Eighteen violinists, a clarinetist and three bass viol players marched down West End avenue in Detroit's Little Hungary Monday, playing a gypsy funeral dirge for their deceased friend, Peter Szilagyi, a bass viol player in the colony's gypsy cafes for more than 30 years. It was Szilagyi's dying wish.

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A Melody From Antiquity Goes With Gypsy to Grave

By JOHN C. TREEN

It was not the prayers or the grieved faces of her children that made Mrs. Szilagyi weep. It was the chant of the Gypsy funeral dirge which floated through the open window from the street below, the tribute of 22 fellow musicians with whom her husband, Peter, had played for more than 30 years.

The priest had given his last blessing, and the pall bearers came forward to take up Szilagyi's coffin, when, at a signal from their leader, John Brenkacs, the musicians struck the first sad tones of "Lehullot a Resso Nyarfa Levele." (The leaves of the poplar tree have fallen).

"It was the nicest thing they could have done," said Mrs. Szilagyi, as she followed the casket into the street from the flat at 720 West End avenue. "He had hoped it would be this way."

ANCIENT MARCH

The musicians, all artists in the cafes of the city's Little Hungary, formed the vanguard of the unusual procession from the home to the First Hungarian Reformed Church two blocks away, playing a solemn march that once was unwritten and handed down from father to son in the Gypsy tribes of centuries ago.

There were 18 violins, a clarinet and three bass viols in the procession, all wailing as if with one voice. Even the viol players, bumping their cumbersome instruments along the pavement, did not falter on one note, as they played their tunes without music.

And Mrs. Szilagyi remembered another gracious thing these same black-haired players had done only a few months ago, when her husband had suffered a paralytic stroke

and lost the full use of his hands. His own bass viol had been stilled forever then, and the family was without funds.

BENEFIT CONCERT

These players, loath to see one of their own go on the relief rolls, sponsored a benefit concert in Verhovay Hall on West Jefferson avenue, and all Little Hungary turned out to hear it.

Szilagyi never became an object of charity.

His friends of 30 years, Brenkacs, Bela and Willie Horvat, Frank K. Nagy, Geza Sandray, Gene Kerekes and all the others known to the frequenters of the Gypsy cafes, saw to that.

And they saw, also, as his body was lowered into the grave at Woodmere Cemetery, that his beloved gypsy music went with him all the way.

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2 Fugitives Die in Fight

Convicts Who Fled in Storm Are Shot

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., May 23.—(AP)—Two Negro convicts, who escaped with 8 or 10 others when wind demolished their stockade, were shot to death by guards in a hand-to-hand fight near the Cummins State Prison Farm today.

The casualties came in the wake of a spring storm which killed four

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Danzig Nazi for Revenge

Method of Penalty for Killing Up to Hitler

FREE CITY OF DANZIG, May 23.—(AP)—The party newspaper Danziger Vorposten published today a speech by Helmuth Andres, Nazi leader, declaring the slaying of a Nazi by a Pole at Kalthof Sunday must and would be atoned and that the choice of methods lay with Adolf Hitler.

Andres spoke to a mass protest meeting of 3,000 in the village of Tigenhof Monday night. A Danzig butcher was shot dead in Kalthof by the chauffeur of an official Polish automobile. A Warsaw communique contended the man fired in self defense.

Andres urged Danzig citizens not to take matters into their own hands. He was quoted by the newspaper as follows:

"Danzigers must remain quiet even in the face of the worst Polish provocations. It is our responsibility not to force the Fuehrer in any way in the tempo he has chosen to rectify the wrong done by forceful separation of Danzig from the Reich.

Man With Own Shovel Creates Task for WPA

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(AP)—A WPA worker in Lawrenceville, Ill., wants Rep. Laurence F. Arnold (Dem.), Illinois, to find out whether he may use his own long-handled shovel instead of a shorter one