

NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 8 - No. 3
Sept. 1983

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



CALENDAR

KALENDÁŘ

- Nov. 18-20 HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR, 40th year Milwaukee. Honored group: Sweden
- Nov. ? ? FOLK FAIR McCormick Center, Chicago IF event is held.
- Dec. 3 SVATÝ MIKULÁŠ DAY, noon to 4 p.m. Czech Village, Cedar Rapids.
- 1984
- Jan. 16 ANNUAL MEETING of Czech heritage and Czech Fine Arts Fdns. Business meeting, social time.
- Apr. 10-12 CZECH PHILHARMONIC at the Stevens Auditorium, Ames. Information on page 2.

VITĀME VĀS! Greetings to all of you good Czech Heritage members! Much has transpired since our last issue of the newsletter. The ETHNIC FAIR in early June was a great success and sincere "Thanks" to all those who helped to make it so. A picnic meeting was held at the home of Frank and Mae Novotny in June - a good time was had by all. Because of the many other activities the Foundation did not enter the parades in Fairfax, Ely and Swisher but we plan to do so in 1984. Also the Foundation commissioned the painting on a large "tarp" (canvas) to be used at Village events. Placed on the outer east wall of the building to the west of the Bandstand Mall the sign has the greeting, "VITĀME VĀS" (We Welcome You).

The Annual Picnic in mid-August at ZCJB Park had a smaller attendance but a good time was had by all in spite of the 90° plus temperatures. In August, Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Fdns. had a display at Westdale Mall to promote our organizations. In September was the Czech Village Festival--see Village News section. A Big "THANK YOU" to all who helped in any way to make the 10th Annual Festival another success.

The St. Paul (Minnesota) Dancers were really great and a wonderful group of people. We provided a float for them in the Sunday Parade. Their entry was awarded 2nd place. They were so excited about taking home a trophy. And now another busy season ahead--Christmas holidays and the annual meeting in January-- 'till we see you,

NAZDAR! Frank W. Novotny
President, CHFdn.

"EXPERIMENT in INTERNATIONAL LIVING PROGRAM" The Czech Heritage Board of Directors voted to participate in the project and to send one or more qualified students to (or near) Prague, Czechoslovakia, for the "Homestay Program" (4 weeks) during the summer of 1984. Host families are carefully selected on the basis of community standing and a genuine desire to participate. The purpose of the project is to experience the daily life of the host family, local and community culture. This program has been operating by a national organization for many years but local students have not previously had the opportunity to go to Czechoslovakia. Students will be selected by a three member committee. Applicants will be judged on the following criteria: Desire to participate; Enthusiasm for the program; Willingness to share the experience with school, community and Czech Heritage related activities; Ambition: to personally contribute by earning spending money for the trip; Good Citizenship, Communication Skills and Personality: Knowledge of Czech language and culture.

In order to qualify, the student must be a junior in high school during 1983-84 academic year; of some Czech ancestry; willing to attend Czech language and culture classes (prior to trip) and be a resident of Cedar

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Rapids or the surrounding area. Application forms may be obtained from Sherlee Peterson,

[redacted], or Mae Novotny, [redacted], or Marjorie Stone, [redacted]

Applications are due by November 15, 1983.

Perhaps this is just the program that some of you wish had been available to you several years ago? YOU can still participate by making a financial contribution! Send check made out to Czech Heritage Fdn., (Scholarship Fund), mail to Frank W. Novotny, [redacted]

This is a wonderful opportunity to help young people learn about their Czech heritage, to build bridges of understanding and to develop lasting friendships.

M. F. Stone

CZECH PHILHARMONIC on its 4th American tour will be at Stevens Auditorium in Ames, Iowa, April 10, 11, 12, 1984. Here are some appraisals of the group: "One of the world's great orchestras" (N. Y. Times); "A jewel of an orchestra" (Boston Globe); "Superb musicians-remarkable energy" (Cleveland Plain Dealer); "Virtuosity as well as quality" (Saturday Review), "Left the sold out Kennedy Center audience clamoring for more" (Washington Star); "This is one masterpiece of an orchestra" (The Montreal Gazette). Watch December newsletter for information on rates and bus charter details.

ČERTŮV KÁMEN (Devil's Rock) just off the press, an epic of Czech-Moravian legends, in verse form, relating five stories in Czech. The Preface of 5 pages gives a resume of each legend in English. Illustrations are black-white woodcuts, 96 pages, soft cover, \$9.95; hard cover \$16.85 from B-C Publishers, 8 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60603. Author is Richard Neugebauer, artist is Ladislav R. Haňka.

