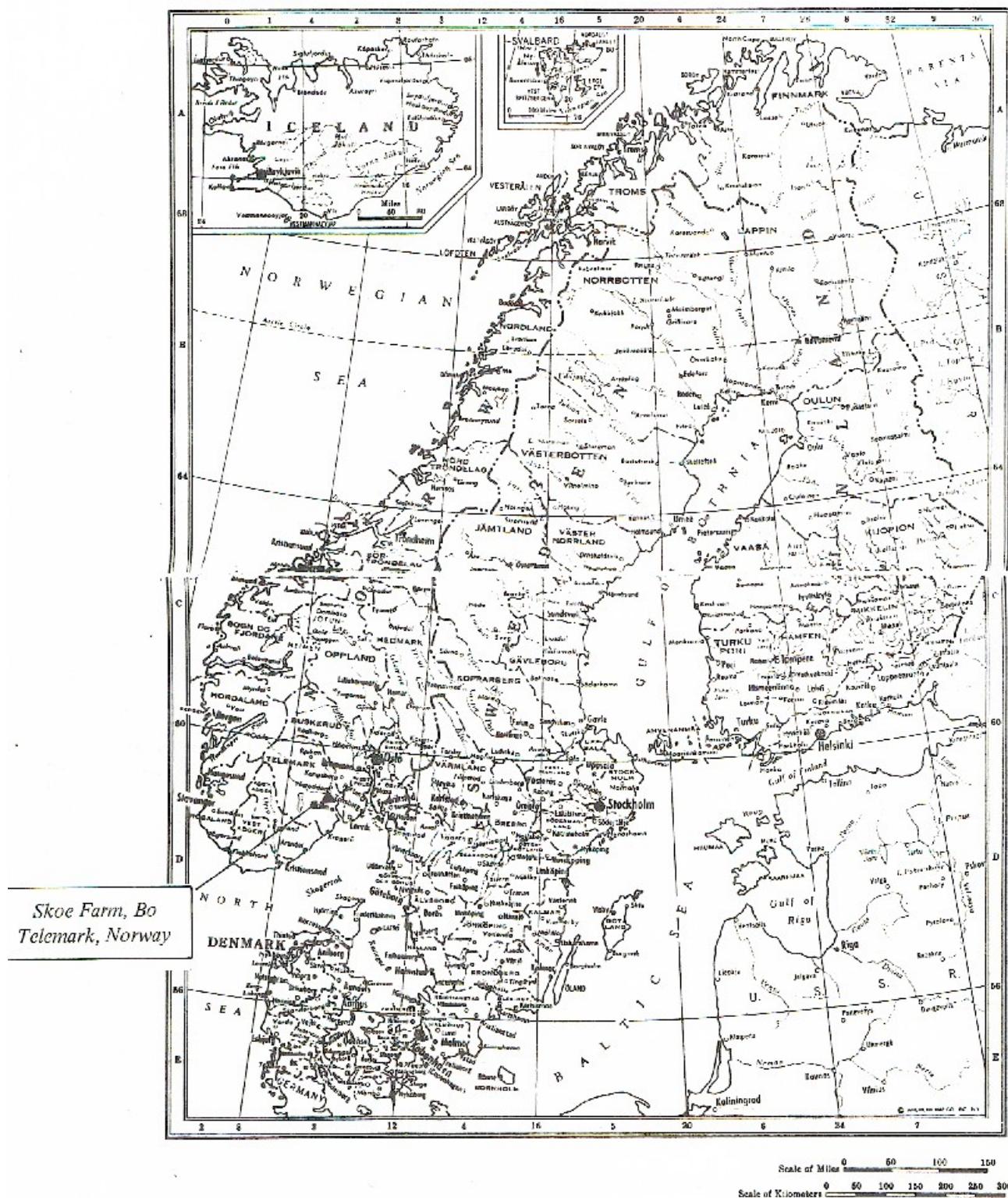


Skoe Saga

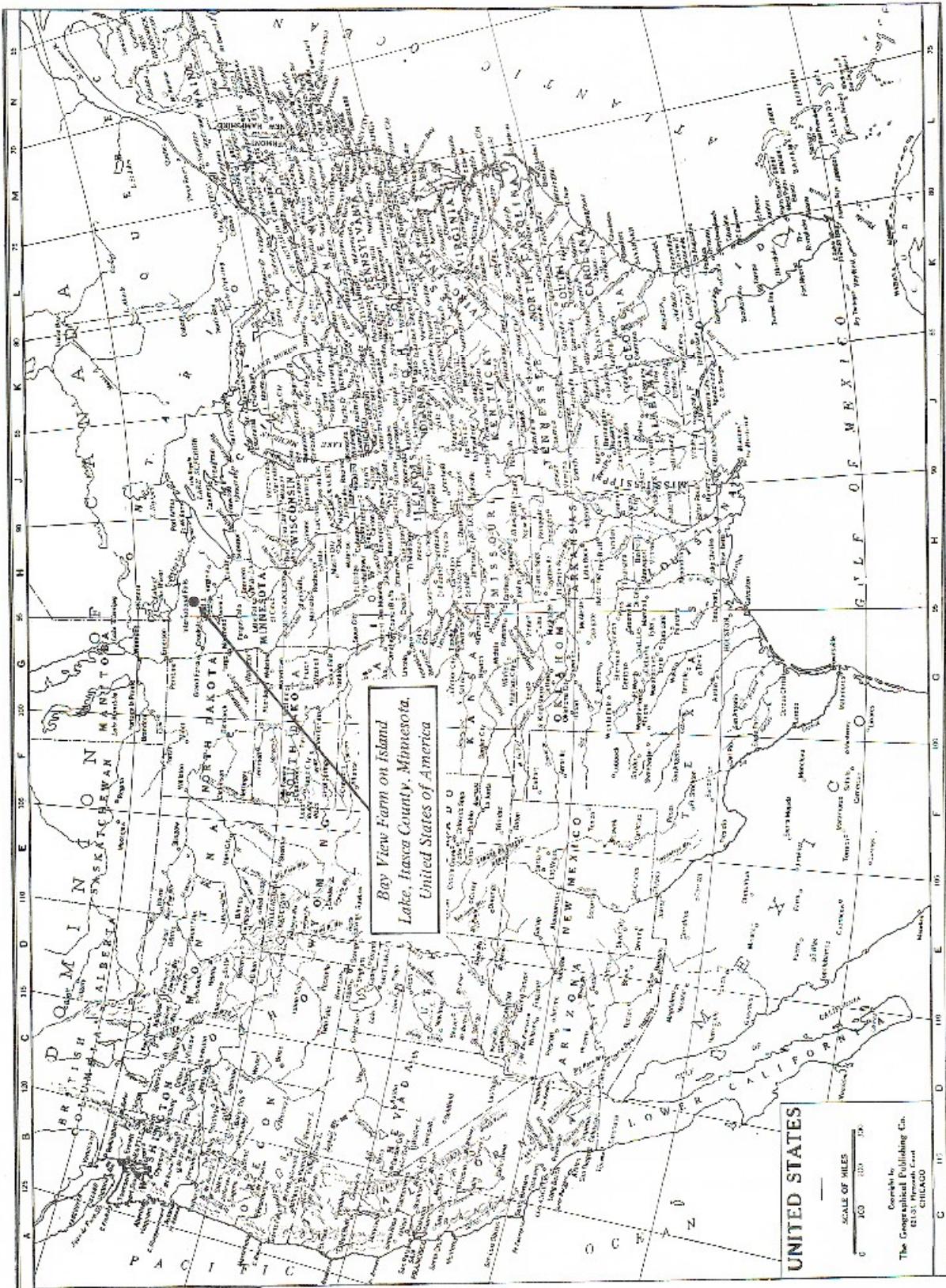
1978

Benn Skoe Peizel

NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND, DENMARK, ICELAND



FROM SKOE FARM, BO, NORWAY





The old church (Kirke) built in the 1100's with a pew on left side for women and on the right side for men. There are two pews for Skoes - across from each other - and one in the back for pregnant women - with a high partition so they would not be noticed.



The new church built in 1875. Ener E. Skoe and his brothers and sisters were baptized here. They celebrated the 100th Anniversary of this church in 1975.



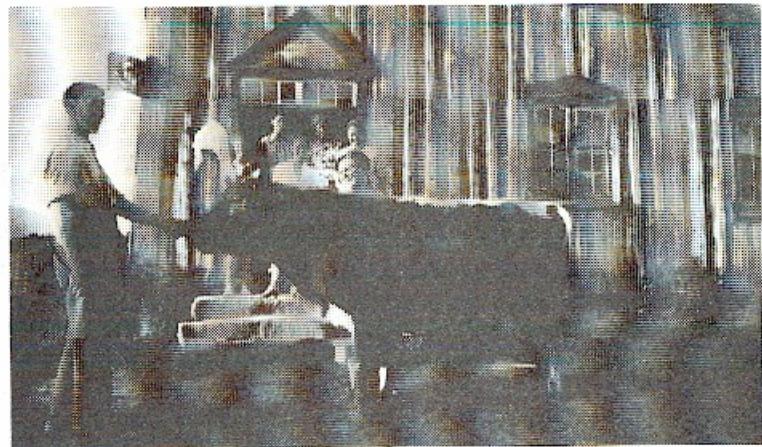
SKOE VALLEY BO TELEMARK NORWAY

This is an aerial photograph of Skoe farm. The name Skoe is a deviation of the word SHADOW. During the winter months, November through January, the sun does not shine over the Lefjell mountains.

SKAD - SHADOW

VIN - grassy field near water

SKADVIN - SCHIOYEN - SKOE - SHADOW



This picture was given to Raymond C. Skoe, when he visited Norway in the 1950's. He was the first of our family to visit there since our grandfather Erik sold the farm to his sister Aaste, Kittle's daughter and her husband Olav Andressen Overbo in 1882.

The house was built in the 1750's and was the birthplace of our father. In the picture we recognize Olaf Skoe, grandson of Aaste, probably his wife, sister and daughter Helga Skoe Erickstein.

A new house was built in 1958 using the style common in Telemark. The farm is now occupied by Olaf's grandson, Swen, and was last visited in 1975 when Stanton and Beatrice Skoe, Marie and Tony Rozycki were in Norway.



This is the wedding picture taken in Norway of our grandfather, Erik Kittelson Skoe and our grandmother Bergit Haugestuen datter of Flatdahl. The unidentified woman in the center is probably a relative or an attendant. They were married in the 1860's. The original photograph shows evidence of Telemark embroidery work.

They were the parents of 4 children, Kittel, Tallif, Einar (father) and Johanna. Bergit died in the 1870's and Erik emigrated with his children to the United States in 1882.

pengar. Hos ham levde nu Harald O. og Anne Halvorsdtr. sine siste dager.

Nu var altså Skoe blitt 2 bruk, sandre og nordre Skoe.

Søndre Skoe.

Leiv Leivsynn Bendikrud solgte søndre Skoe i 1769 for 1500 rd. til Olav Tallefsen. Han var født på Holte i Sauherad og var g. m. Aslaug Vethsdatter Hyalen fra Lande. Olav hadde i sin ungdom vært skoleholder i kredsen der ute. Olav og Aslaug blev velstående folk. De hadde 4 døtre: Bergit Skoe, Aslaug g. m. Olav Gregarsen Nordbø, Børte g. m. Kittil Andersson Eika og Kjersti g. m. Halvor Salberg ved Opdal.

Bergit Olavsdtr. blev i 1795 g. m. Einar Kittelsen fra Klevar, og i 1798 avstod Olav Tallefsen 9 setting av gården til sin datter og svigersonn for 600 rd., og i 1810 overdrog han dem også den øvrige del av gården for 800 rd. Olav Tallefsen døde i 1811, og Aslaug Vethsdtr. døde i 1818.

Einar Kittelsen lot gården dele innellem sine 2 sønner Olav og Kittil i 1828. Men Olav solgte sin del til broroen i 1843, så Kittil Einarsen blev eier av hele søndre Skoe og dertil halvparten av plassen Leirkoll.

I 1850 overdrog Kittil Einarsen sine 2 bruk etter den forrige deling til sine 2 sønner Einar og Erik staledes at Einar fikk det øvre bruk med husested opp mot berget, og Erik fikk det nedre eller søndre bruk nede på flata, hvor tuftene etter den eldste huset stad ennu påvises.

Men det ble økonomisk dårlig med begge brødrene, så de måtte skille sig med sine gårder.

Einar solgte da til Paul Halvorsen Skogen i 1882 for 14000 kroner og drog til Amerika, og i 1920 er sønnen Sveinung P. eier av dette bruk, som i matrikulen av 1866 er oppritt til 120 mål innmark og 48 mål sjætteland. Men Erik solgte sitt bruk til syngeren

Olav Andersson Øverbø g. m. Aaste Kittelsdtr. fra Skoe og drog sammen vei. Og i 1920 er sønnen Kittil O. eier av dette bruk.

1866 : 120 mål innmark og 48 mål slåtter.

Det siste bruk har altså vært i slektens eie siden 1769.

Plads dalen er utgått fra søndre Skoe.

Nordre Skoe.

Erik Halvorsen på søndre Forberget kjøpte altså denne gården i 1782. I 1797 bestemte han gården til 2 åsenter for sine sonner Sjøring og Olav således at Sveinung fikk det vestre bruk, og Olav fikk det østre bruk.

Utsjone bruk.

Sveinung Eriksson blev i 1780 g. m. Åsberg Jørgensdatter i Utsjone. Men han døde allerede i 1787 bare 33 år gammel. Ved skifte komme år var der 3 lann, og enken fødte senere det fjerde. Bætten var på 604 rd.

Enken giftet seg igjen året etter med sin tjenestegutt Halvor Hjelseth, en sønn av Niis Olavsson og Taran Evindsdtr. fra Gravendal, da på Reuningens og bror til Sveinung N. Tjønnemark.

Ta Halvor Sycinungsøn av første ekteskap blev myndig, overtok han Skoe, og stedfaren og moren fikk sig et bruk i Forberget og flyttet dit.

Halvor Sycinungsøn blev g. m. Kari Klasdatter fra Gravé, og han overdrog gården til sin sønn Sveinung Halvorsen i 1843, hvoretter denne igjen overdrog gården til sin sønn Halvor Sycinungsøn II. for 14000 kroner i 1881.

Dennes sonn, Sveinung Halvorsen II, døde så tidlig at han ikke kom til å overta gården fra sin far, og i 1920 eier Halvor Sycinungsøns sønnesønn, Halvor Sycinungsøn III, gården.

1866 : 125 mål innmark og 48 mål slåtter.

På gården er et gammelt rosak med bokstavene S. E. S. og D. 1783; det er Sveinung Eriksøn og Åsberg Jørgensdtr.

A page from a booklet on the Skoe Farms, published in Bo, 19 February, 1937. This page is related directly to our family. This booklet was given to Ray Skoe by Olav Skoe when Ray visited there in the late 1950's. A translation of the material follows.

Garden Skoe i Bøherad

Leiv Leivsøn Bendixrud sold southern Skoe in 1769 for 1, 500 rd. to Olav Tallefsøn. He was born at Holte in Sauherad and was married to Aslaug Vettlesdatter Hvalen from Lunde. Olav had, in his youth, been a teacher in the School District there. Olav and Aslaug became well-to-do. They had four daughters: Bergit Skoe; Anlaug, married to Olav Gregarsøn Nordbø; Børte, married to Kittil Anderssøn Eika; and Kjersti married to Halvor Solberg from Opdal.

Bergit Olavsdatter (Skoe) was married in 1795 to Einar Kittelson from Klevar, and in 1798 Olav Tallefsøn ceded part of the farm to his daughter and son-in-law for 600 rd. and in 1810 he transferred the rest of the farm to them for 800 rd. Olav Tallefsøn died in 1811, while Aslaug Vettlesdatter died in 1818.

In 1828, Einar Kittelsøn let the farm be divided between his two sons, Olav and Kittil. But Olav sold his share to the brother in 1843, so that Kittil Einarson became the owner of all Southern Skoe, as well as half of the place (small farm) Leirkoll.

In 1850 Kittil Einarsøn ceded his two farms to his two sons, Einar and Erik, so that Einar got the upper farm, with the house up toward the mountain, and Erik got the lower, or southern flat part, where the site of the oldest house can still be identified.

However, both brothers fell on hard times and had to leave (separate themselves from) their farms.

Einar, then, sold to Paal Halvorsøn Skogen in 1882 for n. kr. 14,000 and left for America, and in 1920 the son Sveinung P. (Paulsen?) is the owner of this farm which, according to 1866 property register, had (approx.) 30 acres plus 12 acres suitable for hay. But Erik sold his farm to his brother-in-law, Olav Anderssøn (Øverbø, married to Aaste Kittelsdatter from Skoe, and left the same way (to America). And in 1920, the son Kittil O. (Olavsen?) is the owner of that farm.

1866: 30 acres plus 12 acres for hay,

The latter farm has, therefore, been owned by the family since 1769.

The place Dalen was part of Sondre (Southern) Skoe.

Bøherad - 19 Feb. 1937

From Bø in Telemark
A public notice.

Fra Bø i Telemark
Ei etterlysing

Jan. 21, 1976
Det som arbeiter med å skri
Bøgdeboka for Bø (The histo-
ry of Bø) har hørt meg om å kig-
ge til a finne personar her i Ameri-
kana er emigrerte & har sin sle-
te fra Bø.

Forsætsempel:
Er du, eller din bestefar, ell-
din far eller mor, emigrant fra
Bø? I siffla, var snill & skriv n-
avn & aldr. Årstal dei emigrerte
hvor dei sattelde ned. Hvor man
barn, barnasen, kven dei va-
git me, Årstal det døde, hvor er
er begravet. Ja, all av interesse for
sklektshistorien. Forvill dette
din nabos, kanskje han er av Bøh-
ing-slekt.

Du kan sende ditt svar til v-
denskvene, eller send det dire-
til: Mr. Halvor Midtbø, 3890;
Telemark, Norway,
Med hilsning til alle av Bøh-
ingslekta: Fra: Arneud Røheim
P.O. Box 401, Black Eagle, NC
59414.

January 21, 1976

Those who are writing the history of Bø has asked me to ask for help
to find persons here in America who has emigrated or has relatives from
Bø.

For instance, are you or your grandfather, your father or mother an
emigrant from Bø? If so, please write down name and address, year
they emigrated and where they settled. How many children, childrens
children, whom they married, year they died, and where they are
burried. Yes, everything of family history is of interest.
Tell your Norwegian friends, maybe they are of "Bøeing" family.
Please mail your information to the undersigned or directly to

Mr. Halvor Midtbø,
3890 Bø i Telemark
Norway

With greetings to all of Bøing descents from

Anund Røheim
P. O. Box 401,
Black Eagle, NC 59414

Ray.

Here is the translation of the
article we talked about:

Remember "Torsk lunch", Canfield
Oct. 14th 11:30 AM.

Page

869-7423.

FOR TELEMARKINGER
THE committee for the local history of
Bø in Telemark will be publishing a
book about their region. This book will
also contain a chapter covering people
from Telemark that have emigrated to
the U.S.A., and their descendants. To
help make these records as complete as
possible we will greatly appreciate it if
people from Telemark and their de-
scendants or people with knowledge of
same would write to

Mrs. Sina Sanda
3890, Bø i Telemark
Norway

giving names, dates, place of settle-
ment, occupation and relationship to
people still living in Telemark.

The incentive to begin these pages was provided by
this material sent to me in 1976 by my brother, Ray.

Eg har fått adressa dykkar av Arnund Roheim

1

Lektor Stian Henneseid, Da, skriv på garder- og ettervare for bygdene vår, Da i Telemark.

Men bygde er ikke bare vår bygd, ho ver og heimstaden for dei mange som drog til Amerika.

Og om me kan få opplysnings om utflytte behørspunkt, vil me må gjerne få ett slike avsnitt i ~~ekte~~ om desses. Dette vil være til stor glede for oss som følt lese litt i bygda under lifjeld. Og me vorrer det eg vil komme dette vesterom bavet til gode.

! Bene vør er nå : Vill du hjelpe oss med å løse ut denne opplysningsar er vi ett ?

Bet varmede blyret til utstyrtsbrennen var Erik Riffelson. Doe
og han var født 20-5-1840.

Foreldrene var offentlig bimaron Skøff f. 1801 og Johanne Eriksdatter Timbekk f. 1809.

Det næste punkt er om at
Kemi (i Amerika) ved utflyttningen, fæld (dette er der), død, ydes, bortvæltet,
eller ikke?

Neden vid citatmarken (før ændringsdålet), n n n n n "højværdig", nemt
Neden ved bort fra citatmarken n n n n n "højværdig", nemt

Og sås slig øver for denne generasjonen for hver enkelt leire, og det var synlige på vell hølet flere føre sine.

Om du synest kjennerenom til vita di av mengelfull, kva
kanskje xe oppta vidare på øtteriden her. Alt har interressert
oss, og sjanse den minste enkelttinga kan vera vordfull. Andre em-
ne

lycmningar vil se og gjørre ha :
Storleik av farm, husdyr, eller planteproduksjon som vert heldt, giv dei full, skuletdanning, grotte dei fact o; fann seg til rettes, eller gjorde likje drømmen i oppfylling ? Vi ville vere takknemme for ein kopi av versell bilate fra faren.

→ Kjenner til nelon men som kan ha tilsynsmyndig til Be f
Hil teknikere på forhånd for hjelpe, og lever et samarbeidet
ikkje skal strande på oss.

Ned znukje om alt godt for Syrtida, vir heite helsting!

Per kvalitetsbevisnanda

July 25 1910

Vær gild og send svare til Sime Sørensen, 3000 Es i Televerket, Norge.

× gift 1867 m. Bergit Tollefsdóttir Augustenborg 1841 d. 1874.

Senior School Master Stian Hennescoid, is writing the history of our parish, Bø in Telemark.

The parish, however, is not only our parish, it is also the parish and native place of the many people who emigrated from Bø to America. And if we could now get information about emigrants from Bø, we should like to have a special section in the book about those people. That would be a great pleasure and of great interest to us who were to stay on in the parish at the foot of Lifjell. And we hope it will also benefit our relations beyond the ocean.

We now ask you : Will you please help us by collecting and sending us information about your family ?

The Norwegian name of the emigrant was *Erik Kifferson Skoe* and he/she was born *20.5.1840* The parents were *Kiff. Einerson Skoe* and *Johanne Erikdatter Vinbekk f. 1809*

What we want to know is :

Name (in America) of the immigrant, born(date and year), when dead, work, living place.

When married ?

Name of wife/husband (before marriage) " " " native place,

Names of children and their husbands and wives " " " nationality.

And the same kind of information of every separate home, and the various brothers and sisters will supposedly answer those questions for themselves and their own family members.

If you think that your knowledge of your ancestors and family altogether is small, may be we will be able to enwickle the family thread further here. Everything is of interest to us, and even the slightest information may be valuable. Other information we should also like to get : Size of farm, stock of cattle, or agricultural produce sold, did they dig for gold, education, did they strike root, and did they see their way, or did their dreams not come true ? We should be grateful for a copy of any old picture from a farm. Do you know anyone else who may have connection to Bø ?

We thank you in advance for your assistance, and promise that we will do our utmost to make our cooperation a success.

We wish you all the best for the future.

Our best regards.

Hans J. H. S.
For the committee of the Parish History.

The answers should please be sent to Sina Sanda, 3800 Bø in Telemark, Norway.

Bø i Telemark Nov. 22. 1977.

Dear Mrs. Petzel.

I am writing to you on behalf of the committee for the Parish History of Bø in Telemark. We want to thank you for the very interesting and comprehensive history of the Skoe family in America and the fine pictures you sent us (mailed to Sina Sanda). It was all very interesting. What hardships the immigrants had to endure before they got really settled. Then it seems most of them did well. There were so many children in your family, it is quite touching to read how the elder ones tried to help their parents and how they took care of the younger brothers and sisters.

I am taking care of some of the correspondence with Americans for the committee, since Sina Sanda, to whom letters and things for the committee are sent does not write English.

In 1975 there was a church jubilee here at Bø, the parish church was 100 years old. As a greeting we send you a booklet which was published for the jubilee. Your father and his brothers and sister were baptised in this church, but your ancestors further back on your father's side were baptised, confirmed, and married in the old stone church which dates back to a little after 1100. The old church was left standing when the new one was built and is still used on some occasions. There are pictures of both churches in the booklet. I hope it may be of some interest to you.

By the way, a close friend of my husband's and mine is a second cousin of you. His name is Kittil Øverbø. You wrote in your family history that your grandfather, Erik Kittilson Skoe, sold his farm to his sister Aaste and her husband Olav Andresson Øverbø. Those people were Kittil's grandparents. I am sure he would want me to send you his regards if he had known I should be writing to you to-day. He called on us yesterday, and we will probably see him again to-morrow, then I will tell him that I have done so.

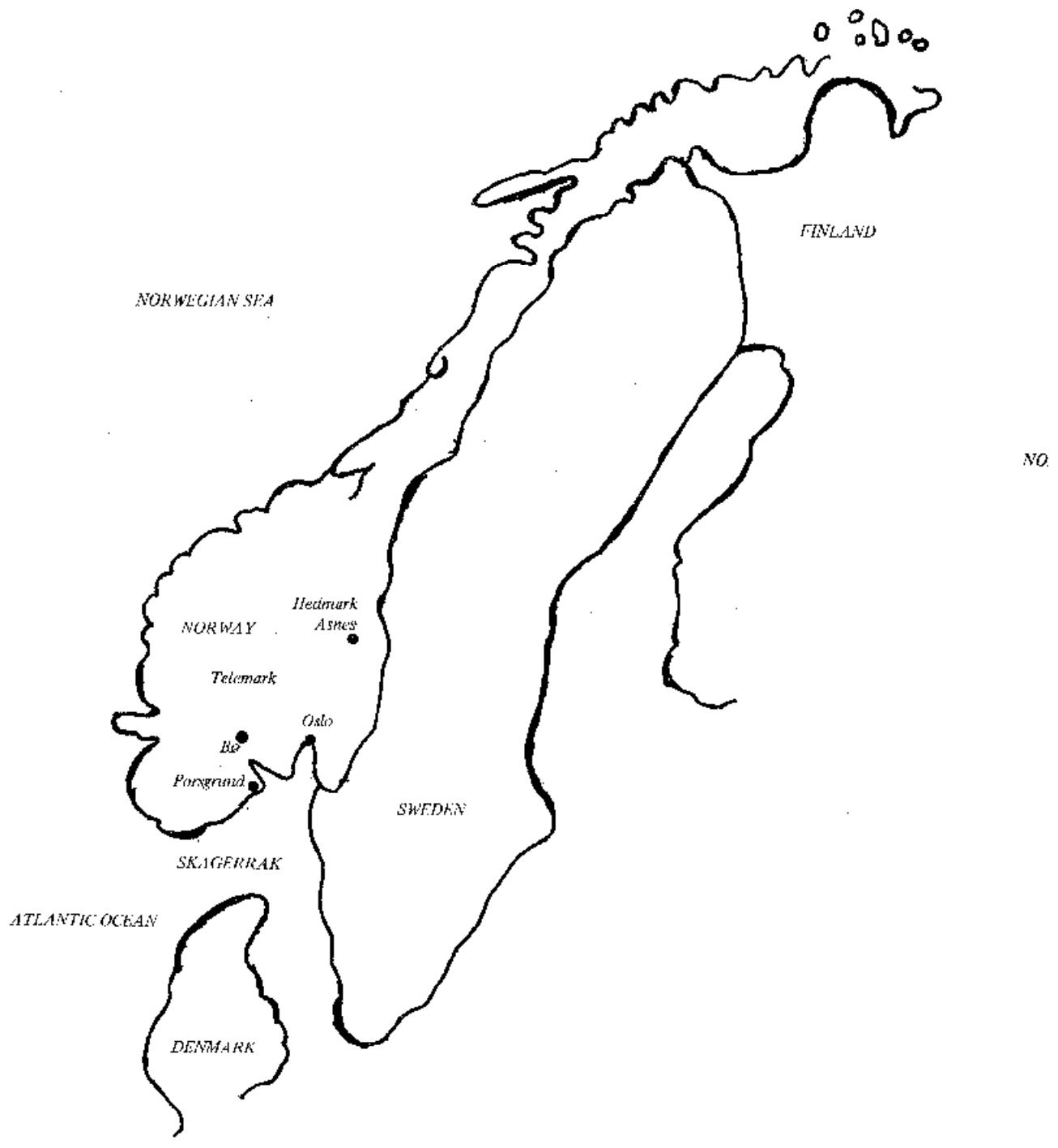
Thanks again for the great service you have done us by sending us your excellent family history and pictures!

