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**A COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE**

*Commercial, Savings, Bond,  
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Since 1879 this bank has been an important factor in the business activities of the community. We shall be pleased to extend to you the same helpful service we are rendering to others—a satisfactory service, as indicated by our continuous growth.

# *State Bank of Chicago*

**La Salle and Washington Streets**

Established 1879

BY HAUGAN & LINDGREN

**46 YEARS OLD**

**70,000 CUSTOMERS**

**RESOURCES OVER \$63,000,000**

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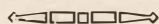
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**MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**



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SOUVENIR PROGRAM



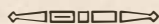
NORWEGIAN CENTENNIAL  
CELEBRATION

CHICAGO AND VICINITY

SUNDAY, JUNE TWENTY-EIGHT  
NINETEEN TWENTY-FIVE

AT

CHICAGO MUNICIPAL PIER



CENTENNIAL BANQUET

SATURDAY, JUNE TWENTY-SEVEN  
NINETEEN TWENTY-FIVE

HOTEL LASALLE

# Founded by Scandinavians

Founded by Scandinavians over 20 years ago, the Union Bank of Chicago, owes its growth principally to the loyalty and friendship of all Scandinavian people.

While today it numbers among its customers many races of people, it relies, as of yore, upon those steady, thrifty people, for its progress and growth.

*Your account is welcome here.*



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# Union Bank of Chicago

(A TRUST COMPANY)

**25 N. Dearborn St.**

*NEAR WASHINGTON*

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

PROGRAM

REV. J. H. MEYER, General Chairman

PART I

- 1. Centennial Celebration Band.....Math. Pedersen, Director
- 2. "Ja vi elsker dette Landet".....The Audience
- 3. Introduction of the Centennial Chorus.....Rev. Gottfred Nilsen
- 4. "Den store hvide Flok".....Centennial Chorus

Rev. Conrad Engelstad, Solo  
Peter Olson, Director

- 5. Invocation.....Rev. H. J. Holman
- 6. Greetings of Welcome to and Introduction of Bishop Johan P. Lunde.....Rev. J. H. Meyer
- 7. "Kirken den er et gammelt Hus".....The Audience

Kirken den er et gammelt hus,  
Staar, om end taarnene falde;  
Taarne fuld mange sank i grus,  
Klokker end kimer og kalde,  
Kalde paa gammel og paa ung,  
Mest dog paa sjælen træt og tung,  
Syg for den evige hvile.

Vi er Guds hus og kirke nu,  
Bygget af levende stene,  
Som under kors med ærlig hu  
Troen og daaben forene;  
Var vi paa jord ei mer end to,  
Bygge dog vilde han og bo  
Hos os med hele sin naade.

Herren vor Gud vist ei bebor  
Huse, som hænder mon bygge,  
Arke-paulunet var paa jord  
Kun af hans tempel en skygge,  
Selv dog en bolig underfuld  
Bygde han sig i os af muld,  
Reiste af gruset i naade.

Give da Gud, at hvor vi bo,  
Altid, naar klokkerne ringe,  
Folket forsamles i Jesu tro  
Der, hvor det pleied at klinge:  
Verden vel ei, men I mig ser,  
Alt hvad jeg siger, se, det sker!  
Fred være med eder alle!

- 8. Festival Address.....Bishop Johan P. Lunde, from Oslo, Norway
- 9. "Gud signe vort dyre Fædraland".....Centennial Chorus

Peter Olson, Director

PART II

- 1. Centennial Celebration Band.....Math. Pedersen, Director
- 2. "Star Spangled Banner".....The Audience

Oh! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thro' the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there:  
Oh! say, does the starspangled banner still wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Oh! thus be it e'er when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation;  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust."  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

- 3. Centennial Address.....Congressman O. J. Kvale  
Introduced by Congressman M. A. Michaelsen
- 4. "Sanctus" .....Gounod

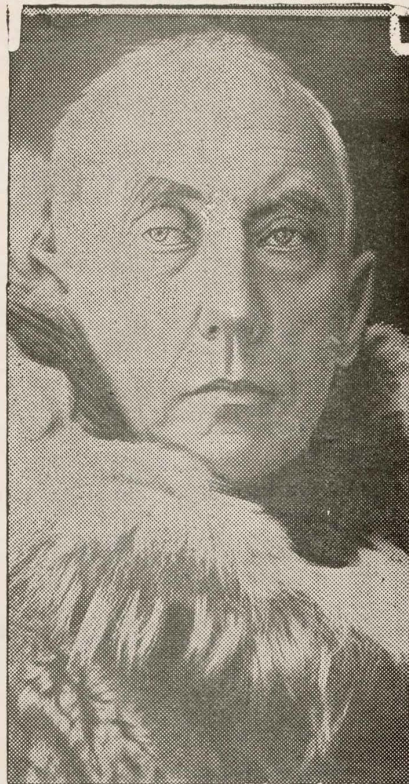
Centennial Chorus  
Mildrid Romsdahl-Bruns, Solo  
Peter Olson, Director

- 5. Address.....U. S. Senator Charles S. Deneen  
Introduced by Attorney Alfred O. Erickson
- 6. Greetings.....Mayor Wm. E. Dever  
Introduced by Judge Oscar M. Torrison
- 7. Letters of Greetings from U. S. Vice-President Chas. G. Dawes  
and others.....Centennial Secretary, E. Gythfeldt
- 8. "America".....The Audience

