



AMERICAN SOKOL

PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL
Educational and Physical Culture Organization

May 1968

We, the members of the Executive Board and the Presidents of the six Districts of the American Sokol Organization, assembled in conference in Chicagoland May 4th, 1968, representing 75 units fostering physical fitness programs in the United States of America for more than a century, endorse the following resolution:

RESOLUTION REGARDING CURRENT EVENTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The events taking place in Czechoslovakia within the past months have had an enthusiastic repercussion in the United States. They have conclusively confirmed our firm conviction that the Sokol ideals and training are so deeply imbedded in our people that they could not be eradicated even under two decades of violent dictatorship. Where formal training and education were not openly possible the ideals were still kept alive and instilled in the minds of the children.

Now the Sokol as well as many other forbidden activities are being reactivated. A general upsurge to employ the long, pentup desire to take an active, free part in the fate of the nation are sweeping ahead at an unbelievable pace.

All of this is being done by the people themselves. No aid has come from the outside. All segments of the nation are involved, from the writers, students, and highly educated to the common workers. Almost unanimous is the desire to live out actively again Komensky's great prophecy, "When the storms and tornadoes of the times have passed the rule of your lands will again come into your hands, O my people."

Twenty years of a model republic 1918 to 1938, were great enough to overcome twenty years of oppressive dictatorship, 1948 to 1968. The entire world is marveling at what is occurring, not only because it is happening but the intelligent, disciplined manner in which it is being done.

2,500 Sokols from every section of Czechoslovakia are now attending a convention in Prague. We wish them well in their efforts to again, openly and proudly, reactivate the democratic ideals, purposes, aims and goals of the Sokol founders and those who carried on for so many decades.

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION

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AMERICAN SOKOL



Published Monthly
(Except bi-monthly July and August)
by the

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION
5611 W. Cermak Road, Cicero, Illinois 60650
Subscription: \$3.00 per year.

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Editor must receive copy for publication by the
26th of the month, preceding publication date.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ASO.

Betty Prener, Secretary
5611 W. Cermak Road, Cicero, Illinois 60650
Tel.: 652-5220

Calendar of Events

- JUNE 7th—SOKOL OMAHA, NEBR.
Gym classes will hold Parents' Night—7:00 p.m.
- JUNE 8th—EASTERN DISTRICT. — District Slet
at Throggs Neck.
- JUNE 8-9—SOKOL BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.
Bus trip to New York.
- JUNE 9th—CENTRAL DISTRICT—"Sokol Physical
Fitness Day" — Riverside-Brookfield High
School Stadium. 2 P.M.
- JUNE 9th—SOKOL BERWYN, ILLINOIS.
Chicken Dinner at Sokol Berwyn Hall—Immediately
following the Central District Exhibition.
- JUNE 14, 15, 16—WESTERN DISTRICT SLET.
Hosted by Sokol and Sokolice Omaha.
- JUNE 16-29—WESTERN DISTRICT Instructors'
Clinic to be held after District Slet at Sokol
Camp, Valley, Nebraska.
- JUNE 23rd—NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT, Cleve-
land, Ohio. — Slet at the IOOF Fresh Air Camp.
- JUNE 29th—SOKOL MILWAUKEE, WIS.
100th Anniversary Banquet at the Bowlero, 11737
W. Burleigh St.
- JULY 14th—SO. OMAHA SOKOL DAY.
Sokol Park, LaPlatte, Nebr. Gymnastic Exhibi-
tion at 2:00 P.M. Entertainment all day long.
Children and adult games.
- JULY 14th—SOKOL CLEVELAND-CECH HAVLI-
CEK. — Family Basket Picnic.
- JULY 14th—SOKOL DETROIT, MICH.
Gymnastic Exhibition.
- JULY 14 thru 20th—SOKOL ST. PAUL, MINN.
Children's Week at Sokol Camp.
- JULY 21—AUG. 4th—SOKOLICE OMAHA spon-
sored tour to Hawaii.
- JULY 27-28—SOUTHERN DISTRICT SLET.
Houston, Texas. Competition and Exhibition.

JULY 29th—SOUTHERN DISTRICT INSTRU-
CTORS COURSE. — Two weeks—Sokol Houston
Houston, Texas.

AUG. 11th—SOKOL CLEVELAND-CECH HAVLI-
CEK. — Cedar Point Trip.

AUG. 17th—SOKOL DETROIT, MICH.
Annual Festival.

AUG. 17th to 30th—EASTERN DISTRICT.
Teachers Course at Belcamp, Md.

Sokolice Libuse, Crete, Mourn Passing of 2 Oldest Members

MRS. NETTIE VETROVSKY, daughter of Czech
pioneers, was born September 3, 1878, to Mr. and
Mrs. Frank Znamenacek in a sod house, south of
Crete, Nebr. She passed away February 9, 1968. In
1913 she was married to Frank Vetrovsky. She
moved to Crete shortly after her husband's death.
At age 89, Mrs. Vetrovsky was the oldest Saline
County resident at the Centennial Celebration in
1967. She was the first member of Sokolice Libuse
Crete to receive a fifty year pin, which she re-
ceived in April 1952.

MRS. LOUISE NESPORY was born December
24, 1881 to Mr. and Mrs. Louis Hromas of Lincoln,
Nebr. She passed away Feb. 22, 1968, in Crete,
Nebr. In 1903 she was married to John Nespory of
Crete, where they made their home. Brother John
Nespory was a long time member of Sokol Crete
and was one of the first instructors of Sokolice
Libuse. Mrs. Nespory was a member of Sokolice
Libuse Crete for over 50 years and received her 50
year pin in 1965.

Both sisters Vetrovsky and Nespory were very
active and conscientious members as long as their
health permitted and will be sorely missed by all
members and many friends.

Václav Přečh.

Sokolská rodina clevelandská zesmutněla zprá-
vou, že odešel z tohoto světa bratr James Přečh.
Byl to Sokol tělem i duší a v jeho odchodu ztrácel
opět Sokol člena, který vždy byl nejdříve Sokolem
a pak teprve přišly osobní záležitosti.

Bratr Přečh, ačkoliv v mladém věku 13 let přišel
do svoji nové vlasti, nikdy neztrácel lásku ku
svoji rodné zemi. Byl cvičitelem, náčelníkem, jed-
natelem, starostou a pracoval všude tam, kde se
jednalo o myšlenku sokolskou, až do doby před 10
lety, kdy vleklá nemoc ho vyřadila z činnosti.

Nejen jeho mateřská jednota Sokol Nová Vlast,
ale veškeré členstvo a bratrstvo velké rodiny Ame-
rického Sokola bude na něj vzpomínat s vděčností
za jeho vykonanou práci. Odešel dobrý člověk, ode-
šel vzorný bratr.

Celé clevelandské Sokolstvo a Sokolstvo v Ame-
rické Obci Sokolské, projevuje upřímně cítěnou sou-
strast jeho pozůstalé rodině. Naše soustrast a dík
patří jeho věrné družce života sestře Anně Přečov-
é, za její lásku a trpělivost, kterou zesnulému vě-
novala během tak dlouhé nemoci.

Čest a vzpomínku zachováme zanícenému sokol-
skému pracovníku James Přečhovi. Odpočivej v po-
koji!
K. Z. (Nový Svět — Cleveland, O.)

AMERICAN SOKOL

VĚSTNÍK AMERICKÉ OBCE SOKOLSKÉ

Ročník—Vol. LXXXIX.

May — 1968 — Květen

Číslo—No. 5

Roderick Gorman:

WHY MOTHER'S DAY? — WHY FATHER'S DAY?

It seemed to me that everybody knew the Why and Wherefore when it came to these two days set aside each year to pause a moment in our headlong rush and plunge to eternity and show a bit of affection . . . more respect, more appreciation to the parents who have helped us so much in making our own path through the jungle of life. . . .

But I was wrong. . . . Everybody did not know Why and When the observance of Mother's Day and Father's Day originated. Some of those I asked thought it was an old, old custom, a hangover from semi-antiquity . . . and others again were under the impression that the two holidays are of very recent origin . . . with no other purpose but to stimulate sales of flowers, jewelry and restaurant business and what have you for Mother and sales of ties and shirts and smoker's needs and sporting accessories for Fathers. In a sense that is about all that the commercialization of these two days has meant in the past few decades. . . . Something like "Sweet-heart Day" or "Be Kind to Dumb Animals Day" or "Drink More Milk Day" or any such artificially created sales stimulants. But let's face it—Mother's Day and Father's Day mean much more or at least should mean much more than the gratifying clanging and ringing of America's cash registers. . . .

