NAŠE ČESKÉ DĚDICTVÍ

OUR

CZECH

HERITAGE

Vol. 7 - No. 1 March 1982 Czech Heritage and Fine Arts Foundations P. O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406



CALENDAR

KALENDAŘ

If changes or corrections needed check June listing of events.

March 6, Sat. Noodle Soup--Kolaches at Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church, C.R. 5-7 p.m. March 13-14, Sat., Sun. Western Dist. SOKOL Annual Convention, Cedar Rapids.

March 30, Tues. Sokolice Card Party, Sokol Hall, 12:30 p.m. Cedar Rapids.

April 3, Sat. Noodle Soup--Kolach Supper at Fairfax Legion Hall. 5--8 p.m.

April 3-10, Sat. -Sat. MUSEUM in C.R. features SPECIAL EASTER DISPLAYS, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Merchants plan to have Easter specials.

April 18, Sun. Sokol Akademie, La Salle High School Gym, C.R. 2 p.m.

April 24 (or May 1) Sokol Pork, dumpling, sauerkraut dinner. Sokol Hall, 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Watch news media.

May 15-16, Sat., Sun. HOUBY DAYS, Czech Village, C.R. see p.5.

May 30, Sun. Firemen's Pancake Breakfast, Solon, Iowa.

June 5-6, Sat., Sun. All Cedar Rapids ETHNIC FESTIVAL, Roundhouse.

June 11-13, Fri.-Sun. St. Ludmila Kolach Festival. Fri. 6 p.m.-midnight. Sat.-Sun. noon to midnight. Carnival, foods, games, contests, fun. C.R.

June 18-19, Fri., Sat. HAY DAY, Fairfax, Ia. Parade, carnival, games.

July 1-6. 5th Jubilee Slet, Vienna, Austria. Czechoslovak Sokol Abroad.

July 3, Sat. Swisher, Ia., Barbecue, at noon. Parade, dance, games. Legion Hall and grounds.

July 4, Sun. Firemen's Breakfast at Ely, Ia. 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Also parade and fun. July 23-24, Fri., Sat. Solon, Ia. Beef Days. Midway, booth, fun, food.

Continued on p. 2.

FROM PRESIDENT FRANK W. NOVOTNY

VITAM VAS! GREETINGS! Here it is 1982 and also the third time I'm greeting you as President of Czech Heritage Foundation for the coming year. The past two years have been very rewarding and much has been accomplished. See other articles in this newsletter about what we did in 1981. Secretary Bette Trefny had a very complete report at the Annual Meeting.

Some events to look forward to in 1982: help Fine Arts Fdn. wherever we can, and in such events as Houby Days, the Ethnic Fair and with Czech Village Association in their endeavors to make the Czech neighborhood an enjoyable meeting place and ourselves better known in the surrounding communities by participating in their activities. See events on the Kalendar.

My uppermost wish is that more of you join us at the Annual Picnic at the ZCBJ Park, August 19th and then at our Annual Meeting on January 17, 1983. Both Mae and I wish to "Thank You" for your wonderful cooperation and help and are looking forward to working with you in the coming year and make 1982 a truly memorable year.

NAZDAR!

Frank W. Novotny

ACCOMPLISHMENTS in the YEAR 1981 -

Exerpts from the Annual Report

- 1. Completion of EDUCATIONAL KIT--used by 15 groups, viewed by more than 1000 people. See Newsletter June '81 and Sept. '81 for details of contents.
- 2. Chartered bus took members to Iowa City, Hancher Auditorium, to attend Leos Janaček's stage play, "The Cunning Little Vixen".
- 3. Participated with events and booth on Houby Days, Ethnic Fair, and Czech Village Festival.

Continued on p. 2.

KALENDÁŘ

Aug. 7-8, Wilber, Neb. Czech Days. Outdoor theater, Parade, games.

Aug. 19, Thurs. ANNUAL PICNIC of the Czech Heritage & Fine Arts Foundation. ZCBJ Park. Details in June issue.

Sept. 10-12, Fri.-Sun. The 9th Annual Czech Festival in Czech Village in Cedar Rapids. See June newsletter.

