

Antonie Militka At The Maccabi Brno Summer Camp



This is a photo of Maccabi attendees. My brother Karlicek (Karel) Michal and I are in it too. Karlicek was a very good-looking child, people would always argue who'd get to hold him. In the photo, my mother is holding him in her arms. Up to 1938, we lived at the Maccabi. We children had the opportunity to play games and sports. After getting married, my parents lived in the city ward of Bohunice, in a rented apartment. In 1930, when I was three, my father found out that they were looking for a superintendent at the newly-built Maccabi sports field in Pisarky, a neighborhood in Brno. There was also an apartment for the superintendent there. The new field had a good location; I think that it was the most beautiful field in the country. There was enough room there for soccer, handball and track and field, and there were tennis courts too. Twice they even held horse races there. There was also a restaurant, and lawns for families that would come during the weekend. They'd spread out blankets there, and play with their children. Jewish families congregated in this beautiful place, usually on Saturdays and Sundays. The superintendent's job was a very difficult one. In those days, machines and equipment to make the job of maintaining the fields easier didn't exist yet. This was precisely the job they offered my parents. My parents worked for the Maccabi, but the income wasn't enough to support us. We also had a large garden and livestock. My mother took care of the garden. She grew fruit and vegetables. This kind of work wasn't foreign to her; she'd learned it back home in Romania. And so we had chickens, rabbits and a goat. The animals had a stable back behind the house.