I will try to sketch quickly when and how the ideas were originated, nurtured along and became part of the American scene. Mother's Day is not our own American idea. Many years ago, perhaps during the 17th and 18th century, England used to observe so-called Mothering Sunday, usually during mid-Lent. This was strictly a devotional observance, spent in prayers for mothers who had departed and asking blessings for the mothers still living.

In America the thought germinated in 1872 when Mrs. Julia Ward Howe campaigned vigorously to have June 2nd set aside as a day dedicated to peace, and for several years thereafter Mother's Day merged somehow with this concept and meetings were held annually in Boston in observance of this special day.

In 1887 Mary Towels Sasscen, a Kentucky school teacher, tried to institute the observance of a special Mother's Day, but was not too successful in her efforts.

In 1904 another Mother's Day standard bearer arose in the person of Frank E. Henning of South Bend, Ind., but with only local results.

Three years later, in 1907, Anna Jarvis of Grafton, West Virginia, succeeded in getting some attention in her efforts to have the second Sunday in May each year set aside for Mother's Day observance. This was originally a sort of personal

tribute to Mrs. Jarvis' deceased mother, but it did take hold and the following year, May 10, 1908, the first official Mother's Day celebration was held at the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton. This also was the beginning of the custom of wearing colored carnations honoring mothers still living and white carnations to remember mothers who had passed away.

At the General Conference of the Meth. Episcopal Church held in Minneapolis in 1912 delegates from the Andrews Church introduced a resolution recognizing Mrs. Anna Jarvis as the founder of Mother's Day and suggesting the 2nd Sunday in May to be so observed.

On May 9th, 1913, President Woodrow Wilson signed a Joint Resolution of Congress recommending that Congress and the Executive departments of our government observe Mother's Day on the Sunday suggested. The following year, 1914, Pres. Wilson was authorized to proclaim Mother's Day as an Annual Observance and it has been so observed since. In the resolution introduced in Congress and signed by Pres. Wilson the 2nd Sunday in May was designated as a National Holiday and as stated and I quote: "Dedicated to the Memory of the best Mother in the World, Your Mother."

Pennsylvania was the first state to declare itself for Mother's Day as a National Holiday in 1913 and the other states followed without exception in rapid succession.

The official recognition of Father's Day the 3rd Sunday in June came considerably later, although suggested originally in 1910 by Mrs. John Bruce Dodd of Spokane, Wash. The wheels in favor of Father's Day were slow in moving as may be expected for fathers as a whole are not too important in the scheme of things.

In 1924 Pres. Calvin Coolidge recommended that Father's Day be observed in all states and is so being adhered to ever since.

As an interesting corollary to this brief historical essay a National Father's Day Committee was founded in 1937 in New York City and devotes its efforts in selecting an appropriate theme for each year's Father's Day and selecting the Father of the Year.

In the past some fathers so named were: Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Pres. Harry S. Truman, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Wm. O. Douglas. There were also others chosen from the top echelons of our national life.

So much so for the historical background, but what about the significance of these two days in our contemporary scene. I feel that the real mean-

ing of these two days has been lost during the past fifty odd years from their inception . . . and it is to be regretted that today Mother's Day and Father's Day are just two convenient labels . . . a forced attempt to stop the millions of sons and daughters in America to halt a moment and to think seriously and with affection and gratitude about the debt they owe their fathers and mothers. But such feelings cannot be stimulated artificially by the forces of publicity . . . they must emanate from the very hearts of those who visit their Moms and Dads, who write to them or telephone them, who shower them with the usual showy gifts. If it is not in the heart those little bunches of flowers or those artistically wrapped gift packages are not the true expression of the meaning of Mother's Day or Father's Day.

On deeper analysis I feel that during the past several decades when the ties of the old close-knit family began to weaken, Mom and Dad have lost their control over the children. Too much permissiveness as advocated by some modern psychologists has weakened the sense of togetherness, of belonging, of being an interlocked group living in harmony with its neighbors, its fellow citizens the world at large. The loss of discipline, cooperation, mutual respect and affection within the family is being manifested today in our every day national lives. Riots, marches, sit-ins, fires, destruction, pilferage, are but the large scale manifestations of the revolt within the family. Only rarely does a family sit down at an evening meal, everyone present, everyone discussing their problems, asking or giving advice . . . this is the picture of years gone by. Today everybody is an individualist at home, within the family and this same individualism is being carried out into the street, the school, the shop, wherever men and women rub shoulders and clash over their common problems.

Watching the American scene . . . listening to the radio broadcasts, the TV programs, reading the newspaper accounts of the happenings in our institutions of higher learning . . . Columbia . . . Northwestern . . . you name them they are all in a

turmoil . . . protesting, trying to take into their own hands that which perhaps the older more experienced brains had failed to resolve. But revolt and anger is not the solution. Disobedience is not the answer. Asserting one's individuality, one's protest against the status quo by odd hair styles, careless attire, these are but kiddish, infantile throwbacks to each individual's infancy, when screaming and soiling himself he could get the attention he was after. . . We cannot shout democracy and clamor for our democratic rights on one hand and on the other hand destroy that very democracy which has meant so much to each and everyone of us in its evolution. Democracy, true workaday democracy means discipline, respect for order, obedience to laws, and when we start to circumvent these bulwarks of a democratic nation we are undermining our foundations, we are actually digging our graves. This is a gruesome thought to introduce during what should be a jolly occasion, but I am a realist and believe in facing facts as they are.

Perhaps it is not too much out of place to express a wish here—a simple solution to our festering social problems. Why not declare 364 days of each year as being set aside for the mothers and fathers of America, and only one day each year to be set aside as Revolution Day . . . when everybody can go out into the street and shout his slogan, wave his banner, stage sit-ins and marches to let off steam and then return to normal peaceful happier days. And if this could be done I would recommend the coldest day each year some time in January for this observance of social unrest . . . hoping that the winds and snow and blizzards and frost would dampen the spirits and reduce the turbulence to a bare minimum.

Nothing in the world, no force under the sun can legalize this approach to our problems today . . . but only each one of us devoting our thoughts and pouring out our affections each day in the direction of our mothers and fathers, living or deceased, can bring about this peace and contentment so sorely needed today.

JAMES L. CIHAK:

ERIC HOFFER — America's Stevedore Philosopher

Mention philosophy to the average individual and they leave you as if you had a plague. Small wonder since most of it has been written in a vein hard to comprehend. Double talk and hairsplitting has been prevalent in the majority of writers as well as an unfounded conviction that they and only they had discovered the sublime and allpervading truth. Grudging acknowledgments are given to the past, their contemporaries are sneered at and the future will produce nothing to eclipse the majesty of their own deductions.

And now in our lifetime we have Eric Hoffer, no formal education, no degrees, a common laborer, but what a mind. He is a longshoreman living in San Francisco. For him this is the good life because it provides him with the freedom he needs to do the reading and writing he enjoys. He has been a

longshoreman on the Pacific Coast since 1943. Before that he was a migratory field worker, and a gold miner in the country around Nevada City.

Of his early life he writes: "I had no schooling. I was practically blind up to the age of fifteen. When my eyesight came back I was seized with an enormous hunger for the printed word. I read indiscriminately everything within reach—English and German."

At seventeen his father died, his mother died much earlier. He chose California as a place to live because he judged that there a man could be both poor and independent. For ten years he was one of the "new pioneers," who included the Okies and Arkies. In that time he scribbled and read, devouring books at a dozen libraries along the railroad and checking what he found against his first-hand

knowledge of men and movements. Four books have resulted:

"The True Believer" (1951), Perennial Library—Harper & Rowe (paperback, 60c).

"The Passionate State of Mind" (1955), Perennial Library—Harper & Rowe (hard cover).

"The Ordeal of Change" (1963), Perennial Library—Harper & Rowe (hard cover, 60c).

"The Tempo of Our Time" (1967), Perennial Library—Harper & Rowe (card cover).

Neil Martin, Christian Science Monitor, writes: "He (Eric Hoffer) is a student of extraordinary perception and insight. The range of his reading and research is vast, amazing. He has written some of the most provocative books of our immediate day."

Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.: "This brilliant and original inquiry into the nature of mass movements is a genuine contribution to our social thought."

And Eric Hoffer himself? In "The Ordeal of Change" he states: "Only here, in America, were the common folk of the Old World given a chance to show what they could do on their own, without a master to push and order them about. History contrived an earth-shaking joke when it lifted by the nape of the neck lowly peasants, shopkeepers, laborers, paupers, jailbirds and drunks from the midst of Europe, dumped them on a vast, virgin continent and said: 'Go to it, it is yours.'"

"And the lowly were not awed by the magnitude of the task. A hunger for action, pentup for centuries, found an outlet. They went to it with ax, pick, shovel, plow and rifle; on foot, on horse, in wagons and on flatboats. They went to it praying, howling, singing, brawling, drinking and fighting. Make way for the people! This is how I read the statement that this country was built by hordes of undesirables from the Old World.

"Small wonder that we in this country have a deeply ingrained faith in human regeneration. We believe that, given a chance, even the degraded and the apparently worthless are capable of constructive work and great deeds."

He wrote elsewhere: "Communism has a greater dread of becoming Americanized than we ever have to have of becoming communized."

The recent events in Roumania, Poland and now the coolheaded actions in Czechoslovakia seem to bear out Hoffer's predictions. Masaryk, as we knew and felt, was too deeply inbedded in the mind and heart of Czechoslovakia to have any upside down Tsarism, (as communism was called a century ago) rule it for too long. The masses thruout the world have had too close and penetrating a look at Americanism to be deluded by communism as an ideal state.

50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC

(Address by Chas. M. Prchal at Lyra Singing Society Concert, May 5, 1968)

It is almost fifty years ago that the world looked in amazement at the fortitude and determination of a freedom loving people realizing its dream, proclaiming their independence . . . shouting to all the world TODAY . . . TODAY . . . October 28th, 1918, our own Czechoslovak Republic is born ready to take its place among the Democratic Nations of the world. We who were participants in this great drama whose Golden Anniversary is being observed this year look back with mixed emotions to those glorious days when Thomas Garrigue Masaryk stood at the helm of the newborn nation whose post-war recovery, growth and solidification became synonymous with Progress and Democracy. We were overjoyed with the events as they developed and did our share in helping the newborn nation to grow and prosper and gain the respect and admiration of the world.

But as we look back today over the flight of fifty years our thoughts are filled with a mixture of remorse and sadness when we recall that only twenty short years were given the Czechoslovak Republic to enjoy its freedom, to assert its faith in humanity and justice and brotherhood. . . Too soon the brown terror of Nazism spread its all engulfing wings and once again submission and suffering became the undeserved lot of the Czech and Slovak people of our distant homeland. . . And again we did all in our power to help America to help Czechoslovakia to defeat Hitler's mad dream of world dominance and once again our hopes were raised high at the end of World War II when the hated Germans were driven out of Czechoslovakia and once again decency and democracy began to rule

the land.

But this respite from tyranny and oppression did not last too long . . . three years at most and by deceit and trickery a new non-democratic dictatorial force took over the reigns of the government replacing law and justice with brutality and discrimination, free discussion with forced indoctrination, freedom of speech and expression with regimented, censored adherence to slogans and precepts. For twenty years now this blight upon the democratic escutcheon of Czechoslovakia has been discoloring world opinion, trying desperately to make the world believe that the Czechs and Slovaks as a people favor and worship Communism and have rejected all traces of democracy. . . But have they?

Today should be a day of rejoicing and as we gather today and for many occasions to come in the months ahead, as we approach that Golden Milestone October 28th, 1968, marking the Fiftieth Anniversary of the rebirth of a free nation we can rejoice once again that bonds that have kept the Czechoslovak people in servitude and terror, are gradually lessening their crippling hold. . . Once again the brave writers and thinkers and students are beginning to voice their sentiments, to criticize the regime and to demand the return of the rule of the land into the hands of the people and their freely elected rerepresentatives. . . It is too early to rejoice but not too early to hope that this exhilarating Golden Jubilee Year will mark the beginning of a better, freer happier tomorrow for the people of Czechoslovakia and for all the people upon this troubled, turbulent world.

ASO. EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. E. Linhart explained situation regarding instructors for District courses. Attended Women's Collegiate Gymn. Championships at Carbondale, very impressive meet.

Sis. L. Zdenek: Uniforms are not running true to size and not arriving in time. Filming of exercises suggested for 1969 Slet.

Bro. C. Prchal has request from L. Hanus, Houston, Texas—will be unable to grant because of limited space available. Received material from the Foreign Correspondents Assn. in Washington, D. C. Carlton University in Ottawa, Canada, wanted information about Sokol organization. University of Minnesota requested material pertaining to American experiences of European immigrants' group and their descendants. Lyra concert on May 5, will be speaker there. Discussion regarding being a member in two units. Was present at meeting called by local group of Legionnaires for the purpose of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Czechoslovak Republic—bro. F. Vodrazka was elected President, and bro. J. Cihak, V.P.

Sis. E. Welcl-Ruzicka: Dallas film taken by bro. Neumann was well received in Miami.

Sis. A. Basta reported preparations for a new decal are in process. Will have article in Suburban Life on the District Presidents' Conference.

Bro. G. Basta reported bro. E. Schnabl and bro. E. Hlinka were approved as members of the Membership Committee. Gave short talk on Sokol in America for local Lions Club.

Bro. F. Vodrazka reported investment of \$15,000 in 4½ Treasury Bonds. Approved. Baltimore unit has started new building drive.

Sis. E. Schnabl kept up with all correspondence to date. Typed and mimeographed material for Educational Committee.

Bro. S. Barcal attended meeting of officers for setting up agenda for District Presidents' Conference. Memorial Day services at Bohemian National Cemetery will be attended by the Executive Board.

Sis. Falta advised 25-year pins are defective and pins are being returned for replacement. Suggestion made to use tie-tac type pins, which could be worn by both men and women.

Financial Report ASO.

April 1968

INCOME:

Dues	\$ 2,579.25
Convention Fund	102.50
Special assessment	1,280 00
Dividends and interest	171.88
Resale of jewelry	19.20
Sokol emblems, Beseda inst. and postage	39.96
Total Income	\$ 4,192.79

DISBURSEMENTS:

Administrative Department	
Salaries	\$184.73
F.I.C.A. & F.W.T. for March	54.18
Rental, janitor service, phone, electric	152.31
Office supplies	41.55

Maintenance—business machines ..	50.00	
Petty cash	36.23	\$ 519.00
Educational Department BOI.		
Salaries	\$207.80	
F.I.C.A. & F.W.T. for March	53.20	
Editor "Sokol Gymnast"	25.00	
Printing additional copies "Sokol Gymnast"	27.72	
Phone	2.15	\$ 315.87
Sokol Publication		
Printing "American Sokol"—April 1968	\$541.53	
Editor "American Sokol"	75.00	\$ 616.53
Miscellaneous		
Transfer of funds to U.S. Treasury Bonds	\$14,139.97	\$14,139.97
Total Disbursements	\$15,591.37	

BALANCE:

Totals brought forward:	
Western National Bank of Cicero—checking account	\$15,800.97
Income—April 1968	4,192.79
	<u>\$19,993.76</u>
Disbursements—April 1968	15,591.37
	<u>\$ 4,402.39</u>

Future Sokol Leaders Fund

April 1968 donations:

Sis. Clara H. Pokorny, in memory of Edw. H. Kral	\$ 2.00
Sis. Hermie C. Rabstojnek	5.00
Bro. Frank J. Smerda, in memory of Bro. Fred Holub	10.00
	<u>\$ 17.00</u>
Clyde Savings & Loan—dividends earned	192.87
	<u>\$209.87</u>

(The above contributions are tax exempt)

EASTERN DISTRICT

Little Ferry Sokol won many of the awards at the United Sokols competition on March 30th.

All expenses accrued by the educator shall be paid by the District.

Belcamp gymnasts received first prize in the Harford County competitions.

Sis. Zabka will make throw aways which will be given to units to insert them in their program books at exhibitions.

Each unit should purchase a Sokol Gymnastic Manual.

Sis. Provaznik has a History of the 1948 Slet held in Czechoslovakia on sale for \$8.00.

