ATTACHMENT #28

FAMILY POSTCARDS

POSTCARDS FROM EUROPE

The following postcards were presented by family members. They originate from Europe, but were never mailed. Two are in Russian, one in Yiddish. The first postcard is dated September 20, 1917, from Kiev, written during the middle of the Russian Revolution. It is from Solomon Karalstein to his "Dear Aunt Cherna Radovski". Karalstein in the United States morphed into Carol (Minnie Carol, Lena Carol, Bill Carol, and Raful and Menya Carol), or Carl (Muni Carl). For Morris Carlstein, buried at CBS Cemetery in Erie, the name changed less. If Solomon is a revered Hebrew Biblical name, and Karalstein a Yiddish-German name, Cherna is an old Slavic name, adopted by Jewish women since the Middle Ages. As they were not called to Torah back then, they often, in fact commonly, took national names rather than biblical ones. Who Solomon was is unclear: nephew (then using the old fashioned "Aunt" for older relatives, even ones not technically aunts or uncles or even relatives) or another son of Menya and Raful. He is part of the famous family picture from 1922, listed on the ship manifest as son of Raful, but (along with Hana, also present and listed) seems to have disappeared. Whether they were actually Raful's and Menya's children, or same named relatives (and there is an amazing lack of variety in the family names) borrowing the claim to get a visa, is unclear.

The other two postcards were written in 1922 as the family was leaving Europe, one in Russian, one Yiddish. The first, from Luba and Moses Radovsky (he had not yet become Morris or Radov, while Luba, larger than her passport picture, was pregnant with Anna) signaled that they were staying behind, waiting for a visa, while the rest of the family sailed on the *R.M.S. Olympic* to New York. In that it was for remembrance, it had their pictures and was addressed to Morris's sister Cherna and her husband Volodia Bystritski, who became Wolf Bass in the United States. The name Volodia is short for Vladimir (short in Russian, that is) and has remained very common in Russia, while Cherna is a name no longer found anywhere in modern Russia.

The last postcard was addressed to Jacob and Sheindel Radov from their friends. Who they are or what happened to them is unknown.





[From the Russian] Sep 20, 1917

Sending this in remembrance of Russian Austrian German war to my dear aunt Cherna Radovski from me, your nephew Solomon /Karalstein/"



Ha nausmis agaruen

reprie u Borioge Buempuyruen am. chastin u

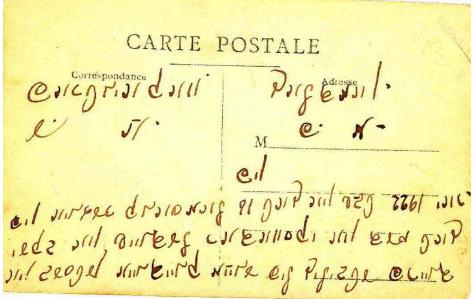
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Adresse

[From the Russian]
"To Cherna and Volodia Bystritski
from Luba and Moses Radovski,
to remember us by.
Feb. 22, 1922 "





[From the Yiddish]

With best thoughts to you, my beloved friends, Yacov and Sheindel Radovsky, in the day of our engagement [or might be translated as departure or other momentous event] 16 January 1922, [or possibly February, as the Yiddish only designates a winter month]. I & A Goldman & Partgakov