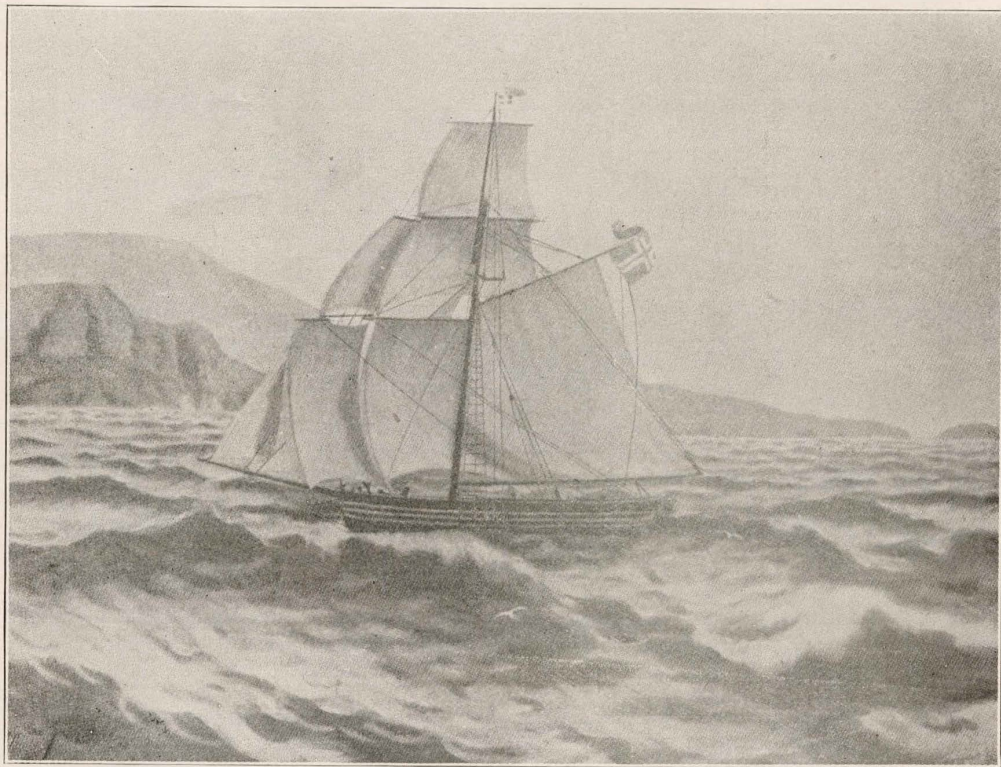




LEIF ERIKSON



ROALD AMUNDSEN



"RESTAURATIONEN"

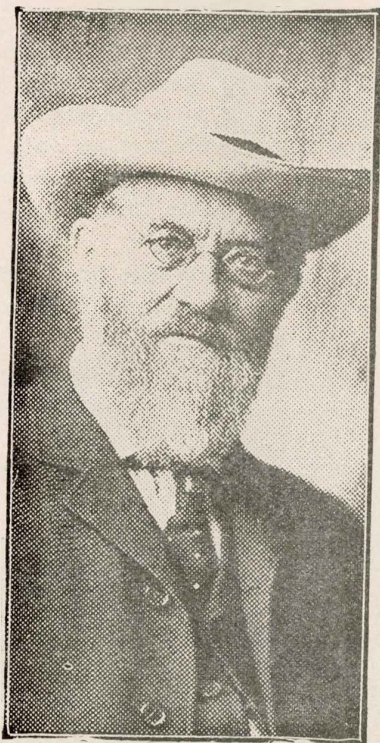


# THE SLOOP "RESTAURATIONEN" ARRIVED IN NEW YORK, OCTOBER 9, 1825

By RASMUS B. ANDERSEN

THE 4th of July of this year marks the hundredth anniversary of the departure of the now famous sloop "Restaurationen" from Norway. This was the first emigration to this country from Norway by people in a body in a single ship. They came to a land that Norsemen more than eight hundred years earlier, under the leadership of Leif Erikson, had discovered and called Vinland the Good.

It was on the American Day of Independence, that is to say, on the 4th of July, 1825, that the



RASMUS B. ANDERSEN

little sloop which bore the name "Restaurationen" sailed out of the harbor of that quaint old city of Stavanger in the southwestern part of Norway. The party consisted of fifty-two men, women and children, including in this number the captain, Helland, mate, Erikson, and the cook, Dahl. The most of them were from the city of Stavanger and from Tysver, north of Stavanger, and a few were from other parts of Stavanger County. They were fifty-two in number when they left Stavanger, but when they reached New York on the 9th of October, they were fifty-three. It is

possible that it was on this very day that Leif Erikson set his foot on the shores of Vinland in the year 1000. On the 2nd of September, Martha Georgiana, the wife of Lars Larson i Jeilane, became the mother of a baby girl, who was named Margaret Allen in honor of the Quaker woman at whose home in England her father had served.

In 1821 the father of Norwegian emigration to this country, Cleng Peerson, with a companion by the name of Knud Eide, had gone from Stavanger to America for the purpose of investigating the prospects for new settlers here. He spent three years in New York and vicinity, and returned to Stavanger in 1824 with a very optimistic and encouraging report. The sloop party was organized by Lars Larson Jeilane, and he was in every respect the leader of the enterprise. He had become a Quaker in England and had organized a Quaker congregation in Stavanger. But the Quakers and all so-called dissenters were regarded with disfavor by the authorities, both secular and ecclesiastic, and so they naturally desired to emigrate to a country where they could enjoy complete religious liberty and, incidentally, also improve their economic conditions.