Bros. Zraly and Neumann will represent our District at the 50th anniversary commemoration of the Independence of Czechoslovakia to be held in Washington, D. C., on October 17th to 20th.

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT

President bro. Pekar attended the annual meeting of Sokol Detroit and Sokol Detroit Ladies Auxiliary. It was an excellent and interesting meet-

AMERICAN SOKOL

SOKOL GYMNAST

May 1968

EDITOR—MILDRED PRCHAL

2419 Scoville Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois 60402

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 1967-68

Upon recommendation of the finance committee, the delegates at the X General American Sokol Organization convention held in Chicago in June, 1965, approved scholarship awards to be paid from the Sokol Future Leaders Fund.

The Scholarship Committee is accepting applications of students who are planning a course or program in an accredited four-year college. Although physical education will not be a criteria, more consideration will be given to those who are training in the physical education field.

The allocation is \$100.00 per year for one girl or boy from each District, not to exceed two years. In order to qualify for the second year, applicant must maintain a "C" average or better. Second year allocation is NOT automatic; applicant must file letter of intent to re-apply for a second year, in which case the original application plus transcript of grades will be reviewed. The final selection to be made by the Scholarship Committee and approved by the ASO. Board of Instructors.

The following points will be considered by the Scholarship Committee in selecting the candidates:

1. Should have attended Sokol regularly for at least 3 years. Juniors may be included, but must become adult members; girls at age 17 and boys at 18 years.
2. Must have attended and successfully completed one Sokol course.
3. Must have taught or assisted in Sokol gym classes.
4. Recommendation of high school Physical Education teacher.
5. Recommendation of Physical Director of Sokol unit.
6. Recommendation of District Physical Director.

COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 1, 1968

AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION
Scholarship Committee
5611 West Cermak Road
Cicero, Illinois 60650

I desire to make application for the American Sokol Scholarship Award. Please mail application forms and all other instructions to:

Signature of Sokol member _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

My age is _____ years. I am a member of Sokol _____ Z _____

of _____ District.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

George Basta, Chairman

Ellen Jean Schnabl

Lorraine Zdenek

Paul Lebloch

Edward Linhart

WANDS EXHIBITION NUMBER

Eight Boys 10-12 Years

This is a simple composition with piano accompaniment. (Music may be purchased from ASO. Office.)

2 mats are placed in middle of floor crosswise, end to end.

4 boys stand in open rank facing front before the mats; this line is No. 1. 4 boys stand in open rank facing front behind the mats; this line is No. 2. No. 1 line has free marker to left and No. 2 line has free marker to right.

x	1	2	3	4	(No. 2 line)
MATS					
	1	2	3	4	x (No. 1 line)

Without music: Boys run to places with wand vertically at right shoulder held in right hand (lower end); upon reaching places, left hand grasps near top end, and wand is lowered to low horizontal before body (arms straight).

INTRO. 8 meas. 2/4. Hold.

PART A

24 meas. 2/4 (during runs count 1.&2.&.)

- No. 1 line
- 1.-II. 1.-4. On 1st count jump turning 90° to left and 7 small runs to one marker ahead, wand on chest horizontally (bent frontarm).
- No. 2 line like No. 1 but turn right.
- III. 1. ALL: Jump turning to face front (No. 1 line turn right, No. 2 line turn left) to stand side stradleg—wand horizontally over head (uparm).
2. Jump to closeheel stand—wand horizontal low front (low sidearm).
- IV. 1. Jump turning: No. 1 line to right, No. 2 line to left to stand side stradleg—wand horizontal overhead.
2. Jump to closeheel stand—wand low front horizontal.
- V.-VI. 1.-2. Eight small runs forward to original marker—wand horizontal on chest (bent frontarm).
- VII. = III. Opposite turns.
- VIII. 1. Jump to stradleg—wand horizontal over head.
2. Wand low front horizontal.
- IX. 1. Wand horizontal in frontarm.
2. Wand low front horizontal.
- X. 1. Wand horizontal over head.
2. Wand low front horizontal.
- XI. 1. Wand horizontal to left side (left sidearm, holding one end of wand; right bent frontarm, right hand holding end of wand at left shoulder).
2. Swing wand thru low front arm to right side (reverse arm position).
- XII. 1. Wand vertically to left shoulder (right hand holding lower end of wand in bent frontarm, left uparm).
2. Swing low front horizontal.
- XIII.-XIV. = IX.-X.
- XV.-XVI. = XI.-XII. but opposite (movement begins toward right arm).

XVII.-XXIII. = I.-VII.

- XXIV. 1. Jump to side stradleg wand horizontal overhead (uparm).
2. Jump to closeheel stand—wand low front horizontal.

INTERLUDE

(4 meas. 2/4)

- I.II. Hold.
- III. 1. Jump turning 90° for twos to face each other into moderate stand stradleg—wand low front horizontal.
2. Hold.
- IV. Hold.

PART B

(24 meas. 4/4)

- I. 1. Frontbow—thru frontarm uparm, wand horizontal.
2. Upright—wand low front horizontal.
- 3.-4. = 1.-2.
- II. 1. Frontbow—thru frontarm uparm, wand horizontal.
- 2.-3. Two dips in frontbow.
4. Upright—wand low front horizontal.
- III. 1. Head rearbow—throw wand moderately above head (horizontal)
2. Catch wand (horizontal head high).
3. = 1.
4. Catch wand over head.
- IV. 1. Sidebow left—uparm, wand horizontal.
2. Sidebow right—uparm, wand horizontal.
3. Upright, sidebow left—uparm, wand horizontal.
4. Jump to closeheel stand—wand low front.
- V. 1. Halfsqat reartouch left, (both soles of feet on floor), rearbow, wand horizontal over head.
2. Dip in rearbow.
3. Upright, close right—wand low front horizontal.
4. Hold.
- VI. = V. Opposite leg.
- VII. = III.
- VIII. 1. Low frontarm—end of wand in right hand horizontally forward, partners mutually grasp ends of wands (facing each other).
- 2., 3., 4. Hold.
- IX.-XII. Couples hold opposite ends of wands in each hand. Boys first swing leg from outside of first wand to inside between hands; after stepping in, turn body back to back; swing other wand upward while completing turn, then finish swing of second leg over first wand. Boys again turn to face each other in original twos holding wands. (It is necessary to execute all smoothly simultaneously with helpful arm movements—divide into 3 counts, 4th measure hold and straighten bodies).
- XIII.-XVI. = IX.-XII. Opposite—but on 4th measure each boy takes his wand, stands in moderate side stradleg—center of wand held in right hand (wand vertical) (frontarm right).
- XVII.-XVIII. 1.-8. On the 1st and 3rd count of each

measure, boys throw wand to each other with right hand while catching with left hand (hand holding wand in center—4x altogether).

XIX. 1.-2. Left boy throws wand to right boy (all right boys now have two wands).

3.-4. Right boys throw both wands in vertical position; left boys catch both at one time.

XX. = XIX. 1., 2., 3., 4., throwing on 1st and 3rd counts.

XXI. 1.-2. 4th throw of both wands.

3.-4. Right boy throws only one wand to left boy and all immediately take wand in both hands in bent frontarm outward, wand horizontal.

XXII.-XXIII. 1.-2., 3.-4., 1.-2., 3.-4. On the 1st and 3rd counts boys throw wand in horizontal position, one boy over and the other under (altogether 4x).

XXIV. 1. Rearbow of head, throw wand horizontally slightly overhead.

2. Catch wand and place horizontally on chest.

3. Right boy jumps turning 180° to closeheel stand, left jumps to closeheel stand (no turn—all are in 2 single files)—wand horizontal on chest.

4. Hold.

PART C

(24 meas. 4/4)

I.-II. 1., 2., 3., 4., 5., 6., 7., 8. With short running jumps, the first file runs to head of mat, second file runs in place.

MATS)))) No. 2 file

((((No. 1 file

III.-VI. 1., 2., 3., 4., 5., 6., 7., 8. On 1st and 3rd counts boys execute individual tucked front rolls after short run following each other smoothly and with wand horizontally on chest. Second file follows and after roll boys continue running to head of mat again forming one single file after

2 of the boys place their wands on floor to one side.

VII.-VIII. 1.-8. 2 boys run to edge of mat, face each other about 3½ feet apart, kneel—low sidearm, wands in both hands horizontally and grasp ends of both wands.

