

Saga of Setesdals Laget



BIRGIT I. ANDERSON

To Ida and Ole

Remember Setesdals people

because of your many relatives
there -

and remember our

relative reunion July 4-5-6

(Wickström) 1954

Bergit

Saga of Setesdals Laget

by
Bergit I. Anderson

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DEDICATION

*To the memory of Bjorgulf Bjornaraa,
leader of the Lag for thirty-two years,
and to the other faithful pioneers who
left their marks on the road of progress,
this book is lovingly dedicated.*

SETESDALEN

Kan du gloyma Setesdalen?
Aldrig eg kan gloyme den!
Denne fagre Gude-Salen
Alltid er min beste ven.

Kan du gloyma dalens vangar?
Blom og liljar stod i krans.
Aldrig trur eg rosar angar
Nokenstad so sødt som hans.

Kan du gloyma foss og elvar?
Med sin Nykk og fele laat?
Traa-saart lydde det fraa kvelvar
Som ein hugtung huldre-graatt.

Dreg kje minne, hug, og tankar
Heim til landet langt der nord?
Kjenner du kje hjarta bankar
Naar du nemner Far og Mor?

Setesdal, du blom blandt dalar
Draumeland for hug og sinn,
Minne om deg hjarta svarar
Som en vaar-vind ljuv og linn!

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa



Setesdals Laget Emblem

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INTRODUCTION

Among the many valleys of southern Norway lies Setesdalen. The region around it is called Setesdal, and the people who dwell there are called Setesdoels. Setesdalen is the longest of the southern valleys and it has been cut through high mountains by the Otra River and its branches as it dashes down the mountain slopes, over boulders and cliffs, then joins Byglandsfjord and eventually opens into the sea by the city of Kristiansand.

The people of this valley — the Setesdoels — can trace their ancestors back to 871 A. D. A record shows a Setesdoel, Halvor Sugande, fighting against Harold Hairfair when he conquered all of Norway.

The Setesdoels are a large strong race, and like to boast that they are as rugged as the mountains about them. But their boasting is done chiefly at home, for out among other people of the world they are inclined to be shy and withdrawn.

Setesdalen, like similar valleys in Norway, has but one entrance and outlet. No traffic worth recording passes through and over the mountains to the north, and so the life here remains quite undisturbed and no one has been pushed into making hurried changes.

Of course, with the coming of modern communications, this country now stands the same chances of change as others. The electric lighting, heating, and radios have for at least twenty-five years invaded the sod-roofed huts in the mountains. But such was not the case in the middle eighteen hundreds when many of its sons and daughters decided to seek their fortune in America.

They came here from many of the little villages that snuggled between huge mountains, in valleys that branched out from the Otra River. So different did the new land in Minnesota seem to those who had come from the secluded spots, that they tried to cluster together into communities for moral support and from these gatherings came the idea of this organization: the Setesdals Lag. It might have been called by any other name — their chief concern was to have a club or organization that would give them assurance that they could stand together and cling to some of their cherished past remembrances, before the rapid progress of this wonderful new land swept it all away.

Many of the immigrants bore the names of their mountain farms or villages, and Setesdoels in America could easily trace their countrymen when they heard names repeated from one of the familiar places from Evje to Bykle. The following are the most common names, starting with Bykle, going south: Vatnedalen, Bratteli, Nesland, Tveiten, Trydal, Bjornaraa, Ruysland, Loyland, Omlid, Flattland, Homme, Nomeland, Brokke, Rygnestad, Hedde, Besteland, Austad, Ose, Sandnes, Nettet, Skomedal, Stallemo, Bygland, Aakhus, Hamre, Lauvdal, Fruyrak, Dale, Langerak, Sjevraak, Horverak, Boe, Vatsend, Syrtveit and Evje.

A history could well be written about these people in America. But this book is just a history of the Setesdals Bygdelaag which was organized in 1909 under the title of Setesdals Laaget. The specific purpose as they stated it in their minutes was to perpetuate the folkways and culture of their forefathers, and make contribution to the adopted land of America. But for a more general purpose, the laag still serves as a time and place for Setesdoels of the North Central States to come together for two days and live, talk, think, and be Setesdoels again.

If one is to judge the success of an organization by whether or not its purpose is realized, he has to call this Bygdelaag successful. It has, through the stubborn struggle of the determined Setesdoels made two days a year become Setesdoels days, regardless of opposition, and they have had plenty of that as will be seen in this history.

The writing of a Saga of the Setesdoels in the United States was business on the agenda from the beginning. There was only one man for the job. He was the leader of the laag, a poet, a writer, a speaker on folk lore, and their president for thirty-two years, Bjorgulv Bjornaraa. The subject was one close to his heart, and what a book he could have written had he lived long enough!

This, however, will not be such a book. It is merely a history of that laag, and the account of his work in that laag, the work of the other members, and their successful struggle to keep the laag an active part of their lives. It will follow the minutes of the laag from 1909 when it was organized to the last meeting in 1953, and be presented to the laag on its forty-fifth birthday at its 1954 meeting in Grand Forks, North Dakota. It is written by a grand niece of Torleif Ose.

CHAPTER I

PIONEER LIFE

The very earliest roots of the organization probably sprang from the longings of the first Setesdoel settlers in the new country, and a history of the lag itself cannot be told accurately without including their activities as pioneers in the early settlement and growth.

Because of the flexibility of its membership, and because the purpose of the lag has always been to include all Setesdoels who wished to participate in its activities, it is impossible to draw any definite line between Setesdoels who attended the lag and those who did not. Moreover, there is no attempt in this short history to include all the Setesdoels in Minnesota where the lag originated, but to deal as closely as possible with members or parents of members of the Setesdals Lag itself where this is possible.

Torleif Ose, (Also written Taddeiv and Tellef) was the first Setesdoel in the Red River Valley, where the lag originated. He left Bygland, Setesdalen, Norway in 1868, and in 1871 he was employed by the Hudson Bay Company to raise stock. He saw the rich land that could be had for so little, and remembering the small farms in Setesdalen, Norway, where tillable land is so limited, he



Ose, Setesdal where Torleif was born

wrote to his relatives and urged them to come. Here lay land, he told them, ready for the plow, awaiting strong hands and eager minds.

In 1872 Daniel Ose and his brother-in-law, Knute Ose, came with their families. (The same name because they came from the same place in Setesdalen). They were the first white settlers in the region called Bygland Township, named in honor of a district in Setesdalen, Norway.

The flat and fertile Red River Valley of Northwestern Minnesota and Eastern North Dakota offered a great contrast to the mountainous and rocky region of Setesdalen; yet the Norwegians that arrived felt that the time had come to change their loyalty from the old to a new land, and there seemed to be no halt in the transplanting.



Colorful Wedding garments like these were worn
before they left their Native Land

It was in this Red River Valley that the Setesdals Lag was organized, but the Red River Valley was not the first spot to receive the Setesdoels. Many of its members moved to Polk County from

Wisconsin, Iowa and southern Minnesota. Pierce County, Wisconsin, and Fillmore County, Minnesota gave homes to the first Setesdoels in the middle west. Thirty years before Torleif Ose wandered into the Red River Valley, the Setesdoels had arrived in large numbers in Wisconsin and southern Minnesota. In 1843 Ole Nummeland and Tolleiv Roisland left Valle, Setesdalen, and with several other home seekers, landed in Pierce County, Wisconsin. Their letters home decided a few other friends to join them, so the following year Gunnuf Bjorgufson Homme and Knute B. Rystad (father of a later Pastor Rystad) joined them.

That same year, or a year later, other Setesdoels left Norway. Tollef Gunolfson and son, Gunolf Tollefson, Tjodgeir Harstad, and Hage Olson left Valle, Setesdalen and came to Primrose, Wisconsin. By 1850 Gunstein Tollefson Krostu, who settled in a place later known as Scandinavia, Wisconsin, encouraged relatives and friends to join them, and soon there was quite a settlement.

In 1854 the movement into Minnesota began. That year, Tallak Brokken, Arne and Sven Kirkelie and Torger Drengson Hofto led other families into Fillmore County, Minnesota, and the town of Harmony became a Setesdal village.

Another Setesdal colony built in York Township, was started by Eyvind Besteland and Knute Kviste. Farther inland, John H. Homme and Knute H. Espetvedt made their homes. More and more Setesdoels, both from Norway and from Wisconsin, moved into Minnesota and soon this region became known as Setesdalen. Some of the early families were those of Tollef Gunalfson, Kjodgeir Harstad, A. Berge, and Tollef Knudson, the latter from Hyllestad, Norway. At that time, the following Setesdoel names appear on the list: Kviste, Besteland, Kittleson, Trydal, Bakka, Lien, and Hofto. These regions were well established while the Red River Valley still dozed under unbroken sod.

Rich and varied are the stories told about the journeys across the ocean in small sailboats, and the completion of the trip across half the continent to Wisconsin or Minnesota by boat, freight trains and wagons. A good illustration of these hardships is found in records of the Ole Gjermundson Homme family kept by children of Olai, Jim, and Halvor Homme from Granite Falls, Minnesota. They have been recorded by Miss Emma Homme, and the following pages are excerpts from her writings:

In the spring of 1867 the Homme family left Valle, Norway, with their four children. One immigrant chest was well filled with flat bread, the other contained their worldly possessions. They boarded a schooner bound westward. Unfavorable winds sent the sloop forward by day to be driven back by night. After seven weeks at sea they docked at last at Levis, opposite Quebec. A train took them to Buffalo, a boat across Lake Erie, a cattle car to Dubuque, Iowa, and a Mississippi boat to Lamville, Minnesota. Here they were welcomed by a brother of Homme's and several other countrymen,

who now provided several wagons for transportation.

They joined the Fillmore County Setesdoels July 1867, and stayed a year. Then in a covered wagon caravan of five families, they moved on northward, to the Yellow Medicine River. The first home was a dug-out, which became their cellar within a year. Here twins were born, with a neighbor acting as midwife. Here, too, within a few years was organized an American baseball "nine" which was reported invincible. Its members were all Hommes, brothers and cousins.

During their second fall they heard alarming news of forest fires. They prepared for it plowing many furrows around their farms. Then came the grasshopper years. The greatest damage from this pest was between 1875 — 1877. The deep winter snows that year also became a hazard in obtaining supplies. A grist mill, brick kiln, and a saw mill were the first evidences of prosperity.

There were nine children in the Homme family. They were later to take active parts in developing that part of Minnesota, as well as in Evansville, Belview, Echo, and Granite Falls.

It would not be too incorrect to say that from all of these regions came the idea of the Setesdals Lag. The meetings they had in the community schoolhouses, as well as at their churches and homes, were as Setesdoel as the present lag. However, at that time the need for organizing into any formal meeting was probably not felt, and they were too busy making a living and getting the new country established to extend their thoughts beyond churches, schools, and week-end gatherings.

Now back to the Red River where folks were to organize the lag some fifty years later.

Once it had been started, the Red River Valley grew at a remarkable rate. Four different settlements appeared, known as the Irish, the Scotch, the Stavanger, and the Bygland, or New Setesdalen. The Norwegian stream of immigrants stopped at the Red Lake River, and there began the Scotch. The Danes and Swedes also put in appearances on the land towards Crookston. But this Saga deals only with the Setesdoels, who began arriving in greatest numbers after 1873.

In trying to trace the names of some of the arrivals on land records, we cannot find them. In their places we see hundreds of names ending with "son". Many had left their picturesque "place" names of Soejordet, Greibrok, Rygnestad, Froeyrak, Rysebrekka, and a host of others as colorful, and taken their father's first name and added "son" to it, a distinction they had used in Norway where the place names had been the same as those of their neighbors. "We make it easier for the Yankees to pronounce decently", they maintained, but there may have been a bigger reason. The Setesdoel, noisy in his own crowd of acquaintances, is extremely shy with strangers, and many of them likely preferred a name by which they could go unnoticed. So on these land records of the early days we find many repetitions of Grundeson, Sorenson, Danielson,

Anderson, Person, Torbjornson, and many others somewhat similiar. Bjorgulf Bjornaraa, the president of the lag, did not like this changing of names. He said "I have both 'Wolf' (ulv) and 'bear' (bjorn) in my name but I am not afraid to carry it through life. Let us not get to be like Olav Spegelberg who became so "Yankeefied" that his name became 'Looking glass mountain'."

Polk County is the place where the lag originated, grew, and where all the meetings have taken place with the exception of one in Canada and one at the State Fair Grounds in St. Paul. In the first Setesdal community in Bygland were Knute Sorenson, Os-mund and Halvor Taraldson (Olav Aanendson) as well as the afore-said Ose families.

A small poem, often quoted and enjoyed by the newcomers gives one of their obvious reasons for leaving Norway at that time and seeking a better livelihood:

Himlen er gruten
Aa lufti er graa.
I skogen de lavar af væte.
Sunde er sokkan
Skone er for smaa.
Men ennu lyt eg ut aa gjæte!

With such a pathetic outlook, they needed to seek new homes!

Their first dwelling places were of either logs or sod. The ground in either case served as floor. These, of course, were not typical Setesdoel, but were emergency houses used everywhere on a frontier.



The Old Ose log house on mail day

Daniel Ose, according to his daughter-in-law, Durdei, managed to set up rather a snug house of logs and sod. His wife Anne arranged their few pieces of household goods to make the place as attractive as possible. They even put a cellar under the house for cool storage of food.

One morning when Anne started for the cellar, a bear dashed out. He had slept there all night. That could be coped with, she thought after the scare, but greater dangers came. Just at the time they began to feel a little secure and were having great hopes for the future, a band of Indians planted their tepees within sight of their farm. Whether these new feathered neighbors were friendly or not, Daniel's family did not try to find out. When time came to go to the nearest trading post for mail and supplies, they took all their cherished possessions along, even leading their cow to town.

Soon news came that white settlers had been killed by the Indians. Without inquiring about the cause, the Ose family packed their possessions for a quick departure. They buried what they could not carry along. On their way out, however, news was brought to them that the United States' soldiers were driving the Indians out west, so they returned, and established the Ose farm.

Their second house became a more permanent one and it followed a certain pattern all over the valley of a two story two room house with a lean-to, kitchen. Hand made furniture, plain or carved, took a form according to the skills of the builder. Present lag members still remember them for they belonged to their childhood.

Chief among the memories are the huge chests from Norway with artistic "rosmalings" that had come packed with precious articles such as silk scarfs, hand-woven blankets, wool carder, several tollekniver (Norwegian made knives), and silver jewelry. Every Setesdoel family has many of these treasures to hand down to its heirs, and when the present lag puts up an exhibit, the hall looks like a museum. Guttorm Boe of Thief River Falls is encouraged to bring his interesting collections. About half of his former possessions were sent to a museum, but he still has many unusual pieces, among which is an old inscription in a language of the early Vikings.

Those relics freshen the memories and the Setesdoels recall the old days of windswept prairie with high banked walls to keep in the heat. Another picture comes to mind of the kitchen stove with four lids on top and an ash pan in front, and an oven full of baking loaves. By the door, they see the washstand with a tin wash dish and beneath this a place for the kerosene can and barn lantern. Tucked away in some loft corner might be an old spinning wheel, handmade cradle, and of course, the well-loved chest.

There, painted blue and yellow when they could afford it, stood the first permanent homes, typical of the Setesdoel throughout the years during which he built up the grain lands, raised the first generation of American Norwegians, built the first school, church,

enlarged his stables, and in cooperation with other farmers, bought the first threshing rig.



Bjornaraa's Early Home

There the pioneer woman ruled. Thora Moen Heglund has written an article entitled "My Pioneer Mother" that gives a good picture of the character of many of the women from Setesdalen — —

"Our home was made larger twice to accomodate the increase in size of the family, as we became a family of twelve, eight boys and four girls. The most precious heritage Mother brought with her from Norway was her religion. She taught us to read and we had our catechism well memorized before we went to parochial school . . . There were six of us children sleeping upstairs — two girls and four boys. There was quite a session of prayers up there at night. One by one we would recite them aloud . . .

. . . We had a highchair with round back that Mother would have standing by her bed. On this would sit the old fashioned kerosene lamp turned down real low. Beside the lamp lay Mother's old Bible brought with her from Norway."

"Mother" in this article was Sigrid Harverak from Aaraksbo, Setesdalen and married to Aslak Moen of Bygland, Minnesota.

A true record has been kept of the cost of most of these homes. Two families, numbering four adults and one child, moved to their homestead with a team of horses, one cow, and one hundred fifty dollars. With this capital they built a three room house and a barn

They supported themselves through the winter, had a new baby in the spring, and had enough money to last until fall, when new crops came in and other labor was found. One hundred fifty dollars would cover very little of those needs at the present time. However, much economy and simple living was necessary those early days, and luxuries were put aside for necessities. Their luxuries probably consisted of two items as Arne Grundeson once jokingly observed at the lag, "The stores were kind to the pioneers, and let them charge True Smoke and Arbuckles Brothers' Coffee!"

In comparing notes on the cost of many of the houses it is learned that some cost as little as twelve and fifteen dollars.

The time came when the new country took form under axe, plow, and Norwegian planning, and the Red River Valley became as much a background for Setesdoels as Norway itself. Eyes became accustomed to long distances, with views of plains speckled with groves and farmsteads. The spring season found grain sprouting everywhere, and the fall saw golden masses of stubble, grain stacks, and replowed fields. The sun was seen to slip behind the horizon at a very late hour and the harvest moon became as popular as the midnight sun. Red River Valley — or Norway; both were homes of the Setesdoels.



The oxen did their part in developing the land

Life evolved as in other sections of the country. Farms changed, conditions of living and those of prosperity changed. Huge red barns arose for cattle, horses, and hay mows. Sheds were added for hogs, sheep and for farm equipment. The yards became speckled with chickens. Some reached out further than they could manage and lost their first farms and had to move on. The crops varied in importance from farm to farm, and from area to area. However,

the early years found wheat the main crop, and later years, to keep the soil balanced, rotation of potatoes, grain, and sugar beets became the chief concern.

Prosperity varied from region to region. Some land was more easily accessible, of gently rolling topography, deep fertile black loam, adequate natural drainage, and sufficient wood lots. Such

The early years found wheat the main crop



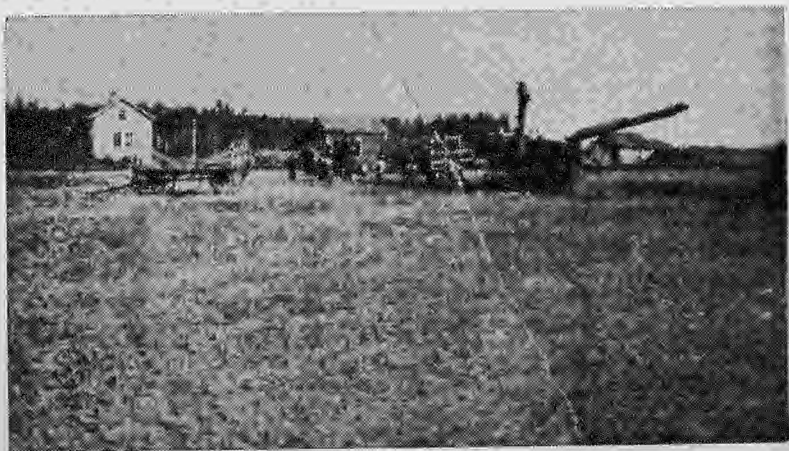
a region reached a higher economic development before the less favored spots. However, good planning, thrift and ambition also entered in, and all the land was a challenge to the strong Vikings and their children.

Those who came too late to get the choice pieces in the region,



Cooperation among farmers

branched out and many other Norwegian settlements were made. All level cleared land looked good to these mountain farmers, and they saw possibilities in inferior land, and knew that with much work they could convert these regions into good productive farms.



Land was converted into good productive farms

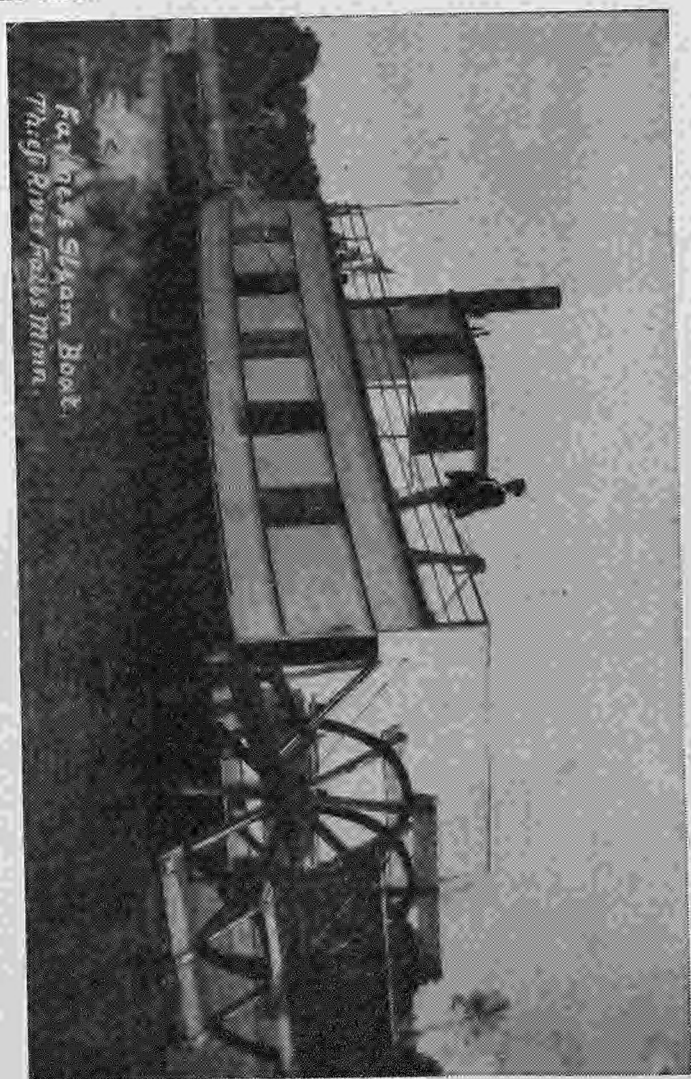
At the present time one can hear stories about these pioneer days as old neighbors get together. In fact, that is in part the purpose of the lag.

"Du, kan du minnast", (Say, can you remember) they usually begin and story after story is retold. One story from Knute Nomeland at a meeting at Aneta goes, "I was out here in your country of Aneta looking for land to homestead, but it looked so dry I was sure there was a wooden heaven above, so I went back and settled in the sloughs by Buxton."

They were strong and rugged, these first settlers, and turned

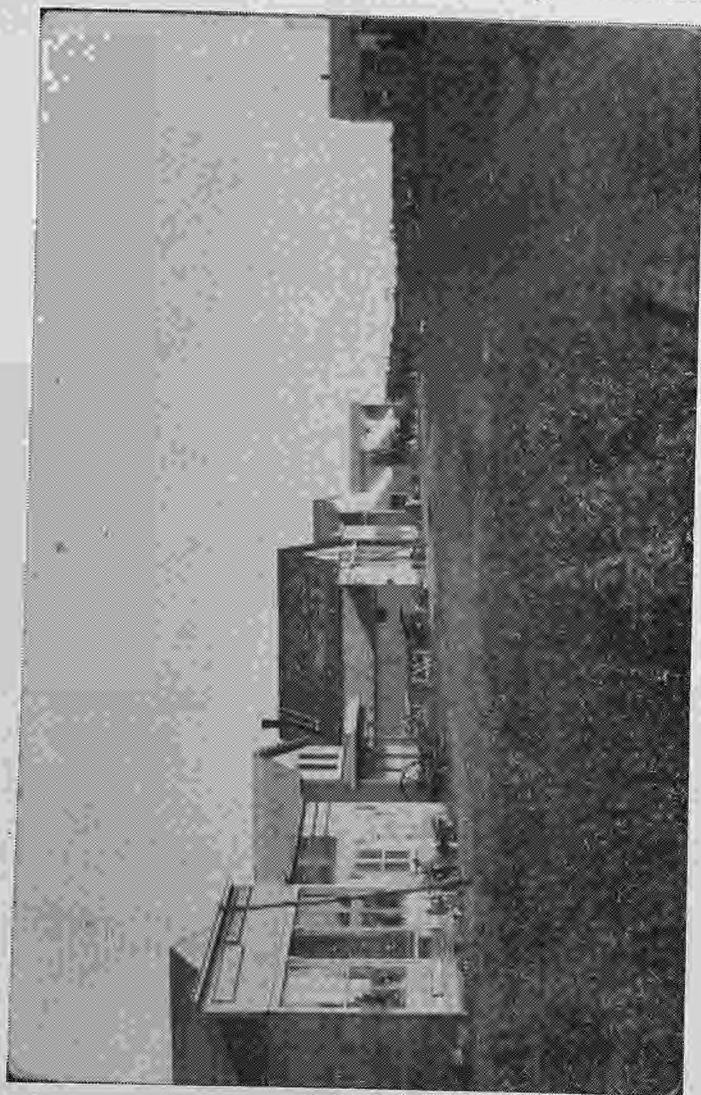
their hands to much work besides farming. An excellent example is that of Halvor Holen and Gunder Nesland who, in 1899, used a row boat and brought eggs and butter to stores in Thief River Falls and returned with supplies for Grygla stores. They took six days for a return trip and would net as much as twenty-five dollars a trip. Many similar stories can be told of "extra work" away from the farm.

Farmers' Steamboat, Thief River Falls, Minn.



In 1878 and 1879, which was more or less the real beginning of development of the Red River Valley, the Setesdoels lived snugly along the Red Lake River, where the banks were sheltered by tall

timber to be used for their dwellings, their stables, and for fuel. Polk County today boasts the world's best wheat region, but what was known as Polk County in the early days of settlement included the counties now known as Clear Water, Red Lake, Mahnomen, Norman, Pennington, Northern part of Clay, Northwestern part



Most of the early towns looked alike

of Becker, a small part of Beltrami, and even a narrow strip of southern Marshall County. When we read that most of the inhabitants in 1870 were trappers, employers of a fur company, and then realize that the Setesdoels came in largest numbers between 1880 and 1890, we can get a clear picture of the various kinds of

hardships with which they had to cope.

Their settlements were made in regions around these towns: Climax, Eldred, Euclid, Fisher, Fosston, Lengby, McIntosh, East Grand Forks, Erskine, Red Lake Falls, Brooks, Oklee, Plummer, Thief River Falls, Ada, Aneta, Grygla, Trail, Goodrich, Holt and Yellow Medicine. On looking over these names, we must indeed admit the Setesdoel was not too aggressive away from his own crowd, for the only town where he influenced the naming was Oklee, named after the farmer on whose land the town was built, Ole Knutson Lee, or O. K. Lee. But the Setesdoel has been able to "Norwegianize" these names, and to hear them pronounce Crookston, Grygla, McIntosh, and Plummer, one would be sure the names had sprung up into being "i hole Setesdalen!" (An expression often used because of the high mountains surrounding their former homes.) Many of these towns were along rivers, for during the early period when most of the trade moved by water, locations on river highways were favored sites for towns. Later when highways made travel possible, towns sprang up in the prosperous farm region. These small villages came into existence to serve the farmer, who needed assembly points for his merchandise as well as trade outlets.

Those were the days of pack and slow driving with oxen or horses if there were no roads. Packing supplies for twenty miles on back was by no means unusual, with skis making it easier in the winter. On such trips they took roads that led past many Setesdoels and a trip to town became a festive occasion. Neighbors of that region would be called in and news exchanged, and when the traveler arrived home several days later, the whole community would be richer for his experience. To those who had often climbed to the Seters in Norway, or climbed over the hilly roads of Setesdalen, a level stretch was quite a simple thing to combat. "Ko er dette for okke som hev vore paa Faanekleiva?" they would say. (What is this for those of us who have climbed the Mountain Road called "Faanekleiva?")

The forests along the rivers seemed inviting to a few, although later did not prove quite so easily developed. A representative in the lag from the wooded area near Bygland was Thor Wiki and his wife, the former Annie Moy. They came from LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Their children were Eli, who was married to Paul Sorenson, Ola of Grand Forks, Osmond of Oklee, and Joraand, married to Ed. Knutson.

Many books could be written, filled with humorous incidents of those years. Here is an incident often chuckled over by the Setesdoels. Olav Person, who came to America with his son Anend and daughter Ingeborg did not get there in time for the best land. In 1897 he took a homestead on the Indian Reservation. McIntosh, twenty miles away was their nearest trading center before J. Espeveit came up from Wisconsin and built his country store. A story is told about Person's first shopping trip to McIntosh. He had flat-

bread made into "lefse" for his lunch into town, but he wondered what he could buy to eat on the way back. He remembered a certain American food he had seen that was light and looked much like the flatbread. He had heard the name "Soda Crackers" but only the "cracker" came to his mind. He knew there was a short word in front of it and he made an attempt at a rather familiar sound, but when the Irish clerk brought out his order of "fire crackers" he looked at him doubtfully and shook his head. "Ek kan kje ette dissa" (I can't eat those) and turned to leave, resigned to eat when he arrived home, twenty miles away.

Person's Irish neighbor gave him a dog. When he said "lie down, Fido", the dog crawled under the bed. When the former owner was gone Person made great efforts to become friends with the dog and succeeded so well, the dog wouldn't leave him alone a minute. He told him in all the Norwegian phrases he knew to get under the bed and out of his way. The dog didn't understand. Finally in desperation Olav said harshly "Gaa unde daun, dit stygge ting". (Get under "Down" you rascal!)

There was no end of stories told those days, both by the newcomers themselves, and by the Americanized pioneers.

Among the pioneers the unforgettable ones are the women who cared for the sick. Doctors were scarce, and money to pay for them even more so. When illness came, the neighbors assisted each other. Among these comes the name of Asbjør Upstad Austad, a midwife for many years. She and her husband, Grunde, took a homestead twenty miles north of McIntosh. After her first trips to the neighbors to act as midwife, she realized what her work would be. She prepared a clean calico dress with a white apron. She arranged an emergency kit containing clean bandages and brandy. This she hung at the foot of the bed, to be ready at any hour. Before she died in 1930 she figured that she had helped bring over three hundred children into the world. She received no fee, but instead she brought food—often lefse—to the home, along with her emergency kit. The neighbors showed their appreciation when they could. Sometimes she returned home with a share of their flour, or a few vegetables, or perhaps a little wool to spin. However, her work went on regardless of the lack of a fee, and her reward was seeing the babies grow up into useful men and women. She was herself the mother of ten children. Several of her grandchildren are now members of the lag.

As has been said before, the best land was snatched up first, but nevertheless, the less desirable region still looked good to the Europeans from overcrowded areas, and they settled it eagerly, boisterously, challenging the elements, and some had great odds to combat, both in flooded areas, isolated regions, and stony land.

Many of the settlers pushed ahead of the legal authorities and squatted on the land. Here and there rose their isolated cabins on some high spot with brush land about them. This was true of the White Earth Indian Reservation in what came to be known as

Clearwater County.

In 1886, twenty-three years after the arrival of the Ose family, men stood on the "Reservation Line" ready to put in their spades and claim a section of land. The rains came late that year so the land seemed dry, and many did not know until too late that much of the land that they raced to get into their possession would be under water a good share of the year.

Among the first Setesdoels in this region were T. T. Boe, Ole Gunderson, and Anders and Aslak Knutson Lien. A short time later, others began to arrive, among them families of Knute O. Homme, Grunde Austad, Olav Person, Mrs. Kristi Dale, Torjei Gunstenson, Ole Hanson, Aanund Rysebrekka, Aanend Homme, Tarold Hamre, Ole Sorenson, Andrew Anderson, Torger Lande, Knute Moen, Ole Slettavold and Osmond Brokke. Every few months more arrived, either from the Red River Valley or directly from Norway, to build new homes. Mrs. T. T. Boe, who lived to be ninety-five years old, told stories of how she climbed on top of their little hut to gaze around for signs of smoke that would indicate other settlers had arrived. Rough huts of lumber were first to appear, but one or two room frame or log houses were usually erected within a year or two.



4th of July, 1914

Sigurd Krostue tells about an Indian scare in 1897 while the Garnes region was being settled. Rumors got around that Indians were on a rampage and would come their way. Daniel Helle, according to Sigurd, was the Paul Revere, and he rode horseback

from farm to farm warning the people. Most of the men folks were out in the Dakota harvest fields. The few who were there prepared themselves with pitchforks, axes, and so on, to defend themselves to the utmost. Grunde Dale sat up all night moulding ammunition for his Winchester rifle. After all that preparation, they hardly knew if they were glad or not that it turned out to be only a rumor.

Per A. Libak built the first school house in Equality Township out of oak logs, and as a result he claimed laughingly that he was the one who introduced Christendom into Red Lake Country.

Torggrim Klepp gave this account: A crew of men were chopping cordwood in the Red River woods, hauling it to the river. There they made the logs into rafts to sail down to Winnipeg, but on the way the excitement came, as several bands of Indians were watching them from the banks. None were killed, but the Setesdoels almost died anyhow, of fright!

To the Norwegian pioneer, work was not the only interest. The men remember how they drove with ox teams to dances, and there found so many more menfolks than girls that they had to fight each other for a partner before they could dance.

The lag members like to boast about the strength of the early Setesdoel settlers. Two brothers, Olav and Jon Loyland were considered the strongest men in the land. Bjornaraa once related at a lag: "Once I saw Jon Loyland take a champion fighter of Grand Forks by the arm and squeezed him until he yelled for mercy. Each finger mark was stamped on the champion's arm."

This usually brought on another story about his brother Olav. "He fought and won over Tom Campbell, a champion heavyweight and Olav didn't even bother to remove his fur coat."

Then someone comes forth with another tale about Jon. "I saw him take two train track rails and carry them into place while two other men were struggling with one!"

This last story was supplemented by the listeners. "I bet the two others were Swedes!" So close were these new settlers to their native land that even the animosities of the mother country were daily felt and dealt with.

Early in the fall of 1879, a drainage convention was held, and in a few years the legislature appropriated money and the drainage struggle was on its way. But it had a long way to go. Even now, after a century, many people in the lower levels suffer crop failures from floods. Not until artesian wells were found successful, could this new region boast advantages over other Minnesota land.

Such struggles usually leave their marks upon the people, probably fortifying them with more determination, and bringing about a more cooperative spirit. At least it has been proven hard to defeat the Setesdoel with obstacles of nature. They are used to them. A few failures will not defeat this race as is evidenced now by the continuation of the lag during three generations.

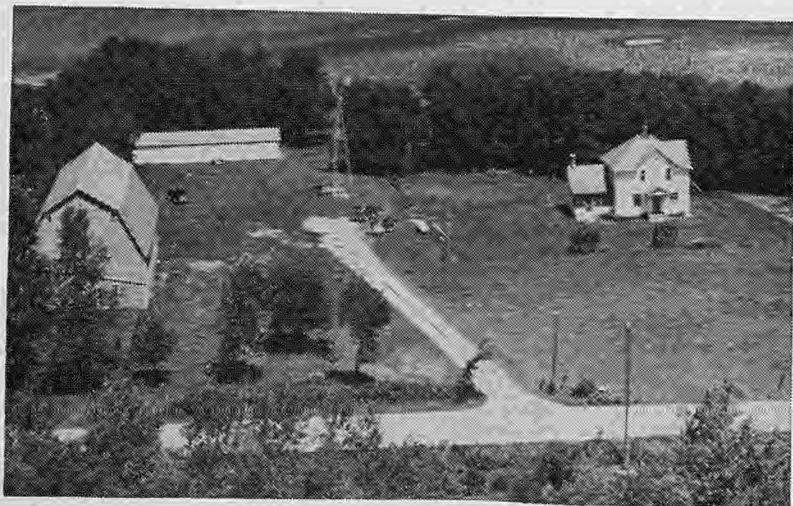
The struggles of the early days have always colored the reminiscences as old friends meet at the lag. Here is Mrs. Torji Gunsten-



Dredging

son's story . . . "I had to set my two little girls on top of the flour sacks and cover them and the food with a piece of tar paper while Torji and I worked in the rain to get our house built . . ."

Hard working people, able to cope with odds with ready wit, and filled with kindness — these were the characteristics of the originators of the Setesdals Lag.



A typical farm near McIntosh

CHAPTER II

ORGANIZATION OF THE LAG

1909

It was in 1909, thirty-seven years after the arrival of the Ose family to Minnesota, and sixty-six years after the first Setesdoel settlement in Wisconsin that the Setesdoels met to organize the Setesdals lag. This idea had been growing in their minds over a period of years and had been much talked about at informal gatherings, Christmas fests, after church, in town, or on their stopovers from one region to the other.

They were still lonely in their flat windswept prairies; lonely for their solid fjelds, their stirring fjords, and their rockbound roads. Many were eager to belong to some informal organization where they would meet other Setesdoels, also lonely for the same scenery, same memories, and same culture.

"We should meet every year", they told themselves. "For two whole days we could be back 'i Kjære Setesdalen' as much as it is possible in the Yankee land. We could dress in Setesdals clothes if we had them, and sing stev, and tell skråno. We could dance the sensible dances, like spring danse, gangaren, with Hallingkast thrown in. Aa ja, san! to kick the ceiling, stomp the floor, and swing the girls around in the graceful Setesdals way!

