\*Tentative Date\*\*)

### DECEMBER

- 1 Sat. SV. MIKULAS DAY  
Czech Museum

1991

### JANUARY

Details in ANNUAL MEETING  
Dec. issue

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## VÍTÁME VÁS - GREETINGS

Our Fall edition of the newsletter is greeting you and reminds us that summer is swiftly flying by. Now is the time the colorful harvest is to be enjoyed.

Our summer has been busy, but it was rewarding. The Czech Heritage Foundation participated in the Fairfax Hey Days Parade. We entered the float with the husa (goose) theme from last year along with live geese, thanks to the Kilbergers. We had decided to do one parade a year outside of Cedar Rapids alternating locations.

During the summer several families within our foundation played host to ten students from Czechoslovakia who were here on an exchange basis in

Ames, Iowa. The students stayed-over one week-end and it was very interesting. Mae and I shared our home with a young lady who was working on her doctorate and was a bio-chemist. She spoke fluent english and was very interesting to have stay with us.

We have had our Fall Festival, and this year's celebration was kind of an experiment. We had a nice crowd, but it was a one day affair with no breakfast or bingo. So many people were disappointed plans are to have a meeting to re-evaluate the event and go over what to do in '91. The Prince and Princess were chosen and a wonderful Pageant of Costumes was held. Patti Hikiji did a wonderful job of handling the Pageant of Costumes project.

The Annual Picnic was held in August at the Z.C.B.J. Park. About one hundred attended and enjoyed the wonderful potluck. It was a beautiful evening and the park looked so nice. The music and refreshment were enjoyed by all.

Our Homestay Ambassadors are back from Czechoslovakia and we are getting applications out for '91. Kristin Machacek and Todd Slezak will be showing their slides and telling us about their experiences next month at Asbury United Methodist Church. There will be more about this in a separate article within the newsletter. Everyone is invited to attend. Come join us for what I'm sure will be an educational afternoon.

One more newsletter and 1990 will be history. It has been an interesting and challenging year, and once again due to your cooperation, a successful one. Thank you.

Frank Novotny, Pres.

## KRÁTKÉ DĚJINY A SEZNAM

This "Brief History and Directory" is a volume of five hundred fifty-six pages, published in St. Louis in 1890. It lists and describes Czech Catholic parishes in the United States. The book is "In remembrance of the 25th jubilee of the Very Reverend Josefa Hessouna." "He compiled and published with the help of Very Reverend Ant. Peter Houšť."

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presented to the board of directors for their examination. At the June Czech Heritage Foundation board meeting the directors voted to endorse the plan and pledged \$7,500 to get the project started.

In July the Czech Fine Arts Foundation passed a resolution at their board meeting to begin work on a new museum which would include an archives and library, and provide space where cultural activities could be held. At the invitation of the Czech Fine Arts Foundation, the Czech Heritage Foundation has entered into discussions in an effort to combine the energy and talent from both groups.

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### CZECH PRINCE AND PRINCESS 1990-91

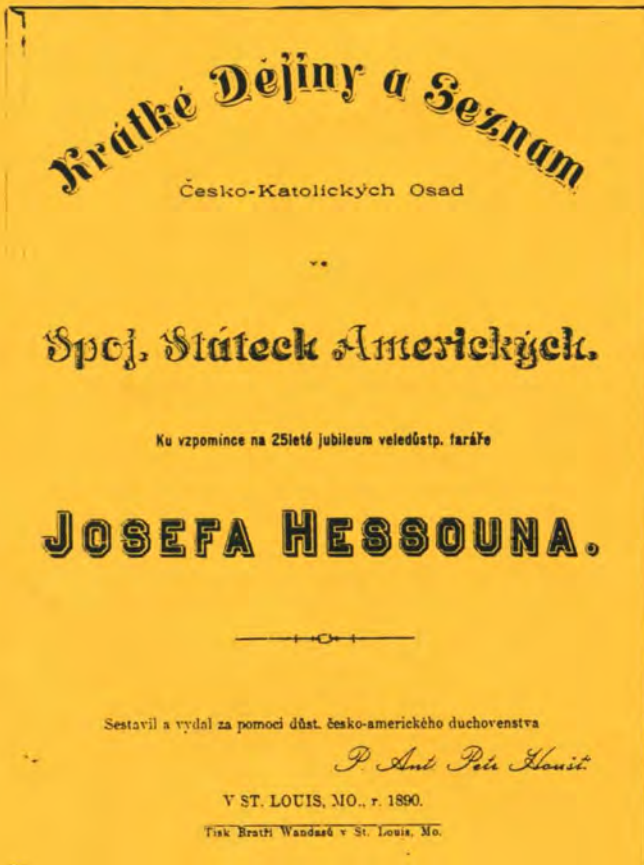
During the Annual Fall Festival on Saturday, September 8th, our Prince and Princess were chosen and presented at the bandstand. Evelyn Stejskal was Chairperson and was assisted by Leona Kaplan and Florence Dvorak. There were four applications as follows: Jeremy Dostal, thirteen, son of Matt and Jan Dostal; Josef Kralik, thirteen, son of Dave and Janice Kralik; Sarah Novotny, fifteen, daughter of Russ and Linda Novotny; Michelle Randklev, thirteen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Randklev.

The judges were Esther Lippert, Marge Stone, and Irma Binko, and it was my pleasure to announce the new Prince and Princess: Jeremy Dostal - Prince, Josef Kralik - Runner-up, Sarah Novotny - Princess, Michelle Randklev - Runner-up.

The Prince and Princess were presented a crown and tiara compliments of Dr. Alan Robb and the Czech Village Association, a \$50 Savings Bond from First Trust and Savings Bank and United States Bank, and a Czech costume from the Czech Heritage Foundation.

A sincere "Thank you" to the out-going Prince and Princess, Brian Faltis and Janet Kopecky. It was a pleasure working with them. We look forward to working with our newly appointed representatives in the months ahead.