KOMENSKY SOCIETY, Inc., of Cedar Rapids, desires to communicate with Komensky groups in United States and Canada. If you are affil-

iated with or know of the existence of a Komensky organization, please write us the name and address of the person with whom we might correspond. Write to Komensky Society, 3100 Shasta Court N. E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52402.

CZECH PRINCE AND PRINCESS crowned at the 3rd Annual Contest sponsored by the Czech Heritage Fdn. in conjunction with the 10th Annual Czech Festival at Czech Village, in Cedar Rapids. There were 10 entries for the Princess and 3 for the Prince. All of the entrants had a very good background. The three judges, Sherlee Peterson, Chris Furman and Dorothy Snihtil had a hard time selecting the winners. The contestants were judged by their response to items on the entry form, poise, personality and Czech background. Princess candidates were: Angie Bowersox, Glenda Buresh, Lina Julis, Dyanna Quillen, Elizabeth Reinhart, Janelle Rohlena, Lynette Stejskal, Dorie Tesar, Julie Vlasek, Cynthia Winkie. Prince candidates were John Buresh, John Rohlena and Dave Zahradnik.

After an interesting Friday evening judging, the following were announced Sunday at 10 a. m. at the Bandstand Mall and presented their crowns: Czech Princess: Janelle Rohlena and Czech Prince: John Rohlena. First runner-up for Princess--Elizabeth Reinhart, 2nd--Lynette Stejskal. First runner-up for Prince--Dave Zahradnik, 2nd John Buresh. It was a very close contest. Each participant received a red silk rose. Mae and Frank, on behalf of Czech Heritage wish to thank all of the participants and urge them and other young people to enter in 1984.

Mae and Frank Novotny

"THEY CAME TO THIS PLACE" were words spoken by Antonin Dvořák when he spent a summer in Spillville (1892). The words are the title of a book written by Cyril M. Klimesh, telling about the Czech settlers. Book available from Spillville Historical Action Group, Inc. P. O. Box 247, Spillville, Ia. 52168. Available in October. Pre-publication price until Oct. 15th, \$13.95 for hardbound, \$8.95 paperbound. Add \$1.50 for handling and postage.



Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

10 - 16TH AVENUE S.W. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA 52404

FALL MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum will have expanded hours thru October 31, to accommodate visitors

to Czech Village. The Museum will be open 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, and 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday.

VISITORS to the MUSEUM since September 1978 have totaled more than 15,000 coming from all 50 states and 33 foreign countries. The 10th Fall Festival this September marked the fifth anniversary of the founding of the Museum.

MUSEUM CALENDAR just published by the Czech Fine Arts Foundation is a colorful-first-in-a-series devoted to sharing the rare and beautiful artifacts in the Museum collection. The 10" x 12" wall calendar has 13 color photographs, three of which feature national costumes.

The opening pages give a short story of the Czech homeland and Czechs coming to Cedar Rapids. The back cover has calendars for 1984-85 and a list of 1984 Festivals held in Cedar Rapids. Holidays are listed in both English and Czech. Proceeds from the calendars benefit the Museum. Calendars are \$5.00 each or five for \$21.00 postpaid. To order calendars write Czech Fine Arts Fdn. at 10-16th Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52404. A calendar for a holiday gift, birthday or other event will be a cherished keepsake.

RESTORATION and PRESERVATION of an EARLY CZECH IMMIGRANT HOME in CEDAR RAPIDS. In October 1982, the Czech Fine Arts Foundation applied for and received a grant of \$5,000 for the relocation, preservation and restoration of an early Czech immi-

grant home. This project portrays the early history of Czechs who settled in Cedar Rapids in the late 1800's. A small two-room house will be relocated behind the Museum and be connected to the Museum with a breezeway. Once the restoration is completed, the house will be furnished with appropriate items of the 1880's.

The main Museum building will concentrate on the Czech heritage and origins in their homeland. The house will reflect their modest start in a new and foreign land.

The work on the house is being done by our volunteers wherever possible. The grant provides funding for the house, its actual move from the east side of Cedar River and building a foundation for the house. In September 1983 the Foundation applied for another grant from the Linn County Supervisors to fund completion of the project: exterior and interior of the house. The grant pays for materials. The volunteers do the work. Upon completion of this work, the interior will be furnished. The security system from the main building will be expanded to include the house and insurance coverage will be adjusted. The connecting breezeway will have displays dealing with the early history of Czechs in the area. The Museum guides will include the house as a part of the tour.