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa from Valle, Norway had by now become well known among the Setesdoels in Minnesota, as a folk leader and a poet. Eivind Aakhus was well known violinist and Sam Sorenson was becoming one, and they were interested in such an organization. There were enthusiastic people who spoke up at many of the small meetings. Among them were Aanend Rystad, Halvor Loyland, Arne Grundeson, Gunder Nestland, Ole Birkeland, Ole Vattendal, Ole Rystad, Ole Dale, and many others. The women did not speak up. In true Setesdals fashion, they let the men talk and claim all the opinions and ideas, but also in true Setesdals fashion they had done their talking and directing at home.

It was Bjorgulv Bjornaraa and his articles and poems in the Norwegian papers that created the lag. He was a great speaker and writer of folk lore, and a poem appeared in "Decorah Posten" about Setesdoelerne i Amerika.

TIL SETESDOELERNE I AMERIKA

Nu Bygdelag møtes og stifter Forening
det burde vi ogsaa, det er min mening!
De andre gaar fore, vi faar krype efter,
det skulde bli moro aa ret prøve krefter!

Naar hjemme det gjaldt om et "Kars-Tak" at tage,
stod Setesdoelen ei ofte tilbake!
Naar "Belte" mans sprettet og kniven den lynte,
da holdt han sig fremme og Modmanden tynte.

Naar Vikinge-Dragen blev skudt udpaa sjøen,
da stod han ei frygtsom tilbake i "Støen"!
Naar krigsluren hjaldet til landet at vare,
da saa du ham hugge blandt Heltenes Skare.

Ja minderne om vore forfedre gjeve —
med guldtraade vil vi i hjertet indveve.
Lad dalen og knaus, med lid og med tinde
til everleg tid ei gaa os af minde!

Den angende voll — og de kneisende fjelde
dem verger vi endnu, om det skulde gjelde!
Men først vil vi verge den arv, vi fik over
paa klut-kledte baad over vuggende vover.

Kom Setesdoeler vi slutter os sammen!
Det skal baade bli os til nytte og gammen.
Vi velger en mand til at skrive vor "Saga",
saa faar vi da se, "korleis den er laga".

Men ei bare sidde og tenke det over,
thi "vatnet renne au medan myllaren sover"!
Nei, haanden paa verket og er det end haget,
Vi slutter ei før vi har Sebyggja-Laget!

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa
Starbuck, Minnesota,
17de Januar, 1909

Much credit of really getting the lag under way at that particular time, however, belongs to Anend Rystad. He was well known and well liked in Fisher. He was a familiar figure wherever life was gay.

Sometime after Bjornaraa's poem had appeared in the paper, Rystad wrote an article to the Norwegian paper, NORMANDEN. His article was followed by one from Grunde Grundeson, and an answer from Bjorgulv Bjornaraa. Thus encouraged, Anend hitched up his horse and drove to the home of Eivind Aakhus. From there, the two went to see Dreng Roysland. The plans they made that day became the stem from which the lag was to grow. Anend agreed to be temporary chairman, and Dreng and Eivind the steer-

distant
cousin

ing committee to obtain the auditorium of the Grand Forks College for the first lag.

Anend hurried home and wrote a letter to Bjorgulv Bjornaraa. He asked him to come to their first meeting as they wanted him for their president. Bjornaraa's name, so often seen in the papers, would be a drawing card for many of the Setesdoels.

The bygdelag movement had by now been going on for some time among other groups of Norwegians so the idea wasn't new in America. The Valdris Samband, according to its Sage writer, Andrew Veblen in the Valdris book, had its beginning in 1899.

Norwegians coming to America usually built up a neighborhood of their own people — those from the same Dal in Norway. Of course, the pushing on of the frontier year after year caused these Sons of Norway to become scattered and mixed among other nationalities. Then, as the settlers came to a "leveling off" period with a bit of leisure time, they began to long for reunions with their friends and relatives. The need had been widely felt, as seen by the number of lags listed below. Leaders had arisen among many groups and they had taken the initiative in bringing about many organizations which would reunite people of the same home bygd. By 1909, at the time that the Setesdoels had gotten around to organize, the following lags or stevne were well established.:

- 1899 June 25, First Valdrisstevne, Minneapolis
- 1903 Jan. 27, The Norwegian Society of America
- 1907 Jan. 16, Telelag organized at Fargo
- 1907 March 9, Hallinglaget organized at Walcott
- 1908 June 17, Numedalslaget organized at Fargo
- 1908 Sept. 6, Gudbrandsdalslaget organized at Minneapolis
- 1908 Sept. 17, Trønderlaget organized at Fergus Falls
- 1908 Oct. 22, Nordlandslaget organized at Albert Lea
- 1908 Nov. 28, Sognalaget organized at Albert Lea
- 1909 June 17, Selbulaget organized at Atwater
- 1909 June 24 Vosselaget organized at Albert Lea
- 1911 Aug. 15, Hardanger lag organized at Sioux Falls, So. Dak.
- 1911 Sept. 8, Stavangerlaget formed by division of Stav and S. Bergh Amters Lag, Story City, Iowa
- 1911 Oct. 28, Twin City Stavangerlag organized St. Paul Vinger, Odalen and Eidskogen Samlag organized, Minneapolis
- 1913 Mar. 5, Minneapolis Trønderlag organized
- 1913 June 14, Romsdalslag organized Minneapolis
- 1909 Sept. 8, Nordfjordlaget organized, Minneapolis
- 1913 Sept. 3, Nordhordlandslaget organized, Minneapolis
- 1913 Oct. 20, Hurdalslaget organized, Ostrander, Minnesota
- 1915 June 4, Smaalenslag organized at Kenyon, Minnesota
- 1916 June 7, Ringerikeslaget organized at Albert Lea
- Then came the Setesdoels:
- 1909 June 30, Setesdalslaget organized at Grand Forks, N. Dak.
- 1910 June 16, Totninglag of Minneapolis

- 1910 June 18, Østerdalslag organized, Fergus Falls, Minnesota
- 1910 June 25, Søndmørslag organized, Moorhead, Minnesota
- 1910 Sept. 7, Hadelandslag organized at Minnesota State Fair Grounds
- 1910 Sept. 7, Solunglag organized, Minneapolis
- 1910 Sept. 7, Stavanger and Søndre Bergenhus Amters Lag organized at Story City, Iowa
- 1911 June 22, Tinnsjølager organized at Lake Madison, So. Dak.
- 1911 June 24, Sigdalslag organized at Fergus Falls, Minnesota
- 1911 June 24, Sundalslag organized at Minneapolis

So, as we see, the Setesdoels did not have a new idea, but the crowd that met at Grand Forks College on June 30, 1909 were the first Setesdoels to try organizing. The crowd that gathered did not know what to expect. They didn't even know what they wanted but as it took shape throughout the day, a certain procedure was started that was followed in all future meetings. Informality they must have, they all maintained. No fancy rules, or restrictions, that would bar anyone from attending, would be tolerated. They had all suffered as newcomers and good fellowship now must be the keynote to the lag.

The minutes of that first meeting will be here recorded, because the order of that first meeting set a pattern for all the others. Several procedures became characteristic. For instance, one knew thereafter that all meetings would be very informal. There would always be much time for visiting with one another. There would always be a program of stæv, (see chapter on stæv), violin music, and folk dancing. People with the native costumes called "dragt" would be wearing them. There would always be at least one good speaker, and time for informal discussions from the audience. There would always be a story teller to tell skrono (humorous stories). Visiting would go on during the lunch hour. Then with the afternoon would come a repetition of the same thing. Just what they wanted! More stæv, more fele spil, more dancing on the stage, and more talks both planned and informal, about themselves. It was good to sit and be built up by the speakers who bragged about all Setesdoels. It was worth traveling many miles in order to sit next to your childhood companion and have a speaker elaborate upon your good qualities, enumerate your successes, and let all draw glory and comfort from the achievements of the most successful, for they were all kin — all one great relationship together.

The following is a translation of the minutes of the first meeting, as recorded by Grunde Grundeson, Secretary.

Organization Meeting of the Setesdals Lag in Grand Forks College, June 30, 1909.

The meeting was called to order by Aanend Rystad. He bade the members welcome. Bjorgulv Bjornaraa was elected temporary chairman. The undersigned (Grunde Grundeson) was elected temporary secretary. A motion was made and

seconded that we organize a stevne. Regarding the name of it the following were suggested: Sebydjelaget, Setesdals Laget. Discussion followed. A vote was taken with twenty-siv votes for the former and twenty-seven for the latter, and so the name Setesdals Laget was accepted.

A motion was passed that a constitutional committee be chosen consisting of three members. O motion passed that the temporary chairman, the secrtary and H. Fladeland be appointed to this committee. They decided to elect a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, treasurer, and five directors. The following officers were elected: Chaiman, Bjorgulv Bjornaraa; vice chairman, Eivind Aakhus; secretary, Grunde Grundeson; treasurer, Anend Rystad. Directors were: Ole O. Vattendal, Ole B. Olson, Tarji Loyland, Arne Grundeson, and Ole Kjorvestad.

Sigrid Lovdahl

(Seated)

Berame the Lags

Stev Singer



Motion was passed that yearly dues be fifty cents. Motion was passed that a Soge Skriver (history writer) be elected. Ole H. Rysstad was chosen. Motion made that the yearly meeting be held 7th of June. Another motion was made that the meetings be held around St. Hans time. It was finally agreed that the yearly meeting should be held around June 7th.

Peer Stromme who was present was put in as honor member at the meeting. Meeting was temporarily adjourned until two o'clock in the afternoon.

At two o'clock the meeting continued in the chapel of the college. Eivind Aakhus played a couple of "slaater". Norwegian dance music. Then President Bjornaraa gave a well prepared talk, which was the main speech of the day.

Halvor K. Rystad played a couple of numbers on the violin. Aanend Rystad read two poems. Constable Gullikson was introduced and gave a welcoming speech. Eivind Aakhus told in an impressive way the story of Southland's history, and continued with a short talk to the audience regarding the need to organize in order to preserve their Norse Culture.

Peer Stromme was called upon to give a talk, calling it "Norsk Kongetanke". Then he read one of his own poems, "Solsidiri", and this was met with hearty applause.

Eivind Aakhus played "Seterjentens Søndag" and a slaat. Thereupon the chairman Bjornaraa spoke about Norwegian slaater, and Halvor Rysland illustrated the talk by playing several of the slaaters.

Gunder Rysland, Annie Omlid, Sigrid Lovdahl, and Gertie Skyvold gave samples of "Stevleik". (Explanation of stevleik: The fellows sing a couplet of a poem, called stev. The ladies sing an answer in another couplet. This might continue for several rounds.) Sigrid Lovdahl's stev translated:

She let him, homeward bound, overtake her
In hopes he would a proposal make her.

That they both were willing to make a pact
Could be easily seen in eyes and act.

Annie Omlid's stev translated:

My Setesdalen with your rugged nature
With healthy youth of a sturdy stature
You give vim and vigor to worn and weak
You give life and color to palest cheek.

It seemed the stars in the sky were talking
To me who in this dark vale was walking.
It seems that these are the words they said,
"You are sure of greater success ahead."

The men's stev were not recorded, nor do any records indicate which ones they sang. However, they are very apt to be included with those listed elsewhere in this book.

Those who entertained on the stage with Norwegian dances were Bjorgulv Bjornaraa, Emma Homme, Knut Roysland, Sigrid Lovdahl, Gunder Roysland and Annie Omlid.

This brought the meeting to a close, and the numbers registered. There were sixty-two names recorded. They parted with the feel-

ing that their Setesdals Lag had made a good beginning and bore promise of a good future.



Annie Omlid Person (Seated)

As said before the foremost thought of the Setesdoels in organizing their lag may have been that of banding together to ease the longing for their native land. But Setesdoels are practical people, and might not have indulged their longings had they not seen a greater purpose than that of soothing their moods. Deep in their hearts and minds, ever growing on their conscience, lay that need for an organization and workable plan of making their own culture that was so dear to them, live on in America.

The need was felt at unexpected moments such as when a mother rocked her baby to sleep with:

Su ru reie
Baane ve kje teie

Or a man swinging his little boy up and down on his heavy work shoe singing:

Rie rie rankje
Hesten heite Blankje.
Hesten heite inkje saa
Hesten heite Ablegraa.
Sit ein liten gute paa.
Kor ska han rie?
Te Kongsgaard aa frie —

They themselves and their forefathers before them had been swung up and down, on a probably sturdier shoe to this same melody in some little kitchen at the side of a mountain or over-

looking a fjord. Would their grand children hear them or would this be the last generation in this country to understand the rhymes?

The mail would be brought from town, including "Scandinavien", "Normanden", "Decorah Posten" or "Minneapolis Tidende" with news from Norway in a language a person could understand, some written by Sven Rygnestad and O. T. Skeie, who still lived right in Setesdalen. Was this, too, to end?

When they gathered at a neighbor's house of an evening, someone could usually be coaxed to sing *Seterjentens Søndag*, or in a gayer mood, *Paal sine Høner*, *Gauke Song*, or *Setisdals Visa*. The refreshments would likely be lefse, gumble, and various kinds of meat balls, spike kjøt, and potet kake. Was all this to be forgotten in one lifetime?

The members of the lag were keenly aware of this more important purpose of holding on to their own culture and traditions. "Yankee Doodle", "Old Folks at Home" and the polkas were replacing the old folk songs and dances very rapidly.

In 1913, G. C. Torguson gave a talk right in line with these thoughts. First he talked about the things the Norwegians had done in America and what they ought to accomplish. He spoke about the Norwegian language and how it ought to be taught, both at home and later in high schools. He explained how the American culture was influenced by all countries, and it would be to our shame and loss if we did not make our contributions. In fact, it was our duty as good Norsemen to give the best we had of the Norse culture to our American children.

"Yes", thought the Setesdoels, "that is so very right, but how?" With determination we find them setting about to find a way. But it was up hill work, and sometimes loomed up as an impossibility. It was their own children, or grandchildren who created the greatest blocking. "Those little Yankees", they would say, "What can you do with them? They aren't even all Setesdoels anymore. Half-breeds"! They would send reproachful looks at the ones with a parent from Trondhjem, Hallingdal, or Telemarken, saying nothing about the ones with a parent from Sweden or France.

These little Yankees were acting too true to form. Just like their ancestors, who had coped with the new land and everything in it, and had made it into their own community, so now the youngsters with an equally good healthy background, and with the pioneer spirit tossed in, fitted themselves into the role of becoming Americans in their own individual way.

Norway, to this new race of people, meant the stories they had heard in the evenings around firesides. Oh, good stories! The very best. But then at school they heard equally good stories of important immigrants; the British of their American history book, the French either from France or Lambert Brooks or Oklee. They now studied as much German music as Norwegian. Art came from Italy and styles from Paris. "Lute Fisk from Norway!" they would say with roughery. These children became individualists and followed

no particular pattern but struck out in many directions to the alarm of the parents.

Something had to be done about it! The oldsters mulled over in their minds the idea that the one big purpose of the lag was to "perpetuate the culture." If they let their own youngsters, these "New United Staters" come and take a part in the running of the lag, they would soon take over and the original members would find themselves sitting at home, while the youngsters, those aggressive offspring of theirs, made an organization for themselves. If they left them out of it entirely, the purpose would be lost.

The thing to do, they reasoned, was to get them into it, teach them the Norse Culture by trying to make them take part, by keeping a firm hand on them, and by seeing that they "stayed" by the old customs only. "Every word we say must be Norwegian", maintained Ole Birkeland. These youngsters were as hard to handle as—well—yes, as hard as they themselves had been when they left their homeland and struck out for the new.

So we find the lag discussing the problem and directing speeches toward maintaining of Norse Culture. No man knew more about this nor felt the need more keenly than the leader, Bjornaraa, himself. He was a great speaker, and Norse Folk Lore was his pet subject.

SECOND MEETING 1910

The second meeting was held in Erskine, Minnesota, June 15th and 16th, 1910. The new Constitution was read and approved.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

We Setesdoels in America hereby organize ourselves together in a lag known as Setesdals Laget.

The purpose shall be to unite the Setesdoels and preserve the traditions and hand them down to future generations.

Anyone can become a member who was born in Setesdalen, or descendents of same, from Bykle to Byen, Kristiansand, and likewise all men and women married to a Setesdoel.

The officers shall be: A chairman (president), vice president for each state that is represented by membership; a secretary, a treasurer, and five directors.

Setesdals Laget shall have a meeting (Holde stevne) each year, time and place to be decided on by the directors.

Each member has the right to speak and vote at each meeting.

The following standing committees are to be appointed by the president: Nomination Committee with five members and the Resolutions Committee with two members.

If a change or addition to the constitution is found necessary, such a matter shall be brought to the chairman at least six weeks before the regular meeting, and must be passed by two-thirds majority.

BY-LAWS

Each member shall pay yearly dues of fifty cents, with the exception of a woman whose husband is a member.

The officers' duties shall be executed according to parliamentary regulations.

The president shall give a yearly report to the members regarding the yearly transactions.

The lag's emblem shall be a picture of an old Setesdal's staur and a stue.

Changing these by-laws requires the same regulations as those changing the Constitution.

This second meeting was one of the important ones. The first had been a trial meeting, but now the pattern would be definitely set for all future meetings. The city band met them at the depot and this really put them into a holiday mood.

By now Bjornaraa had given the lag some constructive thought and it became clear that he was the man for the position. He had the ability to organize well and yet give the feeling of informality. "Come up and play for us", he would call to Eivind Aakhus, as though it was a spur of the moment thought. Aakhus, who had been well warned in advance, went up on the stage, and a good feeling passed through the crowd both of enjoyment of his Norwegian music and his willingness to oblige so readily. It made others feel less reluctant to come forth and express themselves on any problem of discussion.

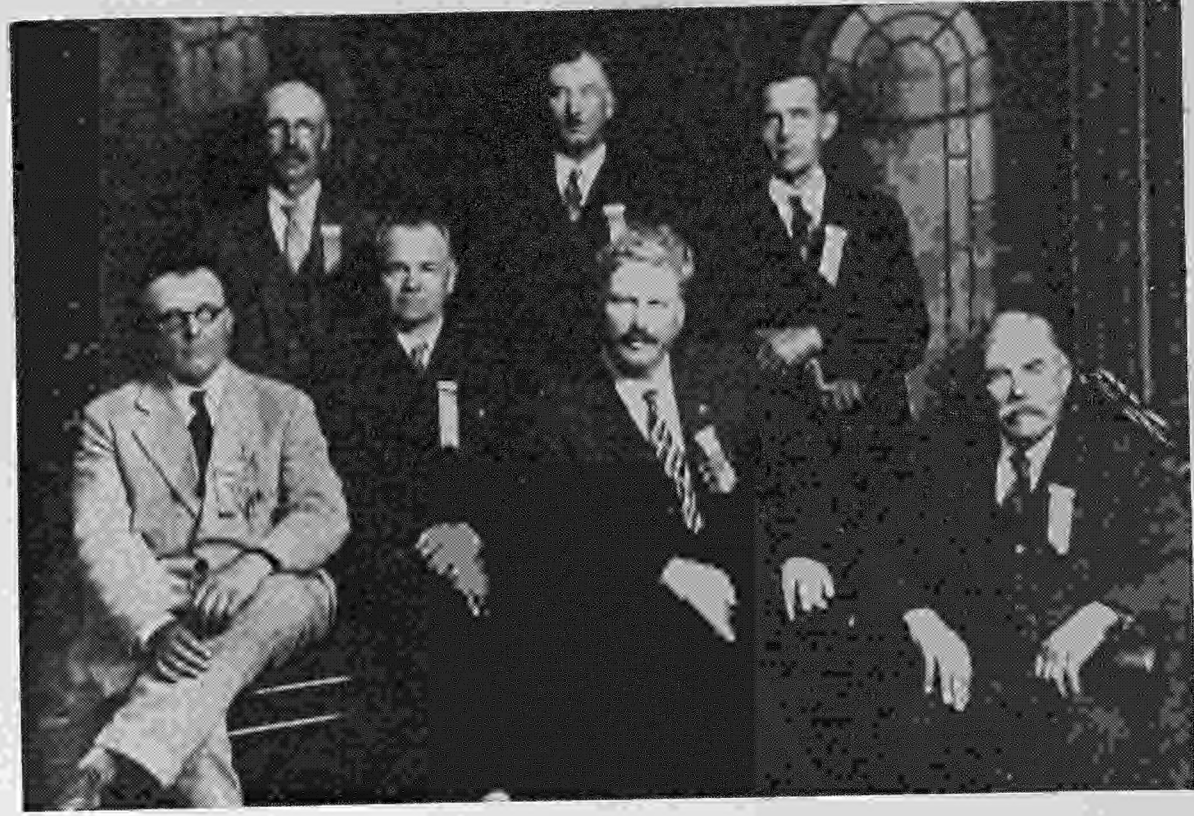
Thus, Bjornaraa, a born leader, led the lag for thirty-two years. The lag and Bjornaraa were spoken in the same breath. He was identified by the lag and his leadership in it, and the lag became popular because of its leader. A history of this lag is bound to be a history of much of Bjornaraa's life and talents, with his work, thoughts, poetry and good humor on all its pages.

At the second meeting Bjornaraa opened the afternoon session with his own poem, "Kan Du Gloyme Setesdalen?" The last two stanzas always left the audience in the right mood. It seemed to make them seek ways of trying to perpetuate the culture of their childhood homes across the sea. No attempt has been made to translate Bjornaraa's poems and following is a sample of the last two stanzas in their original form:

Setesdoel i vesterheimen
Med dit Norske hjertelag
Ber dei minne gjenum sveimen
Til den allerseiste dag.

Setesdal — I Du blom blant dalar
— Draumeland for hug og sinn.
Minne om deg Hjarta svalor
Som ein vaar-vind ljuv og linn.

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa



Front row — from left: T. O. Lien, Olaf Neset, Bjorgulv Bjornaraa, Arne Grundeson. Back row: Gunder Nesland, E. O. Sorbo, Svenskje Dale

At this meeting the state representative, Knut Nomeland, gave a talk. Dr. O. H. Olson presented the lag with the key to the city. Grunde Grundeson, gave a long talk on poets of Norway, especially about Bjørnesterne Bjørnsen. After his talk, the audience sang, "Ja i Elsker Dette Landet". At this meeting Sam Sorenson was introduced. He was becoming a great violinist on the Hardanger violin, and delighted the audience with old folk songs such as "Ola, Ola, kjyre di ae dau", and similar well known favorites.

Pastor L. J. Njus brought greetings from Sognelaget, and it was agreed to send invitations to other lags to be guests at the next meetings.

The ladies of the church served Norwegian food in the hall. The afternoon meeting was held outdoors, and the Erskine orchestra gave a good entertainment.

The three main speakers, President Bjornaraa, Arne Grundeson, and M. A. Bratland, directed their talks to the preservation of the Norwegian heritage. The audience became enthusiastic, and president Bjornaraa was chosen to keep notes and later write a history of the lag, and he was offered twenty-five dollars for immediate expenses in beginning the Saga.

1911

June 14 and 15, 1911, found the meeting at Thief River Falls, Minn. At this time, Eivind Aakhus introduced his son, Daniel, whom he had taught to play the violin. From then on, whenever Eivind was far away on concert tours, Daniel took over and became one of the "Vor Egen Spillemen" (our own musicians), along with his father Eivind, Sam Sorenson, Bjorn Tveitbakk, and Olav Dale.

In those days, travel was a problem and most of the members from the western part of the state came on the afternoon train. A procession from the hall went down to meet them, and it was a good feeling for the travelers to see large Bjornaraa, with all the other Setesdoels gathered about him, ready to greet them. This was the informality and comraderie they liked.

At this meeting four people spoke who later became in great demand at all the lags. One was Mr. M. A. Brattland from Ada, Minnesota, who gave a talk on the unfolding, progress and formation of Setesdals culture in this country. All during his entire life Judge Brattland made every effort to attend the meetings, and was always prepared with a speech.

The second was Sigrid Lovdahl, who appeared in Setesdals "dragt" (Setesdals costume) and sang stev, and took part in the dances. She later became Mrs. Sigurd Krostue, and remained the chief stev singer, and with her husband, a great force in keeping the lag going.

The third was Dr. J. A. Arneberg, who was an enthusiastic member of any movement that tried to maintain the Norse culture. He was often called upon to inspire them with his lectures.

When the minutes of the Erskine meeting the year before were read, it was learned that one hundred forty-four men and sixteen women had been taken in as members, and the treasurer had reported a balance of ninety-nine dollars and seventy-five cents.

A committee was chosen, headed by Bjornaraa to make arrangements for the lag to take part in the 17th of May celebration in Minneapolis and St. Paul in 1914.

It was also decided to raise a fund for the needy in Setesdalen. They wanted to share the good things of this country with their loved ones. Gunder Krostue was chosen chairman of the fund.

Bjornaraa had by now become interested in other lags, and was often asked to be their guest speaker. As members of different lags intermingled, new ideas grew, and the future began to look bright for the furthering of Norse culture in America.

1912

The lag meeting was held in McIntosh, Minnesota, June 13 and 14, 1912. The town's photographer, P. B. Hole was at hand to take an outdoor picture of the crowd, and that photograph bears record of the Setesdoels that had by now become interested.

The town of McIntosh at that time was by no means prepared to lodge so many people, and this meeting became well remembered because of the lack of accommodations. Olav Moe gave the men permission to sleep in the hay mow of his livery stable. About fifty men took advantage of this offer. This was not a drinking crowd as was sometime the case, but a group interested in good talk and laughter. Some one was sent off to bring President Bjornaraa to this odd assemblage. He came and they made him sing and act out many of his own poems. Many Setesdoels remember this evening and still recall how they enjoyed the president's entertainment. Stories flowed freely until two o'clock in the morning.

In the meantime the women were faring equally well. Mrs. Olav Moe invited as many into her home as it could hold. Beds were made on the floor of all the rooms and a general hilarity set in. They entertained themselves by singing stey and telling stories with Guro Amble being the chief leader.

This good fellowship in solving the crowded situation probably set this 1912 meeting apart as a well remembered affair, for the lag grew much in the years that followed.

By now the order of the programs was well established. Bjornaraa opened the meeting with some enthusiastic remark and a rhyme of his own. He arranged for the people that he had asked to take part in the program to come up on the stage. This became a well established custom, with ladies in old costumes called "dragt" backgrounding the stage, and all other performers on chairs against the walls, ready to do their part to keep things moving. Not that any one stayed in the same place very long, for informality was definitely the keynote, with much moving about, but then others could come up and take their places. There was a moving up on



Meeting in McIntosh — 1912

the stage and a general commotion that was always intriguing.

Much of the discussion during the meeting was regarding the gift to Norway, and the collections that this involved. Although they had been very enthusiastic about it at the last meeting, nothing had been done about it. Interest was renewed, and they hoped for better results later.

There was much humor and joking among the entertainers, and introductions lacked formality. At this time Gustav Torguson was introduced by Bjornaraa, and having been Bjornaraa's pupil he had to take ribbing. For retaliation he began "You know Bjorgulv can sing that Coo-coo song better than anyone else, and it helped him out once. He went to a party one evening and Mrs. Bjornaraa said, 'Don't stay late now, Bjorgulv'. 'No', he answered. 'I'll be back at eleven o'clock'. When Bjorgulv came home and opened the door, Ingeborg asked, 'Is that you, Bjorgulv?' 'Yes, did you expect anyone else?' he said. 'Isn't it late?' she asked. Just then the coo-coo clock struck two, and Bjorgulv hurried and sang out the next nine coo-coos."

The program progressed, intermingled with "the ridiculous and the sublime". At this meeting a letter was read from Professor Seippel in Norway who sent a greeting and a wish for their future success.

Both Mr. M. A. Brattland and Pastor Dale directed their talks to the young people, urging them to learn the language and preserve the culture of their forefather's birthplace. Arne Grundeson and Knute Nomeland also directed their talks in that direction.

The musical entertainment was enjoyed as usual. Carl Berg sang, "Kan Du Glemme Gamle Norge". The violin music was furnished by Sam Sorenson and Osmund Tveitlie. Stevs were sung by Annie Omlid, Ingeborg Homme, Sigrid Lovdahl, and Gyro Amble.

At this meeting, as in Erskine, the Mayor, Mr. Bolstad presented them with the key to the city. This custom was later followed at most of the meetings.

They also had an evening banquet and it proved so successful, with Bjornaraa the toastmaster, that it was established as a regular custom. Speakers at the banquet were Olav Dahle, Halvor Loiland, Knut Nomeland, John Brakken, Dreng Roiseland, and secretary Grunde Grundeson.

The election report was as follows:

Same Chairman and Secretary.

Vice presidents: Minnesota, Olav Dahle

North Dakota, Dreng Roiseland

Treasurer, Anend Rystad

Directors, Knut Hovet, Arne Homme, Grunde Nomeland, Tallak Aakhus and Halvor Loiland

At this time they moved that the Historian or "Soga Skrivaren" should go to work whenever possible and expenses should be paid by the lag. There was much enthusiasm displayed at this time and the lag became well known.

The lag was again held in Thief River Falls on June 18 and 19, 1913 and many declared this the most enthusiastic meeting.

The formal talks were all in the general direction of maintaining language, culture, and folk ways of Setesdalen.

Bjornaraa opened the subject with a discussion of what a good Setesdoel ought to be. Among other things, he should be a good American, a good Norseman and a good Christian. G. C. Torguson's talk inferred that as good citizens, we should give America the best we have in our Norwegian culture.

Fru Hulda Garborg, wife of the Norwegian author, Garborg, was present. She urged the lag members to take an interest in the Norwegian fine arts brought with them, especially in clothing, fancy work, carvings, and so on.



Fru Garborg urged them to take interest in fine arts and clothing

The Men's Choir, which had come to entertain, sang Mr. Garborg's song, "Gud Signe Norigs Land!" in her honor.

Sam Sorenson introduced his daughter, Ausilge, who had become a violinist. She played beautifully, accompanied by Valborg Aakhus. How proud the members were of her talent! Now they were giving to America of their own best.

At the business meeting, the following changes were made: Gustav Torguson became secretary and Arne Grundeson became treasurer. (Grundeson kept this office of treasurer for twenty-seven years.)

A motion was made to give the writer of the history fifty dollars per month for a five-month period, or as long as the money lasted. Bjornaraa was to start it at once. They knew he was busy with many organizations and was always called on to give speeches here and there, but they would have no one else. They would give him time. He alone could do justice to this subject.

Regarding the gift to the needy in Setesdalen, they had to get started, they maintained. Men were appointed to go to communities, hold meetings, and collect money. Each giver could decide what sokn in Norway to which he wanted his share sent. The lag was growing in number, and an interest was felt that was very gratifying.

May 15 and 17, 1914

This year the meeting was held at the fairgrounds in St. Paul. Different lags had their own stages in the grandstand building at the fairgrounds. Bjornaraa came dressed in full Setesdals costume. He opened the meeting with his own poem, "Kan du Glemme Setesdalen."

Daniel Aakhus and his wife gave a concert that interested not their lag alone, but members from other lags came to listen.

One can read an account of this unique gathering of different groups of Norsemen from the book entitled *Bygdelagenes Fællesraad*, edited by P. L. Slagsvold in 1929. The Sons and Daughters of Norway organization and other singing groups also cooperated. Five-hundred fifty school children were trained to sing The Star Spangled Banner and formed an American flag in marching; then changed to "Ja vi Elsker Dette Landet", forming the Norwegian flag. Thirty-one lags took part.

At the one o'clock banquet (for the Setesdoels only) the speakers were Bjornaraa, Arne Grundeson, Gustav Torguson, and Governor A. O. Eberhart.

In the evening, to make things more informal, Bjornaraa and Knut Johnson danced "Gangaren" to Daniel Aakhus's violin music. No meeting could be dull with Bjornaraa in charge.

1915

The lag met in Grand Forks, June 18 and 19, 1915. In addition to the usual routine business, this meeting had something special. The gift to Norway was finally collected. The lag members agreed

that they were too unorganized and informal to get big projects like this one under way very fast, but they liked it that way! What if it had taken them since 1911 to collect the money? Now they had it — \$2,286.25, which was the important thing. The poor were still in Norway, and the purpose of the lag was still to be Setesdoels, to visit, to greet each other, listen to Setesdals music, songs, stev and skråno. They liked it slow and informal.

The people had contributed money to the bygd of their choice and given it to the collectors as follows:

<i>For Bykle — collected by Gunder Nesland</i>	<i>\$ 75.50</i>
<i>For Valle — collected by Olav Dale and Aanend E. Homme</i>	<i>916.00</i>
<i>For Hyllestad — collected by Halvor Helle</i>	<i>286.00</i>
<i>For Austad — collected by Ole Ose</i>	<i>502.50</i>
<i>For Sannes — collected by Knut Sejberg</i>	<i>40.50</i>
<i>For Bygland — collected by Gunder Aakhus</i>	<i>296.25</i>
<i>For Aardal — collected by Knut Tellefson</i>	<i>157.00</i>
<i>For Evje — no chairman</i>	<i>14.50</i>
	<i>\$ 2286.25</i>

The money was sent to the President of the Storting, Jorgen Løvland, in Norway.

A new trend now took place in the lag. They were given a free tour of the city. Several other cities did likewise in future meetings. The young people began feeling that Saturday evening was theirs for dancing and they sat impatiently waiting for the lag to end its programs so they could have the floor. This Saturday dance was frowned on by many of the members because of their Lutheran faith, and barred many Setesdoels from attending. These dances, free to the young people, have brought big crowds, but have hardly furthered the cause of the lag. On the contrary, they have been rather a drawback. Free to all, they have been just that. No one barred, drunk or sober. The lag members have justified themselves, because they have really adjourned before these dances began, but they have been responsible for them, and they have not always been a credit to the lag.

Bert Sorbo and later on Lewis Tvertbakk were the chief violinists for these evenings of dancing, although often the old timers, too, took part. The polka, the schottish, the waltz and the American square dances took the place of gangaren, Halling kast, and spring dansen.

1915 — 1916 — 1917

The 1915 and 1916 lags continued much in the usual way; same officers; same violinists; same stev singers. In 1915 the meeting was held in Grand Forks.

The President of the Storting in Norway, Jorgen Løvland, having received the gift for Setesdalen, sent them a large Norwegian

flag which they now decided to use at every lag, hung up in front where all could see it.

Dues were raised to \$1.00 per person and the president's salary was raised to \$150.00 a year.

The year 1914 marked the origin of the Bygdelagenes Fællesraad, and organization of all the Norwegian Bygdelags in America. From then on, part of the business at each meeting was to elect a representative to attend this meeting held somewhere in the Twin Cities every spring.

Bjornaraa was often a speaker at other lags, and returned with new inspiration and ideas. They were outlets for him to expound his pet subject of the preservation of Norse culture of America. He loved to brag about the superior qualities of these strong vikings, and his manner of speaking was such that people enjoyed hearing about them, whether they believed they were superior or not.

At Bemidji, in 1916, thirty automobiles took them around the lake for an excursion.

Patriotic speeches were made, admonishing Setesdoels to be good citizens in trying times of war. A collection was taken of \$60.00, half for the Red Cross and half to Setesdoelen's Messe ministers, for now it had become a rule to have the lag continue for three days, including Sunday for church attendance.

A greater eagerness to have the young people take a more active part in th lag was now felt and expressed. A man very interested in preserving the culture through the children was Olaf Neset. He taught the Norwegian language to his children, and at different occasions they appeared at the lag to sing Norwegian songs. He did not end with his own. At a meeting at Aneta, Minnesota in 1917 he offered prizes of \$15.00, \$10.00, and \$5.00 for the best "stev" written by six people born in America. Olav Loiland then followed with an offer of his own of \$10.00 to the boy or girl under 25 years of age who could best sing the National Anthem, both of America and Norway. Then Dr. Arneberg came with his offer. He promised twenty-five dollars to the youngster who could describe conditions in Setesdalen in the most accurate and vivid way. The results were to be judged at the next meeting.

This seemed to bring forth quite an interest and for a few years, there were many young people taking an active part. At the next meeting, the winner of the national song contest was Torbjør Ose, daughter of one of the first pioneers, which was appropriate enough. Anna Toraldson was second. The other assignments had seemed too difficult and no one had made any attempt to describe Setesdalen and it was momentarily dropped. But this effort brought its own results. At this same meeting, members were entertained by the second generation, and many were surprised how well informed these youngsters were on the culture of Setesdalen, and also how much of their parents love for the land had been ingrown to their children. Sam Sorenson's daughters were



Lag at Bemidji (Also see next page)

there to play the violin and to sing. By now, Sam's oldest daughter Ausilga, had become a well known violinist, and her Seterjentens Søndag was by no means her last choice.

Ellen Kolstue gave several readings, and this was met with such applause that all were determined to call on her at future meet-



ings. Later on when rewards were given to outstanding entertainers throughout the years, she was awarded a medal for her lively entertainment.

By this time a custom had been well established of having the lag take part in the Sunday Services with a guest speaker. This

year the lag felt very honored in having as guest the Reverend Bjug Harstad of Parkland, Washington, who had been one of the first ministers in the Bygland church, having come to the Red River Valley in 1874. Now at this meeting in Thief River Falls, he was the chief speaker. Other speakers were Reverend Aastad and Reverend Bjornson.

