

**TWINS DIE WITH BOND UNBROKEN**

**Josepha and Rosa Blazek Separated by Seconds In Death**

**ROSA LEAVES SON**

(By Associated Press)

Chicago, March 29—Josefa and Rosa Blazek, the "Siamese twins" died at a hospital here early today. Josefa's death occurred first, and was followed in a few seconds by the death of her sister. Physicians had declared that in the event of the death of one of the sisters the other would die quickly as their brother, Frank Blazek had refused to permit an amputation which would sever their bodies.

The twins had been in the hospital 12 days. Josefa was ill with yellow jaundice and that was followed by pneumonia. Shortly before her death Rosa was afflicted with bronchitis.

Preparations had been made for the severing operation and the physicians were ready to make every effort to save the life of at least one of the women. Hope of saving the life of Josefa was abandoned at midnight, according to Dr. G. H. Breakstone, chief of the surgical staff at the hospital.

"I tried to get the consent of the brother to operate to save the life of Rosa but he refused to give his permission" added the physician.

Dr. Breakstone explained that a delicate operation would have been necessary. Before their death he had expressed the opinion that the physiological affinity of the twins was so vital that if one should die the other might also succumb before the hand of flesh and bone that joined them could be severed.

Although the twins possessed separate respiratory and cardiac systems Dr. Breakstone explained that they had only one set of secondary digestive and procreative organs. The operation, he said, would have necessitated the building up of a part of the digestive and other essential organs to save the life of one twin.

Rosa was once married, her name being Rosa Blazek Dvorak. She is survived by a normal 11 year old boy. Her husband was a captain in the German army and was killed in action in 1917. Eight was married 15 years ago. Josefa never married.

The little son, Frank, has been at the bedside of his mother, who, until within the last few hours was less critically ill than Josefa.

The twins were the second offspring of a normal parentage in Czechoslovakia 42 years ago. There were five other children, all normal and all still living. The father also is said to be alive, his age said to be 85. The mother died a year ago at the age of 45 years.

During a tour of the world the twins acquired considerable wealth. They died without making a will, although their attorney, J. L. Trakas, has been at the hospital several days in the hope that they would be in condition to dictate the document.

As the women grew weaker last night physicians pleaded with the brother to permit an operation, hospital attendants stated. He was the only adult relative capable under the Illinois law, of giving his consent.

"No," the brother was quoted as having said. "No, but even if Rosa lives for hours after Josefa's death, there shall be no operation." The patients had shown a gradual decline, according to the chart which hung in their sick room.

The physicians said the women reacted differently to the same medicine although their illness recently has been of the same nature.

Medical records, recalled by physicians who have been interested in the case, disclose a number of so-called Siamese twins. The original Siamese twins, Chang and Eng lived to the age of 64. They married sisters and Chang had six children and Eng five, all of them normal.

Eng died first and a surgeon separated them. Chang died soon afterward.

Twins that have attracted world wide fame include the Blinda sisters, who were joined face to face, the connection being at the chest; the Newport twins somewhat similar to the Hindu twins; the Ormsan sisters, the Rogalska and Daddica, joined side to side; the Biddenden maids connected shoulder to shoulder with only two arms; the Hungarian sisters, Helen and Judith, joined back to back at the lower segment of the spine; and the North Carolina sisters, Millie and Christine, joined as were the Hungarian sisters and the Bohemian twins, Rosalia and Josepha, connected in the same manner as the twins who just died. Their connection was through the pelvis, the right hip of one and the left of the other being fused.