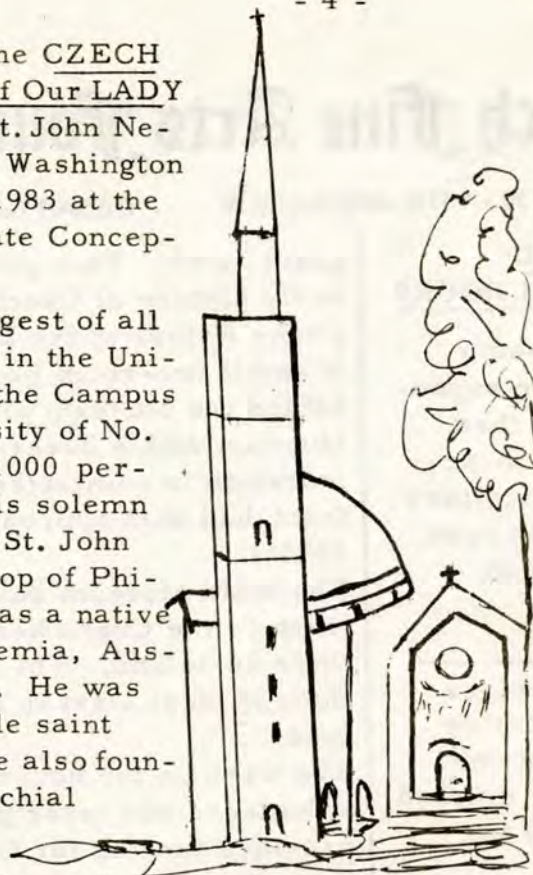
If you are interested in helping the Museum with this Project in any way, or if you have items suitable for some furnishings which you would like to donate or loan, please contact Gus Pesek (in charge of exterior work) or Evelyn Lamparek (in charge of interior work) by phoning

Jana Fast, Curator



Solemn Dedication of the CZECH NATIONAL CHAPEL of Our LADY HOSTÝN in Honor of St. John Ne-pomucene Neumann in Washington D. C. June 24, 25, 26, 1983 at the Shrine of the Immaculate Concep-tion.

The Chapel is THE largest of all 57 such ethnic chapels in the Uni-ted States, located on the Campus of the Catholic University of No. America. More than 1000 per-sons participated in this solemn service which honored St. John Neumann, the 4th Bishop of Phi-ladelphia (1852). He was a native of the Province of Bohemia, Aus-tro-Hungarian Empire. He was the first canonized male saint from United States. He also found-ed the American parochial school system.



HOSTÝN, Province of Moravia in the days of the Empire, is a hill with an altitude of about 2,390 ft. above sea level overlooking the valley. Gottwaldo (former Žlin) lies south of the up-land. The story told is that in 1215 the Blessed Virgin helped the people who fled to safety when the Mongolian hordes invaded the Kingdom of Bohemia. Under King Wenceslaus I., the army defeated the Mongols at Olomouc, a thunder-storm routed the invaders who fled. In thank-fulness to Mary, a shrine was built on the heights in the 1600's. To this day pilgrims continue their devotions at the shrine.

A life-size statue of St. John Neumann stands just inside the Chapel of our Lady of Hostýn. Bishop Markovsky, of Czech ancestry and Bishop of the Diocese of Galveston-Houston, attended and participated in the services. Pres-ident Reagan was guest speaker and was the recipient of the First St. John Neumann Award.

In Texas there is the Holy Rosary Church at Hostýn built like the one in Moravia, on a hill-top.

Information from Evelyn Rainosok Vecera Belleaire, Texas.

KOMENSKY SOCIETY AWARDS
FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS of \$400.00 to students who will attend colleges in Iowa. Recipients were: Susan Sasek, _____, graduate from Jefferson; Neal Mrstik, _____, Kennedy; Cynthia Hadish, _____, La-Salle; Michael Hayek, _____, Regis; Jeffrey Nekola, _____, Washington. We are pleased that all high schools in the Cedar Rapids community were represented. _____ mms.

TWO MORE FARMS IN CENTURY CLASS. In the June issue of our newsletter, we told of the Červený Farm in the family for 120 years. Recently 27 families in our area counties were honored for their Cen-tennial Farms. Two farms were near Cedar Rapids: the KAPLAN FARM of 100 acres east of Shueyville has been farmed by five generations of the family... and the JANSÁ FARM of 122 1/2 acres was purchased 100 years ago for \$4,900. Today the 4th generation farms the homestead. Years ago Western and Shueyville were "boom" settlements. Western College was there, then later became a part of Leander-Clark in Tama which in turn was merged with Coe College in Cedar Rapids.