1918

There was much pathos at the meeting that took place in the summer of 1918 when World War I was in progress. The feeling of loyalty to their adopted country, which had dealt so well with them, ran strong at that time. They wanted to go on record pledging their support to their country. The resolution's committee met to word their desires and presented the following resolution for their approval:

"Mr. Chairman, we your committee, appointed to draft resolutions, submit the following and move their adoption by a rising vote —

"We naturalized and native born American Norwegian citizens, and others, not yet citizens, from the Otre Valley, Setesdalen, Norway, pledge our loyal support to the United States Government. We shall gladly and cheerfully give our support to all its laws and regulations. We willingly offer our boys to go to the front to achieve victory for a glorious Democracy that shall be world-wide. We shall give our daughters as nurses and workers at home and abroad. We pledge all our property to aid the Government, all our wheat, pork, butter, oats, barley, and we shall labor hard to produce all we can so that our boys, our allies, and ourselves shall not go hungry. We will buy Liberty Loan Bonds and War Stamps. We shall do all we can for the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A. not to forget the Lutheran Drive."

This was signed by the Committee, Knute J. Nomeland, Arne Grundeson and Olaf Neset. It was met by a rising vote, a wiping of tears, and a blowing of noses.

Lags to 1921

Although the meetings between 1915 and 1921 seemed to be chiefly directed towards interesting the young people (without letting them take over), a few other important events took place. These were the years that the Kapp danse (dance contest) was in progress. At the beginning of every meeting, three judges were chosen to choose the winning couple in the contest. Gunder Knutson of Grand Forks and his partner were apt to receive first prize. Some of the people that took part in the dance contest were Thore Skomedal, Gunnar Krostue, Knute Roysland, Kjetel Riket, Olaf Dale, Halvor Omlid, and of course, the president. The ladies were Mrs. Bjornaraa, Mrs. Evenson, Mrs. Krostue, Gro Austad, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Ronne, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. Tveitlie.

Thief River Falls seemed to be a popular place for the lag to meet in the earlier days, but this year the weather did not cooperate. In spite of two rainy days, the lag was a success. The players were Eivind Aakhus, Bjorn Tveitbakk, Ole Dale, and Sven Helle. Svenskje Dale sang stev. The daughters of Norway served the banquet, and there was no end to the Norwegian food of lefse, rømme graut, gumbé, lutefisk, cheese, lingonberry jam, and fancy baked goods.

Many speakers were at hand at all the sessions, and the topics were all based on means of preserving their Norse culture. Pastor Tallakson of Thief River Falls and Pastor Anderson from Grygla were the leading speakers. President Bjornaraa showed his ability as a leader by summarizing all their thoughts through the old poem by Elias Blix that he read:

Aa eg veit meg eit land langt der op i mot nord
Med ei lysande strand mellom hogfjell og fjord.

Der eg gjerne er gjest
Der mit hjarta er fest
Med dei finaste band.

Aa eg minnast, eg minnast so vel dette land.

The reading of this poem was met with silence and the wiping of the eyes, and deep resolutions to be better representatives in this country of their beautiful birth place.

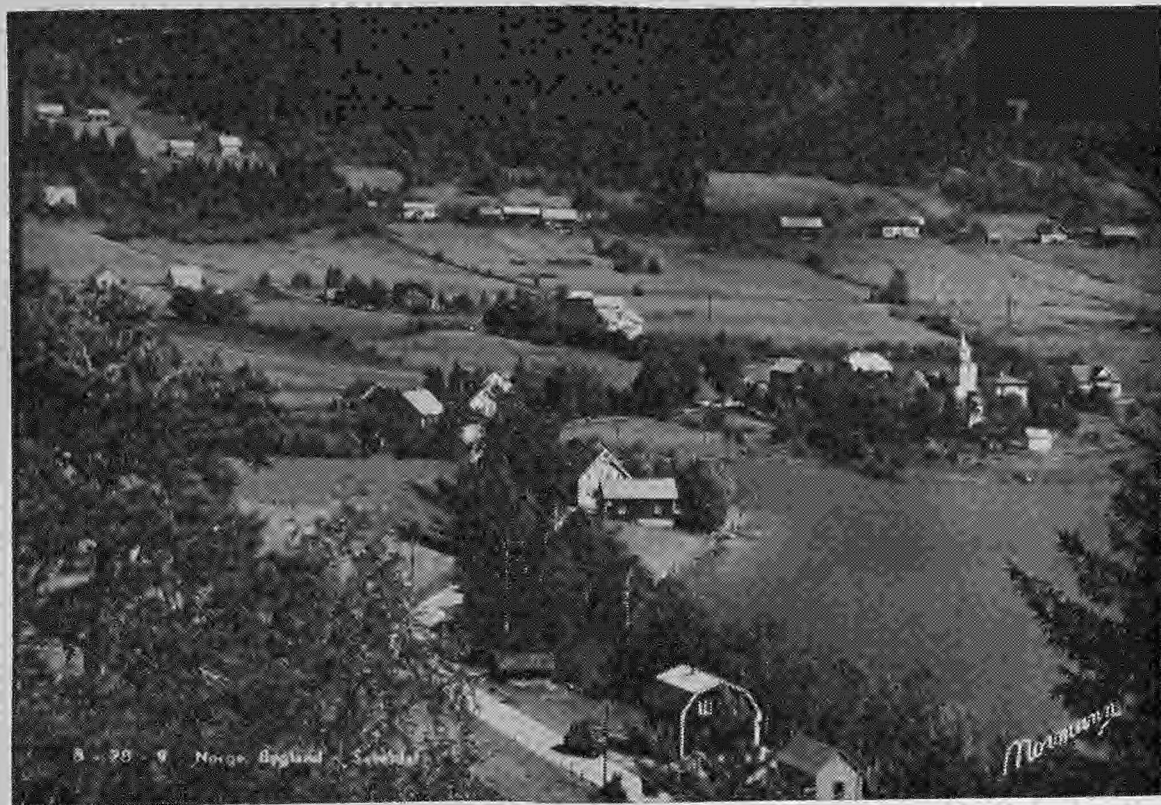
For the lighter side of their entertainment at this meeting there was stev leik by Svenskje Dale and Sigrid Krostue, followed by Olav Neset, who challenged Jorond Nomeland.

Also among the gay numbers was the Kapp dance. The first prize was awarded Torkel Tveit and Mrs. Bjornaraa. Omund Lovdahl and Mrs. Skomedal won second place, and Gunnar Kolshus and Mrs. Halvorson won third place.

The next few years the lags continued much in the same pattern. The year 1927 found the crowd of Setesdoels in Grand Forks, North Dakota. In 1928 they met in Fosston. In 1929 they were back at Thief River Falls, and in 1930 at McIntosh.

“Aa eg veit meg eit land.”

— 48 —



8 - 20 - 9 Norge, Sæbø

CHAPTER III

OTHER MEETINGS

In 1929, a very touching program was given. Bjorn Tveitbakk played "Min siste Slott", the last music written by Eivind Aakhus, who had become a pillar of the lag, but now had passed away. With misty eyes the whole lag stood up and sang "Mellom Bakkar og Bjerg", that familiar old song with so much more pathos than melody, for now one of their "Vor Egen Spillemen" would not be with them again. Eivind Aakhus and his violin "Sigrid" now belonged to the past.

At the same meeting a resolution was passed to write to all the other eighty bygdelags of America to ask them to cooperate in sending a representative to Norway and Iceland. In 1930 Iceland would celebrate its one thousandth anniversary, and the same year a nine-hundred year celebration would take place in Trondheim, Norway, to mark the entrance of Christianity. President Bjornaraa was chosen to be Setesdals Lag representative, whether other Bygdelags wanted to have him represent them or not. The co-operation of the other Lags was not particularly enthusiastic, as the Secretary, T. O. Lien learned after receiving eighty letters. Many had sent representatives of their own. A special meeting was called, and they decided to take up a private collection. This they did and the result was \$600.00, which at that time was ample for a good tour in Norway.

This amount of money was now to be presented to the president at a special meeting in Oklee. It turned out to be a regular Setesdals Lag. Vice-president, Olaf Neset took charge. He called on Congressman F. O. Melby, and Pastor Lerohl for speeches. It was very appropriate that at this meeting, Aanend Rystad, the first organizer, should be called upon for a talk, and also in order, that Arne Grundeson, so long the treasurer and lag speaker should present the gift. Then stev, violin music, and Norwegian food were in order. There were those who could furnish it! Mrs. Aanend Person and Mrs. Sigurd Krostue had been busy on the phone for weeks organizing. What they had not been able to gather together from others in both food and stev they furnished themselves! A good feeling prevailed now among all the members. They were really getting places; really doing things to make themselves felt. Bjornaraa would come back from Norway full of inspiration and interest.

The lag would grow, and the young people would get a good picture of the importance of their heritage, and also the importance of keeping the lag just as it had been organized. There was a feeling of well being among the members.

The enthusiasm that had been built up among the younger generation was felt at the next meetings. Vice-Chairman, Olaf Neset was in charge for now the president was indeed in Norway, where they had sent him. At this meeting 2,000 people were present. The additions to the regular programs of stev, violin, and national dances gave quite a promise for the future growth of the lag into a big organization of two divisions working together — the old to lead the way, the young to follow. The "Little Yankees" that had at first created such a problem, were now fathers and mothers themselves, and they were showing their heredity by wanting their children in turn to grow up with the same background that they now remembered in story, song, and worship. On the program, we find second generation personalities taking part, such as Tideman Birkeland and Carl Aakhus. This was the meeting where Governor Floyd B. Olson spoke, telling them that the "B", his middle initial, stood for Bjornstjern, and he was immediately taken into their hearts. Olaf Homme, also second generation, was there to speak. He was now serving as Superintendent of Schools in Minnesota, and the old members had a comfortable feeling to know that their "own sons" were taking leadership places in the world.

This was particularly true of Dreng Bjornaraa, the son of the President. He had attended the University of Minnesota, and was now heard of here and there in the work he was doing in the state. He was the man they must contact — the son of their leader, and he spoke Setesdoell! What could be better for an organization than such a man? Much importance was now placed on Dreng Bjornaraa's attendance. No one could have given greater joy and satisfaction to the members than Dreng did on many occasions when he came to greet the lag. It would be through him and people like him that they based their hopes of the lags continuation. At the 1926 meeting at Thief River Falls, he responded to the Mayor's address of welcome, and from then on he was asked to take part in their programs whenever he could find time to attend.

Bjornaraa's return from Norway, his head and heart full of memorable events stimulated the next meetings. He gave an account of his entire trip from the renowned meetings at Trondheim to the little informal gatherings in Setesdalen. As he gave to the audience picture after picture of what he had seen, heard and felt all through Norway, it was clear to them that he himself had taken a big part in it as a speaker representing the Setesdoels of America. It was later learned that he had been called upon at more than thirty occasions to address an audience, and he had been called "A Great Speaker of the Norse People". His subject had always been — Perpetuating the Old Norse Culture.

Halvor Langslett likes to speak about this part of Bjornaraa's life. He says that Bjorgulv Bjornaraa was no doubt the greatest Norse Folk speaker in America. His description of Bjornaraa's speeches is given here.

"He could hold any audience spell bound. You would laugh with one eye and wipe tears out of the other. His speeches were full of jovial remarks, and were so sincere when it came to honoring the mother land, that it made us all want to be greater people in our own new beloved adopted land of America."

By 1934 the lag felt that they were somewhat on the way to realizing their highest aims. Pastor J. A. O. Stub of Minneapolis gave the chief address, and the topic naturally dwelt on the perpetuation of Norse culture by the young people. From then on, in programs and all activities, they encouraged this new generation and urged them to take active part, but at no time did they give over the reins. They still did not know the direction the young generation would take. The young people certainly did not in any way try to take over any part of the lag. That much they had learned from their elders.

By now it had become quite a custom for people to go to Norway. With cars to speed across their own state, travel was becoming more common. The World War I had given many a chance to branch out and traveling in Europe was beginning to be thought quite possible. All those who did so, came back to the lag with greetings from the folks in Setesdalen, and they also had gained a new interest in the lag. Members of the lag who took these trips and shared their experiences with the lag were: James Helle, Gro Austad, Sigrid Loydahl, Arne Flaatt, and Dr. Arneberg. Very often other travelers to Norway, among them ministers and newspaper men, came with their illustrated talks.

As has been said before, many Setesdoels were interested in religion and the building up of the Lutheran Church in America. The lag members at a rather early date, began extending the lag meetings to three days and having their Norwegian Church services on Sunday morning before they left for their homes. At first this involved a problem because of poor transportation, but by 1930 the group had grown so large that the church at McIntosh was too small and the auditorium had to be used.

At this meeting it was decided to find a minister who would preach in "Ny Norsk". (The new Norwegian of Norway, which was in reality the very old, renewed.) They were successful, and at the 1933 meeting at Thief River Falls, Reverend Hallvord Lie from Trail, Minnesota, gave the sermon in "Ny Norsk". From then on, Pastor Lie was urged to come to all their meetings and to become an honorary member.

In 1930 at the meeting of the Norwegian Lutheran Church, a motion was made to strike out the word "Norwegian" in the Church name. This matter was brought to the attention of the lag, and

although they had not extended their business into church affairs, they now decided to send in a plea that the name stand as it was. Such a written resolution was sent, but they lost and the name was struck out.

Church services continued however, to be considered part of the lag activities. Many people who came to the lag now asked for two night lodgings instead of one, in order to be on hand Sunday morning. The following ministers have obliged the lag with either informal talks on the stage or with sermons on Sundays: Pastors Upstad, Saeter, Hofrenning, Stub, Haugen, Lerol, Njus, Anderson, Gunsteinson, and Harstad, as well as the aforesaid Pastor Lie.

The members were now well satisfied with the growth of the lag. Bjornaraa never failed to interest and inspire them with something new, original, and valuable. He was now a regular contributor to the poetry section of the Norwegian papers, and was called upon constantly to be guest speaker at various Bygdelags. Throughout all those years of activity he never lost that common touch which endeared him to his friends. Sigurd Krostue likes to recall how Bjornaraa could handle even the most intoxicated that would wander in to the meetings. He tells this story. "One evening at the lag a fellow named Theodore went up to Bjornaraa and being intoxicated he said 'Can I yell in here?' 'No, you can't yell in the hall', Bjornaraa said. 'But I just got to yell!' maintained the fellow. 'I'll tell you', said Bjornaraa diplomatically, 'We are starting the program now and the band from Thief River Falls is going to play. When they pound the drums real loudly, I'll raise my fingers, and Then you can yell!' Theodore set his eyes on Bjornaraa and never winked, and when Bjornaraa raised his finger, Theodore bent his head back and gave out a lusty yell. Then he settled back perfectly satisfied."

The Setesdoels know how to brag about themselves, and their own clan, and how they loved it when Bjorn Bjornson, son of the poet was quoted as saying, "Men Setesdoelernes, du ja de var noget til karer. Det var et uhyre tap for Norge da mange af disse forlot vort fedreland!" (It was a loss to Norway when so many of the Setesdoels went to America.) Inspired by these words, Bjornaraa on the platform in Erskine was talking about Setesdalen and "laying it on pretty thick," according to Sigurd Krostue who enjoys telling this story.

"There isn't a valley in Norway or in the whole world as nice as Setesdalen" he bragged. "The girls there are better looking and the fellows huskier than anywhere else in the world! You all know", he added with a twinkle in his blue eyes, "Of course Adam himself was Setesdoel".

"This goes too far!" said a voice in the audience, and a small man went towards the stage with clenched fists. Huge Bjornaraa met him at the edge of the stage, still smiling, and the audience roared in mirth, wondering what the angry man of small stature would have been able to do to huge Bjornaraa.

No one can judge the importance of the Setesdals lag by isolated events. The proof of its importance is the many years it has been in existence. It shows a desire by so many of the fine folks to want to hang on to some of the old traditions that are so rapidly being forgotten in this industrial age. They all agree with their president and with the speakers whose topics are the perpetuating of their own culture that since the United States is the melting pot for all the nations, wouldn't it be an error if Setesdalen did not get credit for its contributions? The folk lore, the sturdy characters, the dry humor and otherwise good nature, and the easy manners in which they live their daily lives can here be recorded.

Dr. Arneberg — so often one of their speakers — sent the following message to be used in this history:

Setesdals Laget

All these "Bygdelag" have an historic base. History is memory, and it is the memory of youth and our native land — that of our ancestors — that urges us each year to assemble and reminisce about past events. That is as it should be. Besides our material wants, we can not live happily without the social, intellectual and spiritual.

We live in a turbulent era, with wars and revolutions. More than ever in history, we are challenged by senseless, evil forces that are seeking to deprive us of God and liberty. Therefore, it is of vital importance that we better understand the ideas of people living in other lands, their views, hopes and faith. This we can do by keeping in close contact with the liberty loving people of the land of our forefathers.

Let us also, strive to retain knowledge of the Norse language, so we may be able to enjoy the beautiful and magnificent poetry and prose in the Norwegian literature. It is through the reading of the native language that we learn to understand the thoughts, aspirations and dreams of our people.

John G. Arneberg

October 1953

CHAPTER IV

Twenty-fifth Anniversary

Thief River Falls received the honor of being host to the lag on its twenty-fifth anniversary. Close to two-thousand people were present. It is interesting to note that in spite of the quarter-century time since its beginning, the lag had grown and developed, but not really changed. The business and the entertainment were conducted very much the same as before, and very many of the same people attended.

A translation of Secretary T. O. Lien's minutes as sent to "Decorah Posten" and "Normanden" is given below. Lien puts his own interpretation on the minutes and makes the picture of this 25th anniversary quite clear.

"SETESDALS LAGET"

T. O. Lien

The Lags Twenty-fifth Anniversary in Thief River Falls

Bjornaraa is given A Gold Medal of Honor

"Well, there were many people in Thief River Falls at 'Jansoktiden' this year", writes T. O. Lien. "People wanted to celebrate Setesdals laget's 25th anniversary. Young and old by the hundreds arrived — around 1500 to 2000 people. About one-hundred were here who were also at the first lag.

The program was unusually good, and outsiders congratulated us on it, but they said, 'You also have the best leader of the lag!'

I shall also give Bjornaraa credit as Norse organization leader, speaker, and poet. Few, if any, put their whole soul into this movement as Bjornaraa does. The directors agree with me, for they presented him with a gold medal for his 25 years of faithful service.

The meeting was opened with the president's welcoming speech. The crowd stood and sang 'Gud signe Norigs land'. This was followed with violin music by Sam Sorenson, and a spring dance, music by Ormbrekk.

We received a greeting from Canada's Telelag by Pastor O. Tveiten. He is an effective speaker. Next, the audi-

ence sang "Kan du glemme gamle Norge!"

Bjornaraa called on Pastor Lerohl from Oklee, Minnesota. In his talk he greeted the lag from Valdres Sambund.

Sam Sorenson played some 'gangar' music, and Olav Ormbrekk played Hovard's draumen.

President Bjornaraa called for a speech from Verne Nilson, and he responded in Swedish.

Arne Grundeson, who was along on the first lag 25 years ago, had never missed a lag. He gave a speech on the past, present, and future of America.

Bjorn Tveitbakk started out the evening meeting with violin music, followed by Ormbrekk playing 'Hjuringen i Vatnedalen'. Mrs. George and Ole Olson, accompanied by Mrs. Melby sang 'Aa kjøre Vatten aa kjøre Ved' and 'Eg Gjette Tulla'.

Dr. Melby gave the welcome address from the town of Thief River Falls. Now, the president introduced Dr. J. O. A. Stub, pastor of Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. He introduced him as one of the kindest men and most powerful speakers. After his talk, the lag members arose in unison (at the signal of the president) while Dr. Stub was still facing the audience, Bjornaraa read a poem in the Pastor's honor, that he had himself composed for the occasion.

To Bjorn Tveitbakk's playing, the president and Mrs. Evenson danced a 'gangar'. At ten o'clock the hall was turned over to the young folks and old for old-time dances with Lewis and John Tverthakk and Herbert Johnson as players, dressed like cowboys.

Saturday morning, the meeting opened at nine o'clock. The musicians were at hand, and Bjorn Tveitbakk and Sam Sorenson played. And then Olav Ormbrekk took his turn at the violin. Olav Neset gave a talk that stirred the listeners to thoughts of their own heritage.

In the afternoon, the president introduced Carl Aakhus, son of Tallak Aakhus, who spoke about the Norse culture. Then the following people entertained:

Mrs. Sigurd Krostue sang stevs. Mr. J. O. Melby of Oklee gave a short address, inviting the next lag to Oklee. Bjorn Tveitbakk played a 'gangar'. Miss Ellen Kolstue gave a reading. Mr. Bjornaraa introduced Dr. Quisling from Wisconsin. That lady played, sang, and danced old Norwegian tunes.

Next, a short address was given by O. C. Lunde, followed by a spring dance by Ormbrekk, and a greeting by Mrs. Johanna Leifson from the Telelaget.

Then came Saturday evening, called at all the lags 'Setesdals Kvelden'. This one was spoken of later as the best in memory. At least two-thousand people were there. Miss Anna Knutson opened the program with the song 'Paa Solen jeg ser'. Now something new was added — a play 'Den gale onkel' given by

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Aakhus, N. D. Falland, and Mr and Mrs. Ed Stennes.

The three Neset children, Joan, Harold, and Gordon sang and played. Next Professor James Helle gave a talk in Norwegian, followed by *stev leik* by Mrs. Sigrid Krostue, and Svenskje Dale.

The president introduced Halvor Langslet, president of Hallinglaget, who brought a greeting from this lag, and also a good speech. A humorous declamation was given by Ellen Kolstue, that she herself had written. Mr. Michael Brattland was next introduced and gave an excellent address.

Next, there was an interlude of music and song and the president sang one of his own lyrics that he had written to an old Valdres thirty years before.

Arne Grundeson stood up to introduce a W. A. A. Project Director, and it turned out to be the President's own son, Dreng Bjornaraa. Grundeson gave an account of the young man's life. He had been Editor of Thief River Falls Times when only 18 years old, thereby being Minnesota's youngest editor. Dreng again pleased his audience by speaking in excellent Norwegian.

Mrs. Quisling was again called upon to dance, sing and play, and to their great delight she did all three of them at one time.

Next, their thoughts were turned to the beginning of the lag as Anend Rystad told how he and others had started the lag 25 years before.

As was his habit, Bjornaraa gave a talk on our cultural heritage. He admonished people not to forget the Norwegian papers, or our Bygdelag might crumble. 'Teach your children to do the same', he said.

Now came the stage dancing. Gunder Kolshus, Mrs. Evenson, Gunnar Knutson, Mrs. Bjornaraa, Gunder Sordal, Mrs. Foster, Olav Ormbrekk and Mrs. Quisling, President Bjornaraa and Gro Austad, were coupled up to dance to Bjorn Tveitbakk's music. There was 'spenning, spretting, and krusing'!

The meeting was now turned over to the young people, although young and old stayed to dance 'old timers'.

The following were dressed in Setesdoels' clothes: Mrs. Bjornaraa, Mrs. Erik Johnson, (Selma Bjornaraa), Miss Ellen Kolstue, Mrs. Sigrid Krostue, Miss Anne Knutson, Mrs. Quisling, Mrs. Evenson, and Mrs. Lillegaard.

As was now the custom, the crowd stayed over for Sunday services. The church was too small so the auditorium was used. Again, there were over two-thousand people. Dr. Aasgaard spoke. He had a greeting from Norway, having been there recently. Pastor Fjelstad assisted in the rituals. Bjornaraa, Thomas Wellum, Bjorn Tveitbakk, and Olav Ormbrekk led the singing. After the services, Bjornaraa gave a talk to thank

Dr. Aasgaard, ending it with a poem.

The Setesdals lag fully appreciates the great work Bjorgulv Bjornaraa has done for the lag and for all Norse culture here in the Western Hemisphere. It is very fitting therefore, that we give him a medal of gold.

T. O. Lien, Secretary

Much credit is due the secretary who had to be alert and write down every event, for to him fell the lot of recording all those "spur of the moment" events, and to get them into the Norwegian papers, for in the absence of any program committee, he had to depend on his own observations.

This part of the lag was recorded each year, but it by no means included all the fun. After each dismissal, there were meetings on street corners, and cafes. There, the informally really took place.

Some people claimed they attended the lag, and when asked about the program, said, "Oh, I didn't go into the hall". From these people much of the adverse criticism of the lag was spread. "People only go there to celebrate on liquor", they have been known to say, as that is all they saw, not having paid the entrance fee, but taken part in the gayeties starting at closing time of the hall.

But the lag has gone stubbornly on, achieving its goals, disregarding and probably thriving on adverse criticism.

CHAPTER V

LATER LAGS

1940

The organization grew, and off and on as the trends of their daily life changed, the lag was influenced, and President Bjornaraa, ever alert to changing conditions, swayed the lag along with the times. Yet, regardless of changes, it is remarkable how the members clung to many of the same customs and how with the Viking spirit, they fought to hang on to their old traditions.

In 1940 the meeting was held at Crookston. The chief speakers were Odd Lund, Dr. Richard Beck from Iceland, Elias Stenerson, Halvor Langslet, Karl Stromme, Pastor Halvor Lie, and Arne Grundeson. At this time, Arne was 80 years old, and he gave the same talk on Norse Culture that he had given 31 years before.

A list was made at this time of the folks who had attended every one of the 31 meetings. As far as the secretary was able to record, the following list is complete:

Olav Birkeland, Gunder Herjusson, Bernt Sorbo, Gunder Knutson, Olav Tobjornson, Olav Neset, Gunder Nesland, Olav Amble, Kjetel Rike, and Gunnv Johnson. In old-time Setesdals' fashion, women were not included in the count.

Daniel Aakhus, the violinist, was there. "I have to be here now since my father is gone. Last time, I came clear from the coast to be here in his place," he said. The audience appreciated both his music and his spirit.

1941

The 1941 meeting was held at Thief River Falls. The crowd that gathered there did not know it, but their much-loved leader was directing for the last time. Although he had been ill that day, he seemed hale and hearty, and no one suspected then that he was to leave them. Everything went off as usual. Arne Grundeson was again elected Treasurer. He, too, gave his last talk at that meeting, and the members still remember it was as firey as ever. These two friends were to leave the lag together.

Another collection for Norway was taken at that time.

Miss Anna Knutson was at this meeting and was named their "sangerfugl" for her lovely singing and was urged to attend every meeting from now on.

Before the Secretary, T. O. Lien, had sent the minutes to the newspaper, he heard the report that Bjornaraa had had a stroke. At first, he seemed to recover, but when the minutes were ready to be published, Bjornaraa was still ill. It shook the country, for they had become so very dependent upon him.

1942

The following year marked the lowest point of the lag in its history. The meeting was held in Oklee, June 12, 13, and 14. The world was in another war, Bjornaraa was ill, and Arne Grundeson sent a greeting to the lag that he had been hurt in a fall, and was not able to be about. It started out a sad meeting. Even Setesdalen itself was overrun by Nazis.

So great was the gloom that many of the 200 people present predicted the end of the lag. But they reasoned without giving credit to the members that had stood by President Bjornaraa all these years. Bjornaraa himself could have explained this if he had been physically able. An organization may be said to be as strong as its leaders, but Bjorgulv Bjornaraa would have said that it was as strong as its members, as he himself had gained strength from their support. Now they were tested — even his work of thirty-two years was tested.

Olaf Neset, the vice president, took over the reign that year. He had been the right man of so many projects for so many years that he appeared in about as many activities as the president himself. Things took on such a familiar note that the members found themselves going on as though Bjornaraa had just stepped out for a minute. It is a weak leader who organizes so poorly that the machinery falls apart when he is absent, and Bjornaraa had been a strong leader. He had shown that the lag was built to continue regardless of individuals.

Bjornaraa died June 22, 1942. It was too big a blow for the ardent members of the lag to take all at once and they felt that the lag must now become a thing of the past.

But those who predicted its end had forgotten the stubborn determination of the seemingly gentle Setesdoels. And above all, they had forgotten for a moment the leader of the Halling lag and a worker in all Bygdelags, Halvor Langslet. He would not let the work of his good friend, Bjorgulv Bjornaraa die. He would keep faith, and now take ahold as the leader would wish him to, and as he now knew he would have to do to keep the lag running normally. Langslet and Bjornaraa had been friends for years, but at no time had that friendship been as clearly expressed as in the next few years. Forgetful of self, Halvor has become Setesdoel for the days of the lag, and has stood by and watched. If it has tottered, he has taken over. When it shows signs of progressing, he is proud and pleased as Bjornaraa himself would have been.

The last trip that Bjornaraa made during his lifetime of his



Bjorgulv Bjornaraa attended the Halling Lag with Halvor Langset
and his parents

numerous speaking tours was made with Halvor Langslet. Bjornaraa attended the Hallinglaget with Halvor. Then they drove together to Backus, Minnesota, to appear at the Namdalslagets yearly get together. From Backus, Mr. Langslet took Bjornaraa to his home in Gully.

"I recall," says Mr. Langslet, "as Bjorgulv and I were driving along the highway between Walker and Bemidji, that Bjorgulv became very silent, and with his head bowed he said, 'Halvor, some day either you or I will receive a message that something has happened to you or me, and it will be pretty sad and lonesome for the one that's left behind. He'll have to feel the loss of the other one — whoever is the first to go — you or me!' At this time Bjorgulv was well, and we parted with a smiling 'adjo!'"

At that time, Halvor had no idea that the time would be so near.

During Bjorgulv Bjornaraa's trip to Europe he was engaged to give an oration at the Folkefest at Nesbyen, Hallingdal, Norway, this being Halvor Langslett's home town. His speech was given in a small forest of very large, tall birch timber, called Bruvold Lunden. Here he ordered a special reserved seat for Halvor's mother and his step-father. The Haraldsets sat directly in front of the speaker's stand, and this is what Bjorgulv tells his friend Halvor on his return to America: "When I spoke to about 1500 people there in the Bruvold Lunden, it looked like a California flower garden with all the hand embroidered women's costumes and the bright silver buttons in the men's national costume suits. It was a sight to behold, and then when I stood up there on the speaker's stand and looked your mother in the face and thought about you, the spirit moved me and I could surely speak as never before."

It was said of Bjornaraa's speech at this gathering, that never before nor since has there been given such a speech at this place of festivity as the one delivered by Bjorgulv Bjornaraa on that occasion. Halvor's mother wrote to him and stated that it was a great day to be Halvor's mother on that day, and sit there and listen to the greatest folk speaker tell about America and her son over there who seemed to be so well known.

There were a few questionable years of war when the lag was at a lull and even some of the minutes were lost. No one had time to get together just to be Setesdoels when being Americans alone required so much strength. Thousands of Setesdoels' sons were fighting, and the Setesdoels kept their promise of giving of sons and daughters, and producing of food. Hard, bitter years of grief ensued, and had it not been for Bjornaraa's faithful friends, the lag might have toppled.

1946

In 1946 the lag showed signs of reviving. Olaf Neset steered it on the old path, and everyone knew his part. The meeting was at Oklee, and the attendance went up to 400. To hear Olaf Neset with his broad "r's" call out instructions, gave members a feeling

of security and well-being, and they knew that the lag was again on its feet.

Halvor Langslett, dressed in Halling clothes, knew just how to be of the greatest help. With old members, like Gunder Nesland, Gunder Langeid, Sigurd Krostue, Halvor Nesland, John G. Johnson, and others, it had to go right.



Visitors from the other Lags helped to keep the Lag going

And so at the Bemidji meeting in 1949 and again in Oklee in 1950, they saw the lag go on. Up on the stage in Setesdals dragt sat Mrs. Halvor Holen, Mrs. Halvor Omlid, Mrs. Gunnuf Johnson, and honorary members, Mrs. Quisling, and Mrs. Sexe. In the audience sat Mr. and Mrs. Sigurd Krostue, Ole Birkeland, Gunder Sordahl, and all the other faithful members. They were soon to see that Halvor Omlid, Thore Skomedal, and Kjetel Rike had lost none of their zip, and now close to his 60th year, Gunder Knutson had, if anything, improved in dancing since his youth. Now the remark heard worth recording was "Nei han Gunnaar maa endnu vere mjuk aa ledelaus!" (I tell you, that Gunder is still soft and pliable.)

When Olaf Neset, too, became ill and had to resign they again shook their heads. Should they turn to the young people? There were many smart folks, but they feared for their old traditions with meetings in the young folks' hands.

Then someone remembered the many good and complete reports written and published by T. O. Lien, their faithful secretary since 1926. He was one man that knew the work of the lag better than anyone else and probably had a deeper interest in it than any

other member. He was elected in 1948 and served until 1950.

Many of the later lags have been held at Oklee, Minnesota. Perhaps this town is centrally located in the chief Setesdoels' region, although no rule has been made about future locations, and they await invitations from other towns.

1952

The President of 1952, Thore Skomedal, can boast a growing attendance. In this age of travel, a lag is apt to have several speakers recently returned from Norway. This has furthered a bond with the Mother country and stimulated an interest.

A still greater treat is welcoming Norwegians who are visiting Minnesota. There was a hearty welcome given to Gunnhild Skeie in 1952. She is the daughter of their old friend and Setesdals reporter to the Norwegian newspapers in America, O. T. Skeie. Gunnhild entertained them with her Setesdals songs, and her greeting from her father.

Anend Roheim from Norway has entertained at two lags with his good music on his Norwegian violin. Movies of Setesdalen are often shown, and more and more talent finds its way to the stage.

Of late years more of the young people have become interested in furthering the cause. But it isn't the novel or the new that keeps the lag going, but rather the determination of the older members to "keep it the same" that has made this Bygdelag alive, active, and an important part of Minnesota life.

CHAPTER VI

DANCES

Although the minutes from the secretary's reports give a record of events, one has to be at a lag to really appreciate the informality that creates the setting.

President Bjornaraa, versatile as he was, always set the stage for either stev, skråno, viser, or dances by his surprise openings at the different occasions. The first time he came out in native costume (which he often did later) was at the meeting in Thief River Falls in 1913. Well planned but seemingly spontaneous, he led Sigrid Lovdahl (also in native costume) to the center of the stage, and to a drawn out "Gangar" they gave a good performance. At several meetings he had his audience wiping their eyes to his poem "Kan du glemme Setesdalen", or "Aa eg veit meg eit Land". Once he opened the afternoon program with himself and Mrs. Bjornaraa dancing. This informality helped to inspire some to break into stev or reluctant ones to get up on the stage to perform.

The opening meeting on Fridays were always informal. The president would call for a "slaat," and coax one or two of the first arrivals up to dance. Though seemingly reluctant, they had been forewarned by the president and were prepared. This was the key-



The president, Thore Skomedal, says "Kom opp aa sprette dykke."

note to the success of Bjornaraa's informality. The dancers, players, singers, and speakers were asked to be prepared, but like a big family gathering, were urged to take turns and entertain. At no time was a program committee heard of. The new presidents have thought of enlisting others to help, but so apparant are the desires of the audience that they find themselves continuing in the same old style. However, Bjornaraa's seemingly spontaneous activities had been well planned.



Daniel Aakhus plays accompanied by Coya Knutson

Now a glance into a lag meeting:

As the members gather and look around for good seats in the auditorium they glance hopefully towards the stage to see who is up there in native costume. The more commotion and the more costumes in evidence, the greater the assurance is of a gay and successful lag stevne. If expected ones are missing from the stage, searching glances are cast around the auditorium. Among many others, they hope to see Gunder Knutson, Tore Skomedal, and one of the Rikje boys.

Over a period of years, the following have often appeared in "dragt": Ingeborg Bjornaraa, Gyro Holen, Sigrid Krostue, Bergit Foster, Anne Lund and mother, Mrs. Tveitlie, Mari Gunderson, Annie Hofstad, and Jorand Johnson.

The only folk dance that the Setesdoels could really claim as their own was "gangaren", although the two Norwegian dances of "Hallingen" and "Spring Dansen", were equally enjoyed.

The violin music came at once to belong to every lag, because Eivind Aakhus and Sam Sorenson, who were artists on the violin, fitted "slaatter" and other Norwegian music into the program from the beginning.

"Kom op, Sam, saa faar vi en slotte", the president would say, and then every Setesdoel knew the lag was on its way.

"Hev Eivind komme endnu?" he would call to a commotion by

the door, and an applause would ensue as Eivind Aakhus with his violin "Sigrid" would take his place on the stage.

During the past forty years of its existence, every type of talent has found its way onto the lag's stage: Grand Forks folk dance group, political speakers, ministers, soloists, pianists, editors, and others. They have been well received and enjoyed, and have stimulated the meetings and given them a greater value. Fond parent members have brought their trained children to sing, play, recite, or dance. The lag has paid money for popular entertainment. They have enjoyed it all. But when the well-trained voice, the perfect English, or the exact scales have been applauded, the lag members turn expectant faces towards their leader. "How about it?" their eyes say. "Now can we begin?" "We came here today to be Setesdoels. Here I am sitting next to Ingeborg and Anne with whom I was confirmed in Aardal Church. There is Gro, and over there Sigrid and Olav with heads full of stev. Shall we begin now? There sits Gutorm, Olav, and Taddeiv. What do you think they came here for? Over there you see Gunder Knutson, Halvor Om-lid, and Tore Skomedal, all eager to "Gaa up aa sprette sig! It is a good 'slaate' we now need".