We send you our best wishes for Christmas and the new year !

For the committee for the Parish History of Bø

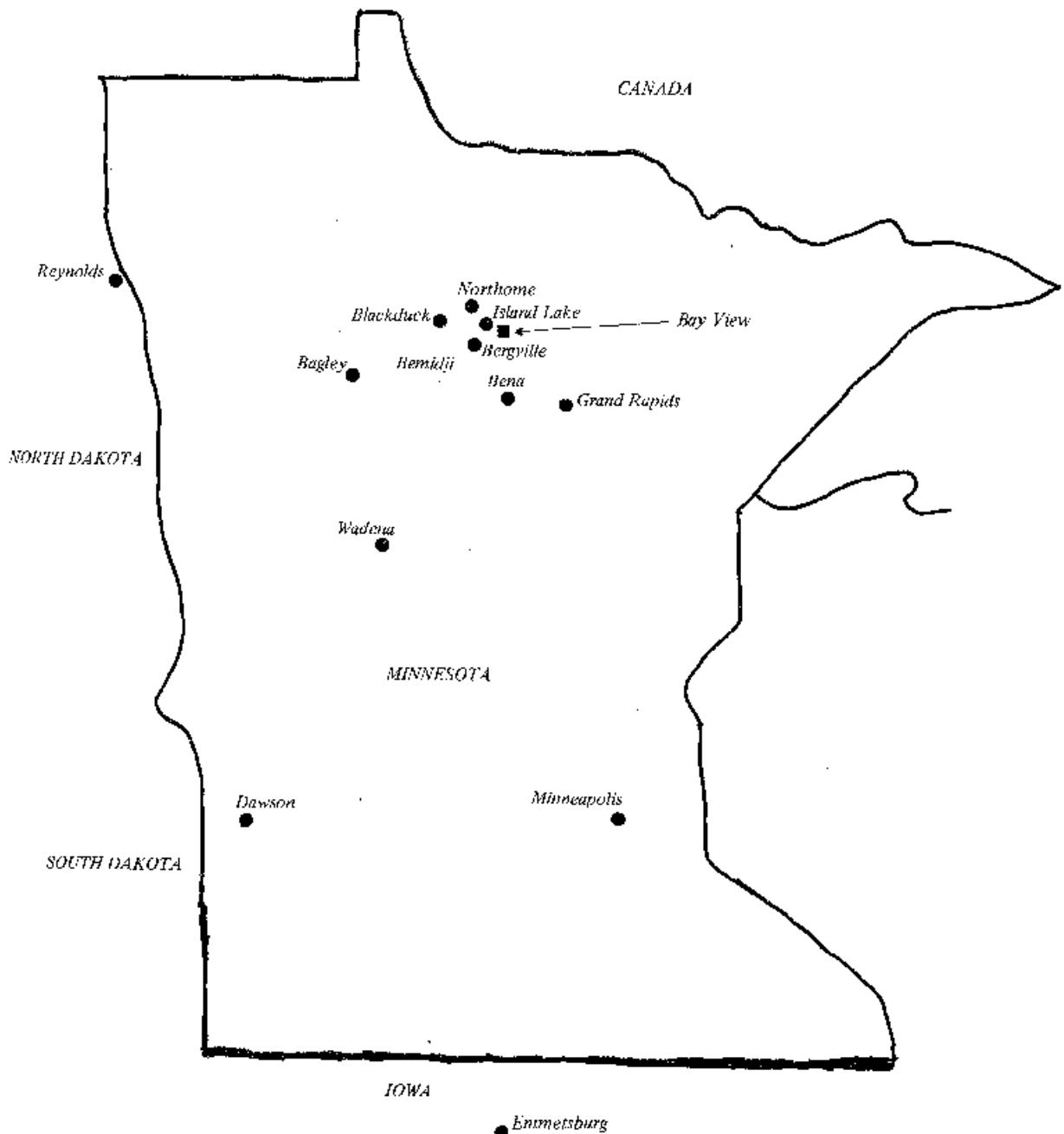
Sincerely

Ingrid Hangerud Spøkeli
3800 Bø i Telemark,
Norway

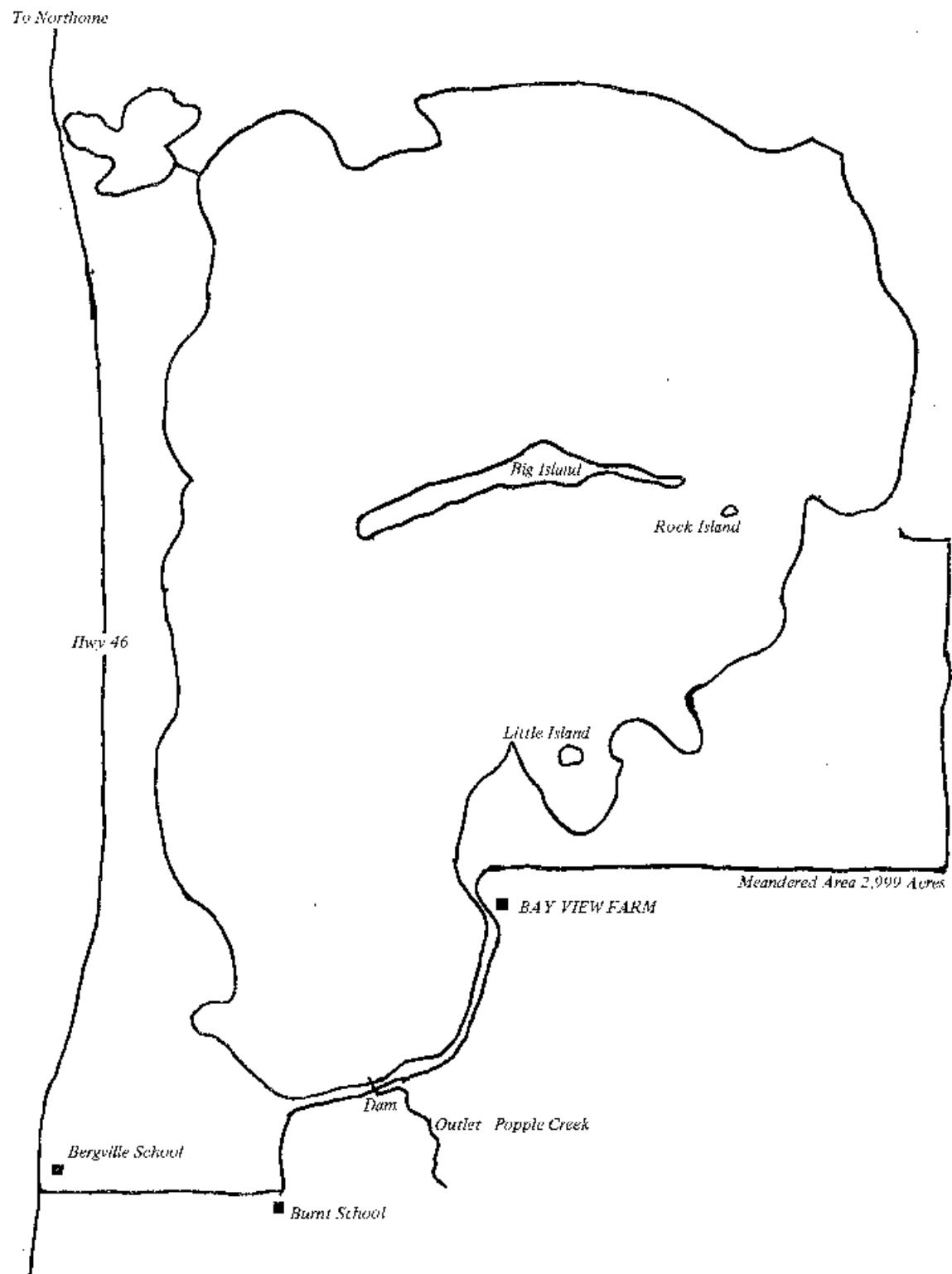


FROM SKOE FARM BO, TELEMARK, NORWAY

This map shows some of the places mentioned in our story. It also locates the town of BENNA. In addition to being a Norwegian name, or a derivation of a Norwegian name, Benna is the Indian word for partridge. The poet, Longfellow, in his poem about the Indians writes of "Benna the Partridge."



TO BAY VIEW FARM, BERGVILLE, ITASCA COUNTY, MINNESOTA





ISLAND LAKE

This is an aerial view of a portion of Island Lake. This photograph was taken November 11, 1939. The Skov homestead can be located almost in the center of the picture - a few black dots in a white area.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF GAME & FISH
FISHERIES RESEARCH UNIT

14

T 150 R 28 S
DODGE COUNTY
SCALE 4" = 1 MILE

Ener's Family in Norway

During their childhood years on their father's homestead farm in the woods and lake country of Ardenhurst Township, Itasca County, in northern Minnesota, Ener Skoe sometimes talked to his children of his boyhood home in Skoe Valley at the foot of Lefjell Mountain in Telemark, Norway. His family had left Norway to come to America because they had fallen on "hard times." He was Einar Erik Skoe, the son of Erik Kittilson Skoe (b. 1840) and Bergit Tallefs dt Haugestuen Skoe (b. 1841) of Flatdahl, also in Telemark. His parents had married in 1867. They had four children: Kittil Erik (Charles) born in 1868, Tallif Erik (Tom) born in 1870, Einar Erik (Ener) born in 1872 and one girl, Johanna (Hannah) born in 1874.

In later years all of the sons used only the middle initial "E". The mother of the family died in 1874. His father remarried. His second wife's name, birth date, the marriage date, and her death date we do not know. After the death of the mother of the family, Tallif, at least, lived part of the time with his grandmother Haugestuen in Flatdahl. It is also believed that grandmother Skoe helped care for the other children; when Einar's father left for America with his four children, the second wife remained in Norway.

In 1882, after Einar's father had sold his farm, Skoe South, which had been in the family since 1769, to his sister Aaste, and her husband Olav Andressen Skoe, Erik Kittelson Skoe took his four children and left the shadows of Skoe Valley in search of a better life in America. He planned to remain in America only long enough to see his four children established in this new world. However, he never returned to Norway.

We think his second wife died shortly after Erik Kittelson Skoe emigrated, although that fact is just a faint remembrance of a story once told. We also have reason to believe that he was not able to save enough money to pay for a return trip to Norway -- and he had nothing tangible to return to, since he had no property and his second wife had probably died. From our childhood recollections he emerges as a disappointed, disillusioned man, who finally went to California to live with his eldest son --Charles --where he died and was buried in Petaluma, California in 1914.

Ener's early days in Iowa

His brother, Einar Skoe, also sold his farm, Skoe East and, with his wife Margit and their four children, left for the new land.

The families sailed on the steamship Assyrian Monarch, stopping in Liverpool, England, and arriving on Ellis Island, New York, in May of 1882. They had been warned of the poor food given steerage passengers so they took with them bread and cheese from the farm. They traveled by

train to Emmetsburg, Iowa, where Ole and Paul Haugestuen, brothers of Erik's first wife Bergit, provided them with their first homes in America.

We know little of the Erik Skoe family's eight or nine years in Emmetsburg, Iowa. Ener told of starting English school there. In 1948 Kittel (Charles) Skoe, in a letter to Erik Skoe (no blood relative, but the father of Ingeborg Brekke who grew up on a Skoe farm and is the wife of Henrik Brekke of Porsgrund) wrote: "I was fourteen years old when I came to America in 1882--I started herding cattle with an American when I was fifteen. When I was sixteen I was a farm worker and when I was seventeen I went to work with my father on the railroad. Then, when I was eighteen, I was back on the farm." Charles also states that his sister, Johanna (Hannah), died at an early age. She died at Emmetsburg, presumably about age fifteen.

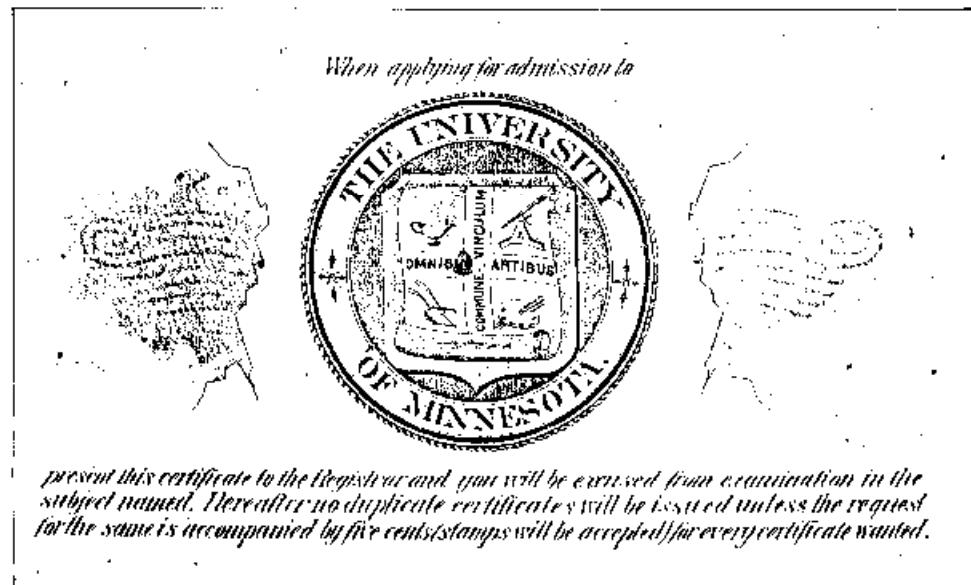
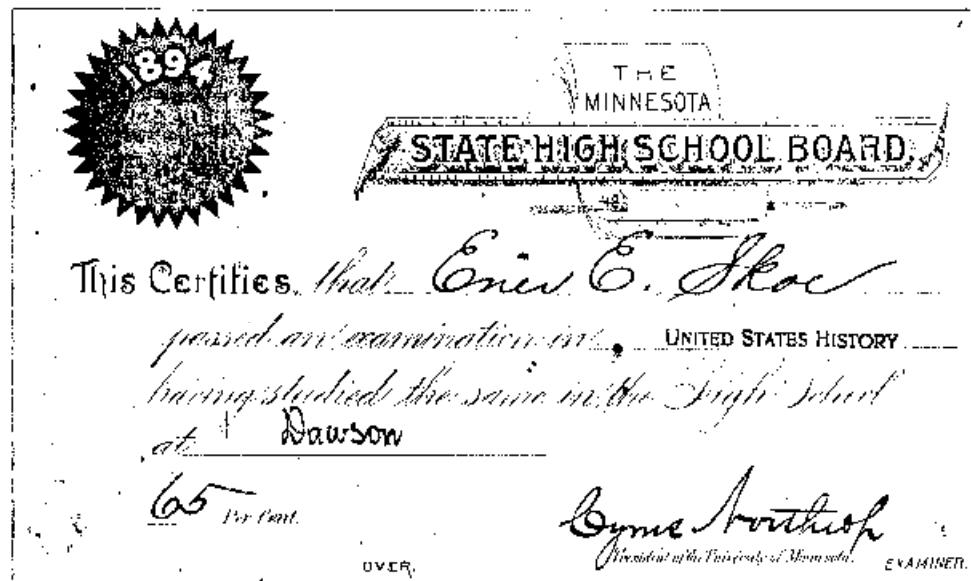
In the same letter to Porsgrund, Charles says, "In 1891 I came into business life. I was a clerk with my father's first cousin, Charles Halverson "Oterholdt", in Dawson, Minnesota. With small wages it took a long time to get rich." Nevertheless, Charles continues in his letter, "I was married to a Norwegian girl (Emilie Marie Sund) in 1895. She was born in America but reads and writes Norwegian as well as I do. She worked herself through American schools, including college. She was a teacher of English in the Dawson High School when we married".

Life in Dawson

Ener lived with Emilie and Charles. He remembered Emilie as a meticulous housekeeper and told how they greased the hinges so the kitchen cupboard doors wouldn't squeak when they wanted to sneak a lunch. In the winter of 1904 Charles had bronchitis and the doctor advised him to live in a warmer climate. He went to Santa Rosa, California where his cousin Nare (Neri) Skoe was then living. We do not know if Tallif (Tom) lived in Dawson, but we have a picture of him in a suit, necktie, and derby hat, sitting before a sod house on the South Dakota prairie --dated 1910.

Ener Skoe attended Dawson High School. When Charles returned to Minnesota on a visit in 1925, he made a trip to Dawson and located Ener's Norwegian chest which contained a certificate stating that in 1894 Ener Skoe, attending Dawson High School, had passed an examination

entitling him to enter the University of Minnesota without taking an examination in United States History. The chest contained Ener's algebra exercise book, his father and mother's wedding pictures in their national costumes, a carved wooden pencil box dated 1846, Tom and Ener's leather-bound Norwegian language confirmation Bibles and a bicycle whistle. Ener's American citizenship papers were dated February 23, 1894 Lac Qui Parle County, Minnesota.



A Certificate of Completion of a course in American History found in the trunk which Ernest E. Skoe had left many years before in the attic of a house in Dawson, Minnesota. Returned to the family farm in 1925 by Charles Skoe.



State of Minnesota,

County of Lac qui Parle.

Einer E. Skoe

personally appeared before the subscriber, the Clerk of the District Court of the 12th Judicial District,
for the State of Minnesota, being a Court of Record, and made oath that he was born in Norway
on or about the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy one that he emigrated to the
United States, and landed at the port of New York on or about the month
of May in the year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty two
that it is bona fide his intention to become

~~A Citizen of the United States;~~

and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any Foreign Prince, Potentate, State or Sovereignty whatever, and
particularly to the King of Sweden & Norway whereof he is a subject.

Subscribed and sworn to this 23^d day of February A. D. 1894.

Einer E. Skoe

William H. Blair Clerk.

By H. D. Davis Deputy.

United States of America,

State of Minnesota,

County of Lac qui Parle

Clerk of the District Court in and for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Record now in
my office.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Seal of

the said District Court this 23^d day of Feby 1894

William H. Blair Clerk.

By H. D. Davis Deputy.

Application for United States Citizenship by Einer E. Skoe dated 23 February, 1894.

Log Home on Island Lake

Ener worked for a time in the Wadena, Minnesota area. When the railroad was built from Bemidji to Blackduck and the town filled with loggers and railroad men, he worked winters as a clerk in the Palace Hotel in Blackduck. In the spring of 1901 he and Carl Magnussen packsacked twenty miles northeast of Blackduck to Island Lake in Ardenhurst township. They staked out adjacent homestead claims of 160 acres each. Ener's homestead was located on the southeast shore of Island Lake. They had to carry in a stove, window glass, tools, and grub. We do not know how long these periods of time lasted, but they must have returned on foot to Blackduck to replenish their food supply and obtain other supplies. From old family pictures we know they of the year for five years. Ener "proved up" on his homestead and got title to the 160 acres on May 7, 1908--the day before he was married.

In 1907 he erected the first frame house in Ardenhurst Township. About that time he also built a large, round bottomed slat boat, very useful, because in those days much of the community life centered around the homesteads that surrounded Island Lake.

Lena Marie Olsen

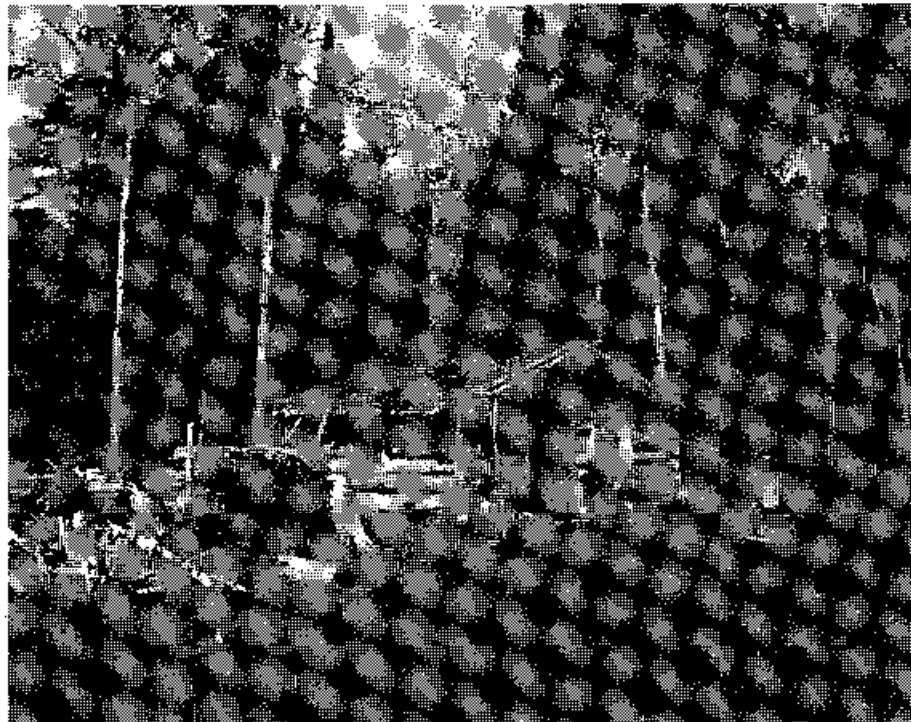
In the summer of 1907 he met his future wife, Lena Marie Olsen, a twenty-one year old school teacher who came from Bagley, Minnesota with her father to visit her father's cousin, Ed Rogstad, who lived across the lake. Ener Skoe and Lena Olsen were married the following spring in the Norwegian Lutheran Church at Bagley, Minnesota.

Ener's wife was born O'Lena Marie Olsen in Norway on July 10, 1886, the youngest daughter of Torris Olsen of Åsnes in Hedmark, Norway. We do not know her mother's maiden name nor from what part of Norway her mother came.

O'Lena's father with his family immigrated to America. He and his wife, our maternal grandmother, were the supplemented this daily fare with venison and fish. We also have group pictures of other young bachelors in the immediate area.

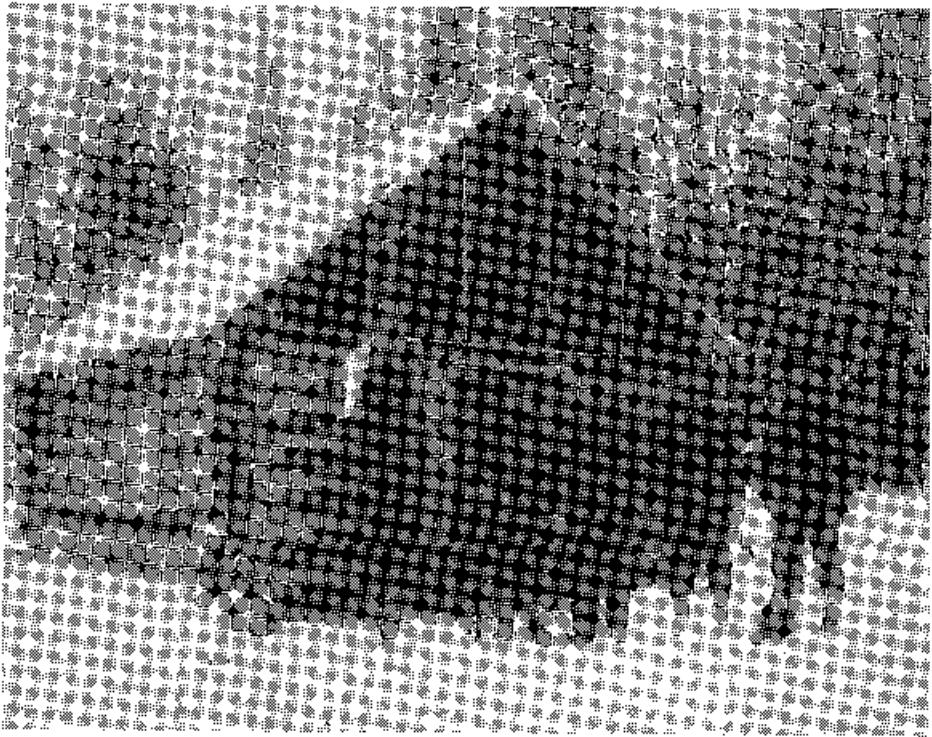
The first summer they built a log hut with a birch bark roof covered with sod. There is the story that someone threw turnip seeds up on the roof and that summer they had a good crop of turnips. In order to gain title to his claim the homesteader had to clear five tillable acres, build a house and live on the property at least six months parents of four children, Minnie, Anna, O'Lena, and Ole. The baby boy Ole died shortly after leaving Norway and we were told that he was buried on a coastal island near Oslo.

We know that they arrived in Quebec probably in 1889 and came across Canada to a small town--Reynolds, North Dakota, south of Grand Forks on the Red River. In this area Torris Olsen's brothers had

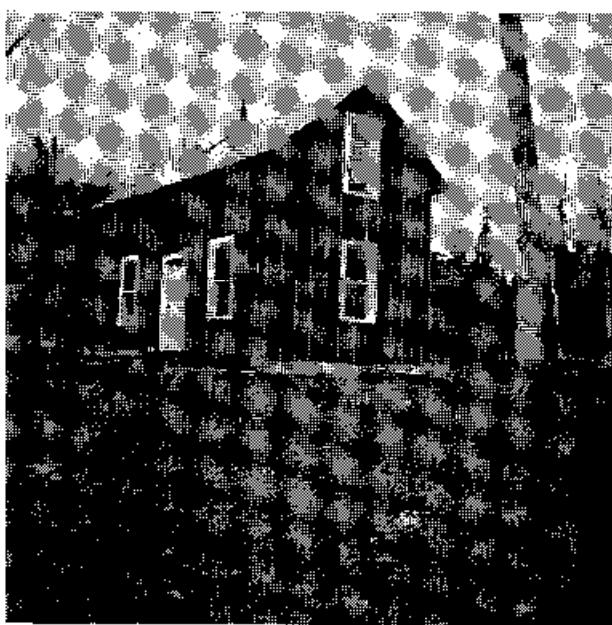


This is a picture of the first log house with a birch bark and sod roof (common roof style in Norway) on Island Lake, Ardenhurst Township, Itasca County, Minnesota. Ener E. Skoe is pictured here. There is a story that someone planted turnip seeds in the roof and that they had a crop of turnips the first year.

The name Ardenhurst reflects the Scot-English background of the very early settlers.



The second log house built on the homestead. Left to right: Ener E. Skoe, Carl Magnusen, Oscar Hansen and possibly Andrew Urness - Happy about food for winter.



The first frame house built in Ardenhurst Township, Itasca County.

The United States of America,

To all in whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Homestead Certificate No. 1300.

Application 13530.

