

**St. Louis Poles Snare First Honors in Gigantic Two Day Carnival with the Falcons at Public Schools Stadium - June 1931**

Falcon girls from all parts of the country join forces in “hoop Parade, which was preceded by “hoop gymnastics,” one of the most colorful and interesting features of yesterday’s fiesta.

Tytus Zbyszewski, Consul of Polish Falcons, reviewing the athletics lined up just before the mass drill. He is accompanied by Dr. Starzynski, Stanley Kolodejczyk and Dr. Wachowiak.

**Steve Novotny Proves Leading Point-Scorer among Senior Athletes.** Bea Milonski adds to Mound City’s Laurels in Girls’ Division. The Polish Falcons wound up their mammoth two-day carnival at the Public Schools Stadium with an impressive mass drill in which almost 1000 Falcons participated and with a number of dazzling athletic events that again featured the two brilliant local athletes. Bea Milonski, leading point scorer for the girls’ senior division and Steve Nowotny, leading point scorer for the boys’ senior division. The St. Louis branches succeeded in accumulating the greatest number of points during the course of the fiesta and won the major honors of the meet. Chicago’s representative finished second and the East St. Louis delegation ended third.

Twenty-nine loving cups were awarded to the triumphant athletes at Polish hall, where each of the principal Speakers was enthusiastic in depicting the success of the entire affair. The Falcons' Second District representatives hold a similar get together every two years. This was the twenty-third carnival since the Falcons were organized, the organization itself having sprung up forty-six years ago. The Polish Falcon organization was founded chiefly to encourage athletics and gymnastics among the boys and girls, men and woman of Polish extraction.

#### **Drills bring applause.**

Stanley Kolodziejczyk, chief physical director of the Polish Falcons' Second District and formerly connected with the local Croation A. C., supervised the well-organized rehearsal of the mass drill with more color and far more enthusiasm on the part of the crowd and the participants.

#### **Gymnasts Entertain**

Between athletic events a series of gymnastic stunts were pulled off by two Chicago Falcons, Joseph Detloff and Peter Mislak. These two boys had the crowd applauding after every stunt, dishing out hand stands and similar acrobatics that proved to be one of the best features of the afternoon's entertainment.

In the line of gymnastics, the championship of the senior boys went to Jerry Podgorny, local instructor and co-leader in the mass drill, who performed many difficult tricks on the parallel bars. Jerry has been a prominent gymnast in St. Louis for two years, and was seen in an athletic exhibition at the Dairy Show and at athletic Night at C. B. C. High School last winter.

Helen Kolodziejczyk was judged the champion in the girl's senior class in apparatus work. Miss Kolodziejczyk, Nest 45, was prominent in many other events in the meet, and was probably the second best girl athlete. Incidentally, most of the winners belong to Nest 45.



1931 Falcon Camp



1931 Nest 45 Dance Group



Falcon Home – 2013 St. Louis Ave., St. Louis, MO

**1931** - Was probably our Nest's most significant and largest undertaking with the acquisition of a large three story mansion at 2013 St. Louis Avenue from the Evangelical Synod of North America for our Sokolnia. This residence was previously the brewer Stifel's mansion. Nest 45 had a meager \$400 in the treasury and the price of the home was \$24,000. A committee was selected to gather finances, appeals were made to members and the Polish colony and the purchase became a reality. The first floor of the mansion had large rooms with beautiful marble fireplaces and there was a curving staircase to the second floor. It was reported that Kaiser Wilhelm's son had been entertained on one

of the rooms on the second floor. The third floor contained small rooms which had been living quarters for the hired help. Behind the mansion were two stables, one of which was used as a small gymnastic hall and the other as storage space



1932 Drum & Bugle Corps Nest 45

**1932** - A drum and bugle corps (women) was formed and the group participated and marched in many events. Since red and white are the colors of the Polish flag, outfits were white pique dresses trimmed with red buttons and red belts, short capes lined in red and white berets.





Polish Olympic Team from Chicago entertained at "Sokolnia"