For over thirty years, Bjornaraa knew their thoughts and complied, partly because his own feet tingled to get into the ring and dance to the familiar tunes of Eivind, Sam, Daniel, Bjorn, or Olav,



Daniel at the violin and Mrs. Daniel at the piano

or to the violinists from Wisconsin. He could kick up his heels with the rest of them!

Soon they were brought back to their past and the lag was serving its purpose. Surely it was serving two big purposes. One of getting together and being Setsdoels again for two days. The other purpose was to perpetuate the folklore. They were certainly exposing all the folklore they had in the country. In one corner was likely an exhibit of hand work on material, silver and leather. Old drinking horns, rifles, pictures, jewelry, and carved wooden boxes made quite a complete picture of Setesdoels' "Kunst", whenever an exhibit was called for.

But they knew that the word "perpetuate" meant hand it down to their children and here they met a problem. These young people of theirs were causing it. They didn't sit down and solemnly slip into the mood their elders set. They saw no fjords or waterfalls in the notes of the violin. In fact, they scoffed at the whole thing.

"See those old codgers up dancing? I'm embarrassed for them. And as to music! That woman has no training, nor any voice in the first place. Aren't they stuffy looking? Let's get out of here. We'll come back tonight when the real dance begins". And the American Norwegians with the new names of Grace instead of Gyro, Alice instead of Asbjør, Shirley Mae instead of Sigrid Mari, and Inez instead of Ingeborg, tossed their blond heads and went to some corner cafe where they could meet Orville instead of Olav, Arthur instead of Andres, Kenneth instead of Knute, and Chester instead of Kjøttel.

It was right. The parents knew it was right. They wanted their children to be all American. Most of them still struggled to preserve the Norwegian language in the home, but they knew they were fighting a losing battle when they expected their children and grandchildren to respond in anything but American. And right now at the lag the only thing they wanted to do was to "forget the little Yankees!" "We'll cater to them all year, but these two days are ours!" And with complete abandonment to all outside forces of criticism, they kindled to the enjoyment ahead.

Dancing the old dances on the stage for the enjoyment of the audience was started at the early lags. This developed into contests, with prizes for the winning couple. "Kapp danse" they called it. The idea of really giving prizes to the winners and making it a yearly contest took place at Thief River Falls in June, 1926.

At that time, Bjørn Tveitbakk strommed up his fiddle for a "Gangar". At first all were reluctant to join in, but then they noticed Eivind Aakhus, now seventy-two years old, step forth with a partner in Setesdals clothes. It was gentle Mrs. Bjørnaraa, well poised and serene, smoothly swaying along to the music. That started them. Eivind relinquished his partner to Torkel Tveit, who was a younger man. Many couples took their places, and Mrs.

Bjornaraa and Torkel Tveit were judged the winners.

It took the 1934 meeting at Thief River Falls to really bring the "Kapp dans" to a peak. The lag was at a rather low ebb. Depression dampened their spirits. At this meeting came Mrs. Quisling from Madison, Wisconsin. Although not a Setesdoel, she was made an honorary member because she came in national costume, brought her violin, and, as said before, had the ability to play, sing, and dance the old dances, all at the same time!

At this meeting, Gunder Knutson claimed Mrs. Bjornaraa for partner. Olaf Ombreck danced with Mrs. Quisling, Gunder Kolstue with Mrs. Evenson, Gunnar Sordal with Mrs. Foster, and as a special attraction, Bjornaraa joined in the ring with Gro Austad, also in native costume.

On the platform sat a group of women in "dragt", making a bright background for the dancers. They were Mrs. Selma Bjornaraa Johnson, Miss Ellen Kolstue, Mrs. Sigrid Krostue, Miss Anne Knutson, and Mrs. Lilligaard.

The setting was perfect. The audience sat up alert, ready for the yearly entertainment. Bjorn Tveitbakk was the fiddler. Somehow the dancers preferred his music. "More like the old rhythm", they claimed.

The audience, craning their necks, saw the same performance that one sees now on the Setesdals stage. They are the same year after year. So to go back to the meeting this is what we see: The men warm up to the dance by circling about their smooth gliding partners. Then faster and faster their feet begin to jig as they remember more and more of the fancy steps they tried out in their youth. A man bends his right knee, extending the left leg forward as he hops on the bent one, then exchanges the motions to the left foot. "Kruking" this is called. A flip and a hop and he is up again ready to sashay around his partner. Another twist and flip, and he is down kneeling on her other side.

Across from them, another agile Setesdoel does the kicking act. At first the kick is moderate, but he warms to the job, and soon he hollers "Hei En Hatte." Someone from the floor who has hoped for just this, jumps upon the stage and holds the hat up as high as possible. The agile kicker attempts it. He usually fails at the first round, but waltzes along with the circle honoring his partner, doing small practice kicks, and on passing the suspended hat again puts all his efforts into it and the hat goes sailing across the stage to great applause, and the dancer in perfect rhythm struts his pride by swinging his partner around so hard that her arms become numb in their stiff position of keeping her skirts modestly down.

In the meantime, his opponent across from him has been going through many contortions from hand springs to "kruking". His final stroke is a cartwheel and then resumes dancing backwards before his partner, who all this time has been gliding along evenly with never a misstep, never a change of expression, only an oc-

sasional slapping of hands together.

While the audience has been watching these antics, Gunder Knutson has been warming up. Now is his turn, and with seemingly no effort he gives a kick forward, followed immediately by a twist of the body that turns him completely around. With a dip he lands his knee on the floor, but is up with a hop in the twinkling of an eye, and is waltzing to the melody as smoothly as before the performance. In a twinkling of an eye, he is flipping into the same act. By now, the audience is in ecstasy! "Nei, du, sjaa Gunnaar kos han spretter sig", the women whisper in elation.

At this point, the dance is at its height and the stage stands in danger of caving in with the kicking and stomping of the huge Setesdoels — these fellows whose ancestors had bragged of being "Kjæmpe Kara". By now they are in their shirtsleeves, coats tossed to the sidelines, and between each measure, they gracefully fall into step with the partner who all this time has slowly, serenely been doing a waltz step, except when the partner expresses his victorious feeling by swinging her like a top. Her skirts may fling, her skaut (head dress) tumble back, but her hands still are at her side and a calm, serene look is on her face.

One other very outstanding dance event took place at Thief River Falls in 1937. Mrs. Knute Sorenson of Fisher was French by birth and could speak that language. But on marrying into the Setesdal race, she learned that language, too, and also taught it to her children. Now at this lag she joined them in a Halling and a gangar. Nothing could please the audience more.

The music at the lag went hand in hand with the dancing. When their old favorite dance tunes were played, someone was expected to dance, but there were several musicians that were enjoyed for their music only. Eivind Aakhus and Sam Sorenson were two of the earliest. Then Eivind's son, Daniel came to fill his father's place as years went by. Sam's daughter, Ausilge, also a violinist, offered many Norwegian numbers.

The violinists that came to be known as "Setesdals" Lagets Egen Spillemed" were, besides the Aakhus' and Sorensens, Bjorn Tveitbakk, Olav Ormbrek and Aslak Aslakson.

Then comes a list of those who have often given enjoyment at different times. Svenskje Dale, Sven Helle, Nere Neset, Bernt Sorbo, Kjettel Kjettelson, Aanend and Dreng Riket, Ljot Sigurson, Steinar Odden, Gunder Odden, Marie Sexe and Mrs. Andrea Quisling. C. M. Amundson has for years entertained on his mouth organ. During the last two years, as said before, the lag has enjoyed music from Anund Roheim, a visitor to the United States from Norway.

The aforementioned dances concludes the lag activities for the day, but the young people, for several generations, have claimed Saturday evening as theirs, and have managed to turn it into a modern dance hall after ten or eleven o'clock. To this, the lag has

given in, but usually with the understanding that the lag is now adjourned. They like to think that this part of the week end is separated from the lag and in no way a part of it. Their dance ended with the one on the platform of Hallingen, Springdansen, or Gangaren.



The President, Thor Skomedal and Daniel Aakhus

CHAPTER VII

STEV

The informality of the lag was also extended to the singing of their stev. The presidents have all met this informal situations with "Kom op her, Sigrid, aa giv oss et stev". This announcement always adds to the exuberant feeling of neighbor meeting neighbor, those of one township greeting those of another, newcomers introduced, and relatives from far off clustering around each other.

Then Sigrid herself, whether Sigrid Lovdahl or later Sigrid Krostue challenged someone to have stev contest, or stev-leik as it was called. Probably it was the president himself who was challenged or Olaf Neset, or any number willing participants. From one side of the room the ladies voice would soar up to a high note and then croon down scale. Then the man, probably on a different pitch that would better suit his voice, would answer.

There were many melodies used for the stevs. This music had sprung up in many valleys like folk tales, enlarged and elaborated upon as the years moved on or as the needs arose, and versions had changed with the times. Now with an ocean between its original starting place, with stretches of loneliness, periods of raising American children, and of listening to their language, and periods of American progress, it is understandable that as flexible as it originally was, it was apt to take on a new direction.

The more recent arrivals from Norway were hardly a help, for Setesdalen like all parts of the world was feeling the influence of machine and air age, electricity in their sod huts, and radio up in their Saeters. They, too, were growing away from the old in fact, the songs themselves changed more in the Mother land where their culture advanced with their daily life. New arrivals claimed that more of the old words, melody, and thoughts could be found in Minnesota, because here it had been preserved as something special and not tossed about to be affected by everyday living. "Here we find the 'eltutandis gammelt'" they would say. So friendly arguments often arose as to who had the correct swing, slurr, and harmony.

There was really little time wasted over this small matter. If they found they didn't harmonize they were called up at different times with jolly fiddlers in between.

Below are some of the stev that have been sung over a period

Nr. 1. Dreng Ose (etter Tarkjell K. Austad) - W.
red. O. M. Sandvik

Dei kome mange, vil da-len skoe
de vakke lite me ha te tjoe
So ha ge fjodd og So venedn fjord
det må lei-tast et - te på den-ne jord

of forty years. As stated before, an exact translation is impossible because of the inferences in each step to some past event, but an attempt has been made by Grunde Stubseid to give as accurate a translation as possible.

Grunde Stubseid was born in Austad, Setesdalen. His father, who had been born in Askvold, Sønshjeld, had come to Setesdalen to teach. There were ten children in the family. Grunde is the only one who came to America.

Grunde's education consisted of grade school and one year of advanced education. His father was his chief teacher, and Grunde

Nr. 2.

ved O. M. Sandvik:

Som mutan blå-ne it so-li da-lar

So bløt-nar hjar-ta it gi-en-ta ta-lar

for meg her or-di so ven ein sleng,

Ida som regn og sol på ei tjuv-re eng.

at an early age decided to become a minister. For this reason he came to America during the 1929 depression in Norway. But he found the depression in America, too, and his ambition to obtain further schooling was dropped.

During the Second World War, he spent three and a half years in the signal corps, which took him to Africa and Italy. He spent much time and effort on translating the following stave.

The melodies were collected by Grunde's brother, David, and sent from Norway for use in this saga.

Nr. 3.

T. K. Avestad (ved O. M. Sandvik).

A sa si gam-ge dei, Bakk og be-a ,

dei sei d'a ei synd at me syngje og kre-a

men tru de va rå' de kan vera synd at han

la slik song inn i hugjen min.

Nr 4.

Ani Ryestad (ved O. N. Sandvik)

Kor er du lin-je da og lagd i vegg-er,
Så mangt eit au-ge som du her dog-ge
Ein kun-ne tru du var skir som gull, men
er hard som flin-te og svi-ke - full.

STEV

By Grunde Stubseid

A stev is a stanza of four lines, or couplets in iambic meter. The syllables for the lines are 10—10 9—9, although this may vary.

Stev making and stev singing is found all over Norway, but no where more truly enjoyed than in Setesdalen. Although we have had some wellknown stevpoets in the last century, most of the stev have 'author unknown', and are considered part of the folk lore as brought out in this stev:

This old ballad does know no finish
And this old ballad will never vanish
Its a self-made poem made up dab by dab
And is floated in on a driftwood slab.



Grunde Stubseid

The types of topics of stev were many, including epic, comic, and romantic. Only a few had a religious motif.

The stev portrays the people and their lives, and resounds of their terrain. They include the waterfalls, wide mountain ranges, and foliage filled hills. They picture the mountain sides, eye clear lakes and tarns looking up into the blue sky, the narrow valley with its not-so-rich but well utilized arable land, and "Otra" the river winding through the valley — some places rapid, some places still.

A stev is usually complete in one stanza, but a combination of more was called a stev-leik (stev play) of which there were two forms. One form is a group of couplets either on the same subject or compiled to be sung by

one person, or a group. The other is for two or more persons to engage in, singing alternately. Usually these were complementary, often with a love theme, but occasionally someone took advantage of them to vent his feelings against an enemy. This type was called 'sleng stev'.

Some samples of different kinds of stev follows:

BOASTING

Do you remember — 'twas in the gloaming
Once Vassli creek flowed full and foaming.
The Vaasli boy neatly o'er it sprang,
'I have legs of Springsteel!' he boastful sang.

Sleng Stev

Korr er du * linda og lagt i vogga
Aa mangt et auga som du hev * dogga?
Ein kunde tro du var * skir som gull,
Men er hard som flinted, og svicefull.

Translated:

Where stood your cradle? Where were you swaddled?
So many hearts you have unsaddled.
One would presume you were pure as gold,
But your heart is wicked and hard and cold.

Dei byens guta me stoyt lyt ryme
Me veit dei kunne kje hugen styre.
Dei byens gutar dei stoyt me skyr
Dei meinat plent me er likesom dyr.

Translated:

City boys can't control their passions
And we must shun them and all their fashions.
They act like regular cannibals,
But think that we are just animals.

* * *

Nature Stev

Eg sit paa * Einang og kring meg skodar
Og foss og fuglesong tyt og ljodar.
Eg sit og grunar og græt og syng
i bragd av blomar og lauv og lyng.

Translated:

On top of Einang I watch and listen
Birds sing and waterfalls splash and glisten
I sit and ponder and sing and cry
As green leaves rustle and pollen fly.

* * *

Challenge to Stev Leik

This challenge I throw across the table,
You better answer, if you are able.
This challenge I throw across your way,
For this little fellow is far from shy.

- * Linda — Long colorful ribbon used to wrap around children after they were bundled up in other wraps.
- * Dogga — dampened
- * Skir — Pure
- * Einang — Name of a high mountain

Love Stev
By Jon B. Rystad

Paa vegen heim, i ein sving ho bia,
Aa ha han bare hat mot til fria!
Dei ha nok hug til hverandre lagt
For det ha augo og aatferd sagt.
Men faa det fram var saa vrongt og vandi,
Han stod der fingla med klokke bandi.
Ho spent i snjoren med hæl og iaa
Og blauglegt glett atte daa og daa.
Men raad for uraad, ho hev nok vist det
Ho tog seg snjor paa ein fure kviste
Ho la til drengen paa munn og nos
Og dette sette fririet plent paa los.

Translated:

She let him (homeward bound) overtake her,
In hopes he would a proposal make her.
That they both were willing to make a pact
Could be easily told both from eyes and act.
From want of words and his mind all jumbled
He stood there mum, with his watch chain fumbled.
With her shoe she made in the snow a print,
As she, shy but frequent, would at him squint.
But aid for ailment, she fairly knew it,
She took some snow on a twig and threw it,
And hit him squarely on nose and jaw,
That set frozen words in a flowing thaw.

* * *

Another Love Stev

Eg ska kve'e saa du ska graate
Om du er alle saa glae aa kaate.
Eg ska kve'e saa vent for deg
Du ska gloyme sjav dig men alli meg.

Translated:

I'll rhyme for you till I have you weeping
If you are gay or if you are sleeping.
I shall sing for you such a pretty rhyme
That you won't forget me for quite some time.

* * *

STEV

Youth's Idea

What does it help if they reek of riches,
When heart and soul for another itches?
What does it help if one dress in gold,
When the heart's in sorrow and love is cold?

Old Folks' Idea

What good is beauty when one is wanting
And late and early for victuals hunting?
What good is beauty without your fare,
And what good is graudeur with pantry bare?

Anger

They say my boy-friend me now has jilted,
Because my wardrobe was worn and wilted.
He now can find him a debbie dear,
With a padded frontside and bustled rear.

Feud Between Valleys

Those Northville lassies are small and spiny,
The dress material they need is tiny.
They are padded here, and are built up there,
So like other people they do appear.

* * *

Sleng Stev

No need for you for your curls to curry
Your pretty sweetheart you'll never marry.
You will hear her voice, you will see her face,
Yes, every time you come by the place!

You who grew up so tall and twisted
Are seldom high 'mong the ladies listed.
You who grew up so thin and tall,
Do you ever get an embrace at all?

You are so clever to rhyme and ruffle,
Your snout should be in a solid muffle.
Which should be made of a wildcat skin,
And all the claws should be turned in.

I never was so mad and provok-ed
As when they me in the old churn pok-ed.
You can bet my motions were far from dull,
'Cause I blew and bellowed like an ugly bull.

* * *

STEVLEIK

Compiled by Sigrid Krostue

Guten

Kan du minnast daa me va smaaei
Der ein va fyre, der va me baae.
Kan du minnast saa mang ein dag
Me hev vore sammen i leik og lag?

Boy

Do you recall how through youth we sailed,
Where one was trotting, the other trailed?
Do you remember how many a day
We were together for sport and play?

Jenta

Den dag kjeame alle at eg deg gloymer,
For om eg sove, eg om deg droymer.
Nat og dag er du like naer,
Men best eg ser deg naar myrkt det er.

Girl

My mind on you I am always keeping,
I dream of you every night I'm sleeping.
Late and early you seem so near
But at night your vision most clear appear.

Guten

Eg tikkje gama deg atte finne
Eg tikkje det lettat mi tunge bringe.
Eg tikkje det lettat mi tunge lev
Om eg bare kvede um deg eit stev.

Boy

To find you here is such great a pleasure
It rids my chest from a heavy pressure.
When I sing of you, you appear so nigh,
It will ease my breast and suppress my sigh.

Jenta

Paa møtestaden eg hugsjuk sete,
Eg tenkjer paa deg det skal du vite.
For der me treffest saa mang ei gong
I lik og glede i dans og song.

Girl

At the meeting place lovesick ponder,
It is about you that I always wonder,
How many times that we here have met,
To love and linger, to play and pet.

Guten

Bare du som kan livet klaare
Og bare du som kan hjarta saare
Med deg ved sida, daa hev eg alt,
Men hillist fattig og myrkt og kaldt.

Boy

It is only you whom my heart has hobbled
You can make it glad, you can make it troubled.
With you my life is full to the brim,
But cold without you, and dark and grim.

Jenta

Di augor ser eg saa ljøs og blide
Som dogg paa bloman naar soli sjine,
Kvart blikk fraa augo, kvart smil fraa munn
Gjer meg glad som fuglen i grønne lund.

Girl

Your eyes, I see them so bright and beaming
Like dew on flowers in sunlight gleaming,
For each glance and smile that your fair face yield
Makes me feel like a meadowlark in the field.

Guten

Alstoedt ljøs maa me aldri vente
Bare soli vil stundom blenkje.
At skodd og toke vil rjuke ifraa
Som ein klare himmel me kun saa sjaa.

Boy

Grief and gloom will us sometime harry
I hope for long it will never tarry.
And that mist and matters away may fly,
So that we can enjoy a clear blue sky.

Jenta

Til døden sjill økke vil eg vere
Ihop med deg, kor du er hel fere.
Um du moter glede hel stundom sut
Vil eg dele med deg min greie gut.

Girl

And dwell and toil be it here or yonder.
If we meet with sorrow, or meet with joy,
I will share it with you my bonny boy.
Till death us sever, with you I'll wander,

* * *

STEV

Author, Tarald Uppstad

Those Sandlake ripples are idly rolling
It's as of happiness they are tolling.
They seem to whisper: "Come here to me,
I shall heal your sorrows, and comfort thee."

Where is there soothing for my great sorrow,
A leap, and no more a sad tomorrow.
A jump, a leap, and eternal rest,
But the story of it I do detest.

When I reach the brink of the Baldface mountain,
I see the square and the village fountain.
I see the fount and the village square,
She is mine, the prettiest girl from there.

The little lass I had planned on takin',
Is fast asleep, and will never 'waken.
The little lass I had planned to wed,
They have got her buried, 'cause she is dead!

Oft and ardent I have her courted,
And my proposals she e'er supported.
Sometimes I rafted, sometimes I oared,
On my nightly ventures across the fjord.

I oft and ardent to her paraded,
I recall one time we breastpins traded.
I never had such a hearty squeeze,
As when she my breastpin put back in place.

In wind and rain, and with coldness pending,
The herdfolks still to their flocks are tending.
I feel so bad for those thusly blessed,
They are wet and chilly, and poorly dressed.

* * *

PATHOS

My Setesdal with your rugged nature,
With healthy youth of a sturdy stature.
You give vim and vigor to worn and weak,
You give life and color to palest cheek.

In Setesdal I was born and rear-ed,
There was the wool for my garments shear-ed.
There grows the prettiest spruce and birch,
And the fairest maidens attending church.

It seemed the stars in the skies were talking,
To me, who in this dark dale was walking.
It seemed that this is the words they said:
"You are sure of greater success ahead."

I'm filled with longing, I go 'round dreaming,
When leaves are budding, and cascades screaming.
What ails my spirit, I cannot name,
But it burns inside me, like hottest flame.

If we should part now, my dearest treasure,
We'll meet in heaven for endless pleasure.
Your soul I'll penetrate with a smile,
That will last forever — not just awhile.

My "Twirlaround," you have been so clever,
My "Twirlaround," you shall be forever,
You have played the hero in every part,
And played yourself way into my heart.

CHAPTER VIII

DIRECTORS AND MEMBERSHIP

Some of the minutes of the lag were lost, so that some omissions could have been made, but below is as accurate a list as can be found of all those who have at some time served as directors. They are placed in alphabetical order rather than in order of the years in which they served.

Aakhus, Eivind	Mone, Aslak
Aakhus, Gunder	Moe, Ole
Aakhus, Tallak	Neset, Olaf
Arneberg, F. G.	Nesland, Gunder
Asbjornson, Gunder	Nesland, Halvor
Birkeland, Ole	Newton, A. B.
Brattland, M. A.	Nomeland, Gunder
Brokken, John T.	Nomeland, Knut
Danielson, Torkel	Nomeland, Olaf
Dale, Svenskje	Nomeland, Ole B.
Flateland, Arne	Omlid, Halvor
Grundeson, Arne	Omlid, Tom
Helle, Halvor	Rikje, Kjettle
Holen, Mrs. Halvor	Roisland, Dreng
Hovet, Knut	Sannes, Andrew
Homme, Arne	Sorbo, Bernt
Johnson, John G.	Sordal, Gunder
Kjorvestad, Ole	Stubseid, Grunde
Krostue, Gunder	Tarkelson, Tarkel A.
Langeid, Gunder	Torbenson, Olaf
Loiland, Halvor	Vattendal, Ole O.
Loyland, Tarji	Wrolstad, George
Moen, Olaf	

Many of the directors served several times, but Gunder Nesland leads all with a record of twenty-eight years. He was born in Bykle, Setesdalen, April 22, 1876. He came to America with his parents in 1893, and started life here in a sod hut, near Grand Forks.

In 1898 he married Jorond Berg from Valle, and they made their honeymoon trip over swamps and rough roads to a homestead near Grygla. There they built a home and took part in the building of the community.

Six sons and daughters were born to them at this place. Later when most of the children were full grown, they moved to a farm



Kjetel Rikje, Sigurd Krostue, Gunder Sordal, Mrs. Erick Johnson, Andrew Sannes, and Thor Skomedal

near Thief River Falls where they now reside.

One can scarcely think of the lag without including Gunder Nesland. He is as much a part of it as was Bjornaraa. He is not a speaker, and doesn't appear on the stage where his work can be applauded. Instead he is the drive in the background, and the one they can depend upon to attend and maintain the interest.

Mrs. Halvor Holen is unique in that she has been the only woman director throughout the years. She and her husband have probably done as much for the movement as any other two people. Their kindness and willingness to serve any good cause is outstanding. A familiar sight at all the lags is Gyro Holen in Setesdals clothing, displaying some handwork from Norway, and Halvor Holen mingling with the crowd with a cheerful greeting to every one. They prove the saying true that "it is as much the membership as the officers that make a good meeting".



Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Holen

Halvor Holen, born in Bykle in 1880, was one of several homesteaders who returned to Norway for a wife. He married Gyro Holme in 1919, and within a year they returned to his farm near Goodrich, Minnesota.

They have four sons and one daughter, living in the same region as their parents.

Director O. B. Olson, according to notes on that family by Bjornaraa

was born in a covered wagon on their way from Wisconsin to Minnesota. He was a sheriff for many years and Bjornaraa liked to tell how Olson needed neither club nor pistol, but handled each criminal with clenched fists; "Dei store Byklar Labbane" he said. Whether this is true or merely a joke, it is true that Olson did much to further the lag by appearing often on the program.

There were a great many others who, in a quiet way, spent time, effort, and money to serve the lag. "Dygtige menn", Bjornaraa would have said. The only credit they receive is the satisfaction of having furthered a cause that they believed in.

Membership

As said before, it would be impossible to determine how many people claim membership in the lag, because the lag is unique in its lack of recorded membership with yearly dues.

At first an attempt was made to keep a record of those attending, but this list included townsmen of all nationalities, as no one was barred. All pay the same entrance fee, and that is part of the informality they have always enjoyed.

On entrance one buys a badge or ribbon to wear. These badges vary according to the money in the treasury, or the need felt. On one of the earliest badges was printed:

"Gud's fred og Goddag
Ko bygd er du i fra
Aa kos er du paa Lag?"

Translation:

"God's peace and good day,
What Bygd are you from?"

And the last line is the catch line, ending with a pun, because "lag" means humor or mood as well as organization, and can be interpreted "What is your lag address?" as well as "In what humor do we find you?"

On a few occasions the lag emblem of a stabur and a saeter was used. On many occasions Bjornaraa had a small rhyme of his own on the ribbon, making an attractive souvenir.

Outside of this procedure, the lag is composed of Setesdoels or their friends who attend that particular year. Many have supported the lag in outstanding ways by steady attendance, participation in programs and various activities, even though they have never accepted any official position. Their names should go on record as well as the officers, if it were possible, but there would be no accuracy in selection of these members and many would be unintentionally slighted.

Records show, however, that many Setesdoels came from great distances, and from many states. The following information has been gathered, and any oversight of any families is not intentional.

From Dakota people have arrived from Minot, Tioga, Devils Lake, Kloten, Anita, Valle, Thompson, and Williston.

From Valle are the names of Mr. and Mrs. Olav B. Nesland; John and Sam Loyland and their sister, Mrs. Gyri Thompson; Edwin Anderson and sisters Mrs. Andrew Sandnes, Mrs. Ole Kjorvestad, and Knut Kvasager.

As early as 1862 we hear of a Setesdoel family in Lake Johanna Township in Pope County. There Knut Olson and wife, the former Kari Dale took their first homestead. They later moved to Stearns County, then to Crookston, and finally to Holt, Minnesota. Their daughter, Mrs. J. E. Erickson of Thief River Falls, often attended the lag. She died in 1950 at the age of eighty-three. Her daughter, Anna Erickson, is now the active member of the lag. She gives interesting accounts of her grandparent's trip across the ocean, which took over ten weeks in a sail boat.

In 1873 the family of Gunnar Aanenson Nese came to Fisher Landing. Gunnar lived at Fisher until 1903 and died at the age of eighty-one. His second marriage was to Ingeborg O. Vatnedalen, mother to Olav Vatnedalen, a director. His son Anend married Mary Greibrok in 1876. He was the first to take a homestead near Crookston, where he lived until 1919. Their three children are Gertie, Tillie and Bella.

Osmund Sanness also came from McIntosh to attend the meetings. After his death his sons and daughters attend quite regularly.

From this same region we hear of the following families: Sten Høfto and family, Osmund Sanness and wife, the former Anne Espetveit, Daniel Kveste and wife, Turi Viki, and Torleif Boe.

The region in and around Grand Forks holds many members besides officers and entertainers already mentioned. Recorded names are Mrs. Glaserud, the former Emma Klepp, Vraal Carlson, Bernt Sorbo, Olav Ambel, and the well known Dr. Arneberg.

Ole Taraldson and wife, the former Ingeborg Boe, attended the lag from Erie, Minnesota. Ole often played the violin, and both took part in the dances in the earliest meetings.

Oklee has likely sent more sons of Setesdalen to the lag than any other place, because the meetings have so often been held there and then they have so many Setesdoel settlers, and here too are many of the latest comers from Norway. North of Oklee are the four Kolsus brothers, Gunder, Gunnar, Gunni, and Tarji. They are ardent lag goers. It would be impossible to list all, but at the many meetings held at Oklee, one is sure to have seen members of the families of the following: Knutson, Breivold, Flateland, Dale, Hanson, Gunstenson, Boe, Lande, Person, Stromme, Brokke, Omlid, Loyland, Jergenson, Hegland, Gunderson, Chorvestad, Aakre Libak, Krossen, Nesand, Slettevold, Sorenson, Nerhus, Skreland, Kveste and Haugom.

In the town of Oklee itself we must not forget the Setesdal places where they have been fed and entertained by sons and daughters of lag member. They are the three cafes of Andy Knutson, son of Aslak and Gunhild Knutson, Mrs. Parker Taljie, daughter of the ardent member Ole Birkeland, and Mrs. Richard Slettevold, formerly Annie Sordahl. But the members of the lag would be justified in saying that such singling out would not be fair in Oklee, as the whole town, sons of Norway or sons of France, have been very gracious to the lag members.

People have come from much greater distances than these to attend the lag. Bergit Austad Foster has come clear from Oregon, and Ole Halvorson from Radcliff, Canada. From Williston, North Dakota comes Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Omlid. Last but not least we must not forget Osmund Haugen. His hearty laughter can still be heard at the lag, even though he now has to come clear from Minot, North Dakota.

Members of the lag who should have credit for the best attendance besides the officers already mentioned are listed below:

Gunder Langhei
Gunnar Knutson
Gunner Herjussøn
Olav Torbenson
Omund Tveitlie
Gunder Sordal

Gunder Nesland
Bernt Sorbo
Olav Amble
Kjetel Rikje
Gunnv Johnson

The women are:

Sigrid Loydahl Krostue
Gyro Holen
Jorond Nesland
Tone Braatlien Lillevold

Annie Omlid Person
Selma Bjornaraa Johnson
Helga Bratlie

as well as the aforementioned officers or members. The wives of all the prominent members came faithfully, but in true Setesdals fashion, their names did not appear on record unless they were especially gifted in oratory, music, or crafts.



Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Sordal

Anend Knutson from Fisher is a familiar figure at the lag. There are not many lags that he has missed. Mrs. Gust Gunstenson, daughter of Gunder Krostue of Fisher gave a very good descriptive talk about a trip into Setesdalen that she and her husband took in 1950.

Fisher is the home of the Sorenson brothers. No family has entertained the Setesdals lag better than the Sorenson family, either the former Sam Sorenson family or the Ole Sorenson's sons. Knute and Soren Sorenson are violinists and Knute sings, accompanied on the piano by one of his brothers. Sometimes they form a quartette, singing both Norwegian and American songs.

These brothers are the sons of the early pioneers, Ole Sorenson, born in

America to Knute Sorenson and Ausil Rystad. Their mother was Ingeborg Andreson Moe, born in Bygland, Norway. They were early homesteaders in Red Lake County.

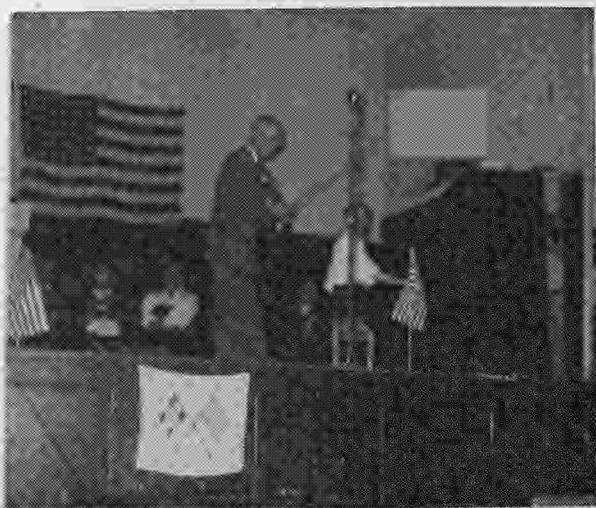
Many of the directors and officers mentioned elsewhere are from Fisher, Minnesota. Here we also find the family of Gunnar Greibrok, and wife Guro, who left Norway in 1861 with seven children. It took them eleven weeks to cross the ocean. Oscar, a child of four, died and was buried in Quebec. Gunnar and his son Olav took homesteads near Fisher.

Near Goodrich is the family of Anund Haugen, married to Annie

Skeie. She is a sister of O. T. Skeie of Byglandsfjord, Norway, the writer. Their daughters are Anne, married to Torgus Hemmestvedt, and Gunhild, now Mrs. Syrtveit. Mr. Osmund Lunden and wife, the former Lisa Hovet, are also steady attenders from Goodrich.

Scattered throughout Polk and Clearwater countys are descendants of Ingeborg Froyrak and Kristen Dale and daughters Torbjor, Gunhild, and Anne. They came to Bygland in 1876. Now representing them at the lag are the children of these three daughters. Torbjor Klepp's children, Emma Remark, Mrs. Juleson, Mrs. Betsy Nelson, and Anne Hildahl. Anne Landsverk's children: Mrs. Emma Thompson, Mrs. Tilda McManus, and George Landsverk.

Gunhild Vollen's children: Gunder, Chris, and Annie Homdrom of Erskine; Emma Ingersoll of Blackduck; Tilda Landsmark of Foston, and Signe Strausman of Canada. Mrs. Harry Biederman of Osseo, Minnesota, an ardent member of the lag, is a granddaughter of Gunhild Vollen and Harriet and Caroline, her daughter, can become the fifth generation representatives in a Setesdals Lag.



Knute Sorenson strums his fiddle for good music

Many members, besides the aforementioned officers, come from McIntosh, Minnesota. It would be impossible to mention them all, since no record has been kept. However, we cannot omit the Birke-land family, with many talented sons who have often taken a big part in the entertainment. Their musical ability has been felt throughout Minnesota, where they have served in different ways; two have been teachers, one a band director, and one is a minister.

The region near Effie, Minnesota was settled by many second generation Setesdoels from the Bygland, Minnesota region. It became quite a custom for them to return to visit their relatives during the lag time. Among others we find the familiar names of Aak-

hus, Torbenson, Norby, Erickson, Olson, Knutson, Lovdahl, Anderson, Hendrickson, Gunderson, and Stubseid. To this region came many Setesdoels directly from Norway.

In spite of the fact that no record has ever been kept of the lag membership, many have attended so regularly that their absence would be felt as a great loss. These members should be commended for their loyalty to a cause of perpetuating in their beloved new land the best they have to give of their old culture. Not having a complete list of these names, let this be an invitation to those faithful members to take this tribute to themselves: You in your unwavering determination have successfully steered this organization in a straight path and you have successfully won your goal of, "De ska alti vere paa Setesdoel!"

CHAPTER IX

BIOGRAPHIES

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa

(1878 — 1942)

The lag meeting in Thief River Falls in 1941 was the last for the great leader. Before the minutes went to print in the Norwegian newspapers, NORMANDEN, DECORAH POSTEN, and MINNEAPOLIS TIDENDE, it was reported that Bjorgulv Bjornaraa had suffered a stroke. He was in poor health for a year, and died on June 22, 1942, 64 years old.

As in life, so at his death, a large crowd gathered. Around 1500 friends and relatives were there to bid him farewell. Also as in life, speakers stood ready to give voice to their collective feelings. The funeral services were conducted by Pastor Hallyard Lie of Trail, assisted by Pastor J. K. Lerohl of Oklee. Then, as at all the meetings for the past thirty years, his friends stood up to speak. His good friend, Arne Grundeson, was one of them. Then, as though the leader was there and called upon them himself, they stood up in turn: Professor Richard Beck, University of North Dakota; Lieutenant Governor Henry Holt, Grand Forks, North Dakota; and Olaf Neset of International Falls. Neset eulogized his life. Then he and H. M. Hitterdal of Thief River Falls sang "Den Store Hvide Flokk". The crowd lingered as though they could not part with their leader.

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa was born in Viken, Valle, May 10, 1878. He was the youngest son of Dreng Bjornaraa and Thora Haugen. He was trained for teaching in Seljord, Telemarken, and taught at Hyllestad and Evje, Setesdalen, the two years before leaving for America.

On October 12, 1900 he married Ingeborg Berg from Brokke in nearby Hyllestad, daughter of Tarjerd and Sigurd Berg. They came to Starbuck, Minnesota in 1903 where his Aunt, Mrs. Gyro Torgerson lived on a farm. Here, in the country congregations of Pastor Christopher Pederson in Langhei, he became the parochial teacher and song leader. He made his living farming in Langhei township, Pope County.



Bjorgulv Bjornaraa

Here he started his life's work — that of trying to preserve or extend the Norse culture for his adopted land of America. He became active in young people's work, and also wrote articles in the Starbuck Times and Glenwood Herald.

