

TWINS NEAR DEATH; BOTH UNCONSCIOUS

HYPODERMICS USED TO KEEP
SISTERS ALIVE.

JOSEFA'S CONDITION SERIOUS

Physical Reaction from Her Demise Likely to Prove Fatal to Rosa, Physician Declares—Operation Regarded as Useless.

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
London, March 29.—Discussing the illness of the Blazek twins, a London surgeon recalls that the Biddenden twins, born in Biddenden, Kent, in the year 1300, were united in much the same way as the Blazek twins. When one died an operation was proposed, but the surviving sister refused, saying: "As we came into the world together, we will also go together."

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Chicago, March 29.—At 11:30 tonight the condition of the "Siamese twins" was declared to be critical. They may not live until morning. It is considered improbable that there will be an operation. Josefa became unconscious today.

An internist at the West End hospital quoted Dr. B. H. Breakstone, the director of the hospital, as saying there would be no operation because it would be useless. The night physician at the hospital would not confirm this statement, but only would say that the question of an operation is undecided.

It was said at Dr. Breakstone's home shortly before midnight that he feared the surgical operation to Rosa if the stricture uniting her to Josefa were cut.

"The doctor believes that the operation could be performed," it was said, "but he does not think that Rosa in her present condition would rally from the shock. The chance of her living seems very slight."

Operation Discussed.

Chicago, March 29.—Sixteen doctors were in consultation today at the West End hospital, where Josefa Blazek and Rosa Blazek Ivorak, known as the "Siamese twins," are said to be dying of pneumonia.

Preparations for an operation to separate the twins were hurried today when it was discovered that Josefa had developed pneumonia and was rapidly failing. At the same time Rosa developed bronchitis. Her condition, however, is not as aggravated as that of her sister. It is to save her life that preparations are being made for the operation to separate them the minute the spark of life is extinguished from Josefa's body.

Dr. Benjamin Breakstone, chief physician attending the twins, received a telegram today from Dr. J. K. Sang, a surgeon of Pittsburgh, which said he was departing for Chicago and to withhold the operation if possible until his arrival.

Hypodermics are being used tonight to keep the sisters alive. Should Josefa die, the physicians agreed that only a swift operation severing the bond of bone and flesh that joins the sisters could save the life of Rosa. The physicians have agreed that the operation should not be attempted unless death for both is certain without it. The lower stomach of the survivor must be supplied by science. Such operations have been successfully performed, but never before have surgeons been confronted with the necessity of separating a living from a dead body preliminary to performing the stomach operation.

Son at Bedside.

Frank Dvorak, the 11-year-old son of Rosa, and Frank Blazek, brother of the "twins," are constant attendants at their bedside. Both of them came to this country last year when the sisters made their debut upon the stage.

"I don't expect Josefa to survive through the night," said Dr. Breakstone tonight, "and I fear the physical reaction may prove fatal to Rosa also. Everything is in readiness, however, to rush them to the operating room and perform the operation the moment the death of one is considered inevitable. The condition of Josefa is much worse. Her temperature and pulse have risen rapidly and there has been a sympathetic turn in Rosa's condition which deeply concerns us."