Frank Novotny, Pres.



The pictures show many of the early churches in various states. The size and shape of many resemble the one-room rural schoolhouse with a belfry! Pictures of religious leaders are also included.

Books of these kind need to be preserved and shared with others. They contain a wealth of information for individuals researching their family's history.

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### AN ARCHIVES UPDATE

In April our Czechoslovak Archives and Cultural Center Committee met and compiled a proposal containing a list of objectives and timetable for a new educational facility in Cedar Rapids. In May the completed proposal was

THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

(Matice Vyššího Vzdělání) scholarship of \$1,000 was awarded this year to Danica Novotny. Danica was one of our Czech Heritage Foundation Homestay Program Ambassadors to Czechoslovakia in 1987.

Miss Novotny was also the recipient of the local Komensky Society Scholarship in 1988 when she graduated from Linn-Mar High School. She has attended UNI (Cedar Falls) the last two years and now will attend Trenton N.J. State College. After a year in the East she plans to return to UNI. Her major is Business Administration and Psychology.

Students of Czech ancestry are eligible to apply for an interest free student loan from the Council of Higher Education. Application can be made after your first year of college, and loan grants are based on grades and other criteria. Students repay the loan after graduation.

Matice Vyššího Vzdělání originally started in Iowa and later moved to Illinois.

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GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS ALL YEAR

Do you know someone, a friend or relative, who isn't a member of the Czech Heritage Foundation? Why not sign them up? All it takes is \$3.00 and the new member will receive this quarterly publication. The Naše České Dědictví is overflowing with information about current events, news items, biographical studies and histories.

Write to us at P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406

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EXPERIMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LIVING

Each summer since 1984 our foundation has sponsored area high school students in the Experiment in Int'l Living cultural exchange. We are now seeking applicants for next summer's homestay.

To qualify, the student must be a junior during this 90-91 academic year, be a resident of Cedar Rapids or the surrounding area, and be of some Czech ancestry.

Ambassadors in the E.I.L. Homestay Program spend an entire month living

with a host family in or near Prague, Czechoslovakia. In preparation for their journey, grant recipients attend Czech language classes and orientations. Upon their return the ambassadors share their experiences with local civic and fraternal organizations.

This year's Homestay Ambassadors, just back from four weeks in Europe, are Kristin Machacek and Todd Slezak.

Todd Slezak, son of Wayne and Judith Slezak of Swisher, Iowa, tells us of his "Experiment in International Living." -

Kristin Machacek and I arrived in Prague at about 1:00 p.m. We both were excited to be there but didn't know what to expect. I was greeted by my brother Peter and my aunt Regina. We said our hellos and then we were off. I was to begin one of the most memorable experiences of my life.

My mother, Iva Minarik, and brother, Peter lived in a seven story flat in Prague. We were in the district of Zelisjeho. My mother's parents were a twenty-five minute walk away, and it was well worth the trip around lunch time. I also had an aunt Regina and Uncle Peter. Years before, when she played competitively, Aunt Regina was in the top ten of the world in women's tennis. I enjoyed spending time with her very much. I made many friends during my stay in Czechoslovakia.

Prague was my home for the first three weeks of my visit. In that time I think I was able to cover every square inch. We visited Petrin Hill, the Vltava River, St. Wenceslaus Square, and Prague Castle. I also was able to take-in the Memorial of National Literature and the National Museum. Nothing was left out. There were numerous one day trips to lakes and caves that I also enjoyed.

I was able to spend a week at a Boy Scout/Girl Scout camp. I had the best time there. The kids ranged from seven to seventeen years of age. All of the campers were intrigued with the "Americano," and we did the best we could to communicate. I will never forget sitting at the campfire with all of them, singing Czech folk songs.

cont.

I miss Czechoslovakia very much and wish to go back. I owe the Czech Heritage Foundation a "Thank You" for giving me the opportunity to go to Czechoslovakia. I had a great time and plan to go back someday!

Kristin Machacek, daughter of David and Marcia Machacek of Alburnett, Iowa shares her Homestay experience with us. -

Todd and I arrived in Czechoslovakia and were greeted by my new sister, Martina and her father, Bohumil. Todd's new brother, Petr and his Aunt Regina were there also. After quick introductions Martina and her father literally "whisked" me away from the airport. Fifteen minutes of crazy Czech driving and we were home. "Home" for my stay in Czechoslovakia was a flat in a six floor "cooperative home" in Prague 6.

The Klein family included my father Bohumil, my mother Anna (Mami), my sixteen-year-old sister Martina, and my thirteen-year-old brother Tomas (who I might add, was taller than me). My father, as I understood, was a supervisor in a cold storage corporation. My mother worked at the bank in Prague on Wenceslaus Square.

My first week was spent in Prague, touring the castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, Jewish Town, St. Nicholas Church, the American Embassy, and Strahov Monastery. Mami even bought us concert tickets to the Prague Symphony Orchestra.

We stayed at the family cottage that first week-end. It's located in southern Bohemia. There I had my first taste of real Czech kolache. Mami was a wonderful cook! We went on a hiking trip with my father's family in the Sumava Mountains. I had never been hiking and the view from up on the mountain was beautiful. I even got to sit on the Czech-Austrian and Czech-Austrian-German borders!

My second week I visited Karlovy Vary (Charles Spa). The spa towns are some of the most beautiful places in Czechoslovakia! We toured the cities of Marianske Lazne, and Cheb. On the way home we visited Krivoklat Castle and the town of Lany, where the President's weekend cottage is

located.

The family cottage was our home for most of the third week. There I met many people my age and made some pretty close friends. We made day trips to Ceske Budovice, Hluboka, Cesky Krumlov, and Trebon. During one of the days at my stay at the cottage we picked blueberries. On another hiking trip I saw where the Iron Curtain had been.