In 1912 he moved with his family to their homestead in eastern



Mrs. Bjorguly Bjornaraa

Pennington County, north of Gully, Minnesota. Here he taught parochial school, led the singing, and worked with the young people. He wrote articles and poems for many Norwegian-American and neighboring papers, and because of his keen interest in Norse-American culture, he entered into many such activities. He also

served as Hickory Town Clerk and as Clerk of his local school district during most of his residence there.

For several years he was regent for the First District Sons of Norway and worked with the local Lodges in the northwest. He was one of the Directors For Fædrearven, and led the "Kappleiker" in Hardanger Violinist Forbundet. All of this work made him indispensable in the building of his own Setesdals' Lag.

Regarding some of his many activities, Anund Rystad presented a letter to the History Committee that Bjorguly wrote to him in May, 1940. Here are his own words translated from Norwegian:

"Last Sunday I gave a talk in Valle Church north of Grygla at their 17th of May celebration. The purpose was to collect money for Norway. Food sales alone came to over \$100.00. It was both hard and satisfying to speak at this occasion. Now, this coming Sunday I will speak at a similar gathering at Telemark Congregation east of Thief River Falls. Dear friend, you too, will feel that it is hard to be a Norseman now. God grant that things will change soon so that our Mother country need not be a slave any longer. It is hard not to be able to hear from our folks over there, but we, like they, must bear it like hardy Norsemen.

Next week I'll go to Northwood, Iowa to the Spelemann's Stevne May 31, June 1, and 2. Then on June 21 we meet at our own lag. Will you please ask Daniel to play for us? . . ."

With that keen interest in his Norse people, it is not a wonder that the events of the Second World War and the invasion of Norway April 9, 1940, bore down heavily upon him that last year of his life.

Among his other activities, he organized a reading circle in the neighborhood, was one of the organizers of Bygdelagenes Fellesraad, serving as President in 1941, was principal speaker at many of the other lags, and always a worker in any Norse-American celebration.

At the "900 Year Celebration" in Norway, as mentioned before in the Soga, he represented Setesdals Laget in Trondheim. That summer he was invited to speak about the Norsemen in America to more than thirty audiences throughout Norway.

Bjornaraa left a large family to mourn for him. First there was his wife, Ingeborg, who had been his gentle and understanding companion in all his endeavors. He left eight children, Dreng, Olaf, Thorwald, Einar, Borghild, Solveig, Selma (the present secretary of the lag), and Sigurd. Three children preceded him in death. There are four grandchildren, Carolyn Bjornson, Bjorguly Bjornson, Thora A. Bjornson, and Eileen Johnson. One brother, Torgeir, well-known author and educator in Asker, Norway, died in 1951; a brother, Paul, died in Langhei in 1912. Another brother, Olav, and two sisters, Anna and Mrs. Olav (Birgit) Risdal, died in Setesdal.

The people who knew Bjornaraa the best can never cease praising him. T. O. Lien, lag secretary of Oklee, dwells upon his kind-

ness. He tells this incident to prove it. Once when they were in Grand Forks to attend to business regarding the lag, they heard of a Setesdoel ill at the hospital. At once Bjorguly began collecting money and quite a sum was sent to the hospital. Lien's praise of Bjornaraa in all the secretary's reports has always been outstanding in sincerity.

Sigurd Krostue likes to dwell upon the leader's sense of humor. "If you wanted a good laugh you just got Bjorguly started telling stories. Never was there a better story teller!"

Halvor Langslet, Detroit Lakes, of the Hallinglaet, who speaks of himself and Bjornaraa as brothers in hope and faith, worked side by side with the leader for many years. His best description of him is that he was Norse from head to heel, and the greatest Norse Folklore Speaker in America.

Bjornaraa's daughter, Mrs. Erick (Selma) Johnson, has written an article entitled "Memories of My Father". She writes that she has so many pleasant memories of him, but the ones that stand out are those linked with the Christmas Holidays. The Christmas dinner opened with the family singing "Jeg er saa glad hver Julekveld", and then Bjornaraa read the Christmas story. After the meal they were sent upstairs while a commotion went on downstairs, including the entrance of an imaginary Santa Claus. He asked questions in a loud voice about the children's behavior. When the door had closed, it was a signal for them to come downstairs. Then ensued much happiness as gifts were admired and the real giver was thanked, even though the Santa game continued. The thousands of people who knew Bjornaraa agree with his daughter, Selma, as she concludes her Memories with this paragraph:

"Our father was a remarkable man who could help people in every phase of life. He was a good father, a poet, a teacher, a lecturer, a writer, a singer, a minister's assistant, and a counselor. He was an unforgettable character. He seemed indispensable to his family, his community, the Setesdals lag, and to all the Norse-American people."

Olaf Neset

A man who was deeply interested in preserving the culture of Setesdalen was Olaf Neset. He became an ardent member of the lag for the purpose of trying to organize some way of perpetuating the songs, stov, stories, handcraft, and language.

Olaf Neset was born in Aardals Sokn in 1878. He was the fifth of twelve children born to John and Jorund Neset.

From the time he was a child he dreamed of traveling across the ocean, and in 1898 he bade farewell to his father who had accompanied him to Kristiansand. He arrived in Crookston April 30th and at once realized the necessity of learning the American language as he had great difficulty in finding his uncle, Knut Greibrok. It was a great surprise to them when they learned who

he was. It was his Mother's brother, Gunstein Skomedal, who had sent him his ticket, and he lived in the country out of Thief River Falls. So again, he set out on the train, and later on foot, to find this uncle. It was a new life for the newcomer.



Olaf Neset

From then on, Olaf worked summers and attended school winters, and evenings. Watch-making became his chief interest, and later he attended a college in Chicago, studying Optometry. By 1912 he was able to buy his own jewelry store in Thief River Falls.

When the lag met in McIntosh in 1912 (its third meeting) Olaf Neset was there and became an enthusiastic worker from then on.

In 1914 he was married to Torbjor Aakhus, daughter of Gunder Aakhus, at one time a director of the lag. They have three children, Joan, Gordon, and Harold.

He taught his own children the Norwegian language, and they often appeared on the lag programs singing Norwegian

songs. Olaf himself was the lag's great stev singer.

He served as director, vice-president, and became president in 1944. In 1947 he took his first trip back to Norway, accompanied by his wife and daughter, Joan. At that time Joan was a nurse. For several months he wandered over the land of his birth, remembering every tree, stone, and landscape of his childhood.

Neset was chairman until 1948, when he moved to Spokane, Washington, where he now lives.

Few people have had a greater interest in shaping and continuing the lag than Olaf Neset.

T. O. Lien

Few men have had a greater interest in the Lag than Tarjer Lien. He was secretary of the lag for thirty years. His notes on the business of the lag were precise and business-like, and without them, this Soga could not have been written.

Lien was born in Bygland, Setesdalen in 1886 to Olav Torjerson and Aslaug Langerak. His father was the oldest son of Tarjei Hodne from Aaseral, and Jeidaug Gundersdatter Aakhus.

Tarjei Hodne organized the first teacher's training school in

Setesdalen. There are records to show that his father's farm in Aaseral has been owned by that family since the fourteenth century, and Lien's mother's family, the Aakhus's, trace their family back to the twelfth century.



T. O. Lien

Torger Lien finished school, including Agricultural College, then came to America at the age of twenty years. He took a homestead at Clemmentson, Minnesota.

His wife, Norma, was born in America of parents formerly from Hallingdal and Nordland. Their two sons are Olav and Norman. They live on a farm near Oklee, Minnesota.

Much credit is due Lien for the survival of the lag through some of the trying years. His accurate secretaries' reports published in the Norwegian papers maintained an interest, and his great determination to continue in spite of any obstacle has been felt and spurred others on.

Lien is the only member who has served the lag in the three positions of president, secretary, and director. He was a great admirer of Bjornaraa, and hence his enthusiasm to have a record published of this lag, which he feels is Bjornaraa's greatest work in life. Lien is an enthusiastic member of the history committee.

Thore Skomedal

In 1949 the Setesdals lag elected Thore Skomedal president. Up to this time, Thore had been in great demand as a dancer of the old dances. He and his partner often won first place at the contests.

Thore was born on July 24, 1889 in Skomedal to Thorkel Thorson Lande and Eli Thoresdatter Lauvdal. At the age of twenty he came to his uncle in America, and in 1911 he took a homestead near Trail, Minnesota.

In 1919 he married Julia Thompson, daughter of Christ Thompson and Signe Hofto. They have three children, Kenneth, Evelyn, and Thelma.

The President's position is now becoming a difficult one. Many of the old members are gone, and the younger ones clamor for changes. Thore can see both sides of the picture. He knows that survival of the lag rests with the next generation, but he also knows that he Norse culture has been preserved so far by the stubborn determination of the old members to change nothing!



Thore Skomedal

Since June, 1950 he has led the usual large crowd in the Oklee hall in very much the same pattern of the original leaders, and delights the crowd by getting into his old position in the dance ring.

Selma Bjornaraa Johnson

Mrs. Erick Johnson, Bjornaraa's eldest daughter, Selma, is the only woman elected secretary. She was born in Starbuck, in 1907, and moved with her parents and four brothers, Dreng, Olaf, Thorwald, and Einar to the homestead in Pennington County. She attended high school at Thief River Falls and later Bemidji Teachers College, and taught rural schools in her own district.

On September 27, 1929 she was married to Erick Johnson of Trail. Mr. Johnson built the Box and Crate Factory in the year 1922, and together with his brother-in-law, Olaf Nelson, is still operating it and now specializes in making egg case veneer.

Mrs. Johnson is much like her father in being civic minded and active in much community work and is especially interested in the lag. She has inherited much of her father's poetic ability and is often called upon to write articles in prose or verse. Probably

Mrs. Erick Johnson
(Selma Bjornaraa Johnson)



her greatest contribution to the lag is when she and her daughter, Eileen Marie, appeared on the stage in Setesdoel's clothing.

She has done much to continue the interest in the lag since her father, Bjorgulv Bjornaraa, died.

Grunde Grundeson

The secretaries played an important part in the lags' history, re-

recording every incident and interpreting them. Grunde Grundeson was well educated in Norse as well as English. This was of the greatest importance in steering the lag on its way. He had the wide experience of having studied for the ministry, worked for a publishing company and taught both public and parochial school.



Grunde Grundeson

Grunde was born in Norway of the parents Halvor Grundeson Austad, and Ragnhild Greibrok. Two other children, Sigrid and Ingeborg were also born in Norway. The family left Grenni, Norway in 1872, and with the usual experi-

ences crossing the ocean those days, they came to Wisconsin. Children born in America were Emma, later Mrs. Vraal Carlson, Adolph, Sophie, Mary and Knute. Sigrid married Knute Moen. Grunde, Sigrid, Emma, and Adolph made names for themselves as teachers in various schools in Polk County.

Grunde Grundeson graduated from Luther College at Decorah, Iowa in 1894, and graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1897. Instead of practicing ministry, he took a position at the Lutheran Publishing House in Decorah. Later, he became

associate editor of Decorah Posten. For many years, he was Editor in Chief of "Normanden" in Grand Forks.

In those first years of the lag, Grundeson directed their thinking towards Norwegian Literature. At the Erskine meeting, he gave a review of the poet Bjornstjerne Bjornson so impressively that the audience rose and sang "Ja Vi Elsker Dette Landet". He was probably the most effective in arousing the members of the lag to cherish their native culture and instill it into this new country.

Grundeson helped Eivind Aakhus and Aanend Rystad draw up the first constitution, and it has never been changed. For two years, 1913 and 1914, he was unable to be with the lag and Gustav Torguson of Glenwood was elected to take over. On his return in 1915, Grundeson again served as secretary until 1917 when ill health forced him to resign. He died in 1936.

Halvor Omlid

Halvor Omlid served the lag as its fourth secretary. Although it was his only official position, he did much for the lag throughout the years in participating in progress and keeping the meetings lively.

He was born in Valle March 25, 1890. His parents were Aasmund T. Omlid and the former Gyro Harstad. Besides Halvor, there were six other children. Anne, Halvor, and Turi came to America. Anne, now Mrs. Anend Persen, attended the first meeting of the lag in 1909, and has been one of the lag's singers ever since.



Halvor Omlid

Halvor received his higher education in Kristiansand. In 1914, he and his sister, Turi, came to America to their sister Anne in Oklee. Halvor did not stay in the same place long and in a few years had seen the country from the east coast and much of Canada. His first attendance at the lag was in 1916.

In 1926, he married Julia Lundeen of McIntosh. After a year in Brainerd they bought the old Lundee farm, where they resided until 1950. They then went to Tacoma, Wash-

ington, where they now live, and operate a gas station.

Far away or near, Halvor is still interested in the progress of the lag.

Arne Grundeson

(From Notes By Bjorgulv Bjornaraa)

Arne Grundeson's parents were Grunde Talleivson Langjeid, in Austad Soken and Gro Aanendsdatter Kveste, from Valle.



Arne Grundeson and
Bjorgulv Bjornaraa

In 1861, they left their home in Langji and moved to America. Their children were Tadeiv, Signe, and Anne, then a baby of nine months old. They left for Stavanger in a sailboat, went by boat to Milwaukee, by horse-team to Winona, and with oxen to the southwestern part of Fillmore County to the Setesdal's settlement.

They landed in Quebec and none too soon, for by now the ship was without food. They were on the ocean for fourteen weeks. The unfavorable winds sent the boat back, and Arne often said that they crossed the ocean three times. Three children, Ingeborg, Dreng, and Knut were born in this country.

In 1883, Grunde sold the land and took a homestead in Polk County.

Sigrid married Gunnar B. Austad and moved to Fosston,

Minnesota. Ingeborg became Mrs. Osmund Senum. Dreng married Thea Borgi. Knute taught school a few years and moved to the west coast.

Arne came with the family to the Red River Valley. He taught school a few years. In 1883, he took a claim near Fosston, and held it until 1888.

He was married to Bergit Torbjornson Birkeland in 1885. They had one daughter, Gro, now Mrs. Adolph Skyberg, and they raised Mrs. Grundeson's nephew, Ben, as their own son.

From 1890 to 1894, he was sheriff of Polk County. In the spring of 1895, he purchased land in Bygland Township. Here he lived the thirty years that he was treasurer of the lag.

Here, with the words "His work in the lag, etc." ends Bjornaraas' notes. He had no need for more notes to write about his good friend, Arne Grundeson, for he knew all that work by heart. It would have been interesting to hear what he would have written

about his friend. The present lag members remember Arne best as a speaker. Never did he fail to respond when called upon for a story, a speech or a yarn.

Arne was on hand at Grand Forks in 1915 to present the large flag given the Setesdals Lag by the President of the Storting in Norway. In 1937, he was 77 years old and heartily applauded for his fiery talk. At eighty years, at the meeting at Crookston in 1940, honor was given him as the only member who had never missed a meeting since the organization had started, thirty-one years before. In 1941 at Thief River Falls, he gave his last talk. He was then elected treasurer for the 27th time.

At the 1942 meeting, when the members were at the lowest ebb, with Bjornaraa ill, the Nazis in Setesdalen, and a world war going on it was sadly announced that Arne Grundeson had been hurt in a fall and would be absent for the first time. He died December 23, 1945. As long as there is a lag, his work will be remembered.

John G. Johnson

John G. Johnson, the third secretary was born in Valle in November, 1878. His parents were Gunulf Prestegarden, and his mother



John G. Johnson

the former Gunvor Ljosedalen.

Johnson is a typical old-time Viking in stature, measuring six feet, two inches, and weighing over two hundred pounds. He is Viking in other ways, as he reads several Norwegian papers, and has served the lag as secretary, director, and vice president for many years.

He has usually been known as an elevator manager at Pekin, Kloten, and Aneta, and has served as a representative in the state legislature.

In 1909, he married Hattie Nesland, who died in 1936. In 1938, he married Mrs. Gertie Knutson.

He has five children, Mrs. Art Nestos, Mrs. Leslie Nomeland, Mrs. Kenneth Jennings, a son, Halvor, a coach and principal of schools in Kindred, and Olaf, who is attending college in McMinnville, Oregon.

At the present time, he lives in Grand Forks, North Dakota, and is vice president of the lag. No lag is complete without him. His friends praise him and declare him the most sociable man, a good Setesdoel, and a good American.

Anend Rystad

Anend Rystad played a large role both in the lag and in the development of Polk County.



Anend Rystad

He was born in Besteland, Norway in 1869 to Halvor and Enger Rystad. They lived on a gaard in Straume. In 1877 the family moved to Araksby and bought a farm. In 1886, Anend attended the Amt-school in Valle. In 1888 the family of seven, one girl and four boys, left Norway and arrived in Fisher on June 23rd.

One of the earliest memories of the new land gives us a picture of the country at that time, familiar to many who took part. It was on the 4th of July, 1888. Races were organized in Bygland community with prizes for the winners. Anend never forgot his "place jump" of 17 feet, 9 inches — "the unbroken

record to this day", Anend said just the year before he died. He was thrilled as the people gathered around him calling him "Den Spræke Nykomeren" (the speedy Newcomer).

At the age of 19, he attended an American rural school and he liked to reminisce how he taught the teacher to speak Norwegian in exchange for her teaching him English. Life was always gay with Anend Rystad around. Anend was called the "Wheat King" of the valley for many years.

As is recorded in the capter of early organization of the lag, Anend was its first chairman, and he served as treasurer for three years. He was very interested in the lag over a period of forty-three years.

He was enthusiastic over the recording of this history, but unfortunately did not live to see its completion. He died in 1953.

Eivind Aakhus

Next to Bjornaraa, the most outstanding men that kept the lag entertained and brought on goodwill were the violin players. Many



Eivind Aakhus and His Famous Violin

were asked to come up with their violins for dance music, but four players that the lag called "Vor Egen Spillemend" were Eivind and Daniel Aakhus, Sam Sorenson, and Bjorn Tveitbakk. Among Bjorn-araa's papers we find a biography of Eivind Aakhus:

Eivind Aakhus was born in Bygland, Norway December 18, 1864. He was the son of Daniel Aakhus and Birgit Ose. He was a second cousin of Torkjel Aslakson, a great musician in Norway. At the age of four, Eivind received his first violin. He learned his first "slotttar" from Knute Huse. He learned to play by ear and often played for school children where he attended.

His mother disliked very much the idea of her son being a violin player, so he did very little playing in his youth.

In 1878, Eivind came to America. He attended school at Crookston, working for his room and board.

In February, 1880, he married Gro Ose, daughter of Daniel E. Ose, who had come to America in 1872 from the same Ose place in Norway, but no relation to his mother. He bought homestead rights to a farm in Bygland township. He taught school and worked on his farm to make a living but always longed to play his violin.

On his farm, his first four children were born. Daniel, Dan, Gunstein and Birgit. Gunstein died in infancy. Dan lives in Oklahoma City. Daniel plays the violin and is a piano tuner in Minneapolis. Birgit lives in San Francisco. Later, three other children were born; Valborg, who with his wife and one son live in North Platte, Nebraska, and Gust with a family of four children lives in Montana.

He always had a great desire to do more playing and began thinking of studying and preparing for concerts. This he finally did and met Alexander Bull, son of the great Norwegian composer, Ole Bull. Together they gave many concerts. This ended farming for Eivind.

In 1899, he returned to Norway on concert tour with his violin "Sigrid". He had purchased this from Lars Fykerud who wanted to take a trip to Norway and needed the money. From then on Eivind played on this excellent violin and it retained the name "Sigrid". It is now in a museum in Norway. He gave many concerts in all the large cities and towns in Norway. After this his life was spent in concert tours, with five trips to Norway. He became a well known violinist, chiefly of old folk dance music.

Every year when Setesdals laget met, one could count on Eivind to have returned from some concert tour and give his best for the lag.

At one time he took a walking tour with "Sigrid" up into Setesdalen. At Bykle, he met a crowd on their way to the saeter. When they saw the musician from America, they threw down their packs and made him play for them. His jolly music made young and old gather in a group to dance. Even an old woman who had her knitting at hand danced as Eivind said later, "Saa gaan nysta fauk".

This occasion became the inspiration for Aakhus' compositions

"Lydur Slotten" and "Skjoldmorj-nuten". He composed over fifty "slotter" and a good deal of other music in his life, which is now on sale in Norway.

At one of the fine concerts he gave in Kristiansand, Anne and Birgit Bjornaraa accompanied him and sang, and assisted by Knute and Olav Rystad, demonstrated the dance "Gangaren" to his music.



Eivind plays in Setesdalen

His own book, "Minne fra Noreg og Amerika" tells about his concerts. Many poems and articles were published in both Norwegian and American papers.

The poet, Gunnar Rystad, composed the following poem:

Til Eivind Aakhus

Leve du langje heil og sæl
same Herre i Tonerike.
Dalen, som er din Fødesheim,
er stolt for han fostrar slike.
Det drysser av kvart ein Bogedrag
tonar som Perlor reine
Og "Sigrid" lokkar og "Sigrid" græt
ho er trugi mot deg aleine.
Du lokkar den Villaste hjartesuk
du for fram det kaateste kjæte.
Du trollar baade Folket og Hermien fram
teikna i Ljodog Lote.
Skel sitje du Setesdals største søn,
Med arv etter Myllarguten!
Tak helsingar med til din nye heim
fra Folket ved Svorvarnuten.

Gunnar Rystad

Daniel Aakhus

Daniel Aakhus, son of Eivind, became a violinist, too. His father taught him to play the Hardanger violin, and at a very early age



Daniel Aakhus

he played at some of his father's concerts. Daniel, however, went in for more classical music.

In 1900, while studying music in Decorah, his father returned from a concert tour of Norway and brought the noted Shomsing violin for his son. In 1901, Daniel studied music from Professor

DAN'S OLD TIME WALTZ

DANIEL AAKJUS

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Shefstad at the University of Dakota. During the summer vacations he gave concerts at county school houses to pay his way through school.

In 1910, he married Geine Storkhland. She toured with him, playing the piano at the concerts.



Daniel Aakhus has now retired from concert work. In the summers he lives in Minneapolis, where he has a daughter and grandson. In the winters, he takes extended trips in the southern states, spending much time in California, where he has a son. But when Setesdals lag time draws near, Daniel returns. He realizes they look to him for music and he generously supplies it. When the president calls into the crowd "Hev Daniel komme" there is usually a big applause as Daniel comes to the stage with his violin. Among other numbers they call for Dan's Old Time Waltz, one of his many compositions. As a lag player, he has a much longer record than his famous Dad.

Bjorn Tveitbakk

When the Setesdoels on the stage wanted to enjoy an old Gangar to the utmost, they called for Bjorn Tveitbakk and his violin.



Bjorn Tveitbakk

He had come from Hyllestad, Norway in 1907, and seemed to have brought the old tunes with him.

His parents, Halvor and Signe Tveitbakk had not approved of his violin playing, but when he came to his sister, Gunvor, Mrs. John Olson of Grand Forks, he felt free to practice.

A year after the lag was organized he took a homestead in Pennington County. Six years later he married Ida Aasen. Then started a long active life of church work for Bjorn, including young peoples societies and church music.

They had five sons, namely, Halvor, Olav, John, Louis, and Thor. During his lifetime, Bjorn and his family lived in Highland, Clearbrook, Bremerton,

Washington, and his last years on a farm near Clearbrook.

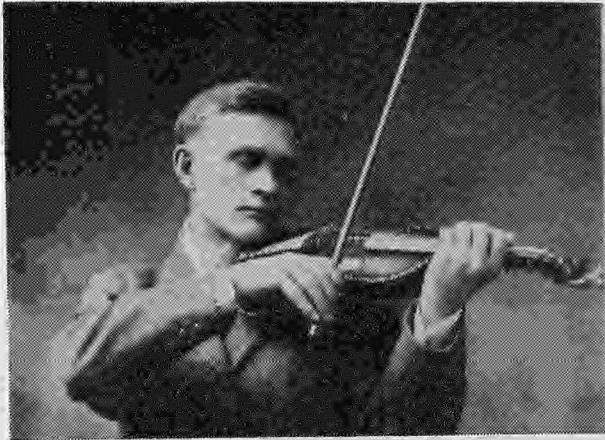
The lag was always a great interest to Bjorn Tveitbakk, and he attended regularly, even in later years when he lost practically all of his eyesight. The lag depended on him for much of its gayety.

On Thanksgiving day, 1951 he died of heart attack, then at the age of 74.

Bjorn's two sons, John and Louis and their neighbor, Herbert Johnson often form a small orchestra and play for the Saturday dances. They don't attempt their father's old melodies, however, and now there is no one to quite take the place of Bjorn Tveitbakk, "Vor Egen Spillemand".

Sam Sorenson

The progress of the Setesdals lag revolved around its violin players. Without slaater and other Norwegian music there would be little need for an organization. So when Sam Sorenson appeared at the lag with his violin, the members had a good feeling that all was well.



Sam Sorenson

Sam was a second generation Setesdoel, having been born in Glenwood, Minnesota in Pope County, October 10, 1871. His parents had come from Setesdalen in 1841.

In 1891 he married Tildy Aslakson, also a second generation Setesdoel. They spent most of their lives in Bygland in the Red River Valley.

Sam Sorenson was a Hardanger violinist, but was interested in all violins. Part of his life was spent in making and repairing violins.

He taught music to his three daughters, and Ausilga, the oldest daughter, became a well known violinist.

It was a great loss to the lag when Sam died in 1947. One of the men they had called "Vor Egen Spillemend" was not to appear any more. They had become so accustomed to count on him being there, they wondered how they could carry on without him. He first appeared at the second meeting of the lag in Erskine in 1910. At the meeting in Aneta in 1917 Sam and Eivind Aakhus were awarded silver cups in token of appreciation of their violin music.

During the intervening years from the lag's beginning in 1909 until 1947, the most familiar figure on the Setesdal lag's stage was that of Sam Sorenson and his violin.

Halvor Langslet

At different times when the lag has tottered, one man has stood adamant, defying any outside influences to interfere with the progress. Halvor Langslet, an honorary member, was the power in the Halling lag that Bjornaraa was in the Setesdals lag, and at the right time, he stepped in and carried on as though his friend, Bjornaraa



Halvor Langslet

was still there, and thereby demonstrated what real friendship should be.

At each lag, Langslet takes the trouble to dress in Hallingdal's national costume, take parts in dances, and has a cheery word for everyone. Above all, he prepares an address for the lag that inspires members to become better citizens, better lag members, and better "Normands" in America.

He was introduced at the 25th meeting, and since then has been as much a member as the Setesdoels themselves.

Halvor Langslet was the third child in a family of nine children. At the age of 16 years he left his homeland of Ness, Hallingdal, Norway and came to America. He came across Canada and landed

at Huss post office, Roseau County, Minnesota, ten miles south of the present Greenbush, Minnesota, where his uncle, Ole K. Christianson, had homesteaded two years before. The nearest railway station was Stephen, Minn. Arriving at his destination in Roseau County 17th of May, 1902, Halvor tells us that the country on both sides of the sand ridge was a flooded, water covered, soft swamp for a distance of forty miles or more, where one could, with much difficulty, travel over with horses or oxen. The homesteaders had very little in the line of financial means but peculiar enough they were a happy lot of new settlers in a new country, full of good and bright hopes for the better day of tomorrow.

Halvor remained in Roseau County only three months, setting out with a caravan of threshers for North Dakota, riding the whole way on horsedrawn teams of hayracks and sleeping in straw stacks or hay stacks at nights, and it was not much better at the farmers' places, where one would have to find himself a place to sleep in the hayloft over the horse barn. This was not the America that Halvor had expected to find. After threshing he moved to Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, where he has since made his home most of his life. Here he became engaged as a clerk in a department store and later in the Mercantile business of his own. He married a Telemarking girl and raised a family of five children.

As said before, it is largely because of the loyalty of Halvor Langslet that the Setesdals lag was able to continue. A Setesdoel for only two days, Halvor puts his best into every meeting and is loved and honored by all the members.



Members from other Lags are "Members for a day."

Ole S. Birkeland

A strong pillar of the organization, and a man who held fast to the old order, was Ole S. Birkeland. He died August 8, 1952 at the age of 89 years.

A member from the beginning he was determined to see that the Norwegian language and old customs were maintained at the lag. He was a wise man who knew from experience how rapidly changes can take place, and it became to him a cause to fight for.



Ole S. Birkeland

At many a lag, when the program continued too long in the American language, Ole Birkeland would rise, and slowly but impressively walk out, and those who knew him and loved him became eager to change things back to Setesdal.

"That's a promise we made", he would remind members at every lag. Much credit for the survival of the lag is due Ole Birkeland, who truly lived up to the words used at his own funeral "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith".

He was called on to speak at all the meetings, and he admonished them to keep their promises to let Setesdals lag be for the

Setesdoels and in that language. Only thereby could they expect to survive as a lag.

Ole Birkeland was born September 19, 1862 in the Austad Soken of parents Steen and Liv Birkeland. He married Marjet Halvorson December 26, 1887. In 1892 they came to McIntosh with children, Lina and Steen. Later, in 1896 they took a homestead in Equality Township.

In 1937 he and Marjet celebrated their 50th anniversary. She died in 1942. His children now living are Mrs. Lina Haugam, Mrs. Julia Talge, and sons Steen, Sigurd, Gilbert, Ingvold, Tom, and Arthur, all of Oklee, Minnesota. His son, Halvor, died in the first World War. He has eleven grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren.

"The lag will never be the same without Ole Birkeland" say all the members. "He represented the culture that we organized a lag in order to maintain."

**Friendly neighbors
and relatives visit
Ole
on his
80th birthday**



Gunder and Tallak Aakhus

These two brothers, always interested in the organization, served as vice-president and directors. They were sons of Halvor Gunnarson Aakhus and Torbjor Olavsdatter Ose. The latter was the sister of Taddeiv Ose, the first settler in the Red River Valley.

The marriage of Halvor Aakhus and Torbjor Ose of Bygland, Norway probably gave more Setesdoels to Minnesota than has any other marriage. Seven came to America, and their children numbered forty-one; grandchildren eighty-seven; and great grandchildren one hundred forty; a total of two hundred sixty-eight, in

four generations.

Gunder and wife, Anne Frøyrak and Gunder's sisters, Brigde and Store Anne, Kresti, Signe, and brothers Tallak, Knute, and Aslak came to America in 1881. They came to Fisher Landing to their sister Ragnhild, who was married to Olav Anderson Greibrok, who arrived earlier in 1872.



Gunder and Tallak Aakhus

great grand uncle of Donald C. Anderson

Gunder took pre-emption rights to land in King Township as many other Setesdoels, and five years later the town of McIntosh was started a mile from his land. His sister, Brigde, also took a claim which she later sold to Tallak. Gunder's wife died, leaving

one child Torbjor, now Mrs. Olaf Neset. Later he married Karen Berg and in 1884 moved to a homestead near Bemidji where his other two daughters, Anna and Karen, were born. They moved to Thief River Falls in 1920.

Tallak married Anne Torbjornson Birkeland. They had six children. Anne died and sometime later he married Ingeborg Noness and they had seven children.

All have been interested in the lag sometime or other, but it was the name of Tallak Aakhus that was most widely known as he was vice-president at the time of all the lags in Minneapolis in 1914.

The Homme Relationship

When Halvor G. Homme of Yellow Medicine County heard of the organization of Setesdoels in the Red River Valley, he was stirred with more than a casual interest, for here was an organization that he and his relatives should definitely join.

Bjorgulv Bjornaraa, well aware of the growing population of Setesdoels in southern and central Minnesota urged this Homme family to join and urge others from their region to attend the lags. So it is not surprising that Halvor G. Homme was elected president at one of the first meetings that he attended.

Halvor's parents, Ole Gjermundson Homme and Gyro Kvasager left Valle, Norway in 1866, with children Gjermund, Ole, Knute, and Halvor, then an infant of two years. They were welcomed by a brother with the same name, Ole Gjermundson Homme. At first they settled in Fillmore County, but the following year, with a span of oxen they joined some neighbors and moved westward to settle on the south side of Yellow Medicine River. On reaching the place, Homme is quoted as saying, "This is the land I saw in my dreams. Here I will live and here I will die." This he did.

Here Halvor Homme grew up and became Americanized along with his brothers, his uncle Halvor, and his aunts, Gunhild and Mari, who were also youngsters at the time. Five more children were born to the Hommes making a total of nine. These nine and their families have made themselves felt in prominent positions all through the state. Gjermund, Americanized to Jim, served as sheriff for twenty-two years. Many have been in grain business, both on farms or dealing with elevators. Some moved to Minneapolis, and some to the west coast, but many remained at Granite Falls, Evansville, Belview, and Echo, Minnesota. Knute, who lives on the old homestead, was ninety-one years old in 1953. Of children, grand and great-grand children, there are over a hundred, and they are carrying on where the oldsters left off.

Vice president Halvor Homme had a beautiful farm in Yellow Medicine County, and his house served as post office for many years. He had ten children: Turi, Mrs. G. A. Rike; Aase, Mrs. H. Hanson; Mari, Mrs. Carl Sheggeby; Gjermund of Morris, Minn.;



Vice president Halvor G. Homme

Olava, Mrs. Claude Miller; Olai, sheriff of Yellow Medicine County; Eli, Mrs. W. Dahl; Thea, Mrs. Harold Collin; and Thor and Gearheart of Gaylord, Minnesota.

In 1916 Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Homme celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. He died in January 1919, at the age of eighty years, in Los Angeles, California.

A distant relative of the above Homme family, who served as director for several years, was Arne Homme of Thief River Falls. He is the son of Knute and Asbjor Homme who left Valle in 1886. They lived in Porter, Yellow Medicine County, and in Polk County. Arne is an active member at the present time.



Ole Gjermundson Homme family: Jim, Ole, Knute, Halvor, Turi, Thea, and Mr. and Mrs. Homme with Tom between them

John G. Arneberg

John G. Arneberg was born August 25, 1874 on the Arneberg farm which is located in Logna Valley about fourteen miles west, over the mountain highlands from Setesdal, and an equal distance

from Aaknes in Aaseral. His father's family was from Austegard in Aaseral and his mother and her family from Hegland in Setesdal.

He was only three years old when both his father and mother died. After the passing of his parents, he lived most of his childhood years with Knut and Asbjør Hegland and their children, Olaf and Torbjør.



Dr. John G. Arneberg

After confirmation, he worked a year in Moe and Gjeveland in Omlid herred, north from Arendal. The next two years he lived in Kristiansand. Part of the time he sold novelty goods to farm families in the rural areas. Asbjørn Haaverson, who was a merchant in Kristiansand, and a first cousin of his father, helped him to get the necessary credit. The year before leaving for America, he worked in Tranberg's store on Dronningen's Gate.

In June 1892 he left Norway and arrived in Glenwood, Minnesota in July. The following year he worked for relatives who farmed in Langheid Township a few miles south of Starbuck, Minnesota.

In the fall of 1893 he and his brother Gunder, drove with horse and buggy from Starbuck, Minnesota to Grand Forks, North Dakota. During the winter he attended Grand Forks College. The next two years he attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. In the spring of 1897, he passed the teachers' examination, receiving a second grade certificate, and taught his first school in vicinity of St. Hilaire, Minnesota.

The following three years he taught country school and during the winter months, attended the University of North Dakota.

In September of 1901, he entered the medical school of the University of Minnesota and upon graduation in June 1905, received his M. D. degree.

The next two years he practised his profession in Leeds, North Dakota. After a year of post-graduate study in the clinics and hospitals of Vienna, Austria, and Berlin, Germany, he located in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he practised until he retired. In the past 45 years, Dr. Arneberg has visited Europe ten times. In 1948 he and Mrs. Arneberg spent six months in the Scandinavian countries. He was interested not only in the science of medicine, but also in the history, civilization, cultures, and folkways of old Europe as compared with young America.

M. A. Brattland

Judge M. A. Brattland was an active man in many organizations, but to the Setesdals lag he was their own, their chief speaker of Norse culture, a son of a man from Bykle and a woman from Stromme. He was their pride, and well loved member.



Judge M. A. Brattland

Judge Michael A. Brattland died at Thief River Falls, December 19, 1940. He had been appointed Judge in 1934 by Floyd B. Olson and had been re-elected, and served as Judge until he died.

During the thirty years that he was an active member interested in the lag, he lived in Ada, Minnesota. He was born in New Richland, Minnesota. He attended the University of Minnesota, where he graduated from the law department in 1890, in one of the first law classes.

Mr. Brattland was interested in many activities. He served as Judge of Probate, County attorney, member of the school board, and took an active part in all activities

tending to advance the interest of the community and country, including the culture of his own people from Setesdalen.

He was a strong supporter of the Good Templar movement, being a strong prohibitionist. He was active in many organizations including Masonic Lodge and Sons of Norway.

In 1897 he was married to Miss Mabel Dawley of Ada, Minnesota. To them was born one son, Armond, now practicing law in Bemidji, and one daughter, Lois, now in Long Beach, California.

All through the minutes of the Setesdals lag comes the report that Judge Brattland spoke to them. The subjects varied with the times, but always came the thought that inspired them to advance the culture that was theirs, to promote the finer things, and develop what was best within themselves.

At his funeral, the Setesdoels came mournfully, realizing that they had lost one of the best friends they had ever had. President Bjornaraa wrote a beautiful poem to his good friend, Judge Brattland, that was read at his funeral. Below are three stanzas.