WHEREAS, There has been deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Cass Lake, Minnesota, _____ whereby it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Congress approved 20th May, 1862, "To secure Homesteads to Actual Settlers on the Public Domain," and the acts supplemental thereto, the claim of

Emer E. Skoe

has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law, for the Lots one and two and the west half of the northeast quarter of Section twenty-one in Township one hundred fifty north of Range twenty-eight west of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Minnesota, containing one hundred sixty-five and fifty-hundredths acres,

According to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said _____, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the Surveyor General:

NOW KNOW YE, That there is, therefore, granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said Emer E. Skoe _____ the tract of Land above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of Land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said Emer E. Skoe _____

and to his heirs and assigns forever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the

United States of America, have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

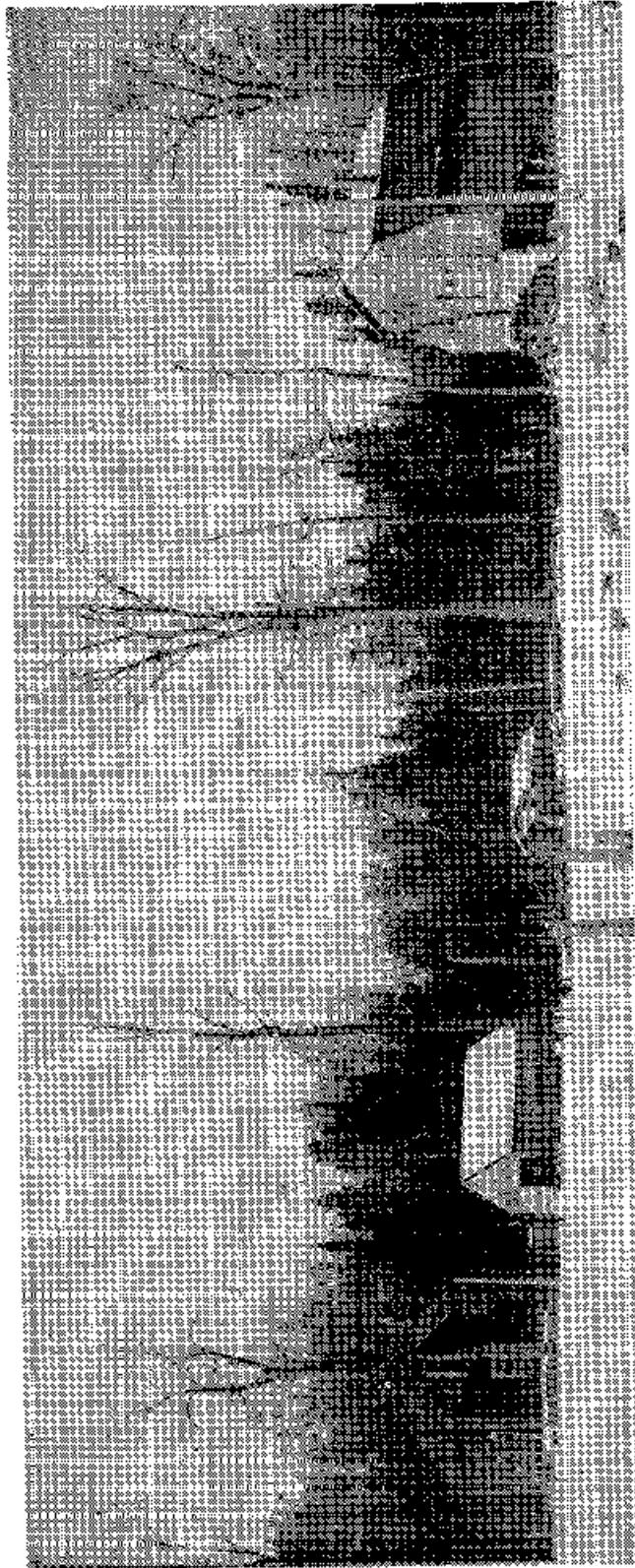
GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, the _____ seventh day of _____ May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and _____ eight, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and _____ thirty-second.

By the President: Theodore Roosevelt

By W. H. Brewster Assistant, Secretary.

A. T. Friend

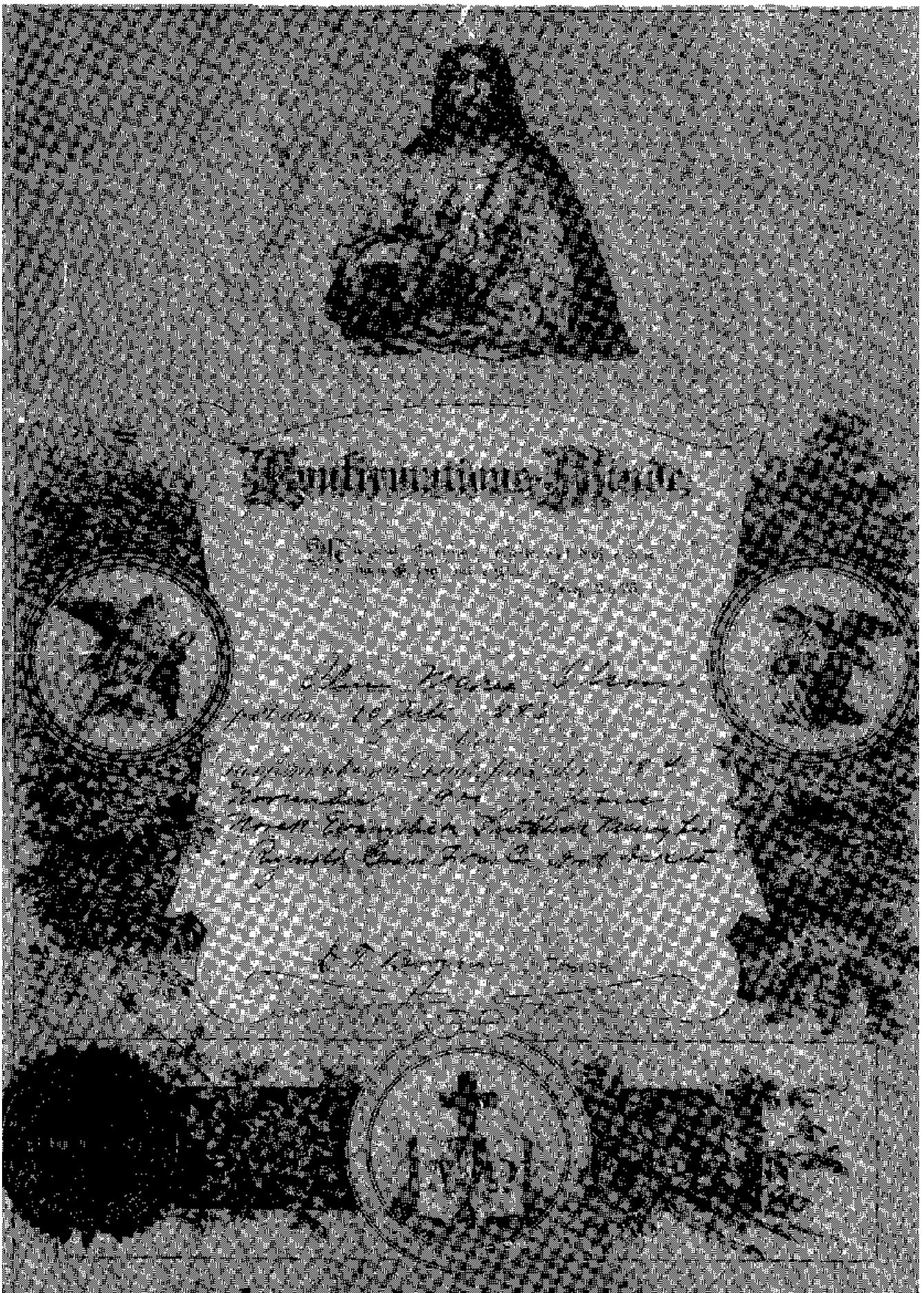
Acting Recorder of the General Land Office.



The Skoe Homestead about 1910.

Erla Skoe, Erla Skoe and baby Einar with friends.

In Norway it is a common practice to name family farms, and often the families would use the farm name. For instance, ordinarily Erla Skoe would have been Erla Eriksson because his father's name was Erik and he was Erik's son. But his family raised the farm name SKOE. Using this custom of naming farms, he called his homestead - ØAY VIKK. It was located on a slope overlooking a bay of Island Lake.



John Quincy Adams

1767 - 1848

John Quincy Adams
Born November 11, 1767
Died February 23, 1848

Massachusetts Senator
President of the United States
and Secretary of State

John Quincy Adams

CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

THE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

County of Cleavans ss
Married Henry Gentry, day of May
in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred Eighty
Eight, in said County, I, the undersigned a Notary Public
duly sworn in the County of Minneapolis,
according to the laws of this State,

Everett E. Rose,
of the County of Itasca, State of Minnesota and
Mrs Anna Green,
of the County of Cleavans,
in presence of
Joe Johnson,
John C. Johnson,

Wm. J. Villenow

Minister

settled. O'Lena was three years old when she came to America with her tall, dark, handsome father, his wife, and her two sisters. Shortly after they arrived, a son also named Ole, was born--and her mother died. We do not know for certain her mother's first name, but Bena was always told that she was named after her grandmother Olsen. With the death of his wife, O'Lena's father, like Einar's father, was left



*Einar F. Skoe
Lena Marie Olsen
Married May 9, 1908
First Lutheran Church
Bagley, Minnesota*

to rear a motherless family. Fortunately, all of Torris' large family, except his oldest brother, Martin, had emigrated and settled in the Red River Valley area. The Olsen children had many aunts, uncles, and

cousins, who must have helped Tom Olsen, as Torris Olsen called himself in the New World, until his children were old enough to help each other. He did not remarry but worked as a carpenter, building houses, gradually moving east to the wooded area around Bagley, Minnesota. When he died in 1920 he was able to leave each of his children a small cash inheritance.

In a letter from a Bagley lawyer dated 1923 Lena Skoe received the final settlement of her father's estate, \$318.88, to his survivors. We have a letter from Lena to her sister, Anna Egan of Remer, thanking Anna for giving Lena her share of the inheritance. Lena says, "I know our need is so much greater than yours," and expresses her deep gratitude.

Lena attended high school in Reynolds, North Dakota and must have had teacher's training at some level as we know she taught school, probably in the Bagley, Minnesota area where her oldest sister, Minnie, lived. She loved books -- and the older children remember her reading to them in the evening. "Black Beauty" is one remembered book. The younger children in the family did not know that side of their mother's character. By the time they were growing up she was too busy to read to them at night. She also loved poetry, and especially the older children have recollection of "The Village Blacksmith", "The Children's Hour", "The Midnight Ride Of Paul Revere" and many other poems. Four children were born to Ener and Lena Skoe between 1909 and 1915. They found they could not make a living farming and logging on the homestead, so Ener took a Watkins Products Route, traveling through the country by horse and buggy selling patent medicines, spices, flavorings, and other needs. In our household, at least, the standard medicinal items were Watkins' Carbolic Salve and Watkins' Liniment--and no self-respected cake could be made without Watkins' vanilla.

In the spring of 1915, left alone for weeks at a time with four young children and livestock to care for, Ener's wife became ill and was hospitalized for several months. Ener was forced to find homes for his children with relatives and friends. Lena left the hospital in the late summer of 1916. Lena and Ener then gathered their family together, and settled in the Grand Rapids area where the older children could go to school -- and Ener would not be leaving his wife alone in a lonely woods for such long periods of time.

Two more children were born in Grand Rapids. The youngest, Viola May (b. 1918, d. 1919) was exposed to whooping cough on a trip back to the homestead. As a result of the whooping cough, she died of bronchial pneumonia at the age of 13 months. Bena remembers being called home from school to be with her mother and the other children. A Dr.

Hursh of Grand Rapids, both doctor and minister, baptized Marie and Viola, and Viola died in her mother's arms. She was buried in the Grand Rapids cemetery.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the voting members of the Island Lake Lutheran Congregation, of the township of Ardenhurst, and of the post-office of Bergville, will be held in the grade building of the Bergville School house, on Wednesday, the Twenty-seventh Day of March, 1929; and among other matters of importance, final steps will then be taken in the matter of incorporating the said congregation by adopting a legal certificate of incorporation.

Dated at Bergville, this Eleventh Day of March, 1929.

The above wording is:

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the voting members of Island Lake Lutheran Congregation, of the township of Ardenhurst, and of the post-office of Bergville, will be held in the grade Building of the Bergville School house, on Wednesday, the Twenty Seventh Day of March, 1929; and among other matters of importance, final steps will then be taken in the matter of incorporating the said congregation by adopting a legal certificate of incorporation.

Dated at Bergville, this Eleventh Day of March, 1929.

Mrs. E. E. Skoe

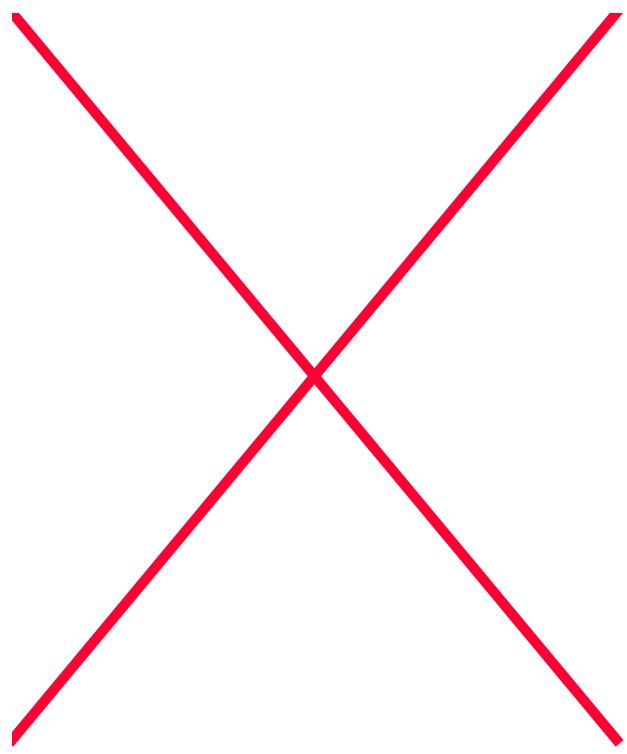
E. E. Skoe

Wm. H. Fischer

Wm. H. Fischer

Wm. H. Fischer
This is to witness the above incorporation.

It is interesting to note in this age of Women's Liberation that Lena Skoe as Mrs. E. E. Skoe was the first to sign the Notice of Incorporation of the Lutheran Church at Island Lake.



CLASSES CONFERRED BY REV. SWAN.

AUGUST 1924 to APRIL 1929.

1. CLASSES OF 1924: August 3 at NORTHOOME.
Rev. A. O. Odegard & Rev. A. B. Swen.
Eleanor Anderson & Walter Abberg
Edvard Gauvin Louis Gauvin
Louise Gauvin Jessie Allon
Gertrude Strand

2. CLASSES OF 1926 (continued).

- (4) At GEMILL on May 30th.

Walter Weichert
Aina Jacobson
Erline Erickson

- (5) At BERGVILLE on June 13th.

Stanton Skoe Earl Skoe
Bent Skoe Leonard Hurner
John Houser Cotts Allie
Ruby Allen Thora Neumann

- (6) At FOREST GROVE on Oct. 3rd.

Nels Erickson

- CLASSES OF 1927: August 26th - GER. T.T.H.

- (2) At MIZPAH on April 25th.

Barrett Volk Arville Kohlhase
Edith Wick Mildred Larson

- (3) At NORTHOOME on May 2nd.

Minda Norby Thomas Tons
Abd Tons Adelheid Grundell
Edu Grundell Lawrene Leesman
Lillian Eric Gina Eric
Leila Winkle Mildred Winkle
Ruth Storhaugen Loretta Willingson
Morris Grundell Carl Auberg
Jotiphine Anderson

4. CLASSES OF 1929.

- (1) At MIZPAH on May 6th.

Jennie Are Oscar Jas
Clifford Boquist Birthe Wick
Anna Wick Myrtle Lath
Victoria Lath Alice Larson
Chuster Holt Viola Donaldson
Violet Donaldson

4. CLASSES OF 1926 (Continued).

(2) At NORTHOME On May 13th.

Neal Sjostrom Gladye Anderson
David Pullman Hazel Elljoren
Florence Flanders Melvin Anderson
Theresa Gauslow Melvin Aberg.

(3) At FOREST GROVE on July 2nd.

Nottie Larson Surpina Lien.

(4) At MARGIE on September 2nd.

Jeanette Olson Henriette Olson

5. CLASSES OF 1929.

(1) At MARGIE on March 24th.

Jack LaBerg Charlene Leisec
Orbin Holt Thora McCardron
Doris Byland Mac Hyland
Eileen Hyland.

(2) At NORTHOME: To be on April 7th.

Charles Peterson Charles Sjostrem
Willford Winkle Christian Ellingson
Marilyn Pederson Ethel Grandahl
Charlotte Flanders Lillian Flanders

(3) At BURNTIME on April 7th to be:

John Neageth Stanley Skoo
Melvin Neageth Vernon Nelson
Doris Hanson Mariel Lestmar

PREVIOUS CLASSES CONFIRMED.

7. CLASS AT WILDWOOD on Jan. 6, 1921.
Rev. A. O. Godegaard, Blackduck, Minn.

Anne Nordby Angela Dahlgren
Hedwig Forquista Walter Sorggaard
Erick Dantryn Olaf Nordby

THE LIFE THAT COUNTS.

The life that counts must toil and fight,
Must hate the wrong and love the right;
Must stand for truth, by day, by night--
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must hopeful be;
In darkest night make melody;
Just wait the dawn on bended knee--
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must aim to rise
Above the earth to sunlit skies;
Must fix its gaze on Paradise--
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts must helpful be;
The care and needs of others see;
Must free the slaves of sin to prove--
This is the life that counts.

The life that counts is linked with God;
And turns not from the cross--the rod;
But walks with joy where Jesus trod--
This is the life that counts.

These pages record confirmation dates of young members of the Lutheran Church whose pastor was the Rev. Swan. He was traveling many miles to minister to the needs of his scattered congregation.

They had made the trip to check on the conditions on the homestead, preparatory to moving back in the spring of 1920. They stayed in the Grand Rapids area until the end of the school term and in June, 1920, went back to Island Lake.

There were about twenty other families struggling to clear farms in Ardenhurst. A public school had been built and a visiting Lutheran pastor conducted occasional services, usually on Sunday afternoon. The older children of the Scandinavian families "read" for the minister once a month. Lena wrote to her sister Annie in Remer of her concern for her children's religious instruction, and her happiness that the children were receiving some religious education.

In 1929 Ener and Lena Skoe's names stood first on the pre-organization paper of the Grace English Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ardenhurst Township at Island Lake. The word "English" emphasized the fact that this was a church in America, although a member of what was then the "Norwegian Lutheran Church", now known as the A. L. C. or American Lutheran Church. There were twelve voting members of this first congregation. Services were held in the public school. All members of the community, Lutheran or not, were welcome and often attended. There was no church organ but the school had raised money for a piano by sponsoring Saturday night dances for the loggers and settlers. The pianist for the Sunday Service was Earle Belle Rose, a gracious Scotch Presbyterian woman, the wife of a timber cruiser. She also played for the dances.

Roads around the lake, telephone lines so necessary for the protection from forest fires in the acres of slashing left after the lumber camps moved out, mail service, and at least a high school education were primary concerns of the community.

In the spring of 1923, the one room school at Bergville was burned to the ground by a forest fire. While a new school was being built on a different location and until it was completed the Bergville school children were transported by bus to Hillcrest School, west and north of the Skoe homestead. Ener Skoe drove the school bus, drawn by horses, either a wagon or a sleigh. The bus was covered by a metal framework supporting a canvas, as a protection from rain, snow and cold. We also had charcoal burning foot warmers.

Stanley tells of his amazement at watching his father cut metal for the framework with a new hacksaw -- ordered from the Sears Roebuck catalog. He remembers this metal cutting saw as an unbelievable phenomenon.

A new two-room consolidated school was built on a corner three-fourths of a mile west of the original Bergville School. It consolidated the three one-room schools of the Island Lake, Ardenhurst Township area, Bergville, Hillcrest and Cunningham.

After walking to school in former years, it was a great improvement to be bussed to school. Before this new era of buses, Ener would in the very severe winter weather take his children the mile and one-quarter to school by using a horse drawn sleigh, dragging a heavy birch log behind one runner to make a trail through the snow so the children would find the trip home easier. In winter we would also, on occasion, use the old road--some distance from the lake, where the snow was not so deep.

By the fall of 1924 when the first of the Skoe children, Earl and Stanton, reached high school age, Lena and Ener Skoe and other interested parents had convinced the School Board of District No. One, Itasca County of the value of adding two years of high school to the one-through-eighth grades at Bergville. By this action the high school students would not have to live away from home at such a young age.

They moved the Hillcrest School down to the site of the new Bergville School and engaged a Miss Selma Skarsten as the High School teacher. Those of us who were her students know how well she prepared us for the academic work in the larger high school at Grand Rapids, the county seat. The district encouraged students to finish high school by giving the \$10 a month received in state aid back to any student willing to go up to 60 miles from home, usually working for his room and board in private homes to get a high school education. Often these older children were badly needed at home to help with work, but no sacrifice was too great for the better education of these children.

Ener often expressed his pride that his children all were completing high school. Neither he nor his wife lived to see the younger children complete college. The three older boys graduated into the depression of the late twenties and early thirties. They returned home to the farm and began cutting timber and working in logging camps. Eventually, they owned their own trucks, logging in winter and hauling gravel in summer. In the summer of 1936 Ener suffered a slight stroke which left him unable to do the heavy work in the woods and on the farm. In the fall of 1938 Lena again became very ill and died of pneumonia in January, 1939. She was buried in Bergville cemetery. Ener was left with four children, ages five to sixteen, at home. After Ray, his sixteen-year-old, left home to go to high school in Grand Rapids, it became impossible for Ener to keep his family together. In 1941 Gladys went to Cicero, Illinois to live with her sister Bena and her young family. Russel and Gordon found a good home with Elsie and Roy Simmerman, who

farmed near Bergville School. Ener moved in with his oldest son Earl and his wife Vera and their young children, where he was cared for until his death from a kidney ailment in the spring of 1945. Ener was buried beside his wife in the family plot in Bergville cemetery.

It is ironical that this homestead farm of 160 acres, which, to a Norwegian immigrant accustomed to the small acreage of Norway, seemed like a veritable fortune, should have been incapable of adequately supporting a family. Eighty acres were sold for cash to a local businessman, with a clause in the deed retaining the mineral rights for the heirs of the Skoe family. The entire homestead land is located at the western end of the Mesabi iron range and in the 1920's it seemed possible that mining might begin in that area.

When the family moved from Grand Rapids to the original homestead in the spring of 1920, the road to and past the farm cut the farmland into two sections of almost equal size. Ener worked very hard to have the road right-of-way moved to the lake shore to make farming more practical. He succeeded and the new road was finished in the fall of 1923.

A story is told that the workmen found the skeleton of a man buried in a round hole, as if the body had hastily been pushed into the smallest available hole. It is known that Indian trails were found in the area.

None of the original buildings remain--and almost all of the land, from which Ener laboriously grubbed tree stumps (later he used dynamite) has been planted as a tree farm, with spruce, white pine, and other evergreen trees. A small area of Lena's very special garden, the fertile slope in front of the home facing south, is still available for a garden. She had probably the best garden spot in the area and made good use of it--selling vegetables, especially early tomatoes--and mouth-watering strawberries and raspberries. Changing values, changing life styles have caused the conversion of the homestead from a working farm to a tree farm. The property would also be more desirable if the lake shore road were rebuilt in its old location away from the lake.

These two facts seem to illustrate a basic difference in life style in northern Minnesota today as compared to the hopes of the settlers in early 1900.

Despite a lack of financial success, Ener and Lena left to their children a priceless heritage. They had planted firmly in the hearts and minds of the children their own hopes and dreams for a more rewarding life in this New World. As we look back over the years at the end of this year of our Lord 1977, it is possible to believe that they feel as though their hopes and dreams have to a large extent been fulfilled.

In 1939, Ener and Lena Skoe's oldest son, Earl Thomas (b. 1909) married Vera Janet Urness (b. 1919, Norwegian, English, Scotch, Irish) daughter of Andrew and Annie Urness. Annie Urness is still living--after

the death of her husband she has lived with her daughter and son-in - law. The Urness and Skoe families had been friends for many years. Andrew and Ener knew each other before either one was married. Earl became a timber broker, supplying pulpwood to Boise Cascade and Kimberly Clark paper mills. He also operates a saw mill, a lumber yard and building supply company.

He serves on the Rural Telephone Board, and has served on the village council of Northome--also has been acting Mayor of Northome. At some period during his terms as a town official the village water tower collapsed--this has become a family joke.

He and Vera are active supportive members of Hope Lutheran Church, Northome--the original church that met at Bergville is now affiliated and has become a part of Hope Lutheran Church.

He is developing lakeshore property on the southeast shore of Island Lake, near the Skoe homestead. The cabin he built many years ago on his property at Island Lake has been the scene of many family gatherings and is always available for use by family members.

Their first child, Ralph Earl Skoe (b. 1940), graduated with honors from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Mathematics. Ralph served as an officer in the United States Army. He was stationed at the Army Supply Depot, Verdun, France. While stationed in Europe he began his study of the French and German languages.

In 1966 he married a registered nurse, Kathleen Ellen Rona (b. 1942 - Norwegian, German) from Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. They lived for a period of time in West Germany. They have three daughters, Amy Kathleen (b. 1968), Ann Christine (b. 1971) and Erika Elaine (b. 1976). Erika was born in Germany and is the first descendant of E. E. Skoe to bear his initials.

Ralph works for an American corporation, M. T. S., that manufactures material testing equipment for all the industrial companies of the world. The entire family is bi-lingual--unusual in our American culture. Ralph and Kathy traveled extensively in Europe both for business and pleasure.

In April, 1977, Earl and Vera visited their son Ralph and his family in Germany, a very timely trip because in the summer of 1977 Ralph, Kathy and their three daughters returned to live in the United States.

After an extended tour of the United States they are at home again in Minneapolis. Ralph is still employed by the M. T. S. Corporation.

Earl and Vera's daughter, Irene Marie (b. 1942), graduated from Concordia College at Moorhead, Minnesota. Because of her interest in Norwegian culture, she studied the Norwegian language (Norse) for two years.

It is interesting to note that Irene was not the only Skoe grandchild to attend or graduate from a Norwegian Lutheran College. Other grandchildren were students and most were graduated from St. Olaf, Northfield, Minnesota and Augsburg, Minneapolis. The abundance of Lutheran colleges is evidence of the heritage of education brought not only from Norway, but from other Scandinavian colleges by our forebears.

Irene taught elementary school in St. Paul.

In 1964 she married Phillip Norman St. Louis (b. 1941 - Dutch, French Canadian, a bit of American Indian and Norwegian), the son of a local postman. This was the first marriage of a Skoe grandchild. Philip is a graduate of the University of Minnesota School of Medical Technology. He works at the University of Minnesota Hospitals as a Coordinator of Laboratory Information.

Irene and Phil have two sons, Keith Phillip (b. 1968) and Mark Andrew (b. 1969). Their daughter, Kristin Mathea was born in 1975. They live in a northern suburb of Minneapolis. Phil's grandmother Mathea Olsen lives in Northome. She is one of the few living members of the first generation of this narrative.

Wayne Oliver Skoe (b. 1953) attended Bemidji State College. He is now a partner in his father's building supply company, Skoe Products, Northome, Minn.

Earl and Vera's youngest son Paul Gordon (b. 1956) died in 1967 at age 11 as a result of a gun accident.

In 1936 Charles Stanton Skoe (known as Stanton from early life), Ener and Lena's second son (b. 1911), married Edith Beatrice Miller. We have always known her as Beatrice or Bea (b. 1917 - Swedish, German, Dutch, Irish). They have continued his logging and trucking business.

When the first of their five children reached school age in 1946 they moved to a small town near Northome, Kelliher. Stanton and Bea were co-owners of a Standard Oil station and the Skoe Implement Company, an International Harvester agency. In winter Stanton continues his life-long love, logging.

In the fall of 1968 they helped found Clearwater Rice, Inc., a company engaged in growing wild rice in artificially irrigated paddies. His knowledge of heavy equipment was a great asset in this endeavor. The family has been active in community and church affairs.

Their oldest daughter, Patricia Yvonne (b. 1940) was the organist of Our Savior Lutheran Church for five years. She contracted rheumatoid arthritis at age sixteen, but has continued her school work. She completed all of the work, except the practice teaching, at the University of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Majoring in Speech Pathology, she worked in the speech clinic at Albuquerque and has attended classes at the University of Minnesota.

In 1967 she was married to Stanley George Petzel, Jr. (b. 1939 Polish-Norwegian). After ten years of marriage, within the space of six months, they became the parents of two daughters, Hung Doo Hee (b. Jan. 30, 1977) in Seoul, Korea--Sarah Anne Doo Hee as she was baptized, arrived at the Minneapolis Airport on July 12. On Christmas Day, she was joined by Mary Catherine, born to Pat and her husband at a Minneapolis hospital. This makes a busy, happy home.