IX.-XIV. On the 1st count of each measure (6x), each of the remaining 6 boys run and jump over the first wand being held by the two boys and upon landing immediately spring from both into a front dive roll over the second wand. After roll boys again run around the mats (on right side) to beginning of mat.

XV.-XVI. 1.-8. The two kneeling boys form a "window" for jumping through by raising second or farther wand to uparm, the first or closer wand remains in low sidearm. The rest finish running around and prepare for another exercise.

XVII.-XXII. On the 1st count of each measure (6x) boys follow each other and do dive roll thru "window" and continue running forming line behind mat.

XXIII.-XXIV. Boys who knelt uprise; the rest of the boys quickly pick up their wands and gather around mats.

FINALE

(10 meas. 4/4)

I.-IV. Form picture so that 2 boys standing in middle of double mat facing each other firmly hold 3 or 4 wands on their shoulders. Behind them 2 boys without wands facing each other hold partner's forearms to make it possible for another boy to step up on wands held on shoulders of first 2 boys. 2 more boys each from one side beside mat do half squat step forward left, place both feet fully on floor, moderate frontbow, wand above head horizontally (look toward top man). The last boy hands boy on wands held on shoulders a flag and turns to face front and kneels with wand horizontal above head.

V. Top man raises flag; all others hold.

VI. Hold.

VII. On signal, break picture and run off, center boys carrying wands they had on shoulders.

"Halik Sets Illini's All-Time Vault Mark"

Was the 4 column heading in the Sports Section of Berwyn Life News on Sunday, May 12th



Ed Halik is the son of bro. Edwin Halik, former and now Honorary ASO. Director of Men, and President of Sokol Slavsky Unit in Cicero, Illinois, and sis. Ann Halik, member of the ASO. Board of Instructors and outstanding Sokol instructor.

Ed is a Morton High School graduate and now a student at the University of Illinois. He

has an extensive Sokol background. The Sokol gymnasium was a "second home" to Ed during his boyhood. Although he excels in pole vaulting, he is an excellent award winning gymnast.

The story in the Berwyn Life continues:

"It was a big track meet day for Morton West, though it happened 135 miles away.

"Ed Halik, the other day, in a meet against Southern Illinois, established an all-time University of Illinois pole vault record. He leaped 15 feet, 4¼ inches. The Illini flash eclipsed a mark of 15½ held by Don Laz, one time nationally known pole vaulter.

"He also cracked the Memorial Stadium standard at Champaign-Urbana. This had been credited to a Michigan State vaulter named Carter.

"Halik is the boy who, while carrying the Morton West banner, had passed 14-8 to rank as one of the highest at his specialty in the nation.

"A strange day featured the Illini's meet with SIU. For the latter team boasted Rich Ellison, once a teammate of Halik's at Morton—the same Ellison who was the state champion vaulter.

"He finished second in the vault event that sent Halik soaring to new honors. Ellison leaped 14 feet, 6 inches.

"And watching the great performance was a Morton coach named Bob Reynolds.

"He has been a track aid here for many years. His specialty is the training of fellows who propel

themselves over a bar with the long stick.

"It was Reynolds who was instrumental in the development of both Halik and Ellison at Morton West."

* * *

Achievements such as these can be accomplished only if founded upon years of solid preparation, both moral and physical, and Ed's success can be attributed to his parents who guided him in the Sokol teachings throughout his youth. M. P.

Triple Jumper Won First Gold Medal for U.S.A. in Modern Olympic Games' History at Athens

The United States of America has been credited with 505 gold medals since the inauguration of the Modern Olympic Games in Athens in 1896. Although many statistically-minded sports fans might be able to recall the last gold medal won by the U.S.A.—the evening of Oct. 23, 1964, a dead heat between Joe Frazier being crowned heavyweight boxing king or Bill Bradley stepping up to accept the gold medal in basketball after the U.S.A. had subdued the Soviet Union for the second time in the competition and run our winning streak to 66 since the sport was added to the Olympic calendar in 1936 at Berlin.

But how many can recall the name of the first U.S.A. to win a gold medal in the Modern Olympic Games? Not many, we suspect.

The first gold medal winner was the late James B. Connolly who opened the 1896 Olympic Games at Athens by hopping, stepping and long jumping in the triple jump competition 44 feet 11¾ inches. As one sportswriter of the era wryly noted, "Connolly is the first Olympic champion in more than 1500 years."

At the time Connolly was enrolled as a freshman

The great strides that Japan has made in gymnastics is fantastic. From nowhere they have progressed to the top of the heap. How was this done? They followed the European system of physical fitness whereby all youngsters participate in gymnastics. Almost all gymnasts compete all-around; the only specialists are those who compete in tumbling and trampoline. Practice sessions begin with warm up sessions of calisthenics to loosen every part of the body. This is followed by group tumbling. They have no weight lifting program to build muscles. After the warm up, they go thru light routines and then heavier routines. It is this practice which builds up and develops muscles. Weight lifting is not a way of building a gymnast's body in Japan. The gymnasts work as a team, studying the moves of one another so that they can learn how to do the moves better. Spotting belts may be used at the elementary level, but at the high caliber level, they are not used. Those in the higher echelons work throughout the year about 2½ hours or more a day. When a gymnast has a weak event, the training for that event is lengthened. The gym season starts in May and ends in December or about eight months.

—From Sokol Baltimore "Topix"

at Harvard and he joined a small band of college athletes who paid their own way to Athens for the revival of the ancient sports contents. At some later time Harvard rewarded Connolly with a coveted varsity "H" in recognition of his achievement.

The Olympic champion actually never returned to the University. He joined the staff of the Boston Post and later wrote special articles for the Boston Globe. In time he became one of the nation's most widely-read authors of sea stories, including "Out of Gloucester," "The U-Boat Hunters," "Navy Men," and "The Coaster Captain."

In 1912 he ran for Congress on the "Bull Moose" ticket on which Theodore Roosevelt was the presidential nominee. Like T.R. who was defeated by Woodrow Wilson, Connolly fell before James M. Curley who used the election as a springboard for later notoriety as Mayor of Boston and Governor of Massachusetts.

Interestingly enough, Gov. Curley in 1949 appointed Connolly to supervise Boston's censorship of objectionable books.

Mr. Connolly passed away in Boston at the age of 88 on Jan. 20, 1957.

Greatness consists not merely in doing the things the world applauds; nor in climbing some starlit height and touching the constellations. Greatness is not in the idle glory of fame, nor in winning national elections; and wealth alone cannot make one great.

The truly great lead lonesome lives. They work in the quiet to be true to their ideals, or to a cause. Those who have been thru the struggle know what temptations have to be overcome—temptations to shun responsibility, to take one's ease, to follow the broad and easy way of life that leads to self-indulgence—but also to oblivion. The crowd always follows the easy way, the "popular" way. The majority, contrary to the common acceptance, is seldom right, and never great.

The truly great are found often in unconventional environment, struggling against the inevitable, but true to themselves. Alone, they achieve their purpose. Such are seldom found on the highways of life, but in secret places, where public acclaim is nil, but where virtue and patience and determination and sacrifice and enthusiasm combine to make a life. They are those who in their modest, unostentatious way lead the world in thought and usefulness. They are among the great of the earth. (Kleinknecht Encyclopedia)

ing that held the interest of the young as well as of the older Sokol, one member being over 90 years of age.

Sokol Cleveland-Cech-Havlicek—After the February meeting, bro. Verkner showed films on Czechoslovakia today, which he took on his trip there in 1967.

Sokol Nova Vlast gained two new members. Bro. Kocian urged all members to read the unit "Reporter" which contains an interesting article by bro. Kotlan.

Sokol Tyrs will print the events of all three units in Cleveland in their newsletter.

From the annual BOI. report for 1967:

- a) All units in the district that are active conducted annual exhibitions.
- b) Members from the Cleveland units participated in LEAAU competitions and junior olympics.
- c) District BOI. held a district workshop and conducted competitions.
- d) 421 gymnasts participated in the annual District Slet on June 11, 1967.
- e) 126 gymnasts participated in the competitions and exhibitions at the ASO. Mid-Slet in Dallas, Texas, July 13-16, 1967.