Nov. 4. Thurs. All day BAZAAR, SOUP, & KOLACHES, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church. C.R.

CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION ELECTS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS at the

ANNUAL MEETING...for 1982...

President, Frank W. Novotny Vice Pres., Charles Jungman, Jr.

Secretary, Bette Trefny

Zlatohlavek.

Fin. Sec'y., Charles Vyskocil

Treasurer, Charles E. Krejci

Board members in addition to above

Officers: James V. Cada, Denver Dvorsky,
Dennis Hrabak, Leona Kaplan, David F. Kralik,
Robert & Eva Kouba, Emil Lamparek, Wencil
Lippert, Mae Novotny, Russell F. Novotny,
Betty Petrzalek, Donald Smith, Raphael Snitil,
Robert & Marjorie Stone, Melvina Svec, Blanche.
Trachta, Ted Trefny, Adeline Volesky, Mana

MEMBERSHIP REPORTS total of 864 members on Dec. 31, 1981, altho many have not paid 1982 dues. Members largely from Iowa (765), from 30 states and 120 cities, and 2 in Czechy. Six to sixteen members are in Ill., Calif., Minn., Wis., Nebr. and Ohio. Other states have fewer than five members. So we are known from coast to coast and border to border. C. H. Vyskocil

ACCOMPLISHMENTS....

4. Start next major project with grant of money from County Supervisors for non-profit community exhibit material.

5. Members enjoyed good visiting and firstrate pot-luck menu at Annual Picnic, dancing and fun, ZCBJ Park.

6. Arranged Annual Meeting to be at Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church. Ample parking space so helpful.

Continued next column

- 7. Chartered bus took members of both Foundations and Village Assoc. to Ames to attend Recognition Day at the Hilton Auditorium.
- 8. Received plans for erection of flag pole and flag to be placed near Bandstand on The Mall in Czech Village. Gift in memory of Joseph Frank Svoboda and Anna Svoboda Egger from their friends and daughters Angela and Ann Svoboda, Mrs. Mildred Speers and Mrs. Philomene Brofield.
- 9. Czech Heritage Fdn. now recognized by IRS as Tax Exempt, non-profit.
- 10. Sale of books published by our Fdn. continue to be doing very well.
- 11. Committee undertakes to up-date Vol. I, History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids, 1852-1942 by Martha Griffith. Vol. II, 1942-1982 now under way.

Notes from Annual Report by Secretary Bette Trefny. . .

REPORT OF FINANCES. Needless to say our major item of income is from the dues. These are primary means that keep our organization solvent and perpetuates the goals and the future of the Foundation. Our membership has been supportive by sending renewal dues as well as those of new members.

Sales of publications have increased dramatically over last year.

Our sales profits are small because our objective is to "spread the gos-

pel" so to speak and not the making of money. Our prices are low enough to be within reach of anyone interested in making a purchase.

The total donations - for which we are most grateful have dropped 24% over last year. Our largest expense item was printing which is up 500% because of printing the song book. This will be recovered when all books are sold.

Another item that has increased is promotion, the result of the EDUCATIONAL KIT available on loan to the public. The KIT was made possible by a grant from the Linn County Supervisors.

Continued on p. 4.

Czech Fine Arts Foundation, Inc.

The CZECH FINE ARTS FOUNDATION has

the following officers for 1982:

President: Robert Schaffer Vice Pres: Lovell Dvorak

Secretaries: Marie Trachta -- Rose Kopecky

Treasurer: Elsie Jelinek

Board of Directors includes the above officers and: Arlene Boddicker, Georgiana Brejcha, Mildred Drahovzal, Jana & Milan Fast, Dorothy Gilmore, Joan Havran, Charles E. Krejci, Milton Langer, Esther & Wencil Lippert, Harriet Nowadsky, Mildred Ortner, Anne and Gus Pesek, Alma Turechek, Fern Fackler, Emil & Evelyn Lamparek, Leora Zahorik.

MUSEUM OPENS FOR THE SEASON March 6th at 9:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. after two months "on vacation" although many tours groups came to see the exhibits.

Open ALL DAY on St. Joseph's Day on March 19th. Exhibits are now changed. Come see what is new in the Czech Museum!