PRAVDA VÍTĚZÍ ! - Truth Triumphs is one translation of the motto on the Czech coat-of-arms. A worthy goal. Yet one knows that truth is understood in terms of a people's background of social, educational, racial, religious and tribal experiences. Even myths and legends, superstitions and magic influence concepts of truth. So the search goes on! _____ mms

Did you know that PRESIDENT GERALD FORD was born of Czech-American parents from Čáslav near Kutná Hora? The grand-parents changed their name from KRÁL to KING when they came to America. President's parents were divorced when he was 2 years of age. Then his name of King was replaced with Ford.



Czech Village Association, Inc.

FESTIVAL "BAKE-OFF" is better every year! The 10th year of the events in Czech Village. Some scores were so close that only a fraction

of a point made the difference. The Committee says "THANK YOU ALL" for participating and looks forward to your interest the coming year. Co-chairs were Evelyn O. Lamparek and Mae F. Novotny. Ribbon awards follow.

Ages 18 and under:

- YEAST BREADS-- Julie Vlasek - blue
- SWEET ROLLS-- Janelle Rohlena - blue
- KOLACHES--Janelle Rohlena - blue

- Debbie Buresh - red
- Glenda Buresh - white

DESSERTS --Julie Vlasek - blue

- Janelle Rohlena - red
- Dorie Tesar - White and Honorable mention to Lisa Bartunek

Ages 19 and over awards to:

- YEAST BREAD --Darlene Trachta, blue
- Emma Buresh, red
- Adeline Volesky, white
- Richard Lewis, Honorable mention

- SWEET ROLLS--Darlene Trachta, blue
- Emma Buresh, red
- Angeline Rohlena, white
- Blanche Trachta, Adeline Volesky, Honorable mention

- KOLACHES -- Darlene Trachta, blue
- Emma Buresh, red
- Angeline Rohlena, white
- Blanche Trachta, Frances Buresh, Richard Lewis, Honorable mention.

- DESSERTS--Irma Binko, blue
- Karen Vlasek, red
- Adeline Volesky, white
- Emma Buresh, Pauline Jasa, Pravo-mila Geregova, Honorable mention.

Judges for the "Bake Off" were:

- Marlene Kilberger, Brian O'Brien and Barbara Svec

As I walk the Avenue, the pride of my heritage fills every sense of my being. The smell of fresh bread as I pass the shop where my father took me as a child. "A free cookie for the little one?"

Farther down the Avenue, is the sound of polka music playing and singing a language only my grandmother can speak. Yet another scent fills the air....the smoked hams at the meat markets. How it brings back memories of my childhood.

Heritage on the Avenue flows through the air, from the stores, their front windows and the foreign writing on the signs.

The Avenue is ageless.

Yet one feels humble and devoted.

Never to let changing times change the Avenue.

(Mrs.) Mary K. Bird Drahos attended Wilson Jr. High and graduated in 1965 from Jefferson High School. She lives in Vidor, Texas.

"A CZECH OF A GOOD TIME AT THE CZECH VILLAGE" Sept. 9-11. A visitor from New Zealand tasted her first kolach, first ever visit to an ethnic festival, a Czech dinner at noon, thrilled to see the St. Paul dance groups and the gorgeous costumes, visit the embroidery exhibit and workshop, meet The Prince and Princess and other attractions, shopping on the Avenue. It was indeed a thrilling time for not only Jean but her hostesses who brought her from Cedar Falls.

FESTIVAL WINNERS

The Bake-off, Carp Fishing Contest, Czech Heritage Parade and Kolach Eating Contest awarded trophies and prizes of ribbons and cash to participants. Some 22 entered the Bake-off and \$94 was earned for the Festival Committee from the Bake-off auction.

The Carp Fishing Contest saw some 197 entrants fishing from the 16th Ave. bridge and vicinity Sunday morning. The \$100 cash prize for the largest carp was split between Cedar Rapidsians, Nick Miller and Scott Britcher who each caught an 8 lb. carp. The

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smallest carp was caught by Ellen Leary whose 3/8 lb. entry won a custom-made rod for her. Besides the entry fees totaling \$197, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Novak of Novak's Bait Shop donated to the Czech Village project also made a personal donation of \$100 from them and the Shop.

Some 27 kolach-lovers entered the Kolach Eating Contest which was set up in two categories according to age. Over-all winner of the first place trophy was Steve Myers, age 13, who downed 7 kolaches in one minute! All entrants won ribbons!

Czech Heritage Parade trophy winners were: 1st. Cedar Rapids Sokols, 2nd. to St. Paul (Minnesota) Czechoslovakian Folk Dancers, and 3rd. to Bob Woodward of Prairieburg, with his four abreast pony hitch. All entrants were given Festival buttons which admitted them to the Polka Fest Sunday and making them eligible for a variety of prizes.