CENTRAL DISTRICT

The District will try to interest all our units in joining in on a common district ad to all outside districts and units. The cost would be prorated among participating units.

Bro. Anton J. Hladik will represent the District in the meetings of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Legionnaires.

Secretary will compile a Central District Bulletin, to be mailed out to all our units. The main object—promotion of our Physical Fitness Day in June, and a memorandum concerning our unit exhibition dates which were not honored lately as is our custom.

Bratr Hlubuček odchází z České útulny.

Br. T. B. Hlubuček se rozhodl po 10 letech jíti do výslužby s platností 1. září t. r. Těch 10 let v Útulně reprezentuje jen malý úsek jeho 47leté nepřetržité práce, zahrnující 30 let novinářské činnosti. Působil co člen redakčního sboru zaniklé Svornosti-Amerikána, samostatně redigoval týdeník C. R. Listy, vedl nedělní hlídku South Side News v angl. deníku C. R. Gazette. Založil a po 18 let řídil Czech Melody Hour, českou hudební a zpěvní hodinu na Columbia stanici WMT v Cedar Rapids. 11 let byl učitelem na české matiční škole, zavedl a vyučoval kursy češtiny a občanské nauky pro dospělé. Za II. světové války spoluzaložil vesměs z řad sokolských setninu České Gardy zapojené do civilní obrany, zasedal na ředitelstvu American Relief for Czechoslovakia. Od prvního příjezdu do Ameriky r. 1920 se zapojil do českého divadla s Ochotnickým družstvem, kde řídil, účinkoval na jevišti a ve funkci maskéra absolvoval na sto divadelních her. Také byl spoluautorem několika úspěšných českých her, zahrnuje v to "Bečláci" a "Tekuté zlato".

Bro. Barcal gave an inspiring speech touching on the necessity and importance of brotherhood, good will and cooperation.

WESTERN DISTRICT

The cost of the two-week school which will follow the Slet is \$70.00.

Cedar Rapids requested information concerning one of their girl gymnasts who would need to have the uneven bars raised 3 notches for competition during her participation in the competition. Permission was granted.

St. Paul offered to dance the Beseda for the Slet.

The Slet trophies are being selected.

The Western District now has a tax-exempt certificate.

Accepted invitation from Wilson, Kansas, to participate in their Czech Festival July 27th. They requested 24 gymnasts.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Corpus Christi—Gained several members — held barbecue dinner.

Dallas—Initiated weekly educational sessions into their gym classes—day gym classes continue.

Ennis—Plan to take part in polka festival in their city and gymnastic program will be presented. Plan to renovate gym equipment.

Fort Worth—Will install lights on property to discourage vandalism.

Houston—Set the District Slet for July 27 and 28th, course the 29th.

Dallas Gym Club made a trip to Monterey, Mexico; the group included Sokol gymnasts of the local area. Tentative plan to hold a clinic for the purpose of reviewing calisthenics and apparatus routines for the District Slet, possibly will be held in Ennis.

A sum of \$100.00 was contributed to Sokol Zizka Dallas for support of four gymnasts who will participate in the Senior National Meet in Long Beach, California.

Rudolf Janda devadesátníkem.

12. května dovršil svých devadesát let br. Rudolf Janda. Pamatuji si jej z Národní tiskárny v Chicagu, kde byl před lety tištěn "Sokol Americký". Br. Janda měl tam odpovědné postavení.

Je členem Plzeňského Sokola v Chicagu a napsal pro něj dějiny jednoty. Sokolství jej zaujalo a uchvátilo svou mohutností a silou, čistotou a krásou tak, že mu zůstává věren. Dlouhá léta byl tajemníkem Českého národního hřbitova a sestavil dějiny této přední naší organizace. Své práci dával se celý — hlavou, srdcem i činem. Napsal sta článků, které nesly vřelost citu a vždy příkaz do života. Připočteme-li k tomu běžné úkoly, jak je dni přinášá i povinnosti k rodině, které všechny plnil svědomitě, máme bratra Rudolfa celého. Je mi s ním vždy dobře, teple, rovně, protože je člověk srdečný, přímý a taktní.

Ani nyní neodpočívá; mnoho čte a píše — ale přece jistě se při tom dívá nazpět na své dílo. Jistě je spokojen.

Zdravíme br. Rudolfa k jeho 90. Nemusím říci, že je nám drahý — vím, že to vyčetl z našich očí.

Bud' nám dlouho zachován. Nazdar! kmp.

Členové Výkonného Výboru a starostové šesti sokolských žup Americké obce sokolské, kteří představují 75 jednot po celé Americe již přes 100 let, usnesli se na svém zvláštním zasedání dne 4. a 5. května na následující resoluci:

RESOLUCE AMERICKÉHO SOKOLSTVA K POSLEDNÍM UDÁLOSTEM V ČESKOSLOVENSKU.

Poslední události v Československu nalezly nadšenou odezvu ve Spojených státech amerických. Potvrdily naše pevné přesvědčení, že sokolská idea v Československu zapustila tak hluboké kořeny, které nevyvrátilo ani 20 dlouhých let kruté diktatury. I když v Československu nebyla dovolena otevřeně sokolská výchova, zůstala v duších mládeže i celého národa. Bylo projevono přání, aby Československá Obec Sokolská byla znovu organisována a obnovila svou činnost ve prospěch národa. Toto přání bylo projevono lidem v Československu, bez pomoci zahraničí. Všechny složky národa od vysoké inteligence, až po prostý lid jsou zastoupeny v této morální revoluci.

Všichni se dovolávají historického proroctví J. A. Komenského: "Až bouře času se přežene přes Tvoji zem, vláda věcí Tvých se opět vrátí do rukou Tvých — Ó lide český!"

20 let vzorné Masarykovy republiky vyvážíly 20 let diktatury. Celý demokratický svět je překvapen, že tyto události vypukly tak náhle s nadšením a ukázněností.

Přes 2,000 bývalých členů Sokola z celého Československa konala přípravnou schůzi v Praze, aby připravila cestu k obnovení Československé Obce Sokolské.

My, američtí sokolové, jim přejem mnoho zdaru v jejich snaze, aby se mohli otevřeně hlásit k sokolským ideálům Tyrše a Fügnera ve prospěch celého národa.

N a z d a r !

ZA AMERICKOU OBEC SOKOLSKOU

STANLEY BARCAL, starosta

ANN FALTA, účetní

BLANCHE J. ČIHÁK, místostarostka

FRANK J. VODRÁŽKA, pokladník

GEORGE C. BAŠTA, místostarosta

EDWARD LINHART, náčelník

BETTY PRENER, jednatelka

LORRAINE ZDĚNEK, náčelnice

CHARLES ZRALÝ, starosta župy Východní, New York

EMIL PEKAR, starosta župy Severovýchodní, Cleveland

JOSEPH DRNEC, starosta župy Střední, Chicago

EDWARD PAVOUČEK, starosta župy Západní, Omaha

GEORGE PŘEVŘÁTIL, starosta župy Jižní, Dallas

GEORGE ŠPÁNEK, starosta župy Pacifické, San Francisco

Principy odboje a brannosti v sokolství.

(Podle přednášky na Columbia University v New Yorku.)

Známější je jeho návrh z doby před okupací Čech pruskou armádou v roce 1866, doporučující zřízení dobrovolného sokolského válečného sboru a zavedení pravidelných vojenských cvičení v jednotách. Tyrš sám jednou uvedl, že považoval za nejkrásnější okamžik života, když bylo schváleno: "... aby na místo obecných silocviků nastoupilo cvičení branné." Taková nabídka se nám dnes zdá podivnou, ale nezapomínejme, že tehdy při tom nešlo o nějakou českou pomoc rakouskému mocnářství, ale že šlo o obranu vlastního českého území proti pruským velitelcům. Rakouské úřady ovšem ani tuto nabídku

nepřijali. Souhlasili jen s krátkodobým postavením městských ochranných stráží a to ještě teprve tehdy, když vojsko a policie opustila Prahu.

Nicméně ani po válce nebyl již sokolský úmysl pravidelného branného výcviku opuštěn. V lednu 1867 byla zřízena komise, která připravila návrh rozvrhu na zavedení vojenského cvičení. Na jeho pořadu byla vojenská pořadová cvičení, puškohmaty, šerm bodákem s přednáškami o strážní službě, hlídkách a vedení bitek. Bylo rovněž zavedeno pochodování a výcvik v přírodě. Pro případ válečného stavu bylo dokonce počítáno výlučně jen s vojen-

skými cviky. Byl dokonce navržen vhodný polní kroj a připraveno rozdělení členstva do vojenských jednotek.