Let us in our minds revert back to the 4th of July, 1825. Conditions in Norway were not the same then as they are today. Since then the Parliament of Norway has passed a large number of important laws securing a larger both religious and secular liberty to the people. While orations inspired by love of liberty fly from the lips of speakers from the many platforms in the United States, while cannon are thundering throughout the inhabited part of this great country, and while hymns of liberty soar on fairy wings and reverberate throughout the cities and countryside of the United States, there comes a half-sad and half-joyful echo from one of the fjords of Norway, as the sloop "Restaurationen" with its fifty-two passengers weighs its anchor in the harbor of Stavanger and sets its prow toward the shores of the land of the Star Spangled Banner. It was a sad echo which was reverberating from Stavanger harbor, for the men and women on board the sloop were at this moment bidding farewell to kinsfolk and friends, and to their country, and had a long and perilous journey before them across the broad Atlantic; but it was also a jubilant echo, for from the distant west there beckoned to them a clear and smiling star of liberty,



and they were longing to reach the land where they hoped to better their spiritual and economic conditions.

Emigration from Norway was from its very inception looked upon by the authorities in Norway and by their press and in their literature with disfavor. There developed an organized opposition to emigration, and all sorts of stories were published to frighten people from casting their lot in such a God-forsaken country as America, but the Norwegian attitude has now happily been changed. The Norwegian people now look upon the 4th of July, 1825, as marking an important new epoch in the history of their country, and well they may, for Norway has in many ways been greatly benefited by her emigrants and their descendants, not only materially, but also socially and politically. It would be difficult to find a family in Norway that does not have relatives in the United States. Indeed, if we count the children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren, there are about as many Norwegians in America as in Norway, and the property held by those of Norwegian blood in America is doubtless worth far more than the total value of Norway.

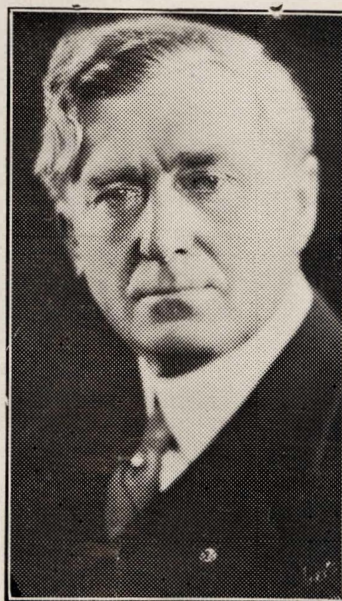
The emigrants from Norway were stalwart, both physically and mentally, and at once became most desirable citizens of the United States. They settled largely on farms, and have done more than their share in the agricultural development of our western states. And so Norway today points

with pride to what the emigrants have accomplished on this side of the Atlantic, and with equal pride to the benefits that Norway has received from her emigrated sons and daughters. The Norwegians in this country have proved themselves one hundred percent Americans, and at the same time they have been constantly loyal to Norway. They have demonstrated that a man can be a loyal son and at the same time a faithful husband. May I not repeat here a statement made by me many years ago, that this large body of Norwegian immigrants have become Americanized fully as rapidly as any other class of immigrants from the European continent. They acquire the English language easily and make most loyal citizens. They are by nature industrious and pay much attention to the proper education of their children. It is universally admitted that the Norwegians are among the most desirable immigrants to this country from Europe. While the Norwegians have filled a considerable number of offices, national, state and county, and as a rule with great credit to themselves, they are not strictly speaking an office-seeking class. The Norwegian press is as a rule enlightened and exceedingly loyal to the highest interests of America and her institutions.

It is eminently fitting that these facts should be remembered and emphasized in connection with our Centennial celebration.



Congressman O. J. Kvale

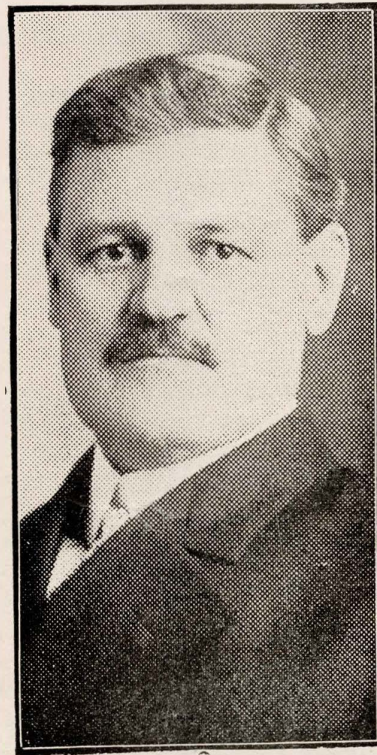


Attorney Alfred O. Erickson





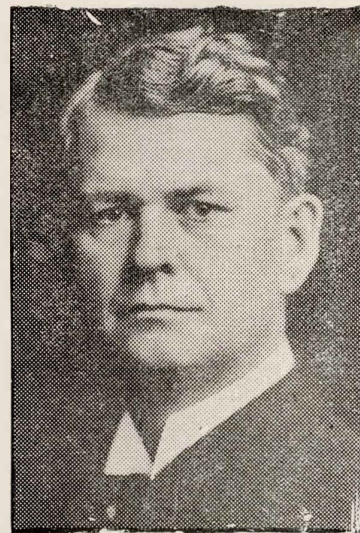
U. S. Senator Charles S. Deneen



Mayor Wm. E. Dever



Congressman M. A. Michaelsen



Judge Oscar M. Torrison



# NORWEGIAN CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

OF CHICAGO AND VICINITY, JUNE 27-28, 1925  
CHICAGO, ILL.