CZECH VILLAGE NEWS

Czech Village is included in a "bright idea" of the city's to save money by switching to high pressure sodium street lights in place of the mercury vapor ones. The Village is included in the plan which means that 13 new and beautiful light fixtures will replace the present ones.

Although the new fixtures are not Old World style, they are streamlined, will be dark brown or black and will blend more with the architecture of our neighborhood shopping area than the yellow, red and blue coolie-hat-style of the present. The new fixtures will be placed between A and C Streets on 16th Avenue S. W.

Pat Martin
Village Coordinator

LESTER SYKORA, Czech Village Assoc. former president, has been invited to participate in a panel at the fall meeting of Festival of Iowa organization, November 2nd, Adventureland Inn, Des Moines. Les, owner of Sykora Bakery and well versed in delicious foods, will speak about "How important Food is to a Festival". Joining Les on the panel will be Dix Hollobaugh, travel writer for the Des Moines Register. She has visited innumerable festivals through

her work. The third panelist will be an organizer of a newly-formed international festival group in Des Moines.

TOURS FROM NEAR AND FAR. On Monday, Sept. 19th, a tour group of some 20 adults from the East Irvine, Calif. area visited Czech Village and the Czech Museum, completing their tour at Wenceslaus Square Restaurant. Although visitors from throughout the United States are common, this is the first time an entire tour from such a distance has included Czech Village on its itinerary, according to Pat Martin, Village Coordinator.

Reports on Festival and Village news by Pat Martin, Village Coordinator.

CZECH VILLAGE PRINCESS, ANGIE VLASEK, who "ruled" Sept. 1982-Sept. 1983, received Top Honors at the Iowa State Fair at Des Moines in August. Her entry was a display of clothing. She had one of the 33 winning entries of the 2,600 projects on display. Angie, age 15, is a sophomore at Prairie High School. She is the daughter of Karen and Jim Vlasek of Ely, Iowa.



PRESIDENT of the ACCORDION TEACHERS' GUILD, Inc.

for another two year term is ARLENE BODDICKER who has the record of now having served for three terms.

Heartiest Congratulations to Arlene! Arlene and her husband, Gerald, are active in the ATG music camps and competition events. Mrs. Boddicker has judged competitions not only in United States but in Sweden, Germany and just returned from Austria. She has taught accordion and piano for 37 years and presently is on the faculty at Coe College and Mt. Mercy College in Cedar Rapids as well as directing the Boddicker Showcase of 10 accordionists plus percussionists and dancers, all in ethnic costume. She and her group participate very actively in Czech Festivals and other activities in the community.

WIDOW BARTUNEK BRINGS FAMILY TO AMERICA.

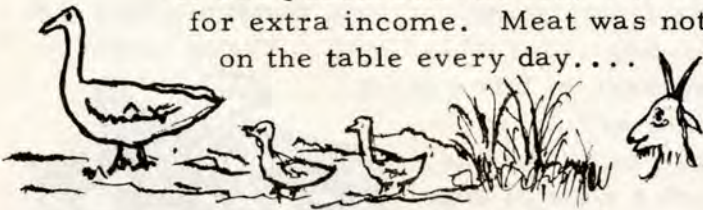
Rose Bartunek (Mrs. Andrew Polehna) spent her early years in Hamry, Kraj Chrudim in the days of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The 100 houses in the village were numbered in the sequence as they were built as the village spread outward from the first dwellings. The small village was the home of tradesmen and farmers who worked in the fields. Some owned the farm-land and others rented fields from district officials. The soil was thin and stoney, the season rather short so crops were limited to cabbage, potatoes, barley and oats. Pasture land was free for grazing of livestock.

The Bartunek family had a small cottage of one large room (sednice or světnice) and a small adjoining room for a bed and storage. As was common then (still true in small out-of-the-way villages) the room was kitchen, bedroom, living room and dining room. Underneath the large beds were "roll-aways" which were pulled out at night for the children. A hallway led to an adjoining shed which sheltered the animals.

The garden was an important source of vegetables and fruits in season. One goat supplied the milk for the children. Brother Charles' chore was to pasture the goat. Rose and sister Mary took care of the chickens and geese. Eggs were a source of income and not often on the menus. When a calf was available in the community,



it was purchased and fed, later sold for extra income. Meat was not on the table every day....



At age 14, Joseph, the oldest boy, had completed school and learned the trade of a weaver. He operated the loom which was in the sednice. The Bartuneks (Vincent and Maria) had 4 boys and 5 girls but one of each died in infancy. When Mr. Bartunek was age 14 and had completed school, he was apprenticed in tailoring apparel for men and women.