Shopping and having fun in Prague made up my final week in Czechoslovakia. I met a friend of Martina's named Susana, and we spent three days with her. We joined-up with Todd, Petr, and Mickey (a friend of Petr's) the last Friday before we left and tackled Prague together. The Sunday before we left we were interviewed by Channel 1 from New York for an educational show in America. They followed us around while we tried to show them a typical day of an American in Czechoslovakia. That night I saw my Czech grandma and grandpa for the first time. Boy! I wish I had had more time with them! My grandma was a great cook and I left there feeling absolutely stuffed!

Todd and I almost called home two days before we left to tell our parents we were staying another week. We loved Czechoslovakia so much and were having such a good time. Knowing it was impossible and not wanting to overstay our welcome, we decided we must say good-bye to all our new friends. Mickey and Martina really wanted us to stay longer.

My family was wonderful and made me feel very welcome. I left there feeling like part of the family. The Kleins really pulled out all the stops to make my stay a great one. I came home with a better Czech vocabulary, some souvineers of my visit, and lots of pictures. Most importantly, I came home with priceless memories of sights, sounds, and experiences that will stay with me for the rest of my life. I will never forget Czechoslovakia! I want to thank the Czech Heritage Foundation for sending us. It was the most memorable experience of my life! I plan to keep in close contact with my family because someday I'm going back!

Thank you so much for this opportunity!

cont.

Kristin and Todd want to invite all of you to their Homestay Presentation on October 7th, at 2:00 p.m., at Asbury United Methodist Church, 336 27th Ave. S.W. in Cedar Rapids. Here they will have the opportunity to share more of their experiences with you and answer any questions you may have about their learning experience.

This will also be a great time for students interested in applying for next year's Homestay to get a chance to find out more about the program.

Applications for Homestay grants are now available by contacting Sherlee Peterson,

Applications must be completed and returned no later than November 1st.

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DÁMSKÉHO SBORU MATICE ŠKOLSKÉ  
(Ladies Educational Society)

To be eligible for a scholarship from our group, students must be of Czech ancestry, graduate from a high school in Linn County, and attend a college or university in Iowa.

This year the society has awarded \$400 scholarships to these ten high school graduates: Sharon Pruss, Washington H.S., Univ. of Iowa; Sarah Kathryn Balik, Washington H.S., Univ. of Northern Iowa; Kimberly Sue Fisk, Kennedy H.S., Iowa State Univ.; Jason W. Panek, LaSalle H.S., Univ. of Iowa; Lisa Peterson, LaSalle H.S., Mt. Mercy College; Melissa Dunlop, Washington H.S., Univ. of Iowa; Ann Simon, Jefferson H.S., Univ. of Iowa; Lori Stahle, Regis H.S., Iowa State Univ.; Kristin Kaplan, Jefferson H.S., Univ. of Iowa; Warren Valenta, Northern Iowa Univ., second year scholarship.

Florence Dvorak

KOLACHE - A TASTE OF THE OLD WORLD

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The most popular pastry of Czechoslovakia is undoubtedly the kolache. The name of the pastry is from the word "kolo" which means round in Czech and the ending of the word defines a native sentimental attachment to the bun.

Kolaches have a tradition of being served at Czech weddings. But weddings are not the only place to serve the delicious kolaches. Kolaches are tasty for any occasion.

The origin of the kolache is somewhat obscured. One version in the wealth of folklore of the Old World, is said to be true.

"Maminka", busy with her weekly task of baking bread, broke off a few pieces of dough with which she gave to her little daughter, Lebuse. The little cook made her dough into round flat cakes. Looking for some added flavor, she selected several plums from a bowl on a table and placed the fruit in the center of the dough. Lebuse's cake went into the oven alongside Maminka's loaves of bread. Tatinek, coming in from the fields, spied the bakery cooling. He selected the tart and popped it into his mouth. Little Lebuse clapped her hands and shouted with joy, "Tatinek, jo do kolach." The flavor was remembered, friends and neighbors learned of the tasty pastry. Soon the fame of the kolache spread throughout to become a favorite of people everywhere.

Chamber of Commerce,  
Caldwell, Texas

P O Č A S Í

V ponděli bylo počasí pěkné,  
V uterý trvalo ještě,  
Ve středu náhle přihnál se vítr,  
Ve čtvrtek bouře a děstě,  
V pátek tak nějak nejiště bylo,  
V sobotu cely den mraly,  
V neděli všude promoknul kde kdo-  
A já až do kůže taky!

Submitted by C. Krejci

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

For centuries friction has existed between some Czechs and Slovaks in Europe. In every country there are those individuals who long for freedom under their terms. Freedom, as defined by a small faction of the Slovak community, means political autonomy from the Czechs. During the recent rebirth of democracy in Czechoslovakia these Slovaks once again cried out for freedom under their terms. But during communism's death last winter there was not to be a separation of Slovakia from Bohemia and Moravia. The unsettled Slovaks did however manage to have granted one of their wishes, longed for since 1918. The name of the newly formed democratic republic was coined, Czech and Slovak Federative Republic.

Even though the majority of Slovaks have accepted the idea of the capital of Czechoslovakia being in Prague, there are still those who demand an independent Slovakia and will not rest until that day dawns -

JEDNOTA PRINTERY, Middletown, Pennsylvania is an organization which supports the idea and drive for an independent Slovakia. Below are excerpts from one of many brochures giving their side of the story: Czecho-Slovakia or Czechoslovakia, by Philip A. Hrobak, 1956 -

The treaty by which Czecho-Slovakia came into being out of the rubble and ashes of the Hapsburg Empire recognized the fact that the Czechs and Slovaks had agreed to form a joint political state, as political equals and as two distinct ethnic entities and hence, the form used for the name in the treaty creating the new state was not the solid word "Czechoslovakia," but the hyphenated form "Czecho-Slovakia."

