

DUTSCHKE
FAMILY HISTORY

INTRODUCTION

ANCESTRY:

The WENDS —

The Wends, or Sorbs, were a Slavic tribe who moved westward to Central Europe from the regions bordering the Caspian and Black Seas, possibly some 4,000 years ago.

The Milceni tribe first mentioned in history in the 6th Century settled in Upper Lusatia (Ober-Lausitz), the home of the Dutschke family. There was constant conflict between the Germans and Wends who were despised and oppressed by their Teuton overlords, even Dr. Martin Luther calling them "Spitzbuben" (rogues) and is reported as saying "The worst people God has tossed among us are the Wends."

In the 17th Century the Upper Lusatians were taken into the Saxon kingdom and since then have been under German rule.

They were forced to learn the German language to obtain employment and therefore were bilingual — Wendish in home and church and German for communication with the outside world. At various times they were forbidden to speak their language in public. The first book printed in the Upper Lusatian language was Luther's Small Catechism in 1597, but no complete Bible was printed until 1728 — two hundred years after the Luther Bible!

Some of these books: Bibles, hymn books and books of devotion were included in the few possessions brought to Australia.

Symbolum Nicaenum.

La Wěta Wěta.

Ja gětke an ten ewigen Gey.

6. Ja wětim wě jadnog Bohga, Woschga new-
mejněschego, Sweriskheld Něká a Seme,
schiknog zoj widobnog a swidobnog jo. A wě
jadnog Kńěsa Jefom Kńěsa, jadnog sinna Boh-
jege, lenj wot Woschga jo stějon, prětk tog zeleg
swěta. Bohga wot Bohga, swětko wot swětko,
přhaweg Bohga, wot přhaweg Bohga, Porožo-
ni nřj swěrbni wě jadnom Wěřču, s'Woschjom
Přšes kotaregž jo schikno swěrbne. Kotari nař
Stewefow a naschje Stějněschj dń, s'Něká jo
přschěhel. A jo podřt přšes ten swětki Duch,
Kńějni Marie. A Stewek jo herdowal, a sa
nař teke přchowan, sp. d' Ponzjom Pilatufom,

jo scherpel a sakexan', a na tšchěschj Sen jo gerei
stamil, ja Bohjim Wěřmow, a jo gorei stupil na
Něká, a stěji na Přhawel togo Woschga, a bujo
sapei přschěh s'Woschju kuzje, Žiwich a Gumarlich,
kotaregž Kraleřstwo jednog Stěhrowana meřch
něbujo.

2. A wětog Kńěsa togo swěteg Duch: lenj
žiwich žini, lenj wot Woschga a sinna wdu jo,
Kotari' sim Woschjom a sinnom bujo se row-
no Woblóně, a rowna Sesež dawana, lenj přšes
tich Přofetow grońt jo.

3. A jadnu kńěnu swětu Křěšćjansku a Po-
křětu Žerkwě, ja wěmaju jadno kńěne Duxene
Přowawani, tich Gěchow, a jakam nato Co-
reiskawane, tich Gumarlich, a jadno Žiwěne to
go přchadnog swěta. Amen!

The Nicene Creed in the Wendish language.