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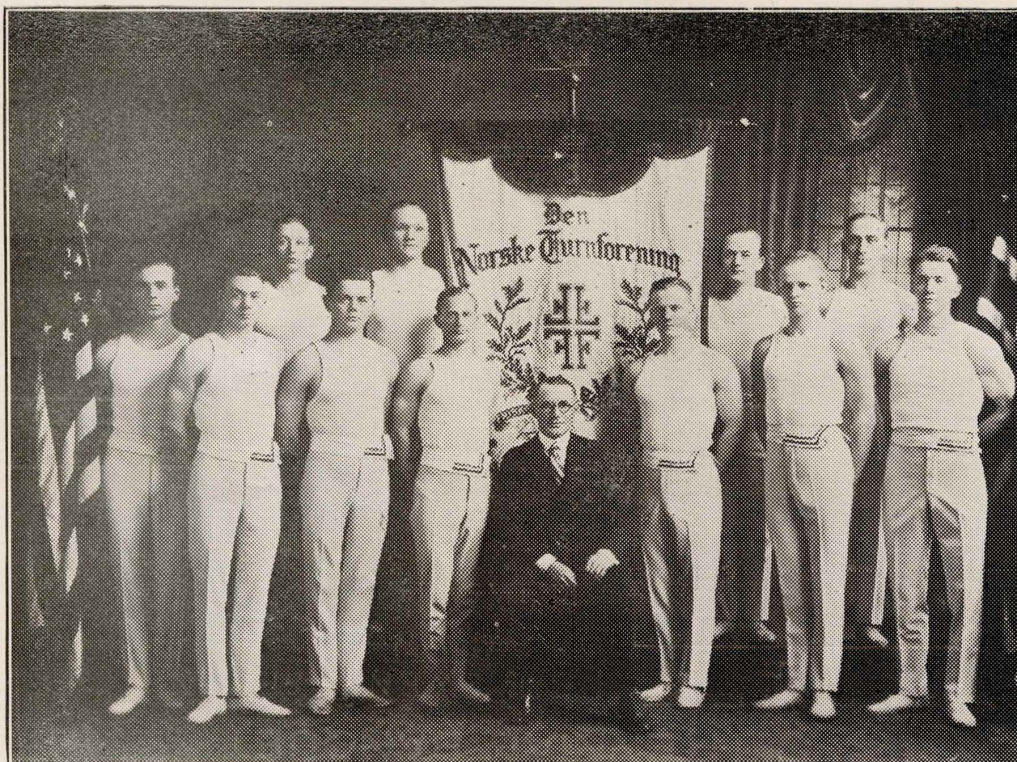
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# TANKER I ANLEDNING HUNDREDAARET

AF WALDEMAR AGER

EN skjønneste, kostbareste og solideste bygning i Wisconsin er statens capitol i Madison. Det er ogsaa den mest amerikanske bygning. Der møter den lovgivende forsamling; der har guvernøren sine kontorer og de forskpellige departementer sine. Der har statens høiesteret sin pragtfulde sal. Der er alt samlet, som vi er stolt av i vor stat. Paa lang avstand kan man se capitoliets mægtige, hvite kuppel hæve sig høit over alle andre bygværker, — næst capitoliet i Washington den høieste og vakreste i landet.

Naar man kommer ind i den store rotunda, finder man, at de seksten store sokkeler hvorpaa arkaderne eller buerne hviler, er av norsk granit og importert fra Norge, pilastrene bag dem er av Wisconsin granit og likeledes de som omgiver rotundaen paa hovedgulvet. Ballustraderne i midtgalleriet er av marmor fra Italien. De store grønne søiler er av Timos-marmor fra Grækenland. Den brune frise ovenover er numidisk marmor fra Algier. Det øvrige er kommet fra et halvt dusin forskjellige stater.

I senatets sal er vægge og pilastre i foyeren av italiensk marmor, søilerne i salen er fransk marmor og en hel del av udstyret av forskjellig græsk marmor. I høiesterets sal er panelerne av tysk Formosa-marmor, mens gulvet er av teaktræ fra Indien. Dekorationer og fotstykker er av ægyptisk porfyr og der er persiske tepper paa gulvene. Over lande og have har man trukket sammen det vakreste og mest solide som "verden" har at byde og resultatet er et av de vakreste, sterkeste og mest amerikanske bygværker som findes i hele landet.

Graniten fra Norge er fremdeles norsk granit. Den har alle de egenskaper som gjorde at bygmestrene valgte den. Det har den ogsaa i Minnesotas capitol, hvor alle de mægtige granitsøiler er av norsk granit og bærer det hele. Den er maaske blit poleret og passet ind, hvor den skulde bruges; men dens egenskaper er der som de var, da den blev indført den lange vei fra landet der langt nord.

Saaledes med den italienske marmor, de tyske, franske eller græske bygningsmaterialier. Tilsammen med de amerikanske danner de et harmonisk hele av en vidunderlig skjønhet og styrke.

Dette er min opfatning av vort land — vort Amerika, socialt og kulturelt. Det bedste og sterkeste fra hele verden overtrukket sammen paa et sted og indpasset i en fælles stor og herlig bygning.

Det er vel muligt, at man kunde ha knust alle disse bygningsmaterialier til støv, blandet dem sammen, ættet dem ihop med Portland cement og faat et ensartet bygningsmateriale ut av det; men det blev ikke gjort. Det er bare med folk man vil bruke den slags fremgangsmaate. Det byggemateriale man hadde faat ved "sammen-smeltningen" vilde blit et ensfarvet graat, noget uprøvet, om hvilken ingen vidste enten det hadde bæreevne eller ei. Den norske granit vilde taapt sin styrke, Carara-marmoret sin hvithet, porfyret sin glans. Det var blit graat, stygt og ensfarvet altsammen og dertil uhaandterligt og rimeligvis uholdbart. Det hadde ikke egnet sig for billedhuggerens meisel og hadde vanskelig tat nogen polering og aldrig faat nogen glans. Det eneste det maaske kunde ha egnet sig til vilde været en kinesisk mur.