The Czechs and Slovaks were supposed to enjoy equal rights, privileges, and responsibilities in their joint state. T. G. Masaryk told the Slovaks not to worry about being majorized by the more numerous Czechs: the Slovaks would manage their own household, while the Czechs would be masters in their land; the new state would be a federation like Switzerland

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or the United States. Because the Slovaks of America did not trust Masaryk, they asked him to put it in writing; he did on May 30, 1918, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, when he drafted and signed the Pittsburgh Agreement. Without it Czecho-Slovakia never would have been born. This agreement is reproduced here (below) as documentary proof that "Czecho-Slovak(ia)" was spelled with a hyphen.

However, once T.G. Masaryk, Dr. Edward Benes, and their socialistic political entourage took over the government of the new State in Prague, the tendency developed to drop the hyphen and use the solid form.

The Slovaks resisted the tendency and protested against it many times, but to no avail. In time the Czechs were able to influence historians, lexicographers, writers, university professors, editors, and government printing offices to drop the hyphen...

To the Slovaks, omitting the hyphen means the denial of their national existence and subordination and subservience to the Czechs.

Today, Slovaks everywhere cry out resolutely: NO MORE CZECHOSLOVAKIA!

That, of course, would definitely solve the question of the hyphen. America helped to liberate the Slovaks from the Magyars and was in a great measure responsible for the creation of Czecho-Slovakia in 1918. America stands for the freedom and independence of all nations, whether large or small. How then can any responsible American insist that Slovaks must forever be dominated by the Czechs?



It will be interesting to see what the historians, map makers, and the like do with Czechoslovakia's new official title in the years ahead. What will we in the U.S. call Czechoslovakia five years from now? It's anyone's guess. cont.

The animosity that exists between some Czechs and Slovaks will probably never go away. The conditions which are present today didn't spring-up overnight. They are a result of several clashes throughout history between the two slavic groups, the most recent and unfortunate of which occurred less than fifty years ago when Slovakia, yearning for independence at any price, briefly aligned themselves with Germany's Adolf Hitler.

\* \* \* \* \*

**"DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!"**

In the mid-thirties Chicagoland airwaves were filled with the sounds of Czech history. Educational radio broadcasts were heard weekly, offering Czech listeners an opportunity to learn about their heritage, and to better acquaint non-Czech listeners with their Czech neighbors. A printed program guide of the entire broadcast series was available at a nominal fee. Below is the cover and inside front cover piece-



*First Radio Lessons*

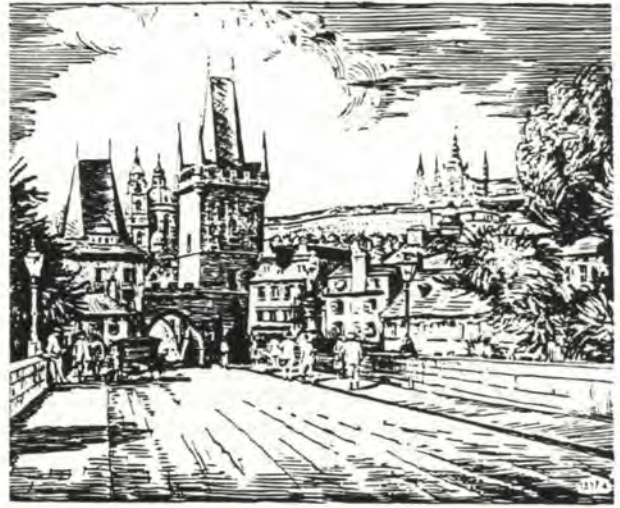
**IN CZECH HISTORY**

OVER STATION  
**WHFC**  
 ON SUNDAYS  
 AT 11:30 A. M.



\* \* \* \* \*

Here's a transcript of broadcast number XIX., "Bohemia in the Period from 1848 to the World War" aired on April 4, 1937 -  
 Though the Czechs had taken a



View of the Towers at the West End of the Famed Charles Bridge. — St. Nicholas Church, the Royal Castle, and St. Vitus Cathedral in the background.

One of several illustrations from "First Radio Lessons in Czech History"

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**A NEW RADIO SERIES IN CZECH HISTORY  
 BY THE CZECH ARTS RADIO  
 LEAGUE**

The Czech Arts Radio League has rendered Czech Chicagoland many services during the past years, when we endeavored to prove our loyalty to our cultural heritage. The broadcast of former series in the Czech Language, Grammar, Songs and Literary Gems proved an excellent medium for promoting interest and appreciation in our cultural ideals.

Now the Czech Arts Radio League offers a new series of broadcasts, consisting of dramatizations of the history of Bohemia and Czechoslovakia from earliest beginnings to the present time. The series will run through 24 consecutive Sundays, from Nov. 29 to May 9, 1937. Each unit will feature an important era or movement in Czech history. Several of the later programs will deal with the Czechs in the United States.

The eighth grade of the following parish schools alternate in presenting the series: Blessed Agnes, St. Procopius, St. Ludmila, and Our Lady of the Mount. Dr. Joseph Čada prepared and presents the text.

In order that the radio audience may find it easier to follow each program and that it may possess an outline for future reference the lesson material for the whole series is published by the Bohemian Benedictine Press, 1637 Allport St., Chicago and offered at 10 cents per copy, postpaid 12 cents.

Culturally, history is philosophy teaching through example and grows into a sacred source from which spring ideas and principles of conduct for all nations. The history of the Czech people is an inspiring narrative of a nation whose unconquerable spirit has endured through centuries of adversity, and whose hopes and aspirations were finally realized in our own generation.

Your interest in our historical series will be an inspiration and incentive to further action.

REV. ERNEST J. ŽIŽKA, O.S.B., director.

Copyrighted 1937 by Ernest J. Žižka.  
 Printed by the Bohemian Benedictine Press,  
 Chicago, Ill.

comparatively strong stand in the Revolution of 1848, they failed because of their inexperience in political affairs. In reality the Revolution was an exhibition of cont.

Bohemian national consciousness rather than an exposition of a well-laid political program. It served well to point out the weakness of the nationalists.

