

**Fay: Shlomo died in Lvov, called Lemberg. He had "leukemia" and "skin cancer." When he scratched his face the skin came off and it became sore. Apparently he was sick for a long time and we didn't know. The itching was unbelievable.**

**Fay: He didn't want to come (to America.) My mother wanted to come and I wanted to come, and they knew that they gotta save me.**

**It was 1936... They drove out the Jews from Germany. It was in the papers, what was going on, terrible. The Poles started up with the Jews. They weren't going to let the Jews have kosher meat. My father was very upset about it. He knew it was cooking something real bad.**



**Fay.: He was sick all winter long. He went to Lacotch to get my mother's birth certificate. Lacotch was the county capital. Actually it was burned down. They couldn't get a birth certificate. But they read from my grandma's gravestone. They read the date when my grandma was buried so they knew how old my mother was. Because my mother was 6 weeks old when my grandma was buried. That's how they made a birth certificate for my mother. They brought in witnesses who**

**knew that my grandma died when my mother was 6 weeks old.**

**Fay: He came to relatives in Lacotch. He was celebrity. The whole town (his family there) came running. One of the family's sons was living out of town in a dorf. His name was Abba. Somehow he found that Shlomo was in town and he came running. He had such a torn suit on. Shlomo came with a suit dressed with a coat. He took off his jacket and said to him 'Abba, try on my jacket. If it fits keep it.'**

**There, at night it can get so cold. He came home with a horse and buggy and a little thin coat. He caught a cold, and he was sick all winter long.**

**Fay: I was so mad at him. I said "Why did you take off your jacket? Why did you give away a jacket? Look how sick you are? Look what you did to yourself." I said "Why didn't you take off your pants?"**

**He said "If I would have had another pair of pants, I would have taken them off and given them too."**

**Fay: There's a picture at Yad V' Shem of a man bending down with the Nazis standing over him. I could swear it was**



that Abba's brother, Shlomo Godza.

**Fay:** He was sick all winter long and he died in April, April 1936 just a week before Pesach. That cold lingered on, lingered on. We went to the doctor with him. The doctor right away recognized this. So we decided to take him to Lemberg. We took him to the state hospital in Lemberg. It had 30,000 people and blocks and blocks of hospital buildings. Mother went with him. A doctor put him in the hospital.

**Fay:** We called her on the telephone one Saturday night. We asked her how she is. She was crying. She said she saw him Friday and he is very bad.

We told her to get ready to go home. I came with Favish there. We rode all night with the horse and buggy to Lutsk. And in the morning we caught the train. We came in the morning to Lemberg and we went to see him. He was running such a high temperature. When he saw me he start up crying.

**(Fay)** He died the following morning. Favish and I were at the funeral. He was buried in Lemberg. I wanted to go to America. Mother wanted to go. And he would have gone. He couldn't stand to see his last child going away. When Manuel left, oh was he upset. But he didn't want to go to America.

In 1930 the U.S. started banning immigrants who were likely to become a public charge. The government required immigrants to have an American sponsor who had the financial resources to guarantee they would not become a burden on the state.

**HARRY:** Because of the families that had to come in, we made acquaintance with the local congressman--Everet Dirkson. He was from Pekin, a town that was 9 miles from Peoria. We went to Washington and called on him. We told him we had relatives there and they want to come in. And we needed letters of support. There was a quota. He told his secretary "whatever." There was no money.

**Q:** campaign donations?

**Harry:** Well campaign money was legal, but the amount of money we dished out wasn't enough to...but he could have thinked we dished out more money...we met him, went to meetings. I invited him to my daughter's wedding. It's all in the makin, those years. We didn't just try to get in politics. That wasn't our line. Meetings...yes sir. And he spoke. Shook his hand afterwards. I think I was in his house in Pekin one night.