[Translator's note:] The original book had a page missing and the following is the comment in the book.

When you have read as far as, "This makes a busy happy home," on page 46, turn to this page.

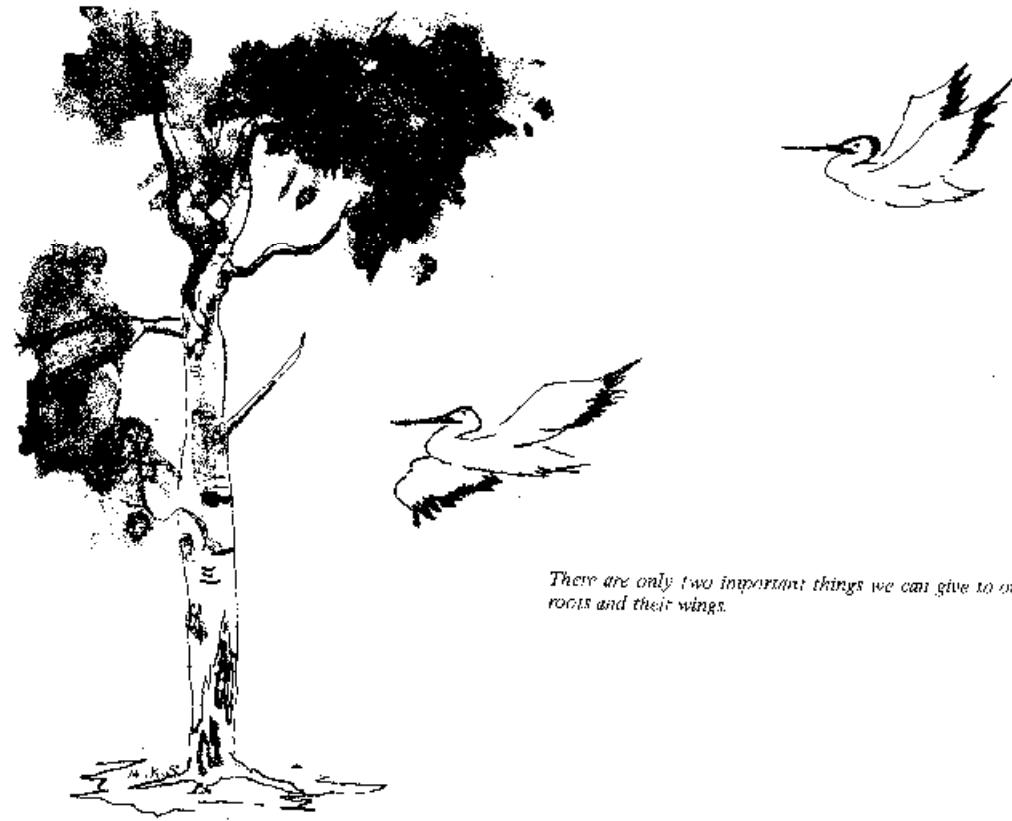
At our family reunion on July 23, 1978, we presented this book to all the family members. Very shortly, two girls, ages 9 and 7 came to me and said, "Our names are not in the book, Aunt Bena," I said, "Of course they are," and opened the book. They weren't there, but here they are, on a special page.

When you have read as far as, "This makes a busy happy home," on page 46, turn to this page.

At our family reunion on July 23, 1978, we presented this book to all the family members. Very shortly, two girls, ages 9 and 7 came to me and said, "Our names are not in the book. Aunt Bena." I said, "Of course they are," and opened the book. They weren't there, but here they are, on a special page.

Their second daughter, Barbara Jeanne (b. 1944) is a graduate of St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota. Barbara has a B. A. of Education, specializing in Speech and English. In 1966 she married James Lowell Lund (b. 1943), both parents Norwegian from Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin. Jim has a B. A. in Psychology from St. Olaf and an M. A. in Counseling from Tuskegee Institute, Alabama. They live at Frostburg, Maryland with their two daughters, Rachael Yvonne, (b. 1969) and Teresa Erin (b. 1971). Jim is Dean of Housing at Frostburg University and Barbara is working on an M. A. in Business Management.

Donald Stanton (b. 1948) is the oldest of the three sons. He attended St. Olaf College for three years, majoring in Music and Philosophy. He has also attended the University of Minnesota. While attending school, Don



There are only two important things we can give to our children, their roots and their wings.

worked for Clearwater Rice, starting in 1969--he worked clearing the land and as a foreman of field aspects of the rice paddies. In the winter of 1973 he was in charge of his father's logging operations. He is now employed by the P. F. C. Equipment Company of Brooklyn Park, producer and maintainer of special product pumps -- as an example, the peristaltic pump.

The next son, Richard Duane(b. 1953) graduated from St. Olaf College with a major in Religion and Philosophy. He spent much time working in his parents' business, and bought was a godsend to her mother caring for small children and cooking for a housefull of hungry young truckers. In 1937 Bena married Stanley George Petzel(b. 1914 - both parents Polish family name originally Piecuch) of Cicero, Illinois, Stan is a graduate of Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. For 26 years he was a retail credit executive of Sears Roebuck and Company.

The family has lived in Illinois, Ohio, Illinois, in Minnesota, and again in Illinois. Bena and Stan now live on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan near Benton Harbor, Michigan where Stan is president of Appliance Buyers Credit Corporation, the finance subsidiary of the Whirlpool Corporation, and Bena cultivates her garden of native wild spring flowers in the woods around their home.

Bena and Stan's oldest son, Stanley George, Jr., "Chip¹", (b. 1939) has a degree in Philosophy from Northwestern University. He is an honor graduate of Officer School, serving in the United States Army for three years-stationed in Turkey for one year. He attended the University of Minnesota Graduate School of Business and researches new products for the Green Giant Corporation, a food processing company located in Jonathan, Minnesota. In 1967 he married Patricia Yvonne Skoe (b. 1940 -- Norwegian, Swedish, German). They live in Edina, a suburb of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

As we mentioned before, life for Pat and Chip became very busy and happy with the arrival of Sara Anne Doo Fee from Seoul, Korea (b. Jan. 30, 1977) on July 12, and the birth of Mary Catherine on December 25th, a blessed Christmas baby.

Robert Andrew (b. 1943), Bena and Stan's second son, nicknamed "Randy", is an honor graduate of St. Olaf College and of Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois.

He completed his internship at Wesley Hospital in Chicago, a residency in Internal Medicine and a Fellowship in Nephrology at the Veterans' Hospital and the University of Minneapolis Hospital. He is Director of Admissions at the Veterans' Administration Hospital, is coordinator of a course in clinical medicine for first year medical students, and he continues his work in nephrology--doing research and treating patients.

In 1969 he married Sue Van Oosten (b. 1942 - Anglo-Saxon, Dutch). She attended San Jose College, California and received a degree of Doctor of Clinical Psychology from Loyola University, Chicago. She completed her work with a year's internship at the University of Minnesota. She is in charge of an Outpatient Psychology Clinic at the university and teaches a course at St. Thomas University. The students are graduate Special Education teachers and the subject is the handling of severely disturbed children.

Randy and Sue live in Minneapolis and with good daytime help, share in the care of their two children, Andrea Alexis (b. 1972) and Aaron Andrew Van Oosten (b. 1974).

Conrad Allan (b. 1944) graduated from Onarga Military School in Illinois. He received a B. A. in business from Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Missouri. He served in the United States National Guard. He is an Assistant Manager for Associated Bureaus, a collection agency in St. Paul, Minn. In 1969 he married Lois Ann Geerde (b. 1948 of German parentage). She was born on a farm near Fulda, Minnesota. Lois is a registered nurse and a graduate of the Hennepin County Medical Center. She worked at Fairview Southdale Hospital. Lois and Conrad live with their two children, Linnaea Marie (b. 1970) and Joshua Conrad (b. 1974) in Edina, Minnesota.

Stanley Oliver (b. 1915) is the third son in the Ener Skoe family. Like his older brothers, Earl and Stanton, and his sister Bena, he graduated from Grand Rapids High School. He came home to work with his brothers as a trucker and logger. In 1942 he enlisted in the United States Army and, because of his experience with heavy equipment, was assigned to the Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Because of a sinus problem, he was given an honorable medical discharge. During World War II he worked as a heavy equipment operator, building the American airbase in Newfoundland, and on the Alcan Highway to Alaska. In 1944 he moved to the Oakland Bay area of California and began a lifelong career as a specialist in industrial meter installation and repair.

In 1944 he married June McKeegan. They were divorced in 1952. In 1953 he married Rosalie Sternberg Nelson (b. 1913). Rose is a native Californian. When her Irish-English mother died, her Jewish father insisted that since she was baptized Catholic, she should be reared as a Catholic.

After their marriage their first home was in San Leandro, California. In 1956 they moved to Anaheim, California where they still live.

Stanley's work took him over seas--while he was there working for Rockwell Manufacturing, now Rockwell International, most of his work

concerned hydraulic equipment for super tankers for the Esso Standard Oil Company.

In 1970 the Measurement and Control Division of Rockwell was purchased by Brooks Instrument of Emerson and he continued with the new company as a Service Engineer.

Stan is an amateur geologist and has filed a claim on a field of amethyst geodes. His redwood tables, made of burls and roots are works of beauty. He is a fisherman and he and his wife have built a modular home in the mountains near San Simeon, Big Sur, California, overlooking the Pacific Ocean in the distance.

Rose has a daughter, Barbara, by her previous marriage. Barbara was married in 1953 to George McConnachie. They have five children who call Stanley "Grandpa" or "Cramps" and he really appreciates their love and care. Their names and birth dates are Tracy Colleen (b. 1957), Craig Thomas (b. 1959), Glen Victor (b. 1964), Diana Lynn (b. 1966), Michael (Mike) George (b. 1968).

After almost 32 years of work as a serviceman for the Ralph Brodie Meter Company, surviving the acquisition of Brodie by Rockwell Manufacturing Company and the 1970 sale of the product line of Rockwell to Brooks Instrument, his years of work resulted in his promotion to Regional Service Manager for Brooks Instrument's Western Region, including Hawaii and Alaska.

In February of 1977 Rose's daughter, Barbara, and her three youngest children returned to California from Virginia to make their temporary home with Stanley and Rose. Barbara began a nine-month course of training as a legal secretary, and is now settled in her own home,,

Marie Alice (b. 1917) was the fifth child of the Skoe household. She went one year to high school at the Bergville School, one year to Northome, and graduated from Grand Rapids High School. She went one year to Bemidji State Teachers' College, worked one year at a clothing store at Cass Lake, Minnesota, and came back to Bemidji College for one year. She taught school for five years in little towns in Minnesota. In 1944 she married Anthony Thomas Rozycki, Jr. (b. 1917 - mother Irish, father Polish; both born in St. Paul, Minn.). While her husband was in the United States Army attending the University of Minnesota Medical School she worked for the D. W. Onan Company, a company making auxiliary power plants for the armed services,

In 1945 Marie and Tony moved to Detroit, Michigan for Tony's year of medical internship. During the next two years, while Tony was in the United States Army, they lived in Texas, Washington, DC, and in Hawaii. For the next seven years they lived at Pine River, Minnesota

while Tony was in general medical practice. They lived three years in Rochester, Minn. where Tony trained in obstetrics and gynecology at the Mayo Clinic. Since 1958 they have lived in St. Cloud, Minn. In 1973, after their four children were grown, Marie has taken classes at St. Cloud University majoring in English and writing some poetry as a hobby. Marie and Tony's oldest son, Anthony Thomas III (b. 1945) graduated from the University of Minnesota School of Law and is licensed to practice before the Minnesota State Bar. He served three years in the United States Army, one of those years in Korea. In early 1977 he was awarded a Master of Arts degree from the University of Minnesota Geography Department. His thesis was The Evolution of Hamlets in Stearns County. Since May 1st he has been employed as an attorney with North Star Abstract Company with offices in downtown Minneapolis. He lives in an apartment in Plymouth where he swims and gardens.

Their second son, John Charles (b. 1949) graduated from Technical High School in St. Cloud. He lives in St. Cloud and works for the Department of Natural Resources in park and fire service. In 1970 he married

Patricia Leigh Mikel but they were later divorced. John has moved from the farmhouse near Grand Lake to a farmhouse near Bowlus, in Morrison County. John is building a house on his land near Opole, in Stearns County.

Michael James (b. 1952) is the second Rozycki son. He graduated from the University of Northern Arizona at Flagstaff with a degree in land use planning. Mike, who was home for a visit this summer, has been promoted to Planner II for Mohave County, Kingman, Arizona. He has moved from his house in Kingman to a house about ten miles out on Powder House Canyon Road.

Mary Ann (b. 1956) attended the University of Minnesota, Duluth. She is now a senior in Medical Technology at the University of Minnesota. Since April she has worked part time in the blood laboratory at the University of Minnesota Hospitals. She has moved from "Dinkey Town" to an apartment in the Cedar Square West complex on the west bank of the Mississippi River.

Marie and Tony have moved to a home out of St. Cloud on the Mississippi River--where Tony raises bees-- and Marie works the smoke protector,, She is also extending her scope of studies at the nearby St. Cloud University.

Emilie Josephine (b. 1920) was the first child born after the Ener Skoe family moved back to the homestead. She too worked for her room and board while attending high school in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. She took a commercial course in high school and won honors for her skill in typing. She worked in the office of the Junior High School principal and in the office at the North Central School of Agriculture in Grand Rapids.

In 1939 Emilie married Wesley E. B. Karkela (b. 1916 father born in Finland, mother born in Sebeka, Minn.), a graduate of the North Central School of Agriculture. Wesley first worked as a furniture salesman, and carpet installer, but he soon developed his own following of satisfied customers and owned and operated a successful family business, Wesley's Floor Covering Service, for 24 years. All four of the Karkela boys became expert carpet installers and his wife worked in their home as a bookkeeper.

The oldest son, Larry Wesley (b. 1940) is an honor graduate of the University in Electrical Engineering, and worked for the Atomic Energy Commission at Sandia Labs in Albuquerque, New Mexico., He also received his Master degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. They lived for a time in Albuquerque. He has been National Sales Manager of Physical Electronics, Inc.

In 1960 he married Sharlene Kay Stenborg (b. 1941 - Swedish, German, Norwegian). They have two children, a boy Steven Wesley (b. 1961) and a girl, Lori Kay (b. 1967), and now live in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Larry and Sharlene Karkela were divorced in 1977 and share custody of their two children. Larry has now begun a new career remodeling and renovating buildings in the Minneapolis area.

The Karkelas' only daughter, Karen Ann (b. 1942) is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and taught elementary education in the Roseville School System.

In 1964 she married Cushman K. D. Minar, Jr., (b. 1940 - father German, mother Norwegian and Anglo-Saxon), who owns and operates Minar Ford Agency in Minneapolis. He attended Bemidji State College and the University of Minnesota. Karen and Cush have one son, Stephen Cushman (b. 1967).

Thomas Richard Karkela (b. 1945) graduated from the University of North Dakota with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and works as a Sales Engineer for Westinghouse Corporation.

In 1967 he married Peggy Kay Rassmussen (b. 1946- Irish-Scandinavian) of Grand Rapids, Minn. She attended Itasca Junior College and Bemidji

State College. They have two daughters, Kristi Ann (b. 1970) and Jennifer Lynn (b. 1974). They live near Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ronald Raymond Karkela (b. 1948) was a member of the National Guard, attended Itasca Junior College and the University of Minnesota, and trained as an air traffic controller. He worked in the control tower of the Metropolitan Airport outside Minneapolis, Minn.

In 1971 he married Linda Marie Budrow (b. 1948 - -Finnish, French-Canadian, Chippewa Indian) of Marble, Minnesota. Linda graduated from the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth and has worked in various hospitals as a medical records librarian. In 1973 Wesley Karkela died and Ron returned home to continue the family business. In the fall of 1975 Ron and Linda opened a quick gas and grocery store, called "The Minit Mart" on the highway into Grand Rapids from the Mesabi Iron Range on the east. Ron is continuing his father's carpet service. They have a daughter, Margit Jean (b. 1973). Ronald and Linda's second child, a boy named Erik John, was born on March 5, 1977, on his great-grandfather's birth date. His name, Erik, is his great-great-grandfather's first name and his great-grandfather's middle name.

After Wesley's death, his youngest son, David John Karkela (b. 1954) was the only one of the children at home. He completed two years of school at Itasca Junior College and transferred to St. Cloud State University where he graduated with a degree in business. He has a Minit Mart on the highway entering Grand Rapids from the west.

With her husband gone and children not at home, Emilie Karkela went back to work for the Grand Rapids Public School System. She has been accountant for the hot lunch program. For many years she has been active in the Eastern Star, which is the auxiliary of the Masonic Lodge. She has held many offices and in 1976 she was installed as Worthy Matron, the highest office in the local Eastern Star. With her strong family ties and her children coming and going in the family home which she still maintains, Emilie has made a full life for herself in spite of the loss, at an early age, of her husband, Wesley. And now that two of her sons are engaged in business in Grand Rapids, she finds her services as a bookkeeper, storekeeper, or baby-sitter are much appreciated.

Raymond Clifford Skoe (b. 1923) was still at home, going to high school in Northome, at the time of his mother's death. He worked hard on the family farm during the summers trying to help the family and to support himself during the school year after he transferred to Grand Rapids High School, graduating in 1941. After high school graduation, when four years of college seemed financially impossible, he enrolled at Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis where he became a licensed electrician. He worked as an electrician for Northwest Air Lines. He saw an opportunity in the United States Army Signal Corps and was selected for advanced training at several colleges including Bell Laboratories in Chicago, Illinois and Hope College in Holland, Michigan. He was sent to Chunking, China as a radio communications expert for the United States Army, returning in 1946.

Part of his army pay was sent home to help support his younger brothers. Upon discharge in 1946, with the help of his G. I. Benefits and numerous jobs, Ray completed four years at the University of Minnesota Institute of Technology and graduated with honors as an electrical engineer.

Ray has led an interesting life. He has prospected for uranium, started a transistor electronics company and helped install the clocks on the United Nations building in New York City (for IBM-Endicott, New York). He has been an officer of Control Data Corporation, representing his company both here and in Europe. He has hunted moose in Canada and grizzly bears in Alaska. He and a group of friends bought a sailboat in England and sailed it to the Virgin Islands. Many members of his family enjoyed sailing vacations on this boat, named Chapter XI.

In 1970, in London, England, Ray married Gisela Schubach (b. 1936) of Frankfurt, Germany. Gisela has one daughter by a previous marriage, Katrin (b. 1968). They were later divorced and Gisela Schubach now lives in Mound, Minnesota near Minneapolis.

In 1969 Ray, his brother Stanton and brother-in-law Donald Barron began a large farming operation in North -western Minnesota. They are located near Clearbrook, south of Red Lake and the Indian Reservation. The Clearwater River is their source of water and they have diked about 1,700 acres into rice paddies and begun the commercial production of the grain that had been growing wild in shallow lakes. It was called "wild rice" -- although it is not a member of the rice family and long had been a staple Indian food, available as an expensive delicacy in a limited number of retail outlets.

It is a large-scale operation requiring knowledge of land, machinery and agronomy--in this case, the growing of what is now known as

"paddy wild rice". They have experimented with alternate crops, mustard seed and sugar beets. They harvested 650,000 pounds of unprocessed rice in the fall of 1976.

As in all farming activities, they encounter many hazards--too much rain, too little rain, worms, high winds, early frost, and hordes of blackbirds looking for free meals.

Ray says that "wild rice" is still a problem crop; this year, 1977, they were limited in acreage due to the drought conditions--to raise wild rice the paddies must be flooded. Ray was active in establishing a wild rice cooperative marketing association now headquartered in Minneapolis. Gladys Ann (b. 1927), the youngest of the Skoe girls, was in grade school when her mother died in 1939. After two years at home with the help of live-in couples, Gladys went to Cicero, Ill. to live with Bena and her family. She attended Morton High School, mornings, where she took business courses and worked afternoons for her spending money. The year she graduated from high school her father died and the Petzels moved to Minneapolis. With the help of her oldest brother, Earl, who lived forty miles away in Northome, Gladys graduated from Bemidji State College and became a Girls' High School Physical Education Teacher.

In 1952 the family gathered at the Petzel home in Minneapolis to celebrate Gladys' wedding to Donald Duane Barron (b. 1927 French-Dutch) of Baudette, Minn. He attended the University of Minnesota and is a Soil Scientist for the U. S. D. A. Soil Conservation Service in the upper Red River Valley around Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

His specialty is land classification and survey (inventory of the land). As a Soil Scientist he has to establish communication with all involved persons to make them aware of soil conditions in the area. He is an authority on the culture of wild rice, and Gladys has collected material on wild rice from Indian times to the present. Gladys is secretary of the Minnesota Wild Rice Research and Promotion Board of the Wild Rice Growers Association. She also works actively for the Republican Party in her area. The Barrons have three children.

Catherine Ann Barron (b. 1953) is a talented musician. She attended Thief River Falls Junior College, majoring in piano. She has worked for Arctic Cat Corporation, a manufacturer of snowmobiles, and at a local store. In 1976 the family met at Thief River Falls to celebrate her marriage to Mark Hagen (b. 1953, Norwegian-French) of Thief River Falls, who is employed with his father in an insurance agency as adjuster. This probably was one of the few weddings where the bride and groom were pelted with wild rice. They are building a log house in the area, the first log house to be built by the family since homestead days.

Lee Charles, the second child, was born in 1955 and has attended Thief River Falls Junior College. At the present time he is living in Minneapolis and attending the University of Minnesota.

Darby James, the youngest, (b. 1961) is still at home and is attending Thief River Falls High School.

Russel Le Roy, next to the youngest son of Lena and Ener Skoe (b. 1931) was eight years old when his mother died. After his father found it impossible to keep the family together, he was fortunate to be offered a good home with Roy and Elsie Simmerman. He moved into their home in 1943.

When Russel was ready for high school, he moved to Grand Rapids, lived with his sister Emilie and her family, and worked while going to school. He completed his last year of high school living with his sister Marie in Pine River, Minnesota. During college he worked as a bookkeeper in his fraternity house, graduating from the School of Pharmacy at the University of Minnesota in 1953. The same year he married Margaret Ann Downing (b. 1934 - French, English, Bohemian, Irish) of Pine River. He served his year's pharmacy internship at Moudry Drug Store in St. Paul, Minn.

He had been a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps in college so Russel was called to active service in the Army Medical Service Corps in 1954. He served two years as commanding officer of the enlisted personnel of the 12th Field Hospital, a 400 bed hospital. In 1956 when he was released from the Army he went to work as a pharmacist in Bemidji, Minn.

Russ, his wife Margaret and their five children have lived on the beautiful Mississippi River in the tourist center of Park Rapids, Minn., since the late 1950's. They own and operate Skoe's Park Drug Store. Margaret is the bookkeeper.

In 1977 Russ organized the construction of a 12 km. cross country ski trail in the pine-forested area near Park Rapids. The Ski Trail is a cooperative project involving the State of Minnesota, the County Park Board and Itascatur XC Ski Club. The trails are for use by all skiers at no charge. The club name is derived from Lake Itasca, the headwaters of the Mississippi River system which is in the Park Rapids area. The word "Itasca" is derived from the Latin words Veritas Capet (TRUE-HEAD) and the "Tur" ending is commonly used by U. S. ski touring clubs to acknowledge the Norwegian origins of skiing. Nearly all of the XC ski equipment used by U. S. skiers comes from Norway or other Scandinavian countries. In the past few years XC skiing has become increasingly popular in all snow areas of the U. S.

Kathleen Marie (b. 1954) is the oldest child of Russ and Margaret. She attended North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota. In 1974, in a beautiful setting on her parents' lawn overlooking the Mississippi River, Kathy was married to Bradley Craddock (b. 1946, English-French), a sales representative in Fargo., Kathy graduated from the North Dakota School of Pharmacy in May, 1977, and became a licensed pharmacist in the fall of 1977. She is employed in the Park Drug Store. Brad has served as state president of the Minnesota DECA Club, an association of students involved in distribution and retailing from vocational schools throughout the state. Brad owns and operates Park Place a teen recreation center.

Margaret and Russel's second daughter, Susan Carol, has completed a Medical Technician course at Minnesota Medical Institute. On July 2, 1977 in an outdoor wedding at her home, Susan was married to David Harsha (b. 1954, German) of Park Rapids. They are living in Champlain, near Minneapolis. Dave is attending Anoka Vo Tech. Sue is working as a Technician at a medical clinic.

Nancy Ann Skoe (b. 1957) after graduation from high school, enlisted in the United States Army in August, 1975. She is stationed at Fort Eustis, Virginia and was promoted to S. P. 5 (equivalent to Sergeant) in 1977. Douglas Gordon Skoe, oldest of the Russel Skoe sons (b. 1958) graduated from Park Rapids High School in 1977 and is attending Moorhead VO Tech in Moorhead, Minn.

Steven James (b. 1960) is a junior in high school in Park Rapids.

Willis Gordon, the youngest son of Lena and Ener Skoe (b. 1934) was reared on the family farm until 1943, with his older brother Russel, he moved across the lake to the home of Roy and Elsie Simmerman. This was necessary because of the death of his mother when he was five and the continued ill health of his father made it impossible to maintain the family home. Down the hill from the Simmerman home was the Bergville School where he and his older brothers and sisters attended grade school. He attended high school at Northome (by this time Bergville students were being bussed to Northome High School) for one year. For his sophomore year he moved to Pine River, to live with the Rozycki family, his sister Marie.

He graduated from the Pine River High School in 1952, His special enjoyment was football -- he doesn't say that he was good, but he was. He worked at The Silbaugh Store and tells of how he enjoyed living in his sister's log home on the Mississippi River. He was confirmed in the First Lutheran Church in Pine River.

After attending the University of Minnesota and Bemidji State College for two years, he enlisted in the U. S. Navy - Electronic Engineer 2nd Class. Willis G. Skoe was assigned to the U. S. S. John S. McCain D. L. 3 and the U. S. S. Vammen DE 644, cruising on both ships to the Far East and Australia.

Upon discharge Willis, the family always calls him "Gordy", with income from his G. I. Bill and work at a dairy store, attended North Dakota State College and graduated with a B. S. in Electrical Engineering in 1962.

Will was employed by Bunker Ramo and Raytheon as a field engineer, where he supported Missile Detection and Nuclear Target Programming Systems in Maryland and Nebraska, U. S. A., as well as in France, Italy, Turkey, and The Netherlands.

Willis Skoe and Constance Nuelens were married in Connie's home town, Maastricht, The Netherlands, in an ecumenical service officiated by an English speaking Catholic priest and a Dutch speaking Protestant minister.

Paula O'Lena (b. 1968) is their only child. Her first name is a Nuelens family name and O'Lena is her paternal grandmother's name. She is the first descendant of the Skoe family to make her home in Europe. She lives with her mother, an elementary school teacher in Maastricht, The Netherlands.

Willis (Gordon) has lived in Santa Barbara, California (the jewel of the Pacific) since 1973 and is employed by the Burroughs Corporation as an engineer. He owns a home a short distance

from the Pacific Ocean and spends his free time square dancing and round dancing.

Ener and Lena Skoe's family has grown and scattered, although a large proportion still live in Minnesota. Perhaps our rather haphazard efforts to recall and record Ener and his wife's struggle to root their family firmly in a new world will help bring to his descendants a greater understanding of their Norwegian - American parentage. May the beauty of the shadow of Liefjell Mountain fall not only on Skoe Valley but on the descendants of the wooded homestead on the south shore of Island Lake in Ardenhurst Township.

* * *

"What a glorious new Scandinavia might not Minnesota become.
We have room for all creation and our banner is unfurled. Here is
an invitation to the people of the world."

-- Fredrika Bremer



Some of the illustrations in this saga are from "With Wings On High" by Lillian Hegdahl. Illustrated by Lois Clark Bolitho.



STATEMENT

RECEIPT

No. Itasca County No. 705

Real Estate Taxes for the Year 1942

PAYABLE PRIOR TO JUNE 1st, 1942, WITHOUT PENALTY

Name E. E. SkaeAddress NorthomeMINN.