Stifled by a reaction which set in from 1849 to 1860 the Bohemians could do little politically. After 1860, however, their activity flourished and developed. It was evident both at home and in the parliament of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. The leader of all political action was Ladislav Rieger, who as a spokesman of the Czechs advocated a federal organization for Austria-Hungary.

Any success in politics would have been well-nigh impossible without a corresponding cultural and economic development of the country. Literature flourished, science developed, and the educational system was perfected. The growth of railroads and the perfection of machinery coupled with the experience, which the Bohemians had as industrialists, made Bohemia a leader in the industrial production of Austria-Hungary.

The twentieth century found Bohemia still in the process of demanding her ancient rights and privileges. She had already been allowed a certain freedom of action at home, but in the Austro-Hungarian Empire she was still subordinate. Before the outbreak of the World War, the Bohemian statesmen had made several attempts to improve the status of their country. Their efforts were fruitless. When the War broke out Bohemia was definitely confirmed in her plan of separation from the Empire.

Please let us know of other educational radio projects which have existed in your city. We are aware of several Czech radio programs past and present which feature(d) music and poetry, etc..., but would like to learn of other radio or even television Czech history lessons, either aired in the Czech language or English. Please write to us today. We would like to share this information with our members across the United States.

Why not talk to your local Czech organizations. With the help of Czech businessmen and women as co-sponsors they might attempt to revive interest

in their culture and heritage through education via radio and television.

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LETTERS TO OLGA is now available in paperback from your bookseller. It is published by Henry Holt & Co., N.Y. under their Owl Book Editions. The book includes nearly four hundred pages from the heart and soul of Czechoslovakia's new playwright-turned-president, Vaclav Havel. The letters sent to his wife during his political incarceration, "reveal a man of formidable moral courage defending his dignity and identity under circumstances of humiliation and deprivation... Havel presents in this classic work a profound meditation on totalitarianism and dissent." The publisher asks \$16.95 for the volume, ISBN#0-8050-0973-6 - a small price to pay for an autobiographical insight into the man whose true belief in his countrymen's social consciousness delivered him to the presidency.

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THE AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION requests the honor of your presence at the celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Sokol in America. On Saturday, November 10th, Sokols from across the globe will converge on the Chicagoland area to join in the festivities.

In Czechoslovakia, twice within our lifetime, the Sokol flame was dimmed - first by the fascists and then by the communists. Today the warm flame of Sokol brotherhood is flickering brightly and Sokols throughout the Czech and Slovak Federation are rising and organizing. Tyršův Dům, the Sokol headquarters, as well as the many Sokol halls, have been returned to their rightful owners - Sokols.

This 125th Anniversary celebration is in reality a remembrance of those who, before us, labored to give to us this wonderful Sokol heritage.

Join us in this evening of celebration. Entertainment will be provided by the skilled Czech dancers of Sokol Greater Cleveland, Ohio and gymnasts of Sokol Ft. Worth, Texas. Music courtesy of Charles Mach and the Int'l Brass Band.

For more information write:  
Banquet Committee c/o Roy Zitny, 574  
Revere Ave., Westmont, IL 60559  
From August '90 American Sokol



SIXTY-TWO YEARS AGO THIS MONTH, players of the Ochoťnické Druŕstvo (Volunteer Dramatic Society) presented "Naše Anĉí Ráda Tanĉí" before an audience of eight hundred at the Ā.S.P.S. Hall in Cedar Rapids.



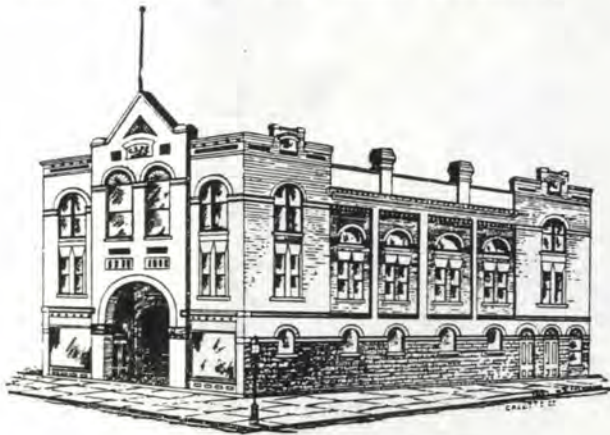
Three characters from the play presented on September 30, 1928 Pi. Dymkova, portrayed by Marie A. Zivney, her son (left) played by Frank Machovsky, and her chauffeur, Frank Sykora



Cast members standing from left to right: Frank Sykora, Mrs. Marie A. Zivney, Alma Shimanek, Charles Pulkrab, Vlasta Vondracek, Charles Topinka, Vaclav Picek, Mary Vrbicky, Rose Melsha, Jaroslav Zivney, Mary Pulkrab, Adolf Topinka, Mrs. Pulkrab, Mrs. Pavla Hromadka. Foreground from left: Frank Machovsky, Rose Paidar, T.B. Hlubucek. These identifications are correct to the best of our knowledge. If any are incorrect, please contact us.

**DIVADLO - LIVE THEATRE**

Several Czech dramatic organizations or "theatre production companies" have existed in Cedar Rapids over the years. Each enjoyed varying degrees of success and longevity. While there hasn't been an active Czech acting troupe in this area for over thirty years, at one time there were as many as three and four competing for an audience during the same season.



Stará síň Č. S. P. S. v Cedar Rapids.

On special occasions, such as the 50th anniversary celebration of the founding of Cedar Rapids, there were two different Czech plays offered on



the very same day. As the back cover of this souvineer program commemorating the event illustrates, both plays, "Naši Furianti" and

**Naši Furianti,**

sehraje ve čtvrtek 14. června 1906

**Ochotnické Druztvo.**

Výtěžek čistý věnován bude českému dni.

**NEPOKRADEŠ!**

Cizí zlato neblaží.

cinohra se čtyřech jednáních s předhrou.