Mother took care of the children and household, helped with sewing and in season worked in the

fields near the village. As soon as the children could work with needle and thread, they helped. Father had government work--making trousers for the army. The material was cut and delivered to Hlinsko nearby. The adults worked from sunrise and into the evening by kerosene lamp light. The children worked after school. The older ones sewed on buttons and mother made the button-holes.

Father and mother were married in 1888 and he died 18 years later. Anne, age 16, was the oldest and Rose, age 1, the youngest. Times were not easy when the family were together but now mother had to support and care for 7 children. As soon as children completed schooling, they worked in the textile mill at Hlinsko, a walk of some 15 minutes north of the village. The factory made velvet and yard goods.

Mother gathered firewood in nearby woods when it was available. Once her brother hauled a load of wood to the house.

A source of income was selling mother's long hair to a buyer who made trips to villages. He combed the forward part of her hair from ear to ear and cut the hair off the back of her head, then combed the front hair back and concealed the short hair. Rose cried the first time she saw this but mother assured her the hair would grow again. Such cuttings were made into "switches"--hairs put together in a swath--it looked like a "pony tail". To make hairnets, the younger children pulled one hair at a time from the switch and used a square knot with another length of hair. The older ones who made the hair nets had longer strands to work with.



Mother's brother was a widower with no family and invited us to move into his larger house made of logs and stones. The house still stands and the date 1777 is over the door.

The village school of one room had grades 1, 2, 3 with 40 pupils and one teacher. For grades 4 thru 8 pupils went to a larger school. By age 8 Rose had mastered the multiplication tables through 10. The oldest brother, Joseph,

had read all he could find in borrowed books from school about America and Indians. Some day he hoped to live there. He was of army age but was granted exemption because of

helping the family. However,
2x2 = 4 in Oct. 1913, he came to
5x5 =25 America with a school friend.
9x9 =81

10x10=100 Neighbors tried to discourage mother about coming to America

They said the land was nothing but grassland and Indians and no schools, and it would be too costly to attend private schools. This gave serious concern to mother. She wrote son Joseph and he replied schools were not only free but were in both English and Čech! The decision was made. The rest of the family would leave for America!

June 23, 1914. Mrs. Bartunek, the 4 girls and 2 boys left the village, took the train to Prague. At the tour agency in the big city, Rose saw the first "telefon" and heard a woman talk into the mouthpiece but heard no reply--puzzled at how the phone worked.

It happened that a recent government decree forbid males age 14 and over to leave the Empire because military service was required. The agent advised mother to return to Chrudim district office to get permission to take her sons to America. He was sure that the request would be granted because arrangements to emigrate had been made previous to the decree.

In the meantime, the children stayed in a hay-mow of the local police station because staying in a hotel would be too costly. Upon her return mother explained that permission had been denied. The younger children began to cry and at such commotion a policeman came to inquire what was the trouble. Mother then returned to the tour office. The agent explained he could not advise her but if it were his problem he would take a chance and depart. He warned her that at the station the boys should walk apart so as to not attract attention to the size of the family group. Also, they should arrive at the station just before train time, 3 p.m., crews would be changing and there would be some confusion. He warned her to not reveal this information and she must

act on her own. All went according to plan--there were no problems at the border control -- soon they were in Germany on their way to Rotterdam!

At a change to trains, the family of 7 attracted attention at the station. A tall bearded man approached, saying, "Mother, where are you going--to America?" He said he was Masaryk and had students with him on a tour. "Come with me, Mother", he said, "to get money changed so you won't be cheated." Looking at the 2 boys with sooty grimy faces, Masaryk told one of the students to take the boys to a washroom to clean their faces. At the time the family had no idea who this Masaryk might be!

The family had several pieces of luggage with them. Two heavy large wooden trunks filled with feather beds, other bedding and clothing had been sent on to the ship. Mother wore a "babuška" -- a folded square kerchief, as did the 4 girls. Rose and Mary wore their first "store" shoes. The boys had "store" suits and shoes. Mother and the girls were dressed in bulky clothing.

The family sailed from Rotterdam June 26, 1914 on the Nieuw Amsterdam (I) (the only passenger ship that had regular transatlantic service during World War I). They had 4 bunks in their compartment. The 2 youngest came on 1/2 fare. They had paid for 2nd class passage but soon learned they had been put in the steerage. (Later a refund was made to them).

The dining room had long wooden tables and benches -- no tablecloths. Three meals a day were of fair quality. Some were seasick. One "cure" was to suck a cube of sugar "seasoned" with whiskey. Mother's diet was "varn vasser" with dry rye bread. The family left home with 3 large loaves of rye bread tied into a bundle in a red and white checked table cloth. The trip was hard on mother as she weighed only some 100 lbs. Most of the passengers were German and Poles. We were the only Čechs.