**Everett Dirksen was born in 1893 in the small, midwestern, and Middle American town of Pekin, Illinois. Even as a child, he enjoyed a rhapsodic fascination for words and for the power of language. Coupled with an innate preference for showmanship that never eluded him, Dirksen's affinity for language made him into an oratorical giant. As a child he tirelessly practiced his preaching and his speech-making from the nearby family barn, as his brothers rolled their eyes and his mother sushed them quiet. Everett McKinley Dirksen (1896-1969). Dirksen served in the U.S. House from 1933-1948, the U.S. Senate from 1951-69.**



**Harry: The secretary came in the store (and could see that the Fredman's had a thriving business. The people they sponsored would not become a burden of the U.S.) The senator said the family Fredmans has relations that have to be recognized that they would be in good hands. In other words they wouldn't fall under .... We were not politicians. We even solicited a few votes. "You're going to vote, tomorrow. And remember Dirksen is on the ticket. So be sure....**

**Fay: I used to go to Lutsk, the next big city, but I never went to Warsaw. We used to hear stories that people (used to) catch young girls and send them to Argentina to become .... Father was worried because I went by myself (To Warsaw.) He wanted Favish to go along; And Sara said 'it's time she learns to become independent.. She must go herself.' And I did. I was kinda scared. After all, I was a small town girl. But I didn't give in. I decided to do it myself. I went to Lutsk by bal agallah, like a taxi'. (Favish and Sara) gave me addresses, and I bought merchandise. I picked buttons and purses. Apparently I had good taste. Whatever I bought sold. (But this time she went to Warsaw for a Visa.) I got on the train in the morning from lads to Warsaw. In Warsaw I took a droshky to the place where Favish used to stay. Franciszkanska 75. I stayed at an inn. There was a court with a lot of apartments. (The owners of the inn) had an apartment, and**





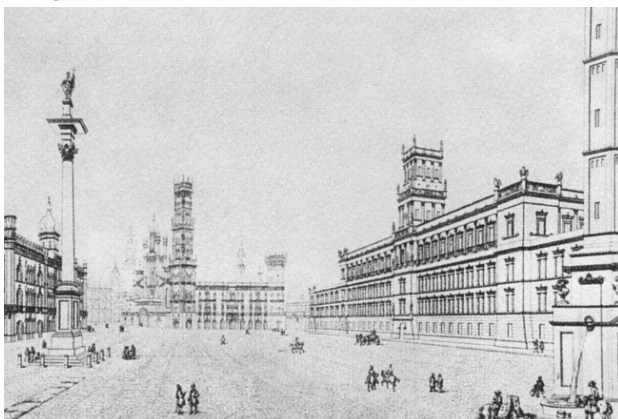
**they used to make a living out of it. People used to come there. She cooked for the people, and they used to get paid. It's name was Morganstern. That Morganstern, I came to him and told him who I am. And he's the one who took me to the American Embassy. And he waited for me. (The inn had a bathroom in the court, but it was filthy. But he had a bathroom inside too. He had a thing on top that you pulled and it flushed..)**

**(The consul was Mr. Stoon; the embassy was on Yasnow St.)**

**(So Fay went to the American Embassy in Warsaw and turned in her application and...) "nothing happened. The first time they took my papers and told me they'll let**

**me know. It took 6 months more or less, and they let me know. I came with a sealed letter to the American Consulate from Senator Dirkson.**

**Fay: Six months later I got a letter, I should come for an examination, a test. A doctor examined my chest, looked between my fingers, etc. (Kaila went along.) She had a fever blister on her lip. They noted it on her papers, so when she comes to the U.S., to New York, they should see if the fever blister is still there. If it is they shouldn't let her down from the boat. They gave Kaila a test. She had to recite the months in Jewish. And a translator translated in(to) English to that American. I had to read something written in Polish,**



**and I had to remember what it said. It said "It was a big snow in Warsaw and the trains had a hard time coming in to bring coal."**

**They asked me math: 14,15, &16.. I snapped back 45. She said: "That's all"**