Received the sum of \$13.78, being J. Carlson State, County, Village or Town and School Taxes on the following described property, situated in the County of Itasca for the year 1942.

DESCRIPTION	Sec. or Lot	Town or Block	Range	Valu- ation	Sch'l Dist. No.	General Tax	Special State				TOTAL TAXES
Please Return This Statement When You Pay. Pay By Draft, Money Order Or Check.											
NW - NE Lot 1 Less 650 ft	21	150	28	28	1	419	959				
	-	-	-	64							

Assessment District ArdenhurkCOMPARE THE DESCRIPTIONS WITH YOUR DEEDS.
BE SURE YOU PAY UPON YOUR OWN PROPERTY.MAKE ALL REMITTANCES PAYABLE TO
O. B. CARLSON, COUNTY TREASURER,
Grand Rapids, Minnesota

RECEIVED PAYMENT

March 31, 1943O. B. CARLSON,
County Treasurer

FOR TAX LAWS

AND

RATES OF TAXATION

SEE

OTHER SIDE

This Form is Not Receipt Until Properly Signed and Dated

A tax receipt for the taxes on the homestead farm paid in 1942.

ITASCA COUNTY RATES FOR 1942

"General Taxes" only, are computed by following rates.

"Special Taxes" are levied by Town or Village.

Name of Town	School Dist.	State Rate	County Rate	Town Rate	State Loan To Township	School Rate	Village Rate	Special State Rate on Non-Homestead Prop.	Total	Name of Town	School Dist.	State Rate	County Rate	Town Rate	State Loan To Township	School Rate	Village Rate	Special State Rate on Homestead Prop.	Total
Alywood	1	1.61	31.50	31.00		74.70		7.39	146.20	Pomroy	1	1.61	31.50	26.00		74.70		7.39	141.20
Ardenhurst	1	1.61	31.50	32.10		74.70		7.39	147.80	Sageo	1	1.61	31.50	28.20		74.70		7.39	148.40
Arbo	1	1.61	31.50	29.80		74.70		7.39	145.00	Stokes	1	1.61	31.50	30.00		74.70		7.39	147.50
Bearville	1	1.61	31.50	34.80		74.70		7.39	150.00	Sand Lake	1	1.61	31.50	31.00		74.70		7.39	148.60
Bigfork	1	1.61	31.50	28.20		74.70		7.39	143.00	Span	1	1.61	31.50	47.00		74.70		7.39	161.20
Bass Brook	1	1.61	31.50	9.25		74.70		7.39	124.45	Trout Lake	1	1.61	31.50	28.50		74.70		7.39	143.70
Bethel	1	1.61	31.50	33.50		74.70		7.39	148.30	Troll Lake	1	1.61	31.50	23.50		74.70		7.39	111.25
Blackberry	1	1.61	31.50	28.80		74.70		7.39	144.00	Third River	1	1.61	31.50	31.00		74.70		7.39	144.20
Bowstring	6	1.61	31.50	31.00		47.00		7.39	146.00	Wirt	6	1.61	31.50	26.00	50.30	47.00		7.39	173.70
Carpenter	1	1.61	31.50	27.70		74.70		7.39	148.30	Wawina	1	1.61	31.50	43.40	37.50	74.70		7.39	193.10
Deer River	6	1.61	31.50	31.20		47.00		7.39	118.70	Wabana	1	1.61	31.50	38.00	24.70			7.39	148.80
Freelay	1	1.61	31.50	21.50		74.70		7.39	138.70										
Grand Rapids	1	1.61	31.50	15.50		74.70		7.39	129.78										
Grand Rapids	2	1.61	31.50	16.50		37.24		7.39	94.42										
Gondland	1	1.61	31.50	66.70	36.00	74.70		7.39	367.90	Bovey	2	1.61	30.50	37.24	34.68	7.39	111.26		
Goodland*	11	1.61	31.50	66.70	36.00	61.00		7.39	358.10	Bigfork	1	1.61	31.50	12.30	74.70	87.10	7.39	216.60	
Good Hope	1	1.61	31.50	24.50	9.10	74.70		7.39	148.80	Cohasset	1	1.61	31.50	25.00	74.70	25.00	7.39	146.20	
Grattan	1	1.61	31.50	64.20		74.70		7.39	149.40	Cold Spring	1	1.61	30.50	37.34	23.09	7.39	101.93		
Greenway	2	1.61	31.50	24.54		87.94		7.39	102.36	Calumet	1	1.61	30.50	4.84	36.18	74.70	24.77	7.39	132.18
Harris	1	1.61	31.50	23.50		74.70		7.39	138.70	Dolcay	1	1.61	31.50	74.70	12.90	7.39	132.10		
Iron Range	3	1.61	31.50	24.77		87.94		7.39	102.61	Cooley	1	1.61	31.50	37.84	12.96	7.39	94.74		
Kinghorst	1	1.61	31.50	47.00		74.70		7.39	162.20	Dear River	1	1.61	31.50	47.00	74.70	25.76	7.39	87.50	
Lawrence	24	1.61	31.50	48.00		87.94		7.39	125.84	Effie	1	1.61	31.50	74.70	42.20	7.39	145.20		
Lake Jessie	6	1.61	31.50	41.50		47.00		7.39	139.10	Grand Rapids	1	1.61	30.50	5.54	1.14	66.41	7.39	135.62	
Liberty	1	1.61	31.50	19.50		74.70		7.39	128.70	Keewatin	1	1.61	31.50	5.53	74.70	42.20	7.39	132.08	
Liberty	8	1.61	31.50	11.50		47.00		7.39	90.00	Lac Prairie	1	1.61	31.50	5.53	74.70	37.34	7.39	87.42	
Lone Pine	1	1.61	31.50	38.19		74.70		7.39	162.30	Marijlet	1	1.61	30.50	4.84	74.70	15.04	7.39	160.87	
Moose Park	1	1.61	31.50	133.20		74.70		7.39	158.40	Nashwauk	9	1.61	30.50	4.84	66.41		7.39		
Morse	6	1.61	31.50	42.00		47.00		7.39	129.50	Squaw Lake	1	1.61	31.50	74.74		7.39	115.20		
Marcell	6	1.61	31.50	32.50		47.00		7.39	130.00	Tsconite	2	1.61	30.50	3.77	74.74	14.81	7.39	93.42	
Max	1	1.61	31.50	26.00		74.70		7.39	141.20	Warba	1	1.61	31.50	74.70	25.00	7.39	140.30		
Kore	1	1.61	31.50	46.00		74.70		7.39	161.20	Zemple	6	1.61	31.50	47.00	20.00	7.39	147.50		
Nashwauk	2	1.61	31.50	16.90		77.31		7.39	94.74	Unorganized	1	1.61	31.50	11.00	74.70	7.39	130.20		
Nashwauk	9	1.61	31.50	16.90		58.41		7.39	113.81	Ungorgan	6	1.61	31.50	15.00	47.00	7.39	103.50		
Olenragon	6	1.61	31.50	16.00		47.00		7.39	103.50	Ungorgan	10	1.61	31.50	15.00	41.00	7.39	95.50		

Rented Real Property Will Be Computed At A Rate of 6.89 Less Than The Amount Shown In The Total Mills Column.

*State Loan to Schools 101.90. Rates Not Available for Nashwauk at Time of Going to Print. tState Loan to Village 3.55.

TAX LAWS OF MINNESOTA

All taxes are due on the first Monday in January. When Personal Property taxes are \$10.00 or more, one-half may be paid prior to March first and one-half prior to July first, without penalty. All amounts less than \$10.00 must be paid before March first to avoid a penalty of 8 per cent. Delinquent Personal Property taxes are collected by the Sheriff.

One-half of Real Estate tax may be paid before June first, and one-half before November first, without penalty. If one-half is not paid before June first, 8 per cent penalty is added to the first half and 1 per cent additional each month thereafter until November first, at which time the penalty is 8 per cent on all taxes remaining unpaid, and the tax will become delinquent on the first Monday of January next. Current taxes may be paid in installments of one-fourth thereof prior to April first; one-fourth prior to June first; one-fourth prior to September first; and the remaining one-fourth prior to November first, subject to aforementioned penalties. Tax sales take place on the Second Monday of May following and the amount of sale drawn interest at the rate of 8 per cent a year until redeemed.

Where the total amount of tax on any description is \$1.00 or less, the whole amount of tax on that description must be paid before June first to avoid penalty.

Be careful to give correct description of property, giving lot, block and addition, and at the time of payment see that receipt agrees therewith.

Write to County Auditor for back taxes.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram, unless the deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS

DL	Day Letter
NL	Night Letter
LC	Deferred Cable
NLT	Cable Night Letter
SH	Stop Indication

The filing time shown in the date line on telegram and day letter is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.
Received at 5203 West 28th St., Cicero, Ill. Telephone, Cicero 2200, Lawn, 2833

C72 18-NORTHOME MINN 19 806P

1938 DEC 19 PM 8:59

MRS S G PETZEL

1912 SOUTH 48 COURT CICERO ILL

MOTHER NOT WELL WANTS YOU TO COME MEET YOU IN GRANDRAPIDS
CALL FROM GRANDRAPIDS NOT SERIOUS DONT WORRY

E E SEVEN



WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

(44) 144

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegram and day letter is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.
Received at 5203 West 28th St., Cicero, Ill. Telephone, Cicero 2200, Lawn, 2833

C72 18-GRANDRAPIDS MINN 29 401P

1938 JAN 29 PM 4:41

S G PETZEL



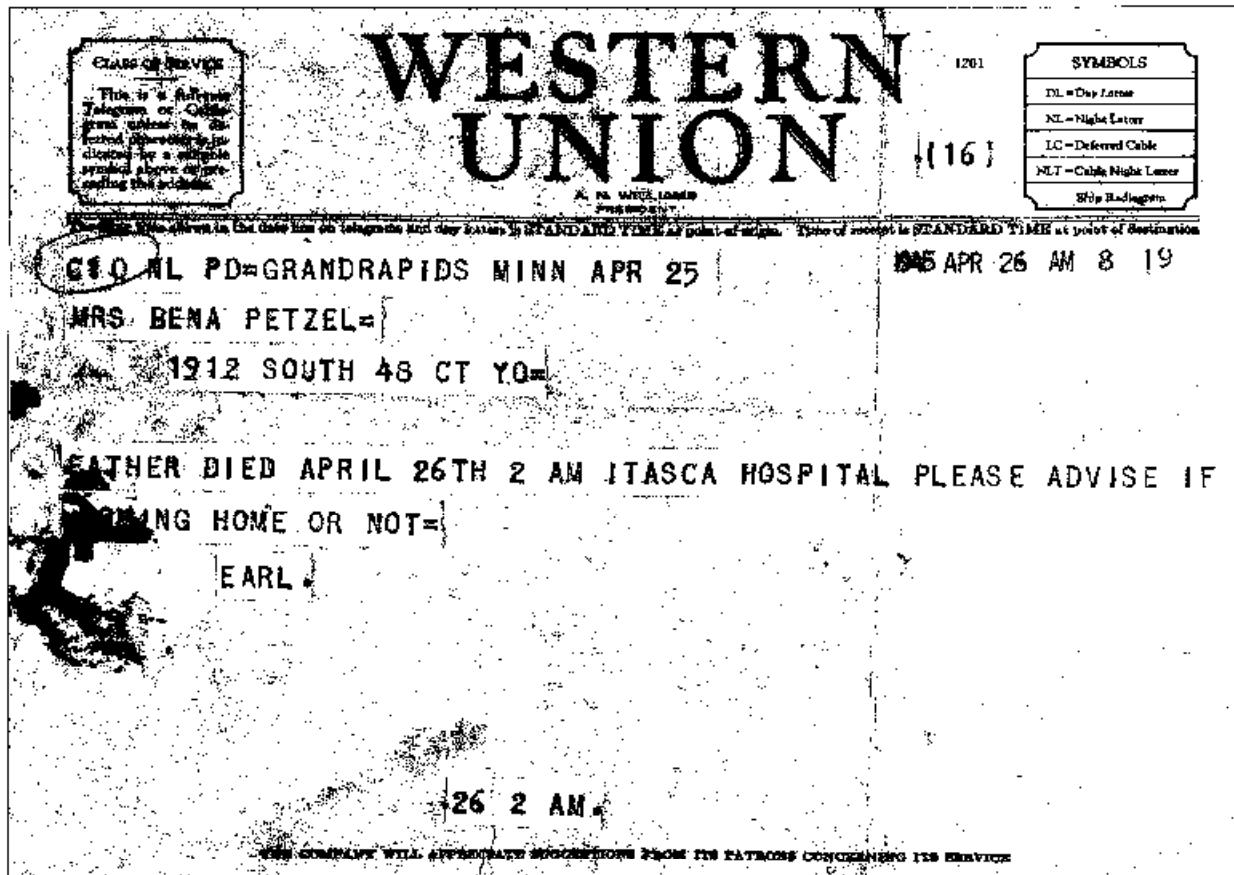
1912 SOUTH 48 CT

MOTHER PASSED AWAY TODAY FUNERAL WEDNESDAY I SEND MY LOVE

BENY

BENY

COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE



These three telegrams tell of the illness and death of Lena Skoe in 1939 and of Ener E. Skoe in 1945.

Bagley, Minn.

Jan 29 - 1938.

Mrs. Skoe and children; -

It was a very great shock to hear of Lena's death. It is a place which no one can ever fill again when a Mother leaves.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to you all, in your great sorrow.

There is no more pain or sorrow now.
A Mother has so many worries
nowadays.

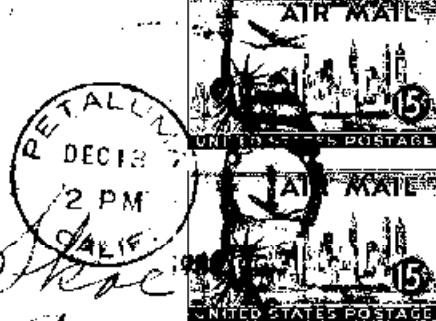
Lever has no interest in anything
any more, I doubt as
he remembers any of Minnie's folks.
He lives alone but we look after him.

I wish to give one dollar (\$1.00)
to the baptist mission in memory
of Mrs. Skoe. It would be impossible
for us to come to the funeral.

Again we feel a loss of a friend
and shall think of you many times.

From the Lee family.

CHARLES E. SKOE
108 WEST ST.
PETALUMA, CALIF.



Her. Erik Skoe
Oslo, Norway,
Norway, Europe.

This letter written in 1948 was given to Ray Skoe in the late 1950's on his first trip to Norway. Also included was a poem written for Charles Skoe's 80th birthday and a note from his wife. The translation into English follows.

Following these items is a letter written by Ray to his Uncle Charles Skoe of Petaluma, California. Ray was the first descendant of Ener E. Skoe to return to his fathers homeland.

Other members of the family, Stan and Beha Petzel, Ralph Skoe, Stanton and Beatrice Skoe, Marie and Tony Rozycski, Earl and Vera Skoe are among those who have visited in Norway.

Petaluma California Dec 1948

Kære Ven over familie -

Da Andreas Haugson kom tilbake ifra Norge brakte han hilsenget og et dikt fra den 75-årsfeste fødselsdag som vilket jeg signer mange stakk.

At du ikke var ganske klar om hvem jeg var saa vil jeg sige at det kunde mig som sør til Erik Sotrud.

Da vi reiste til Amerika blev vi sammen med Einar økse og hans familie. De tog ind til min og Mors slægtning Ole Haugsteen fra Flatdal og vi tog hos Paul Haugsteen. Min Onoys slægtninge kunde Far som Erik Skælervær blev Sotrud navnet slopet.

I 1932 blev jeg kjendt med en Porgrammemann som hedde Søren Linstang som til at læse Porgrammens Dagbok i nogle aar og der havde jeg dit navn men var ikke sikker på du var ifra Ø. Jeg tankte at skrive men det blev bare med tanken

Jeg husker dig godt da jeg er
oldere end du. Jeg blev 81 den 30^{de}
Oktober. Et nogenlunde fisk
sover mine 8 timer spiser mine
tre måltider om dagen. Husker
rundt og før det som skal føres.

Du husker Hiri Skoe han bor i
Canby Oregon Rt. 1 han fejret sin
80 års fødselsdag Dec. 5th - 1948 jeg
har netop skrevet til ham og
gratuleret ham med dagen.

Nice og jeg har været som
brødre igenom vort lange liv
han og hans familie blev med
til California i 1904 han var
her lid over et årstid men han
som var Farmer kunne ikke føre
sig forfuglig med brug avel da
vedst han tilbage til Sd Dakota og
tag over farmen igen.

Noget aar senere solgte han
farmen og flytted til Oregon
Kjøbte sed. et lidt farm for at
have noget at bestille, han er
velstaadende.

Min yngste bros som vi "kalte
nisse", Elmas husker din vist
Jeg kan tenke mig du og han
Lægte sammen han var lit et alde
en da han døde i April 1945

Han fik et stedsomt liv.
Han rejste op til Norder Minnesota
tog "hjemsted" oppe i skovene
blev gift med en norsk kvinde
fik 10 børn at han fik de som
blev gamle nok ejendom, hør
skader fandt vist han lev til
halden til slut døde hans hustru
han stod da alene med flue & mæs
saa fik han selv slag og kunde
intet arbejde lære.

Noget af de alde børn var da
gift han og de smaa maatte in
til dem.

Hans børn før dit godt og de
hjelper hverandre

Min broder Tallef hjente din vist
ikke han var hos bestefar

Hængstens i Flatdal til vi ruste
til Ammuka han døde i 1927.

Men bor Tally blev gift med en Amerikansk kvinde der fik to døtre den elste er læserinde i by i Wisconsin den yngste er gift og bor i Vallejo Calif.

Mens søster Johanne døde i en ung alder saa jeg som var den elste er tilbage da saa er liveh.

Far døde i 1904.

Det kunne være mangt at skrive om af det som har mødt mig på livet lange hane men man må forbi en hel del ellers blev brevet for langt

Jeg var 14 aar da jeg kom her til Amerika i 1882. Jeg blev først Inring hos en Amerikaner da jeg 15 aar, da jeg ^{blev} blev jeg samarbeider da jeg var 17 blev jeg jernbane arbeider sammen med Far, Saal da jeg blev 18 blev det Farm arbeider igen

I 1891 kom jeg ind i foretrungs liveb blev Hæddels betjent hos Fars søskende barn Charles Halvorsen "Otholdt" i Dawson Minnesota. Med smaa lønninger gik det smaa med at blive rig ⁷⁹

Om printen 1904 blev jeg seng
fik bronkit og tifseungs der hid
Doktor sagde det var best at flytte til
et varmere klima saa reiste vi
sammen til Santa Rosa Calif. med
Herr Skoe og hans familie.

Jeg glemte a signe at seje at
jeg blev gift osset i Norsk
Spøge i 1895. Han er født her i
landet læser og skriver norsk lige
saas godt som jeg. Han arbejded sig
fram igennem de Amerikanske
skoler og var læserinde da jeg blev
kjendt med hende.

Vi fejret vor færti års bryllupsdag
1945 i den nye Methodist kirke
hvor flere hundrede var med os
med sine lykke önskninger.

I samhed en stor dag for os.
Sjælt vi ikke har nogen rigdom
af skyde af saa har vi et godt
hem som vi maa ske komme selge
for \$10 000 nu, vi vil blive her da
vi har været i dette hus siden

1911.

M's brev er allerede langt styrk
der er mange hændelser som jeg
maa gaa forbi denne gang dog jeg
vidt sat det komme en tid for
jeg tager punnen igen for jeg maa
blivet aldt at det falder tungt at skrive
bogar. Jeg er vist blevet gammel.

Julen staar os for døren ligesaa
et nyt aar hvad det vil bringe os
er synd for os som er vist det bedste.

Saa vell jeg slutter mit simple
breve med at ønske dig og din
familie en gladelig jul og et godt
Nytaar

Mvh. Venligst

Charles og Eddie Skoe

108 West Street

Petaluma California.

Petaluma, California
December 1948

Dear Friends and Family:

When Andreas Hanson came back from Norway, he brought greetings and a poem written for your 75th birthday. I give you many thanks. I know you are not clear about who I am -- I am the son of Erik Soterud; we left for America in 1882 with Einar Skoe and his family. They took in with my Mother's relatives, Ole Haugstrun from Flatdahl and we stayed with his brother, Paul Haugstrun. My Mother's relatives knew a grandson, Erik Skoe. Therefore, the name Soterud was eliminated.

In 1932, I became acquainted with one from Porsgrund, Sören Lerstang. He read in the Porsgrund Daily a few years ago and he found your name. He was not certain if you were the one who came from Bö. I thought about writing, but did not.

I remember you very well because I was older. I was 81 years old October 30, 1948. I sleep 8 hours -- have my 3 meals daily. I am reasonably well, I wander around as I do what has to be done.

Do you remember Neri Skoe? He lives in Canby, Oregon Rte 1. He celebrated his 80th birthday on December 5, 1948. I have just written to him and wished him Happy Birthday (Many Happy Returns).

Neri and I have been like brothers all our long life. He and his family went to California in 1904. He was here a little over a year, but he was a farmer and could not make himself adjust to fruit farming.

So he went back to South Dakota and took over his father's homestead. A few years later he sold the farm and moved to Oregon. He bought a small farm there. He is very well to do.

My youngest brother, whom we called "Little One" Einar, I'm certain you remember him. I am certain you played with him. He passed away in April 1945. He had a hard life. He left for Northern Minnesota and took up a homestead in the woods. He married a Norwegian girl, they had 10 children. He got those who were old enough through high school. He wanted them to have an easier life. His wife died, and he stood alone with several small children. He himself was stricken with a stroke and could not work as before. Some of the children were married then. He and the little ones moved in with them. His In the winter of 1904 I was ill with bronchitis. I was in bed for a while. The Doctor told me to move to a warmer climate--so we went to Santa Rosa, California, the place where Neri Skoe and his family lived. I forgot to say, I was married to a Norwegian girl in 1895. She was born in America but reads and writes Norwegian as well as I do. She

worked herself through American schools including college. She was a teacher when we were married.

We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in 1945 in the New Methodist Church in Petaluma. Several hundred people were there with us to help us celebrate and wish us happiness. It was indeed a great day for us; although we have not riches to brag about we have a very nice home and if we wished, could maybe sell it for \$10, 000 American dollars. But we have been here in this home for many years since 1911. My letter is already too long, and there will probably be a time before I take the pen in hand again.

For I must confess, it is hard for me to write now. I must be getting old. Christmas is standing by the door and just as well the New Year -- and our hopes that the New Year brings all the best to all of you. I will now finish my simple letter with a wish to you and your family for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The friendliest of greetings,
Charles and Emilie Skoe
108 West Street

Petaluma, California



Charles S. & E. M. Skeie

Otti år er mange dager
paa vor store fagre jord.
Og me straver, og me jager
eftir lykka, syd og nord.
Men i Honse-byen vor
du en vakker heim dog faar.

Her imellom gronne bakker
lever du ditt eige liv,
Her du snikrar, her du hakkar,
Her du las og stundon skriv,
Her du maalr kvitt og blaast,
Dette er ditt eige slott.

Og i Bø, den breide bygda
der er barndoms-heimen din,
Der du levde, glad og trygda.
Der du fik dit vare sin.
Dit du lengste mang ein gong,
Der du leika, le og sang.

Saa helsar me dig da i dag
Og ønsker deg alt lyst og godt.
Med hanst-sol varm og hjarte-lag
og lite vondt og mindre smaat.
Tillykke da med dagendin
of fred og solskin i dit sinn.

Santa Rosa, Oct. 30, 1947

N.B. Dette var skrevet for at hädre
min mand's 80de fødselsdag, af Olav
Gunheim, da vi havde et lidet men
hyggelig selskab.

Det var saa intressant at høre
fra éder da Mr. og Mrs. Hanson kom
hjem fra deres tur - det var
hyggelig at kunne besøge Norge endog
for mig da jeg ved det er et meget
pent land. Har ikke hørt fra mine slegtninger
i mange aar og det er jo ogsaa mer
end 77 aar siden mine forældre kom
hertil og de fleste ere vel døde.

Vi er glade og taknemmelige at
vi har et pent og godt hjem og bedre
hilsen end gamle folk flest - jeg er
74 og var sydamer indtil to aar siden

En venlig hilsen fra

Emilia Marie Skeie

To Charles Skoe on his 80th birthday:

Eighty years are many days On our
great and fair earth, And we strive and
we chase Fortune, south and north But
in our Honse-town You'll get a lovely
home.

Nestled between green hills
You live your own life.
Here you hammer, here you hoe,
Here you read and sometimes wrote,
Here you paint white and blue,
This is your own castle.

And in Bö, the wide valley, There is your childhood
home. There you lived happy and safe, There you
learned your gentle ways And many times longed to
return Where you played and laughed and sang.

So we are greeting you, then, today,
And wishing you everything good and bright,
With the warm sun of autumn and a happy heart,
And little pain and less want.
Wishing you, then, joy on your day
With peace and sunshine in your heart.

Santa Rosa, Oct. 30, 1947

This was written by Olav Gunheim to honor my husband on his 80th
birthday, when we had a small but pleasant party.

It was interesting to hear from you and Mr. and Mrs. Hanson came back
from their trip--it would be nice even for me if I were able to visit
Norway, since I know it's a beautiful country. Have not heard from my
relatives for many years, but then it is more than 77 years since my
parents came over here, and most of them have probably passed away.

We are happy and grateful that we have a nice, comfortable home and
enjoy better health than most old people--I'm 74 years old, and up until
2 years ago I was an active seamstress.

A friendly greeting from Emilie Marie Skoe to complete the history of the first generation of the Skoe family to come to America, our father's sister, Johanna, died during adolescence.

His eldest brother, Charles, with his wife Emilie, lived the final years of their lifetime in Petaluma, California. They had no children.

Charles died in 1961 at the age of 93 and his wife followed a few years later.

Ener's elder brother Tom traveled a great deal, and in 1921 married Maude Me Williams (b. 1888) of Osseo, Wisconsin. They were the parents of two girls, Ellen Rachael (b. 1922) and Ruth (b. 1923). He died in Osseo in 1927, his wife in California in 1968. They are buried in Osseo.

Ellen Skoe is a school teacher, living in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Ruth married Lyle Amberg (b. 1923 - Russian, German). After 21 years of service in the U. S. Army, they live in San Bernardino, California. They have two sons and two grandsons. St. Cloud, MN

August 8, 1977



Excerpts from a letter written by Marie Skoe Rozycki:

"Our decision to go to Emmetsburg was made in the summer of 1976 when Bena came to St. Cloud with folders of family letters, pictures, newspaper clippings, documents, and notes she and other members of the family had saved. Working with these papers, what we could remember, and what others had told us, we wrote a brief account of our father's emigration and the establishment of the Skoe family on his homestead farm in northern Minnesota".

"I wrote a number of letters; the most informative reply came from Marianne Moses who was a recently re tired Irish schoolteacher. Both she and her husband, William Moses, were lifelong residents of Emmetsburg, interested and knowledgeable about local history. When we were able to figure out that the Haugestuen family we were interested in was the same family that the Moses had known by the Americanized version, pronounced roughly 'Hoxton', they told us that they had known our father's cousin, the late Tom Haugestuen".

"They remembered that Tom, a big man with a mustache, before he retired into Emmetsburg, had farmed his father, Paul Haugestuen's farm in Fairfield Township near Depew, Post Office Cylinder, Iowa. They remembered hearing that the Norwegians who farmed there had raised hogs.. that when they came into town their wagons had sunk to the axles in the mud. They remembered that the Norwegians who settled Fairfield Township had founded St. John's Lutheran Church and Mrs₀ Moses produced a copy of an article written for the local newspaper in 1938 in which there was an excellent article naming the Paul Haugestuens as one of the founders of St. John's. " .