Vort folkemateriel er det bedste som hele verden har at byde og det har ved en naturlig utvælgelse trukket sig sammen her over land og hav. Det kan bearbeides og poleres, — det maaske det i større eller mindre grad for at kunne indpasses i den store amerikanske bygning; men dette bør ske paa en saadan maate, at det beholder sit særskilte præg, sin særskilte skjønhet eller betingelserne for en særskilt skjønhet, styrke eller bruksnytte.

Sker dette, — kan det la sig gjøre, saa vil vort land socialt som kulturelt kunne hæve sig over alle andre som capitoliets kuppel hæver sig over alle andre bygværker ellers. Der kan av dette kostbare og mangfoldig folkemateriel staa frem et vidunderligt herligt og fuldkomment samfund.

Sker det ikke. Gaar sammensmeltning og opløsning av arvede karaktertræk sin uhindrede gang skjøvet frem av kortsynte, hjerneløse og hjerteløse Know-nothing-ister, saa vil vi tilsidst bli en eneste graa, ensfarvet og forflatet masse uten holdbarhet, uten skjønhetssans eller inspiration.

Naar vi nu feirer hundredaaret for den norske indvandring, saa er det for likesom at ta et overblik, holde en mønstringsdag, se, hvad som er utrettet, komme paa det rene med det mest værdifulde ved os, — det som vort land har mest bruk for, — dertil fremlægge fyldestgjørende beviser paa at ogsaa vi har været med at skape værdier av stor betydning her i landet. Det vil ogsaa mane til at vi søger at bevare det nationalt mest værdifulde ved os, saa vi kan bli som en av de søiler, der løfter en amerikansk kuppel op over alt andet, — et solid fotstykke for en arkade av skjønhet og styrke i det amerikanske tempel.

Og kun i den grad som vi bevarer vort racepræg vil vi være brukbare i dette tempels bygning — i fremtiden, som vi har været det hidtil.

Det som det gjælder om er at være tro mot sig selv, — da vil vi, hvis vi virkelig er et folk med karakter, — ogsaa være tro mot vort land og tro i alt vort virke. Det er intet vort land trænger mer end troskap, — der er hunger efter tro folk fra kongressens sale til den mindste shop, fra universiteter og domstole til den mand som ved nattetid kjører en feiemaskine gjennem byens gater.

**Vi maa ogsaa være tro mot mor.**

Det vil være vanskelig at være tro i noget livets forhold uten at være tro mot hende. Mor "Norge" har sine øine fæstet paa os her og vi bør

ogsaa ha vore øine fæstet paa hende. Det vil gi forøket styrke. Hvad der er ved os av lødighet og særskilt brukbarhet har vi faat av hende, — det er arven vi fik med. Det er den bedste arv hun kunde gi, og ingen fik en større.

Abraham Lincoln sa: Alt hvad jeg er og hvad jeg med Guds hjelp kan bli, skylder jeg min velsignede mor. I utvidet forstand kan vi anvende dette paa vort gamle fædreland. Og vi minder hverandre om det ved denne store fest, naar vi kaster blikket tilbake paa hvad her er utrettet.

At vi ikke glemmer mor! Vi er arveløse, — vi har allerede gaat over i den graa, uhjelpelige, styrkeløse og skjønhetsfattige masse fra den stund av at mor er glempt.

Før det er tegnet.



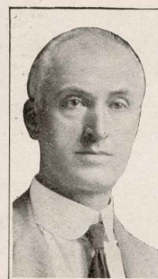
JACOB NILSEN  
A Director



SOREN T. CORYDON  
A Director



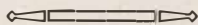
JOHN B. HESSLER  
A Director



CHILTON C. COLLINS  
A Director

IT TOOK BUT TWO MINUTES TO WRITE THIS ADVERTISEMENT — THAT'S ALL THE TIME DR. PAUL HAUGAN AND HIS NORWEGIAN CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE WOULD GIVE US

AND IT WON'T TAKE YOU THAT LONG TO LEARN THIS ONE SUPREME FACT THE MAJORITY OF THE DEPOSITORS, STOCK-HOLDERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE HUMBOLDT STATE BANKS ARE NORWEGIAN!



**HUMBOLDT STATE BANK**  
North Ave. at Fairfield

**SECOND HUMBOLDT STATE BANK**  
North Ave. at Sawyer

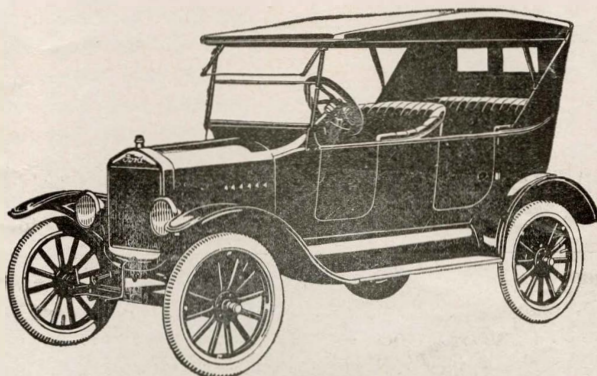


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Right Rev. Johan Peter Lunde, Bishop of Oslo

THE WORLD IS AT YOUR DOOR WITH A FORD



SMALL DOWN PAYMENT

Balance Monthly

ASK US FOR DETAILS

# Reid Burton Motor Co.

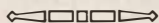
Fairfield at North Ave. Fairfax 0070

Franklin 3110

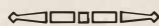
Something Different

**BORDEN'S**  
"SELECTED MILK"

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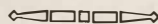
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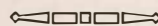
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# VORT AMERIKA

AV PAUL HAUGAN

**D**EN gamle verden nærte naturlig nok paa flere omraader tvil om det amerikanske folk. Man syntes, at det var av slik mangeartet sammensætning, at det neppe kunde staa sammen naar det virkelig gjaldt at greie op med et større og gammelt folk i Europa. Blodet er tykkere end vand, blev det sagt, og hengivenheten for de gamle hjemlande vilde nok en vakker dag gjøre sine krav gjældende.

