





1st November 1993

-3-

In the middle of 1917 we returned to Cracow and we occupied the same flat which we left in 1916. Father did not work any more in the record shop but begun his own business buying and selling whatever was affordable and brought any profit. Gradually he established some sort of a timber agency i.e. he took orders from timber yards in Cracow to deliver the building and joinery timber according to the specification required by them. The business was thriving and we were very well off until 1928 when the depression hit everybody in Poland and my father was not an exception. He never had any timber mill or yard. The rest is already known to you.

I hope that my remarks will contribute to straighten up some facts which I myself, as two years older than Jan, can remember more vividly.

I am looking forward to our meeting in 1994. Obviously all of you are cordially invited to spend rest of your leisure time with us and I promise to show you everything whatever you missed the last time. I promise Thalia to take her to the Rocks which she has not seen before.

With love to all of you

I am extremely happy to hear that Frank visited you. So, as you see, there is a hope that Frank's visit with you will make a new step in bringing the rest of the family together. You suggested in our letter that possibly my intervention may bring Jan to our family reunion. I already wrote to him inviting him to come to see Thalia with Wanda but I was afraid that this will have no success at all. I am sorry to say but I know Jan better than you do. From the very beginning of our life, even as we were children, both Jan and Stefan had a peculiar attitude to any advice and intervention into their life by outsiders as well as members of our family. As a rule they did not listened to anybody's advice or remark unless they noticed some advantage for themselves. They never admitted that they were wrong and such an expression like "I am sorry, I made a mistake" did not exist in their vocabulary. If I succeed in bringing Jan and Wanda here, it would be my biggest achievement in my life!

I am sure you recently your two telegrams dated 15th and 18th October. After reading the comments Jan made about my "family tree" I thought perhaps it did not make any sense to argue about any details which were blurry and have no bearing upon interrelations between the members of the family. But afterwards I thought that you, as a historian by education and journalist by profession, should know the real and true facts. So may I comment on some items in your statement. First I sympathise with you that you cannot pronounce some names of location connected with the life of our family. But this is not important, as you have a correct spelling and you know where to find these places on the map in relation to two important towns in our life i.e. Tarnow and Cracow. Jan noticed that the family tree which I compiled is heavily tilted to the Sandhaus. The answer is simple. Both of us i.e. Jan and myself have no information whatsoever about the family of our father. We only know from an official copy of the registry office in Chmislunik (pronounced Khmelnick) by parents' names were Moses-Leiba and Perla (father's mother). I mentioned it in position No. 6 of the family tree. We never had any opportunity to meet the rest of father's family and father seldom mentioned their names. Jan and Stefan spent twice their school vacations as boys with some of their cousins but their interests did