EASTER FESTIVITIES IN THE VILLAGE

The Museum will feature special exhibits and egg painting demonstrations on Saturdays, April 3rd and 10th. The merchants will feature "specials" that week. Lester Sykora will bake lambs (of dough) every day so you can buy one! Bring the children to the EGG HUNT on Saturday, the 10th. Watch the news media for more details.

ADDITION TO THE CALENDAR

Feb. 14 to March 11 at the ART CENTER at Jefferson Bldg., Iowa City. LACE EXHIBIT-see next column.

VOLUNTEERS are needed at the Museum as guides from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. the week before the Easter Sunday, April 5th-10th. Please phone Mildred Drahovzal

M. L.D.

News about the Czech Museum and Library are by Curator, Mrs. Jana Fast.

LACE EXHIBIT. The Iowa City / Johnson County Arts Council received a grant from the Iowa Arts Council to fund a display of handwork of the nationalities who live in the area. The Czech Museum and Library curator selected pieces from the Museum collection and obtained other examples of fine lace work on loan from local Czechs. All types of open handwork are defined as lace. The examples on exhibit were made by Czechs who emigrated to United States and had those skills. The title of the exhibit is "LOVING HANDS". Hours at the Arts Center 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 129 E. Washington Street, Iowa City. The exhibit is open to the public.

MUSEUM NEEDS

We had excellent response to our asking for needed items. We are trying again! We could use some old but still usable ironing board, sewing machine, and file cabinets. If you have a donation, we would be very grateful.

"THE DELIGHT OF FOLK TRADITION" a new book from Czechoslovakia of 30 pages, 9 x 13 inches, full color illustrations, translated from Czech, tells you how to color eggs, use recipes to make pretzels and gingerbread (pernik) and make ornaments from dough for seasonal decorations. The book is \$3.00, available at the Museum and several shops in Czech Village. By mail, add \$1.00 postage and handling charges.

Now and then interesting questions pop up. A song that has been said to be Czech is "The Dove", or in Czech "Hrdlička", a waltz. It happens that La Paloma is SPAN-ISH in origin. The composer was Sebastian Urdier (1809-1865). The melody and rhythm are unmistakably Spanish!

FINANCES. Postage has also increased-thanks to the U.S. Postal Service! Our donations to others, mainly Czech Fine Arts Fdn.
and the Museum have risen 300%. All things
considered, we had a good year. Thank you
all, members and friends!

Charles E. Krejci

PUBLIC RELATIONS. Programs by members were presented at schools, clubs, senior citizens service clubs, evening classes, church circles and others. The total audiences numbered more than 2,250, not including the many thousands who attended the events in Czech Village who became more aware of the Foundation and Museum.

* NEWS REPORTERS NEEDED

* WHERE ARE YOU? Will organizations

* and individuals who have news of interest

- * suitable for the newsletter, PLEASE send *
- * item to Editor, Czech Heritage Fdn., P.O.*
- * Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia.52406. This is *
- * the 7th year of our newsletter and partici- *
- * pation by you folks is IMPORTANT! Thanks*



Sports enthusiasts follow with great interest the continuing success of LENNIE ZALESKYsenior at U of Iowa and brother JIM-sophomore at U of Iowa in wrestling. Both graduated from Prairie High School.

Then there is IVAN LENDL and HANA MAN-DLIKOVA in international tennis events. The Czechs keep about 80% of their earnings, 20% goes to the government. They also are expected to make a major donation of a few \$\$\$\$ to support Tennis Clubs in Czechy. MARTINA NAVRATILOVA, recently became a citizen of USA is not hampered by such "donations".



EMIL KLUMPAR received the CITIZENSHIP Award from the C.R.Sports Club last month. He will retire in June after 43 years as teacher-coach in C.R.Schools.

BENNIE POSPISIL of Mt. Vernon was the winner for the 2nd time for corn yield of 192.41 bu. /A. Award made by Linn County Better Crops Club.

Another winner is FRANCINE BEHOUNEK at Eastern Iowa Farm Show. Award was for "Large White" - the American version of Yorkshire hogs. That breed has large litters, 18 piglets possible, and are gentle hogs. Francine and Joe Behounek farm near Chelsea.