Til Distrikt Domar Michael A. Brattland

So vant du ikkje fleire aar
Men byta fikk i betre kaar
Du var ein trugen fridoms-mann
Som alltid for det gode brann!

Du ha saa rein ein adels-sjel
Som alltid vilde andre vel.
Du aatte smil for kvar og ein
Og rudde bort kvar annstøt-stein.

Fraa Setesdal du har din rot
Din retferds-sans, ditt paagangsmot.
Din dal deg takkar varmt idag
For alle gode fridom's slag.

Mrs. Brattland, though not a Scandinavian, supported her husband in his activities, including the lag, and to this couple the lag is deeply indebted for its growth and continuance.

Sigurd and Sigrid Krostue

Sigurd Krostue, the present treasurer of the lag, was elected to that position in 1941.

It is not particularly as treasurer that Sigurd Krostue is known to the lag. He has been an active member since it started, and has been the quiet drive and push behind every good movement of the lag. No one has had a greater interest in it than Sigurd. He is a member of the History Committee and has hunted up many a date and fact needed to continue its growth.

Sigurd Krostue was born in 1881 in Jaardalsbo, Bygland Sogn, and came to America in 1892, with his parents, Salve Krostue and Bergit Krostue, and two brothers, Knut and Olav.

They spent the first summer in Belmont, North Dakota with relatives, Grunde Thompson Klepp, and his mother's brother, Knute K. Dale.

Next, they moved to Climax, then to Bygland Township. When the Red Lake Reservation was opened for settlement in 1896, the family moved to a homestead in the town of Garnes and they have lived there ever since.

In 1917, Sigurd was married to Sigrid Loydahl. They had met

at the Setesdals lag where Sigrid had come dressed in "dragt" and had been called on for dancing and singing of stev. Sigrid had come to America in 1905 to the home of her grandparents, Gunsten Skreland. She returned to Norway for a two years stay. When



Sigurd and Sigrid Krostue

she returned she had many greetings from Norway and the lag made her their official "stev singer". In June 1917 the lag was held in Aneta, North Dakota, so Sigurd and Sigrid made the trip to the lag their honeymoon trip. They have two children, Bergit, now Mrs. Vern Lambert; and Helga, now Mrs. Merle Skatvold. Their only son, Paul, died at the age of 17. They have six grandchildren.

Sigurd's activities apart from the lag and that of making a living on the farm has been organization of their church, and all the activities that have been necessary in the building up of a new country.

Sigurd has a keen sense of humor and many of the livelier incidents in this history were contributed by Sigurd Krostue.

Gunder Knutson

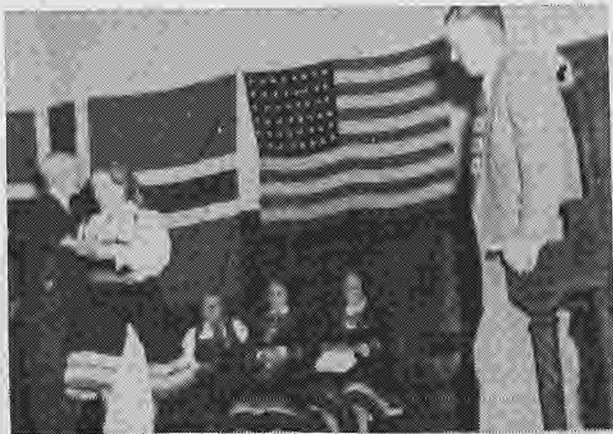
When people see Gunder Knutson at the lag, they are always stirred with pleasant expectations. They know that now the stage dance ring will be successful from "kruking" to "spennekast".

Now at the age of sixty, Gunder is as slender and agile as he was at twenty, and the audience sits spellbound as he twirls, kicks, dips, and then smoothly glides to the music.

Gunder Knutson was born to Knut B. Heistad and Birgit Birke-land in Tveit, Austad Sogn, Bygland. He came to his brother,

Bjorn in America in 1903. He married Gunhild Haugen from Evje, Setesdalen. They have two daughters, Gudrun, a nurse, and Clara, a secretary, both in Minneapolis.

Gunder has attended almost every lag and has six dance premiums to prove his success. He has probably given more real enjoyment to the lags than any other member.



Thore Skomedal announces a dance. The couple on the stage is Gunder Knutson and Mrs. Gunnuf Johnson

1953

Dr. Theodore Jorgenson brings a message from Setesdalen

It seems appropriate to close this history of the lag with a greeting from Old Setesdalen itself, given by Dr. Theodore Jorgenson, speaker, author, and professor of St. Olaf's College. Dr. Jorgenson claims that he, like Halvor Langslet is Setesdoel for the day or two that he visits the lag. But he is a close neighbor, he says, having been a herdboyd in Ryngdal as a child and often looked at the huge mountains that form a barrier between the two valleys. As a boy he wondered what life was like on the other side.

Dr. Jorgenson, on a visit to Norway, took a trip from Kristiansand to Bykle, and across the mountains to Telemark. He gave an account of it to the 1953 lag, and stressed in particular the greeting he had for all the members from "Home". Below are excerpts from his inspiring speech:

" . . . I bring you greetings from three sources. First, I greet you from the Mountains — the time-worn fjelds; the ancient, unchanging ridges and peaks. . . Old towns may crumble, buildings fall, and all man-made objects disappear. Folk may change, modes of life change, and highways change, but when one looks around at the huge rocky walls, heavy boulders, and stony land marks, one knows that the same view appeared to the eye of all the past generations . . . So I bring you a greeting from the whole region

of high mountains, whose peaks gleamed in the sunlight at four o'clock in a summer morning, whose slopes lay sun-filled until a quiet dusk dimmed the gleam at nine o'clock. I greet you from these fjelds that stand so erect, from the birch grove at the foot to the snow-capped tops. They stand there like huge thermometers measuring the changing seasons. . . .

"I saw these mountains as a child; I climbed to the highest spot I could find near my home, and then looked up to see the loftier ones ahead. It became my ambition to some day see beyond them. These mountains came to symbolize for all of us something we had to hurdle in order to become full grown. . . .



Dr. Jorgenson speaking

"My second greeting is from the stream, from Otra, the strong vigorous stream that dashes all the way through the Setesdal Valley, as it has done day after day for countless ages. . . . It symbolizes the life of the people in the valley; the stream of life. . . . I traveled up to the highest peak, up to the snow line where a tiny stream begins to leap among the rocks. I followed it as it picked up volume, until it reached Bykle, where it rushes over boulders, and leaps over the rocks into the valley below. Its source is much like that of a child. Having grown, he takes a plunge into life's activities; much as a youth wishes to go out and try its strength. . . .

So this stream leaps and runs; past Bjornaraa; past Valle; past Austad. Then as more fully grown and more sure of itself, it streams past Bygland, on to Kristiansand, rushing onward through Setesdalen, a mature river, just like the lives of people have



Elven

streamed through Setesdalen for thousands of years. . . .

" . . . My third greeting is from the Valley itself — the old valley where people have been building and developing through their lifetime, and then departed to let the next generation take over. I greet you from the valley that has produced a living for generation after generation, and which gathers the people to itself as they die, opens up springtime seasons, productive summers, and fall harvests for those whose turn it is to live. . . .

" . . . So I greet you from all three: the mountains, the stream, and the valley. . . ."

After this greeting, Dr. Jorgenson told the audience more about his trip, and then inspired the American-Norsemen into living by his philosophy:

" . . . When I was here seven years ago, I saw several good friends that I do not see here now. Some of you who are here today were with the lag when it started. This sets one thinking. Our state of Minnesota is only 100 years old. Setesdalen has 1500 years of recorded history. Think of the number of generations that have lived, built, tilled the soil, reared a family, and then given place to the next in line. . . . Setesdalen with its old, old history and ageless mountains made me ponder these things when I was there. On my way across to Telemarken a native, an old man, was rowing me across Bjaalen lake. The view set us in a pensive mood, and we pondered the well-planned pattern of life before us. 'What is the meaning of all this?' I asked the man. 'What is the purpose of one generation after the other tilling the soil, living a lifetime, dying, and another generation taking over where the last one left



Fjeldene

off, adding a bit here and a bit there, making a few changes, and, in its turn, pass it all on to another generation. What is the purpose? Does all this have a meaning to you?"

"Yes, I think so". The old man had a ready answer as though this was a much thought of subject to him up in these mountains. "We are each given a piece of land", he went on slowly. "We are given a small piece of this earth. And there is our duty. That piece is to be tilled and improved. It is our duty and privilege to have a part in this plan of improvement, both to the land and to the people." We went on discussing the subject as we sat up there on the timeless mountains and had in mind the other generations of people that might have had similar thoughts, and we agreed that here was the meaning of life. Our purpose is to till, to cultivate, to improve. It means to work and work. Nothing else will do it. Towns, cities, churches, building all must be improved, and when life is over we can say that we have helped to make the world a better place, a nation greater, a people better because we have lived. Man's life is not long enough. . . . That, then, becomes the meaning of the migration into this new country — the meaning of this lag. Life's purpose is to improve. As ages pass by, people will become more loving, more wise, and this will all come about by work and service in love and brotherhood.

. . . "America offers so much that Norway did not have to give us: more land, better soil, good rain and sunshine, and long seasons. As a result we have luxuries. No other country has so much to offer as America. Are we appreciative of all this? What are we



Dalen

doing with it? Let me greet you again from the fjelds, the stream, and the valley of Setesdalen, to remind you of your purpose in the new land as it was in your character to the new world, and to do it in kindness and brotherhood."

Helsing fraa O. T. Skeie

Det har gledd meg overlag mykje at de vil skrive saga om Setesdals laget i U. S. A. naa før alt for mange av dei ruvande "malmfurone" er borte. Det gjev mot og styrke aa hugse sitt opphav og sine røter. Framtia vil vere dykk utflyttarar takksom for at de har halde — og framleis held — sambandet oppe med heimstaden i kjære gamle mor Noreg. Ei slik søge vil lesast med levande interesse paa baae sider av Atlanteren.

Setesdal har sendt mange av sine søner og døtre til det store og rike landet i vest, og vi her heime har mange gonger vore baade stolte og glade over den framgang dei har vunne. Heime var det ofte trengt og vanskeleg, difor laut dei dra ut. I Amerika fekk dei bruk for sine evner og anlegg, paagangsmot og arbeidsvilje paa dei mest ulike omkverve. Dei gav ikkje opp for motgangen i den første kneiken, men vart herda og staalsette av vanskaner og sleit seg ofte mødesamt fram til siger. Dei var, er og vil alltid bli gode ambassadørar som kasta glans over heimbygda og landet sitt.

Store omskifte har det vore i Setesdal i seinare tid, slik at det ville vere vanskeleg for mange aa kjenne seg att. Tilhøva er betre for alle naa, og setesdølene her heime har ogsaa makta aa fylgje med i mykje av det nye som trengjer seg fram paa dei ymse omkverve. Livet har difor vorte lettare og ljosare ogsaa for oss her



Olaf Skeie, writer for "Decorah Posten".

heime i gamlelandet.

Som korrespondent i "Decorah Posten" i over 30 aar har eg freista aa fortelje nytt fraa Setesdal saa langt raad er. I dette arbeidet mitt har eg mange gonger faatt tydelege prov paa at de har sett pris paa breva mine, noko eg har vorte baade glad og takksom for. Sjølv har eg ei mengd skyldfolk og vener i Amerika, serleg i Minnesota og N. Dakota. Ofte har eg hatt ein amerikatur i tankane, men naa er det tvilsomt om det vert noko av.

Med dette sender eg mi beste helsing til slekt, vener og alle andre setesdøler i Amerika med ynske om lykke og framgang i komande dagar. Gud signe dykk alle!

Dykkar

Byglandsfjord, 20/10/53.

O. T. Skeie

CHAPTER X

SETESDAL

By

Berit Senum

Setesdal er lengste dalen paa Sørlandet.

Fraa Vatsend i sud til Bjaalen i Bykle er 165 kilometer. Laagaste staden ligg 203 meter over havet. Bjaalen ligg 800 meter over havet. Urenosi paa Austheii i Bykle er 1484 meter over havet. I dalbotnen renn Otra, sume stader vill, fossande og stri, andre stader logn og still for saa att aa vide seg ut til fjord og vatn.

Vatsend ligg sølt og vent til under Aardalsknappen. Like ved er stasjonsbyen Byglandsfjord som har vakse fram etter at jernbanen fraa Kristiansand S. vart opna i 1896. Det er eit sagbruk og meieri her. Setesdals automobilruter har endestasjonen sin her, og alt i alt er det ca. 60 hus paa plassen. Ved Byglandsfjord tek Byglandsfjorden til. Paa vestsida ligg Horverak, Bø, Klepp og Tveitaa. Rundt om her veks skogen godt. Grani legg liksom eit varmt teppe over det heile. Eik og or gjev inntryk av livd og varme.

Paa austsida er Grendi med den vesle Aardal kyrkje. Grendi er ein open vid kvæv med fleire vene gardar og skoglider rundt om. Tuberkuloseheimen Landeskogen ruver stort nordan for bygdii.

Fraa Grendi kjem ein til Longerak. Fraa 1896 til 1915 var det jordbruksskole og fraa 1902 til 1915 ogsaa husmorskole paa Longerak. Nordan for Longerak er Faanefjeldet som heilt fram til 1920-aari var eit leidt stenge for framkomsten. Fjellet stuper seg hoggbratt i fjorden som her er paa det djupaste, 167 meter. Her har hestar og lass sokke ned naar det ikkje vart synt varsemd nok paa klent isføre. Utanfor mot Longerak veks lauvskog og barskog om kapp. Det er setesdalsnaturi ein møter her, villskap og ynde hand i hand. Men skogen fær yvertaket og villskapen gløymest.

Paa vestsida ligg Dale og Frøyrak. Det er fura som har overtaket her. Det er saa mange smaa kvævar. Horji er ein rund aasrygg nordan for Frøyrak. Den ser ut som ein oter fraa ein kant. Sume meiner at dette er opphavet til namnet Otra. Kvæven ovanfor: Lauvdal paa austsida og Naanes og Skjevrap paa vestsida er vene. Gardane med gørsame skoghall rundt og saa snaue høgheii øvst uppe er eit vent syn.

Lenger opp er Bygland paa austsida og Hamre paa vestsida. Bygland er ei av dei største bygder i dalen (Jordalsbø og Lidi i rekna). Her stend kyrkja ven og stor, og her er landsbruksskulen. Fjorden opnar eitt breitt utsyn mot sud. Mot vest stengjer bratte fjell. Mot nordaust er laage skogkledd aasar og dalføre til Jordalsbø. Paa Bygland er rom til store gardar. Segnene har daa ogsaa lagt kongesogor til desse stader (Kong Hane paa Nese).

Ovan for Bygland vert dalen trong. Bratte høge fjell stengjer paa baare sider, og fjorden blir avskoren, men vidar seg snart ut att. Paa vestsida er Skomedal og Frøysnes med fjell og urder. Men gran og lauvved veks djervt og landskapet fær farge av livskraft. Sandness og Aaraksbø paa austsida har ikkje saa vill natur. Der er meir jamn skog og meir romsamt. Med den breie blaa fjorden er det eit vent syn. Den vesle kyrkja paa Sandness er ven. I Aaraksbø stend kyrkja vent og lagleg midt i bygdi.

Ved Ose sluttar fjorden som er i alt 42 kilometer lang, men elvi gjeng still alt fraa Langeid.

Kvæven Ose-Moi paa vestsida og Austad-Heistad paa austsida er mange gardar med furemoar og granlier og mjuke fjellkambar i himmelsyni. Fraa Heistad til Langeid gjer dalen tverrrok fraa aust til vest. I sandmoane paa Sordal paa austsida veks fura, og i liene paa Tveit og Langeid paa vestsida klarar grani seg fast. Inne paa vestheii ligg gardane Juvassstøl, Hellenen, Pytten og Arneberg. Der bur folk enno. Myhola er øyde. Kile ligg paa austheii, der bur folk no.

Dei fleste gardane i Bygland prestegjeld er no nemnde. Det bur omlag 2000 menneske i Bygland herad, og storleiken er 1356 km.

Saa kjem Hylestad. Det er smaa fossar og stryk i Otraelvi her. Paa Besteland og Hedde som ligg paa vestsida er der høge fjell. Fraa Straume paa austsida til Bjørgum er Otraelvi mest som ein fjord. Rysstad med kyrkja, Brøkke, Berg, Nomeland og Uppstad er paa vestsida og Hovet og Bjørgum paa austsida. I dalbotnen er lange furemoar og lauv- og gran lier opp mot høgfjellet.

Fraa Bjørgum til Flaane er fossar og stryk. Det er berre rom til ein gard her. Det er Flaarenden. Bergveggen stuper seg i elvi paa baare sider. Skogen strever armødsleg oppetter berg og urd. Men det munar lite. Det bur 700 menneske i Hylestad. Det er eige herad, men høyrer til Valle prestegjeld.

Vallebygdi er som ei gryte med skavne fjell rundt om. Her er aarviss og god kornjord, men skog er det lite rom til. Det er mange gardar baade paa aust- og vest sida, husi i krans kring om med kyrkja i midten paa Vaddarhaugen. Lenger oppe er Flate-land, Rygnestad, Lunden og Brøkka. Her er det skog att. Løyland og Røysland har mykje skog. Denne øvste luten av Valle er Oveinang. Valle sammen med Hylestad er 1289 km. stort. I Valle bur 1050 menneske.

Bjørnaraa er synste garden i Bykle. Det er trongt og villslæg for ein kjem til Bjørnaraa, men ovanfor er romslæg og fritt. Det

er villfjell og skogmark som landskapet ber merke av her alt til ein kjem til Trydal. Det synest vere stengt av fjell her, men saa svingar dalen i vest her til Bykil, eit lite vatn i Otra. Her var det paa livet aa fare i gamle dagar. Her var den illgjetne Byklestigen.

Bykle kyrkjebygd ligg høgt. Der er god jord, men der er bratt og steinut. I vest ligg Bosvatn med audslege strender i sud, men med fleire gardar i nørðhalli — Tveiten, Nesland, Bratteli og Dyskje. Austanfor kyrkjebygdi ligg Stavenes. Her er skog. Nordan for kyrkjebygdi er garden Vatnedalen. Ørnefjodd, Hovden, Breive og Bjaan er dei øvste gardane. Buskap, jakt og fiske og reinsdyrhald er levevegen her. Dei er ikkje dalbuar folket her. Dei har store storeviddi utanfor stovedøri. Anstheiane har det beste reinsdyrsbeite. Vestheiane er skar og snauberg og mange stader ligg snøen aaret rundt. Bosvatsdalen og Ljosaadalen skjer av denne fjellheimen. I Ljosaadalen er det skog og ikkje ein foss i elvi. Sunnanfor er fjelldraget Rjuven og i nord Voilenntun. Dravleskoni og Svarvaren er drustelege natur. Bykle er 1552 km. stort med 740 menneske.

Hylestadheiane og heiane paa vestsida er rike paa beite, og det beiter kvar sumar fleire tusen sauer her, mest fraa Rogaland. I vatni er det aure. I Byglandsfjorden er aure og blike. Ein kan seie at setesdalsheiane er fjellflator som er sundskorne av smaadalar og vatn. Kring Byglandsfjorden er dalen mest open og dalsidene slakast. Her mognar seine kveiteslag, medan tidlege byggslag snautt mognar i Bykle. Ja, det har hendt mang ein gong at kornet frys ei frostnatt om hausten i Bykle. Men inne paa viddi fer reinen, ku og sau og geit finn feitt fjellgras dei stutte sumarmaanadene, og rjupa skarrar og fisken sym i vatni. Her har byklaren matbui.

Det er jordbruk, feal, jakt og fiske som var næringsvegen i eldre tid i heile dalen. Det lei langt før skogen kom med. Eldre folk hugsar godt at grani vart hata. Hjuringane skulle hogge ned, belte og rydje or vegen gran saa godt dei kunne. Fura kunne heller faa vekse i fred.

Det var sed og skikk aa vinterfora saa mykje buskap som dei kunne halde liv i. I sumartidi fekk dei godt avdraat paa godt heiebeite. Men vaarknipa kunne vere hard. Daa var det aa skave raun og svige almebork og subbe halmen or sengene for aa prøve aa halde liv i dei arme dyri. Men i seine vaarar hende det at kyrne sturta paa baasen. No for tidi kan me skøne at det var stor glede naar folk og buskap jonsokbel kunne drage til fjells til dei kjære, gamle støylane og det rikeleg beite. I setesdølens hug og draum har støylslivet fenge ein eventyrglans over seg. Aa kome til fjells, til ljose dagar med god mat baade til folk og fe etter ein lang vinter med sparing og kamp mot sveltedauden, det glødde alle seg til. Og til støyls skulle alle. Dei gamle som ikkje orka aa gaa sjølve men laut køyrast og barnet i vogga laut med. Mang ein saag dagsens ljøs for første gong paa støylen, og mang ein saag livssoli si dala ned her, og den siste reis heim til kyrkjegarden gjekk over myr og storrbakkar, svaberg og lyngrabbar. Likkvilone syner den

dag i dag kvar slike ferder har fare. Om lag 3 veker etter jonsok kom slaatefolket til støyls. Med orv og ljaa og rive streva dei i myrsøkk og fjellskorter for aa samle vinterfor til buskapen. Jordi heime paa garden laut nyttast til korn. Poteter bruka dei lite. Fjellet med slaattone var likesaa naudsynt i eldre tid som kraftfor og kunstheyd i vaar tid. Sist i august tok slaatten til heime, og saa kom skurden. Dei durka litt nepe, humle og lin ogsaa. Dei for saa vent med maten dei gamle. Dei visste betre enn oss kva det hadde aa seie naar kornkjeret traunt. Hadde det dotte ned eit kornaks paa aakeren, laut det plukkast opp og berast inn.

* * *

Tussane heldt til i haug og berg alt til 1890. Etter den tid vart det saa mykje larm og staa! Det var noko livleg og spanande med desse graakledde smaa. Ein kunne faa sjaa baade dei og buskapen deira i døkke sumarnetter eller dagar med tykk skodde. Paa støylen raadde tussane. Stelte ein seg greitt med tussane var dei snilde.

* * *

Dei som har røkt etter meinat at det har budt folk i Setesdal saa langt attende som i yngre steinalder som slutta aar 1800 før Kristi fødsel. I bronsealderen og yngre jernalder meinat dei Setesdal var avfolka til i kring aar 350 etter Kristi fødsel, daa dalen vart busett for godt. Den første setesdøl ein veit namnet paa er Halvard Sugande. Han var med i slaget i Hafsrfjord (82 e. Kr. f.) mot Harald Haarfagre.

Saa har dølene levt i denne dalen, avskorne fraa andre dalar av milelange heiar. Dalefolket fekk eit eige lag og lynde. Dei var ljossleitte, høgvakne og sterke, seinvorne i gongetakt og rørsle. Talemaaten var sein og varsam. Det strenge heielivet gjorde dei seige til aa holde ut. Dei lærde seg til aa slaar av paa kravi til husvære og matstell. Dei hadde ord paa seg aa vere ville og harde. Styrken stod høgt. Men dei var trugne og ordstøde. Og dei har hatt kunstnar-givnad. Dei har skapt mykje sermerkt i folkeminne og maal, folke-musikk, stev, kledebunad, byggestil og husbunad. Handelsevne hadde dei lite av, og lite evne til aa halde i hop. Dei tok ikkje disiplin. Kvar var herre paa sin eigen gard. I lange myrke vinterkveldar sat kvendi i Setesdal ved tyre-elden og karda og spann. Saa sov dei i dei ljose vaardagane. Mykje skulle til aa klede heilo huslyden, og alt laut gjerast med hand. Men det vart sterke og varme klede. Fyddone som dei sa, eller skinnfeldane var uslitelege. Naar dei skulle reingjerast, var det aa elde basstoga god og heit og bera alt dit. Saa vart kleidi reine og lukta godt. Dei vaska ikkje saa mykje som naa.

Maten var flatbrød og graut av heimavla korn som dei trekste og mol kvar huslyd til seg. Poteter rekna dei for lite nærande mat. Mjolk, smør, kjøt og flesk bruka dei, men det var kostbare ting og det for meste laut sparast paa. Det var sjuv. Mjølkmaten kalla dei grjon. Husmennene hadde berre ei kyr og 2-3 geiter og nokre



Greetings from people in Setesdalen

sauer, saa det var ikkje alltid dei hadde suvl. Det var hardt for dei aa greide seg. Ingen skjønar naa lenger kva dei levde av.

Men tidene har skifte. Setesdal er ikkje avstengd og gammeldags lenger. Bilar durar opp og ned dalen. Tusenvis av turistar fer gjennom dalen om sommaren, utlendingar saa vel som norske. Og flygemaskinene durar over den dalen som berre for 30—40 aar sidan laag saa still og avgjømd. Setesdølene valde aa draga den nye tid med staak og larm inn i dalen.

Endaa saa heimkjær som setesdølen har vore har utvandringa vore stor. Dei høyrde om det rike Amerika, og det var ikkje rart om mange for over havet. Det var soleklaart at dei ville prøve lukka i det nye landet. Dei unge ville ut og vinne seg rikdom, og saa ville dei heimat til far og mor. Alle ville meimat, men det var ikkje alle som kom. Sume kom, einskilde av dei var verbitne og ein kunne sjaa at dei hadde streva og at dei hadde lengta. Dei hadde vore saa lenge at mor og far var borte, og vinden svaga med graset paa gravene deira. Dei hadde venta saa hardt paa at guten eller gjenta skulle koma heim att. Mot jøl var ventingi sterkast — men oftast kom det ingen, — men det kom kanskje eit brev med ein krota dollarsetel i. Daa stal ei taara seg ned etter skrukne kinn: "Du velsigna baan som kjem meg i hug." Men naar guten eller gjenta ein gong kom heim daa var kanhende den slitne dørhella nedgrodd, og bjørk og ris hadde vakse til i den vesle kjellarhola og berre honnsteinane synte der fjøs og løe hadde stade. Det var gildt aa sjaa heimstaden att paa ein maate, men eg skulle ha kome medan mor og far levde; er det saa mange som har sagt.

Her i dalen tykkjer alle at det var gildt og godt at U.S.A. ville og kunne take i mot saa mange og gi dei slike levevilkaar som dei har gjort.

Setesdal valleys are nestled at the foot of huge mountains



Hylestad



Grendi



Valle

CHAPTER XI

UTVANDRET FRA NORGE TIL AMERIKA

**Desse har reist til Amerika
fraa Bykle herad.
(These have left for America
from Bykle Region.)**

1846

Tallak Gjerm. son Stavenes
Ole Olson Løyning
kona Margit Salomonsen
børn Ole, Salmon, Ole, Arne, Hal-
vor, Anne, Margit.
Bjorgulv Knutson Nesland
kona Anne Aanundsdotter
børn Kristi.
Aanund Mikkelson Bratteland
kona Kristi Olsdotter
børn Mikkell, Ingebjørg, Signe,
Jorunn.

Olav Helgeson Bratteli

1849

Aasmund Olson Trydal

1852

Ole Aamundson Trydal
kona Ingebjørg Aanundsdotter
børn Ingebjørg.
Folke Olson Trydal
Tor Olson Stavenes
kona Anne Olsdotter
børn Gyro, Eli, Anne, Olav.

1866

Vetle Knutson Hovden
Björgulv Tarjaison Bratteland
kona Targjerd Kjetilsdotter f.
Harstad
børn Gunhild, Ketil, Ingebjørg.
Elvind K. Bratteland.
Gyro Olsdotter

1868

Mikkell Eivindson Trydal
kona Gunhild Folkesdotter
Snere Salomonsen Tveiten
kona Ingebjørg Steinsdotter f.
Viki.
børn Margit, Salomon, Stein, Gun-
nar, Gunvor, Ole.

1882

Arne Tarjaison Bjones
kona Eli Olsdotter
børn Tarjai, Margit.
Björgulv Knutson Nesland
Paal Aanundson Byklum.
Halvor M. Holen.

1887

Ole Tarjaison Sanden
Hallvor Tellefson Byklum

1890

Turid Knutsdotter Nesland
Olav Björgulvson Nesland
Halvor Andreson Bratteli
kona Jorunn Mikkelsdotter
Tarald Tarjaison Trydal
kona Gunnvor Mikkelsdotter
børn Tarjai, Mikkell, Birgit.
Aasmund Tarjaison Trydal med fam.

1892

Torkel Mikkelson Nesland
kona Gyro Svenkesdotter
børn Mikkell, Gunnhild.
Ingebjørg Sigbjørnsdotter Vatne-
dalen.

1893

Knut Drengson Byklum
Paal Mikkelson Byklum

Knut Gunnarson Nesland
kona Inger Halvorsdotter
børn Gunnar.

Eivind Tarjaison Skolaas
Gunnar Knutson Byklum
Knut Gunnarson Hoslemo
Arne Aavaalson Trydal

1894

Tore Aavaalsdotter Trydal
Turid Salvesdotter Trydal
Olav Gunnarson Trydal
Knut Olson Byklum, e.
Knut Tellefson Byklum
Knut Olson Ørnefjell
Knut Jonson Hoslemo

1896

Knut Tarjaison Skolaas
1897

Tellef Bjørgulvson Nesland
Olav Tellefson Byklum
1899

Odd Olson Berdalen
Dreng Tellefson Byklum
Knut Tellefson Byklum
Knut Tellefson Byklum
Tallak Tellefson Byklum

1900

Olav Andreson Byklum
Tore Drengsdotter Mosdøl
Aasmund Aavaalson Byklum
Tore Eivindsdotter Trydal
Olav Jonson Bratteli
Knut Salveson Trydal
Olav Knutson Nesland.e.
kona Birgit Drengsdotter
børn Tora, Gunhild, Dreng, Knut,
Jorunn.

Olav Knutson Nesland, y.
Torbjørg Tellefsdotter Byklum
Knut Knutson Byklum

1902

Margit Knutsdotter Breive
Inger Knutsdotter Nesland
Olav Halvorsen Nesland

1903

Eivind Olson Tveiten
Halvor Tallakson Nesland

1904

Bjørn Knutson Skarberg

Knut Jonson Bratteli

1905

Halvor Knutson Skarberg
Aanund Knutson Skarberg

1907

Aavaal Knutson Byklum
Tore Salvesdotter Trydal.

1910

Halvor Jonson Bratteli
Halvør Bjørgulvson Nesland
Inger Knutsdotter Stavenes f.
Nesland
med born Auver, Knut, Gunnhild.
Olav Solli
Knut Arneson Byklum

1911

Margit Kolbeinsdotter Vatnedalen
1912

Tone Jonsdotter Bratteli
Gunnhild Bjørgulvsdotter Nesland.

Dessutan er desse reiste utan at ein veit reiseaar.

Anne K. Hovden	1838
Margit K. Breive	1826
Anders Libu	1834
Halvor A. Tveiten (med fam.)	1839
Snare S. Rynningen (med fam.)	1815
Olav O. Stavenes (med fam.)	1850
Halvor O. Tveiten (Nesland)	1872
Gunnar O. Trydal (med fam.)	?
Folke G. Trydal	1882
Olav E. Trydal (med fam.)	?
Knut S. Trydal	1882
Tore E. Trydal	1874
Tellef T. Trydal	1863
Tarjai T. Bjones (med fam.)	1864
Tarjai K. Byklum	1857
Knut O. Byklum	1875
Tellef D. Byklum	1841
Birgit G. Trydal	1870
Dreng O. Jaaro	1883
Knut O. Jaaro	1888
Osmund O. Gjerden (med fam.)	1868
Jon O. Gjerden	1893
Birgit O. Gjerden	?

Gunnhild O. Gjerden	?	Kona Ingebjørg Gjermundsdr.	
Auver O. Stavenes	?	Olav Kristenson	
Knut O. Stavenes	?	Kona Jorunn Aan. dr.	
Margit O. Hoslemo	1876	Borni Lidvor	3 aar
Asbjørn H. Berdalen (med fam.)	?	Borni Aanund	1 mnd.
Olav K. Breive	1866	Tellef Olsson	
Gunnhild D. Byklum	1896	Kona Signe Knutddtr.	
O. B. Nesland.y.	1884	Barn Ingebjørg	9 aar
H. B. Nesland	1890	Barn Ole	6 aar
Knut J. Bratteli	1878	Barn Knut	3 aar
Halvor M. Holen	1880	Gunnar Bjørgulvson Homme	
Eivind H. Bratteland	1896	Borni Bjørgulv	17 aar
Anlaug T. Holen	1857	Borni Halvor	14 aar
Olav Olsen Stavenes	?	Borni Torgrim	13 aar
Olav E. Sanden	1895	Borni Gunder	12 aar
Eivind K. Skarberg	1879	Borni Birgit	10 aar
Jorund Ørnefjell	1861	Borni Eli	6 aar
Torbjørn Monen Breive	1850		
Birgit S. Hovden	?	1845	
Aslaug S. Hovden	?	Ole Drengson Lunden	
Birgit A. Byklum	1899	Aanund Tellefson Holum	
Olav B. Bjørnaraa	1901	Kona Gunhild Gjermdr.	
Gunnhild H. Trydal	1903	Borni Ingebjørg	
Birgit O. Trydal	1908	Borni Ingebjørg	
Knut E. Trydal	1902	Borni Ingebjørg	
Jon E. Trydal	1907	1846	
Torbjørn E. Trydal	1909	Salve Gunderson Flateland	
Aasmund T. Trydal	1910	Kona Ingebjørg Olsdr.	
Nedskrive av Olav K. Mosdøl,		Born Ole	
Bykle, November 3, 1950		Born Gunder	
		Born Osmund	
		Born Gyro	
		Arne Eivindson Haugom	
		Eivind Arneson Haugom (Kyrkjele)	
		Kona Gunhild Sveinsdr. f.	
		Røysland.	
		Børn Arne, Svein, Halvor	
		Børn Margit, Bjørgulv, Dreno, Tor.	
		Torjus Ketilson Homme	
		Kona Gunhild Olsdr.	
		Borni Sigrid og Tone.	
		1848	
		Torjus Svenson Sannes	
		Kona Torbjørg Torjusdr.	
		Borni Svein, Torjus, Tor.	
		1849	
		Aanund Olson Sannes	
		Kona Birgit Jonsdr.	
		Barn Ole	

**Desse har reist til Amerika fraa
Valle.**

(These have left for America from
Valle)

1843

Tolleiv Roisland
Tjodgeir K. Harstad
Halvor K. Berg
Gunolf Tollefson
Ole Nommeland
Hage Olson

1844

Layrans Jore
Bjørgulv Osm, Dale
Tellef Bjørgulvson

Olav Tjostulvson Holum

1850

Gunder Gjerm. son Løland
Björgulv Olson Sannes
Halvor Tellefson Prestegaarden
Kona Gyro Torjusdtr.
Barn Torjus
Gyro Knutsdtr. Homme
Tarjei Drengson Hoftuft
Kona Sigrid Bjørnsdtr.
Barn Dreng

1851

Eivind Olson Viken
Kona Gyro Knutsdtr. f. Kvestad
Borni Knut, Gunnar, Aanund.
Borni Ole, Torbjørg.

1852

Bjug Sveinson Aamlid
Kona Tore Torsdtr.
Borni Tore, Svaalung Tor,
Borni Torbjørg, Sigrid, Svein.

1853

Gunnar Olson Haugen
Ole Kittelson Tveiten
Kona Birgit Olsdtr.
Jon Halvorson Homme
Barn Birgit
Halvor Jonson Homme
Kona Turid Gjerm.dtr.
Tallak Ulvson Brokka
Kona Aase Tarjeisdtr.
Aanund Salveson Haabakk
Kona Gunhild Olsdtr.
Borni Olav, Salve, Mari,
Borni Anne, Knut.
Halvor Sveinson Berge
Kona Torbjørg Arnesdtr.
Tjostov Olson Hoftuft
Kona Anne Olsdtr.
Borni Gyro, Turid,
Borni Anne, Torbjørg
Knut Halvorson Espetveit
Kona Sigrid Rolleivsdtr. Myrum
Barn Eli.

1854

Tor Olson Sannes
Dreng Arneson Kvestad
Ketil Aanundson Harstad, Gangshei.

Svein Olson Aamlid

Kona Turid Aanundsdtr.

Aanund Olson Sannes

Kona Birgit Olsdtr. f. Kyrvestad

1856

Knut Halvorson Dale
Kona Gyro Esiasdtr.
Borni Halvor, Gyro, Esias.
Ole Aanundson Granemo
Ole Torjuson Dale
Aanund Olson Jore
Kona Targjerd Tjostovsdtr.
Borni Olav, Aslaug, Tjostov.
Olav Tjostovson Hoftuft
Kona Birgit Lagesdtr.
Borni Lage, Tjostov
Anlaug Aasmundsdtr. Jore.
Eivind Torjuson Berge
Knut Arneson Kvestad.
Tor Olson Sannes
Ingebjørg Olsdtr. Sannes
Tore Olsdtr. Sannes
Vilborg Aanundsdtr. Bø
Olav Arneson Kvestad
Kona Anlang Jonsdtr.
Borni Ingebjørg
Torjus Sigurdson Jore
Bjørn Olson Bø
Kona Birgit Steinsdtr.
Borni Gyro Torbjørg, Gunvor
Aanund Torjuson Berge

1859

Salve Aanundson Aamlid
Ole Jonson Dale
Ole Aanundson Aamlid
Gunhild Bjørnsdtr. Jore
Ole Tarjeison Dale

1861

Torgrim Drengson Rike
Kona Anlang Tellefsdtr.
Borni Dreng, Tellef, Aanund
Knut Tarjeison Holum
Paal Tarjeison Holum
Knut Knutson Kvasaker
Kona Torbjørg Knutsdtr.
Borni Knut, Knut, Tore,
Borni Halvor, Jon, Tone
Gunhild Aasm.dtr. Homme

Aanund Tellefson Harstad, Gangshei.