Vort samfundslegeme, saa mentes der stod paa like saa sprø og daarlige føtter, som det billede Babels konge drømte om. Dets føtter var jo dels av jern, dels av ler. Det var atlsaa racesammensætningen, som skulde komme til at stille sig op for os som vor generalprøve. Vore utlæg og opofrelser var saa enorme at hele verden forbausedes. Man kunde altsaa ikke lenger tvile paa os, netop som man før gjorde, og saa blev det hele forklart dithen, at vi var et idealistisk folk.

Vi selv vet hvad vor idealisme er, for en vet best selv, hvorfor en opofrer sig og hengir sig.

At vi staar med vore særegne idealer det erkjender vi. At vi endnu virkelig tror paa dem og vil ta tunge løft for at bære dem frem — det medgir vi ogsaa. Hvad disse er — det vet vel forresten hele verden. Vi lot vore døre staa paa vid vægg og bød hvemsomhelst velkommen hit. Vi hadde sædejord nok, og saa langt dette angik — ogsaa kjærlighet nok.

Naar vi saa førte dørene lidt paa klem, da hadde vi ogsaa gode grunde for det. Vi maatte værge vort eget. Vi har jo det vi nærer, holder kjært og kjender som vor egen kultur —, saa vidt vi da e komne. At den endnu har en islæt av puritansk, er vistnok for nogle næsten en forargelse. Men at totalsummen peker paa noget sundt, rent og friskt, for liv og livsforholde —, det maa medgis. Det synes vel ogsaa næsten at smake lidt av naivitet, allikevel mener nok saa mange av os, at forsynet sparte denne verdensdel, saa længe det gjorde, fordi det her vilde reise sig noget nyt for menneskeheten.

Vi staar altsaa her med vore mange og store opgaver. Men vor historie viser, at vi som et folk tror paa baade at møte og løse dem. Til den ende rystet vi av os gamle Englands lænker. Av samme aarsak hadde vi opgjøret mellem os selv og endte det med slavernes befrielse. Helt og holdent av samme grund bar vi vaaben mot Spanien, som laa med strupetak over lille Cuba, og for hele menneskehedens vel gik vi ind i verdenskrigen.

At der imidlertid har knirket lidt her og der hos

os ogsaa, — det skal medgis. Naar man for eksempel har ment, at den angelsaksiske race har flottet sig vel meget likeoverfor andre, — da kan vel ogsaa det ha sine grund. De har været saa numerisk sterke, og har hat overtaket paa saa mange omraader. Allikevel maa det vel medgis, at den har været like saa medgjørlig, — som andre vilde ha været i samme stilling.

Naar vi nu da som amerikanere sier, at vi vil staa paa saavidt mulig like fot med hverandre, og ikke optræ likeoverfor medborgere med nogen lensmandsmine, saa gjælder det allikevel med os, at naar principer og lovoverholdelse skal møtes, da trækker vi linjen op for hverandre saa stramme, at det næsten smelder i dem, og dette maa vel synes for mange lidt underlig.

Allikevel, slik er vi, og saadan maa vi være.

Her i vort Amerika, med vort selvstyre, kræves nemlig meget av os som borgere. Enhver mand og kvinde maa stille sine livsvalg paa de forskjellige livsomraader. Om altsaa ens personlige frihet blir til misbruk og skade for andre, da nødes man stille sig til selvforsvar og kamp mot slike onder.

Derfor er det da, at vi som virkelig vil fred, enighet og frihet allikevel kan staa i kamp — som vi gjør.

Vi medgir altsaa, at vi er idealistiske paa flere omraader.

Vi er ogsaa et ufærdig folk, blir det ofte sagt —, og det er sandt nok, for det er ungdommen ogsaa, og vi staar endnu som et folk i ungdom.

Det er meget og mangt som dæmrer i et ungt folk —, for der er mange ting som man synes at burde op til. Der har saaledes ogsaa dæmret noget derinde i det norske utflytterfolks sind her i Vesterheimen. Det faar vistnok nu en viss befrielse, og vi faar haabe det former sig til dagbræk. Vi har nemlig gaat med bevistheten om ætteforhold og rettigheter til landet herover. Like fra barnsben av var vi os bevist en viss hjemstavsret til landet derute i Vesterled. Vi som kom og slog os ned her for at bygge og bo, kjendte os ikke netop saa fremmede i et og alt.

Man synes heller man var av gammel æt og eiet derfor gamle rettigheter. Vistnok ropte man ikke saa høit om det; men hos sig selv kjendte man det, og sig imellem talte man om det.

Os netop som vi, som utflytterfolket fra slækt til slækt har været os bevist dette, saa har vel ogsaa barna, omend født her, baaret i sine sind noget i det minste av samme følelser. Mange

har vel endog kjendt et visst tryk derinde naar de sang:

“Land where my fathers died  
land of the Pilgrims pride.”

Dette kom ikke fordi de ikke elsket, æret og værdsatte pilgrimsfædrene, deres bedrifter og den kultur de ga os, men fordi der kjendtes hos saa mange av os, og barna vore, at her manglet allikevel noget. Man syntes nemlig, at vi likesom var stillet utenfor. Man sang nok med, men ikke netop slik som man saa gjerne vilde, — og det kjendtes tungt.