Grandchildren of Barbara and Louis SVEC are making records this year. Debbie and Ray graduate from Washington High School, Penny from Prairie High School and Julie from Cornell College. They are proud of these four of their nine grandchildren.

SOME FIRSTS IN OUR CZECH COMMUNITY
1959 First Protestant Czech Church in United
States at Ely, Iowa.

1969 The Saturday issue of the newspaper POKROK had 1600 subscribers and was next to the largest circulation of a Czech paper in U.S.

1901 The Matice Školská building was the first to be used exclusively as a Czech School.

1917. Over \$10,000 was raised at a bazaar by all Czech organizations in Cedar Rapids. That sum exceeded only by sums raised in N.Y. and Chicago. The money was used to supply war needs.

1917. In seven days of celebration of the liberation of Czechoslovakia, a Bazaar in November netted \$30,200.

World War I Honor Roll of Linn County lists 2,541 names. Of that number 474 were Czechs or of Czech descent.

1924. St. Wenceslaus High School was the first Czech Parish to have such a building.

from Martha Griffith's History of Czechs in Cedar Rapids 1852--1942

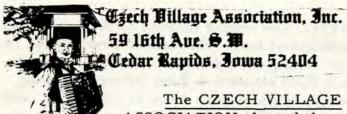


CZECHOSLOVAK SOKOL

ABROAD have their 5th Jubilee
in VIENNA, Austria, July 1-6
1982. The event commemorates
the 100th Anniversary of the first
such Slet (tournament) held in
Prague in 1882 and also the

150th Anniversary of the birth of Dr. Miroslav Tyrš, founder of the SOKOL organization.

Continued on p. 6



ASSOCIATION elected these

officers for 1982:

President: Ernie Hlas

Vice Pres.: Lumir Vondracek

Secretary: Lester Sykora Treasurer: Ray Snitil Coordinator: Pat Martin

The Board Members include the Officers and Dave Barta, Dick Barta, George Barta, Rick Bartunek, George Joens, Patty Konecny, Ernest Kosek, Dick McDonald, Paul Novak,

Gary Samek, Bob Schaffer.

CZECH VILLAGE NEWS and BRIEFS.

The OLDE TOWNE INN in Czech Village has a new owner. John Pavek, recently returned to his home town, Cedar Rapids, and is planning exciting things for his restaurant.

"GRANNY'S ATTIC" featuring lovely gifts of ceramic and other design and offering of ceramic classes is owned by Jean Fitzpatrick at 49 - 16th Avenue S. W. in the building formerly Kadlec Brothers.

"MAJOR VILLAGE MUFFLER" under the management of Jean Fitzpatrick is in the rear of the same building as the above shop.

"K. J. CUTTING POINT" under the ownership of Kathy Heaverlo is the new beauty salon at 1619 - C Street S. W. in the Slavia Agencies Bldg.

CZECH VILLAGE SLIDE PROJECT PRESENTATION showing "before" and "after" pictures of the Czech Village area and tracing its progress in the last ten years is available for showing at your club or organization program. The first showing was in October and since then has been received with great interest. Write Village Coordinator Pat Martin, 59 16th Ave. S. W., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52404 if you are interested in learning more about this program.

BIG EVENTS COMING.

St. Joseph's Day, March 19th, Fri. when Czechs THINK RED. After participating in the Irish Celebration of St. Patrick's Day just two days earlier, the Czecho-

slovaks in Cedar Rapids enjoy red beer, red bread and be adorned in red as they view the 4 p.m. St. Joseph's Day Parade. Join the throng on The Avenue!

ST. JOSEPH'S DAY had its roots in the community celebration, an occasion for fun and a time to focus on the Czech people by honoring one of their common names --Joseph. The holiday has been cele-

brated in parts of the former Province of Bohemia, now Czechoslovakia, for centuries. The day heralds the end of the winter season and beginning of spring.

THINK RED and JOIN YOUR FRIENDS IN CZECH VILLAGE, FRIDAY, MARCH 19th ...