Kona Torbjørg Ketilsdtr.

Borni Tjodgeir, Tone, Bjug,

Borni Ingebjørg, Birgit.

Gyro Olsdtr. Aakre

Johanne Knutsdtr.

Borni Gyro, Tone

Ole Aanundson Harstad

Gro Aanundson Harstad

Margit Salvesdtr. Nomeland

Eivind Bjørnson Haugum

Kona Gunvor Halvorsdtr.

Enke Birgit Tellefsdtr. Aakre

Sigrid Bjørnsdtr. Haugum

Gyro Bjørnsdtr. Haugum

Aanund Gjerm, son Haugum

Targjerd Jonsdtr. Dale

Tone Tellefsdtr. Holum

Ole Gjerm,son Homme

Ingebjørg,son Homme

1866

Ole Gjerm,son Homme

Kona Guro Knutsdtr.

Borni Gjermund, Olav

Borni Knut, Halvor

Knut J. Espetveit

Bjørgulv Jonson Kyrvestad

Kona Margit f. Breive

Borni Gunhild, Jon Aashild,

Borni Knut, Bjørgulv, Olav

Borni Gunnar, Olav.

Aanund Gunnarson Homme

Gyro Aanundsdr. Homme

Mari Gjerm,dr. Homme

Halvor Gjerm,son Holum

Helge Halvorsdtr. Jore

Bjug Ketilson Myrum

Lavarans Jore

Bjørgulv Aasm,son Dale

1868

Ole Nilson Løyland, y.

Kona Torbjørg Taraldsdtr.

Halvor Nilson Homme

Osmund Salveson Homme

Torbjørg Arnesdtr. Flateland

Gunnulf Augundsob Myrum

Kona Gyro Steinsdtr.

Borni Gyro, Gunvor, Augund,

Borni Stein, Helga

Arne Steinson Hoftuft

Kona Gunhild Bjugsdtr.

Borni Gunvor, Ingebjørg, Jorunn,

Borni Stein, Bjug, Aanund, Knut.

Olav Arneson Flateland

Kona Ingebjørg Arnesdtr.

Daniel Olson Aamlid

Kona Gyro Arnesdtr.

Gunvor Olsdtr. Steinsland

Enke Ingebjørg Olsdtr. Kjelleberg

Ketil Halvorson Hoftuft

Kona Gunvor Lagesdtr.

Borni Torbjørg, Lage, Anne

Borni Helga, Halvor

Gunhild J. Espetveit

Salmon Larson Haugebirke

Kona Tone Gunnarsdtr. f. Rike

Barn Lars

Gunnar Salmonson barn

Olav Opsal

Kona Aslaug f. Kjelleberg

Knut Opsal

Gunnar Gunnarson Rike

Olav Aslakson Rike

Gunhild Aslakson Rike

Jorunn Aslakson Rike

Store Jon Halvorson Aakre

1869

Gjermund Aanundson Harstad

1870

Kariolius Espetveit

Kona Tone f. Straume

1871

Augund H. Flateland

Kona Jorunn Tarjeisdtr.

Borni Tarjei. Folke

Ketil Olson Myrom

Kone Birgit Bjugsdtr.

Borni Gyve, Ketil

1873

Nils Olson Løyland e

Kona Tore Olsdtr f. Rysstad

Borni Ole,

gift med Jorunn Ditlifsdr. f.

Bjørnaraa

Aanund Nilson

Halvor Nilson

Tarjei Nilson

Tore Nilsdtr.

Jon Nilson

Torleiv Nilson

Kona Birgit Jonsdtr., f. Kjelleberg

LisleJon Halvorson Aakre

1874

Halvor Sigurdson Sannes

Kona Gyro Salvesdtr.

Ole Olson Kyrvestad

Gunhild Olsdtr. Homme

Arne Aanundson Haugom

Kona Gunhild Jørgensdtr.

Borni Targjerd, Aanund, Jorunn

1875

Halvor Dregson Rike

Kona Gunhild Jonsdtr.

Barn Dreng

Bjug Knutson Kyrvestad

Kona Vilborg Nikolaisen Nomeland

Bjug Ketilson Kyrvestad

1878

Anne Johannesdtr. Espetveit

Borni til bror hennar

Aasne, Johannes, Tarjei

Ole Tarjeison Tveiten

Ketil Tarjeison Nomeland

Kona Sigrid Olsdtr.

Aasmund Halvorson Flateland

Borni Ingebjørg, Tellef

Birgit Aa Røysland Odden

Ole Torson Rygnestad

Kona Sigrid Paalsdtr.

Borni Tor, Vilborg, Birgit, Ingebjørg.

1881

Ole Halvorsen Aakre e

Birgit Tarjelsdtr. Skeidvollen

Ole Aasm son Nomeland

Kona Birgit Aadm.dtr. Dale

Aanund Aanundson Torsdalen

Kona Sigrid Olsdtr.

Borni Torbjørg, Anne, Gundbjørg

Vilhelm Sundsdal

Aanund E. Homme

Tarald Olson Homme

Tellef Sigurson Øyset

Kona Else Jørundsdr. f. Øygjordnet

Birgit Mikkelsdtr. Flaarenden

Ole Olson Brottvet

1882

Tore Aasm.dtr. Jore

Tarald Øyuvson Flateland

Borni Øyuv, Olav

Øyuv Folkesson

Olav Paalson Bø y

Kona Gyro Arnesdtr.

Borni Jørgen, Arne, Torbjørg,

Borni Knut, Gunhild.

Bjørn Steinson Flateland

Tellef Torson Fodtveit

Gunhild Olsdtr. Flateland

Knut Bjørnson Kvestad

Kona Ingebjørg Nilsdtr.

Borni Birgit, Bjørn

Aanund Torson Haugom

Halvor K. Løyland

Eivind Sveinson Røysland

Torleiv Torson Fodtveit

Olav Bjugson Sagneskar m/huslyd

Sigrid Knutsdtr. Rike

Aanund Olson Rike

Bjørn Olson Rike

Ketil Aa Rygnestad

Kona Tone Hallvorsdtr. f Aakre

Gunhild Hallvorsdtr. f Aakre

Saavi Torjuson Myrom

Augund Torson Haugom

Kona Margit Saavesdtr. f Holom

Olav Halvorson Hoftuft m/familie

Kona Torbjørg Saavesdtr.

Daniel Jørgenson Jore

Gyro Saavesdtr. Jore

Jørund Saavesdtr. Jore

Gyro Jonsdtr. Holum

Jorunn Jonsdtr. Holum

1883

Heloise Sundsdal

Bena Sundsdal

Marie Sundsdal

Olav Sundsdal

Henrik Sundsdal

Knut Olson Rike

Gyri Aanundsdr. Kvasaker

Targjerd Aanundsdr. Kvasaker

Olav Aanundsdr. Kvasaker e

Olav Aanundsdr. Kvasaker y

Kona Birgit f. Kvestad

1882

Aasmund Ketilson Rygnestad
m/huslyd
Børn Gyro. Gunhild og Targerd
Olav Torson Rygnestad m/huslyd
Ketil Torson Rygnestad m/huslyd

1884

Olav Knutson Haugom

1887

Arne Vetlesen Myren
Kona Gunne Knutsdtr. Løyland
Barn Vetle
Kristi Vetlesdtr. Dale
Olav Eivindson Dale
Signe Eivindson Dale
Kristi Eivindson Dale
Olav Svenkeson Dale
Svenke Svenkeson Dale
Vetle Svenkeson Dale
Gunvor Svenkeson Dale
Gunhild Torsdtr. Fodtveit

1888

Gyro Olavsdr. Øyne
Olav Saaveson Røysland
Olav Olavson Rike

1889

Tellef S. Holum
Olav Knutson Løyland

1890

Aasmund Olson Brokken
Enke Jorunn Olsdtr. Bø
Kona til Aasmund Anne
Barn Gyro

1891

Svein Knutson Flateland
Svein E. Homme
Ole Olson Brottveit
Jon Olson Brottveit
Gunvor Jonsdtr. Holum
Olav O. Holum e
Knut T. Myrum
Olav Danielson Jore e
Olav Danielson Jore y
Knut Knutson Haugom

1892

Dreng Jonson Kyrvestad
Gyro Knutsdtr. Homme
Torkel K. Flateland
Gunhild Flateland

Targjerd S. Sannes
Olav Olson Røysland
Torbjørg Paalsdtr. Bø
Margit Gjrm.dtr. Rike
Halvor E. Berg
Borni Eivind, Ingebjørg
Olav Aslakson Rike y
Dreng Olson Rike
Tarald G. Bø

Olav Knutson Røysland

1891

Torggrim Olson Kjelleberg
Kona Ingebjørg Taraldsdtr. f.
Aamli

Børn Johanne, Olav, Tarald

1893

Salve Tellefsen Øyne
Margit Halversdtr. Harstad
Jorunn Steinsdtr. Flateland
Jorunn Olsdtr. Flateland
Svein Paalson Løyland
Barn Olav, Augund
Knut Knutson Flateland
Paal Gjerm.son Rike

1894

Aanund K. Homme
Aanund Knutson Homme
Tore Sveinsdtr. Berg
Jorunn Sveinsdtr. Berg
Saave Olson Brottveit
Kone Helga Knutsdtr.
Olav Olson Aamlid
Kona Borghild f. Bjørnaraa
Børn Olav Margit, Knut, Tarjei

1895

Gyro Tarjeisdtr. Bakken

1896

Gundersdtr. Rike, Gunhild

1897

Margit Olsdtr. Løyland
Paal Olson Aamli
Eivind Torjusson Aamli
Margit Drengsdtr. Lunden

1898

Paal Knutson Kyrvestad
Aasmund Jonson Harstad
Ketil Saaveson Holum
Jon Torjusson Rygnestad
Targjerd Rygnestad

1899

Tarjei T. Rygnestad
 Tellef Drengson Rike
 Birgit Drengson Rike
 Gyro Gjem.dtr. Rike
 Halvor Taraldson Homme

1900

Guttorm T. Bø
 Tellef Olson Lien
 Knut Knutson Røysland

1901

Jon Torson Rygnestad
 Kona Jorunn Folkesdtr.
 Helga Sveinsdtr. Berg
 Birgit Haavardsdtr. Viki
 Torbjørg Jonsdtr. Kyrvestad
 Olav Olson Røysland e
 Olav Olson Røysland y

1902

Halvor Tarjeison Opstad
 Kona Anne Torjusdtr. f. Aamli
 Barn Ragnhild
 Tor Aanundson Haugom
 Daniel Olson Espetveit
 Torjus Olson Nomeland
 Aslak Gunnarson Rike
 Gyro Gjerm.dtr. Aakre
 Osmund Gjerm.dtr. Aakre
 Bjug Gjerm.dtr. Aakre
 Folke Halvorson Flateland
 Lars Jonson Kvasaker
 Anlaug K. Rike
 Gunhild Rike
 Lidvor Taraldson Bø
 Olav Ketilson Flateland
 Kona Birgit Gunnarsdtr. Trydal
 Tellef Olson Aamlid
 Helga Olson Aamlid
 Ingebjørg Aamlid
 Eivind Olson Harstad

1903

Halvor Olson Harstad
 Bjørgulv Drengson Bjørnaraa
 Kona Ingebjørg Sigurdsdtr. f. Berg
 Halvor Olson Nomeland
 Olav Kristofferson Viki e
 Paal Jonson Haugen
 Halvor Gunnarson Røysland
 Turid Gunnarson Røysland

Ketil Olson Homme

Torbjørg Olsdtr. Nomeland
 Eivind Knutson Skarberg
 Halvor Sveinson Løyland
 Targjerd Sveinson Løyland

1904

Ragnhild Sveinsdtr. Berge
 Halvor Knutson Rygnestad
 Olav Guttormson Holum
 Torleiv Torjusson Hangom
 Olav Saaveson Holum e
 Svaalaug Jonsdtr. Kyrvestad, kona.
 Aanund Olson Rygnestad
 Ingebjørg Elvindsdtr. Myren
 Margit Torjusdtr. Rygnestad
 Aasne Torjusdtr. Rygnestad
 Anne Torjusdtr. Rygnestad

1905

Torbjørg Gunnarsdtr. Røysland
 Olav Saaveson Holum
 Tor Eivindson Lunden

1906

Gyri Esalasdtr. Homme
 Birgit Gjerm.dtr. Rike
 Anne Aasm.dtr. Aamlid
 Knut Bjørnson Homme
 Georg Lund
 Kona Anne Olavsdr. f. Rysstad
 Torbjørg Taraldsdtr. Bø
 Daniel Bjørgulvson Opstad
 Turid Drengsdtr. kona, f. Viki
 Barn Ingebjørg
 Tellef Drengson Flateland
 Salve Drengson Flateland
 Gyro Lidvorsdtr. Skeidvollen
 Olav Haavardson Viki
 Knut Taraldson Myrum
 Gunnar Halvorson Røysland
 Turid Guttormsdtr. Holum
 Tone Drengsdtr. Viki
 Mikkjaal Gunnarson Harstad
 Tor Eivindson Myri

1907

Olav Gunnarson Harstad
 Bjørgulv Tarjeison Røysland
 Gunne Tarjeison Røysland
 Gunnar Halvorson Røysland
 Olav Drengson Viki
 Salve Gunnarson Røysland

1908

Ketil Esaiasson Homme
Halvor Taraldson Espetveit
Olav Bjørnson Kvestad e
Tellef Danielsen Homme
Gunnar Tarjeison Sannes
Tellef Knutson Sannes

1910

Tarjei Eivindson Brokken
Gunhild Drengsdtr. Lunden
Eivind Aasm. son Brokken
Tarjei Knutson Rysstad
Björgulv Haavardson Viki
Eivind Eivindson Brokka

1912

Tellef Olsen Lien (andre gong)
Olav Olson Hoftuft
Eivind Sigurdson Berg

1913

Knut Danielsson Fodtveit
Halvor Torgeirson Røysland
Tarjei Torgeirson Røysland
Tarjei Halvorson Røysland

1914

Aanund E. Brokka
Kona Tore Aslaksdtr. f. Rike
Halvor Aasmundson Aamlid
Turid Aasm dtr. Aamlid
Eivind K. Kyrvestad
Olav Kr. Viki y
Tore Drengsdtr. Lunden
Torjus Guttormson Holum
Aanund A. Brøttveit
Knut Gunnarson Harstad
Kitel Aanundson Rike
Knut Taraldson Espetveit
Aanund Bjørnson Harstad
Daniel Øyvanson Løyland

1916

Svein Paalson Nomeland
Helga Kristoffersdtr. f. Viki
Barn Sigrid

1920

Birgit Aslaksdtr. Sannes

Tarjei Halvorson Røysland ... 1879
Ingebjørg Halvorson Røysland 1879
Gunnar Svensson Røysland ... 1925
Halvor Salveson Røysland

m/kone 1878

Gyrø Danielsdtr. Fodtveit 1928
Olav Danielsdtr. Fodtveit 1929
Tarjei Knutson Sandnes

Kona Ingebjørg Armandsdaffer
Aamlid

Borni Ingebjørg T. Sandnes
Gyro Eivindsdtr. Myri 1930
Olav Drengson Lunden 1850
Ulf Løyland 1860

Dreng Sveinson Røysland
Kona Helga f. Lunden 1870
Knut Tarjeisson Røysland ... 1899
Svein Knutson Røysland ... 1899
Birgit Olsdtr Brokken

Gunhild Olsdtr Brokken 1890
Halvor Svenson Rygnestad
Gyleik Svenson Rygnestad
Sigrid Svenson Rygnestad
Knut Torleivson Rygnestad ... 1879
og mora

Olav Knutson 1915
Dreng Torkelson Rygnestad ... 1880
Tarjei Torson Lunden 1882
Kone Ingebjørg Aasm. f. Rygnestad
Borni Tor og Asmund

Knut Sveinson Røysland 1924
Birgit Sveinson Røysland ... 1930
Knut Halvorson Espetveit ... 1840
Olav Ketilson Myrum

Kona Torbjørg Aug. Bø 1881
Bjørn Torjusson Myrum 1875
Ketil Røysland Findalen

Kona Gunvor Lagesdtr. f. Hoftuft
Björgulv Olson Hoftuft 1875
Knut Olson Hoftuft
Kona Torbjørg Torsdtr. f.

Haugum 1870
Birgit Olsdtr. Hoftuft 1870

Torjus J. Holum
Gunleik O. Holum
Sigrid O. Holum
Olav O. Holum y

Torjus Knutson Haugum ... 1897
Ingebjørg D. Jore

Sigurd Halvorson Røysland ... 1879

Halvor Tarjeisson Jore
 Tone Jore
 Jon Aasm.son Jore
 Gunhild Gjem.dtr. Homme — 1890
 Halvor H. Hoftuft
 Sigrid S. Nomeland
 Margit O. Nomeland
 Targjerd S. Løyland
 Halvor Løyland
 Olav O. Bø
 Halvor Olson Flateland Hage-
 foss ————— 1870
 Jorunn Flateland
 Targjerd Flateland
 Gunhild Flateland
 Ketil Torson Rygnestad
 Kona Torbjørg Knutsdtr. — 1877
 Olav Knutson Flateland
 Knut Knutson Flateland
 Hallvor Saaveson Røysland
 Kona Gunvor Ketelsdtr
 Ingebjørg Flateland
 Olav Flateland
 Kona Birgit Gunnarsdtr.
 Øyvuv Taraldson Flateland
 Tarald Øyvuvson Flateland
 Aane Olson Steingarden
 Kristi Steingarden
 Olav Folkeson Homme
 Kona Birgit Olsdtr.
 Gyro Olsdtr. Steingarden
 Niklos Flateland
 Olav Steinson Flateland
 Bjørn Steinson Flateland
 Jorunn Flateland
 Olav Halvorson Hoftuft
 Signe Halvorson Hoftuft
 Turid Halvorson Hoftuft
 Gyro Knutsdtr. Haugum
 Gjermund Olson Kvasaker — 1926
 Knut Olson Kvasaker ——— 1923
 Tor Olson Haugen ————— 1850
 Knut O. Jore ————— 1894
 Kona Anne f. Berg ————— 1894
 Dreng Aanundson Rike Tors-
 dalen ————— 1889
 Ketil Aanundson Rike
 Torleiv Olson Homme
 Svein Olson Homme

Gyro Olson Homme
 Gyro Gjerm.dtr. Homme ——— 1866
 Gunvor Gjerm.dtr. Home ——— 1866
 Olav Olson Homme
 Ingebjørg Homme
 Torgrim Torson Homme
 Kona Hæge Tarjeisdtr. f. Bjørnaraa
 Borni Tone og Tor.
 Knut Osm.son Jore
 Kona Asbjørg Gjerm.dtr.
 8 børn
 Gyro H. Homme
 gift med Halvor Holen
 Sigrid Eivindsdtr. Homme
 Gunnuv Eivindsdtr. Homme
 Gunhild O. Homme
 Gunnar Torsson Homme
 Dreng Halvorson Homme
 Tor Halvorson Homme
 Ketil Taraldson Homme
 Bjørgulv Knutson Homme
 Aane Jonsson Homme
 Gunhild Øyvusdtr. Homme
 Tore Homme
 Ingebjørg O. Homme
 Eivind O. Homme
 Birgit Tveiten
 Kjetil H. Aamlid
 Ingebjørg K. Aamlid
 Halvor Torson Aamlid
 Kona Torbjørg Fødd Torsdalen
 Gyro Sigurdsdtr. Aamlid
 Olav Sigurdsdtr. Aamlid
 Saavi Sigurdsdtr. Aamlid
 Aanund Torjussøn Aamlid
 Eivind Torjussøn Aamlid
 Guttorm Halvorson Aamlid
 Gunleik Halvorson Aamlid
 Aanund Halvorson Aamlid
 Gyro P. Bø
 Halvor Torjuson Aamlid
 Olav Olson Aamlid
 Eivind Olson Aamlid
 Olav Olson Aamlid
 Grunde Olson Aamlid
 Ingebjørg Aamlid
 Saavi Halvorson Aamlid ——— 1850
 Kona Signe f. Straumi
 Aslaug Olsdtr. Viki

med 1 barn		Stein H. Aamlid Haabak	
Olav O. Brottveit		Olav Sigurdson Aamlid e	
Saavi Brottveit		Kona fraa Kr.sand	
Knut Olson Tveiten		Tarjerd Torjusdtr. Berg	
Olav Knutson Tveiten		Peder Svenson Homme	
Detleiv Knutson Tveiten		Olav Svenson Homme	
Aanund Bjørnson Harstad	1914	Aanund Svenson Homme	
Torgrim Tjorgeirson Harstad		Ragnhild Sveinsdtr. Berg	
Knut Tjodgeirson Harstad		Jorumm Sveinsdtr. Berg	
Borghild Ketilsdtr. Vatnedalen		Tore Sveinsdtr. Berg	
Olav Tellefson Kvestad		Anne Ketilsdtr. Homme	
Knut Tellefson Kvestad		gift med Halvor Tveiten, Bykle	
Tarjei Knutson Sannes		3 børn	
Kona Ingebjørg Aasm.dtr.		Gjermund Homme	
Aamlid	1926	Ingebjørg Danielsdtr. Homme	
Aasmund Saaveson Sannes		Aanund Danielsdtr. Homme	
Paal Tarjeison Tveiten		Gyro H. Homme	
Aasmund Tarjeison Tveiten		Ketil Torjussøn Homme	
Aanund Gunleikson Bø		Olav Torjussøn Homme	
Olav Gunleikson Bø		Joraand Esaiasdtr. Homme	
Tarjerd Gunleikson Bø		Halvor Knutson Homme	
Ole Taraldsen Langeid		Gyro Gunnarsdtr. Homme	
Kona Ingebjørg Gunleikdtr. Bø		Aanund Gunnarsdtr. Homme	
Joraand Olsdtr. Bø		Olav Slettevoll	
Aanund Gunleikson		Ragnhild Slettevoll	
Knut Saaveson Nomeland		Svaalaug Slettevoll	
Gunnar Aslakson Nomeland		Olav Slettevoll	
Olav Knutson Kyrvestad		Aslaug Aslaksdtr. Homme	
Olav Jonson Kyrvestad		Gunnhild Esaiasdtr. Homme	
Olav Paalson Haugen e		Gyro Halvorsdtr. Homme	
Olav Paalson Haugen y		gift med Ketil T. Bjørnaraa	
Tor Olson Haugen		Borni Halvor, Anne	
Daniel Danielson Homme		Folke Gunnarson Dale	
Ketil L. Skeidvøllen		Kona Torbjørg Olsdtr.	
Olav Ketilson Kyrvestad	1880	Gunnar Folkeson Homme	
Birgit Knutsdtr. Bø		Kona Gunvor Lavransdtr. f. Jore	
Torbjørg Jonsdtr. Kyrvestad		Borni Torbjørg, Folke	
Halvor Saaveson Aamlid		Esaias Ketilson Homme	
Olav Saaveson Aamlid		Ketil Olson Homme	
Sigrild Olsdtr. Aamlid		Ketil K. Kvasaker	
Signe Olsdtr. Aamlid		Olav K. Kvasaker	
Bjørgulv Saaveson Aamlid		Knut Lien	
Olav Olson Aamlid		Jørgen Homme	
Olav Olson Aamlid		Osmund J. Dale	
Saave Olson Aamlid		Karl Lund	1907
Halvor Olson Aamlid		Angund O. Bø	
Birgit Knutsdtr. Berg		Knut O. Bø	1926
Knut Halvorson Berg		Gyro Lavransdtr. Homme	
Tor Torjussøn Berg		Saave Aslakson Sannes	

Kristoffer Sundsdahl
 Augund Bjørnson Prestegarden
 Ketil Tellefson Øyne
 Jon Tarjeison Hoftuft
 Olav Halvorson Hoftuft
 Olav O. Hoftuft
 Tarjei O. Hoftuft
 Tallak O. Hoftuft
 Margit O. Hoftuft
 Daniel J. Jore
 (Nedskrive ved Torleiv Aakre med
 fleire i Valle, 1950.)

**Desse har reist til Amerika fraa
 Hylestad.
 (These have left for America from
 Hylestad).**

1845

Knut Halvorson Rysstad
 kona Margit Jonsdotter
 born Halvor, Anne
 Tarjai Olson Faremo
 kona Anlaug Olsdotter
 born Astrid, Tarjai, Anne.
 Halvor Augundson Brokke
 kona Birgit
 born Augund, Tarjai.
 Knut Augundson Brokke
 kona Birgit Eivindsdotter
 born Augund, Sigrid, Liv.
 Bjørgulv Gjermundson Uppstad
 kona Turid Knutsdotter
 born Ingebjørg, Knut
 Salve Tellefsen Helle
 kona Inger Eivindsdotter
 born Tellef, Gyro, Eivind.
 Salve Knutson Helle.

1850

Torjus Knutson Helle
 kona Margit Knutsdotter
 born Knut, Birgit.
 Svenke Tarjaisson Rysstad
 Folke Sveinson Berg
 Vetle Taralson Bjørgum
 Sigrid Taralson Bjørgum
 Aanund O. Hovet (Kvestad)
 kona Birgit Bjugsdotter Brokke

Olav Salveson Hovet
 kona Torbjørg Tellefsdotter
 Knut Olson Hovet
 kona Anne Torjusdotter
 born Olav, Anne.

1853

Halvor Torjussøn Faremo
 Torjus Tarjaisson Haugen
 kona Ingebjørg Aanisdotter
 born Tarjai, Anne, Gunnar, Signe,
 Gyro, Knut.
 Paul Torsson
 kona Torbjørg Torjusdotter
 born Anne, Tor.
 Olav Knutson Hovet
 kona Birgit Torsdotter
 born Tora, Knut, Gyro, Tor, Ole,
 Tellef.
 Nikolai Tarjaisson Helle
 kona Liv Salvesdotter
 born Tarjai
 Jon Torson Helle
 kona Siri Andersdotter fraa Evje
 Salve Arneson Haugen
 kona Gunhild Haavardsdotter
 born Signe, Sigrid, Anne.
 Sigurd Olson Hovet
 Salve Olson Hovet
 kona Gyro Knutsdotter
 born Margit, Tone, Gunhild, Anne,
 Torbjørg, Knut.
 Olav Aanundson Rysstad.
 Tellef Torson Hovet

1854

Birgit Arnesdotter Rysstad
 Arne Torjussøn Besteland
 Birgit Torjussøn Besteland
 Knut Olson Opstad
 Gunnar Olson Helle
 Knut Olson Helle
 Tellef Tellefsen

1861

Jorunn T. Helle (enke)
 med to born Margit, Tarjai.
 Olav Jonson Helle
 kona Anne Asbjørnsdotter
 born Birgit, Asbjørn, Torbjørn,
 Sigrid, Gyro.
 Knut Jonson Brokke

kona Ingebjørg Pedersdotter
 børn Rannei, Tarald.
 Olav Johanson Brokke
 Olav Torjussøn Rysstad
 Olav Olson Flaarenden
 kona Margit Tarjaisdotter
 børn Olav, Sigrid, Tarjai, Anlaug,
 Gunhild, Halvor.
 Jorund Tarjaisdotter Faremo
 med 3 børn Olav, Tarjai, Mikkel.
 Haavard Olson Besteland
 kona Sigrid Tellefsdotter
 børn Tellef Haavardson Besteland
 kona Turid Knutsdotter
 børn Haavard.
 Knut Eivindson Besteland
 kona Jorunn Knutsdotter
 børn Birgit, Gunhild.
 Olav Knutson Besteland
 kona Gyro Olsdotter
 børn Halvor, Eivind.
 Jon Aasm,son Nomeland
 kona Jorunn Neresdotter
 børn Jorunn, Halvor, Aasmund.
 Jørgen Knutson Nomeland
 kona Targjerd Olsdotter
 børn Jorunn, Ingebjørg, Knut, Olav,
 Gunnar, Ragnhild.
 Olav Knutson Hovet
 kona Birgit Torsdotter
 børn Tore, Tor, Gyro, Knut, Olav,
 Svaalau, Birgit
 Halvor Torjussøn Rysstad
 kona Sigrid Taralsdotter
 børn Jorunn
 Olav Knutson Brokke
 kona Birgit Knutsdotter
 børn Birgit, Jorunn, Sigrid.
 Knut Knutson Besteland
 kona Birgit Torgimsdotter
 børn Jorunn, Anlaug, Eli.
 Torgrim Halvorson Rysstad
 kona Torbjørg Gunnarsdotter
 børn Ingebjørg, Gunnar, Knut,
 Tone, Anne
 Asbjørn Tarjaisson Rysstad
 kona Sigrid Taraldsdotter

1868

Torjus Olson Brokke

kona Anne Taralsdotter
 børn Gyro, Rannei.
 Gyro Olsdotter Brokke
 Gjermund Brokke.
 Halvor Johanson Brokke
 Halvor Borgarson Haugen
 kona Torbjørg Jørgensdotter
 børn Tarjai, Jørgen, Inger, Olav.
 Jon Olson Hovet
 kona Aashild Olsdotter
 børn Olav, Tellef, Olav, Halvor.

1878

Knut Aanundson Helle
 kona Tone Halvardsdotter Hovet
 børn Margit
 Margit Andresdotter Helle.
 Tor Olsson Straumi med kone og
 børn.
 Ingebjørg Bjugsdotter Rysstad,
 Besteland.

1881

Herjus Olson Haugland
 kona Sigrid Tarjaisdotter Bjørgum
 børn Olav, Ingebjørg, Mikkel.
 Gunnar Tarjaisson Rysstad med
 børn Tarjai, Aasmund, Torbjørg

1882

Tarjai Aanisson Rysstad
 Torjus Aanisson Rysstad
 Tarjai Bjugsson Brokke, Haabakk
 Knut Bjugsson Brokke, Haabakk

1887

Grunde Olson Opstad
 kona Asbjørg Gunnarsdotter
 børn Olav, Gunnar, Anlaug.
 Liv Mikkelsdotter Flaarenden
 Tarjai Taraldson Brokke
 Gunnar Taraldson Brokke
 Sigrid Torjusdotter Brokke
 børn Signe og Margit Bjugsdotter
 Sigurd Gjermundson Faremo
 kona Jorunn Gjerm.dtr.
 børn Signe.
 Salve Bjugson Brokke
 kona Ingebjørg Tarjaisdotter
 børn Ingebjørg, Torbjørg, Bjug,
 Tarjai, Saave.
 Olav Knutsson Straumi (Helle).
 Tarald Asbjørnsson Flaarenden

Hallvard Gjermundson Helle
kona Ingebjørg Olavsdatter Helle
Olav Gjermundson Helle
Knut Eiriksson Nomeland med mor
si.

Tarjai Tarjaisson Hovet, Midbø.

1888

Halvor Halvorson Rysstad
kona Torbjørg Olsdatter
børn Gro, Sigrid, Halvor, Turid,
Olav, Anne, Signe.

Aanund Olson Rysstad

Daniel Jonsson Helle

Tarjai Torleivsson Bjørgum Bakken

Gunnar Jonsson Bjørgum

Tarald Vetleson Uppstad

kona Ingebjørg Mikkjelsdatter

Flaarenden

med fleire børn.

1889

Gunnar Jonson Helle

Torov Gjerm. Helle

Olav Knutson Rysstad

Margit Knutsdatter Rysstad

Gro Knutsdatter Helle

Tarald Torleivsson Bjørgum

Tarjai Torleivsson Bjørgum

1891

Tarjai Herjussøn Haugland

kona Ingjerd Anersdatter Rysstad

børn Sigrid, Herjus.

Torbjørg Olsdatter Faremo

barn Olav.

1892

Bjørn Gjermundson Nomeland

kona Signe, Olsdatter

børn Signe, Ingebjørg.

Olav Nereson Berge

Sigrid Bjugsdatter Brokke

Birgit Olsdatter Berge

Gjermund Knutson Rysstad

Jon Olsson Steineliði Berg

1896

Knut Andreson Helle

Tarjai Olson Helle

Olav Tellefson Straumi

1897

Torov Borgarson Helle

1899

Saave Arneson Bjørgum

Tarjai Gjermundson Helle

Knut Olson Haugo Helle

Bjørgulv T. Rysstad

Bjørgulv Tarjaisson Rysstad

1900

Knut Paalson Rysstad

Knut Folkeson Helle

Gro Folkesdatter Helle

Helga Tarjaisdatter Uppstad

1901

Lars Arnson Bjørgum

1902

Saave Aanundson Rysstad

Jorunn Tellefsdatter Berg

Lars Tellefsdatter Berg

Gunnar Olsson Faremo

Knut Borgarson Helle

Tone Borgarson Helle

Gunnar Bjørgulvson Rysstad

kona Birgit Heggland

børn Bjørgulv

Aanund Arneson Rysstad

Arne G. Bjørgum, Berg.

Saavi Saavison Rysstad

Knut Saavisson Rysstad

1903

Bjug Knutson Rysstad

Aanund Salveson Rysstad

Targjerd Paalsdatter Rysstad

Torjus Gunnarson Straumi

Knut Knutson Rysstad

Tore Arnesdatter Rysstad

Tellef Larson Berg

Halvor Salveson Rysstad

Vilborg Saavisdatter Rysstad

(Gunnbjørg).

1904

Halvor Borgarson Helle

Dreng N. Hovet med børn

Sigrid, Knut, Anne.

Gunnar Drengson Hovet

Ingebjørg N. Hovet

Sigrid Aanunds datter Berg

med børn Ingebjørg, Vilborg,

Tarjerd, Aanund, Helga, Inger.

Olav Olson Haugen

kona Jorunn Andresdatter Helle

Turid Danielsdatter

Hallvard Olavson Nomeland

1905

Bjug Tellefson Brokke

Ingebjørg Tellefson Brokke

Tore Halvorsdotter Brokke

Eirik Olavsson Nomeland

1907

Aanund Olavson Rysstad

Tarjai Torovson Besteland

Halvor Torovson Besteland

1908

Gunnar Olavson Haugen

kona Birgit Rysstad

børn Tone, Gunnhild, Olav.

Aanund Taraldson Hovet

1909

Olav Torulvson Berg

Gunnhild Tarjaisdotter Uppstad,

Olav Torleivsson Straumi

kona Valborg Tarjaisdotter Straumi

Aanund Olavsson Nomeland

1910

Torleiv Taraldson Hovet

Tarjai Bj. Rysstad

Knut Torulvson Faremo, Berg.

Tarjai Paalson Rysstad

Torgbjørg Niklosdotter Brokke,
Haabakk.

Eivind Olavsson Rysstad

Saavi Torleivson Brokke

1911

Jorunn Niklosdotter Brokke,
Haabakk.

Olav Paalson Rysstad

Tarjai Taraldson Uppstad

Gunnar Aanison Berg

Anne Taraldsdotter Hovet

Torleiv Torolvsson Berg

1912

Lars Niklosson Berg

1913

Jorunn Sigurdsdotter Uppstad.

Olav Torson Rysstad

Olav Arneson Rysstad

Tarjai Torsson Rysstad

Eivind Eivindson Uppstad

Gunnar Andresson Bjørgum

Etter 1914

Niklos Bjørgulvsson Besteland

Knut Torjusson Helle, Hagen y.

Torleiv Torjusson Helle, Hagen

Bjørgulv Tarjaisson Rysstad

kona Turid Olavsdotter Helle
med 3 børn.

Knut Torleivsson Helle

Svein Hallvardson Helle

Jon Hallvardson Helle

Knut Hallvardson Helle

Gunnar Gunnarson Straumi

Tarjai Bjørgulvsson Rysstad

Tarjai Asbjørnsson Rysstad

Asbjørn Tarjaisson Rysstad

Bjørgulv J. Rysstad

Aanund Olavsson Rysstad

Bjørgulv Gunnarsson Rysstad

Olav Gunnarsson Rysstad

Tarjai Gunnarsson Rysstad

Gunstein Gunnarson Rysstad

Saavi Olavsson Nomeland

Eivind Gunnarson Rysstad

Tarjai Aanundson Rysstad

Knut Aanundson Rysstad

Vette Aasmundsson Faremo

Saavi Saavisson Nomeland

Arne Torson Hovet

Erik O. Nomeland (3 gong).

Saavi Torleivsson Brokke (2 gongi)

Olav Hallvardsson Brokke

Tarjai Niklosson Besleland, Brokke.

Torleiv Torleivsson Brokke

Tarald Aanisson Berg. e.

Olav Aanisson Berg

Jon Aanisson Berg

Bjørgulv Taraldsson Harstad, Upp-
stad.

Tone Taraldsdotter Harstad, Upp-
stad.

Jon Taraldsson Harstad, Uppstad.

