Mrs. Josefa Humpan Zeman of the Federated Bohemian Woman’s Clubs of Chicago is the editor of a handsome volume just issued which is devoted to the interests of Bohemian club women and Bohemian-American women generally. It is the “Kalendar Cesko-American Zen” the calendar of Bohemian American Women. It is the first volume of its kind to be published in this country. A large amount of space is devoted to an account of the Bohemian woman’s clubs and organizations, especially of New York. It is designed as a Christmas gift book which shall have an artistic and educational value to the women for whom it is intended.

Mrs. Zeman; the publisher of the unique book, is the editor and founder of the only Bohemian woman’s paper in America, the Zenske-Listy. Several similar papers are published in Europe, but the Zenske-Listy has the distinction over these of being issued from a printing establishment at the head of whose management is a woman.

“It was difficult to secure an edition of the ‘Kalendar’ as typographically perfect as had been wished”, said Mrs. Zeman. “It is difficult to secure accented type which shall be artistic. The manufacturers accent only the commoner styles and the effects of Gothic type, which enables the English publisher to bring out a handsome volume, were not at our disposal. The interest with which the book has been awaited is evinced by the fact that the entire edition is already sold and it is just from the press.”

Many Women Contributors

The book is a tastefully bound volume of 160 pages of heavy enameled paper, with numerous illustrations. It includes, in addition to its resume of the work of the Bohemian woman’s clubs, a number of articles by Bohemian women of Chicago. Of these one is by Miss Laura K. Hanzlik, a Chicago Bohemian woman who has spent seven years in China as a nurse under the Methodist Missionary board. She is at present in Chicago on her first vacation and will leave the latter part of this month to begin her second term of ten years. She will be stationed at Nankin. While in Chicago she is addressing the meetings of the Bohemian clubs in the interests of the work in China. Her article in the Calendar under the caption of “Chinese Women” treats of the conditions of the sex in the empire and of the work of the American Hospital.
Mrs. Mary Blahnik, a Bohemian woman druggist, 88 West Eighteenth Street, is another contributor. She was the first Bohemian woman of Chicago to enter the profession of druggist and was graduated from the Chicago College of Pharmacy. “Kindergarten in Music” is the subject of a paper by Miss Bozena Haderbolets of Boston, a graduate of the Boston University, who has spent several years in study in Prague and is now devoting her attention to the kindergarten work in music. The Bohemian settlement of New York is discussed in an article by ex-Congressman Thomas Capek, former editor of the Bohemian Voice.

The work of the Chicago Visiting Nurses’ Association is outlined by Miss Emma Zerzon, one of the district nurses. There is a sketch of Mrs. Koupal Lusk, the Bohemian Woman artist of Chicago, founder of the Bohemian Art club, with reproductions of her principal paintings. The Calendar reviews the three great Bohemian celebrations of the year—Bohemian day in Milwaukee at the Wisconsin semi-centennial, Bohemian day at the Omaha exposition, and the pilgrimage to the grave of the first Bohemian emigrant to America, Augustine Herman, at Bohemian Manor, Maryland.

Dr. Anna Novak Writes

Dr. Anna Novak of Chicago writes on the history of woman in medicine and a number of sketches complete the volume. Mrs Zeman, the editor, is secretary of the Slavic Press association, and the only woman in it. She is one of the Vice Presidents of the International Council of Women, of which lady Aberdeen is President. She has studies sociology and economics in Western Reserve University and in graduate work at the University of Chicago, and has supplemented her course by two years’ study in Pisek, Bohemia. She has been a resident of Hull House, in charge of the Bohemian classes, and is at present in charge of the same work in the university settlement at Forty Seventh Street and Ashland Avenue.
The Zenske-Listy was established in 1894, as the result of a general demand on the part of Bohemian women in all parts of the country for a paper to represent the advance movement for a higher life. In the outset it met with decided opposition from the Bohemian papers devoted to the causes of the men. It was thought to be a whim and it was said that the women would not support it. It is now recognized from New York to San Francisco as an element in the life of the Bohemian women of the country.