Nest 45 Band



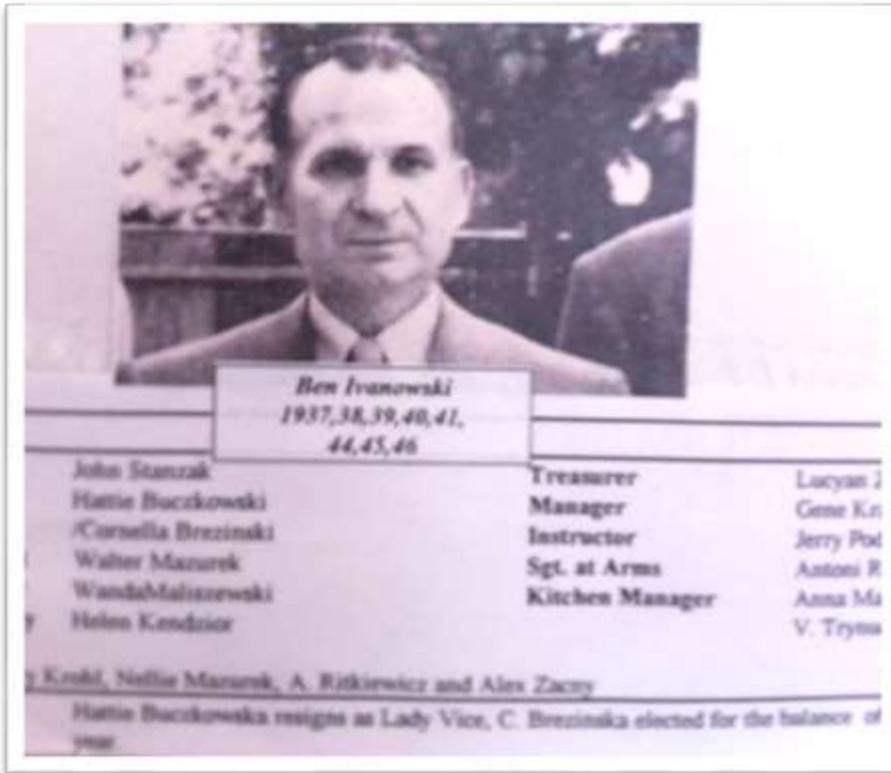
1932 Falcon Day in Garden. Children (Minuet) under Maypole



Gym Class

**1933** - From Nest 45 many turners and delegates traveled to Chicago, IL at the time of the World's Fair there, for the National Track and Field meet. Falcon members nationwide participated and one memorable event was a mass drill at Soldier's Field with so many turners performing that they covered the field end to end. Field exhibitions and sports competition were held at Soldiers Field and convention meetings at Sherman House.

**1934 – 1936** The Nest prospered taking an active part in District meets and Conventions held every two years and National meets and conventions held every four years. In 1936 American Legion Post #380 was organized and the meetings were held at Nest 45.



Ben Ivanowski, President

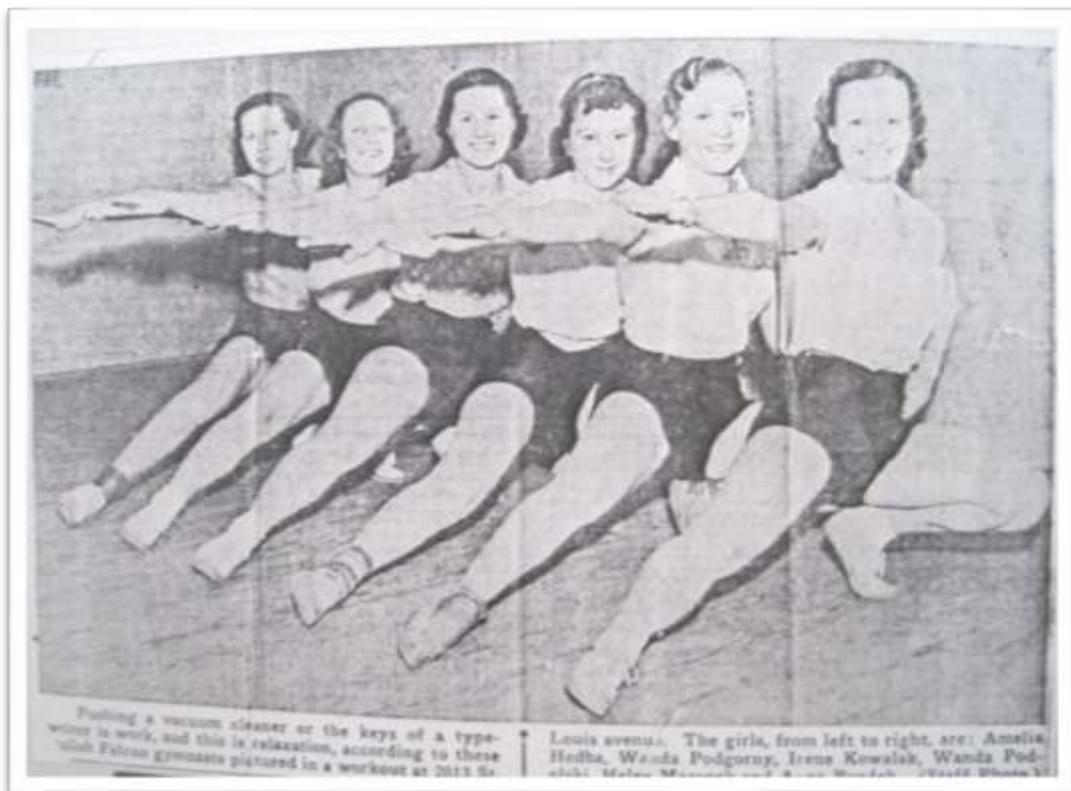


Dancers



Dancers at Kiel

**1937** - By invitation of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce, Nest 45 participated in folk dancing in the street adjacent to the Kiel Auditorium after the Veiled Prophet Parade, a gala annual social event in St. Louis.