Tore Hallvardsdotter Uppstad med
børn Tora, Birgit, Halvard, Tor-

Bjørg, Bjørgulv, Knut

Folkje Jonsson Uppstad

Jon Folkjesson Uppstad

Jon Torleivsson Bjørgum

Dreng Knutsson Hovet

Jon Knutsson Hovet

Gro Olavsdotter Hovet

Gunnvor Olavsdotter Hovet

Knut Olavsson Rysstad.
Hans Sveinsson Uppstad
—Nedskrive ved Jon Bjørgulvson
Rysstad og Aani Rysstad m. fl.
—1950

**Desse har reist til Amerika fraa
Bygland.
(These have left for America from
Bygland).**

1843

Tellef Gunnulvsen Huset
kona Hæge Olsdotter
børn Gunnuf, Aase, Margit, Anne,
Ingebjørg.
Olav Tellefsen Huset
kona Andrea Marie Sørensdatter.

1844

Nere Gunnarson Skomedal
med 3 børn Nils, Jørgen, Gunnar.
Nils Tarjaison Skomedal
Olav Tarjaison Skomedal
Olav Tarjaison Skomedal
Baard Nilsson Aakhus
kona Torbjørg Knutsdotter
børn Berte, Knut, Peder, Lars.

1845

Knut Person Heggland
kona Gro Eivindsdotter
børn Gro, Peder.
Tor Nilson Neset
kona Torbjørg Bertovsdatter
børn Hæge, Nils, Marte, Asgjerd,
Bertov, Aanund.
Aasuly Knutson Krosstog
kona Anne Gunnarsdotter
børn Kristi, Jorond.
Gunnar Knutson Heggland
kona Jorond Gunnarsdotter
børn Omund, Torbjørg, Sigrid.

1846

Bjørgulf Gunnarson Nordenaa
(Austad)
kona Gunhild Olsdotter
børn Birgit, Grunde, Tore.
Torjus Tjøstulfsen
kona Aashild Knutsdotter
børn Aanund.

1847

Tomas Aasmundsen Haugen (flutt
attende).

1850

Nils Gulliksen Lidtveit
kona Anne Torjusdotter
børn Hæge, Tarjai, Gullik, Tore,
og konas mor Sigrid Olsdotter.
Aanund Gunnufsen Langerak
kona Anne Olsdotter
børn Turid, Aase, Ole, Kari.
Gunnar Tallakson Lidtveit
Torbjørn Vraalsen Bygland
kona Birgit Jørundsdotter
Gunstein Tellefsen Krosstog
kona Sigrid Gunsteinsdotter
Olav Olsen Sandnes
kona Margit Torsjusdotter
børn Tore, Anne.

1850

Olav Knutson Stoplestog
Olav Jørgensen Sandnes
Olav Olsen Gakkestad
Stein Aanundsen med
2 børn Aanund, Gro.
Aslak Aslakson Bergland
kona Ingeborg Neresdotter
børn Aslak, Anlang, Berte, Nere.
Olav Nereson Stenili
kona Asbjør Jonsdotter
børn Jon, Anlang, Nere, Anne, Olav.
Aasuly Eivindson Landsverk
kona Berit Torjusdotter
børn og dotterson, Gyro, Siri,
Eiviud, Torjus, Torkjell, Brigde.
Gunstein Paulsen Greibrokk
Halvor Jensen Lien reist attende
til Noreg
Aanund Jensen Lien reist attende
til Noreg
Ole Aasmundsen Sandnes reist at-
tende til Noreg
Henrik Lien reist attende til Noreg
Aasuly Torbjørnson Treit
kona Gunhild Torbjørnsdotter
børn Torbjørn, Taral, Salve, Torjus,
Aanund, Ragnhild, Anne, Anne.

1851

Olav Halvorson Birkeland

Aanund Torjussøn Nedstoga
 Torjus Gunnarson Tveit
 Birgit Gunnarsdatter Heggland og
 mannen hentar Svenkje T. Rysstad
 Signe Gunnarsdatter Heggland
 Jørgen Aanundson Neset
 Torkjell Rollefson Bygland
 kona Ingebjørg Knutsdatter
 og systera Gyro Knutsdatter
 Olav Knutson Nordenaa
 kona Kristi Asbjørnsdatter
 børn Gunne, Signe, Knut, Mari,
 Anne, Anne.
 Halvard Knutson Neset med
 børn Knut, Jørgen, Olav.
 Gunnar Aamundson Austad og
 datter Signe
 Kjetil Asbjørnsen Lidtveit
 Tore Olsdatter Gakkestad
 Anne Larsdatter Skreland
 Saave Olsen Gakkestad
 Knut Bjørnson Haugen
 kona Targjerd Olsdatter
 børn Bjørn, Torbjørg, Knut.
 Knut Olsen Frøysnes
 kona Birgit Jonsdatter
 børn Anlaug
 Torbjørg og Birgit Aanundsdatter
 Saaghus
 Torbjørg Gunnarsdatter Saaghus.

1853

Knut Salvson Frøysnes
 kona Signe Aslaksdatter
 børn Ingebjørg, Gunhild, Anlaug,
 Salve,
 Halvor Knutson Langeid
 kona Anne Olsdatter
 børn Anne.
 Aanund Olsen Frøysnes
 kona Margit Knutsdtr, Frøysnes
 Anlaug Tellefsdatter Frøysnes
 Isak Aasmundsson
 kona Tone Madsdatter Sandnes
 børn Aasmund.
 Tomas og Torbjørn Gundersen Eld-
 huset.
 Olav Aasmundson Sandnes
 Torgjörg Augustine Salvesdatter
 Haugen

børn Ingebjør, Anne.
 Lars Bjørnson Haugen
 Sigrid Lagesdatter Nordenaa
 Knut Asbjørnson Lidtveit (reist
 attende)
 kona Jorond Taraldsdatter (reist
 attende)
 Gunnar Aa. Saaghus (reist attende)
 kone Taarand Taraldsdatter (reist
 attende)
 børn Aamund (reist attende)
 Jørgen Tellefsen (reist attende)
 kona Gunhild Tarkjellsdatter, reist
 attende)
 børn Mari, Mari. (reist attende)
 Torstein Tellefsen (reist attende)
 kona Birgit J. Lien (reist attende)
 børn Tore, Mari, Birgit (reist at-
 tende)
 Ingebjørg Knutsdatter Helleneset
 børn Olav Aadneson, Gunne Aadne-
 son, Knut Aadneson.
 Lidvor Olsen Skomedal

1854

Jon Gulliksen
 kona Eli Torjusdottetr Hamre
 børn Gullik, Sigrid, Tarjai
 Tarjai, Knut og Jakob Olsen
 Jørgen Torjussen Horverak
 kona Kari Jensdatter
 børn Torjus, Anne.

1856

Aasmund Olsen Sandnes
 Nere og Knut Olsen Sandnes reist
 attende

1858

Olav Tallakson Lidtveit
 Knut Knutson Frøysnes
 kona Margit Aasmundsdatter
 børn Knut Berte
 Knut Salvson Stoplestog
 kona Berthe Isaksdatter
 børn Salve, Olav.
 Knut Aasmundsen Stoplestog

1859

Olav Olson Gakkestad
 kona Birgit Augundsdatter
 børn Salve, Birgit, Eli, Tore.

1860

Knut Olson Heistein
Olav Knutson Heistein
kona Anne Torjusdotter Heistein
Olav Olsen
Birgit Torbjørnsdotter Heistein
Torjus Olsen
kona Anne Bjørgulfsdotter Heistein
med barnet Bjørgulf Bjørnson
og to børn Anne og Olav
Anne Mikkjelsdotter Lien med 3
døtrar
Kristi, Hæge og Anne.
Olav Olavson Sordal
kona Jorond Tomasdotter
børn Olav.
Aslak Tomasson Stoplestog med
broren Gunne og systera Tore
Grunde Tellefsen Langhei
kona Gro Arnes dotter
børn Tellef, Signe, Arne.

1861

Gunnar Jørgensen Langerak
kona Kristi Gunnarsdotter
børn Jørgen, Gunnar.
Olav Vraalsen
kona Ragnhild K. Hofstad
børn Vraal, Aslaug Gyro, Ragnhild.
Knut Vraalsen Hofstad
Birgit Olsdotter Langerak med 7
børn
Torbjörg, Olav, Birgit, Olav, Tone,
Daniel, Gunnar.
Knut Olsen Gakkestad
Ragnhild Knutsdotter Greibrokk
med dotter Margit
Gunhild Lidvorsdotter Skomedal
Helge Olsdotter Langerak
son Gunstein Tobiassen
Olav Jørgensen Helleviken
kona Tone Olsdotter
børn Thore, Jørgen, Jakob, Birgit,
Vraal.
Tarald Gunnarson Langeid
kona Birgit Aasmundsdotter
børn Gunnar, Aasmund, Halvor,
Ole, Eivind, Jorond, Anne.
Arne Olsen kona Anne Knutsdotter
børn Hæge og Karl (reist attende)

børn Brigde, Knut, Arne, Torbjörg,
Tarjai, Anne.
Sigurd Olsen Krosstog
kona Turid Tarjaisdotter
børn Olav
Torjus Olsen Bø.
Olav Sigurdson
kona GroKnutsdotter
børn Mari, Gunne, Gunnar, Nere,
Gunnar.
Knut Olsen Krosstog
kona Birgit Olsdotter
børn Olav, Gro, Olav.
Olav Knutson Krosstog med
4 børn Kristi, Jorond, Knut, Hæge.
Knut Olsen Straumen
kona Ingeborg Olsdotter
børn Jorond, Anne, Bjørgulf. og
sonedotter Ingebjörg Aslaksdotter
Halvor Olsen Lien
kona Mari Tolleivsdotter
børn Alf, Birgit, Tolleiv, Anne,
Anne.
Mari Neresdotter Krosstog
Gunnar Olsen
kona Gyro Torsdotter Greibrokk
børn Olav, Tor, Mari, Mari, Aasuly,
Ingebjörg.
Gunnar Aanundsen Saaghus
kona Jorond Taraldsdotter
børn Anund, Tarald, Gunhild
Saave Kristensen Lien
Gunnar og Margit Taraldsdotter
Frøysnes
Torbjørn Tollefsen
Birgit Gunnesdotter Krosstog
Gunne Taraldson
Gyro Tolleivsdotter Krosstog
Salve Olson
kona Taarond Tallaksdotter
børn Anne, Birgit, Anne, Gunvor,
Alf, Tallak.
Arne Knutson Frøysnes (reist at-
tende)
Sven Bjørgulfsen Langhei
Meinert Appel
kona Tone Andresdotter
børn Birgit, Borghild.
Ole Værntsen

kona Tore Torsdotter Vassenden
børn Tore, Henrik, Arne, Olav, Gyro

1862

Jørgen Torjussen Vassenden
kona Kari Jensdotter
børn Torjus, Anne, Sigrid,
Torjus Olsen Heistad
kona Anne Bjørnsdotter Heistein
Knut Knutson Aakhus
Tarald Torjussen Horverak
kona Torbjørg Jonsdotter
børn Tarjal, Tore.
Anne Olsdotter Gakkestad (reist
attende)
Søren Tjøstolfsen
kona Margit
børn Tone, Knut, Paal, Olav.
Tjøstolf Sørensen Krossfeden
kona Mari Tellefsdotter
børn Margit.
Jørgen Tellefsen
kona Gunhild Torkjellsdotter
børn Mari og Mari
Torstein Tellefsen Saaghus
kona Birgit Jørgensdotter
børn Tore, Mari, Margit, Tellef,
Anne, Jørgen.
Bjørn Jørgensen
kona Taarond Aslaksdotter
børn Sigrid
Torbjørg Svenkjesdotter Austad.

1866

Gunnar Tjøstulfsen Nedstoga
med sonen Tjøstul.
Jørgen Bjørnson Austad
kona Randi Olsdotter Austad
Sven Olsen
kona Turid Annundsdotter
børn Amund, Eivind, Bjørgulf.

1868

Tellef Olsen Øse
Birgit Nilsson Borgi
Børn Torkjellson Sordal
kona Ingebjørg Olsdotter
børn Torkjell, Olav, Tarald, Olav.

1870

Aanund Jensen Lien
Margit Halvorsdotter
børn Gyro, Jens, Tarald, Birgit.

Henrik Jensen Hamren
kona Anne Knutsdotter
børn Olav, Jens, Birgit.
Anders Johnsen Øen
Gunhild Gulliksdotter
Torbjørn Olsen Birkeland
kona Birgit Gunnarsdotter
børn Olav, Gunnar, Gro, Birgit,
Tomas, Olav, Gunstein.
Gro Gunsteinsdotter
Tallak Olsen Langeid
Jon Gunnarson Heggland
kona Birgit Ulfsdotter
børn Gunnar, Birgit, Tarald, Birgit,
Nils Johnsen Stallemo
kona Guro Aasmundsdotter
børn Jon, Birgit.

1871

Berte Gunnarsdotter Sandnes
Halvor Torgrimson Klepp
kona Anne Tomasdotter
børn Tone, Ingebjørg.
Torbjørn Svendsen Dale Jordalsbø
kona Liv Gunnufsdotter
børn Sven, Gunnuf, Torbjørg, Aadne,
Alv, Gunner.
Gunnar Gunnufsen Lien
kona Sigrid Arnesdotter
børn Gunnuf, Tore.
Knut Lageson Nordenaa
kona Anne Omundsdotter
Knut Jørundson Saaghus

1872

Halvor Gundersen
kona Ragnhild Aanundsdotter
børn Grunde, Ingebjørg, Signe,
Ingebjørg.
✓ Olav Aanundson Greibrokk *om grundfeten*
✓ Olav Olson Greibrokk *om grundfeten*
Signe Olsdotter Austad
Aslak Torkjellson Austad
kona Birgit Torjusdotter
børn Ingebjørg, Tone.
Knut Olsen Øse. *Øse*
kona Torbjørg Tarkjellsdoffer
Skaarre
børn Olav, Ashild, Anne, Ingebjørg.
Daniel Elvindson Øse *Øse*
kona Anne Torkjellsdotter

Our grandmother Ragnhild Aakhus when she left the church 1872 & married Olav Aanundsen Hiebrokk in Kristiansand, Norway, & came together to Fisher.

børn Olav, Olav, Gro, Ingebjørg,
Tore, Tarkjell.
Torgrim Jørgensen
kona Turid Knutsdatter med 8 børn
Svenkje Jørgensen Nørstebø
med 4 børn Gunstein, Jørgen, Knut,
Margit.
Knut Jørgensen Stoplestog
kona Torbjørg Gunnarsdatter
børn Jørgen, Gunnar, Gunnar, Tar-
jai, Torbjørg.
Elvind Torgrimson Horverak
✓ Ragnhild Halvorsdatter Aakhus ✓
Tallak Knutson Ose med
4 børn Margit, Knut, Torkjell,
Gunne.

1873

Aslak Torjussen Pytten
kona Kristi Isaksdatter
børn Elvind, Torbjørg, Olav,
Svanlaug, Isak.
Ole Isaksen
kona Anne Sjursdatter
Olav Gunnufsen Lien
Anders Gunnufsen Lien
Aanund Torgrimson Horvarak ✓
Jon Torgrimson Horverak ✓
Anne Torgrimsdtr Horverak
Ragnhild Torgrimsdtr Horverak ✓
Jørund Frantson Horverak
Omund Frantson Horverak
Ingebjørg Frantsdtr Horverak
Anne Frantsdtr Horverak

1874

Margit Aslaksdatter Lien
Torkjel Gunnufsen Lien
kona Anne Tarjaisdatter Naanes
Mari Gunnulvsdatter Lien

1875

Daniel Kjetilson
Tor Olsen Aaraksbygd
kona Anne Omundsdatter
børn Eli, Olav.
Gunnulv Torkjellson Lien
Torbjørg Knutsdatter

1876

Thomas Gunnulfsen Greibrokk
Sigrid Olsdatter Greibrokk med
2 børn Olav Aanundsen og

Knut Aanundsen med kona
Ingebjørg Grundesdatter Birkeland
børn Anund.
Ingebjørg Olsdatter Greibrokk
2 børn Olav Olsen og Mari Olsdatter
Ingrid Olsdatter Horverak
Birgit Olsdatter Horverak
Olav Olsen Greibrokk
Gunhild Kristensdatter Dale
Jon Ormson Ose *
kona Anne Kirsten Halvorsdatter
børn Halvor, Anne.

1877

Olav Gunsteinson Berge
kona Anne Olsdatter
børn Gunstein, Olav, Tarkjell, Olav.
Tallelf Olson Krosstog
kona Anne Gunnarsdatter
børn Olav, Ingebjørg, Anlaug,
Gunnar.
Grunde Danielson Aakhus
kona Signe Olsdatter
børn Birgit, Daniel, Tore.
Grunde Torgrimson Klepp
Torbjørg Kristensdatter
børn Ingebjørg, Torgrim
Aamund Toreson Lauvdal
Olav Toreson Lauvdal
Sigrid Paalsdatter Nedstoga
Ljot Grundeson Austad
kona Ragnhild Tarkjelsdatter
børn Gunhild, Ingebjørg
Aasmund Tarjaison Gausen
kona Aslaug Gunnarsdatter
børn Olav, Tarjai, Hælje.
Tjodsulv Hæljesen
Elvind D. Aakhus *violen played*

1880

Paal Olson Frøyrak
Gunnar Johansson Moi.
Gunhild Aa. Haugetveit.

1881

Brigde Aakhus
Gunder Aakhus
Anne Aakhus
Aslak Aakhus
Tallak Aakhus
Kristi Aakhus
Knut Aakhus

*our grandmother's
sister & brother*

Signe Aakhus

1882

Grunde Knutson Dale
Olav Gunnarson Neset
Halvor Jensen Krossstog
Olav Jørundson Saaghus
Gunstein Gunsteinson Monen
kona Anne Torgeirsdatter Dale
børn Gunstein, Torgeir, Anne.
Tarald Paalson Nerhus
kona Gro Jonsdatter Bubakk
børn Gunvor, Paal
Gunnar Gunnarson Moi.

1884

see page 160
Knut T. Bø
Gyro A. Tveitaa
Anne K. Dale
Gunhild Dale
Torbjørg Dale
Olav G. Bø
Mari G. Bø
Torjus T. Bø
Hæge J. Senum
Olav O. Dale
Sveinung O. Dale
Torbjørn Olsen Eldhuset
kona Hæge O. Sandnes
Aslak Tomassen Frøysnes
kona Anne Gunnarsdatter
børn Torbjørg, Gunnar, Tomas,
Gnni.
Signe Olsdatter Austad
Gunnar Eivindson Austad
Birgit Knutsdatter Austad
Gunnar Talleivson Austad
kona Guro Torgrimsdatter
børn Margit (vendt tilbake)
Gunnar Steinson Birkeland
Tarald Sigurdson Langeid
Bjørgulf Gunnarson Austad
Olav Paalson Strømnen
Tone Kj. Skore med
børn Torkjell, Kjetil, Ingebjørg,
Anne.

1886

Anne Aanundsdatter Tveitaa
Anne Olsdatter Hødne (Skomedal)
Rolf Salvesen Bø

1887

Torgeir Gunsteinson Langerak
Mari Gunsteinsdatter Langerak
Olav Olsen Frøyarak
Gunstein Jørundson Langerak
Gunnar Kjetilson Lande

1888

Anne Olsdatter Vassend
Gunnar Torjussen Greibrokk
kona Torbjørg Torjusdatter
Tor Olsen Dale
Eivind Torsen Vassend
Anne Grundesdatter Bygland
Torstein Salvesen Hamre
Halvard Aasulvsen Bygland
Gunnar Jørundson Saaghus
Gunnar Aanundson Øen
Tarald Knutson Sordal
Durdei Olavsdatter Austad
Gunnar Bjørnson Heggland
Aanund Eivindson Austad
kona Ingebjørg Bjørnsdatter
børn Anne.
Olav Olsen Arneberg
Jorond Gunnarsdatter Arneberg
Ingebjørg Gunnarsdatter Arneberg
Tarald Gunnarson Arneberg
Nils Jonson Sordal
Tolleiv Jonson Sordal
Gjermund Jonson Sordal
Ingebjørg O. Krossstog med
børn Eli, Ingebjørg, Mari.
Jon Sordal (Kolbakk)
Torkjell Sordal (Kolbakk)
kona Ingebjørg Andersdatter
Birgit Olsdatter Heggland
Paul Olsen Heggland
kona Turid Olsdatter
Jakob, Gunnar og Jørund Hovstad.
Nils Torjussen Bakke.

1889

Gunstein Hanson Naanes
Ommund Bjørgulvsen Sagemo
Gunnar Herjussøn Kolshus
Aamund Salveson Huset
Olav Hanson Naanes
Omund Hanson Naanes
Salve Nilson Greibrokk.

1890

Asgjerd Heldaas (Aaland)
 Aasulv Gunnarson Skomedal
 Jon Osmundson Krossstog
 Anne Olavsdotter Midbø
 Signe Olavsdotter Skomedal
 Gunstein Olson Frøyarak
 Aasulv Gunsteinson Frøyarak
 Sven Tveitli
 Elliv, Olav, Andres og Søren Øynæ.

1891

Knut Aanundson Krossen
 Sigrid Andresdotter Haugaa
 Anne Gunnarsdotter Langerak
 Knut Aamundson Krossen
 Anne Gunuvdsdotter Langerak
 Gunstein Gunsteinson Frøyarak
 med barn Gunnar, Signe, Gunstein,
 Birgit.
 Paul Ommundson Frøyarak og kona
 Birgit og 2 barn.
 Tarkjell Torson Langerak
 med barn Olav, Tor, Mari, Inge-
 bjørg, Elvind.
 Birgit Torjusdotter Frøyarak
 Sigrid Taraldsdotter Horverak
 Ingebjørg Klepp
 Halvor, Torggrim og Grunde Klepp
 Gunstein og Jørund T. Bø

1892

John G. Arneberg
 Askaut Olsen Vassend
 Olav Gunnulvson Breivold
 kona Birgit Aasmundsdotter
 barn Kristi
 Jørgen Guttormsen Dale
 Aanund Andersen Vassend
 Olav Andersen Vassend
 kona Ragnhild Olsdotter Hovstad
 Frants Olsen Hovstad
 Skjølluv Guttormsen Dale
 Elvind Olsen Langerak
 Tone Olsdotter Langerak
 Jørund G. Nordgaard.
 Gunnar Herjussøn Kolshus
 Knut Svendsen Hamren (Øyna)
 Aanund Halvorson Besteland
 kona Anlaug Knutsdotter Øen
 Gunvor Aanundsdotter Besteland

Gjertrud Knutsdotter Øen
 Anne Knutsdotter Øen
 Olav Gunnarson Bygland
 Aslak Knutson Stigemo
 Torbjørn Larsson Skreland
 kona Jorond Tarjaisdotter Skre-
 land
 barn Gunhild, Ragnhild, Lars,
 Ingebjørg Gunnufsdotter Lien
 Mari Gunnufsdotter Lien
 Aslak Knutson Lien
 kona Gunnhild Ommundsdotter
 barn Knut
 Olav Gunnarson Kvaale
 Aanund Jørundson Kvaale
 Salve Sigurdson Krossstog
 kona Birgit Knutsdotter
 barn Sigurd, Knut, Olav.
 Torjal Halvorson Reise
 Halvor Jensen Reise
 Olav Salveson Huset
 Elvind Aslakson Bygland
 kona Ingebjørg Halvorsdotter
 barn Kari, Aslak, Taarond,
 Kari Pedersen Bydla
 Gunnar Halvorsen Aakhus.
 Gunnar Aanison Bygland
 Anne Gunnarsdotter Haugaa
 Ragnhild Andresdotter
 Birgit Gunnarsdotter Kvaale
 Stein Knutson Lauvdal
 Knut Torggrimson Nordgarden
 Birgit Torjusdotter Sandnes
 Lars Tomassen Segberg
 Margit Eivindsdotter med
 barn Tomas, Targjerd, Anne.
 Halvor Gunnarson Austad, reiste
 heimatt
 Haavard Gunnarson Austad reiste
 heimatt
 Daniel Gunnarson, Austad, reiste
 heimatt 1907
 Tarald Jonson Austad
 Bjørgulv Olavson Austad,
 reiste heimatt
 Astrid Jørundsdotter
 Svend Taraldson Langeid
 Olav Steinson Birkeland
 kona Margit Halvorsdotter

børn Liv, Stein
 Tarald Olsen Langeid
 kona Birgit Olsdotter Heggland
 Jorond Gunnarsdotter Sordal
 Signe Olavsdotter Langeid
 Olav Bjørnson Birkeland
 Salve Karelson Ose
 Signe Olavsdotter Langeid
 Knut Knutson Langeid
 Andreas Bjørnson Langeid
 Gro Olavsdotter Heggland
 Olav Gunnarson Bygland
 børn Karl, Gunnar, Anne, Aslak,
 Olav, Nikolaus.
 Aslak T. Tveit
 Saave G. Skore.
 Bjørn Knutson Heistad.

1893

Talleiv Halvorsen Austad
 Sigrid Sveinsdotter Myhola
 Daniel Eivindson Ose, reiste heim-
 att i 1894

Margit Jonsdotter Austad
 Vraal Karelson Fosslid
 Rolf Karelson Fosslid
 Olav Svendson Langeid
 Tarald Olsen Aanebjørn
 Kari Eivindsdotter Vassend
 med børn Olav, Bjørgulv.
 Eivind Jørundsen Langerak
 kona Tone Jørensdotter Lauvdal
 Anne Rolfsdotter Bø
 Tone Aanundsdotter Greibrokk
 Olav Aasmunson Langerak
 Osmund Osmundson Langerak
 Gunnar Gunsteinson Langerak
 kona Birgit Kjetilsdotter Lande
 børn Gunstein.

Anne Kjetilsdotter Lande
 Børulf Jonsen Greibrokk
 Olav Aanundson Øen
 Andres Person Stallemo

kona Helga Olsdotter
 børn Ingebjørg, Eivind, Talleiv,
 Rolv, Olav, Gunnar.

{ Olav Person Hamre med
 børn Ingeborg, Aanund.
 Birgit Knutsdotter Lien
 med barn Anne Halvorsdotter

Jon Knutson Huset
 Birgit Nerisdatter Lauvdal
 Tarjai Herjussøn Kolshus
 Tore Herjussøn Kolshus
 Gunnhild Tolleivsdatter Hamre
 Tarald Aanundson Hamre
 Aanund Olsen Hamre
 Birgit Knutsdotter Moen
 Torgrim Thoresen Lauvdal
 Svenkje Tarjaisøn Hvile
 Ingebjørg Tellefsdotter Hvile
 Olav Torgeisen Hvile
 Gunnhild Torgeisdatter Hvile
 Olav Gunsteinson Hvile
 Torbjørn G. Lidtveit
 Jon G. Lidtveit
 Ingebjørg G. Lidtveit
 Gunnulv G. Lidtveit
 Torgrim V. Haugen
 Aanund Eivindson Haugen (Au-
 stad).

1894

Olav Gunnuvson Breivoll
 Olav Andreson Stallemo
 Jon Jonsen Tveitaa
 Aanen Olsen Tveitaa

1895

Gunstein Jørundson Tveitaa
 kona Signe Gunnarsdotter
 børn Birgit.
 Gunhild Hansdotter Lauvdal
 Ingebjørg Olsdotter Huset
 Aslak Jensen Huset

1896

Birgit Bjørnsdotter Birkeland
 Anne Torbjørnsdotter Austad
 Knut Jonson Austad
 Halvor Olsen, Sordal
 Ommund Gunnarson Sordal
 Knut Knutson Moen
 kona Tore Aslaksdotter
 børn Knut Jønsen's fæder
 Kjetil Gunnarson Lande
 kona Ingebjørg Gunnarsdotter
 børn Gunstein, Aaslaug, Gunnar,
 Jurid, Sigrid.
 Olav Jonson Neset
 Aasmund Grundesen Vassend
 Anne Torbjørnsdotter Skeie

1897

Eivind Olsen Vassend
 kona Aaslaug Aanundsdotter
 Kari Eivindsdotter
 Olav Nerison Hamren
 Targjerd Knutsdotter Moen
 Birgit Tellefsdotter Heggland
 Grunde Olsen Austad
 Olav Gunnarson Austad
 Olav Olsen Heggland
 kona Gro Taraldsdotter Hovet
 børn Gunnar, Turid, Tone, Jorond.
 Gunnhild Heggland (Monaa).

1898

Olav T. Skeie e
 Olav Torbjørnson Gakkestad
 Anne Gustavsdotter Frøysnes
 Osmund Tellefsen Hellevika
 Knut Knutson Langeid
 Tarjai Tallakson Heggland
 Svenkje Gunnarson Ose
 Birgit Bjørnsdotter Austad
 Taarond Knutsdotter Heistad
 Torjus Halvorson Heistad
 Knut Johanson Moi
 kona Turid Olavsdotter Heggland
 Knut Torkjelson Tveit med
 2 børn Olav og Ingebjørg
 Birgit Torgrimsdotter Horverak
 Anne Knutsdotter Dale
 Anne Skjøllufsdotter Dale
 Torbjørg Skjøllufsdotter Dale
 Gustav O. Skomedal
 Olav Jonson Kile.
 Halvard O. Haugen
 kona Margit G. Gausi

1899

Sveinung Alfson Austad
 Herjus Gunnarson Kolshus
 kona Targjerd Gunnarsdotter
 børn Gunne, Ommund.
 Anne Haavardsdotter Skreland
 Aamund Olsen Horverak

1900

Gro H. Austad.
 Torbjørg S. Moi.

1901

Eivind Tallakson Heggland
 Ommund Svendsen Tveit

kona Ragnhild Olavsdotter Sandnes
 børn Kristen.

Birgit Olavsdtr. Heggland
 Johans Aanundson Moi
 Knut K. Horverak.

1902

Bjørgulv Ommundson Sagemo
 kona Torbjørg Gunsteinsdotter
 børn Olav, Gunstein, Svein, Rolf.
 Anne Steinsdotter Tjømlet
 Gunstein Steinson Tjømlet
 Nikolaus Torgeison Skomedal
 Osmund Jonson Krosstog
 Tomas Osmundson Krosstog
 Torbjørg Osmundsdotter Krosstog
 Gunnar Olavson Midbø.
 Olav Olsen Nevisjordet
 Anne Paalsdotter Lauvdal
 Olav Torjusson Langerak
 Tomas Olsen Hofstad
 Rolv Paalson Hovstad
 kona Anne Grundesdotter
 børn Paal.

Torjus Jonson Greibrokk
 Olav Jonson Langerak
 Gunnar Grundeson Vassend
 Olav Tarjaison Frøyra
 Gunnar K. Horverak.
 Nils Jonson Sordal
 kona Margit Arnesdotter
 børn Tone, Arne, Birgit, Omund,
 Tarjai.

Olav Alyson Austad
 Aanund Andresen Moi
 Gunstein Bjørnson Tveit
 Gunnar Olavson Langeid
 Olav Olavson Heggland
 kona Torbjørg Knutsdotter
 børn Siri, Olav, Ingebjørg, Jorond,
 Birgit.

Margit Gunnarsdotter Austad.
 Halvor Olsen Nerstuen
 Olav Mikkjelson Sundet

1903

Eivind Olson Nevisjordet. (Ros-
 stveit).
 Jørgen Olson Nevisjordet. (Ros-
 stveit).
 Aanund, Sveinung og Knut Olsen

Horverak.

Knutt G. Gakkestad.

1903

Birgit Taddeivsdatter Heddevik
Aasulv Torgeirson Langerak
Arne Aasmundson Langerak
Anne Frantsdatter Horverak
Birgit Alsdatter Austad
Anne Knutsdatter Heistad
Olav Olsen Kile
Ommund Eivindson Hamre
Tellef Torbjørnson Bratteland
Knut Jørundson Kvaale
Gunstein Torsen Lande
Gunnar Olavson Moi
Olav Andreson Moi
Lidvor T. Bakke.

1904

Tore Paalsdatter Hofstad
Eivind Torgeirson Langerak
Gunstein Nilsson Klepp
kona Gyro Olavsdatter Heistad
børn Ingebjørg, Nils, Olav, Ingjerd,
Birgit, Ingebjørg.
Tellef Arundeson Austad
Bjørulv Arundeson Austad
Olav Gunnufson Bø.

1905

Anne Rolleivsdatter Saaghus
Knut Steinson Tjømlet
Gunnar Gunnarson Sordal
kona Mari Knutsdatter
børn Gunnar.
Anne Olavsdatter Langeid med
dottera Birgit Halvorsdatter
Bjørn Olson Langeid
Gunnar Knutson Heistad
Olav H. Austad e
Bjørn Olavson Heistad
Siri Klepp

Mari Gunnufson Bø

1906

Tarjai O. Lien
Torbjørg Aanundsdatter Nørstebø
med
1 barn Gunnar Aanundsen
Siri Bjørnsdatter Bø
Olav A. Moi e
Nils Aa. Tveitaa

1907

Eivind Gunnarson Moi
Gunnar Andresson Moi
Saave Aaneson Frøysnes
Alv Olavson Austad
Torond Sveinungsdatter Austad
Anne Alvsdatter Austad
Sveinung Jonson Greibrokk
Knut Olavson Horverak
Tor Olsen
Knut Jonson Bakke
Ole Andreas Pedersen
Ludvig Andreas Syvertsen
Tarjai E. Nerhus
Sigurd Nomeland
Kristi Paalsdatter Bubakk (til Sør
Afrika)
Tellef Torbjørnson Bratteland
Halvard E. Nomeland
Anne H. Austad
Grunde G. Austad

1908

Nils Olavson Lidtveit
Karen Kristensdatter Arneberg
Tone Torjusdatter Møy
Gunhild Jonsdatter Neset
Olaug Teresia Kostøl
Torjus Alvson Austad
Eivind Dregson Ose

1909

Tarald Omundson Vollen
Gunnar Torjussøn Bakke
Sigurd Olavson Heggland
Jeidaug Olavsdatter Heggland
Anne Olavsdatter Sordal
Anne T. Heggland
Berit Horverak Skomedal
børn Gunder, Torgrim

1910

Guttorm Kristenson Dale
Daniel Grundeson Vatsend
Daniel Grundeson Vatsend
Jørgen Ingemann J. Vatsend
Olav Jørundson Nerhus
kona Jorond Aasmundsdatter Ner-
hus
børn Gunhild, Tore, Aslak
Aanund G. Moi
Olav Andreson Moi

Olav E. Dale
Olav Aa. Eldhuset

1911

Olav Olavson Langeid
Torleiv Taraldson Heggland
Gunnar Gunsteinson Langeid
Ommund Grundeson Vatsend
Aasuly Torbjørnson Greibrokk
Jon Jørundson Vatsend
Gieruly Jonson Greibrokk
Knut Torjusson Bakke
Aani T. Heggland

1912

Kari Olavsdotter Vatsend
Anne Olavsdotter Nerhus
Jørund A. Tveitaa
Torgrim O. Lidtveit
Notto L. Senum
Torgeir T. Haugen
Saave O. Frøysnes

Etter 1914

Asbjørg Olavsdotter Arneberg
Olav Aa. Tveitaa
Torleiv J. Bø
Berit Aa. Tveitaa. (Dalberg)
Aanund O. Lunden
Paal O. Lunden
Oskar O. Bjørgum
Jon O. Bjørgum

Gunnar O. Bjørgum
Hadvor Sigurdson Eldhuset
Olav Tellefson Gautestad
Gunnar Svenningsen
Olav Svenningsen
Søren O. Sørensen
Einar Digerud
Arne Digerud
Erling Digerud
Gunnar J. Nordgaard
Peder J. Nordgaard
Georg J. Nordgaard
Borghild Nordgaard
Torleiv O. Bjørgum
Olav T. Moseid
Tallak K. Horverak
Knut O. Aaland
Sigrid P. Lauvdal
Olav G. Skomedal
Gunnar Aa. Sordal
Gunulv G. Frøyrak
Gunnar G. Frøyrak
Torbjørg K. Borgi
Gunnar Aa. Sordal
Olav D. Ose
Sven D. Ose
Aanund D. Ose
—Nedskriva ved Aslak Lidi,
Bygland—1950.

JA, VI ELSKER DETTE LANDET

Bjørnestjerne Bjørnson

*Ja, vi elsker dette landet
som det stiger frem
furet, værbitt over vannet
med det tusen hjem,
elsker elsker det og tenker
paa vor far og mor,
og den saganatt som senker
drømme paa vor jord.
og den saganatt som senker
fagre drømme paa vor jord.*

*Norske mann i hus og hytte,
takk din store Gud!
Landet vilde han beskytte,
skjønt det mørkt saa ut.
Alt, hvad fedrene har kjempet,
mødrene har grett
har den Herre stille lempet,
saa vi vant vor rett.
har den Herre stille lempet,
saa vi vant, vi vant vor rett.*

*Ja, vi elsker dette landet,
som det stiger frem
furet, værbitt over vannet
med de tusen hjem.
Og som fedres kamp har hevet
det av nød til seir,
ogsaa vi, naar det blir krevet,
for dets fred slaar leir!
ogsaa vi, naar det blir krevet,
for dets fred, dets fred slaar leir!*

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Francis Scott Key

*Oh, say, can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?*

*On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream;
'Tis the star-spangled banner, oh, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.*

*Oh, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation,
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.*