HOUBY DAYS - the 5th ANNUAL HOUBY DAYS will be celebrated in Czech Village May 15-16, Sat., & Sun. The "Star" of this festival is the HOUBA. Mushrooming has long been popular, and in fact, is a sport among Czechs. And like most sports there are houby jokes, certain grubby clothes to be worn as uniforms while hunting houby, secret places to find the delicacies, houby stories which are something like those "fish" stories, and wonderful ways to cook the houby.

This year bicycle races will be a feature on Saturday as well as the annual favorite 5000 meter foot race on Sunday. Czech music and dancing, arts and crafts and lots of old fashfun will abound along with displays of winning HOUBY entries. Detailed schedule of events will be available in Village stores prior to the 2-day celebration. Out-of-town enthusiasts may acquire a schedule by writing to Village Coordinator 59 - 16th Ave., S. W., Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52404.

SOKOL ABROAD....Sokols from the Free World nations will attend. It is an amazing and thrilling sight to behold -THOUSANDS of Sokols in their uniforms executing drills, gymnastics and calisthenics. All learned the proper movements and exercises and then put TOGETHER a display of magnificent coordinated movement in unison on an immense field or in an arena. The programs include men's units, women's units, young adults units and mixed units. A record was set in 1938 at Prague when 28,000 men were on the field. The huge stadium in Praha has space for 200,000 viewers! It is said to be the largest stadium in the world.



a ruffle of drums a fanfare of trumpets



The PRINCE OF THE CZECH FESTIVAL!!

My name is Jeff Donoghue, Prince of the
Czech Festival in September. A picture of
Princess Lynne Marie Nejdl and others of our
group was in the December newsletter.

I attend Prairie Junior High School in the 9th grade, am in the Stage Band, a member of the School Band, playing baritone saxaphone.

When I have time I like to bowl. I am a member of 4H and Jr. High School Honor Society. For the 4H project I made rohliky which won at the county contest and at the Iowa State Fair, I received a blue ribbon... My sister is in the 8th grade at Prairie Jr. High.

My family of Czechs goes back a long way. Great-great Grandfather, Joseph Červeny, came to America in 1860 from The Province of Bohemia. He looked around in Iowa and sent for his father and the rest of the family. They settled and farmed 120 acres in Fairfax Township, south of Cedar Rapids. He married Katherine Shilhanek, also from Bohemia. They had 13 children. Great Grandfather, Wesley Červeny, one of the children, married Anna Hynek, in 1902. She was born in USA. They were on the family farm near Fairfax. Grandfather, Wesley, Jr., with his wife, the former Mary Netolicky, farmed the home place. Her parents came from Bohemia in

1895. The couple farmed 50 A. and rented additional land. He farmed over 300 A. in all, using draft horses. In 1939 he bought his first tractor, a John Deere. By then crop yields of corn were 80-90 bu./A. and oats, 60-70 bu./A. Prices varied with the years - corn at 35¢ to \$1.30/bu., and oats at 35¢ to 50¢/bu.

We now live on that farm which has been in the family for some 120 yrs.

J.D.

RADIO ENGINEER, Henry J. Nemec now retired Cedar Rapids policeman, was the first in that position in the C.R. Police Dept. In 1933, he set up the first two-way radio system in patrol cars. This made it possible to not only receive messages but also to reply.

Henry J. Nemec set up the equipment on the back seat of his car and drove over to Mt. Vernon Road. He called his wife via radio. She said that she could "read" him pretty well. It worked!! This was thrilling, indeed. The old system had "bugs" in it and sometimes messages were not clear or failed to get through. Sometimes an officer had to go to a call box to find out what was going on. In the 1930's and 1940's the C.R. Police radio received signals from Davenport, Des Moines and Omaha. It was a help if Davenport was relaying information about a bandit heading west. Other times the cluttered channel was a nuisance.

By 1948 the Police Dept. had upgraded equipment. When Nemec was THE radio engineer, he was in complete charge of operations.

During W. W. I he was a "ham" operator.

The government ordered all such equipment disbanded. He complied. When he was age 14, he received his radio license! For him, radio was not a hobby but a passion. He and Clark Chandler (also a radio buff) often visited with Arthur Collins to exchange ideas and create new features for radio.