V té době vzniklo také Tyršovo "České velení a názvosloví vojenské", připravené pro české pluky. Bylo, přirozeně také úředně odmítnuto. Přijali je jen tehdejší dobrovolné pražské sbory. Nicméně byl to tehdy uvědomělý krok v branné výchově lidu. V roce 1868, kdy byly Sokolu povoleny volnější stanovy, došlo také k zavedení pravidelného výcviku ve střelbě. Téhož roku vyšlo v Riegrově naučném slovníku, známé Tyršovo pojednání: "Tělocvik ve vojskě", dokazující naléhavost tělocviků pro docílení vojenské zdatnosti.

Když se později, v Rakousku, uvažovalo o zavedení nového branného zákona, očekávalo se obecně, že také obrana státu bude svěřena širším vrstvám občanstva a že branná povinnost bude pro všechny vrstvy národa stejná. Myslelo se již na české pluky s českým velením. Praktické provedení zákona bylo však opět zklamáním a armáda zůstala dál podřízena Němcům. A proto když se, v roce 1868, persekuce českého národa zvýšila a světové vření ukazovalo na radikální politický vývoj, nastoupilo Sokolstvo — bez ohledu na souhlas či odpor rakouských úřadů — svoji vlastní cestu. Šlo mu již tehdy jen o to, aby byl český národ připraven k vlastnímu životnímu boji v soutěži silnějších a ozbrojených, jak nejlépe. Od té doby byla veškerá výchova zaměřena k zvýšení národního sebevědomí, obětavosti a brannosti.

Tyrš si byl dobře vědom toho, že tělocvik, jak sám říká ve své úvaze: "Pokud tělocvik a jednoty tělocvičné k brannosti přispívají" neztrácí na ceně "ani při zabezpečování míru, ba ani ve Spojených Státech evropských."

I z tohoto prohlášení je patrna Tyršova předvídatost a víra v budoucnost. Ve svých dalších úvahách a návrzích týkajících se brannosti, hovoří již stále o prostředcích válečných, o jednotnosti zbraní v sokolských jednotkách, o stálém střeleckém a bodákovém výcviku a o seskupování do vojenských jednotek a p. Chtěl dokonce vyzbrojit každého Sokola, po švýcarském vzoru, vlastní zbraní.

Je méně známo, že se sokolští vůdcové dokonce vážně radili o tom, jak by se mohl český národ osamostatnit i vlastními silami. Počítalo se již s revolucí, se světovým převratem, a na to musel být národ připravován.

Sledujeme-li podrobněji činnost Sokola v posledním čtvrtstoletí, zjistíme, že příprava národního odboje byla součástí výchovného programu. Sokolské úsilí o zvýšení národního uvědomění, obětavého a tvůrčího vlastenectví o zvýšení odporu proti národnímu útlaku nezůstalo bez vlivu na ostatní vrstvy národa a lid začal spatřovat v Sokolu symbol národního vojska. Ukázalo se nakonec, že sokolská myšlenka byla nositelem nové národní, demokratické a vojenské tradice.

Nepustíme se do hlubšího rozboru tohoto vývoje, ale všimneme si stručně, jaké byly praktické výsledky tohoto — několik desítek let trvajícího — procesu?

Charakter národního vojska se projevil zejména při tvoření našich revolučních zahraničních vojsk za první světové války. Byli to totiž především sokolští učitelé tělocviků, působící na Rusi a sokolští

náčelníci, kteří přispěli tak účinně organizačně ke vzniku legii.

Prezident Masaryk o tom ve "Světové revoluci" uvádí: "Sokol, jeho zásady a ideály byly nám vzorem a školou". Jinde pak říká: "Když jsme na Rusi tvořili legionáře, byla pro nás sokolská myšlenka jednou z těch složek, ze kterých jsme vybudovali svou první československou armádu. Vedle tradic husitských a tábořských byla to idea sokolská, která nás vedla a disciplína a řád sokolský, které jednotlivci znali a jimž se podrobovali a které se jim staly druhou přirozeností. Toto sokolství se vplulo v naši vítěznou armádu". Je to jistě výmluvné svědectví.

Je konečně známo, že sokolské tykáni, oslovování "bratře" a pozdrav "Nazdar" bylo rovněž přijato všemi legionáři. První dobrovolná jednotka ve Francii, rota "Nazdar" byla založena a vedena členy pařížského Sokola. UVědomělými Sokoly byli také oba presidenti a mnoho národních, politických a kulturních pracovníků. Je dále skutečností, že první peníze, které dostal Dr. Masaryk na zahraniční odboj, byly od Sokolů. I v Americe, kde existovaly před válkou různé sokolské organizace, jako evangelické, katolické, dělnické, české a slovenské, došlo k jednotnému postupu když šlo o prospěch staré vlasti. Rovněž v Kanadě dali základ vojenským jednotkám Sokolové.

Starosta ČOS. Dr. Scheiner byl vedoucím členem tajné revoluční organizace Maffie a po převratu se stal prvním generálním inspektorem a velitelem nové armády. Bylo to také Sokolstvo, které převzalo v prvních hodinách státního převratu veškerou bezpečnostní a strážní službu v nové republice. Byly to dále sokolské dobrovolnické prapory, které přispěly podstatně k vyhnání maďarských komunistů ze Slovenska a k nastolení pořádku na Slovensku. Sokolové provedli v té době dobrovolné odvody všech svých členů.

Uvádíme to jako doklad, že výchova k odboji a k obraně, sokolskou myšlenkou, nezklamala.

Konečně i druhý prezident státu, vydal svědectví o sokolské branné výchově. Řekl: "Její duch, její demokratičnost, výsledky tělesného výcviku, všude hluboce působily. V tomto duchu hrála sokolská idea i v revoluci zahraniční svou velkou úlohu."

Poválečná nálada a únava nebyla ovšem věcí vojenské a brannosti příznivá. Byli to však opět sokolští pracovníci, kteří se přihlásili na VII. valném sjezdu ČOS. (1924) k opětovné, plánovité, práci na poli brannosti. Vojenští odborníci to uvítali. Bylo to vyjádřeno i jmenováním náčelníka ČOS. dr. J. Vaníčka přednostou tělovýchovného odboru MNO. Neusilovalo se ovšem o militarisaci Sokolstva, nýbrž naopak o posokolštění armády. Šlo o její naplnění duchem tradičního mužného a silného vlastenectví, duchem demokratického bratrství uznávajícího zákonitost a kázeň. A to nebyl v té době skromný požadavek.

Sokolský příspěvek ve výchově k brannosti ve svobodném státě, byl velmi podstatný. Došlo nejužší spolupráci s čsl. armádou. Sokolští náčelníci a jednoty převzaly, spolu s dalšími spolupracovníky, organizaci předvojenské výchovy občanstva po celé republice, zejména v místech bez posádek. Přízpůsobený branný výcvik bíl zaveden dokonce i u žen. V pohraničí byly vybraným příslušníkům Sokola

svěřovány zodpovědné úkoly v oddílech Stráží Obrany Státu. Sokolství znamenalo opět brannost a obětavost.

Můžeme se právem domnívat, že nadšení a odhodlanost, která se projevila v národě za tragicky zastavené protinacistické mobilisace v roce 1938, pramenila z předchozího výchovného vlivu sokolské myšlenky.

Němci si byli dobře vědomi síly a nebezpečí plynoucího ze sokolství. Sokolskou organizaci považovali za součást armády. Proto došlo za nacistické okupace k tak velké persekuci sokolských činovníků a příslušníků. Tisíce procesů nacistických soudů prokázalo, že členství v Sokole bylo přitěžující okolností a zároveň vysvětlením protinacistického postoje. Sokol byl proto brzo rozpuštěn (1940), jeho jmění zabaveno a činovníci zavlečeni do vězení a koncentračních táborů. Gestapo zlikvidovalo zcela plánovitě na 90% vedoucích činovníků.