**Dramatický sbor "Česká Lípa"**

ve čtvrtek večer dne 14. června 1906

"Nepokradeš," presented by Ochotnické Druztvo and Česká Lípa, respectively, could be taken-in on June 14, 1906.

These theatrical productions were not shoddy and thrown together by any means. Carefully designed sets with beautifully decorated backdrops adorned the stage. Over the years, the groups secured thousands of dollars worth of properties and scenery. Most of the scenery was painted by local artists and reflected an old world atmosphere depicting houses, street scenes, and landscapes of old Bohemia.

The actors and actresses took their roles very seriously and spent hours going over their lines and stage directions. Also used was a prompter's box at the front of the stage, just below stage level, and protected from the audience by a small shell-shaped screen. The prompter, directly off stage, would feed the lines to the cast and coach them throughout the play. Use of the prompter's box was quite commonplace, and just one of many borrowed European customs.

These productions were not taken lightly by either the participants or the audiences. The Czech theatre in Cedar Rapids played a very important role in the social life of the Czech citizen. Further proof of the size and scope of these productions can be seen in the extensive cast lists

cont.

for the two previously mentioned stageplays.

home to a unique acting troupe which has for twenty years entertained thousands in rural Eastern Iowa. They have become very popular and enjoy a wide audience. cont.

Ve prospěch českého dne sehraje Ochoťnické Družstvo v siní Č.S.P.S.

VE ČTVRTEK VEČER DNE 14. ČERVNA 1906:

# "NAŠI FURIANTI,"

Obraz ze života v české vesnici ve 4 dějstvích od L. Stroupežnického. - - - Řízením Jana J. Hrbka  
Poprvé provozováno v Cedar Rapidsích dne 20. března 1893.

## OSOBY

Filip Dubský, sedlák a starosta obce honické..... O. Hašek	Kristina, 17-letá.....	al. Marie Julišová
Marie Dubská, jeho žena..... pl. E. Hájková	Kačenka, 15 letá.....	al. Irma Hájková
Václav, jejich syn..... Václav Janda	Josiček, 13-letý.....	Leon Hášek
Petr Dubský, Filipův otec, vjezdník..... Jan J. Hrbek	Popička, 11-letá.....	Bela Hrbková
Jan, Bulek, sedlák a íní radní v Honicích. Dr. A. M. Hášek	Mauča, 9 letá.....	Lucie Matyková
Františka Buňková, jeho žena..... al. Anželka Julišová	Filipěk, 7-letý.....	Závia Hášek
Vernuška, jejich dcera..... pl. Marie Matyková	Františka, 5-letá.....	Elžka Hrbek
Martin, jejich syn..... pl. Miroslav Hášek	Obecní kovář.....	Václav Svoboda
Matěj Šumbal, sedlák a obecní výbor..... Alois Brjdl	Karel Kadřička, učitel v Radotických a písař	
Marie, jeho žena..... al. Šárka Hrbková	obce honické..... Josef Pichner	
Pavel Kolený, sedlák a obecní výbor..... Milvoj Hášek	Marek Ehrman, majitel hospody v Honicích, J. F. Jadrůček	
Kašpar Smejkal, sedlák a obecní výbor..... F. Engelthaler	Tobáš Nedochodil.....	obecní úředník od Domesle al. Ot. Horkova
Valentín Bláha, vysokouhlý voják..... Dr. F. V. Hášek	Závodčí četník z městečka Rotice..... Vinc. Kubovec	
Josef Habršperk, švec..... Dr. V. O. Hášek	Vojta, čeledín na živnosti Dubachého..... Karel Knaul	
Fiala, krejčí..... Ant. Vondráček	První muzikant..... K. F. Kirchner	
Terenka, jeho žena..... al. Vlasta Hrbková		

Čtyř muzikanti, ženy, děti, čelef, chasanici, sonesed.

Dějství I. a IV. hraje se na návsi v Honicích, dějství II v hospodě a III. ve světnici u starosty Dubského.

Hudba Pirklova Orkestru. - - - Začátek určitě v 8 hodin večer  
Vstupné: Osoba 25c., dívky 15 centů.

V katolické síni sehraje sbor "Česká Lípa" 14. června :

# "Nepokradeš, aneb Cizí zlato neblaží,"

Obraz ze života ve 3 jed. s předehrou "Tollár s Panenkou Marií" v 1. jed., přel. Eliška Pešková.

## OSOBY VE HŘE:

Šebesta Kornoutek, kupecký mládenec ..... Frant. Trčka  
Protop Brouk, jeho strýček..... Jan Kozák  
Vykřabal, majitel loterie..... František Maronek  
Paní Kodráčková..... al. Marie Broulíková  
Paní Klepáčková..... al. Růžena Židova  
Paní Křepelová, vdova..... al. Anna Jákova  
První host..... Václav Mach  
Druhý host..... Karel Chadima  
Sirotek..... Frant. Šebesta  
Sluha telegrafního úřadu..... Josef Bárta

## OSOBY V PŘEDHŘE:

Sebastian Kornoutek, bohatý kupec ..... Frant. Trčka  
Karel, jeho syn ..... Josef Sýkora  
Marie, jeho dcera..... al. Emma Kozáková  
Protop Brouk, kulvědosvec ..... Jan Kozák  
Londal, kupecký mládenec..... Josef Písařík  
Ondřej Diabal, sládek..... Josef Hroník  
Otokar Veselý, medik..... Jan Hrynek  
Doktor..... Václav Nachštel  
Verera, stavitel..... Karel Chadima  
Lord Elbourn..... František Jála  
Paní Křepelová..... al. Anna Jákova  
Starý Jonáš, havíř..... Václav Mach  
Matěj, jeho syn..... Josef Bárta

Přaví, hudebníci, sloužící, lid obého pohlaví. Předehra hraje se o 20 let dřívě.

The Czech dramatic organizations didn't always compete for an audience. Often, they would share them! For example on Sunday, November 25th, 1945, members of both the Ochoťnické Družstvo and Dramatický Kroužek Z.Č.B.J. (Dramatic Circle) teamed-up to present, "Tam Na Horach."