"Melvin Cody (Kaada in Norwegian) and his wife, Ethel Heng Cody were waiting for us at the kitchen table with the plat books and eager to talk about the Haugestuens, their old neighbors in Depew. We saw the cemetery records showing that Paul Haugestuens had purchased their family plot in South Cemetery. I copied the Norwegian Script as well as we could decipher it:

9.6, line 15 - T. P. Haugestuen - Lot 44 pd. \$3.26

line 31 - Einar Haugestuen - Lot 30 pd. \$3. 26

P. 13 line 27 - in 1894 T. P. Haugestuen paid 25 cents for upkeep. "

"Above the line on Einar Haugestuen was a notation which we think said 'bought a lot for Joanna? or Thomas? possible Skoe.' Bena was quite sure this was Johanna Skoe. No date or lot number was recorded".

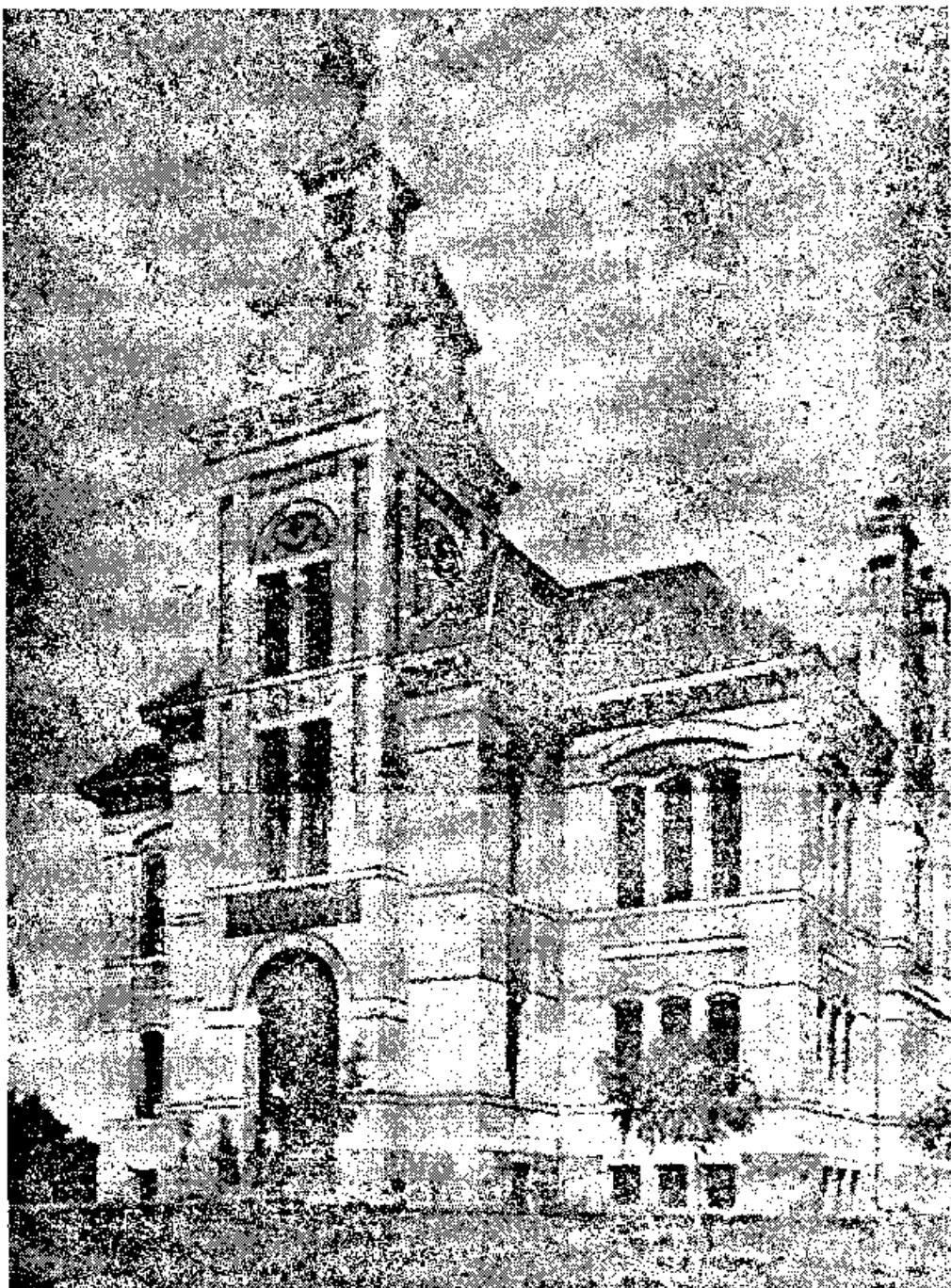
"I went to the County Auditor's Office where I found and had zeroxed in the Recorder's Office Records of Land purchases in Sections 3 and 4 in Fairfield Township by Paul Haugestuen from the Chicago and Milwaukee Railroad. Tom Haugestuen's purchase from his father was also recorded. I couldn't tell from this whether Paul Haugestuen had homesteaded or bought his first land in America. The History of Palo Alto County said he settled in Fairfield in 1869. His purchase by 'SWD' which could mean Secured Warranty Deed was not recorded until 1881 (?). Was this when he was making payments? He evidently wrote to relatives in Norway that he was well settled before the recorded deed". . .

"Later in the day we went with Melvin Cody to the Depew Store. Wilma Welzen Kay said Tom Haugestuen built a sturdy house on his property and that it should have been saved, but tenant Tilman Egland burned it down to get more room for corn" .

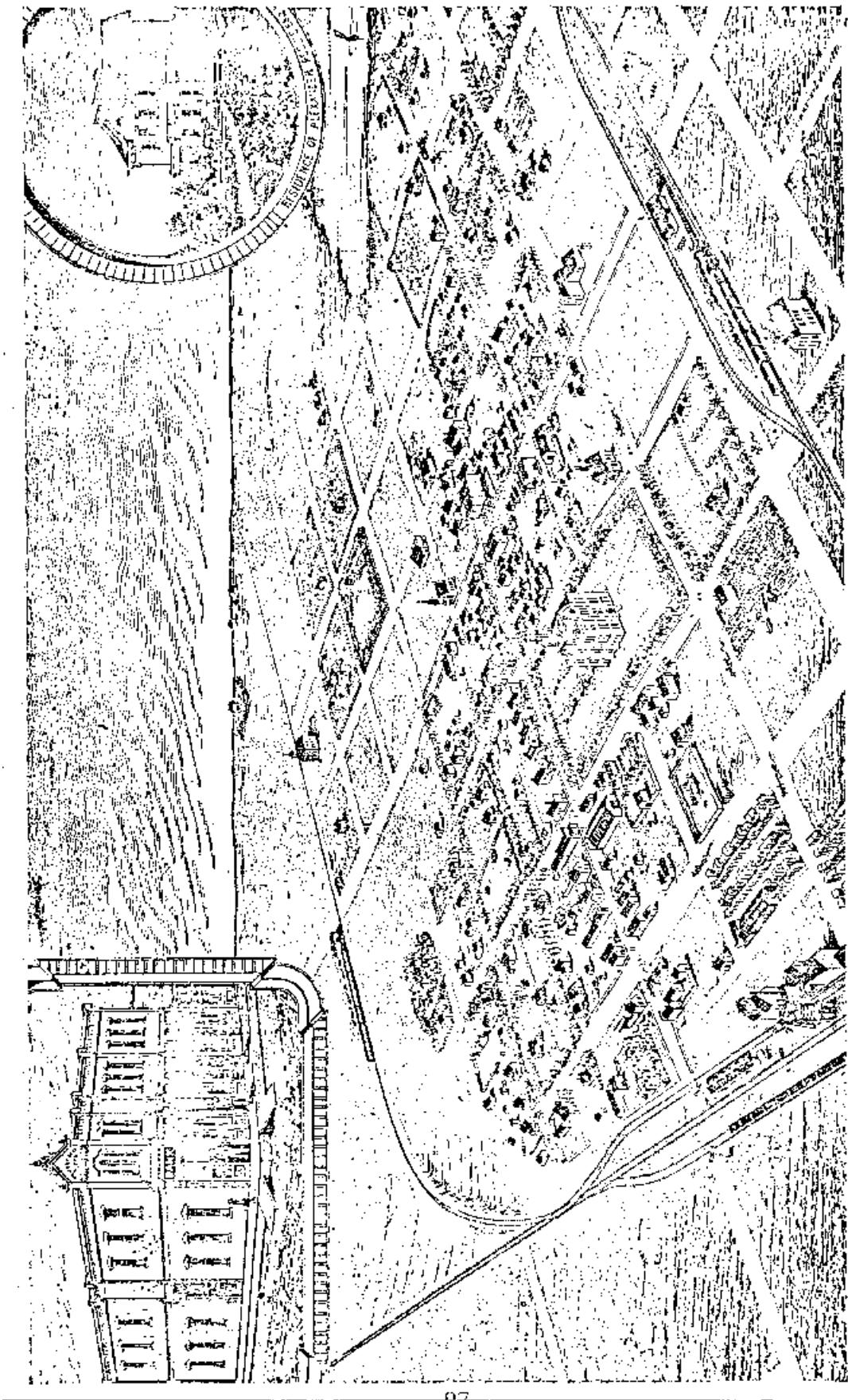
"We visited Nellie Quam Reiman, age 90. Her mother was Mrs. Tom Haugestuen. . . . her parents, the Quams, bought their land from the Railroad for \$9 per acre at the same time Haugestuens came, she says. She remembers Dora, Mrs. Paul Haugestuen living with her son Tom. She never heard of Johanna or any of the Skoe children ever having been in the area. She knows of no graves on the Haugestuen farm. She thinks any child who died around 1882 or after would be buried in the cemetery, but maybe the grave isn't marked"

"Pastor Salvestuen was pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church of Depew at that time. Pastor Salvestuen was probably the one who confirmed our father. He left in 1902. We have a photograph of him and his wife in the family trunk. "





The courthouse was built in 1880 and apparently this rare picture of it, loaned to us by Mrs. Fred Evans, was taken shortly after it was put into use. There is a brand new sign over the door and the trees are mere saplings.



This interesting old sketch of Emmetsburg is believed to have been made in 1883 or 1884. County Historian Dwight G. McCarty said earlier "guesses" that it dates to 1881 are probably wrong because a brick building is shown. There were no brick buildings in Emmetsburg at that time, he said. Court House was erected in 1880.

AÉRO
GRAMME



Mrs. Marie Skoe Rozycki,
1268 13 th Avenue North
St. Cloud, Minn. 56301,
USA.

STATS OMSET
I HAMAR
Strandgt. 71
N-2300 Hamar

STATS OMSET I HAMAR,
Strandgt. 71, N-2300 Hamar,
Juni. 1977/1975. 001,157.

Hamar, August 6, 1975.

Mrs. Marie Skoe Rozycki,
1268 13th Avenue North,
St. Cloud, Minn. 56301,
USA.

Dear Madam:

We have received your letter of July 24, 1975, and we have found the information as follows:

By the census returns 1875 this family lived at the farm Lille Hovdalen in Asnes parish: Ole Marcusen, born 1820, his wife Martha Marie Olsedatter, born 1820, and their children: Ole Olson, born 1857 and Martha Olsedatter, born 1860. Ole Marcusen Marcuslassen, age 25, and Martha Marie "Terrisdatter" Nordby, age 24, married January 5, 1876. His father was Marcus Olson, her father was Torris Terridsson (hof parish register 1841-1846, page 102, no. 3).

Ole Marcusen and Martha Marie Terrisdatter had one child baptized in Asnes church 1845-1850, namely: Martin, born October 2, 1847 (hof parish register 1841-1848, page 76, no. 239).

Hamas was a part of Hed parish up to 1848. In that year Asnes was a parish of its own. Asnes parish registers 1849-1879 are however lost in a fire, and we have no possibility to give you information for this period.

Martin Olson from Asnes, age 27, and Lovise Olsedatter Hillevold, age 21, married June 2, 1874. His father: Ole Marcusen, her father: Ole Sam'gaeson (Ronfaler parish register 1867-1877, page 216, no. 9). By the census returns 1877, this family lived at the farm Hovdalen in Ronfaler parish: Martin Olson, born 1847, his wife Lovise Olsedatter, born 1853, their children Ingborg, age 1 and Ole, born 1875. The brother of Martin Olson, Torris Olson, born 1851 in Asnes parish.

Yours sincerely,
Jac. J. Sandberg
Per-Olov Sandberg
Archivist

N.B.

This is the reply to a letter written by Marie Skoe Rozycki to Asnes, Hedmark, Norway, in 1975, inquiring about the family of Torris Olsen, father of O'Lena Marie Olsen. Marie with her husband Tony and Stanton Skoe and his wife Bea were planning a trip to Norway and hoped to find further information about the Torris Olsen family.

O'LENA MARIE OLSEN FAMILY

The father of the family, Torris Olsen, was born in Åsnes, Hedmark, Norway in 1851 and died at Remer, Minnesota in 1920. His wife's name (Bena?), birth date and birthplace are not known, but they were married in Norway, probably around 1880. She died in Reynolds, North Dakota, probably around 1890-91. They were the parents of five children.

The eldest, Minnie (b. 1881 in Norway, d. 1919). She was married to Syver Lee of Bagley (b. 1861 d. 1943). Minnie and her three daughters died of tuberculosis (consumption) Alta (b. 1905, d. 1924), Viola (b. 1907, d. 1913), and Leona (b. 1915, d. probably around 1922).

The second sister, Anna (b. 1884 in Norway d. 1924) was married to John M. Egan of Remer (b. 1861, d. 1926). They were the parents of two children: Laverne Evangeline (b. 1914) married to George Zumbrunnen, living now in Grand Rapids. (They are the parents of two children, Katharine Ann Zumbrunnen Saari and Keith George, and have four grandchildren.) John M. Egan, Jr. (b. 1916) married in 1945 to Eileen James in Exeter, England. They are the parents of two daughters, Michelle Marie and Candice Louise. John and his wife live in St. Paul, Minnesota.

We have traced the life of our mother, O'Lena Marie Olsen (Lena Skoe) at the beginning of this story.

Ole Torris Olsen, born in Norway -- probably 1888, died en route to the United States, probably in 1889, and was buried near Oslo.

Ole Torris Olsen II (Oliver Thomas Olson) was born in Reynolds, North Dakota in 1890 and died in Detroit, Michigan in 1930. In 1921 he married Mildred Donais (b. 1899). They had three sons, Erwin Donald (b. 1922, d. 1974), Jack Le Roy (b. 1924), and Richard Thomas (b. 1929). These families live in Wisconsin.



POSTSCRIPT

In 1939 when the mother of the Ener E. Skoe family died, it seemed relatively easy for the family to assemble. There was no war -- there were no small babies -- no great distances to travel, except for Bena who came from Illinois -- and we gathered with our father to plan a life without a mother.

In 1945 when Ener Skoe died, distance -- California and Illinois -- small children, and World War II - Ray was in Chunking, China -- prevented a complete family gathering.

It wasn't until June, 1960 that the Skoe children, their husbands, wives, and children were all together again. One group drove all Friday night from Illinois, gathered with the others on Saturday and back to Illinois on Sunday.

But it was a day we will all remember -- at a Lutheran Church Bible Camp on Deer Lake near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The children, their wives, husbands, and all the grandchildren of Ener and Lena Skoe were there --also in attendance were old family friends and we remember especially some of the very old friends who had been of such help after the death of the mother of the family: the Urnesses, the Rasmussens, and the Simmermans.

We swam, we boated, we talked, we gathered for an old fashioned picnic at noon -- as usual, the food was super.

In the early afternoon, we met together in the Chapel for a Memorial and Thanksgiving service presided over by the minister of the local Lutheran Church which the Karkelas attend. We sang some old familiar hymns, and since the Skoes are not very musical, we were fortunate that we married into musical families. All in all, it was a great day.

With such a large family it was hard to be certain how many could attend, but in 1970 all of Ener and Lena's children, their husbands and wives did gather at the Park Rapids home of Russel and Margaret Skoe. A few of the grandchildren could not attend.

Before and after these two highlights in Family Reunions as many as possible gather at least once a year --for a graduation, a wedding, or for any reason, or no reason -- just to get together as a family unit.

It is our sincere hope that this concept of an "extended family" can be preserved no matter how far distance and events separate one from another.

ARE ALL THE CHILDREN IN?

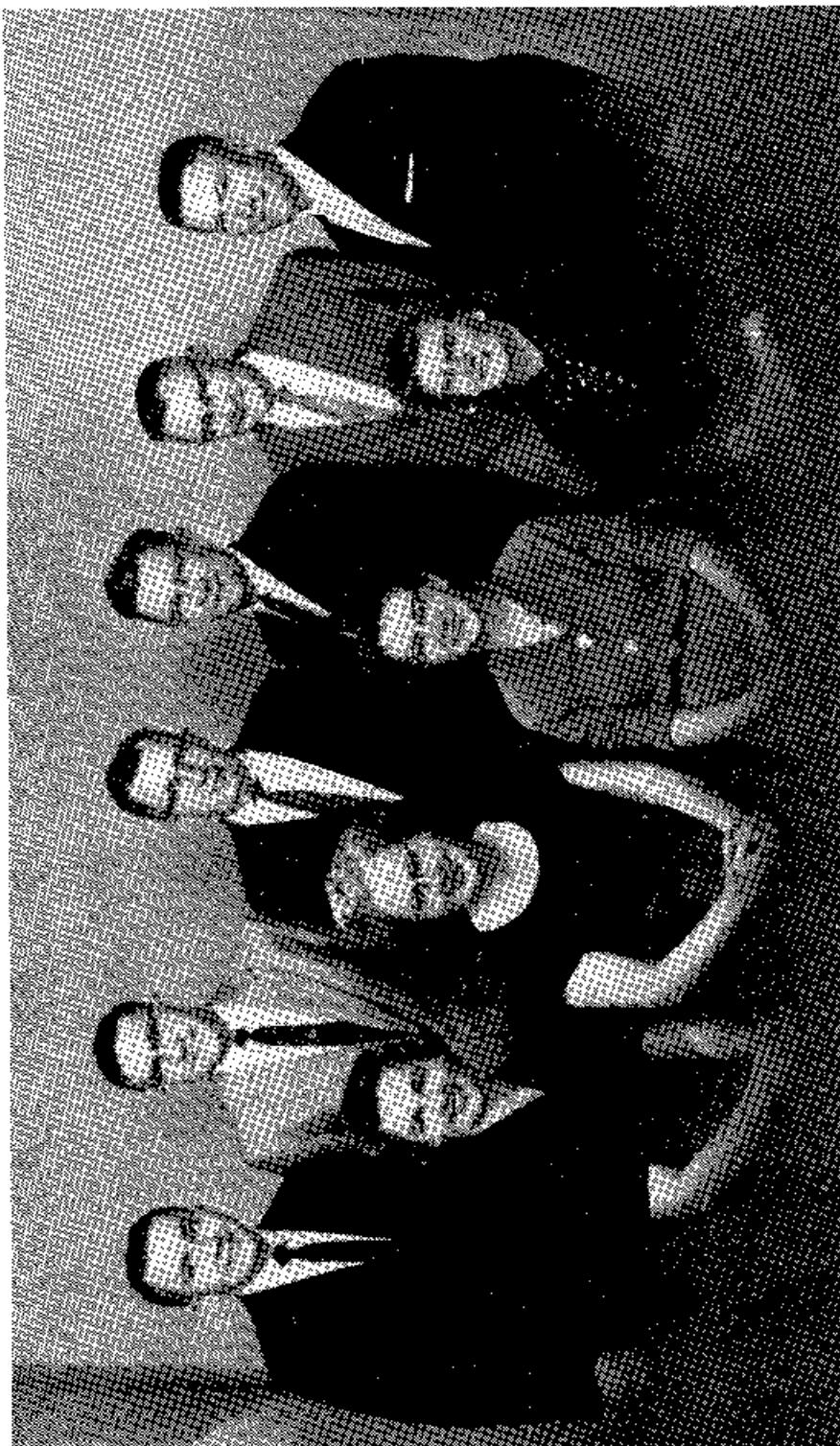
I think oft times as the night draws nigh
 Of an old house on the hill,
Of a yard all wide and
 blossom-starred
 Where the children played
at will. And when the night at
last came down
 Hushing the merry
din, Mother would
look around and ask,
 "Are all the children in?"

"Tis many and many a year since then,
 And the old house
on the hill
 No longer echoes
to childish feet
 And the yard is still, so
still. But I see it all, as the
shadows creep
 And though many the years
have been
 Since then, I can hear
Mother ask,
 "Are all the children in?"

I wonder if when the shadows fall
 On our last short, earthly
day, When we say goodbye to
the world outside,
 All tired with our
childish play, When we
step out into that Other
Land

Where Mother so long
has been, Will we hear
her ask, just as of old,
"Are all the children in?"

(Read at the reunion in 1960 by one of the grandchildren.)

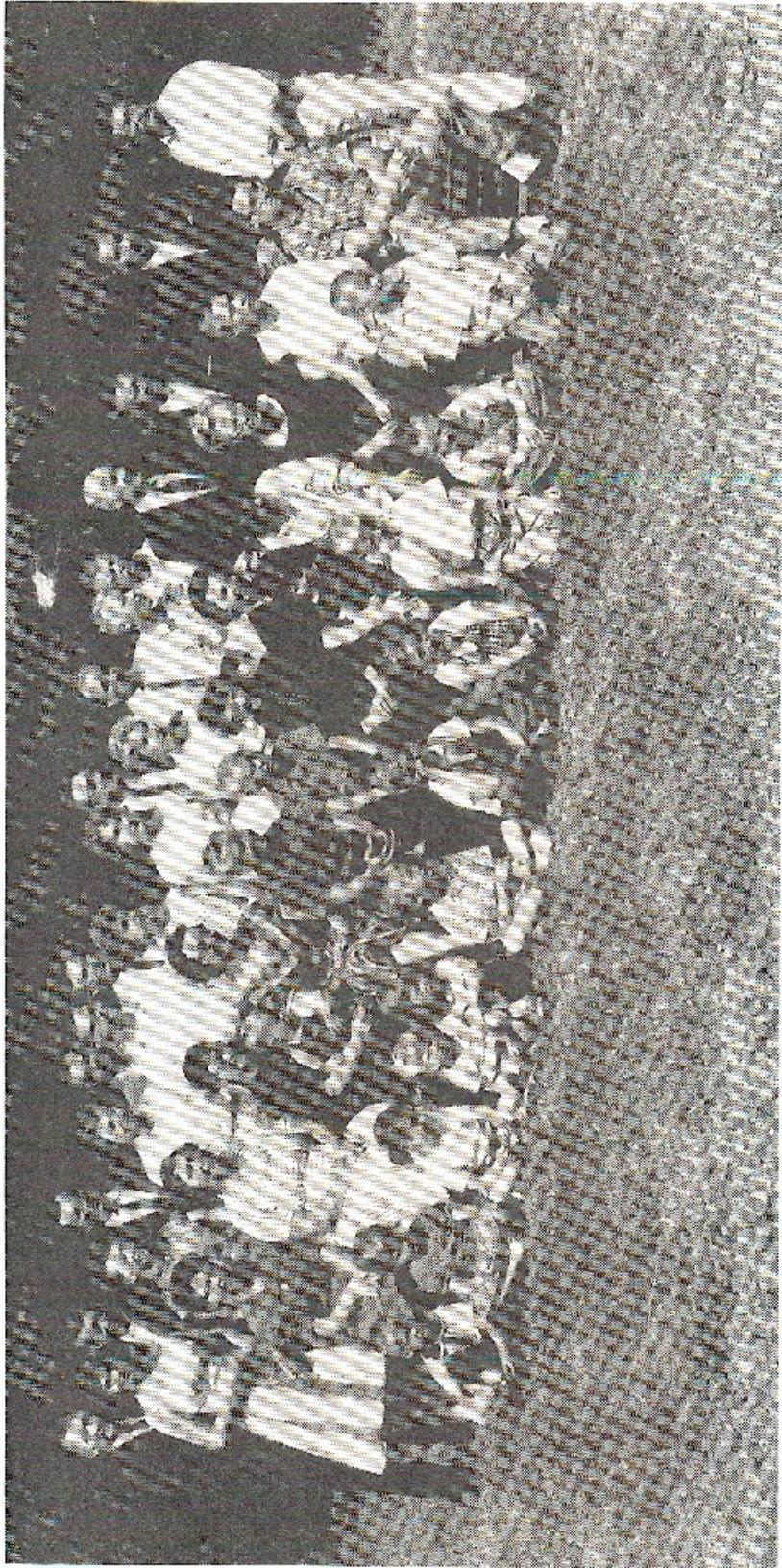


Gordon Willis Russel Levy Stanley Oliver Charles Stanton Earl Thomas Raymond Clifford

SKOL

Marie Alice Beno Laverne Gladys Ann Emilie Josephine
Rozynski Petzold Barron Karkela

GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA
1960



SKOE FAMILY REUNION
SUMMER - 1960

Present at this reunion were all the children of Ener and Lena Skoe, their wives, husbands and all of the grandchildren.

Three grandchildren were added to the family after this picture was taken - Darby Barron, Steve Skoe and Paula Skoe - also pictured is a cousin Ellen Skoe.

(Newspaper clipping)

NORTHOME RECORD - September 11, 1970

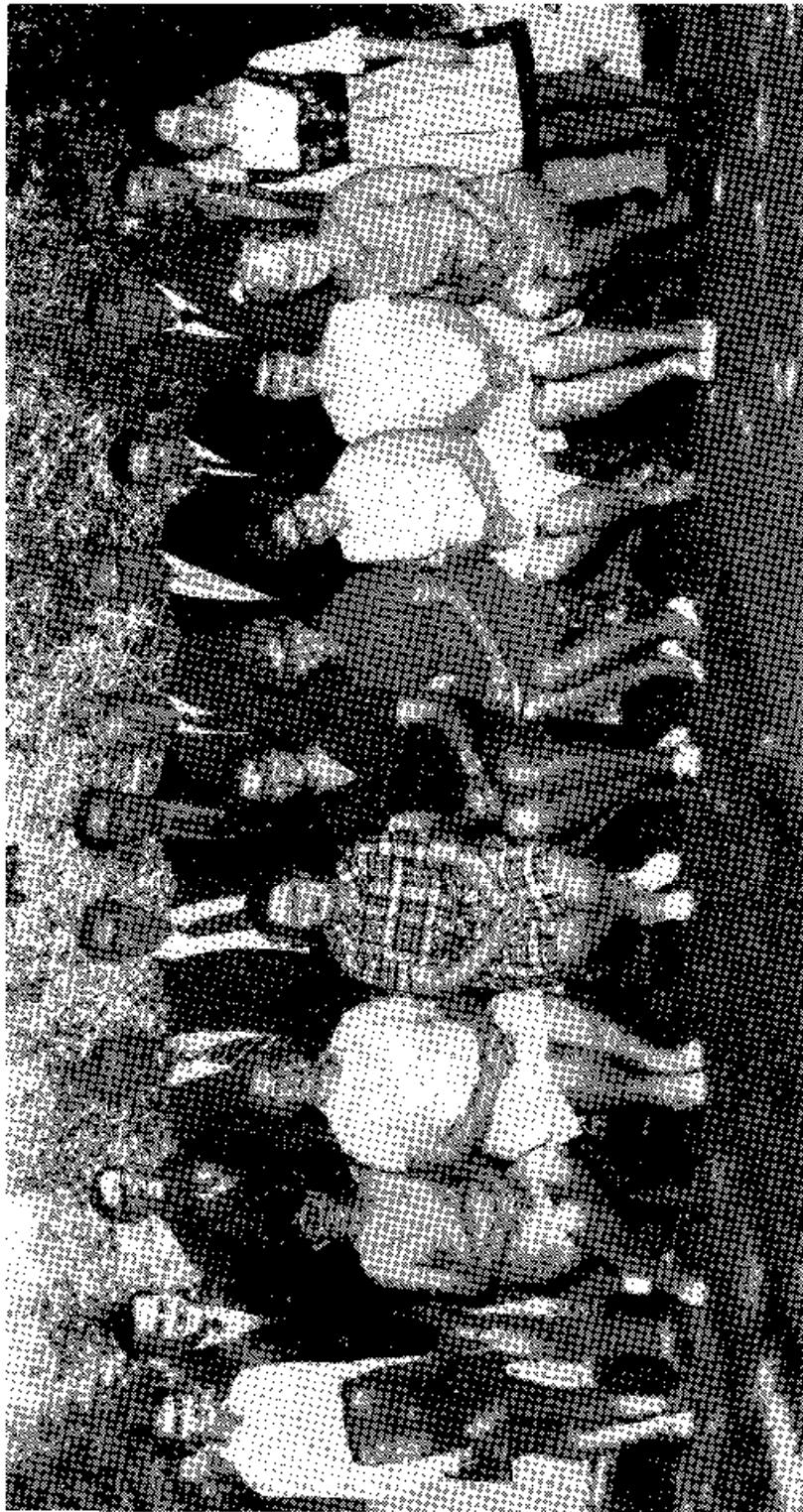
On August 23, the sons and daughters of the late Ener E. Skoe and his wife, O'Lena, with their families, met at the Park Rapids home of Russel Skoe for a family reunion.