June 28, 1914. Three days out at sea, a cablegram arrived telling of the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand (heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne) at Sarajevo, Serbia.

After 8 days, the Statue of Liberty came into view. Mother enjoyed geography and history and told the children the story of the Statue. Soon they were on Ellis Island. They passed the required physical examination but mother was detained briefly for T.B. test because she was so thin. The children were asked if they could read. The examiners were astonished to hear the children's responses, to the delight of mother and themselves!

At the train, mother paid \$1.00 for each of 7 box lunches. What did they find? Soda crackers! What a treat! Mother bought an ice-cream cone each taking a lick for a taste-- Marvellous! It was hot in the coach and how they smacked their lips each lick of the cone.



A frequently seen sign was about VELVET, a strange thing to advertise. In Old Country that word was "Helvet" and referred to Protestants. Eventually the family learned that VELVET was a brand of tobacco.

The train arrived July 8. Rose saw the word CEDAR RAPIDS in the flower bed in Green Square Park across from the Union Station. She tried to tell the others they had arrived in "Tsedr Rahpits" but nobody believe her. She insisted she could read and they all were overjoyed to see the words spelled out in flowers.

The joy soon turned to anxiety for no one was at the depot to meet them. The train arrived earlier than expected. They watched people walking away and pondered what to do. Off they started carrying some luggage. Two men came toward them -- identified themselves-- and explained that son, Joe, was fixing up a house for them.

All 7 walked in a line behind the leaders. As they passed a fruit store on 3rd St. S. E. mother marvelled at the huge cucumbers--

such bountiful crops in America! (it was a watermelon).

They arrived at the boarding house where Joseph and his friends lived. Here they had their first meal in their home city. They were thrilled at the dessert - home canned red cherries.

Their new home was in the Oak Hill area. Joseph and his friends worked at T. M. Sinclair (Wilson's). The family soon learned that bed bugs were nesting back to that beautiful flowered wall paper. Soon the bugs were exterminated. The children started school and were objects of immigrant discrimination, called "greenhorn Bohemies". A few months later, the family moved to the Hayes School area. Teacher, Miss Lillian Beck and Principal, Mabel Rugh, took care of the one incident when Rose was called a "greenhorn". Later, she was chosen to represent Hayes School during a World War I Red Cross campaign at one of several programs put on by the schools.

After Hayes and Van Buren, Rose and sisters went to work. Rose worked at Denecke's Department Store for 3 years at \$12.00/wk. When Newmans took over she went to Craemer's in 1927 and was there 32 years. For a long time she was buyer for the "domestics department". She has fond memories of many local customers she served.

Between 1900 and World War I two Āech dramatic societies were active on the "south" side of the city. The plays, presented at the CSPS Hall, were well attended and popular. Five of the Bartunek family took part over the years, Rose was active in the groups for 35 years until 1956.

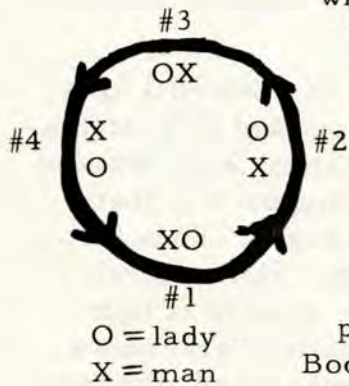
In 1958 Rose married Andrew Polehna. He died in 1978. Her mother took turns living with the grown children: Anne, Joe, Frances, Vincent, Charles, Mary and Rose. Mother lived to age 87 until 1955. She was a remarkable woman -- took English and Americanization classes and at age 74 became a citizen of the United States. To her the quality of life was most important.

From conversations with
Rose Bartunek Polehna.

DANCE! Learn the BESEDA SOUSEDKĀ!

The Foundation has now available the DIRECTIONS and SHEET MUSIC for your pleasure. Directions include the exact number of measures of music for each movement and diagrams show which partners do what.

Write the Foundation,
P.O. Box 761, Cedar
Rapids, Ia. 52406 for
Directions and sheet
music, \$5.00 post-
paid. If you prefer a
record with orchestra
music, send \$9.00 for
postpaid mailing to the
Boddicker School of Music,
92 - 16th Ave. S. W., Cedar
Rapids, Ia. 52404.