Czech theatre in Cedar Rapids has long gone, but there are two recent developments in our area which may be of interest -

**OLD CREAMERY THEATRE**

Garrison, Iowa is

cont. next col.



## Učinkující v operetě "Tam na horách"

Stojící od leva do prava: M. L. Hromádka, hudební říditel a dirigent; Milo Naxera (strážník Kokta); Wencil Andrlé (Daneš); Vincenc Kubovec (starosta Vosáhlo); Jan Cimburek (Skřivan); Václav Píček, režisér a říditel. Sedící od leva do prava: Jaroslav Drahozval (profesor Algebra); Růža Bartůňková (Fanča); Milada Mahringová (Alena); Julie Vyskočilová (Bártová); Helenka Sýkorová (Máša); Frank Sýkora (Tonda). Na obrázku schází August Šulčík, který pro své zaměstnání nemohl se dostavit k fotografii.

Photos on page 9 courtesy of Jaroslav Zivney. Reference material for Divadlo article offered by Charles Vyskocil.

## SLAVNOSTNÍ PŘEDSTAVENÍ

na ukončení činnosti Českého Národního Sdružení v Cedar Rapids pořádají pod její záštitou

Dramatický Kroužek Západní Česko-Bratrské Jednoty a Ochoťnické Družstvo Cedar Rapids za spolupůsobení Pěveckého Kroužku Karla Masarykova, Č. S. A.

v neděli, dne 25. listopadu 1945, v siní Z. Č. B. J.

divadlo

## "TAM NA HORÁCH"

Opereta o třech jednáních z českých pohraničních hor

NAPSAL J. S. LUKAS

Hudbu složil Eduard Ingriš

Orchestrální úprava V. F. Fišer

## OSOBY:

Barbara Bártová, hostinská "U Horské Růže"..... Julie Vyskočilová, člen Dram. Kr. Z. Č. B. J.  
Máša, její dcera..... Helenka Sýkorová, člen Dram. Kr. Z. Č. B. J.  
Dr. Vojta Daneš, majitel restaurace "U Horské Růže," W. Andrlé, člen Dram. Kr. Z. Č. B. J.  
Profesor Polydor Algebra, učenec..... Jaroslav Drahozval, člen Dram. Kr. Z. Č. B. J.  
Leopold Skřivan, komerční rada..... Jan Cimburek, člen Dram. Kr. Z. Č. B. J.  
Alena, jeho dcera..... Milada Mahringová, člen Dram. Kr. Z. Č. B. J.  
Erhart Weiser, ředitel panství..... August Šulčík, člen Ochoťnického Družstva  
Tonda Kozel, člášník..... Frank Sýkora, člen Ochoťnického Družstva  
Fanča, děvče "U Horské Růže"..... Růža Bartůňková, člen Ochoťnického Družstva  
Bartoloměj Vosáhlo, starosta..... Vincenc Kubovec, člen Ochoťnického Družstva  
Kokta, strážník..... Milo Naxera, člen Ochoťnického Družstva

## Vesnická chasa

Děje se v malebném zákoutí pohraničních hor v Československu  
Ředitel a režisér: VÁCLAV PÍČEK, člen a předseda Ochoťnického Družstva  
Dirigent: M. L. HROMÁDKA, člen a předseda Dramatického Kroužku Z. Č. B. J.  
Zpěvy nacvičila: Paní ELIŠKA DRAHOZVALOVÁ, členka Dramatického Kroužku Z. Č. B. J., která též hraje píano při operetě

Taneční vločky: SOKOLICE CEDAR RAPIDS

Upravil hudbu prof. J. H. Kitchina doprovází zpěvy

Jevíště o světa: KAREL VYSKOČIL, člen Dramatického Kroužku Z. Č. B. J.

Maskování: T. B. HLUBUČEK, člen Ochoťnického Družstva

BOHOUS MIŠKA, člen Dramatického Kroužku Z. Č. B. J.

Napovídá: MARIE JANEBOVÁ, člen Ochoťnického Družstva

Not only do they entertain, by offering the standard stageplays, but they take great pride in their educational efforts as well. The Old Creamery Theatre Company has toured for each of the past nineteen seasons with an original story theatre production, featuring material from many different cultures and traditions, including Oriental, Scandinavian, African, Appalachian, and Native American.

This year the troupe is presenting, "Czech Tales," the dramatization of Czechoslovak folk stories and songs designed for young people ages four to sixteen. The production (in English) features stories from the "old country," complimented by both live and recorded Czech music. The twenty-five minute play actively involves the youngsters, as they become part of the cast. A brief question and answer period with the actors follows the performance. The Old Creamery Theatre Company has brought "Czech Tales" to several Eastern Iowa schoolrooms to the delight of many.

The 1990 touring season is coming to a close, but for those interested in learning more about future productions write: Old Creamery Theatre Co. P.O. Box 160, Garrison, Iowa 52229.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### REVIVAL OF THE THEATRE

When the performing arts ensemble Drawing Legion relocated from Iowa City to Cedar Rapids recently, they found a most appropriate place to set up shop. The owners of the C.S.P.S. Hall were looking for tenants that could utilize the great hall's openness and space, and when Drawing Legion's Mel Andringa and F. John Herbert saw the possibilities C.S.P.S. had to offer, it wasn't long before a deal was struck.

The artists have plans to renovate the interior of the structure, and are looking for ideas and assistance from any interested parties. Current plans include studios, a gallery, performance area, living space, and even a Czech museum on the third floor.

A large part of the renovation project will be based on information gathered by the new tenants from members of the Czech community in Cedar Rapids. Herbert, who is researching the history of their new

home, is seeking historical information from any and all sources. Photographs of the facility taken during the last hundred years must surely exist and would greatly assist in the effort. Any photographs loaned to Herbert for use in his research will be kept safe and returned to the owners after copies are made. Any assistance our foundation members could render would be appreciated.