They came from California, New Mexico, Washington, D. C., Michigan and Minnesota. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Earl Skoe (Vera) of Northome, Mr. and Mrs. Stanton Skoe (Beatrice) of Kelliher, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Skoe (Giesela) of Minneapolis, Mr. and Mrs. Russel Skoe (Margaret) of Park Rapids, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Skoe (Rose) of Anaheim, California, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Skoe (Constance) of Washington, D.C. , Mr. and Mrs. Donald Barren (Gladys) of Thief River Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Karkela (Emilie) of Grand Rapids, Dr. and Mrs. Anthony Rozycki (Marie) of St. Cloud, and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Petzel (Bena) of Coloma, Michigan.

Twenty-four of the twenty-nine grandchildren were present--Larry Karkela and his family of New Mexico having come the greatest distance. Also, in addition to the husbands and wives of the grandchildren, seven out of eight great-grandchildren were present. All of these, plus some family friends added up to about 60 persons. A delicious potluck dinner was served by those living in Minnesota.

The Skoe family has an annual family get-together attended by as many as possible, but this is the first time since 1960, when the reunion was held in Grand Rapids, that all the brothers and sisters have been present. Mr. Skoe homesteaded on the east side of Island Lake, in Ardenhurst Township, Itasca County, in the very early 1900's and, except for a short time, he and his wife resided there until her death in 1939 and his in 1945. The homestead is still owned by the Skoe family, although it is unoccupied at this time.





Giske	Russel	Lard	Stanley	Anthony	Wesley	Donald	Stanley	Fordham
Ray	Margaret	Vera	Rose	Marie	Emilie	Gladys	Bern	Constance
Skoe	Skoe	Skoe	Skoe	Roznicki	Karla	Burren	Petzel	Skoe

PARK RAPIDS, MINNESOTA, 1970

We plan another Family Reunion on July 23, 1978 at Grand Rapids. Stanley, Rose, and Gordon Skoe will be there from California, Stan and Bena Petzel will come from Michigan, and Tom and Peggy Karkela and their two daughters from Wisconsin. We expect that Barbara and Jim Lund with their two daughters will be able to come from Maryland, and Mike Rozycski from Arizona. It would be a dream come true if Paula O'Lena Skoe from Maastricht, The Netherlands could attend. If all or most of the Minnesota family members are able to attend it will truly be a memorable day.

But as we gather together, we will remember not only the days long ago, when we were young, but all the years between, and think of the years yet to come.

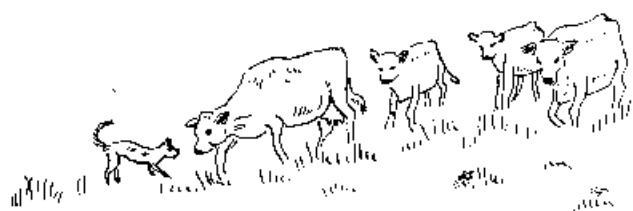
We will remember our father and mother, Ener and Lena Skoe, our sister Viola May who died as a baby in 1919, Paul Gordon, son of Earl and Vera Skoe who died in 1967 and Wesley Karkela, husband of Emilie Skoe Karkela, who died in 1973.

All of these losses are important and heartfelt, but above all we must remember how blessed we have been to be a part of a family and to have lived in an era that has given us so much.

This is a very condensed version of the story of the Skoe family up to December 31, 1977. Writing it has given me a sense of fulfillment and meaningful identity.

However, there is one phase of our lives that has not been adequately expressed; those of us of Norwegian descent have married men and women from diverse ethnic backgrounds, our children have even more added to our family life-line other ethnic strains. These minglings of diverse thoughts and cultures have made us truly a part of the Great Melting Pot of America. From our own family experiences we have been able to see how this country we now call "home" has become strong and more advanced by the melding together of diverse nationalities.

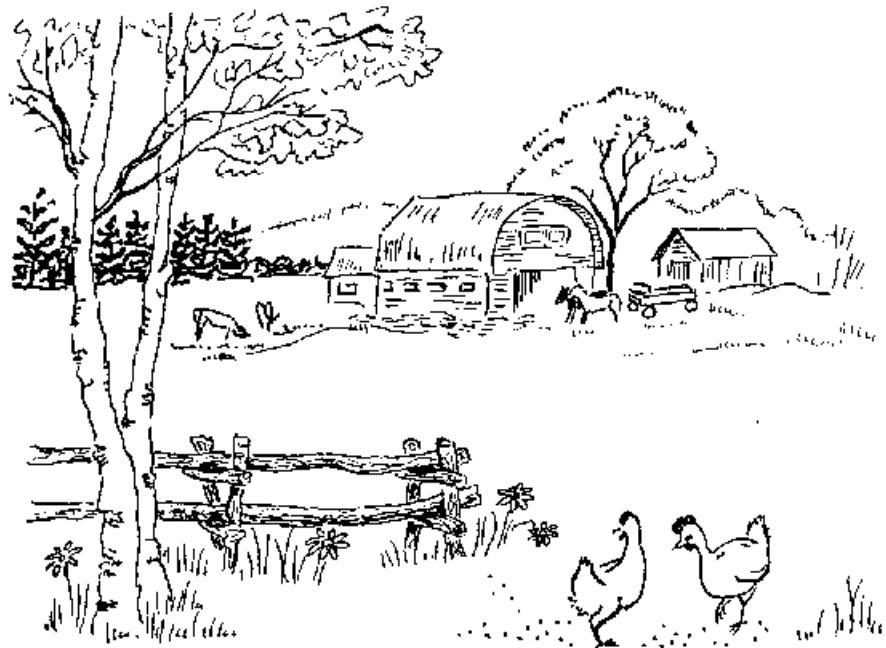
Hopefully, all of us will gain perspective and a pride of participation in a drama in which we have lived and prospered.



We have found that our family tree does not have many living grandparents or great-grandparents, so we especially cherish those we have:

Grandpa and Grandma Nuelens of Maastricht, The Netherlands
Grandpa Anthony Rozycki of Blackduck, Minnesota
Grandma Mary Downing of Pine River

Great-grandma Annie Urness, Northome, Minnesota
Great-grandma Mathea Olsen, Northome, Minnesota
Great-grandma Julia Piecuch of Coloma, Michigan



The Petzels (Piecuch) are hoping to have a mini -reunion in Minneapolis in May of 1978 when Great-grandma Julia(86) who is known simply as "Grandma" to many in the Skoe family--and loved by all--will join with her son Stanley and his wife, her three grandsons and their wives, and six great-grandchildren for a few days of being together. She has not seen her last great-grandchild, Mary Catherine, born December 25, 1977. And, of course, we will have family pictures for future generations to enjoy.

It would be good to add the stories of other family gathering to this Saga, but most of the material is not available to me. I do know that Vera's father's family meets in western Minnesota -- and that the Rozycski family gathers together, probably at Blackduck -- and Mary Downing comes to Park Rapids often. Vera's mother, Annie Urness, and Mathea Olsen, mother of Phil St. Louis live in Northome.



The First National Bank

HOME LOANS, BUILDING AND LOAN
AND SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT

CAPITAL \$100,000.00
SURPLUS \$5,000.00

GOVERNMENT, STATE AND
DEPOSITARY

BAGLEY, MINNESOTA

September 15th, 1923.

Mrs E. E. Skoe .

Bergville, Minn.

Dear Madam:-

Enclosed find check for \$218.88 balance of
your share in the Tom Olson Estate. Kindly sign the
enclosed receipt and return to me at once, as that must
be filed with the Judge of Probate.

Respectfully.



Administrator.

Your share of Estate.	\$318.88
Cash paid you	100.00

Bal.	\$ 218.88

Our grandfather, Tom Olsen (Torris), died in the fall of 1920. This letter is from the estate and the following letter is from O'Lena Skoe to her sister Annie Egan of Remer, Minnesota.

Bergville Minn
Sept. 21 1923

Dear Sister:

Well I was surprised to think Bragg ever got ready to send the checks & guess it send them when you said you would come with an attorney and not just more than I thought it would be accordingly to the way he made a year ago. Yes that's a big bill that we never heard from me as I wrote him the name of all you & his and put return on top too, and then just wrote him once before. Must thank you for sending me your check really right

not to take it hope you are not depriving yourself so really just keep about taking it and if there were not as many of us and knowing you do not mind it as bad as I do I would not take it hope some day you can know that we appreciate it.

I hope when Davies gets the will of East receive its last wills he borrowed from you. You set ought to fix up his grave and get him a little monument Davies and I have ought to be willing to stand their share.

I spent the money on the bank here of a bundle of \$50

as we could not get the house
or anything like that this fall.
Skeat Lakes here feels and
Hanson & to Will Great that
behind us like may be two
sets \$1.50 a day and then
the horses spare. Horses to work
out home expect the new build
may be he ready in a couple
of weeks. Don't know what
is coming forward will be made known
last Sept. we had Farmer's
chart had such a big crowd
Aug 6th Commissioners and
such were here. We much
arrangement so they can furnish
the road very well other place
this fall. If they caught time

this fall and then next summer in
around the braces of the left
breast Committee Young will start
on. Next Monday I will have to
rent a couple of men branching
trees at least. Some real stay of
at Mack Johnson. I don't
like to do it need so much to
do with the children gone
all day but I'm anxious
~~to do the best I can.~~
My wife and son can. Baby
is pretty good he is come long
now no mis and full. cold, winter
and you a little sickness if
you had myself we had a
good horse. Let the from the
children enjoyed the Party go on.

As much we look only a few
progress don't bring more money
but bring to pay expenses that
day I think.

My new wife is real there for a
letter. Seems my wife acted
the way she did. One not happy
from Odile makes how they are
both getting along hope they are
well. And I am still

Ead & Blanton are reading.
The masters now they will
meet once a month I glad they
get the chance to get some
relegious instruction

Well as I must get to work
will close long & off until soon I

Forsome Minn
Oct. 18, 1930

Dear sister

Just received the sad message Ol.
Mildred I feel so bad and I just know how terrible
it must be for you and your dear children. Now I
hope you will understand that if I could come I would,
I wish her to borrow the money to come and the man
of times are - I feel that I cannot & I am ever able to.
I'll try and help you and its children cannot
be forever any good by coming and I know you
understand. I am so thankful that you came
up here the summer & suppose its God
say that the should happen but it seems
so terrible that I cannot realize it.
I would have been more terrible if he had
not been up here this summer. Wishful I hope
your folks will be well you and wife me
as soon as you are able to get some one to
drive. Hope that he did not have to suffer
very much. Well goodbye. I can not write
much now.

Oliver Tom Olsen died for
you and the boys just he was my only
brother we ~~were~~ know it is a terrible
loss. Try hard care up for the children

There were four children in the Olsen family. In the summer of 1930, Lena Olsen Skoe's brother, Oliver Tom Olsen (Ole Torris Olsen) visited the Skoe's. He brought with him his wife, formerly Mildred Donais, and three young sons, Ervin Donald, Jack and Richard. Brother and sister had not seen each other for many years. This is Lena's heartbroken letter to her sister-in-law upon hearing of the death in Detroit in a car accident of her only close relative. Her grief and heartbreak are shown by disconnected sentences and her forgetting to sign her name.

November 1938
Thursday.

Dear Bena

I just found this card in Earl's car so that is why we not answered it before.

We are all O.K. except Joe he is not quite as well as usual had the stomach flu he was to G.P. Monday and got some medicine etc nothing serious so he will be getting better again he has a shot in his arm and will have 3 or 4 more so that may help him from getting colds so early this winter. Captain Crowley has written you he is good. Well are I ever glad!

Well the wedding has gone down without any trouble very crowded once night not described here as I'll send you the account of it. But there was a cold, not half remark that Lloyd did not kiss the bride. Cannot feature Lloyd being truthful and there was no saying I sort of missed that John was to be best man but was sick so Melvina substituted Mary Murphy was maid.

My we have had some gloomy weather almost too warm. The boys are sure lucky working night along getting \$8 per hour and 10 fire of course they do not average that but etc

as written in the late fall of 1938 to Bena Skoe Peitzel by her mother Lena Skoe as an answer to Bena's request for tomato mince for pies. It may be one of the last letters that she wrote.

pretty good just the same.

Marie is keeping up her little writing.
Hope she keeps it up.

I've been canning a lot of tomatoes
canned 20 qts yesterday and want to
make quite a bit of chili sauce.

Just had a card from Laverne
She does not say much they may drive
up some week end

Here is your Tomato Mince

1 pk tomatoes

4 lbs raisins

4 " brown sugar

1 " beef

1 " salt

2 "

1 pt vinegar

1 Tablespoon ginger & cinnamon

1 teaspoon cloves

Cook Tomatoes over tomatoes and thin
drain them off
Well and make later

Lore
Mother

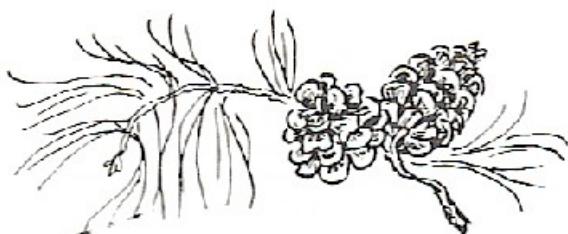
Horthome Minn
Feb 12 1941

Mr & Mrs Petel
Dear Folks

We are all as well as
can be expected. Russel
Gordon and I had the
flu in Jan. I was in
bed about 4 days am better
now. Russel had an
ache we took him to Dr.
Eccle he is alright now.
Lordon says thank you
for that dollar for xmas.
I bid them each a present
box for birth day. Having a
very mild winter
Hope to hear from you folks.

Your Dad

To the best of my knowledge, this is the only existing letter written by Ener E. Skoe.



Dear Uncle and auncie,
April 18, 1926.

Dear Uncle and auncie,

We received your letter and are glad to hear you are all well. We are all well here.

I write very so much already, I cannot write very good.

I am in the third grade. My teacher ~~now~~ is Miss Fisher.

We are having fine weather here. The snow is melting off the roof. This is my first lesson so I will not make it very long.

Mama will write soon.

I owe no. addle

from us all yours nice man and all

In the summer of 1925, Ener E. Skoe's brother, Charles, from Petaluma, California, returned to Minnesota. He spent most of the summer on the Skoe homestead. He was a carpenter by trade and worked many days "finishing" the upstairs bedrooms in our farmhouse. He found our weather very cold and huddled every evening by the wood stove in the "living room". I, Bena, remember him because of his kindness to me and because when we wrote to him in the following year, he saved these letters and gave them to me when our family visited him in 1953.

Northome Minn.
Dear Yoy for the package.
July 15 1926

I am Uncle and Aunt.

I will
now write to you. We are all
fine, And thank You folks and
both nice too.

We were over to Wessels.
We had a ~~delightful~~ nice Party
on the 11th of July & had a good time.
There was a big crowd
there.

It is a having good weather
but lots of snow. I hope
your own road thru.
Greetings from us all
Your nephews

Stanley & Co

Montrose, Minnesota,
March 14, 1926.

Dear Nellie Charles and Aunt Emily;
I should have wrote long ago but
we had time. We are not busy
now it is nearing the end of the
school term and examinations are
approaching. So I will leave the take
examinations in money or four subjects
General Science, Algebra, Ancient
History, and English One; Ancient
History is the easiest by far and
then comes General Science.
It has been so cold around here
lately. Monday March the 1st we
had regular blizzards. March sun
chief come in like a lion. If

allow us it made the hillside disappear
able even for a team, so the horses
had to go around by the winterers
travel. On the way home we nearly
got lost as there was so many roads
and we did not know which one
to take, but we got home alright.

Miss O'Fallal one of the teachers
organized a campfire group. Mine
is ten, I forgot which taking the
it, including myself. We had
a bike not long ago. It was lots
of fun.

Did the others tell about the
heat you sent up? It contained
a oil painting of Grandfather &
mother and another picture 24
inch & people, some children books
and two Bibles, one paper and

the other side this. They were
their communications Bishop.

Many of the people up here
have been sick this year but
we have not had any sickness
here such as we used until.
I hope you are all well.

I sure like that paper, the
young crusader" think you are
not ~~an~~ this. Thanks ever so much
for it.

I suppose you heard that
they have started Table Study
in Belmont for one hour each
week. We go down on Tuesday
to a place just across the
river from the Tabernacle
where Rev. Brown, the mormon

furthermore ministers here gives
each class. there are three classes

a third study and chessmen.

If so getting back to what I wrote
you loving mine

Beara

Montrose, Minn.,
April 12, 1926.
Dear Uncle Charles & Aunt Emilie

I was going to write
a long time ago but
never got around to it.
We have been having
fine weather lately although
the last part of March
was pretty cold and windy.
We will be having
a lot of snow as the snow
is still melted and the
ground dried up.
School started no day
as our two weeks vacation
was over. During
the vacation we hauled

out some back lots
and cleared some land.
we took out a few
logs last winter and
hauled them over to
Benton where we are
having them sawed out
eleven dollars a thousand
feet, Bona, one of
haves been going for
the timber all winter
and expect to be gone
May 3rd. until close
~~fall~~ time.

Yours nephew,
Stanley, bae

Rothome, Minnesota.

May 26, 1926.

Dear Uncle and Aunt,

I have been planning to write you for a long time but always putting it off.

The suit just fits me. Thank you very much for it.

Examination began Friday, May 28. Exams. in Modern Geography, Algebra, Ancient History, English II and Geometry. On the last day of school we are going to have picnic. There will be fine schools here.

We had a late spring but the weather is fairly good now. We had a good rain night before last.

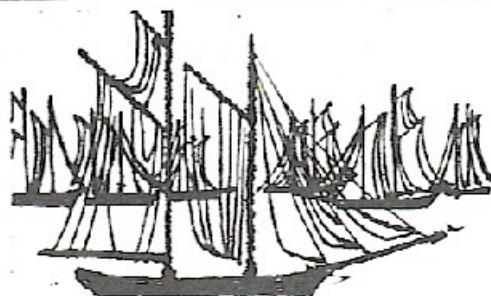
We have all the crops planted. My father was burning stumps today. This spring we have been doing quite a little clearing.

We got 114 chicks from our 180
egg incubator. We have a Wisconsin
incubator. I may work
on the road this summer.

We are all fine. How are
you folks?

Will send close.

Yours truly,
Carl Shae.



Grand Rapids, Minn
Sept. 1926.

Dear Uncle and Aunt,

I have been going to write to you a long time but never got around to it.

I suppose you know I am going to High School at Grand Rapids as a Junior. My subjects are Eng. III, American History, Modern History and Math. I really like to go to school here very much. I stay at home nights. They live out at Park Lake about three miles from town. They have a summer resort. They have cottages and boats. It sure is a fine place to stay. They have all the modern conveniences of a town.

I ride to school in a large bus every day. There are over thirty pupils in the bus just in the upper three class there are over two hundred pupils.

We have had a wet fall so far. How is the weather out there? The woods are very pretty now.

How are you folks. I am feeling good except I have a little cold.

Stanton is fine also. I take you
again on Tues and Thurs. We have a
fairly good fast-ball team here. Mr.
Bentley is the Coach.

~~and I must close~~
With love,

Carl Doe.

Northome, Minn.
Sept. 12, 1938

Dear Bena and Stan,

Thanks for the dress you sent. I wore it the first day of school. We are going on our 3rd week of school and Phillip Noble has only been to school for 3 days. He has some kind of a flue. My teachers name is Miss Livens. Did you know Miss Paciotti is teaching in Cohasset. Beatrice and Stanton were over yesterday and were shooting at some ducks and got three but Grilleys dog ate them. It was wet and cold all last week and we just about froze, as the teacher says. There is nothing interesting hear excepting the boys are working.

Your Sister,
Gladys Skoe



Northome, Minn. Feb. 9, 1939

Dear Beny and Stan,

Received your letter today. It has been snowing for many days. Beatrice and Stanton were over yesterday. She is going to wash my sweater. That dress of Marie's is done now. How is everything? Earl is working today. We sent for our valentines Wednesday. I got a card from Marie she didn't have much to say excepting that Mr. Sandbergh took Marie (her) to Crookston at about 7:30. Did you put Mrs. Knaeble's apron away, the lavender one. My pen won't work and I get things mixed up and have no paragraphs. There is nothing to write about. Will you look in your books and find me all the candy receipts you can? Write soon.

Love, Gladys

The following letters -were written to me in the years following our mother's death. I was there from early December 1938, until the first week of February, 1939. These are letters written by my brothers and sisters showing how they coped with life.

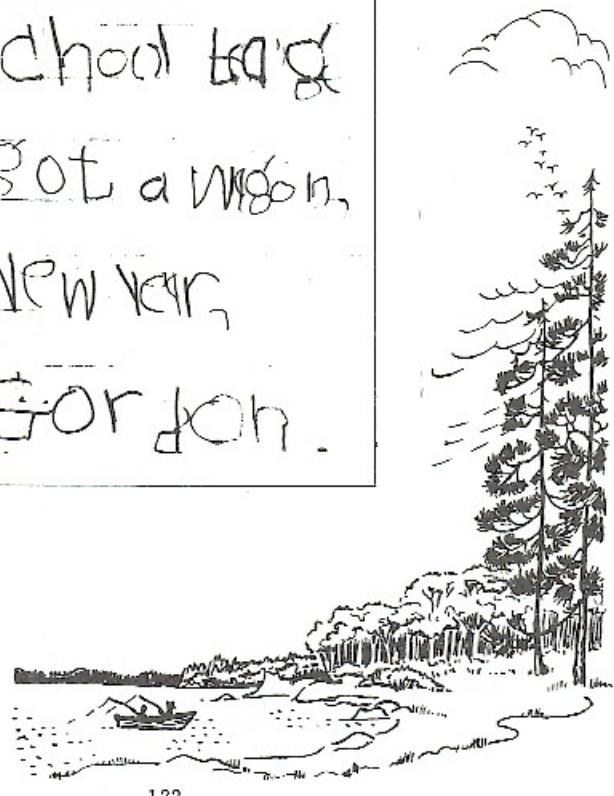
1939

Dear Ben, Stin,
and Chippie,

Thanks for
the school bag

We got a wagon.
Happy New Year.

Gordon.



Northome Minn.
Feb. 9, 1939.

Dear Ben and Stan

How are you?
We are getting along
all right.
Gordon is all right
to. Tomorrow plan
break down.

Dessel



Dear Ben and Stan,

We have 4 little
kittens. Ernie was home
yesterday and we roasted
marshmallows. I am going
to the show next week I
think. The name of it
is Checkers. Jane Withers
is in it. Write soon.

Dessel S.

June 10, 1939

Dear Bena and Stan:

Will have been home since Monday eve but just found time to write. I went to Bemidji from Eldred Sunday. Then Earl came and got me at Sandbergs Monday eve. Wes came up a week ago Friday and stayed until Sunday AM. Then he and Emilie went to Duluth so she was gone when I came so haven't seen her yet. She didn't say when she'd be back so am doing a little house cleaning now. Gladys has been such good help. I can leave so much to her and go ahead. I am expecting my gas iron today, so will tackle curtains next week. Also I sent for the dishes I had picked out last fall and material for 8 sheets, some roller towels and a few bath towels. We seem to have accumulated a good supply of dish towels.

We are just fine. Ray is over his flu, too. Pa has a pretty bad cough, but guess it is improving.

We surely got a shock here this morning. Grilley's as you know sold their place. Mr. Grilley bought a different car and they left last nite to visit Olive and then go on to Minot and Montana. Kenneth got word that they had an accident near Bemidji and to come at once. He went down and we've just heard that Mr. Grilley was killed instantly and Mrs. Grilley was not hurt at all. We haven't heard any details except that they had spent the night at Nevis with Olive and were going west. The accident occurred about 5 AM today. Will let you know the details later.

Ray and I made grout for dinner.

Urnesses were over last night and Ann Wick dropped in to see me. She and Bill are coming out some afternoon next week.

Also just heard that Jessie Alien is not going to be married, but that she is going to California instead.

Write soon and if I hear about the Grilleys I'll let you know. Greet the Petzels.

Love, Marie



W
Dear Bernd,
Yankton, Minnesota
August 9, 1939

I suppose by this time
you are back home again.
Certainly hope you are
feeling well. Good supper
you are under "sheppin"
hope you awake nights.
Did Stan come home
the week end that he
had planned on? It
will be nice for you
when you are able to
move and there too. I
wish you were moving
this way instead of farther
away.

Bliss has a baby girl.
I suppose you probably have
heard that too. I haven't
heard the exact date or
when she named her.

How is Marjorie feeling?
Letter was out for a few
minutes one afternoon
Marie just wrote a letter
to Sophie regarding Mrs.
Linen. I certainly hope
it brings results because
if it doesn't there is going
to be some drastic action
against this neighborhood.
So far around there has
been nothing done but the
schoolboard about the bus
proposition. The schoolboard
says every week that they
are coming up but so

for we've seen nothing of them.

Stanley is drawing for Stanton at Littlefield. Did we tell you Stanton has a new International and intends to follow the construction Co. to Hector? A mystery or scandal or tragedy or what have you big Northern Standard. There was supposed to be installation services and a dinner in the basement for our new pastor, Rev. Gristad. The President, Rev. Haisted and the minister from Blackford and Hellgate were there. Gladys, Marie & Jo went in. Uncle twice came around

and the minister didn't show up. At twelve he still didn't come. They held a short service and then went to his hotel room to find him. He had disappeared. Rev. Haisted had talked with him in his room and at the church up till 9:30. Mr. Ball said he had left the hotel then and gone to Memphis after some banks. Harry Lockwood had seen him sitting on the running board of his car on the North Shore about 10:30. However

heading out of a bank. From then on he simply disappeared. Up till last night at supper time no trace or clue of my son had been found. Maria said the whole congregation and all 3 pastries were simply stunned. His parents and other relatives have been notified and are probably up here by this time. No one knows any reason why or where he ~~is~~ ^{was} gone unless he had a nervous breakdown or had amnesia or some such thing. So from this morning we hasn't heard ^{nothing} new at all. I simply have never

heard of anything so fantastical in my life. I simply can't figure out how he could disappear completely. He writes to you often and if he is found.

He's been very busy here for some time but we had a hard rain last night & this morning the house is like a lake but it will help the gardens. Will have another of plums this year too.

I think she told about all the news there is. Give "Chippies" the best regards from all of us.
Hope to hear from you soon.
Emilie

Northome, Minnesota December 26, 1940

Dear Bena, Stan, and Chipper

Hope you had a merry Christmas. Earl and Vera came about 8 o'clock and Stanton came a little while after. Emily and Wesley came about 9 o'clock. Larry had a red suit he got it from Wesley's sister. Stanley didn't get here and isn't here yet, I think he went to Boquists for Christmas dinner.

Thanks for the school bag. We got a wagon and two dart guns. I got a book, mouth organ, a quiz game and a game to shoot at black birds and tip them over.

For dinner we had lutefisk Christmas Day. Millers were over last night and stayed for supper.

I just remember that Gordon and I got a steam engine it runs with alcohol and has a whistle. Raymond gave it to us. I believe Raymond likes it just as well as we do and wished he would have kept it. He likes it too much himself.

