

CRETE.

Mrs. Anna Smejkal passed to her eternal reward on Sunday, March 23, at 1:30 a.m. She had been ailing all winter and had been staying at the home of her daughter Mrs. Frank Valenta for the past two months, where everything that loving hearts and willing hands could do was done for her comfort. She was only confined to her bed one day and her death came as a great shock to the family. The hand of the Lord had touched her, summoning her to a higher and happier life, free from the cares and pains of this world and to the reward which she so well earned. Mrs. Smejkal was a woman whose life corresponded with the text of Holy Scriptures, for she was a Christian, loving wife and devoted congenial and true friend, who edified God and was a true mother. A mother is removed from earth who spent all her life unselfishly serving and ministering and finding in the happiness of those nearest and dearest to her. It can be truly said of her, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the Faith," and because she had faith in God, and she was confident that He would show her mercy and surely He did. Her life and death should be a great consolation to the loving ones left behind. True it is a heartache that only trust in God can heal, and a vacancy in the family circle that never can be replaced. But to true Christians, death should be sweet, as this life is only a preparation into the next where again someday the family circle may be reunited in a lasting and eternal happiness that knows no parting. What greater tribute could her brokenhearted family and friends pay her than to ever keep fresh the wonderful memory she leaves behind and to follow the example she ever showed them, not only to her dear ones, but all who came in contact with her. Anna Novotny was born in Drazicich, Bohemia, June 16, 1856. She was married to John Smejkal on July 17, 1878 and came to America May 24, 1884, coming directly to Crete where they have made their home ever since. Mrs. Smejkal is survived by her husband, John Smejkal, and five children, John Smejkal, Jr., Frank Smejkal, Joe Smejkal, Mary Valenta, and Anna Bals, and thirteen grandchildren. The funeral was held at Sacred Heart Church Wednesday morning at 9:30, Father Mosler officiating. St. Anne Society and the Altar Society, of which she was a member, were represented in a body. She was tenderly laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery under a wreath of beautiful flowers. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, let perpetual light