The Drawing Legion has toured twenty states and Europe and in November will present their latest creation titled, "American Nervousness" at Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. This "New Wave" acting troupe blends several art media with history, and autobiography, to create an almost unbelievable imagery. Scenes from past performances stretch the imagination with such depictions as Winston Churchill on the moon, Michelangelo creating the world's largest jigsaw puzzle, and Enrico Caruso shipwrecked on Mars. Their latest production "American Nervousness" includes portrayals of Cedar Rapids' reknown Cherry Sisters and Thomas Hart Benton.

If you have information and/or photographs to share with the Drawing Legion, contact them at the hall, located at 3rd Street and 11th Avenue S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa or call (319) 364-1580.

\* \* \* \* \*

# Conversational Czech



Language classes will resume next month. We have all taken the summer off and now it's time once again to blow the dust off that old Czech book. First night of class will be Wednesday, October 3rd, and will be held at 28 - 25th Ave. S.W. Cedar Rapids, Iowa (accessible from Bowling St.). Subsequent classes will be held at 1300 2nd St. S.E., Cedar Rapids. Hours for the eight week advanced course will be 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information contact: Olga Drahozal,

THE FIALA FAMILY TREE

Harvey E. Fiala has an offer for all those Fialas out there. He's compiling books about them, for them. The first, to be completed in about two months, includes all the Fialas he's related to, the second scheduled for completion in a year or so will include all Fiala lines. There are seven other Fiala lines that he's aware of that are unrelated.

Fiala has researched his family ancestry for over six years and has discovered there are over one thousand living descendants in the United States from his great grandfather Frank Fiala. There are three hundred and sixty different households, one hundred and forty-six with the Fiala surname. Forty-nine families are in California, seventeen in North Dakota, six in Iowa, and one hundred and eighty-three in Nebraska.

Six months ago Fiala learned that his great grandfather, who came to the U.S. in 1877 and settled in Nebraska, had a brother John who settled in Minnesota after coming to this country in 1875. Gloriann Ziebol of St. Cloud, Minnesota is researching that line of the family, and who knows how many more cousins Harvey will end up with.

The Fialas in Harvey's Volume I span fourteen generations, with the earlier beginnings dating back to the mid sixteen-hundreds. Harvey is now taking orders for the book, which will be well over two hundred pages. He has taken the time to create six indexes, to include searches of Fialas by name, date of birth, geographic location, etc... The price of the book is twenty-eight dollars post-paid.

September 14, 15, 16, was the first annual Fiala family reunion. It was held in Council Bluffs, Iowa and over two hundred were in attendance. Harvey had hoped to have Fiala cousins from Czechoslovakia attend, but wasn't able to get that accomplished, this year. Next year plans are for an even bigger and better reunion and several from Czechoslovakia are expected. There was a special guest for the occasion of the Fiala get-together though - Dr. Milan Coupek, from the regional archives in Brno, Czechoslovakia. He gave a presentation on the town of

Myslivořice, birthplace of the Fiala family. Dr. Coupek also presented Harvey with photographs of the Fiala family birthplace, and to the amazement of the entire clan was able to find another generation back further in the family lineage.

Our hat's off to Harvey for the fine job he did of organizing the reunion and working diligently to preserve his Czech heritage. When was the last time you made over seven hundred telephone calls (in a two month period) to relatives all over the United States in an effort to bring the family back together?

To order your copy of The Fiala Family History write: Harvey E. Fiala, call .

\* \* \* \* \*

SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR

The Czech School Board celebrated the end of another successful school season with the Annual Ice Cream Social on July 13th. Several hundred were in attendance and the entertainment and refreshments following were great. It was the largest turn-out in years.

Wilson Elementary School in Cedar Rapids has been the home for Czech School for some time now. In an effort to repay the school and the local community for its kind support for the summer Czech school program, the Czech School Board will co-sponsor a visit to the school by The Old Creamery Theatre Company who will present "Czech Tales."

The theatre company will perform for the students tentatively on November 20th during the day, and there will also be an evening performance open to the public that evening.

\* \* \* \* \*

DID YOU KNOW that five percent of the population of Texas is of Czechoslovak ancestry? Texas has the largest population of our ethnic group in the South. At last count, the state had three newspapers published in the Czech language and six radio stations that broadcast at least part of their programs in Czech. Information shared with us by Charles Vyskocil

MAIL BAG

Dear Editor, I have just received my first issue of Naše České Dědictví and I am very pleased. I was born in Cedar Rapids but left there with my family several years ago. It is indeed a pleasure to hear about events and activities there and although I am unable to attend right now, I am certain to return to my hometown in the future.

I also welcome the opportunity to learn more about Czechoslovakia. Living in New Mexico as I do, one finds very little information in the area of Czech culture and history... I felt for a long time as if I were an unwilling cultural exile. I was able to get my hands on a Czech language workbook and audio cassette. I found them very exciting. Also, my grandparents brought me two extremely interesting books, published in Prague in 1894. They are fragile but fascinating! I'm learning a little at a time.

I found the soundtrack to the film,

"The Unbearable Lightness of Being," which includes the song, "Joj, Joj, Joj," and some wonderful music by Leoš Janáček. This is all I have been able to find here. Certainly in Cedar Rapids there are recordings of traditional Czech music and would appreciate, perhaps, the address of a record shop which carries such music being published in a future issue of Naše České Dědictví.

I welcome any and all correspondence from fellow members. My address is:

I am happy to be involved with the Czech Heritage Foundation and am quite glad that such an organization exists. Na shledanou!  
Aldo C. Jadrnicek II

It's great to hear from our members! This is your newsletter and your input is important to us. Thanks to Mr. Jadrnicek a list of Czech music distributors will appear in our next issue. Keep the cards and letters coming!

**CZECH HERITAGE FDN.**

P O Box 761

Cedar Rapids IA 52406

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