Lady Gymnast

Board of Directors      English  
 Walter Mazurek, Anna Podolska, F. Podolski, S. Szczyglowska, Julia Buczkowska, S.  
 Maliszewska, A. Przygoda, J. Mozalewski, J. Stanczak, Paul Lepenski, Fr. Krupa

Technical Committee  
 Auditors      Wanda Sudowska, Amelia Hebda, Walter Mazurek

Events/Activities      F. Krupa passed way May 5, 1939. M. Milonski replaces F. Krupa as Man Vice  
 President in District II and President of District I. Alex Podgorny elected as Asst. Instructor in District II  
 National Bowling tournament held in South Bend, Ind.

## Old Stifel Home Damaged by Fire

### New Year's Party of Polish Society Has to Be Canceled

Fire yesterday swept through the two and one-half-story brick building at 2013 St. Louis avenue, now occupied by the Polish Falcon Gymnastic Society but which once was the fashionable home of the Stifel family, prominent in social and business circles here.

Firemen who responded to the two alarms fought the stubborn blaze in the freezing temperature for two hours before they were able to extinguish it. Damage was estimated by Deputy Fire Chief Robert Finnegan at \$5000 to the building and \$1500 to the contents.

#### MAY REACH \$6000

Stanley Cibocowski, an official of the society, told a reporter the amount of damage would probably exceed \$6000, but he said he could not fix the definite loss.

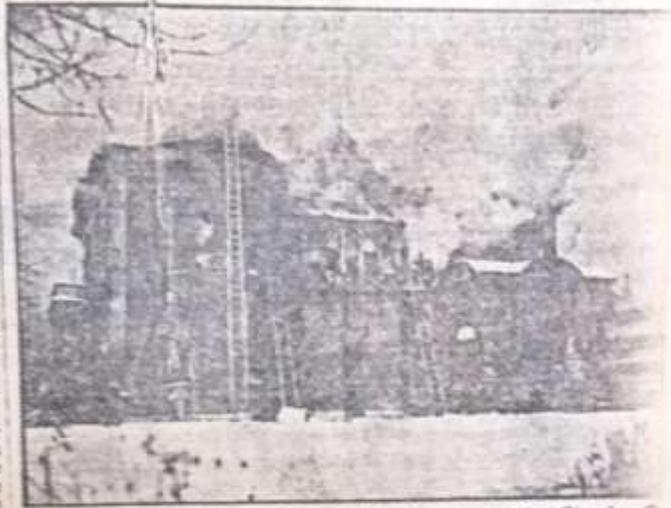
A New Year's Eve party, with reservations of about 300 persons, at the home was canceled. Officers of the society who visited the building in the afternoon told a reporter the loss is only partly covered by insurance.

#### HALF CENTURY OLD

The structure was constructed more than 50 years ago by the late Charles G. Stifel founder of the old Stifel Brewery. During his generation and that of his son, the late Otto F. Stifel, the 30-room mansion was the scene of many fashionable dinner parties.

It was ornately decorated, and many of the old-fashioned appointments are still there. The water poured into the blazing structure by the firemen damaged the expensive murals on the walls.

## FIRE DAMAGES OLD HOME



The stately old residence built 50 years ago by Charles G. Stifel, founder of the old Stifel Brewery, at 2013 St. Louis avenue, was severely damaged yesterday by fire. Firemen fought the blaze for two hours. A New Year's Eve party scheduled by the Polish Falcon Gymnastic Society, which now occupies the structure, was called off.



Bad Cross Workers - Mrs. Cielak, Virginia Podolska, Mrs. Gonszewska, Sophie Kozicka, Wanda Podgorny, Mrs. Trzynicka

### Falcon Home Fire

1938 - Suddenly, like a bolt of lightning early on December 31, 1938 the news spread that fire had broken out in the Sokolnia from a faulty flue in the central part of the building. Preparations were under way for a big New Year's Eve celebration, held annually, with 400 people expected to attend. Of course, the party had to be canceled. All records, minutes and important papers for 1933 and previous years were destroyed. Funds had to be acquired to rebuild the home. Members and friends rallied with financial and material aid and a large two story building was constructed on the original foundation. It contained two small halls, a barroom and kitchen on the main floor and a large hall on the second floor perfectly suited for gym and social activities.

## U. S. Polish Falcon Champion in Valley Olympic Tryouts Today

Miss Bee Milonski, attractive all-around athletic star of St. Louis, is one of nine St. Louis girls participating in the Missouri Valley district girls' Olympic tryouts, today, at Columbia, Mo.

Miss Milonski, National Polish Falcon girls' athletic champion, will compete in the discus, javelin and low hurdles events.

Other St. Louis girls entered are: Harriet Bland, Gertrude Webb, Agatha Spanholts, Bernadine Larson, Mildred Schwarm, Esther Gerstner, Ruth Reiley and Gladys Edele.



"BEE" MILONSKI.



Zlot Champs



Polish Falcon Bowling League

**1939** - World War II loomed on the horizon and physically fit Sokols answered the call to serve in the Armed Forces, none was rejected. Activities of the Nest were curtailed because many of the men were in the service.