Som de ogsaa i skolerne lærte og gjenga tro nok lektierne sine om Columbus og hans opdagelse av landet, saa laa der vistnok allikevel i det norske utflytterfolks børn en viss protest mot hvad der lærtes.

Det er noget saa underlig med ætteforhold og arv, naar man er sig slikt bevist.

Det som altsaa dæmret derinde ropte vel aldrig saa høit om befrielse, som da man blev paastemplet bindetegnsmerket. Man skulde jo i den tid stilles i kategori som en fremmed del av befolkningen. At der laa en viss sandhet i paastanden — det erkjendtes villig nok; men at man allikevel

blev meget forurettet — det formaadde man ikke at bortforklare.

Naar vi altsaa reiser os som vi nu gjør, alle som en, og fører bevisstheten hen til historiske kjendsgjerninger, da taler vi et sprog — som alle forstaar.

Om altsaa derfor selve “Sluffefolket”, deres færd og bedrifter som landtagere og grydningsmænd ikke erkjendes av os som saa svært uthævet, saa vet baade vi og andre, at det var et slikt folke-materiale vort Amerika netop da mest trængte.

Disse folk var nemlig av den jævne, seige og sterke type, som ikke let bøier av for vanskeligheter. De formaadde at bryte vei baade for sig selv og efterslægten.

Der laa jo stadig for deres syn et løfte om en lysere fremtid om bedre og lettere livsvilkaar. Stort set maa vi vel ogsaa si, at de naadde det —, selv om det da gik gjennem det stride hav og ofte med opofrelse indtil blodet.

Som vi nu bygger trofast paa tomter de brøitet, tror vi, at det blir et gavnlig og varig virke, — “værk som varer til verdi øiderst.”

Slik maa Amerika bygges.

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## NORSE PIONEER SPIRIT A THOUSAND YEARS AGO HONORED IN 1911

By OLAF E. RAY

THE great Thousand Years' Celebration was held during the month of June, 1911, in Rouen (Fetes du Millenaire Nordmand) in commemoration of the founding of the Duchy of Normandy by Rollo the Walker (in French, "Rollo," and in Norwegian, "Gange Rolf.") The famous Vikings of old had fought and struggled repeatedly for about one hundred years at the lower part of the Seine river, called "Seine Inferieure," before they finally obtained title to the splendid country named by them Normandy. This word was then and is now very suggestive of the Norsemen or Northmen who composed the crews of the fearless flotillas of martial sailors famous in history for boat building and exploits on the sea. No doubt they came to seek new lands and new opportunities for permanent settlement and not simply to pillage and plunder. They had already established dominion in Southern Ireland and in many part of the British Isles before they won this beautiful duchy of France, and they came thus from older established settlements to lay the foundation of another where their warlike leaders would become lords and masters while the common sailors and every-day vikings might establish homes and follow the arts of peace in the shadow of war.

The history of Normandy is so familiar to the English speaking world that details would be elementary; yet the occasion of this great Thousand Years' celebration calls to mind the history of the Viking period of which all the Norman elements are proud, no matter where they live.

The city of Rouen became the capital of Normandy. It is favorably situated, being located on the Seine river about fifty miles inland from the ocean. It is now the second port of France in tonnage, Marseilles being the leading shipping port. Rouen was founded by the Gauls and formerly called Ratumacos. The population is 120,000. It has seventeen Catholic and two Protestant churches. The famous cathedral of Rouen is one of the largest and most imposing in the world. It was built in the 13th century, but it was then the fifth Christian church erected on the same spot. Remains of older churches appear in the walls of the new. St. Olaf, the valiant warrior in the cause of Christianity, who was killed at the battle of Stiklestad, Norway, about the year 1030, and who subsequently became the patron saint of Norway, was baptized in Rouen, presumably in the old cathedral. It will be remembered that Rollo the Walker abandoned the old Norse mythology and accepted Christianity when he became the head of the grand duchy of

Normandy in the year 911. The Normans thereupon became a bulwark against the advancing hordes of Mohammed. In church architecture they set examples for the whole Christian world. The Cathedral holds the tombs of Rollo the Walker and his son, Henry le Jeune. The heart of his great grandson, Richard Lionheart, is also entombed there. In one of the chapels in the grand Cathedral is a fine tablet in memory of Cavalier Robert de la Salle, who explored vast regions in our parts of the United States. The tablet records his doings in America which leads a visitor from the States to recall how much the French really did in America before our day. Chevalier de la Salle was a thorough Norman, born and raised in the city of Rouen. After his extensive explorations in and about the Mississippi valley, he left behind a cluster of French names given to places and still retained. He was the greatest of the practical explorers in our parts of the country.

Wherever one goes in the city of Rouen some reminder of Joan of Arc presents itself in the windows, stores, decorations, art and poetry of the people. She was here burned at the stake, on the old market place on the 30th of May, 1431; the spot is marked by a marble tablet in the sidewalk. During the fetes there in 1904 a delegation of prominent Englishmen from the city of Hastings put a beautiful floral design in metal on the wall of the old market, over the memorial plate of Joan of Arc, "Jean d'Arc," in French.

It would be impossible here to give any more than a brief sketch of the doings during the fetes, because they were elaborately planned and executed on an international scale the countries participating being Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, England, Canada and the United States, while Sicily and other parts of Italy were also represented. The old island of Iceland was also in evidence, separately. The Scandinavian countries sent warships there. Norway's flag floated from the smart little ironclad, Frithjof," the Danish flag from the equally smart looking gunboat, "Heimdal," while the Swedish man-of-war "Fylgia," was lying in the port of Havre, at the mouth of the Seine river. The officers and some of the crew of the Fylgia were in Rouen, however, until they left for the coronation of King George of England.