Continued on p. 8

CZECH HERITAGE HISTORICAL PROJECT
In the December issue of the newsletter, we reported that the Linn County Board of Supervisors awarded the Czech Heritage Fdn. a grant of \$3,200. to fund the historical non-profit project highlighting the history of Czechs in Linn County. The equipment is here and assembled at the Museum. There are two separate units each of which holds ten swinging panels, 30" x 40" in size. Flat materials are protected under plexiglas covers. The displays will be portable so they can be used along with different special events.

Committee members are requesting that you share some of your treasures for others to enjoy. We are especially interested in flat materials that relate to Czech Immigrants and Czech activities in Linn County. Such items may include letters, pictures, programs, passports, handbills or ads and other items relating to people, cultural groups and organizations.

Since many historical items cannot be replaced and are easily damaged, the committee plans to reproduce most items by photographic process. We recently received an original letter written in America in 1915 by Tomas G. Masaryk, the first President of the Czechoslovak Republic. Isn't that exciting!! If you have items to contribute or loan to this project, please phone one of the committee members or any of the Board of CHFdn. Committee is:

Dennis Hrabak, Russell F. Novotny,



RJS

LINN COUNTY HERITAGE SOCIETY

The genealogical research collection of the Society is maintained at the Heritage Room of the Cedar Rapids Public Library. The room is open to the public Monday evenings 6:30 to 8:45, all day Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. and open by special appointment. Members of the Society staff the services. The collection consists of books, quarterlies, microfilm and many of one-a-kind records, references for every area of genealogical research including the United States and abroad with special emphasis on Cedar Rapids, Linn County, and Iowa. All visitors are welcome and special help is available. For further information write to Linn County Heritage Society, P.O. Box 175, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

June Sargent

JAN AMOS KOMENSKY was born
March 28, 1592 in Moravia. He is
better known by his Latin name,
Comenius. Educator, philosopher,
linguist, religious leader, Czech
patriot, and citizen of the world list
his many accomplishments. Exiled from
his homeland during the Thirty Years War
(1618-48) he was inspired to keep working
for educational, political and social reforms. At his departure, his books, manuscripts and property were confiscated. His
wife and children had died of the plague. He
was dedicated to the preservation of the
Czech language and culture.

RJS

MEMBERSHIP IN CZECH HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dues are \$3.00 per person for one year, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Please make the check payable to Czech Heritage Foundation and mail to us at P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52406.

This newsletter went to press Feb. 22nd. If you have mailed your dues in the meantime, you will receive an acknowledgment later. Thank you.

If your dues ARE PAID for 1982 you will find PAID stamped on this form.

Name	renewalnew	-
Address	zip_	
Donations and gift memberships are always	welcome. Donation \$	
If dues ARE NOT PAID for 1982 this will be		

A funny thing happened at the Detroit Police Dept. In 1921 they had to agree to play music so many minutes in the hour in order to use the wave length to send emergency messages to squad cars. The Superintendent of Police asked the Federal Commission, "Do we have to play a violin solo before we catch the criminal?" That remark almost cost Detroit its radio license!!!



With spring just around some corner, somewhere, are you interested in learning to dance the BESEDA? Write us at P.O. Box 761, Cedar Rapids, Ia. 52406.

After the Easter holidays the class will be organized.

More about publications: sales during the past year were beyond all of our expectations. A total of 88 orders were received and a total of 1,344 books mailed to 53

OFF to NEW GUINEA! Do you know where in the world that island is located? Look for the large island north of Australia, 100 to 300 miles south of the equator! Phyllis and Dick Holden go to serve the Society of the Divine Word Mission for a 2 to 3 year term. Dick has completed a paramedic course and will also pilot the plane there. Phyllis will be active in the office and the apostolic area served by the Mission. They depart from Los Angeles April 30th going via Honolulu and then direct to Port Moresby. GOOD LUCK AND BEST WISHES......

President Masaryk's birthday is March 7, 1850. See newsletter March 1981 for an item about him.

cities in 18 states. The acceptance of these books can be proven by the fact that there are many re-orders.

CHV

CZECH HERITAGE FDN.

P. O. Box 761 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406 PAID
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Permit No. 127