Gladys went back with Emiley and Wesley to have a tooth pulled.

Happy New Year Russel

May 9, 1942

Dear Russel and Gordon,

I'm not supposed to be writing but I will. Friday nite through Sunday I had an awful headache and sore throat and I broke down with the real measles Monday morning. I have been sick in bed ever since. They are the real measles, not the German ones. My whole body was broken out and I really was a sight. I don't know if I can go to school Monday or not. I guess not, though.

Congratulations, Russel, for winning the declamation contest. Didn't I tell you you could do it. Lawrence must be good at it too. Next year you'll both have a chance to make first. When do you go to Grand Rapids? I bet you're tickled. How did Bergville come out as far as the penant is concerned and who got it? Also, who was next? Will you give me the order of schools and their scores, please? Here's wishing you luck at Grand Rapids. Don't forget you're going to have to give it for me next summer.

How's school coming along Gordie? Why don't you write and tell me all about it when Russel writes? What are your grades? I got my last term's grades -- not bad now --General Business - 90 - Foods 90 - Social Science 90 – Physical Ed 90 - Typing 90 - English 90-95.

Heard from Vera Thursday. You sure must of had a siege of it. Hope you're OK now.

Are Koppenhavers home now? They sure had tough luck. I thought they just got back from Iowa a while ago? Greet them from me.

Sure was a surprise to us that Stanley was in New Foundland. He seems to like it there. It will probably get tiresome though.

Guess who was down here. Bun was drafted into the army and was down in Chicago. He called up but I was sick in bed and Bena was gone so that when they finally got in touch he didn't have time to get here. It's a good thing because he may have gotten the measles which is no fun.

We have just got done thoroughly cleaning the house. The porch sure looks swell now. It's painted real light gray walls and ceilings with a maroon floor and I think part of the steps. The drapes are up and we are having light gray shades put up. It really is swell now.

A week from tomorrow we are having our public examination for Confirmation. We will be confirmed on May 24 and take our first communion on the next Sunday. We will have our picture taken the 24th. I am the only one in High School there so I'll be older than any. Oh, well. We really go through a lot to be confirmed here. I've gone to confirmation class, Sunday School, Church, Luther League, Choir. We are also giving a play by our Luther League on May 21-22nd. It's sure good. It's a humorous play and I

do mean humorous. Before and after meetings we play ping pong. I and a Sunday School teacher played against her sister and Jack, a sophomore. He's about the champion at church and we beat them twice. Were we proud, o-boy. I think he must have been tired. He sure is a good player, though.

How's everything at home? Vera said John Popes had rented the farm. How is it coming along? Do they like it there?

Stan gets his vacation the 13th, I think. Anyway the last two weeks in June. Will be up unless the gas is rationed or for some reason can't make it. We are all very anxious to come up. You'll like to see Chippy. He's such a man now. I guess I'll have to close now. Greet everyone for me and write soon.

Lovingly, Gladys

P. S. Be sure and answer all questions. Tell Vera thanks very much for the birthday presents. They sure are cute. Will write as soon as we can but haven't had much time. Tuesday 12

The nurse was over yesterday. No school for me until next Monday. I feel quite well excepting my eyes are weak and the spots haven't gone down. I'll be missing two weeks school, but I think I can make them up if I try real hard. Chippy is going to get them soon, I think, because he's getting a little cranky and his nose runs and everything.

How did Emilie, Beatrice, Patsy, and Larry make it home? They sure had hard luck. Greet them for me as soon as you see them and tell them we're waiting for a letter.

Stan left Sunday nite for a two week's trip. He may be home weekends, I don't know. It's a long time since he's been gone now.

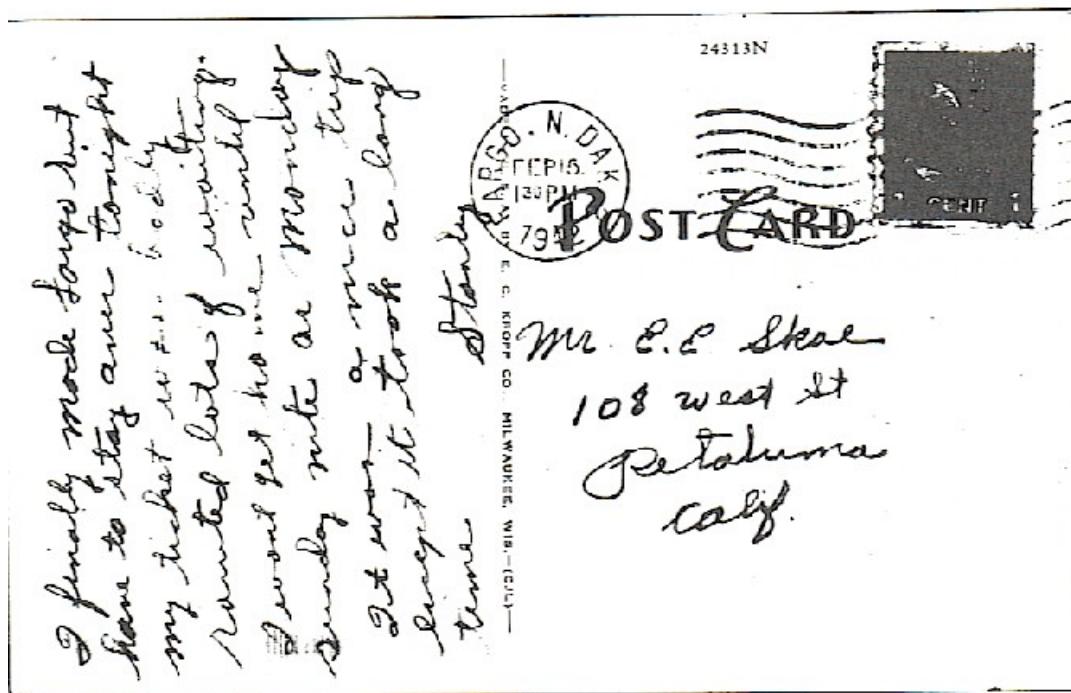
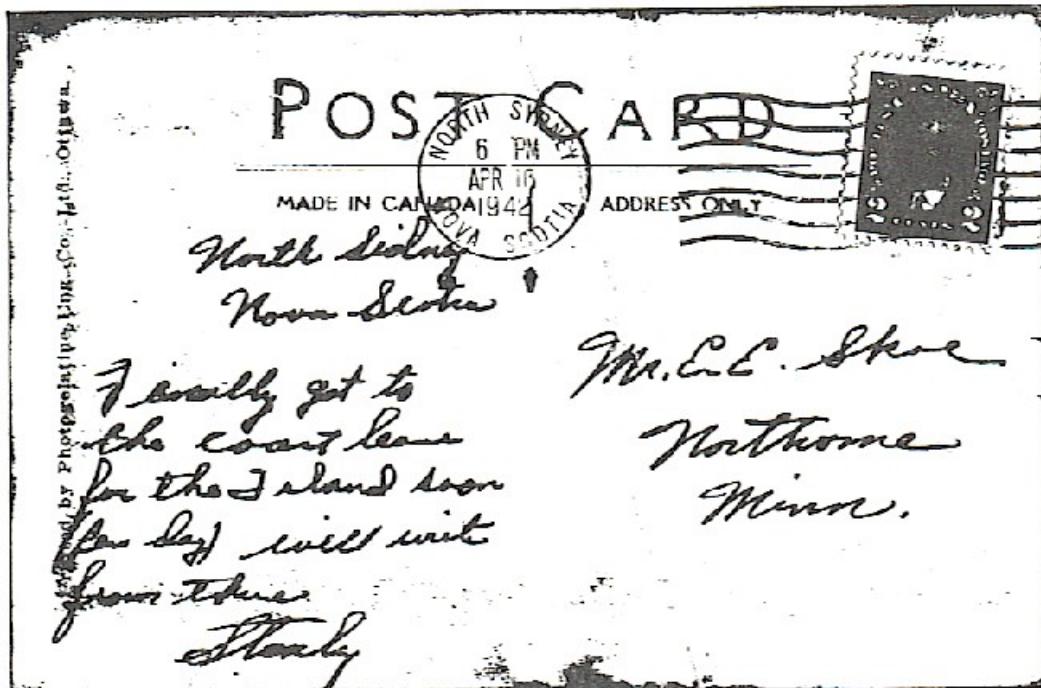
Just think, only three more weeks of school, and three days. When do you get let out? It's one week earlier than us, I think. We are out June 5.

It's so cold, rainy, and dreary here now. It's been raining a lot, but everything is so nice and green. Lilacs, tulips, irises are in bloom.

Which reminds me, will you collect and press all of the wild flowers for me that you can, please? I'll do you a favor some time. Don't put them on paper. Just press them, please.

Are you staying at Urnesses or at home and since when?





These cards were sent by Stanley Oliver Skoe to his father and Uncle. After a medical discharge from the U.S. Army, he worked in Newfoundland on the Al-Can Highway and eventually in California.

MY OWN, MY NATIVE LAND

Have I ever been homesick? Of course not, I say --Then how can I account for what seemed like an endless longing for my former home?

I had spent fourteen glorious years not far from here. Naturally, everything was not perfect, for what would there be to live for if everything we desired were ours?

My greatest delight was to wander through the woods for hours, returning each year to old familiar haunts, to find the first spring flower, or just to sit quietly under the trees which overhung the lake.

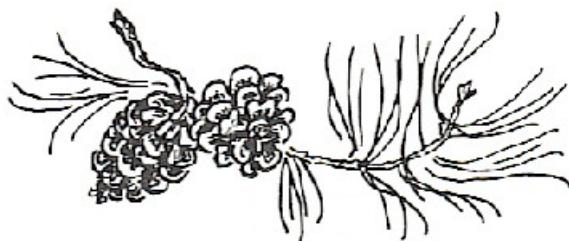
It was Christmas tho, that seemed the most joyous of all days, for then the outside world was a sight to behold, and one that many people miss. That night the sky seemed to blossom out with stars and the ground that was bare in fall was now covered with a soft, fleecy covering of snow. Everywhere your eye could see were pine trees laden inches deep with snow that sparkled like diamonds, but diamonds whose beauty was for everyone. I loved the dark blue sky, but the whole sky was not dark, for it was a crispy - cold night, and the moon was full and large -- and I saw its glimmering light reflected on the snow.

Truly this is where I belong, for when I look up into the heavens, I feel from the very depth of my heart, that this is "my own, my native land."

Bemidji, Minn.

1945 Gladys Ann Skoe

Written by Gladys Ann Skoe during her freshman year at Bemidji State College, Minnesota, probably in the fall of 1945.



JEWISH CHAPTER NO. 176
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

CORNELLY WELCOMES YOU
to the

INSTALLATION OF OFFICES

Saturday Evening

April 3, 1976

MISERICORDIA HALL

GRAND RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

Dedicating this year
to the memory of my husband,
Wesley Karkela

INSTALLING OFFICES

Installing Past Grand Patron Dolores Motschenbacher
Installing Past Grand Patron Milton Babbs
Installing Past Grand Marshal Betty Felasi
Installing Grand Chaplain Nadine Haulin M
Installing Past Grand Organist Borghild Shaeff
Installing Associate Grand Organist Thelma Wildgrube M
Guest Conductress Past Patron Ruth Marhartie
Guest Associate Conductress Past Patron Cleo Treibel
OFFICERS 1976 - 1977

Worthy Patron	Emilie Karkela
Worthy Patron	Robert Parker
Associate Patron	Phyllis Kettunen
Associate Patron	Donald Wildgrube
Secretary	Olive Hunkelberger
Treasurer	Betty Larson
Conductress	Marquerite Knight
Associate Conductress	Holy Fernandez
Chaplain	Elmerie Hunter
Marshal	Billie Jean Sampson
Organist	Borghild Shaeff
Tabler	Bonnie Kile
Ruth	Betty Vinden
Father	Debbie LaPlant
Partha	Ethel Allen
Electa	Lorraine Johnson
Warden	Verona Schilling
Sentinel	Daniel Schmitz

*This page marks a highlight in the life of Emilie Skoe Karkela
which we wish to share with future generations.*

IT'S *wild* RICE



HISTORY OF WILD RICE

When white men first came to North America, Indians made gifts to them of a slate gray-colored rice which was different from the rice that grew and was cultivated in the countries of Asia. The Indian rice grew wild in

marshy bogs and lakes and rivers. It was self-sown, and although an annual plant, was self - perpetuating. The white men found this new kind of

Clearwater Rice, Inc.

True North Township

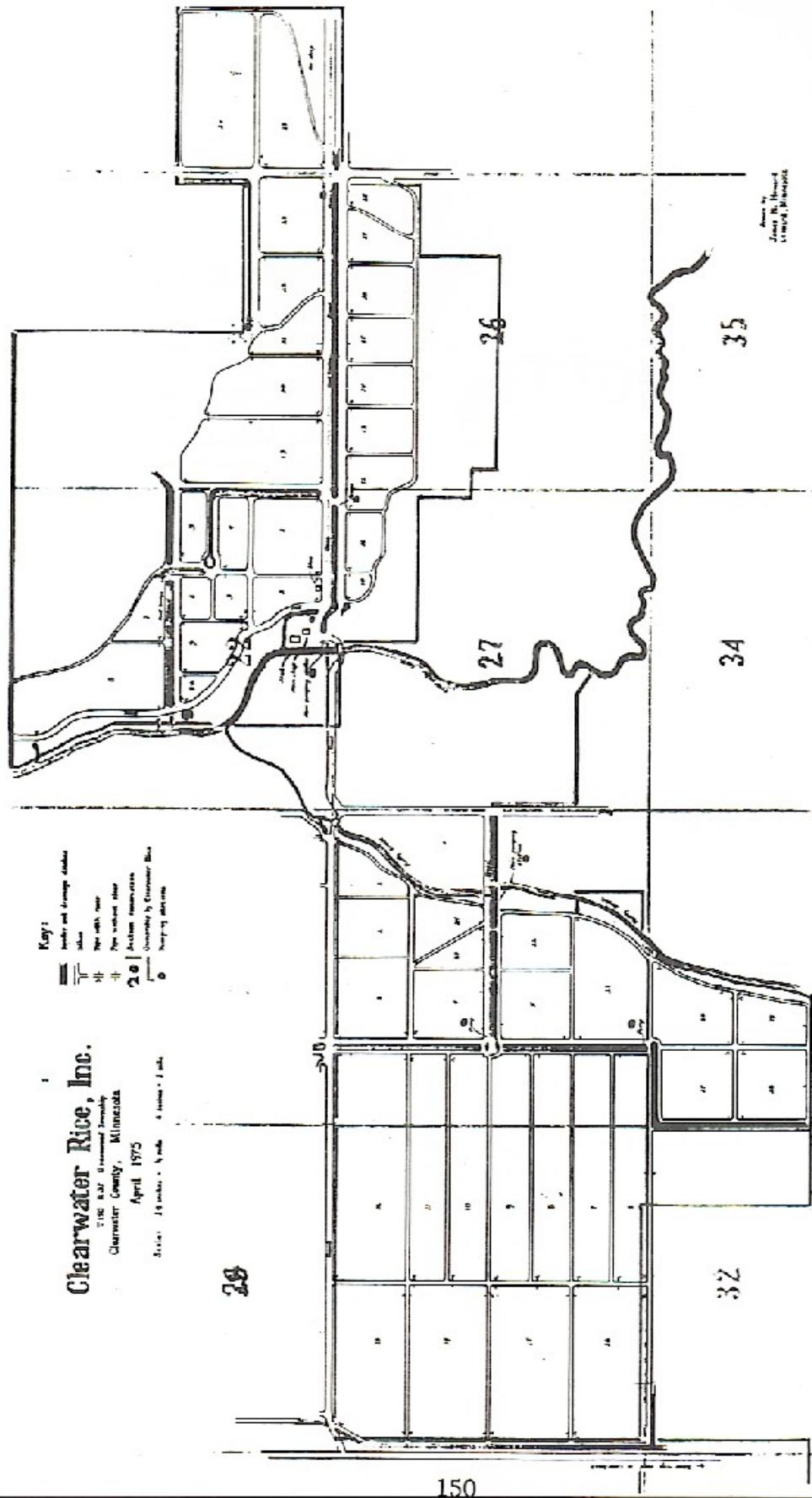
Charterer County, Minnesota

April, 1975

Scale: 1/4 miles - 1 mile

4 miles - 1 mile

- Key:
- Roads and drainage ditches
 - River
 - + New rice field
 - + New rice field
 - 26 | Previous irrigation
 - 26 | Irrigated by Clearwater Rice
 - Ditch or drainage



This map shows the area developed into wild rice paddies by Clearwater Rice, Inc. As noted in the narrative, it is a very complicated farming operation requiring knowledge of land, machinery and agronomy. The accompanying receipts were taken from a pamphlet about wild rice.

rice the most nutritive of all Indian foods, so they too learned to value it highly for its food qualities. Today we know that wild rice is rich in protein and carbohydrate content, and makes fine food for man or bird.

WILD RICE BARON



2 cups raw wild rice
4 cups water
2 tsp. salt
2 lb. ground round
1 lb. fresh mushrooms
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped celery
1 cup chopped onion
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup soy sauce
2 cups commercial sour cream
2 tsp. salt
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. pepper
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup slivered almonds (some for garnish)

Gently cook wild rice, water and salt for 45 min. Drain, if necessary.

Brown ground beef, (if too lean, grind suet with it or add more butter.)

Rinse mushrooms and cut off tips of stems. Slice. Sauté mushrooms, onions, and celery in butter for 5-10 minutes.

Combine soy sauce, sour cream, salt, and pepper. Add cooked wild rice, browned hamburger, mushrooms, onion; and celery mixture, and almonds. Toss lightly.

Place rice mixture in a slightly buttered 3 quart casserole. Bake in 350 oven for about 1 hour, uncovered. Add more water if needed and season to taste. Stir several times. Garnish with slivered almonds.

Serve this wild rice in a black wrought iron cooking kettle, especially appropriate during the Bicentennial Celebrations. Garnish with sprigs of parsley or pimento if you wish. Serve piping hot.

Serves 12-16. .73 - .55 per serving

From the kitchen of: GLADYS BARRON



**Lefse
and
Lutefisk**

LUTEFISK

No book on our Norwegian heritage would be complete without a mention of "that most inscrutable of Yuletide traditions -- Lutefisk" (Chicago Tribune).

In our family it was many years before Lutefisk was really accepted as an edible item, but now no Christmas Eve would be complete without Lutefisk, Lefse, Mashed Potatoes, and Melted Butter.

As our family has grown, we have added variations and other traditions, Oyster Stew, Cheese, Herring, Meat Balls, Cranberry Sauce, Rice Pudding, and always the traditional Christmas Cookies.

A number of years ago Randy, while a student at the Northwestern University Medical School, was attending a class in Nutrition. The professor, expecting no positive response, asked if anyone had heard of Lutefisk.

Only one student, our Polish-Norwegian son responded. They agreed that as a delicacy, Lutefisk was "an acquired taste". Then the professor went on to explain the nutritional basis for the peculiar method of preparation.

The people of the very cold northern regions of Scandinavia, toiling long hours at hard labor in intense cold, especially those on fishing boats, needed astronomical amounts of calories as compared to an average laborer.

By soaking the codfish in lye of potash (or lye made from wood ashes) almost all the bulk of the flesh was removed leaving large quantities of fat.

In this way smaller quantities of food would provide more calories. The same principle is the motivation behind Eskimos' consumption of blubber.

The professor had no knowledge of the time and place where someone first figured out such a unique method of preserving fish, but repeated his assertion of its nutritional value.

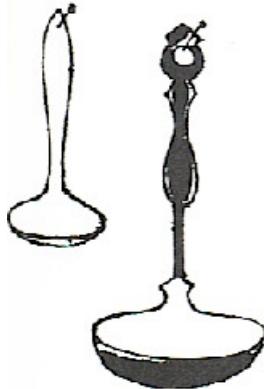
And I assert that it is culturally sound for us to retain some of our ethnic customs and hand them down to future generations.

Place the Lutefisk in a large kettle of salted boiling water, bring to a boil, cook until flaky (a few minutes). Skin, bone, and serve immediately, very hot - - and be certain to keep the butter hot -- and always have Lefse and Mashed Potatoes.

Bena Skoe Petzel

LEFSE

(Rolled-up Flat Brød) "Ja Da!"



Lefse and Flat Brød (flatbread) are rolled-out breads baked on a flat metal surface. They have been the staff of life in rural Norway since time immemorial. Originally the plates were of iron and rested on stones over an open fire. About 100 years ago these were replaced by the tops of woodburning ranges. Today Lefse and Flatbrød are baked on electric plates which can be obtained in the hardware stores of most regions in the United States where Norwegian immigrants have settled, or in cast iron skillets or electric frying pans.

Lefse and Flatbrød baking also require a special rolling pin with a grooved or sawtoothed surface.

They too are available in most immigrant settlements. A regular rolling pin will do, but the results are seldom as satisfactory.

Originally Lefse was used to wrap around other foods as the Mexicans use the tortilla. Now it is generally buttered and rolled or folded together and eaten either with a meal or with coffee.

3 cups riced or mashed potatoes	1 teaspoon sugar
1 tablespoon melted butter	1 teaspoon salt
3/4 cup flour	

Measure riced potatoes into a bowl. Add melted shortening, flour, sugar and salt. Mix well and cool (if possible over night).

Form dough into egg sized rolls (use your own discretion as to size). Roll out very thin on a floured board or pastry cloth. Bake on a hot ungreased griddle or Lefse pan. Turn and brown other side. It should be moist and pliable after baking and will have brown thin bubble-like spots.

Our mother always cleaned the top of her wood-burning stove and baked directly on the stove top. We usually cut the Lefse into four pie-shaped pieces and ate it spread with butter and rolled up. Some people put sugar on it, but if it is to be sweet, I like jelly or jam much better.

(Flatbrød is buttered too, but it is brittle and cannot be rolled.)



MANO MIN FLAT BRØD

1 cup sour milk
1 cup sour cream
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup melted shortening (little more)
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
1 tsp. soda
 $1\frac{1}{4}$ cup wild rice flour
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
3 cups white flour
1 tsp. baking powder

Prepare wild rice flour by grinding enough in the blender to make 2 cups. Strain flour as you make it and re-grind the coarser parts. This kind of flour will have an interesting, crunchy texture. You may substitute stone ground flour if you can get it.

Be sure that you cream the sour cream, melted shortening and milk together thoroughly or the shortening will form into small lumps.

Combine dry ingredients and add to above mixture, into a firm ball.

Equipment: Lefse rolling pin
1-2 turning sticks

Pastry cloth

Roll dough very thin, keep cloth well-floured. Bake 5-10 minutes in 375 oven.

Turn once - Allow to cool on paper towels. Stack on a tray or in a paper box on paper towels. Cover loosely with towels and store in a warm, dry place. Serve with fresh butter.

From the kitchen of: GLADYS BARRON

CREAM PORRIDGE

(Rømmegrøt)

Norway's Famous Mid-Summer's Day Treat

3 cups sweet whipping cream

2 cups flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

8 cups milk, boiling hot

In a heavy saucepan, cook the cream for 10 minutes, stirring frequently so that it will not burn. Sift in 1/2 cup flour, beating to make a thin porridge. Let it boil slowly until the butter fat starts to rise. Lower heat and skim all butter off with a spoon. Put it in a cup to keep warm.

Now, gradually sift in the rest of the flour, turn up the heat a little, and stir very well. Add hot milk gradually, stirring all the while. Add salt.

Rømmegrøt thickens as it stands.

Put it into a large serving bowl, make a dent in the top and pour some of the butter fat into it. It will run down the sides



SÖT SUPPE - THINGS WE REMEMBER

They say I look good, but never that I'm good looking.

Have you heard the story about the

Well, I better go out and 'pail' those cows.

It's getting on toward eight o'clock.

There isn't a single bedbug in this hotel. No, they're all married and have big families.

Mr. Stone turned to Mr. Wood. Mr. Wood turned to Mr. Stone. A nice young lady walked by. They both turned to rubber.

Wipe your feet off!

You must try and make out a meal now.

Let's eat, those that are here.

Come here and I'll pick you up.

The water pail is empty and the slop pail is running over.

I did the light' dishes; it's her turn to do the 'dark' dishes.

I set the 'inside'; it's her turn to set the 'outside' of the table.

Get the rubbernecks off the line.

The Knaeble kids are going barefoot already.

. . . . when the high school kids get home!

Tom and Prince, Lady, Beulah, Rosie, Mayflower.

Carl's Crick, The Outlet, Dubois, The Boys' Clearing,

The Cubby Hole, Up Over Head.

Come tup, tup tup!

Boarding Martin Nesseth's Men

Eric Johnson, the mailman.

Amos and Andy on Fred Anderson's radio.

Charlie Johnson's radio hooked up to the telephone.

Mince, and they smell so good!

The opening of Birch Point.

Farmer's Club Ladies Aid Community Club.

Mrs. Kucera's twins and her paper roses stuck in the curtain rods.

Sandy Andy.

Our telephone ring was the Morse Code for S - - three dots or three shorts.

The raft on the lake -- and how come no one drowned! The Burnt School House and the two buildings left standing.

The car that ran over a cow near Hillcrest School -- the boys lifted the car off the cow.

We would eat carrots fresh from the garden in the early summer, until "our blood was thick", then run to the pump for a drink "to thin our blood."

We had a special stone under a special tree -- the stone to sit on while we had a snapshot taken.

We always did a special cleaning when Aunt Annie, Uncle John, Laverne and Bun came from Remer. Uncle John took us all to town and gave us money to spend.

Mrs. A. C. Andersen's beautiful patchwork quilts with feather-stitch around each patch.

Mrs. Martin Nesseth's china closet.

When we went to Northome and went around the curves of Devil's Bend -- "Must have been a crooked man to lay out such a crooked road."

"The Skoe Boys", said Annie Urness, "can never sit straight on a chair -- they always tilted a chair so it was balanced on no more than two legs."

Sayings about Norwegians from a friend, "He was slow but sure." "He doesn't ride the horse the day he saddles it."



OOFTA! -- WHO WROTE ALL THIS?

WHO? . . .

Won a Declamatory Contest reciting "Whispering Bill" ?

Was a champion bread baker in the first grade?

Won a trip to the State Fair canning Carrots. .Carrots?

Asked, "Mamma, what is a horse t-u-r-d?"

Was the first Skoe child ever asked to sing a solo in
a school Christmas program?

Was Professor Baten in a school play?

Sat on George Andersen's lap and combed his hair with
a feather?

Tried to row around McKinney Lake in a leaky boat with
a broom?

Fell head first into a tub of water?

Broke her arm playing "Last Couple Out"?

Fell flat on her back from a tree?

Brought "Lady" home?

Was the best berry-picker in the family?

Was the worst berry-picker? Why?

Forgot to close the root house door? . . . Pull up the boat? . . .
Shut the barn door? . . . Close the hay mow door?
Hook the gate? Feed the chickens? . . . Put down hay?

Built the fires every morning?

Filled the wood box every night?

Was careful with matches and always worried about fires?

WHO? . . .

Stuck his finger out and told his sister, "Chop here!"?

Remembers Mother's Flowering Maple?

Would like a slip of one -- maybe?

Talks too much?

Tripped and broke a whole stack of new dishes?

Lost the scissors? . . . Lost the last needle?

Had the missing right glove?

Had the best trap line?

Was the first of the boys up in the morning?

Said, "I don't chew my cabbage twice"?

Said, "Only Hines in Duluth"?

Talks about a Kitty Stump? Why?
Made the best baked beans?
Wouldn't try to sing after a music teacher told her to sing softly?
Loved to ride the horse that pulled the cultivator?
Wrapped a mop around Earl's head?
Thought cats and dogs belonged in barns?
Couldn't recognize the large "T" on the eye chart? (Thought it was a tree)

Remembers a doll cradle at McKinney Lake?
Fell asleep in the cabinet sewing machine and had all the neighbors looking for him?
Fastened the comb to a string near the wash basin and mirror?
Why?
Remembers the night Governor of Minnesota, Floyd B. Olson died?
WHO . . . will write the stories that will give answers to all these questions?