One of the great features of the festivities was the Congress, so-called. It was literary and covered the great branches of history, archeology, geography, industry, etc.

Learned men from all countries interested in

the Norman celebrations came personally before the Congress and delivered their lectures or essays; the sessions were divided according to subjects, and held in the spacious halls of the presidency of the old Norman parliament.

One of the most important features of the Congress was the Kensington Runestone brought here by Hjalmar Ruud Holand from Ephraim, Wisconsin. It arrived on the very last day and Mr. Holand made his talk in English before the archeological division. The famous Swedish professor, Oscar Montelius, attacked the authenticity of the stone. Mr. Holand defended it vigorously and all finally agreed that it was a momentous document meriting deepest research. Mr. Holand was highly complimented by the distinguished audience. He permitted a cast to be taken of the stone and placed in the Museum of Antiquities.

Mr. Holand departed for Paris, Copenhagen and Christiania (Oslo), leaving the Runestone in Rouen. After its exhibition for several days, it was forwarded to Christiania (Oslo) by the S. S. Gange Rolf of the Fred Olsen Line.

On July 23rd, President Falieres of France, came to Rouen with military escort to crown the festivities as a national French fete of the highest importance. He remained two days and they were strenuous one, with banquets, sports and

military tournaments continually taking place. At the President's invitation an excursion was made by steamboat up the Seine River to see the many points of historical value on both sides of the river. The ministers and high state officials of all Scandinavian countries were present in Rouen during the President's stay, and took part in all official gatherings.

Viking ships were seen in print, in art and in decorations everywhere. The people of Normandy, about three million in number, gave themselves up to festivities throughout the entire month of June in honor of the spirit and accomplishments of the Viking Age and its people, giving particular attention to the foundation and subsequent grandeur of the Duchy of Normandy.

The fierce assaults of the early Viking intruders were forgotten in the open recognition of their creative genius and constructive ability applied to the pursuits of peace. Statesmanship, navigation, industry and art flourished as never before. The patois or dialect of the Normans added richly to the French language. The Duchy of Normandy rose into power and prestige at home and into royal dominion overseas in the British Isles for the greatest advancement of human institutions and progress in the world's history.

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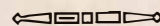
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In June, 1911 Mr. Ray served as representative of the "Son's of Norway" of The United States and Canada and The Norwegian National League of Chicago at the Thousand Years' Celebration in Rouen, France commemorating the foundation of the Duchy of Normandy by the Vikings under Rollo the Walker, "Rollon," in French and "Gange Rolf" in Norwegian.



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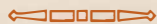
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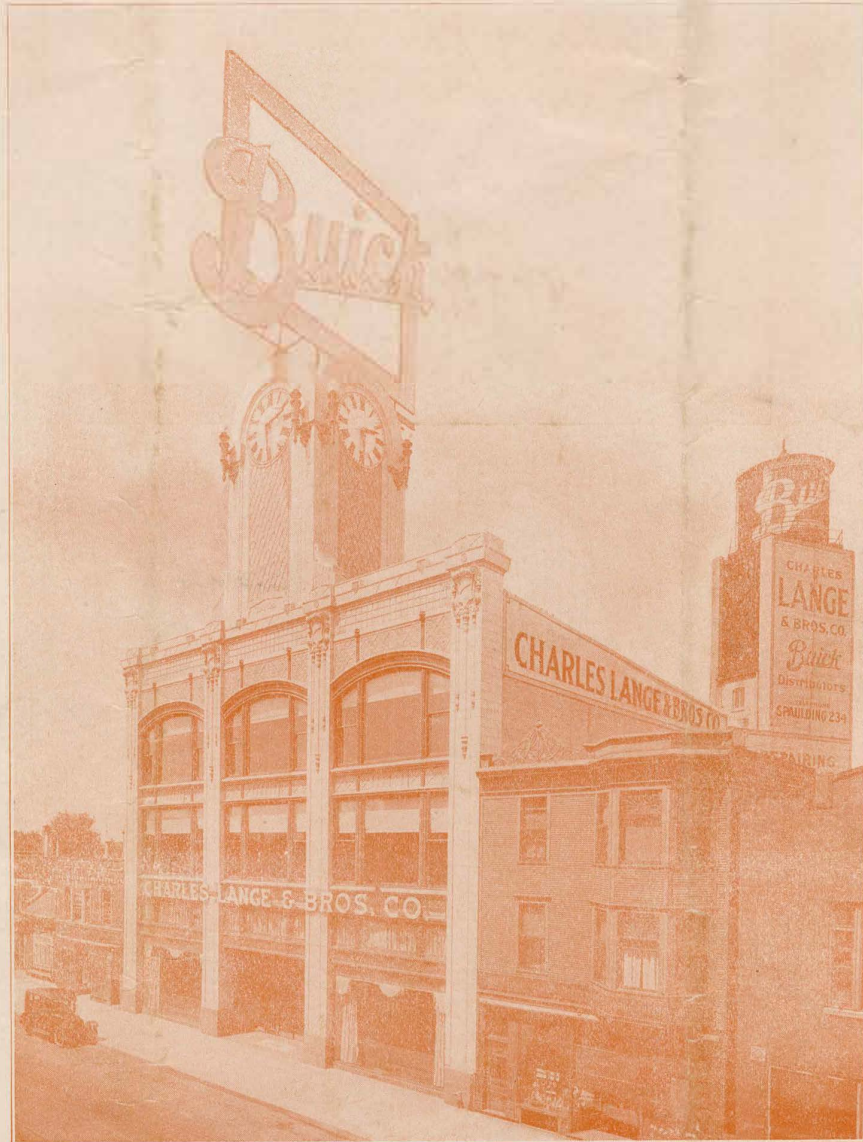
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