Ale i v druhém zahraničním vojenském odboji mělo Sokolstvo čestný podíl. Mezi jeho prvními dobrovolníky byli opět sokolští odchovanci. Při každé čl. letecké peruti i u pozemních jednotek v Anglii, vznikly sokolské jednoty, které udržovaly mezi vojáky sokolského ducha. Ostatní sokolské zahraniční

jednoty, roztroušené po celém světě, včetně Spojených států, staly se osvědčenými základními obětavé činnosti.

Budiž, jako doklad, konstatována i ta skutečnost, že provedení atentátu na Heydricha, organizovaného z Anglie našimi vojáky, bylo umožněno ve vlasti obětavým vlastenectvím odchovanců Sokola, vedených podzemní sokolskou organizací Jindra. Mezi těmi 180 popravenými, bezprostředními pomocníky statečných parašutistů, byli téměř všichni Sokoly. Nikdo je na to předem nepřipravoval, konali jen svou samozřejmou povinností k národu. Podobně i na Slovensku, při organizování vojenské akce národního povstání, byli mezi prvními, sokolští lidé. Sám velitel gen. Golian, Dr. Pavlini a mnoho jejich spolupracovníků byli oddanými Sokoly.

A tak bychom mohli pokračovat mnoha dalšími doklady toho, že prvky odboje a brannosti byly trvalou součástí sokolské myšlenky a výchovy a to od samého počátku. Tvůrci myšlenky a jejich následovníci nikdy nezapomínali, že k občanské dokonalosti a k jejich čestné povinnosti i právům patří boj proti politickému a osobnímu násilí. K tomu je třeba především branných tělesných a mravních vlastností.

E. K.

Odešel nejstarší clevelandský Sokol.

9. února byl z Noskova pohřebního ústavu ve Warrensville pohřben bratr Frant. E. Albl.

Rodina Alblů patří do dob, kdy český Cleveland byl v tom největším rozkvětu. Byla to pionýrská rodina, která dala českému Clevelandu uvědomělé syny. Zesnulého bratra Františka předešlo na věčnost pět bratrů a to: Josef M., Dr. Michael A., Edward J., Oswald E., a Dr. Charles J. Albl. Všichni bratři byli členy sokolské jednoty Čech, později Čech-Havlíček. Bratr Frank E. Albl vstoupil do Sokola dne 12. října 1893. Byl proto tohoto roku členem 75 roků.

Po dlouhá léta vlastnil skutečnou lékárnu na Broadway, asi tři obchody od Wendel ulice k Pershing. Byla to lékárna podle evropského vzoru, kde byly k dostání pouze léky. Starší bratři a sestry vzpomínají na toto místo, kde se každému dostalo té nejvládnější služby a kde každého svým příjemným úsměvem uvítal br. Albl.

Ta česká Broadway zahynula a s ní ten český život, který se tehdy soustředil jak v sokolovně na Wendel ulici, tak v Národní síni. K vůli stáří a protože se český člověk přestěhoval do vzdálenějších míst, zanechal br. Albl také svoji lékárnu. Odešel na odpočinek, nejdříve do Garfield Hts. a v posledních letech trávil svůj život u svoji dcery v Northfield, Ohio.

Jeho mateřská jednotka Sokol-Cleveland-Havlíček, před několika lety poctila ho čestným odznakem za jeho dlouholeté členství. Bratr Albl se dožil 92 roků.

S bratrem Alblem odešel opět kus toho starého českého Clevelandu a to si uvědomují nejlépe ti, kdo ho znali. Odešel dobrý člověk, dobrý Sokol a dobrý vlastenec.

K. Z.

Fred Holub.

(Ze článku bra. K. ZAHRADNÍČKA v Novém Světě.)

27. března, náhle a neočekávaně, odešel z našeho středu bratr, kterému Sokol a jeho myšlenka byly celoživotní náplní. Bratr Holub byl Sokol v myšlence, činu a práci! Od svého příjezdu do Clevelandu byl v Sokole. Byl starostou jednoty Sokol Tyrš. A byl jím v době, kdy jednotka prožívala svoji životní krizi.

O lidech, jako byl zesnulý, vyslovoval se pres. Masaryk větou: "Byl to pěkný člověk." — Když vloni vzpomínal český Cleveland 80tých narozenin bratra Holuba, tak jsem mu také povíňoval. V odpovědi mně napsal jeho životní credo, podle kterého kráčel životem. "Na věřejšek nemysli — dnešek s klidem snažej a zítřka se neboj." To je staré chodské přísloví, že co nám dal věřejšek, se nikdy nevrátí.

Chápeme tu velkou ztrátu, které se dostalo jeho odchodem jak legionářům, tak Sokolu, tak české škole i Kulturní zahradě, a celému českému Clevelandu. Budoucnost potvrdí ještě více naši ztrátu. Br. Holub naplnil svoji životní pout', tak jak ten oráč z chodské víscky, šel si odpočinout mezi svoje brášky, s kterými bojoval za svobodu národa, ze kterého vyšel.

Odešel člověk — odešel hrdina. Edmont Rostant, končí svého pověstného Cyrana z Bergeracu slokou, kterou směle můžeme opakovat bratru Holubovi:

Ach, vše mi berete, můj vavřín i mou růži!
Jen berte, jedno přec vždy zůstane tu muži,
co sebou odnesu, co večer vrátím Bohu,
až s dvorným pozdravem se znesu nad oblohu,
co nemá trhlíny, ni skvrny v triumf jistý,
na vzdor to odnesu a to je znak můj čistý!

Ten znak čistého, poctivého, milujícího života, odnesl s sebou, aby nám pozůstalým byl vzorem a vzpomínkou. Ať je ti, bratře, země Tvoji nové vlasti, kterou jsi tak miloval, lehkou.

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And its toiling time is through;
Is there anyone to utter now
A friendly word for you?
Can you say tonight in passing,
With the day that slipped so fast,
That you helped a single person,
Of the many that you passed?
Is a single heart rejoicing
Over what you did or said?
Does one whose hopes were fading
Now with courage look ahead?
Did you waste the day, or lose it?
Was it well or poorly spent?
Did you leave a trail of kindness,
Or a scar of discontent?

—Anon.

Among the English language's many puzzling words is "Economy," which means the large size in soapflakes and the small size in automobiles.

A modern country is one which bans fireworks and produces H-bombs.

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KAREL M. PRCHAL:

50 YEARS

Hundreds of our brothers and sisters in the entire United States participated in this branch of activity and many subversive acts were reported to the proper government organs. Victory was ours!

The American Defense Committee of the Czechoslovak National Council also working with the permission of the State Department, was led by bro. Prchal, President, and bro. Henry Weber, Secretary. The duties of the Committee were to assist and cooperate with the delegates of the governing bodies of the United Nations in the fight against subversive elements, mainly in combating sabotage in industries.

Many members of these committees, taking the opportunity upon the occasion of the Slet, gathered to compare their experiences and to see for themselves how far the activities had progressed and branched out. Their enthusiasm and determination were emphatically demonstrated during the Slet.

How large was the attendance at Soldiers Field? The guesses were varied. The most conservative said 35,000. Others said there surely were 60,000. It is definite that the west side was wholly occupied, the south curve half full and the east side also half full. Soldiers Field filled to the last seat on all 4 sides is able to seat 130,000 people. Nevertheless, the view of the tribunes was breathtaking. Attendance of Canadian brothers and sisters, gym-

nasts and audience, was gratifyingly large.

The success of the 1941 Slet surpassed that of any held before and the eyes of all Czechoslovak America were turned to Chicago. The grave period found the American Sokol fully prepared for the tasks ahead. The Slet was an expression of unflinching unity of the Czechoslovak people in America and etched its place not only in the history of the American Sokol but also in the history of the entire Sokol world.

Attending with the Czech and Slovak Sokols were the Catholic Sokol, Federation of Workingmen's Gymnastic Units, Polish Falcons, Singing Society Lyra, Slovak Clubs, Moravian Clubs, Baracnik Groups and all other Czechoslovak organizations.

The program was directed by bro. Jarka Jelinek. Closely cooperating with him was bro. Karol Bednar. The preceding parade was beautiful. The speakers' addresses and songs by our superb opera singer Madame Jarmila Novotna to the accompaniment of bro. Kubina started an enthusiasm that was to endure throughout the afternoon Slet program. The mass calisthenics with 2,400 participants were executed flawlessly.

An Instructors' Course was conducted after the Slet—34 students attended.

(Continued)

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