BUDWEIS, BEER and HORSES. The world reknown Budweis (German name) stems from the "Bohemian lager beers" brewed in České Budějovice, some 50 miles southwest of Plzen, back in the 1800's. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of Budweis in United States. Surely you have seen one of the three teams of 8 handsome draft horses, the bay or brown Clydesdales with their white "stockings" and spirited step as they toss their heads in parades! Not like the 40 horse-hitch from Zearing, Iowa which alas! no longer exists, but the Clydesdales are still a beautiful sight of horse flesh!

DIME BOX, Texas, had no post office so folks put the 10¢ in the box, the mail carrier provided the stamp and kept the dime.

ILLINOIS LEADS IN ČECH ETHNIC ORIGINS

Recent analysis of origins of citizens revealed that Illinois has the most Czechs of any state. Of the 52 ethnic groups listed by origins, England was 1st, some 49,508,000 down to Serbians with 100,941. Czechs ranked 16th, Poles were 8th, Russians 14th, Slovaks 29th, Ukrainians 31st, Yugoslavs 37th, Croations 42nd, Slovenes 49th, Serbs 52nd. Descendents of English and Germans make up 52.45% of our population. As for the Irish, they rank 3rd, some 40,000,000

which is more than 9 times the population of the entire Emerald Isle...

DANNY DROZD and his \$5000 accordion are in Hoxie, Texas. Folks come from miles around to the store which is THE community center. Danny said that to learn to play the accordion is worse than a fiddle...trying to figure out how to get both ends together again. He has been playing since age 4 and been at it for 50 years. "He is the greatest" 'tis said as Danny plays 4 hours, non-stop for dances. Population of Hoxie is seven.

THREE GENERATIONS OF A SHIP. The S.S. Nieuw Amsterdam (I) built in 1906, 17,149 tons, 615' x 69', twin screw, 16 knots, one funnel, of Holland-American Line from Rotterdam to New York, made its first trip April 7, 1906. It was the ONLY liner on regular trans-Atlantic sailings during World War I. In 1932 it was scrapped in Osaka, Japan.

S.S. NIEUW AMSTERDAM (II) started service 1938, 36,982 tons, 759' x 88', twin screw, 21 knots, 2 funnels, was the largest ship ever built in the Netherlands up to that time. The first trip was May 10, 1938, then laid up in New York 1939. In 1940 sailed to Halifax to be refitted and armed; then 1941 sailed to Singapore, to be converted to a troop ship. During World War II, transported 378,361 passengers, logged 530,452 miles. Almost 7 years later returned to Rotterdam on April 10, 1946 to be extensively rebuilt. Returned to passenger service Oct. 29, 1947. One of the most famous trans-Atlantic liners built up to that time.

There were other larger liners before 1938 but were damaged by fire or sunk or struck icebergs: Titanic, Leviathan, Berengeria, etc.

NIEUW AMSTERDAM III will soon be sailing the high seas.

CHILDHOOD NONSENSE. WHO is going to be IT? Count down is:"inty-minty-tibity-fig, Deliah-dahlia-dahmon-ig, eyecha-piecha-dahmin-yecha, ahm-pahm-poo, ahla-bahla-boo, OUT GOES Y-O-U!"



President of Czech Heritage Foundation, Frank W. Novotny, presents the young people who were interviewed for the role of Prince and Princess of Czech Village, September 1983. From left to right, back row: Angie Bowersox, Glenda Buresh, Lina Julis, Dyana Quillen, Elizabeth Reinhart, Janelle Rohlena, Lynette Stejskal, Dorie Tesar, Julie Vlasek, Cynthia Winkie. (see page 2 for details of event)
Left to right, front row: John Buresh, John Rohlena, Dave Zahradnik.



Picture of St. Paul, Minnesota, Czechoslovakian Folk Dancers, 24 in all with authentic costumes from different districts of that nation.

SVATÝ MIKULÁŠ will be on the Avenue December 3rd and he does NOT wear a Santa Claus suit! Please explain to the children before they come to Czech Village that afternoon that he will look different. He is a Saint so he wears a religious habit (clothing).

FIRST PLACE AWARDS TO KAZIMOUR ORCHARDS OF C.R. for apples, plums, and grapes rated TOPS in fruit division at State Fair for 16 awards! In 1924 John Kazimour started the orchards on 22 acres which now produce 27 varieties of apples. CONGRATULATIONS to the family from Czech Heritage Fdn.

DID YOU KNOW that about 1/5 of our English words are of Anglo-Saxon (German!) origin and 3/5 from the French, Latin and Greek and the other 1/5 from languages all over the globe!
(Mario Pei)

From the Editor: This issue is 12 pages and there is more material on file for the December issue. Sorry to disappoint those who sent in items. We will catch up by the close of 1983!
mms

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