

Very interesting, Eddie

not late

Keep
Read
for
class

Eddie Jirsa

±

RS

My great grand father's name was
Thomas Jirsa. My great grand mother's
name was Eva. My great grand father was
born in a little village called Kroula
Radoun, my great grand mother was born
in a village near by called Hostelní
Radoun, "church town" in what is now called
SP Czechoslovakia, formally under the
rule of Emperor Franz Josef of Austria
SP Hungary, Kingdom.

SP

They attended a small village school.
They both spoke the Czech or Bohemian and
Austrian German languages. As a boy he
helped his grandfather build brick and
tile ovens for cooking and heating in homes
and country estates. At the age of 14 years
he was an apprentice to a large building and
contractor in the city of Vienna, Austria.
He completed his apprenticeship and as a
journeyman mason. He worked in many
large cities including the large ones
down to the Adriatic Sea.

At the age of 18½ years old he was drafted
into the army and served three year in

the Cavalry regiments. He was a Corporal in the regiment called Austria Dragon. The army commands were all in the Austria German language and he received some Army schooling there.

On leaving the army he was put on reserve call duty until until he was 32 years old and could not leave the country until he was thorough with his military duties. This was about the year of 1888.

To avoid military service his younger brother Frank and a neighbor youth shipped away into Germany and were able to slip out of Germany to the United States. Hearing about booming Chicago they came here where they were rebuilding and raising street levels, there was lots of work for stone masons. They were so pleased and happy that they wrote home to their folks to come over here. So my Great Grandfather and ^{Great Grandmother} mother with their two girls also other relatives and friends came over

RS

not late

here in the early part of 1889.
They all settled on the west side
of Chicago which was practically
prairies. My Great Grandfather was
married at this time and had 2 girls,
one of school age. He worked very hard
at his trade and finally was able to save
enough money to start contracting for
himself. He built quite a number of
homes in Chicago and vicinity and raised
a family of 4 children of which my
Grandfather is one.

He applied for citizenship papers at once
and received them when time limit
was up. He never took a trip back to
his former country.

He often spoke of the beautiful city
and customs of Vienna, Austria also
Sp the Balkan Countries where he had
seen Army service.

My Grandfather has a picture of the
house in which his father was born at
Vhroula Radoun he also has a picture
of the house where his Mother was born
at Kostelni Radoun.

etal

We has his fathers citizen papers
"Czechoslovakia" also his first Union
card from this country.

Great Great Grandfather - Václav Jirsa
died in the year of 1900 - Chicago, Ill.

Great Great Grandmother - Rose Jirsa
died in the year of 1918 - Chicago, Ill.

Great Grandfather - Tomas Jirsa
died in the year of 1936 - Chicago, Ill.

Great Grandmother - Eva Jirsa
died in the year of 1928 - Chicago, Ill